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Seth



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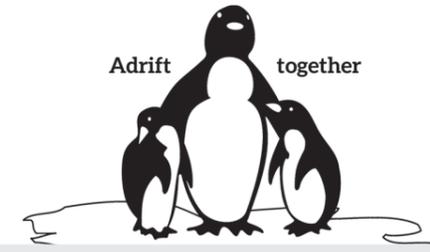
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**The 1st
WINDY
VALLEY**

October 2020

Smiling and whistling under all difficulties



**Monthly
BLAST**

Edition 146

The Q-store of life

It's time for our annual stocktake. Normally we'd count ropes, tent pegs and poles; check the hike tents for mouldy food; disinfect the Joey den; and rotate the tyres on the Mudbash car.

But this year is different. We're taking stock of our members - and how we're all travelling in these challenging times. (Actually, we're not travelling. And that's just the first problem.)

Please complete this survey together in isolation, while socially distanced and masked.

1. It's so long since I saw the rest of my Patrol, I can't remember if they're (a) two-dimensional, or (b) three-dimensional.
2. I miss sleeping in a Patrol tent. Mostly I miss (a) the late chats when the Leaders are asleep, (b) being snug and warm when it's raining outside, (c) the

somnambulism and somniloquy, or (d) the snores and smells.

3. I miss sausage sizzles, even (a) with onions on top, (b) with onions on the bottom, (c) without onions, or (d) without sausages.

4. I want to get back to the Scout hall so much that I'd volunteer to (a) clean the toilets for a year, (b) sort all the ropes in the Q-store, (c) wipe the kitchen bench, or (d) pick up that fallen chair.

5. British Bulldog and poison ball do not work on Zoom. True or false?

6. Our Leaders' jokes are not funny (a) on Zoom, (b) in real life, (c) in the universe.

7. For the first meeting when we're all back in the hall, I think we should (a) sit outside in the park and talk for two hours, (b) have a non-digital

campfire with non-digital damper and marshmallows, (c) have unlimited ice cream, toppings, sprinkles, and buckets, or (d) have a talk about badgework.

8. For my profile photo I may have accidentally Photoshopped a whole lot of badges on my Scout shirt. Should I (a) earn them fast, (b) wipe my digital history, (c) get a new shirt and say the dog ate my old one, or (d) move to a different Scout Group?

9. Queensland has pinched the AFL Grand Final. Should we let them have AJ2022? Yes or No?

When we start feeling a bit sorry for ourselves, think of east Gippsland and the NSW south coast. Their tough year started months before ours, and they're still smiling. (Or at least they look like it on Facebook.)

Scouts Victoria

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Linda Dessau AC
Governor of Victoria
President
Neil Comrie AO APM
Chairman
Greg Landgren

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Rod Byrnes
Deputy Chief Commissioner
Daniella Taglieri
Assistant Chief Commissioners
Alan Harding
Matty McKernan
Lisa Picking
Diana Swift
Michael Thomas
Jason O'Donnell
Immediate Past Chief Commissioner
Brendan Watson OAM

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Bays Frank Moore
Geelong Wayne Gunn OAM

Gippsland

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Loddon Mallee TBA
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Christine Gray, Group Support Committee Member, 1st/8th Blackburn
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Ross Jamieson, ASF-Glen Eira Stonnington

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Bruce Kerr, PCSL, 1st Epping
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Evan Murfett, ASF-Macedon Ranges
Simon Rickard, PASL, 2nd Strathmore
Kylie Rose, ACSL, 1st Belmont
John Simpson, SL, 2nd Leongatha
Sandra Sunkel, DL - Scouts, Frankston District

John Taglieri, Group Support Committee Member, 2nd Clifton Hill
Rob Weir, Adult Helper, 1st Eltham North
Megan Williamson, AGL, 1st/2nd Greensborough

15 Years

Judy Blizzard, Group Chairman, 1st Bayswater
Meredith Bubner, CSL, 2nd Eltham Sea Scouts
Kim Franzke, GL, 1st Mount Beauty
Andrew Henderson, Group Support Committee Quartermaster, 2nd/7th West Waverley
Dale Horsley, GL, 1st Lower Plenty

Mary Mansfield, Group Support Committee 2nd Hand Uniforms, 1st Yarrowonga
Luke Moore, Provisional State Leader - Cycling, Cycling Team
Gillian Plummer, PGL, 1st Wantirna South
Kristian Plummer, TASL, 1st Somerville
Colin Ritchie, DL - Venturers, Cardinia District
Dianne Rowe, Group Treasurer, Mentone
Bernard Rowe, PRA, Mentone
Brett Sevier, Camp Committee Member, Harkaway Scout Camp
Jennie Spargo, District Executive Committee Member, Cardinia District
Jade Wallace, JSL, 1st Koo Wee Rup
Jennifer Watson, Group Support Committee 2nd Hand Uniforms, 1st Hastings

20 Years
Helen Arends, PDL - Scouts, Moonee Valley District
Samuel Bodinnar, Group Support Committee Quartermaster, 1st Paynesville Sea Scouts
Rob Collins, ASF-Yarra Ranges
Tony Freeman, ASF-River Gums
Andre Landsberg, ASL, Heathmont
Wendy Phelan, PDL - Scouts, Wellington District

25 Years

Emma Barker, DL - Adult Training Support, Moonee Valley District
Helen Borland, JSL, Pakenham
Andrew Burke, ASF-Casey

Erich Grandin, District President, Monash District
Margaret Miller, AJSL, 1st Wendouree
Kim Montgomery, Camp Committee Treasurer, Pax Hill
Georgi Phillips, PGL, Wonthaggi
Peter Richardson, ASF-Monash
Harry Timmermans, PACSL, 1st Cobden

30 Years

Georgia Bahula, CSL, 2nd Prahran
Janet Elliott, ASF-Gilwell Park
Christine Gawly, AGL, 1st Ballam Park
Maroia Pedlar, GL, North Frankston Endeavour
Jim Wakfer, ACSL, Hamilton

35 Years

Wayne Carter, CSL, Phillip Island
Gary Orton, SL, 3rd Noble Park
Colin Randall, Branch Activity Specialists, Scout Band

40 Years

Mike Wallace, ASF-Monash
45 Years
Brian McCarthy, Honorary Commissioner, Honorary Commissioners

55 Years

Liz Golec, Life Member, Vic Branch
Norman Sheppard, ASF-South Western
60 Years
Des Kleeman, ASF-Mornington Peninsula

Wood Badge Certificate

June

Joey Scout

Liz Cashin, AJSL, 1st Glen Iris

Cub Scout

Brett Davies, PCSL, 1st Diamond Creek Provisional Cub Scout Leader
Heather Grantham, ACSL, 1st Broadford
Alexander Williams, ACSL, Leopold

Scout

Marc Harbert, SL, Sale
Theshia Kent, AVL, 1st Tyabb
Kent Bennett, ASL, Mentone
Bruce McDonald, ASL, 1st Ashburton
Scott O'Brien, ASL, 1st Whittlesea

Venturer

Elizabeth Haines, AGL, 1st Torquay

Rover

Alberto Scelsi, ACSL, 1st Lower Templestowe
Peter Watkins, PRA, 3rd Sunbury

Group Leader

John Frearson, GL, 1st New Gisborne
Mari Albiston, GL, 1st Mornington

District Leader/Commissioner

Russell Phemister, Provisional District Leader - Cub Scouts, Geelong Peninsula District
Cam Pearce, District Leader - Venturers, Barwon District
Rebecca Worthington, Provisional District Leader - Cub Scouts, Cardinia District

July

Cub Scout

Sarah Parr, ASCL, Bundoora
Rachel Edwards, Provisional District Leader - Cub Scouts, Mt Baw Baw District
Wendy Selle, ACSL, 1st Canterbury

Scout

Carol Cope, ASL, 1st Werribee
Emma Jones, ASL, 1st Langwarrin

Venturer

Toni Shanahan, VL, 1st Highton
Group Leader
Shane Worthington, PGL, 1st Koo Wee Rup
District Leader/Commissioner
Regi Caesar, Assistant State Commissioner - Rovers, Vic Branch



inside...



COVER: 'Glorious Spring' by Seth from 1st Wheelers Hill. Submitted as part of the Creative Challenge.



14

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regulars

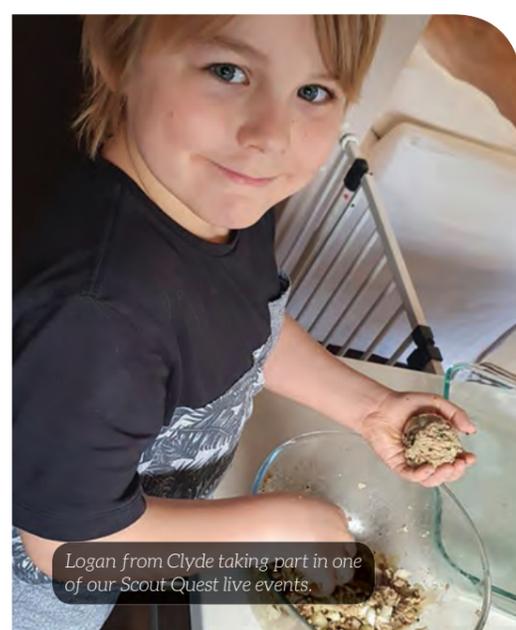
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2nd Footscray met up with their pen pals 1st Foots Cray!
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The Beekman family are taking their Scouting journey around Australia.
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Answering your program questions.
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Scouting can take you anywhere, even on the World's Toughest Race!
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1st Belmont participate in Jamboree on Pedals.
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Sebi from 1st Belmont is making the most of Cubs.
- 24 **COVID-19 doesn't dampen Scout spirits!**
2nd Colac made the most of World Scout Day in isolation.



