



News & Views

From Scouting Otago

Volume 9 Issue 2, May 2006

Good News, Bad News and Comments

The good news is that in the Otago Area head count at 31st March our numbers were up 15% since last September.

There are several reasons why but a key one is that good programmes and a lot of outdoor activities have increased the youth membership's keen anticipation. We can but say thanks to all the Leaders and their supporters who have worked so hard.

The bad news is that two small groups have closed at Omakau and Taieri Beach. We believe that given time we can reactivate these again.

The year got off to a great start with Founder's Weekend activities at Waiora and two very well organised fun and activity filled weekends followed with Cub Day, celebrating 90 years of Cubbing, and Kea Day. In both, lots of our younger members enjoyed the programmes which had been carefully planned for them.

At present (April 2006) there is an expectation that Scouting will re-commence in Cromwell within the next couple of months. If you know of anyone who could make a good adult Leader in Cromwell, Brighton, Omakau or Outram please leave a message with their names and how they can be contacted at the Area office (toll free at 0800 SCOUTS).

The Otago Rover Crew has been granted the running of the 2007 Rover Moot at Waiora next Easter, so there are more good things underway.

My main thought at present is can we keep up the activity, especially the outdoor parts through autumn and winter. Remember we say we are an outdoor movement, most section meetings involve some outdoor activity in their regular programmed and most can continue some cooler weather adventure things. Even a half-day hike during a weekend can be most rewarding. I am sure that good leaders can think up places to go, things to explore and worthwhile activities "out and about".

Keep up all the good work!
"Hec"

Founders Weekend 18th-19th February 2006

The 18th February 2006 was a very busy day for Michael Smith and helpers, (Rovers) marshalling cars to the designated parking area and directing groups to their designated camping areas.

At 1pm on the 18th February, was the official opening of Founders Day at Bridge Field, Waioara. The parade was held, with Allen Ward (Guildmaster of the B.P. Guild) conducting the official flag break. Allen then spoke for ten minutes on Scouting over the years.

It was then onto the Founders Day activities A well run weekend of scouting activities was run by Jeff Burrow a& Brian Mason, section leaders for the scouts. Sue Smith, section leader for the Keas, and helpers also ran a very successful weekend of activities for the Kea Section. Wayne Smith, section leader for the Cubs, and helpers, also had a very busy weekend of activities for the Cubs, a water slide being one of them. Judging from the smiles and laughter from all groups, a very pleasant and enjoyable weekend was had by most.

At 9pm, two very successful campfires were conducted. It was decided, for safety reasons, to have two campfires, one for the cubs and one for the scout section, Jeff Burrow being the campfire chief for the scouts campfire. This was a well run and enjoyable campfire. Wayne Smith informed me that his campfire for the Cubs, was the best he had been to. Special thanks was made to the Venturers and Rovers for the making of the campfires.

It was pleasing to see so many well-run groups at the Founders Day camp. A strong contingent came from Wanaka, and was well up with the leaders in the scouting competitions. It was also pleasing to see a well-run Green Island Group. This group has a very enthusiastic group of leaders, with their scouting section now numbering over twenty. Sue Chave and Sandra Bassford (Kew/Corstorphine Group) should also be commended for a fine turnout of their scouts, now numbering over ten. Along with their cub leaders this shows what can be achieved with a group with hard work and dedication.

I must apologise for not mentioning more groups, as all groups were of a high standard. It was also very pleasing to see so many hard working parent helpers at this camp. With over 600 Keas, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Leaders attending this camp, without parent help it would be impossible to have run a camp of this size.

Sunday the 19th February 2006 saw the continuity of Founders Day activities. Scouts Own at 9:30am saw a strong contingent from the B.P. Guild attending and Allen Ward giving an address on scouting and also of the conservation work done to Waioara over the years.

Jeff Burrow organised over 250 native trees and plants to be planted after the Scouts Own.

The B.P. Guild members were then invited to morning tea with the well organised Mosgiel Group.

The weather was very kind for the weekend, with temperatures reaching the mid 20s. With these high temperatures, an impromptu water fight was held at the Bridge Field bridge. No one was safe passing this area, without a drenching, including me.

