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

July 2008

Cubs Peter, Zoe, Pierce and Gen on an outing to Altona in May 2008.

Australian Scout Medallion Presentation

Next Tuesday 29th of July at 7:00 our Venturer Lola Jennings-Edquist will be presented with her Australian Scout Medallion. This is the major achievement in the Scout section and we congratulate Lola on her hard work. As this is a normal Scout night, Scouts will be in attendance with best uniforms and presentation. All members of the Group (Joeys, Cubs and family members) are invited to attend the ceremony, which will comprise the official presentation and a supper concluding at 7:45. The Scouts will continue with their regular Tuesday night meeting afterwards. Please indicate by email (gl@5thbrunswickscouts.org.au) if you would like to attend so we can cater accordingly.

District Camp

8-10 August 2008 – Clifford Park

Cub Scouts, Scouts and Venturers will be camping together over this weekend.

Please return completed PIRs this week (Scouts Tuesday 22nd, Joeys and Cubs Thursday 24th). Can't find the PIR form? Download one from the website. Look under forms.

We also need to know which parents can transport children (how many) and gear (how much, or tow a trailer (900kg) up to Clifford Park and back.

Sausage Sizzles

One of our fund-raising mainstays is the old faithful sausage sizzle. We have two scheduled dates at Bunnings Broadmeadows…

- Saturday 30 August
- Sunday 29 September

Each day can easily earn us $800-900 of clear income. To turn these opportunities into successful fundraisers we need a person or group of people to coordinate the days, and volunteers prepared to do at least a four-hour shift to run the stand on each day.

We can brief the coordinators on every aspect of running the day (you're not left wondering what to do) and provided with the support and guidance required to make it a successful venture.

Conducting these events is a parental responsibility and your input is essential or it can't/won't happen to the detriment of the Group and the children's enjoyment of Scouting.

Please call Group Leader Tony (3986 0422) and advise how you will be able to assist in this effort.

Street Party Update

You will have heard about the 100 years Celebration Street Party that will be held in St Kilda Road Precinct on Saturday the 2nd of August. Please note that the actual location of the party is in Linlithgow Avenue, just to the east of St Kilda Road opposite the Arts Centre.

Linlithgow Avenue will provide more space and better access to parking in Government House Drive for drop off and pick up. All of the bands are booked as are the

magicians, face painters, DJ, jumping castles and jugglers. This will be an enormous event – one not to be missed!

This event is organised by Victorian Branch. We are not organising to attend as a group. Information has been sent out directly to families and attendance is your choice. It will be a great event and lots of fun.

What: Scouts Biggest Street Party – party/carnival/entertainment/activities

When: Saturday 2nd August Cubs 6-8, Scouts & Venturers 6-midnight.

Where: Linlithgow Avenue, opposite the Arts Centre – St Kilda Road Precinct.

Who: All Scout members in uniform + family members + a friend. Note this event is not open to the general public and only uniformed Scouts (including Joeys, Cubs, etc) and their families and friends will be admitted.

Cost: Free. Food will be available for sale.

New Cub Leader

Welcome to our new Cub Leader Jess Bengtsson. Jess came to Melbourne some years ago from Sweden where she was strongly involved in Scouts for many years. Now that she is fully settled ni Australia she has decided to join Scouting again and we are very pleased to welcome her into 5th City of Brunswick. Although a fully trained leader in Sweden, Jess will undergo local leader training but will start at Cubs immediately.

Please say hello to Jess and make her welcome to our group.

Working With Children Card

Parents who help out with the Scouts occasionally or who are regularly involved in activities or who wish to join youth sections during overnight activities are required to have a Working With Children Card and register with the Group Leader. This requirement is effective immediately. A Working With Children Card is cost free for voluntary work (i.e. working with children in scouting) and can be applied for at any major post office. However when completing the form it is important that the Scout Association is nominated and correctly identified on your application. To get this part right we have prepared an information sheet which can be downloaded from the group website. Look under Admin/Forms.

If you already have a Working With Children Card due to your work or involvement with another voluntary organisation, you must apply to the Department of Justice to have your card amended and include the Scout Association as an interested party. The amendment form is available from the Department of Justice website.

Not sure if you need one? A WWC card is required by parents who

- Regularly attend weekly meetings as observers.
- Participate in or help out at meetings or outings at any location or over any period of time.
- Transport children other than their own to and from Scouting activities.

It is easy to apply for and we can help you to complete the form and successfully submit it.

Ideally at least one parent in each family should have a WWC card.

WWC card is an initiative that is designed to help protect your children, which the Scout Association has embraced and requires all adults working with children to comply with.

Work Parties

There is an amount of work to be done around the hall that is appropriate for parents with the right skills. If you have the capacity to do small jobs either by yourself or with an assistant or two at a time that suits you, this can often be more convenient than attending a working bee. It also saves us having to hire a handyman or general tradesman for a small, easy job.

The list of jobs waiting to be done is on the website. Look under Adults.

Group Committee

Our Group committee is now down a member with the early retirement form the position of Bob McMahon for personal reasons. Thank you to Bob for his work in supporting the Group Committee in 2008. He has done a lot more that he might think and the group is grateful for his participation.

A new Chairperson will be appointed soon.

The Group Committee is very active and productive in considering the many administrative activities that affect the Group, researching solutions and making decisions. The fruit of the Group Committee's work is not always immediately apparent to the casual observer. However I believe that the effort of the Group Committee is largely reflected in the steady growth of the Group, the calibre of the fine group of young people we have as members and the ever-improving financial status of the Group.

It is disappointing however that out of all the families with children in Scouts, only a very small fraction of those families actually direct any energy toward the running and development of the Group. Participation in the Scout Group at this level is a practical demonstration of your interest and involvement in your child's growth and development. It makes a real difference.

Many people say that don't have any spare time. While this may be an honest and true statement. It is also certain that of the people who do participate, not a single one has any spare time either. Time spent being involved is time made to be involved. It is a matter of priority. What are your priorities? Do you want to make a difference or are you just along for the ride?

You can make a significant difference by being involved in the Group Committee. All you need to do is come to a meeting. Easy as that.

Event Manager/Talent Coordinator Needed

Later in the year we intend to hold an open day/concert/fair to open our doors to the Weston Street and surrounding area community. There are many opportunities available to us to present a very interesting afternoon's activity. However, we need an enthusiastic person to drive and coordinate the event. Such a task requires special skills and ability – is this something you're good at. If so please contact the Group Leader to discuss further. As with all Scouting endeavours you will not be asked to act alone. We will build the team you need and give you as much support as possible.

Upcoming Events

2 August Biggest Scout Street Party

8-10 August District Camp Clifford Park

23 August AGM

30 August Sausage Sizzle Bunnings Broadmeadows

2 September Werribee Zoo Day – Joeys and Cubs

29-30 September Canoe Course – Scouts

29 September Sausage Sizzle - Bunnings Broadmeadows

Scout Law

When scouts make the Scout Promise they promise to do their best to live by the Scout Law. But do we understand what the Scout Law means?

5. A Scout is courteous.

A Scout is polite to everyone regardless of age or position. He/she knows that good manners are a sign of true respect and make it easier for everyone to get along together.

Courtesy doe not require additional time. It is just a pleasant attitude of heart which helps to sweeten life as we travel along day after day.

Only those who follow the Scout Law are truly Scouts.

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