Logan from Clyde taking part in one of our Scout Quest live events.



Are you ready for fun, adventure and life long friendships?

AJ2022 is going to be the experience of a lifetime for over 8500 Scouts! Participants will be encouraged to Take it to the Next Level with 10 days of incredible activities & entertainment. There will be a mix of onsite, offsite and night activities with something on offer for everyone.

Expressions of interest are now open!
January 3-13 2022 – Elmore, Victoria

www.aj2022.com.au

www.scoutsvictoria.com.au/aj2022

Sharon Simmons, SL, 1st Irymple

Daniel Smolenaars, Group Rostered Parent, Sale

Peter Verberne, Group Rostered Parent, 3rd Ringwood East

Steve Vines, ASF-Mafeking Rover Park

Tracy Warner, Group Treasurer, 1st Tyabb

Annette Wetherill, Group Chairman, Baden Powell Park

Catherine White, PGL, 5th Footscray
Dennis Willmott, ACSL, North Frankston Endeavour

Mark Woodfield, AGL, 2nd Blackburn

10 Years

Luke Bastian, PGL, 1st Doncaster East

Tracy Clark, Adult Helper, 1st Eltham

Gary Davis, AAAL - Air Activities, Air Activities Team

Caroline Dunn, PGL, Hamilton

Narelle Hartshorn, CSL, Baden Powell Park

Tracey Haverkort, ACSL, West Traralgon

Claire Henley, ASF-City Of Knox

Nikki Ivory, AAL - First Aid, First Aid

Stuart King, TRA, Carlton

Karena Nagy, ASF-Wellington

Gary Pini, ASF-East Gippsland

Dearne Riley, ASF-Mornington Peninsula

Aldis Stucers, VL, 1st Carrum Downs

Diana Swift, Assistant Chief Commissioner - Program, Vic Branch

Martin Vaughan, PRA, Lynden Park

20 Years

Judy Beacham, Camp Committee Treasurer, Camp Warringal

Hoa Duong, ASF-Kingston

Phillip Leaman, ASF-Air Activities Team

Andrew Mason, ASF-Kingston

Miriam-Ann Mcdade-Tait, Adult Helper, 1st Wodonga

Andrew Pocock, CSL, 5th Keilor

Stephen Prossor, GL, 1st Glen Iris

Mark Withers, GL, 1st Inverloch

25 Years

Kevin Bedford, AL - Radio & Electronics, Radio & Electronics Team

Bronwyn Breuer, PGL, 2nd Blackburn

Alan Brook, ASF-Victorian Branch Gang Show

Alan Donovan, PDL - Cub Scouts, Djerriwarrh District

Joe Grosz, Provisional District Leader - Scouts, Werribee Plains District

Peter Guest, PRA, Heathmont

Australian Scout October 2020

Richard Hamer, Branch Council Member (4E) - Elected Lay Member, Vic Branch

Rolf Kums, ASL, 2nd Wantirna

Paul McLennan, State Leader - Air Activities, Air Activities Team

Greg Phillips, ACLS, 2nd Eltham Sea Scouts

Helen Pinkstone, ASF-Casey

Anne-Marie Threlfall, DC, Greater Dandenong District

Connie Tuddenham, GL, 1st Coburg

Mark Watson, AGL, 1st/14th Brighton

30 Years

Russell Bell, CSL, Hawkesdale

Stephen Carter, Assistant State Commissioner - Rover Support, Vic Branch

Michael Leipnik, SL, 15th Brighton

Don Nicholson, PRA, 1st Greenhills

Russell Preston, ASF-Scout Heritage Geelong

Timothy Steere, Group Rostered Parent, 4th Williamstown Sea Scouts

Leslie Wiebenga, ASF-Bogong Rover Chalet

35 Years

Andrew Cook, AAL - 4X4, Four Wheel Driving Team

Russell Lang, SL, 2nd Glen Waverley

Darren Leckie, PRC, Northern Region

Donald Lovison, SL, 1st Morwell

Jenny Schaap, ASL, 1st Bayswater

Ted Were, Camp Committee Member, Banyule District

40 Years

Andrew Cooke, ASF-Glen Eira Stonnington

Louise Coon, PJSL, Macleod

45 Years

John Grierson, ASF-Mornington Peninsula

Barney Thornton, PRC - Region, Vic Branch

50 Years

Henry Antanaitis, ASF-Lithuanian

Claire Edmanson, SC - YPR Adventurous Campsite Activities, Vic Branch

55 Years

Maureen Herron, ASF-Scout Heritage Geelong

July

5 Years

Jenn Aarons, TASL, 15th Brighton

Ross Armstrong, PRA, Victorian Branch Rover Council

Tammy Ballard, ACSL, 1st Mount Clear

Jodie Barras, Group Chairman, Hamilton

Ben Black, ACSL, 1st Mount Waverley

Liliana Bosancic, Group Rostered Parent, Mont Albert North

Amelie Boucher, Adult Helper, Bairnsdale

Andrew Brown, ASL, 1st Greythorn Park

Andrew Cassidy, ACSL, 15th Essendon Sea Scouts

Andrew Clark, Provisional Assistant Adventurous Activity Leader - Scuba, Scuba Team

Ian Collings, Adult Helper, 1st Strathmore

Linda Dessau, Patron, Vic Branch

Paul Dobson, ACSL, 1st Ranelagh

Carly Ellicott, ACLS, 1st Healesville

Kristel Hartlief, Group Registrar, 1st Eltham North

Jess Hind, ACSL, 1st Yinnar

Peter Kennedy, PDC, Bayside District

Rebecca Lavelle, Group Support Committee Fundraising, 1st Sunshine

Debbie Macfarlane, Adult Helper, 1st Ballan

Adam Marshall, Group Support Committee Member, 2nd Korumburra

Glen McNair, PAVL, 1st Healesville

Zaiga Meadows, ASL, 5th Ballarat

Ari Mushin, ASL, 10th Caulfield

Janet Rahman, AVL, 1st Heatherdale

Ann Rickard, Group Support Committee Fundraising, 1st Kallista

Matt Robinson, Group Rostered Parent, Aspendale

Robert Schache, ASF-Greater Dandenong

Sharon Stevens, Group Treasurer, 1st Sunshine

Ben Tse, ACSL, Mont Albert North

Edna Uniacke, District Personnel Committee Member, Glenelg River District

Terry Uniacke, District Personnel Committee Member, Glenelg River District

Tim Wright, ASL, 1st Ivanhoe Sea Scouts

Owyne Zobel, PDL - Adult Training Support, Banyule District

10 Year

John Archer, Group Rostered Parent, 1st North Balwyn

James Baker, AVL, 2nd Glen Waverley

Felicity Bellingham, TAJSL, 19th Camberwell

Josh Cashill, ACSL, 3rd Sunbury

David Cassar, CSL, 1st Keilor Village

Stefan Downey Najdecki, AVL, 2nd/6th Hawthorn

Adults in Scouting

Long Service Certificate

May/June

5 Years

Brad Adrichem, CSL, South Morang
David Ashburner, ASL, 1st Ivanhoe Sea Scouts
Laura Ashley, Adult Helper, 1st Knoxfield
Jon Baker, AJSL, 6th Melbourne
Chewie Bakker, PVL, Mulgrave
Amanda Breeden-Walton, Adult Helper, 1st Rowville
Kat Bryan, Group Rostered Parent, 2nd Colac
Elizabeth Butera, AJSL, 1st Caroline Springs
Damien Carr, ACSL, Leopold
Louise Cherry, Group Support Committee Member, 3rd Sunbury
Paul Clifford, GL, 7th Cheltenham
Monica Cogan, ASL, Richmond
Sarah Cook, ASL, Sale
Vivian Dang, PVL, Tran Hung Dao
Sally Daniel, ASL, 1st Seaford
Matt Davies, CSL, 1st Ranelagh
Tash Di Vito, GL, 1st Sunbury
Zac Dunn, Group Chairman, 1st Macedon
Brendan Fear, GL, 1st Hoppers Crossing
Vicky Ferraro, ASL, 1st Caroline Springs
Richard Fleming, ASL, 1st Doncaster East
Justin Free, ASL, 2nd Lara
Steven Freund, AVL, 1st Koo Wee Rup
Jim Gardner, Group Rostered Parent, Croydon Central
Anthea Gibson, Group Support Committee Member, Dromana Sea Scouts
Chris Goode, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Beaumaris
Chay Guest, ASL, 1st Lower Templestowe
Robert Hague, GL, 4th Williamstown Sea Scouts
Craig Hall, ACSL, 1st Cobram
Jenny Henham, ACSL, 1st Koo Wee Rup
Brett Hicks, PJSJ, 1st Trafalgar
Suzanne Higgins, Group Treasurer, 1st Belmont
Gary Holloway, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Bayswater
Helen Hovrell, Group Rostered Parent, Rosanna
Karl Hovrell, Group Rostered Parent, Rosanna