After lunch, a hand ball competition was held, with loud support from the leaders.

At 2pm, we saw the close and presentation of prizes. First Jeff and Allen presented the awards. Emphasis was made on the high standard of leadership of all sections of our scouting leaders. Top patrol was won by the Wakari group. A plaque was awarded to the group, and a ribbon and Founders Day medal to each member of the winning patrol. The award for the overall top group was also won by the Wakari group (the Mafeking Trophy) and a plaque was also presented. As I mentioned earlier, emphasis was made of the high standard of leadership. With this emphasis in mind, medals were awarded to: Wakari Group Leader, Tom Shields, Scout Allen Nisbet and Rose Shields, the Kea Leader. The Green Island Scouts won the hand soccer tournament, (which was a very close contest). The St Patricks Group won the best effort achievers award.

It was then onto the Cargill District award (the Puka-Puka Drum). This award is presented to the Cargill District best performing group at a Founders Day Camp. This year it was presented to the Tainui Group. The Puka-Puka drum has been contested by the Cargill district groups since 1978, and was presented to the district by the Puka-Puka Island, Cook Island Scouts.

A presentation of medals was then made to: Allen Ward (B.P. Guildmaster), Camp section leaders: Scouts: Jeff Burrow and Brian Mason: Cubs: Wayne Smith, Keas: Sue Smith, Camp Marshall: Venturers and Rovers, Michael Smith. Publicity: a very capable Christina McConnell.

Founders Day badges were awarded to the hard working teams of Rovers and Venturers. Founders Day badges were also awarded to the well turned out B.P. Guild (with over 30 members attending the closing ceremony).

To conclude, the theme for this camp was **TO HAVE FUN**. In most parts this was very successful.

I personally would like to thank all leaders and parent helpers, and a special thanks to my team of leaders with whose help, made this 2006 Founders Day camp a success.

A reminder: 2007 Founders Day camp will be a one hundred years of scouting special.

Yours in Scouting
Keith Moore (AAC) or Matai the Yorkie Talkie

Cub Day

The weather was a worry at first on Sunday 18 March 2006 as it was very overcast with light showers first thing in the morning. By the time we had set up the weather started to improve and we had a very hot day.

The theme for the day was mini Olympics, based around four different bases; Winter Olympics, Grand Nationals, Highland Games and Medieval Games.

The highlight of the day was the Medieval Games run by the Rovers. This included making darts and firing them at a big bull's-eye, making juggling balls, riding hobby horses (black stallions) and a battle using wet sponges against the Rovers. When the Cubs first entered this base they first received their armour, being black plastic rubbish bags, and crowns donated by Burger King.

The Grand Nationals included dog trials, steeplechase, chariot racing and trotting.

The Winter Olympics included curling, bob sledding, skiing and two craft bases.

The Highland Games included stone throwing, caber toss, javelin and the haggis.

We had around 240 Cubs attending. They came from all over Otago including Central Otago, North Otago and South Otago.

At lunchtime we had a display from the Rural Fire Service and a helicopter with a monsoon bucket dumping water.

Everyone had a great day including the Leaders and went home very tired but happy.

Kea Day

A fun day was had by 98 Keas and about 70 parents and leaders on Sunday 2 April at Chingford Park.

The weather stayed fine for us and a great variety of activities were held including aerobics, bouncy train, face painting, pin the lips on the frog, horizontal bungee, balancing on teeter boards, treasure hunt, obstacle course, origami frogs, river crossing to music, sponge water fight and two craft bases – making pompoms and frog hats.

Our Kea Day featured on Channel 9 on the Monday night and in the Otago Daily Times as well.

A lot of happy tired keas went home after a busy day outdoors.

***Thought for the day – We have only one mouth and two ears.
The trick is to use them in proportion to the number of them that we
have, i.e. two to one.***

New Scouting

If you wish to make a submission or have your feelings known about the changes being proposed for Scouting from January 2007 please send them to the Chief Executive at the National Office. By post the address is:

The Chief Executive,
Scouting New Zealand
PO Box 11348
Wellington 6034

To give online feedback go to www.scouts.org.nz click on New Scouting, click on Online feedback and type in your comments.

