



Newsletter of 5th City of Brunswick Scout Group
www.5thbrunswickscouts.org.au

October 2007



Our outback explorers in the desert of South Australia. Typical scene -- big sky, flat horizon, sparse vegetation, red soil and very few trees.

Outback Trek

Congratulations to four intrepid scouts from 5th Brunswick who spent 12 days on the road to Birdsville and back over the term holidays. The journey was not without incident as you might expect on any outback trek, however all have survived unscathed to tell the tale – and many tales they have to tell indeed.

The trek was made with 16 other scouts from Hoadley region in a mini-bus and five 4-wheel drive vehicles towing three trailers. Outback roads are notorious for destroying vehicles and this trip was no exception. One trailer was wrecked; a transmission case cracked, car windows broken and another trailer came to bits on the road. Thanks to the resourcefulness of scouts, leaders and the generosity and capability of station hands at various outback stations, the crew was able to complete the trip and have loads of fun.

Every night involved making camp, setting up the tents and getting ready to eat. During the day when they weren't travelling, scouts visited the museum at Silverton, the famous shearing shed at

Cordillo Downs station, the Birdsville pub (by special arrangement), swimming in the Diamantina river and many took a light aircraft flight for a birds-eye view of Wilpena Pound in South Australia.

A highlight was the Diamantina Starlight Ball. On this occasion scouts in eveningwear (black tie and evening gowns) held a gala dinner and dance event under the stars on the banks of the Diamantina River at Birdsville.

The trek is a credit to the organisers (Kariwarra District Adventurous Activities) and is heartily recommended to all scouts who like adventure and fun. The 2008 Trek will be to Coober Pedy in South Australia. Stay tuned for more details around March 2008.



12 scouts packed into one of the giant wheels on "Big Lizzie" the ancient and ill-fated desert vehicle on display in Redcliffs, near Mildura. Not a record achievement on this occasion. The record number of scouts in the wheel is 16.

Upcoming events

Centenary Camp

Joeys, Cubs and Scouts

9-11 November - Treetops – Riddells Creek

Applications closed

Canoeing and Abseiling Camp

17-18 November. Scout patrol activity camp at Clifford Park. More details soon.

Cuboree 2008

Applications and payment required by 22 November 2007. See Karella or Tony.



Cuboree 2008

Cuboree 2008 will be the ultimate camp and adventure for Cub Scouts in 2008. It runs over 5 days at Gilwell Park in Gembrook and the theme is “World of Wonders”

Applications and deposits have been received for several Cub Scouts, Leaders

and an Adult Helper from 5th Brunswick to attend Cuboree. There is still time to apply if you have not already done so.

Applications and full payment must be made to the Group by 22 November. Bring forms and payment (cheque preferred) to Cub Scout meeting or arrange to get it to Group Leader (Tony).

Visit <http://www.cuboree.com.au> for more information and to download an application form.



Joeys and Cubs Visit Brunswick Police Station

On 13 September 2007 5th Brunswick Joeys and Cubs visited Brunswick Police Station. Situated on the site of the old Brunswick Courthouse this station has recently rebuilt from the ground up and is brand new and modern in every way.

An acting sergeant at this Police Station is an ex-5th Brunswick scout!

The station has a state of the art security and communications system, and excellent facilities

for the police officers, including a fully equipped gym!

As expected the favourite part of the visit was inspecting the police vehicles, turning on the flashing lights and checking out all the police equipment it carries.

Brunswick Police Station and Fawkner Police Station are part of the Moreland Police District which is consistently the top performing police district in Victoria.

Many thanks to Senior Sergeant Colin Barnes, Officer in Charge of Brunswick Police Station and his staff who always enthusiastically welcome our Group to the station and who actually seem to enjoy the occasion.

Annual General Meeting

5th Brunswick will soon hold its AGM. Please try and make time to attend. More details will be sent out soon.