Laura Hughes, ASF-Rover Fellowship
Kimberley Hughes, PVL, 3rd Croydon
Jessica Issell, CSL, 1st Lethbridge
Daryl Jennings, ASL, 1st Berwick
Fiona Johnson, Group Support Committee Fundraising, 3rd Templestowe
Carrie Lim, AVL, 1st North Balwyn
Ben Lok, PGL, 2nd Malvern
Rebecca Lucic, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Caroline Springs
Tash Malcolm, Adult Helper, Heany Park
Kenny May, CSL, Narre Warren South
Peter McDiarmid, ACSL, 2nd Malvern
David McGennissen, Group Support Committee Property Maintenance, 2nd Horsham
Janette McPherson, Adult Helper, Mulgrave
Jason Mephram, PASL, 1st Ranelagh
Rebecca Moulden, PCSL, 1st Maroondah
Linsey Murray, PJSJ, 1st Modewarre
Lawrence Norton, Group Support Committee Quartermaster, 4th Preston
Fiona Owen, Group Secretary, 3rd Templestowe
Ashleigh Parfuss, ALS, 1st West Waverley
Dean Pendlebury, Group Rostered Parent, 2nd Lara
Tamara Pennycook, Group Support Committee Member, 1st Greenhills
Annie Phelan, Group Rostered Parent, Sale
Graeme Prowse, Adult Helper, 13th Malvern
Samantha Richardson, Group Support Committee Fundraising, 1st Ashburton
Helen Riddell, ACSL, 7th Ringwood
Jamie Robertson, Adult Helper, 1st Research
Emma Robinson, ACSL, 1st Seaford
Kathleen Robinson, Adult Helper, 1st Heatherdale
Jessica Rosewarne, ASL, 1st Ranelagh
Caroline Sardjono, AVL, Dingley
Daniel Sedgman, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Greenhills
Tom Sekulic, Group Rostered Parent, 5th Keilor
Rada Sekulic, Group Rostered Parent, 5th Keilor
Dale Sheehan, AAAL, Abseiling Team
Ron Short, Adult Helper, 1st Traralgon
Leah Smallman, Finance Committee Member, Vic Branch

Carolyn Smith, ACSL, 5th Keilor
Joanne Solomons, ASL, 7th Cheltenham
Stuart Steiner, AVL, Wonga Park Peninsula
Anna Stephens, ASF-Mornington Peninsula
Ben Storey, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Modewarre
Rose Suntesic, ACSL, 1st Caroline Springs
Marg Symmons, TAVL, 1st Casey
Kathie Tanner, AJSL, 3rd Croydon
Sarah Tokley, ACSL, Lakeside Pakenham
Caroline Van Dolderen, ACSL, 1st Lang Lang
Penny Van Keulen, JSL, 1st Caroline Springs
Hans Van Zwol, Adult Helper, Epping North
Peter Watkins, PRA, 3rd Sunbury
Glenn Wisbey, Group Rostered Parent, Rosanna
Andy Yong, ACSL, 1st Balnarring
Kieron Younger, ACLS, 2nd/3rd Bayswater

10 Years

Luke Adams, ASL, 1st Warracknabeal
Simon Baum, Camp Committee Member, Eumeralla Scout Camp
Sam Bennett, ASF-Cardinia
Kylie Campbell, ACSL, 2nd Kangaroo Flat
Frank Courtney, PASL, 3rd Croydon
Janette Crimmin, DL - Scouts, South Western District
Matt Deacon, ACSL, 1st Strathfieldsaye
Paul Dwyer, AVL, Bairnsdale
Karen Eaton, CSL, 1st Gisborne
Brett Fairclough, ACSL, 1st Hastings
Lachy Gordon, RA, 1st Seaford
Alicia Hansen, PACSL, 1st Avoca
Tasha Heyblom, AVL, 1st Mountain Rivers
Bruce Holloway, AVL, 1st Upper Beaconsfield
Steve Jensen, ASF-Cardinia
Chris Luhrs, Group Auditor, 1st Cavendish
Aaron Marriott, ASF-Strzelecki
Sharron Marshall, Group Treasurer, Phillip Island
Ken McMahon, SL, 1st Maryborough
David Nell, District Chairman, Boroondara District
Kerryn Newbegin, CSL, 2nd Blackburn
David Parker, PSL, 1st Altona
Kevin Peet, ASL, 3rd Doncaster East
Simon Rietwyk, ASF-Greater Dandenong
Bob Sheehy, Group Rostered Parent, 3rd Ringwood East
Warren Shnider, ASL, 2nd Clifton Hill

Your Fridge or Bedroom

MY JAMBOREE, MY WAY

A Jamboree is about learning for life. And earning and saving your way to AJ2022 is part of the experience. Plus, at AJ 2022, ice-cream tastes better when you've earned it yourself.

Tips:

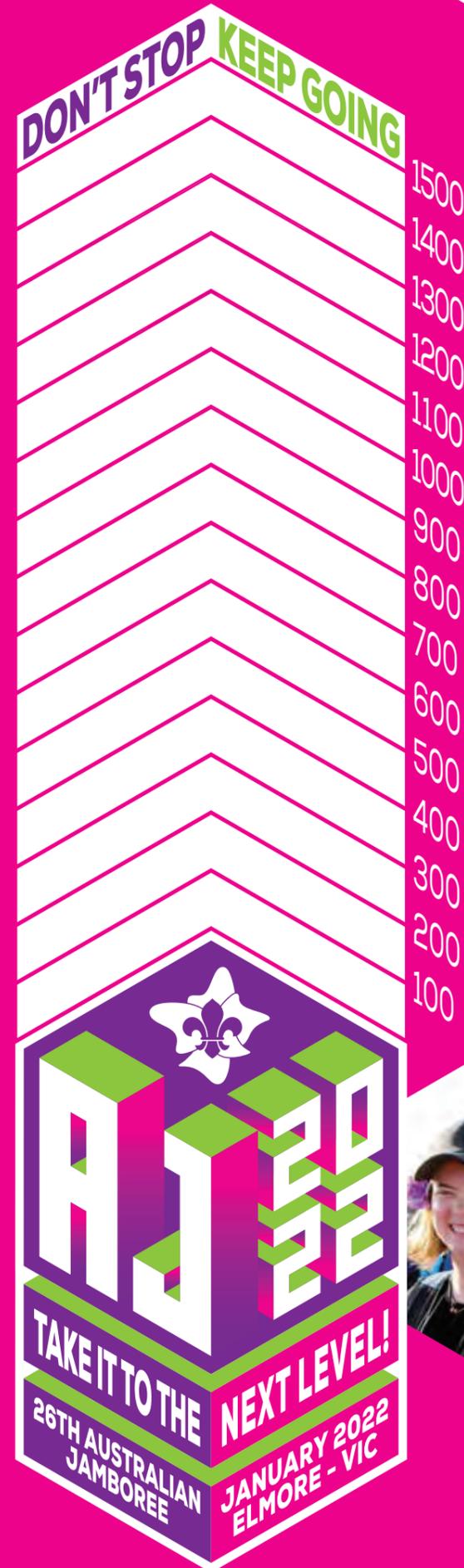
There are so many ways to build your AJ balance.

- Start a special bank account
- Keep all loose coins – and bank monthly
- Put aside part of your pocket money every week
- Birthday and Christmas: politely ask for AJ cash instead of socks
- Odd jobs at home
- Jobs for neighbours and extended family, like:
 - Car washing
 - Lawn mowing and gardening
 - Baby sitting
- Grow vegetables
- Make something that people need (jam, cakes, face masks, shopping bags)
- If you live on a farm, invest in a calf or lamb (then sell it when it's grown)

Support your Scout Group's fundraising

Keep this chart up to date as your balance grows

Today it's saving for Jamboree – one day it will be a car, or a house!



www.aj2022.com.au

A greeting from Queensland

By MARK BORRETT

My Joey Scout son, Oscar, was concerned to learn that Scouts in Victoria were unable to attend their Scout halls recently due to the lockdown in place in the State and wanted to help.

He decided to send Joey Scouts postcards and personal messages and enclosed stickers for them to enjoy.

He wrote what he had done as a Special Interest Area and was awarded a Creating a Better World badge.

His Joey Scout Leader, Regina Kidd, suggested he may want to ask his Joey friends in his Scout Group to send their own messages and letters to Scouts in Victoria at their upcoming camp sleepover.

With my help, he painted a large sign on an old bed sheet saying a big hello to our Scout friends in Victoria.

This was made personal by all the Burleigh Heads and Mudgeeraba Joey Scouts, on camp at Camp Kallaroo at the Burleigh Heads Scout den, imprinting their hand prints on the sign with paint and posing for a photo after.



All the Joeyes wrote their own postcards while on camp and sent them to the Victorian Scout Centre.

My son realised how fortunate he and his friends are to attend Scout activities and sleepovers and hopes Scouts in Victoria will soon enjoy the same experiences when safe to do so.

Mark Borrett is the father of Oscar, the Joey Scout at far left, holding the banner he made at home. Oscar is Burleigh Heads' newest Joey Scout.

Recycling with 1st/8th Blackburn



James, Luke and Nic are proud to be doing more to recycle rubbish on Scout camps.

1st/8th Blackburn recently were the recipients of a Council Sustainability Grant.

After realising how much food and packaging waste was being collected at camps, Scout Leader Lesley Eckfield submitted a grant proposal for the purchase of recycle bins which could be taken to camps.

The new bins are also an opportunity for the Scouts to learn more about recycling, with many of the Scouts not knowing the difference between soft and hard plastic.

The bins include yellow for co-mingling recycling, white for soft plastic, red for landfill and maroon buckets for food scraps.

Lesley has shared their success story with other Groups in the area, in the hope they might also get involved in recycling initiatives. The Group have also started recycling better at their hall during meetings. This initiative has helped to better educate the Scout Group about appropriate ways to recycle and where recycling goes once it leaves the Scout hall.