Submissions may be for or against various matters and suggestions can be made.

Please do not phone me as I have not got time to listen to long involved explanations and it is Geoff Knighton who is gathering the information

“Hec” - Acting Area Commissioner

Stop Press

Thanks to all those who attended the Forward Planning Meeting on Tuesday 2nd May. The head count was over 100. Very good. Well done. Many travelled a long way! Thanks to those who helped with supper in various ways.

Introduction to Training Course

A good weekend of training was had by 35 Scout leaders at Waiora on 8 and 9 April. Lesley Anderson, National Training Commissioner led the day and kept us busy learning about training leaders. On Sunday the modules When Adults Disagree, Communication Skills and Scouting Principles were covered. All gained something from the weekend. Thanks to all those who participated.

Day Skipper Certificate Course

Kaikorai Valley College have a Day Skipper Certificate course starting on Wednesday 3 May for 7 weeks from 7-9pm. Fee is \$50 and Scout Leaders who attend can get this reimbursed from Scouting Otago Area on completion of the course by bringing your receipt and certificate into Scouting Otago Area office. Contact Kaikorai Valley College to enrol or collect an enrolment form from Scouting Otago Area Headquarters.

Postponements

Unfortunately the six leaders' camp planned for 5-7 May has been cancelled.

The Effective Management of young People Course planned for 14 May has been postponed due to lack of personnel to run it but will be held at a future date.

AREA FINANCES

Some groups and leaders seem to think they get no advantage from Area.

I believe that we are the only Scout Area which does not levy members. The amounts seem to vary with some charging \$15 per head per year (with some of this going to the Districts) and others, I am told up to \$20 or \$25.

We have no need to levy groups or members so count yourself or your group as being a lot better off financially by being in Otago.

'Hec'

ALCOHOL AT SCOUTING ACTIVITIES

It has come to my notice that some leaders and/or parents were seen drinking alcohol at Founders Weekend. This was despite the advice given before the event. It is my belief that the matter should have been dealt with at the time, not weeks later.

As with most rules, there is a very good reason for them. The main one in this situation is that we believe if you are looking after someone else's children you must be in a fit state to do so at all times. Would a leader or parent helper who was presented with a youth member who had:

- been badly burnt
- had a seizure
- suffered a bad cut

be seen as being in a fit state to respond in the right way? At an enquiry "down the track" how would you be able to respond?

It may help to look at the Scouting Rule Book. We have additional rules which apply to scout events at Waiora.

"Hec"

The Rule book reads as follows in section A

11. ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR

- (a) *All Leaders should be aware of the current laws relating to the supply and consumption of alcoholic liquor especially those concerning young people and must at all times encourage members to conform to them responsibly.*
- (b) (i) *Under no circumstances shall alcoholic liquor be served at a Scout function to Kea Scouts, Cub Scouts or Scouts nor, as a general rule, to Venturer Scouts.*
- (ii) *With regard to Venturer Scouts, it is realised that persons over the age of 18 are entitled by law to be served with alcoholic liquor in licensed restaurants and that under this age they may be served if accompanied by their parents. Further, any person under the age of 20 may consume liquor on private premises and at certain private functions. Nevertheless, it is recommended that as a guide to Group Leaders, District and Area Commissioners, when laying down conditions in terms of paragraph (d) that the consumption of alcoholic liquor by Venturer Scouts, without the consent of their parents, should not be permitted.*
- (c) *If any other organisation is involved with any such function then its views on alcoholic liquor must be respected.*

As far as Scouting Otago is concerned no alcohol is to be consumed while Scout youth members are camping or staying on Scouting Otago properties.

SCOUTING CONFERENCE 2006

Scouting Conference 2006 is being organised by a small enthusiastic group of Scouters who are ordinary leaders. The programme is aimed at Leaders, Rovers and venturers. It is focused on Scouting for the future, with the concepts put together by the Forward Planning Concepts Group for New Scouting providing us with a good starting point.