Fundraising Activities

Two sausage sizzles were held in September. One was a big event at Bunnings Broadmeadows. The other was at the smaller sausage sizzle stall day at Mitre 10 Campbellfield.

Thank you to all parents and leaders who participated in these events. These events have raised around \$850 in profit. These fundraisers only require volunteers to contribute a few hours of time and all the funds raised come from sources outside the group. Scout groups require the participation of parents and friends to raise funds for the upkeep and operation of the group. Funds raised directly benefit your children and families that participated are rewarded with reduced annual fees.

Fundraising activities are managed by the Group Committee. We do require parental assistance in running and participating fundraising events. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend Group Committee meetings.

Parents Participation

A reminder to all Parents – if you have just 30 minutes each month to come along to a Joeys, Cubs or Scout Meeting this would be fantastic. You can get to know what’s going on in your child’s section and reap even greater benefit from your child’s membership of a great organisation. Please let your section leader know of your interest.

Camp Blankets

Last month we looked at the subject of making your own unique woggle. Another unique item that you can make is a scout campfire blanket. This is a blanket that is used to keep warm while sitting around the night time fire at camp. It is often decorated with scout badges and items of significance that you have acquired during your scouting adventures. Scouts can sew target and challenge badges from previous sections onto their blanket as well as badges created for scouting activities such as camps, activities, jamborees, special occasions and so on. Badges can be obtained by purchase (check eBay or Snowgum), through attending events and by swapping with other scouts at camps and other activities.

Ideally a camp blanket is made of pure wool – a substance that does not support combustion – which is a great idea if you are spending time around an open fire. Acrylic blankets, which are very common, are highly flammable and dangerous to use as a camp blanket. Low cost woollen blankets are now difficult to find as the days of going to the disposals for an old Army blanket are over. But find one you must. I suggest you try Savers where you should be able to find a good quality used woollen blanket for around \$5-10. Be persistent, woollen blankets do come up this way so keep your eyes open.

There are several ways you can organise your blanket for wrapping yourself up and it is a good idea to settle on one method or another before starting to sew your badges on. There is a link on the group website to a great article on how to make camp blankets. Check it out to get a couple of ideas you may not have considered.

Wherever possible, scouts should learn to sew their own badges onto their camp blanket, the same as sewing badges onto their own uniforms. This is not a job for Mum or Dad.

Group Organisation

Our group is 5th City of Brunswick Scout Group. Your child is a member of a section, be it Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts or Scouts.

5th City of Brunswick Scout Group is part of Moreland District; named for Moreland City Council whose boundaries it follows closely. Moreland District is part of Hoadley Region, named after the late Arch Hoadley, Antarctic explorer, adventurer, educator and dedicated supporter of scouting in the western suburbs of Melbourne.

5th Brunswick Leaders

Please, please, please let your leader or Patrol Leader know if you are not coming to a meeting or an event. Quite apart from the common courtesy involved, you rely on others to be there for you and others rely on you to be there for them.

Joey Scouts – Poss (Bev Morrison) 9354 4079

Cub Scouts – Karella (Lois Buchanan) 9337 0246

Scouts – Jason Best – 0415 503 737

Patrol Leader, Scorpion – Jack Zilles 9386 0422

Patrol Leader, Platypus – Alex Slade 9386 7280

Group Leader – Tony Zilles – 9386 0422

Scout Law

When Scouts make the Scout Promise they promise to do their best to live by the Scout Law. But what does the Scout Law really mean? This month we look at the third Scout Law...

3. A Scout is Helpful

Scouts learn about helping other people right from the beginning in Joey Scouts. Joey Scouts' motto is "Help Other People" (HOP).

A Scout will always help when asked, but the deeper meaning of this Scout Law goes further than just helping when asked.

A Scout has concern for other people. A Scout does things willingly for others without expectation of pay or reward.

A Scout's capacity to help also depends on the ability to recognise that help is required and provide it—without being asked.

A true Scout helps people every day. In many cases the person being helped doesn't even know that help has been provided.



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