By STEVE ELLIS

Recently, Tilba Tilba District ran The Great Victorian Online Camp. We had 34 proactive Leaders engage in this event, and provide 24 fantastic activities, that ranged from traditional Scout skills like navigation, first aid and cooking through to science experiments, dancing and juggling. As well as a campfire singalong on Saturday night.

About 370 Scouts logged into each session, with a choice of four activities per session. These Scouts were made up of Joeyes, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers, across 92 Scout Groups.

A big thanks to everyone who contributed to this online camp. There are already discussions to host another online camp in 2021.

You'll be able to read more about the camp in the next issue of Australian Scout.

Steve Ellis is an Assistant Cub Scout Leader at 1st Seymour.



1st Corryong Launches!

After 11 years in recess, 1st Corryong Scout Group has reformed during Term 2 while in lockdown. From a Facebook post to the local community page, the Group launched with 21 members, a Group Leader and three Leaders now in training.

The Groups first face to face meeting was marked with the attendance of the local Prime News film crew. Since that night membership has grown to 32 youth members. The new Group will be a boost for the local community after being severely effected by the bushfires earlier this year.

Welcome to 1st Corryong Scout Group, we wish you many more years of enjoyable Scouting! Let the adventure begin!

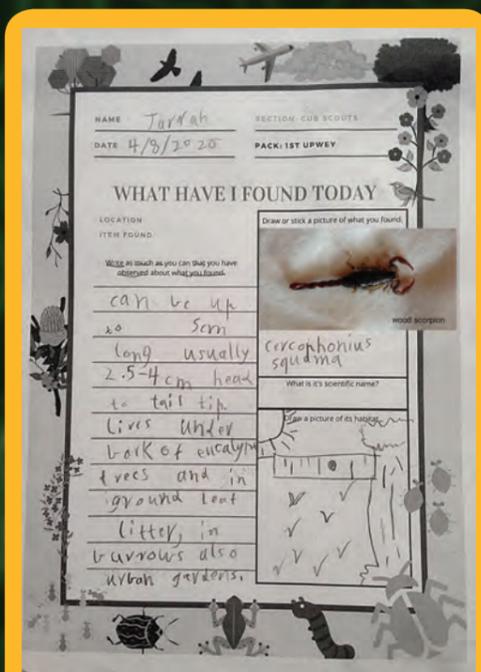
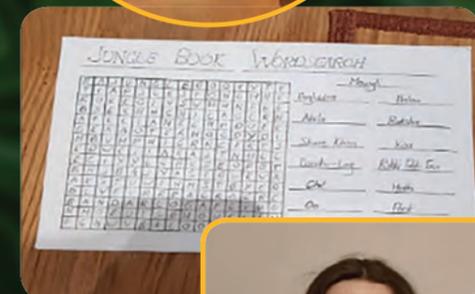


Congratulations to 3rd Melton Cub Scouts Grey Wolf Recipients!



Spencer and Skyler from 3rd Melton Scout Group recently completed their Grey Wolf Award. As part of the award, both Cubs created Jungle Book resource packs.

Spencer created a memory game by making his own matching cards and a word search. While Skyler created a fantastic Guess Who game. Congratulations to Skyler and Spencer and good luck on the rest of your Scouting journey!



1st Upwey

1st Upwey Cub Scouts were tasked with creating a scientific journey for one of their Section nights. Cub Jarrah wrote a journal about scorpions, he didn't know they existed in Melbourne, until he found one under his mums shoe!

COVID-19 doesn't dampen Scout spirits!

By JONATHAN GRAHAM

2nd Colac Sea Scout Group made the most of World Scout Day in isolation this year. Across the weekend the youth members challenged themselves with various Scouting experiences, from camping or hiking in the backyard, to cooking, building or geocaching. Each Scout chose their own activities and shared lots of the fun with their families.

In the evening those in the Group who could access it, met online via Zoom to share stories of their Scouting adventures, play some games and chat to their friends. A special highlight was being able to chat live to a Cub Scout named Joshua from the United Kingdom. Lots of the younger Scouts were perplexed by the time difference as they were preparing for bed while Joshua's day was just about to get started. Whilst online the Scouts were able to learn about the first Brownsea Island camp and used Google Earth to locate it on the map.

With the Stage 3 restrictions coming in to play this week again, the Scouts will continue to meet remotely each week via Zoom in their age groups to keep in contact with their friends, complete challenges and play modified versions of their favourite face to face games.

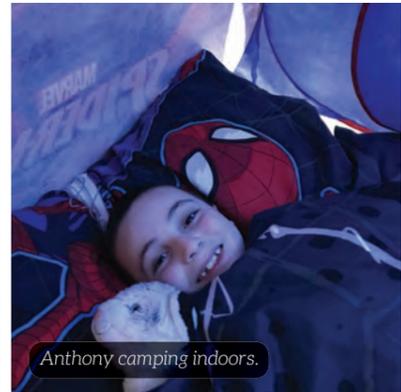
Jonathan Graham is the Group Leader at 2nd Colac Sea Scouts.



Piper enjoying a meal outdoors.



Addison making damper.



Anthony camping indoors.



Michael in his backyard buggy.



Colac's newest Scout, Lea.



Saxon helping cook his dinner.



Cameron & Lachlan bushwalking



Meeting UK Cub, Joshua.



The Leersen family going for a hike.



Sylvester, Jason and Kyrielle ready for Zoom.



Beau in his tent.

Scouts Australia Diversity and Inclusion Policy

By DAVID 'WOMBAT' LYONS

Scouts Australia is welcoming to all, a message we proudly have promoted in Victoria as well as setting the strategic goal that our local Groups reflect their local community, being inclusive of all the diversity that brings. Scouts Australia now have a National Policy that outlines the roles that we all play in ensuring everyone is included in Scouting. The Scouts Australia Diversity and Inclusion Policy clarifies what Scouts Victoria has been putting into practice for many decades, and also aligns the organisation with contemporary good practice across all branches.

The Policy states: "The Scout Association of Australia (Scouts Australia) is inclusive of all (within the scope of its membership) regardless of gender, sexuality, race, spiritual beliefs, abilities or socioeconomic status and does not tolerate any form of harm, abuse, exclusion or neglect. Scouts Australia embraces the diversity of its community, aiming to reflect this diversity through its policies and practices, and provide inclusion that ensures access to Scouting for all."

The next edition of Scouts Australia's Policy and Rules, along with clarifications on:

- The National approach to specialist groups which may meet cultural, religious or disability support needs of members.

- Scouting's commitment to ensuring inclusion of people with disabilities, including endeavouring to provide reasonable adjustments to enable participation of people with disability.
- Scouts Australia's commitment to inclusion of all people regardless of gender identity, and support and respect for gender diversity.
- Recent additions and adaptations to the uniform especially for the support of cultural/religious requirements.

While we don't often report on policy, we thought we would share the news on the Diversity and Inclusion Standards because this framework and guidance has been strongly shaped by the work being done already in Scouting in Victoria. As National continues its work in this space your efforts to be inclusive of all youth and to reflect your local community will be highlighted to shape future developments in the Policy, Standards and National Sustainability Toolkit.

David 'Wombat' Lyons is State Commissioner - Diversity and Inclusion.



Leighan - 1st Cranbourne



Amelie - 1st Maroondah



Heath - South Frankston



Netheara - 1st Oak Park



Sophie, Liam & Elizabeth - 3rd Wodonga



Maka - 1st Doreen



Tom & Archie - 1st Bacchus Marsh



Myrtleford



Lucas - 1st Wallan Wallan



Hanna - 1st Koo Wee Rup



Jarvis - Berwick Central



Ayden - 1st Wheelers Hill



a few words from Rod

Rod Byrnes
Chief Commissioner
Scouts Victoria

Reconciliation Action Plan

Scouts Victoria is working with Reconciliation Australia and Reconciliation Victoria on a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). I want to thank the members of our Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group for the important work they're doing to formalise our commitment. There are things you can do at your Group! Adding an Acknowledgment of Country to your opening ceremony is a great way to start. Many of your Scouts will be used to taking part in this at School and might jump at the chance to write an acknowledgment for your Group to use.



Our Program

We have lots of information about Our Program in this issue. While other states (and some of our Groups) are at different stages of their move to the new program, you might be seeing terminology here and there that you're unfamiliar with. I encourage you to visit the [Our Program](#) page on our website and watch the video resources there. One change that might take some getting used to is the renaming of Mobs, Packs, Troops and Crews to Units. I'd like everyone to get in the habit of using Units to refer to all age Sections as it will make it easier as introduce additional elements of Our Program.



AJ2022

There's plenty to be excited about now that pandemic restrictions are lifting and the government roadmap gives us a clear path back to face to face Scouting. 2021 will be a big year full of adventure! They'll be lots of great opportunities to do all the things we've missed this year - and for the Scout section, it will culminate in the biggest event of their lives - AJ2022 at Elmore, here in Victoria. I can't wait to see 10,000 Scouts from across the country come together to share the excitement of the opening ceremony. Will you be there too?

1st Alexandra

The community of 1st Alexandra were very excited to receive the keys to their new Scout Hall. Made possible through the support of their local community, and a range of funding sources including the Pick My Project scheme, the hall replaces the original building that was 70 years old. The Group has been working hard for many years for this outcome, and I want to congratulate Group Leader John Horn and his team. I also want to thank Richard Simpson from the BEC for his tireless efforts in support of magnificent outcomes like this for grassroots Scouting.



ARAP 2020

It's that time of year when our Groups hold their ARAPs and they've showcased some great stories from our youth Sections. I'm sure guests to the meetings have enjoyed watching the reports from our Joeys sharing their stories from Kangaree, and our Rovers sharing their experiences from CBR Moot. There's some great stories of the imaginative programs run online too. I'm in awe of the energy and creativity that our adult Leaders have applied to keeping their youth connected.