Projects

Four big projects under development will be launched at the conference:

1. "New Scouting" –
2. Scouting centenary 2007
3. Scout Youth Foundation
4. Relaunch of the Scouting Direct website

Registration forms will be available shortly from Area or download from <http://scouts.org.nz/sanz/page.php?4>

Scout Ceremonies, Drills and Good Order

Scout meetings or gatherings are really not military. Scouting avoids using military commands such as "Attention". Instead we say "Alert" when we expect people participating to stand still with their feet together, heads up and hands by their sides with no fidgeting!

What is the order of operations when holding a ceremony such as the start of a troop or pack or unit or crew meeting? It has been considered that as our promise has "Duty to God" before "Duty to the Queen" (or country) we open with a prayer. Those of scouting age, given warning, are old enough to write a suitable prayer or find one in a scout prayer book, and read it out loud. We do not stand at "Alert" to pray; we stand still and quiet without looking around. The leader (and it could be an older Cub, Scout, Venturer or Rover) will call the gathering to "Alert" and see that the assigned person breaks the flag, steps back one pace, and then salutes. All those present salute at the same time. The salute is the "scout salute" to the forehead with the right hand.

At the end of proceedings the person lowering the flag salutes first and then lowers the flag not allowing it to touch the ground. This is normally followed by a closing prayer with feet apart and hats off.

Hand signals save a lot of voice and encourage members to be watchful and aware as to what is going on.

The scout sign is used when making the scout promise or repeating it.

World Jamboree - England 2007

No more leader applications are needed – applications have closed, overflowing!

There are still openings for venturers to attend. To date no application has been received from anyone in Otago. Age range is 14 to 17 years of age at opening date of the event.

I have been told that some have applied and have a concern that these may have been to take part in the Grand Tour organised by Willament Travel.

Leaders, please check with your members if they think they are going to participate in the Jamboree. Again, **BE QUICK**.

TEAMWORK, EXPERTISE AND COMMITMENT

That's how Scouting New Zealand can get results.

Do you want to improve your skills in these areas?

If the answer is yes, come to a **Scouting Advanced Personal Development Course**.

The next one will be held at Waiora Scout Camp near Dunedin from 9.00 am Friday 29 September to 3.00 pm Sunday 1 October 2006.
Cost of the Course is \$355.00.

The application form is available from your Area Training Leader or the Scouting New Zealand Web Page or from Ruth at Area Office.

For further information contact your Area Training Leader or the Programme and Training Office, e-mail: pandt@scoutingnz.org.nz

If you accept this challenge then with you as members of the Scouting New Zealand Team we will Be Prepared for any eventualities.



SCOUTING ADVANCED COURSE AT WAIORA CAMPSITE

Runs from Friday 29 September 2006 9am start until Sunday 1st October 2006 at 3pm.

Those who attend are welcome to arrive any time after lunch on Thursday 28th September. You can stay the night and have dinner and breakfast and perhaps

get the pick of the beds! If you are travelling from afar we will give you supper on Thursday night.

To be eligible to attend you have to be approved by your Area Training Leader, have completed most of the modules needed. If you have not included two modules, When Adults Disagree and Communication Skills, you will be able to attend but will not get your Woodbadge beads and Gilwell Scarf until such time as these have been completed.

Plan now to come to this event.

The maximum number will be twenty people. First in, first enrolled, best dressed (with Woodbadge).

**18th NZ Scout Jamboree – Friday 28
December 2007 – Saturday 5 January 2008.
Canterbury Agricultural Park, Christchurch,**

The preliminary Jamboree Organising Committee meeting was held on the Jamboree site in Christchurch on Saturday 4 March 2006. The meeting was attended by Ross McKenzie, chair of JOC / Camp Chief, Malcolm Parker, Deputy Camp Chief – Youth Activities and Andy Blackmur, Deputy Camp chief – Support Branches who will be responsible for appointment of Branch Directors and the overall planning, operational and recovery phases of the event.

A number of Branch Director roles remain unfilled and if you are interested in taking on such a role please make this known to National Office.

info@scoutingnz.org.nz

- Health and Hygiene
- Risk and Safety
- Communications
- Site Development
- Works and Services
- Finance

The National Scout Team will be meeting shortly to determine the Jamboree Theme and this will set the tone for the whole of the Jamboree. The next JOC meeting will be 13/14 May 2006 in Christchurch.

WHAT IS A YOUNG PERSON?

He/she is a person who is going to carry on what you have started

He/she is going to sit where you are sitting, and when you are gone attend to those things you think so important

You may adopt the policies you please, but how they will carry on depends on him/her

Even if you make leagues and treaties, he/she will have to manage them

He/she is going to sit in your seat of parliament and occupy your place on the supreme bench

He/she will assume control of your cities, states and nations

He/she is going to move into and take over your prisons, churches, schools, universities and companies

All your work is going to be judged and praised or condemned by him/her

Your reputation and your future are in his/her hands

All your work is for him/her and the fate of the Nations and of humanity are in his/her hands

So it is just as well to pay him/her some attention while you can

ANONYMOUS

Exceptional Offer for Venturers and Rovers

In building our relationship with Outward Bound, which has very similar goals to those of Scouting, Outward Bound has offered two sponsored places on one of their Classic courses. Available for 17 – 26 year olds (these cannot be school students) the course will be held Friday 3 June to Saturday 23 June 2006.

The cost of the programme is \$2950.00 and this will be covered by Outward Bound sponsorship. Participants will only be required to find \$195 deposit and the cost of their travel to and from the Outward Bound, Anakiwa, Marlborough Sounds facility.

In the first instance Leaders may nominate youth and youth members can apply directly to National Office with a short note explaining why they believe they should be chosen for the sponsorship. Applications need to be finalised by Wednesday 19 April 2006.

Outward Bound courses are life-changing experiences and are well regarded by employers when they are looking for leadership material

UK SCOUT GROUP SEEKS CONTACTS

Hello, My name is Mark Elliott and I am a Leader from a Scout group in England. We are north of London between the cities of Manchester, Leeds and York, in the county of West Yorkshire. Our group is situated 7 miles from the town of Huddersfield in a small village of Skelmanthorpe.

I am writing to you to see if you think that there may be the possibility to set up contact between a group of Scouts in your country and with our Scout Troop in Huddersfield, United Kingdom. Initially, I would like the contact as part of a Global Challenge badge we will be commencing in February 2006. I hope that this will lead to regular contact which is made so easy by email these days and form a pen pal scheme or something similar. I would be interested to learn more about any differences between the fundamental values and typical activities that Scouts are involved in in different countries.

I feel this would be a very interesting link between the two countries and would be a valuable experience for all involved.

I would be grateful if you could pass me suitable details of an interested scout group or send this letter for them to contact me. I am very much looking forward to a reply in the coming weeks.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Yours faithfully
Mark D J Elliott
Assistant Scout Leader
5th Skelmanthorpe Scouts.
markdjelliott@tiscali.co.uk

Opportunity to visit Antarctica in 2007

Scouting NZ is working closely with Antarctica New Zealand to secure the opportunity for a Venturer or Venturers to visit Antarctica in 2007 as part of the Scouting Centennial Celebrations and the International Polar Year. It is hoped that this experience may be shared by Venturers from other countries who also have an interest in Antarctica.

Discussions are also underway to see if it is possible to have a New Zealand Venturer visit the Arctic Circle during 2007.

Any party that is allowed to visit either poles will need to be accompanied by a leader experienced in mountaineering. We are interested in receiving early expressions of interest from potential party leaders and Venturers. Please email

info@scoutingnz.org.nz if you would like to be considered for this unique opportunity.