Jamboree on Pedals with 1st Belmont

By MIRIYAN BARNES

Recently, my dad and Kim (a Venturer Leader from 1st Belmont) participated in a 100km bike ride carrying all our gear for the weekend in panniers. We rode with eight others, a mix of Cubs, Scouts and parents, from South Geelong station along the Bellarine rail trail to Queenscliff, where we enjoyed fish and chips for lunch.

The others then left us and we caught the Sea Road Ferry across to Sorrento to camp the night. After some early morning rain we left for Fort Nepean. The ride was really windy and a bit hilly but it was definitely worth it! The views were spectacular and walking through all of the old army base tunnels and seeing the old broken down 'Disappearing Cannons' was amazing! The ride back was if possible even more windy, rainy and hilly but we made it back just in time to purchase some lunch, pack up camp and ride directly onto the ferry just as the gates were closing! With a strong wind ahead of us we departed the ferry and begun the ride home from Queenscliff.



At the conclusion of all tasks you always feel a glimmer of pride and accomplishment, this feeling could not be more strong as I rode up that final hill towards my house. The weekend's achievements were another skill under my belt that was only accomplishable because of Scouts. Go 1st Belmont!

Miriyán Barnes is a Scout at 1st Belmont.



Plan > Do > Just do it all!

By MATT JUDD

Following in the footsteps of his dad, uncle, and Pa, Sebi a Cub from 1st Belmont, recently achieved his Handiworker badge. This completed his full set of achievement badges! Space (Level 2) was his favourite, but he remembers the Sailing badge as the hardest "I had to help rig a sail boat

and sail a short course and I had never done anything like that before."

"I really like that when I did badges I would do a lot of things that I hadn't tried before. There is a really good variety of badges that Cubs can do, and you can always find one that has something fun to learn or show off your skills."



Sebi is one of Melbourne Aquarium's newest Junior Jellyfish reporters.



How do you keep a Cub who has achieved everything busy? How about pursuing one of the new Special Interest Area badges? Meet one of Melbourne Aquarium's newest Junior Jellyfish Reporters!

Matt Judd is an Assistant Cub Scout Leader at 1st Belmont.

A Grey Wolf hike between lockdowns

By MAX GREADY

On August 1 2020 I was able to complete my Grey Wolf hike, just before second the lockdown hit here in regional Victoria. First, I started planning my hike by looking on Google maps for tracks around Creswick. From there I decided on a track that went from St George's Lakes and ended up in town at the Creswick museum. This hike was 3.4 km long and would take us approximately two hours to complete.

I then sent out invitations to fellow Cubs to join me on my hike. This included information regarding, date, time what to bring and wear.

While on our hike we saw pine plantations, that looked like mini Christmas trees. We crossed a number of bridges and went to a lookout that you could see the whole of St Georges lake. To complete my hike was a great achievement and has helped me get one step closer to completing my Grey Wolf Award.

Max Gready is a Cub Scout at Alfredton Scout Group.



Scouting at Home... delicious!

By DALE EVERY

Saturday was a nice evening for a campfire with not much wind or mosquitoes about. I lit the fire using one match. Shame that no one was there to see it! If it was challenge night at the hall our Patrol would have been ahead.

I made sure I had dry kindling and wood the day before. I started with small tepee and kept building up on it. The coals were perfect at 6-7pm – that's two to three hours later. Shame that I didn't cook my potatoes then, because, when I did cook them earlier, too many flames caused uneven heat and burnt the outsides of my potatoes and damper.



Still, the damper was one of the best ones I have ever cooked, with crunchy crust when you scraped off the burnt bit, and soft hot bread in the middle.

This was first time I cooked s'mores. I'd only done marshmallows before. I had a bit of trouble melting the chocolate and probably wouldn't bother with it again, just stick to toasting plain marshmallows.

I also tried cooking an egg in a bag but found the water leaked through the bag and put out the fire underneath it. The egg was completely raw. I think I need to see this cooking technique demonstrated before I do it again.

I enjoyed this activity and think the best thing about campfires is how they bring people together. Even my older brothers came out of their rooms and sat around fire with me and joined in.

Dale Every is a Scout at 1st Strathfieldsaye.

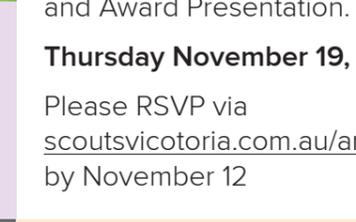


ARAP 2020

You are invited to celebrate another great year of Scouting at Scouts Victoria's Annual Report and Award Presentation.

Thursday November 19, 7pm

Please RSVP via scoutsvictoria.com.au/arap2020 by November 12

Scout Quest

I hope you've been taking advantage of the great events of Scout Quest. Thousands of Scouts and their families have joined in! We've spent time with Australian Olympic Diver Anabelle Smith, taken part in a cooking challenge with Forest Thomas, and practised yoga with Lily from Time to Move. We've joined the members of Team Australia from the World's Toughest Race as they gave a presentation of the mind blowing journey they had taking part in the race in Fiji. There have also been animal and invertebrate presentations, and a magic show with Cosentino which attracted 14,000 viewers!

We're working on even more events for Scout Quest in Term 4, as well as new challenges to complete! We've been blown away by the submissions we've received in the Creative Challenge. You might have noticed an entry from Seth from 1st Wheelers Hill was used as our cover image this issue! We're also really impressed how our Scouts have taken advantage of the spring weather to complete the Outdoor Challenge. Look out for our Community Challenge coming up soon.

Seth sent in photos showing his process of creating his painting 'Glorious Spring'.

I painted the mountains with a mix of blue and black. I've also painted a flower field. I've done the clouds by taking a sponge and dabbing white on my painting.



Seth also submitted 'Isolation'. To represent the isolation I have painted this bowl with six red apples and one green apple away from the red apples. It was really fun painting the picture.

Follow Rod



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As part of Scout Quest, Scouts Victoria launched the Creative Challenge. We received an amazing response with youth members submitting a wide variety of entries, from paintings, to poems, to boardgames!



William - Scout

I call my work "Trevy and the Evolution of Colour". Trevy is my dog and I took an awesome photo of him smiling and I used a black and white scale, reddish brown sepia scale and colour scale to show my interpretation of the growth of colour.



James - Joey Scout

Original then 'new' photos of my favourite plants from the Frankston Reservoir. I took these photos and changed them myself.



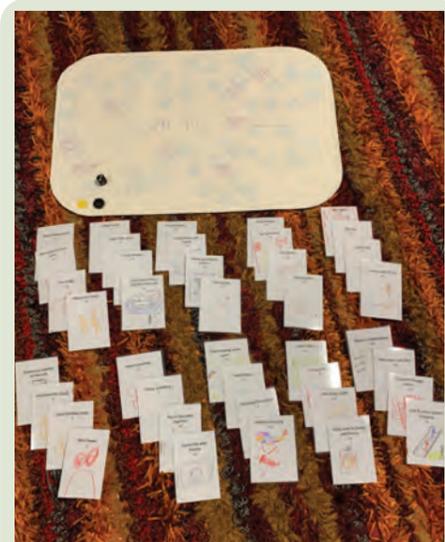
Nethsara - Scout

This picture is about a camping site with two people.



Daisy - Scout

Although we may be trapped our minds roam free.



Ajdin - Joey Scout

This was a family effort. We brainstormed all the good and bad things about being in Lockdown, then our Joey rated each from -2 to +3. He typed in a lot of the text for the cards, then we all shared the drawing, and our Joey helped his little sister do the laminating. Then we all tested the game by playing it together. It was wonderful as a Leader and a mum to get an insight into how my son feels about Lockdown.

Yuet Yin (Selene) - Cub Scout

This is a picture of my family and our imagery pets. There is mum, dad, my sister Amber and me. Our imagery pets are unicorns, flying cats, a sheep and a penguin. We are flying up to cloudland. The sheep and penguin cannot fly so they are sitting in a basket pulled by helpful fairies.



Kyra - Cub Scout

My life in lockdown.



Amber and Amelia - Cub Scouts

We have worked on this board game that is about COVID. It's like normal Monopoly but we've adjusted a few things to make it relate to COVID a bit more. Amber from Epping North Cub Pack made the game board, property cards and the rules. Amelia, also from Epping North made the character pieces and the Chance and Community Chest cards.

Glowstick sculptures

Scouts enjoyed a glowstick and sand sculpture competition at their local Blue Hole Beach. Small groups of Scouts were staggered throughout the evening, for an hour each. The weather was perfect, and the sculptures were very creative!



Small group activities

Scouts enjoyed a day at Brucknell Scout Park, working in small groups, timetabled throughout the day. They built fires, cooked damper and hobo popcorn, chilled out with their Patrol, and just breathed in the bush air.



1st Echuca

The pandemic offers a special challenge to 1st Echuca Scout Martyn Currey: his Scout Group is in Victoria but he lives across the border in NSW. He kept himself busy Scouting at Home by recreating this famous sketch of the Founder of Scouting, Lord Baden-Powell.



Regional Scouting Shows the way

While the greater Melbourne area 'enjoyed' lengthy lockdowns, there was a bright spot for many regional Scout Groups when restrictions lifted at the start of Term 3 - before they were back in lockdown from midnight on August 5.

Warrnambool Tooram

Warrnambool Tooram Scouts were busy outdoors during the break between lockdowns.