Calendar

May

Wednesday	10	Programme And Training Committee 7pm
Wednesday	10	Campsite Committee 7:30pm
Tuesday	16	Administration and Finance Committee 5:30pm
Friday-Sunday	19,20,21	Leaders Retreat – Berwick

June

Monday	5	Queen's Birthday
Wednesday	7	Area Training Module 7-9pm – Scouting Principles
Saturday-Sunday	9,10,11	Cossgrove Course - Waiora
Wednesday	14	Campsite Committee 7:30pm
Monday	19	Area Water Activities Committee 7:30pm
Tuesday	20	Administration and Finance Committee 5:30pm
Sunday	25	Pinewood Derby Dunedin
Friday	30	Term 2 Ends

July

Saturday-Sunday	1,2	Scout Brass Monkey - Berwick
Wednesday	5	Area Training Module 7-9pm
Wednesday	12	Campsite Committee 7:30pm
Monday	17	Term 3 Starts
Tuesday	18	Administration and Finance Committee 5:30pm
Saturday-Sunday	22,23	Scout Skills North Otago – Training Course
Saturday	29	National Executive Committee Meeting

HANDY CONTACT INFORMATION

Area Commissioner	Vacant		
Acting Area Commissioner	Hec Browett	487 6726	hec@scoutingotago.org.nz
Assistant Area Commissioner Development	Brian Robertson	03 418 0205	
Assistant Area Commissioner	Keith Moore	027 4506 737	kmoore@abbgrain.co.nz
Assistant Area Commissioner	Peter Marr	467 9944	lvconstruction@xtra.co.nz
Assistant Area Commissioner	Laurie Troy	488 5527	
Area Treasurer	Greg Verhoef	454 3366	greg@horwathdn.co.nz
Area Support Office Manager	Ross Davidson	477 6644	admin@scoutingotago.org.nz
Acting Area Training	Peter Marr	467 9944	lvconstruction@xtra.co.nz

Leader			
Programme and Training Administration Manager	Ruth Pearce	477 6644	trainingsupport@scoutingotago.org.nz
Area Rover Leader	Vacant		
Area Venturer Leader	Vacant		
Area Trainer	Jeff Burrow	482 2233	JEFFBURROW@xtra.co.nz
Area Kea Leader	Sue Smith	455 0144	thebigsmiths@hotmail.com
Area Water Activities Advisor	Murray Body	454 3709	mbody@xtra.co.nz
Assistant Area Water Activities Advisor	Russell McGrouther	03 442 8783	mcgrouterqtn@xtra.co.nz
District Commissioners			
Cargill	Arthur Bennett	455 0960	
Flagstaff	Bob Allcock	466 7515	trishbob@xtra.co.nz
Leith Stuart - Acting	Hec Browett	487 6726	hec@scoutingotago.org.nz
Saddle Hill/Taieri	Karl Power	484 7604	karl.power@xtra.co.nz
South Otago	Rodney Jopson	03 418 0156	rod.jop@ihug.co.nz
North Otago	Derek Beveridge (Acting)	03 434 5567	derek.beveridge@police.govt.nz
Lakes	Appointment pending		
Central Otago	Brian Seymour	03 448 8290	bgseymour@xtra.co.nz

Please Support Our Advertisers

The following companies have very kindly been advertising in the Star in recent months for Scouting. Please support them when you are out in the market place.

They are: James Wren & Co Ltd, Rainbow Paints, Sonntag Fox Electric Ltd., Ullrich Aluminium Co. Ltd, Rock Gas, Alex Campbell's Menswear, Foodlands, Dunedin Print Ltd, Vehicle Testing Station, Laser Force, Dunedin Security Centre, Newton & Sykes 2005 Ltd, Pit Stop, Chipmunks Playground & Café, Every Educaid Ltd, Barry Dell Plumbing, All Power Equipment Centre, Rainbow Copy, Mornington Lotto & Post and Tom Shields

A Sad Loss

The Area was saddened to learn of the death this week of one of our most valuable members – Someone else.

Someone's passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else has been with us since our beginning. He did far more than a normal person's share of the work. Whenever there was a job to do, a social function to attend, funds to be raised or a meeting to attend, one name was on everyone's lips. "Let Someone Else do it."

It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the largest contributors of his time to Scouting; whenever there was a need for volunteers everyone just assumed Someone Else would volunteer. Someone Else was a wonderful person – sometimes appearing superhuman but a person can only do so much. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else.

Now Someone Else is gone! We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to do the things Someone Else did? When you are asked to help remember – WE CAN'T DEPEND ON SOMEONE ELSE!