Amazing Race

Five Patrols competed in a night of Amazing Race around Warrnambool's CBD. They had to decipher clues to get to each 'country' (a restaurant representing that country's food), then complete a Road Block task to earn their next card.

As well as food, there was some gross fun - like searching through bowls of fresh squishy escargot, blindfolded, to find exactly \$5 in silver coins, which was needed at their next pitstop.



Germany: Eagle Patrol and a Venturer (a former Eagle Patrol PL) at the Germany Pitstop.



England: Dingo Patrol at the England Pitstop - fish and chips, of course.



Beach cleanup

Dingo Patrol cleaned up at Blue Hole beach, near their Scout Hall, then checked out a new mural which shows how plastics endanger sea life.



Capture the flag

First, build your fort! Yellow Team build their fort for a game of Capture the Flag, but Blue Team's fort was the winner!



Harrison - Cub Scout

I have made Rick and Morty with accessories. Pickle Rick, a teleportation gun, a portal, a Mr Meski button, and a space ship.



Angus - Cub Scout

I have made coasters for my family and myself. I moulded the colours together to give them a marbled effect. I measured them all to make sure a glass or can would fit on them. I also made a lego man.



Daniel - Scout

This is a pattern of paint dripping through different filters, that make it have a different colour scheme. This is a nice pattern that I thought of creating, digitally.



Sam - Joey Scout

Maxed out car.



Gale - Scout

A before and with COVID-19 drawing.



This is a cool piece of artwork I created on my computer, with my stylus.

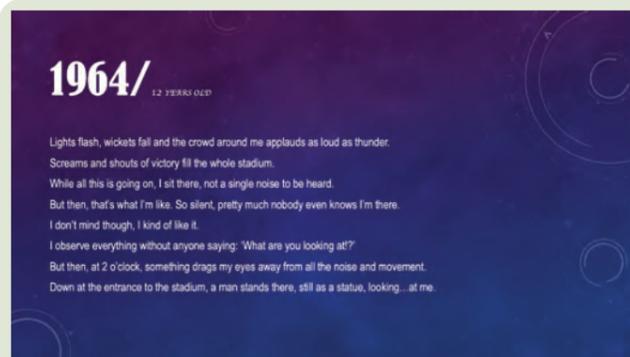


Siena - Cub Scout

Acrylic Painting on Canvas - Entitled "The Epic Cow". I created this painting with a mix of paint brush and palette knife. It shows one of my Grandpa's cows on the farm. She's tied up at a post. I missing being able to visit the farm the most during ISO.



Ashika - Scout



Gemma - Scout

Looking Back In Time - A short story about a woman that looks back in time to find out the truth about herself.



Amira - Scout

This show what is good about schooling from home especially if you have a big property and a few animal on it. You get to go out when ever! (in breaks of course! We don't want to skip!)

Broken Words Poetry

Tabitha - Rover Scout

I've always enjoyed writing poetry as a way to process trials and tribulations I've gone through in a way that is vulnerable and shapes my growth.

Praying for strength - A piece of poetry I wrote whilst the fires were happening to offer some form of support.

I'm green with envy of the sky,
The way it would pour
Not red flames, orange embers or black skies,
But water,
nutritious, valued water.

Ashes to ashes,
Dust to dust,
Our land is burning,
Our green is crust.

I did not ask for these increasingly tempestuous conditions,
Nor did I ask for so many broken hearts,
But in growth is vulnerability,
And our surrounding communities strength has proven durability.

With flames flickering,
And winds that roar,
I beg you please leave if you can,
Because a property is replaceable where a life is not.

Faith of a Fragmented Trial

Teika - Venturer

Oh world, what a bright young thing,
Your light over yonder
And your twinkling mysteries
Sets me into a certain and enchanting
wander to see

Your forests of hope,
Your rivers of fate
And your blossoms of adoration;
Handed to a simple traveller on a silver
plate.

Eyes cannot fathom your beauty,
Your Purity,
Hiding behind the mask of one's life,
Shrouded in anonymity and obscurity.

Sunlight creeps over the hill
And I know this new Earth will serve,
Knowing our life in the original realm
We did not deserve.

For I have faith of this fragmented trial,
To give us back our life.
A new existence, a new world,
That we are able to explore in its
sheathed nightlife.

Reflection Home Learning 2020

Jack - Scout

The thing I've liked about home school is the not having to get up at 7am to catch the bus by 8am. I get an extra hour of sleep or time to get ready. Not having to get into uniform each day is also nice. I have had many pyjama days.

I also enjoy that I can finish early so I have more time to do the things I want after school, no bus to get home.

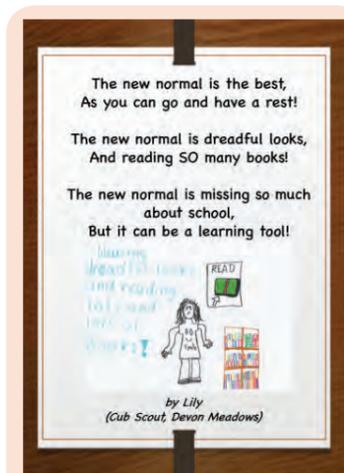
I think I do more work at home because there is less distractions. I get distracted easily. Mum keeps me on track with tasks to complete.

Another thing I get to do more at home is spend time with my parents, since I've been home more I've played board games



Asha - Cub Scout

A short story.



Devon Meadows Cub Scouts

Collection of poems and drawings about the new normal.

and spent a lot more time with them, dad and I play together and I get to walk our dog more.

I also cook with mum more. Recently I made dinner to help my mum. I made chicken parma balls and sauce, mostly by myself. That night I also made chocolate ice-cream for dessert. I also have made peach crumble, it was delicious.

There are a lot of positives but there where some negatives as well.

The really big negative is missing my friends and playing, and having fun with my friends at lunch and recess, I just play in the drive way and talk to my sister. I really miss that part of school where I get to talk to lots of different people.

The subject I miss the most is art. The reason why I miss it is because at school we get to do fun stuff like painting and clay, at home all we do is dioramas, drawing and boring stuff.

The group has only been adventure racing for a handful of years between them, but their long-term involvement in adventurous activities as Scouts, Venturers and Leaders provided plenty of opportunities to develop their outdoor skills. As anyone who has been on an expedition knows, how the group gets along is just as important as speed and skills, so it's also lucky that Bernard Cronan (navigator), Myall Quint (captain), Benjamin Warner (AR rookie), Marni Williams (nutrition and motivation) and Brett Johnson (support crew), all go back two decades in Scouting together, from their own teenage years taking part in Dragon Skins and School for Adventure, through to more recent roles running adventurous activities at Ventures and Jamborees. For Marni, the sport reflects the social and gender diversity of Scouting: "Adventure racing doesn't split men's and women's races, the premier category is always mixed. I like being part of a sport that is not just inclusive of all genders, but really requires people of all genders to work together as part



Team Scouts Australia with Bear Grylls.

of a team—which has always been my experience in Scouts. The support that comes with a race like Eco-Challenge also provides unique opportunity for people from different countries and backgrounds to compete on an equal playing field."

There's no doubt Eco-Challenge will put their Scouting skills and endurance to the test and we can't wait to see how they go when the show airs on August 14 (or to find out how they go against the American Eagle Scout team!)

Myall Quint is a member of Scouts New South Wales.





Team Scouts Australia take on The Worlds Toughest Race



Departing Sydney en route to Fiji for the Would's Toughest Race.

By MYALL QUINT

What would you say if your next Scouting activity was to choose three of your closest Scouting friends and go 671 kilometres through jungles and swamps, over rock faces and mountain ranges, and across rivers and oceans, through the day and night, with only a map and compass to guide you? Sounds like epic fun? Now picture it as a competition: you're



told you will be paddling, riding, hiking, roping, canyoning, and more, but you won't really know where you have to go until you receive individual maps along the way, or even what type of challenges the future legs of the race will entail. You're also against 65 other teams from all over the world, the clock never stops, and if one team member quits, the whole team is out. Oh, and it's going to be filmed, too. Sound intimidating? Team Scouts Australia is a new adventure racing team, and they recently stepped up in a big way to face that exact challenge, competing in the 'world's toughest race', Eco-Challenge Fiji.

Eco-Challenge is a legendary adventure race that started its life as a television series in the 1990s, sending top athletes across some of the world's most challenging terrain. Produced by MGM's Mark Burnett, 'Eco' has never lost its status as one of the hardest race series ever staged. Having spent more than a decade producing Survivor, Burnett was keen to return to his roots and has now partnered with Bear Grylls to revive his pet project as a ten-part series for Amazon, World's Toughest Race: Eco-Challenge Fiji.

So what made Team Scouts think this was a good idea? Putting their hands up for a race that was renowned as the hardest going was a big call for a team of amateur athletes hailing from the South Met Region of Sydney, but for the team's founder, Myall Quint, watching Eco was where it all began: 'I never played a lot of sport as a kid, but I saw Eco-Challenge on TV a few years back it reminded me that all the skills I was learning in Scouts I could put to a sport, and that was adventure racing.'

The benefits of COVID-19

We saw so many amazing entries for our Scout Quest Creative Challenge. Sancha, a Venturer from Narre Warren South has managed to find many positives during the COVID-19 lockdown.

By SANCHA FUNG

We can all agree that a pandemic is never good. It hurts our mental health, our futures, and the economy. However, for me this pandemic has also led to some benefits.

The bad include not being able to see friends, needing to stay at home, facing tough restrictions such as one hour of exercise per day, wearing a mask whenever you go out, losing a job, more mental health difficulties, being bored, fears of catching COVID, a change of routine and much more. My most favourite thing in the world is trains, and before lockdown, I was on a train most days. I love riding them and looking out the window and the current world situation has meant that I have not been able to do that. But the over 700 photos and videos of trains I have on my camera roll has proven to be very useful.

Whilst of course there are many negative impacts of the pandemic, there are also some benefits that I'm sure many people can also agree on, such as being able to sleep in as learning/working from home have become the norm for most, not being cramped on peak-hour public transport or being stuck in traffic. Many people have spent more time with their families in person and some also started projects such as baking banana bread (classic!), learning a new skill, or starting to work on their camp blankets!

For me specifically, one of the biggest benefits of being stuck at home that I really value would be Scouting at Home. At Kalora Park Venturers in Narre Warren North, we used meeting over Zoom to our advantage. We ran many STEM joint nights for younger Sections in our District which proved to be a huge success, and we were also able to meet with linking Scouts from Cranbourne. I've also been able to meet with Units far from home, which I would not have had the opportunity to do if it weren't for the current situation that we are in. One of these Units is located over 50kms north from where I live in South East Melbourne, and I have had heaps of fun with them. My Unit is incredibly



amazing and understanding and, in my introduction, I wrote at the end that 'I'm really glad I'm part of such a supportive and awesome Unit,' showing that being able to meet with this Unit has been very beneficial for me.

The Scout Quest opportunities have also been highly enjoyable. The live events have enabled members from all across Victoria to connect with each other, most notably the events such as cooking or the magic academy where youth members from across both metro and regional Victoria could feature on screen for the entire state to see. I wonder how many families had Chicken Parma Balls and Ice Cream Smash on Sunday August 23?

Another notable benefit has been the many house challenges my school created. These challenges vary from dress-up competitions, weekly meme competitions, trivia competitions once a week, weekly Kahoot competitions between mentor groups (like home groups) in my house and heaps more. There are so many challenges that I've had trouble keeping track of all of them! The high participation rates from not only my house, but also from the entire school shows exactly how close of a 'family' we are.

There's one question that always remains - what will the new normal after COVID look like? Well it's too hard to tell at this stage as the situation is constantly evolving, but I'm sure that everyone

will be more resilient and everyone will have experience in quickly adapting to changing situations as well as learning or working from home, so we will be more prepared if this ever happens again (hopefully not).

So in conclusion, whilst I'm sure you're able to quickly name many disadvantages and advantages of a pandemic that many others can also relate to off the top of your head, I encourage you to try to find something positive that means a lot to you that has come out of it, it could be as simple as "I got to spend more time with my family because I wasn't at work for eight hours a day" or more unique.

Remember, there are benefits to pretty much everything, you just have to stay positive and find them!

Sancha Fung is a Venturer at Narre Warren South.

Faces of Scouting

Andrew from 1st Heatherdale

By Phoebe Hicks

Meet our next Face of Scouting Andrew McGrail, known among his 1st Heatherdale Scouts as 'Yoda'.

Andrew joined Scouting as a Cub then linked to Scouts with 1st Tullamarine, then after moving house he joined 5th North Moorabbin. Attending the 1986 Jamboree at Cataract Park was an early highlight. Moving onto Venturers he achieved his Queen Scout, and then continued on to Ettamogah Rover Crew. He attended the 1992 Ballarat Jamboree as an offsite activity team member (rafts on Lake Wendouree), and also did a short stint with South Metro Showtime as a follow spot operator.

Moving to the ACT for work, he quickly found some like-minded young adults in the Bethungra Rover Crew in North Canberra. Bethungra means Black Mountain and is the name of a local landmark. With a little more time on his hands he achieved his BP award, and attended the 10th World Rover Moot in Sweden, and survived the Post Moot Tour.

Andrew met his wife Lisa through Rovers, specifically the 1995/1996 Australian Moot – also at Cataract Park! He was eventually 'booted' ceremoniously from Rovers with both Victorian and ACT Rover buddies meeting halfway at the Ettamogah Pub near Albury.

Andrew took a break from Scouting and moved back to Melbourne. He and Lisa married, got a house sorted, and soon two children joined their family. Workplace redundancy provided an opportunity for Andrew to become the primary carer for his children, Bethany and Evan. "Once they joined Cub Scouts", Andrew says, "we were keen to hang around and assist as parents and eventually that grew, perhaps inevitably, to my becoming a uniformed member once again and getting back on the horse."

Since reconnecting with Scouts as a Leader, Andrew has attended the 2019 Jamboree working on the Daily Bunyip Newspaper team as a photographer, followed his Scouts hiking around Wilson's Prom, and brushed up on his canoeing – assisting with a couple of District expeditions along the Murray river.

The creative and enthusiastic ASL is also heavily involved with the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Victoria. Since joining in 2001 he's taken on many supporting roles with the opera group, including photography, production manager, web



Yoda at Scout Hike.

As Major General in Pirates of Penzance.

guru, marketing, set construction, directing The Mikado in 2018, as well as on stage in over 45 shows

including in the Principal role of the Modern Major General Stanley in their 2017 Pirates of Penzance.

Lisa and Andrew have enjoyed putting their creativity into action for events such as Scout Hike where 1st Heatherdale runs a stunt site at the yearly event. Using their flair for costumes and creating fun characters helps to enhance the activities. One particular year had a Star Wars theme and Andrew dressed up as wise old Yoda, and his Scouts thought that was the perfect Scouting name for him to have.

Making the most of Zoom Scouting, remote schooling, getting out and about, and managing many on and off-stage aspects of Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Victoria, life is full and busy for Yoda.

"Do or do not, there is no try" says Yoda

Phoebe Hicks is an Assistant Cub Scout Leader at 1st Trafalgar and writes the blog [Faces of Gippsland](#).

Do you know someone who could feature in 'Faces of Scouting', nominate them or put your own hand up to be featured, email editor@australianscout.com.au.



Andrew with Ettamogah at Mudsh.



Andrew at Cubs.



With the photographers from the Daily Bunyip Team.



Joey Scouts

Discover Adventure



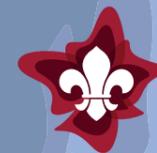
Cub Scouts

Create the Path



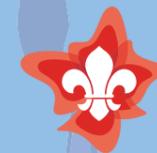
Scouts

Explore the Unknown



Venturer Scouts

Look Wide



Rover Scouts

Beyond the Horizon

Q: I've heard the term "One Journey", what does that mean?

A: It's our new Symbolic Framework that ties our Scouting journey together through all the Sections. Each Section gets a motto that highlights each new stage of the journey and the development that is possible.

Q: What do I need to do to complete a Peak Award now?

A: There are some small differences between the Sections, but generally we need to complete:

- Milestone 3
- Outdoor Adventure Skills progressions
- Six Special Interest Area projects
- An Adventurous Journey
- A Leadership or Personal Development Course
- A Personal Reflection

Q: Are we still missing parts?

A: Yes, but we'll be starting the last two parts next year. From February we get to dive into Outdoor Adventure Skills, then in July we'll start Special Interest Areas.

Q: How do I work out where I am in the new program?

You can use the Scheme to Pathways Converter on pr.scouts.com.au. Enter your details and current badges and it will let you know where you are according to the Achievement Pathways.

Q: Where can I find more information?

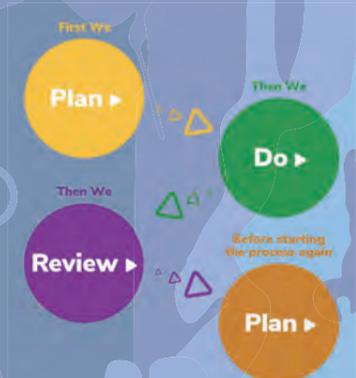
A: There's lots of places to find out more about Our Program; some of the information resources available are:

- The Program Handbook and Section Guides – available at the Scout Shop
- Scouts Victoria Our Program web page – includes the implementation plan, fact sheets, and videos
- Scouts Australia web page pr.scouts.com.au – fact sheets, videos, Terrain information
- Program Champions and Digital Terrain Champions – peers with hands on knowledge and experience.
- Email npi@scoutsvictoria.com.au – for any other questions you may have.



Our Program – One Program

One developmental program across the five age Sections



- BUSHCRAFT**
PIONEERING, SURVIVAL SKILLS
- BUSHWALKING**
- CAMPING**

- AQUATIC**
RESCUE, SNORKELING, SCUBA, SURFING, LIFE SAVING
- ALPINE**
CROSS COUNTRY SKIING, DOWNHILL SKIING, SNOW SHOENING, SNOW CAMPING, SNOW BOARDING
- BOATING**
SAILING, WINDSURFING
- CYCLING**
CYCLE TOURING, MOUNTAIN BIKING
- PADDLING**
CANOEING, KAYAKING, SEA KAYAKING, RAFTING
- VERTICAL**
ABSEILING, CAVING, CANYONING, CLIMBING

Q. When do we need to start using this program?

A. We've already started! Many Groups are already using Plan>Do>Review, the Challenge Areas, Participate>Assist>Lead, and even the Milestones every week.

Q. What are Outdoor Adventure Skills?

A. Outdoor Adventure Skills (OAS) are adventurous activities split up into nine different skill areas including the three core areas of bushcraft, bushwalking and camping. Plus the six specialist areas of aquatic, alpine, boating, cycling, paddling and vertical.

- STEM & INNOVATION**
- CREATING A BETTER WORLD**
- ART & LITERATURE**
- ENVIRONMENT**
- ADVENTURE & SPORT**
- GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT**

Q. Are we still using SPICES to write our programs?

A. We now write our programs using the Challenge Areas; each activity is assigned to one area and you make sure there is a balanced amount of each area in the full program, so it has variety to keep it fun. The four Challenge Areas are Community, Creative, Outdoors, and Personal Growth. We also need to make sure that we make each activity adventurous, fun, challenging, and inclusive. SPICES hasn't disappeared though! We now use it to review our programming so we can improve for next time. All these tools should help us to create the best programs for everyone in our Units.

- SOCIAL**
- PHYSICAL**
- INTELLECTUAL**
- CHARACTER**
- EMOTIONAL**
- SPIRITUAL**

Q. What are Special Interest Areas?

A. Special Interest Areas (SIAs) are projects that come under one of six headings, that a Scout can set out to complete to increase their knowledge and skills. The six areas are Art & Literature, STEM & Innovation, Environment, Creating a Better World, Growth & Development, and Adventure & Sport.

Q: What's happening with the Peak Awards?

A: Some of the names have changed slightly and the badges you need to complete to achieve the award are different from before. Every Section will have the same structure and badges to achieve, but as you progress through the Sections, the badges will get more challenging to meet the abilities of each Section.

- JOEY SCOUT CHALLENGE AWARD**
- GREY WOLF AWARD**
- AUSTRALIAN SCOUT AWARD**
- QUEEN'S SCOUT AWARD**
- BADEN-POWELL SCOUT AWARD**

2nd Footscray meets 1st Foots Cray

By MICHELLE WIGHTWICK

The 2nd Footscray Cubs and Scouts ended Term 2 with a combined Zoom activity with the 1st Foots Cray Cubs and Scouts in the United Kingdom. 1st Foots Cray is in the London Borough of Bexley, on the border of North East Kent. 2nd Footscray Cubs have been penpals with 1st Foots Cray Cubs for about 10 years.

Almost 50 youth members, Leaders and Scouting guests attended the event with the Cubs and Scouts from each Group planning and running the program. Cubs and Scouts from both Scout Groups made videos, showed photos, organised a virtual scavenger hunt and trivia with questions on each country. The youth members enjoyed learning about Scouting in Australia and the UK and the surprising similarities in this worldwide Scouting movement.

At the end of the program, Michelle Wightwick - Akela 2nd Footscray had the honour of assisting with the investiture of a 1st Foots Cray Cub Scout. Kariwara District Commissioner John Wightwick presented the World Scout badge and Akela did the Promise with the new Cub.

Michelle Wightwick is a Cub Scout Leader at 2nd Footscray.



Cubs Saskia and Thomas said about the night:

I liked the scavenger hunt, seeing other Cubs from another country and having a good laugh! It was interesting to see how Cubs work and get together in England. We had some trivia questions and it turns out that they never tasted Vegemite, let alone know what it is!

Scout Angus commented:

Meeting the 1st Foots Cray Scouts came as a surprise when I heard about it. The news that we were asked to make a video about Footscray to show on the night (morning for UK) was exciting because it meant that I could go over to my friend's house to make the video and muck around editing the video with two Scout friends. On the day of the meeting, I logged into Zoom, set an appropriate background (Australian flag) and there I was, looking over a sea of tiny screens displaying nearly 50 people with some from Australia but others all the way from UK - Wow! We then ran around looking for the items for a scavenger hunt and racking our brains for the answers to that one really hard question in the quiz but we learnt a lot! Overall, it was fun to finish off the term in a big group Zoom meeting with the 1st Foots Cray Scouts!



Alex, a Cub from 1st Foots Cray.

Scouting around Australia



The Beekman's ready to hit the road!

By the BEEKMAN FAMILY

After five years of dreaming, working, and saving, 2020 was the year our family of five would travel our amazing country. Selling our property and packing up a 22-foot caravan was no easy feat. With a feeling of excitement and trepidation, we embarked on the trip of a lifetime.

We are active members of 1st Mansfield Scout Group and Tilba Tilba District - Toby and Jasmine, parent-Leaders, Ayshia, a senior Scout, Derek, a Scout, and Dekoda, a Cub (with Ayshia close to completing her Australian Scout Medallion).

There was a feeling of sadness in leaving the Group and kids enjoying their Scouting journey,

so we looked at how we could continue Scouting on the road. We packed our Scout uniforms, and, with the support of our Group and District Leaders, we planned to meet with as many Scout Groups as we could across Australia.

We set up a Facebook page "Scouting around Australia", and used this as a platform to connect with new Groups, meet other Scouts, share our journey, and as a way our kids could complete their Scouting achievements.

Following our last Mansfield community service on Australia Day, our wheels hit the bitumen and we waved goodbye.

We decided to head south-east, into the recently devastated bushfire-affected areas of Victoria and NSW. As Scouts we could support those communities, but also see firsthand the result of some of our country's worst bushfires.

With a Scouting focus to our trip, we sought opportunities to continue learning Scouting skills and knowledge, such as packing a day-pack to hike Wilsons Prom, leading a Scouts Own on the foreshore of Bemm River, backwoods cooking while staying at Pambula Scout camp in NSW, or navigating through one of Australia's biggest cities, Sydney.



A Scouts Own at Bemm River.



Participating in Clean Up Australia Day in Pambula.

We started meeting up with Scout Groups. At Bairnsdale we assisted the Group with sorting tents that became temporary accommodation during the fires; at Pambula we participated in Clean Up Australia Day; and we gave emotional support at fire-ravaged Cobargo Scout Group, where Dekoda had the opportunity to complete her Level 2 Swimmers badge.

We were on a high, the kids were engaging with their own age groups, and we had lined up more Groups further up the NSW coast.

March 23!

It was Derek's birthday and the day the world changed, as COVID-19 hit and the Government told everyone to stay home, stop travelling and state borders were to close. With no home to go back to, we had to make some serious decisions.

One that would alter the course of our trip around Australia was choosing to head to a friend's property (also Scouts)



Taking a break during their day hike through Wilson's Prom.



The Beekman's visiting Bairnsdale Scout Group in SA. With 24 hours and 2600 km to get to the SA border before they closed, we piled into the car and, in true Scouting style, had a mini car party, making the border with an hour to spare, exhausted but relieved.

Along with the rest of the country we spent the next eight weeks in lock down. While this stopped our travels, it didn't stop Scouting. As Scouts moved online and face-to-face meeting was no longer allowed, we connected back to our Group in Mansfield. Meeting on a weekly basis, the kids were able to chat to their friends and participate in weekly challenges. This became a lifeline in iso days. It also kept us active as parents/Leaders, assisting with running nights.

Highlights

Ayshia (Senior Scout):

"I really missed my friends, so being able to see and talk with them via Zoom was so good. I enjoyed many of the challenges, recently using my love of drawing to design a logo for Mudbash."

"One of my favourite hikes so far was the rim walk at Kings Canyon."

Derek (Scout):

"When we were told about some caves in Bungonia NP by another Scout, after using a map to find them, we explored the caves using head torches. Boy, did they go down a long way."

"It was cool joining in on Cosentino magic. I have already used a couple of tricks on other campers around us."

Dekoda (Cub Scout):

"Leading a cooking night from our caravan - we made microwave egg cups. They were yummy, so I make them all the time."

"I felt really good when I could answer questions about the coat of arms of Australia at Parliament house, in Canberra."



Ayshia, Derak and Dekoda hiking through the Valley of Wines in the Northern Territory.



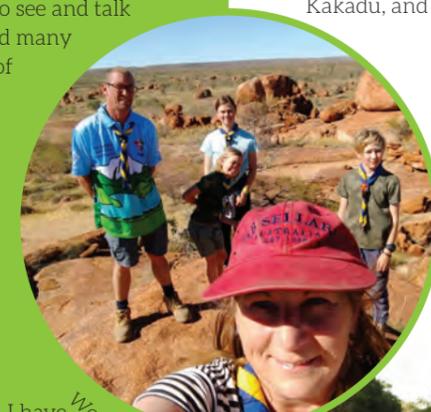
Derek learning magic with Cosentino during Scout Quest.

During those eight weeks we kept busy through star gazing, camp outs, cooking challenges, building flag poles, Lego challenges, rock climbing, stop motion animation, and Anzac Day at the end of the drive - to name a few.

As restrictions started to lift, we found ourselves in one of the best States to be in to continue travelling. While staying connected to our Group, we were able to explore South Australia, bike hike along cliff tops, catch squid, learn how to prepare and cook it on the barbecue, hike the Flinders Ranges, and enjoy sunset reflections at Uluru, and campfires under some of the most amazing night skies.

With luck on our sides we moved north, seeking the warmer weather, so Northern Territory it was! We celebrated

World Scout Day at the Devils Marbles, met other travelling Scouts in Kakadu, and



World Scout Day.

we welcomed into the Humpty Doo Scout Group face to face, while, sadly, our southern Scouting friends went back into online Scouting and more restrictions.

Our journey has taken some twist and turns; our vision of Scouting Around Australia has not gone to plan.

However, 2020 has shown all of us that no matter where we are - whether it's a home base, travelling, in iso, or on an outback station - we can enjoy Scouting, build resilience, have fun, and gain lifelong skills. We are comforted to be a part of a great group of people, full of opportunities, challenges and a world of friends ensuring we will have many more Scouting adventures ahead of us.

We would like to thank the Leaders across the country who have welcomed us with open arms, made suggestions, or have linked us up with Groups. We welcome any further opportunities for either face to face or online Scouting.

Yours in Scouting ...

Toby Beekman is Cub Scout Leader at 1st Mansfield, Jasmine is Assistant Scout Leader, Ayshia and Derek are Scouts, and Dekoda is a Cub Scout.



The Beekman's visiting Humpty Doo Scout Group.