



News & Views

From Scouting Otago

Volume 9 Issue 4, November 2006

FROM 'HEC'

It will not now be long before Districts and the Area disappear. Groups will obviously have to stand on their feet more and the position of Group Leader will be even more important than it is now. A Group Leader is in effect the manager of the group.

The new zone structure comes into being on 1st January. At the time of writing we have just been asked to ask anyone interested in a zone position to advise the National Office.

The main zone jobs will be:

- Zone Leader
- Assistant Zone Leader for every "cluster" of groups
- Zone Training Leader
- Zone Section Leaders – viz.
 - Venturers
 - Scouts
 - Cubs
 - Keas
- Zone Treasurer

Presumably the National Office will arrange an interview for each person who applies. I wish all of those who are appointed to these new positions all the strength that they will need.

I think that the Zone training person will just ask various qualified and able people to help with the various modules, that is, if the modular system continues. I believe that we must keep going with the Otago planned training through 2007 until we are told otherwise.

Obviously our campsite committee will have to continue as it is, being guardians of our property.

Sincere thanks to all of those whose jobs disappear on 31st December. I think of:

- District Commissioners and Assistants
- District Section Leaders

- District Lay Personnel
- Chairperson
- Presidents
- Secretaries
- Badge Secretaries
- Treasurers and others

Likewise many Area people will find their jobs “in limbo” or some other strange place. We have been told that there will be plenty of other jobs to be done. A time of change is often difficult. Please keep in mind the reported saying of Dag Hammerschold: *For yesterday, thanks. For tomorrow, Yes.*

Yes to who writes the next News and Views. Yes to all of the other tasks which will still need to be done.

Thank you for all your support.

‘Hec’ Browett
Acting Area Commissioner

Scouting Otago Training

In 2006 training went very well with weekend courses being run around the area and a number of night modules being conducted each month. During the year we managed to get a number of leaders from country districts to a trainer course in Auckland which has strengthened our ability to offer training all over the area.

Some examples of courses held and numbers who attended are as follows:

- Scout Skills/Out and About Weekend – 34
- Introduction to Training – 34
- Effective Management of Young People – 11
- Scouting Advanced Personal Development Course – 13
- Tools for the Job – 25
- Being Safe – 14
- Scouting Unpacked – 6
- Practical Skills – 6
- Scouting Principles – 10
- Trainers Course - 4

As we look towards New Scouting in 2007 it should be made clear that we will be sticking to the status quo re training until National advises any training changes. Accordingly the training and event calendar that you should have received will be adhered to until we hear otherwise.

Peter Marr
Acting Area Training Leader

SWIMMING SPORTS RESULTS

4 NOVEMBER 2007

Keas

- 1st Wakari
- 2nd West Taieri
- 3rd Andersons Bay

Cubs

- 1st West Taieri
- 2nd Millers Flat
- 3rd Macandrew Bay

Scouts

- 1st Green Island
- 2nd Ocean Beach
- 3rd Wakari

Venturers

- 1st Millers Flat
- 2nd Ocean Beach
- 3rd Mornington

Rovers

- 1st Crew Otago
- 2nd Aurora – Southland

Leaders

- 1st Wakari
- 2nd West Taieri
- 3rd equal - Millers Flat, Mornington

The following participated: Wakari, Tainui, Green Island, Andersons Bay, Macandrew Bay, West Taieri, Kew/Corstorphine, Millers Flat/Etrick, Mornington, Ocean Beach, Opoho.

Byron Bennett

It is with great regret that one of the Crew Otago Rover Squires passed away last week.

Byron was a lively squire who wanted to help in any way possible. As part of his lively nature he also filled in the forms to become a warranted cub leader at Pitcairn Scout Group.

Byron will be missed dearly by the crew.

Kea News

Well, here we are at the end of term four already, most clubs seem to be doing Christmas activities and beginning to wind up for the year. Thank you to the leaders who have kept in contact with me about the great activities they have been running during the year. It has been good to catch up with so many leaders during the last few weeks and especially meet the new leaders through training.

By now all kea leaders will have received their new programmes for term one next year, these are now being produced for you so you don't have to plan programmes anymore. This is supposed to make your lives much easier and every club will be running the same theme at the same time. I have been getting some feedback about this, not all of it positive. Please be patient and try out the programmes. You can adjust them slightly.

Remember Founders Weekend, Keas can attend on Saturday 24th February 2007, 1 - 4 p.m. at Waiora Scout Camp. This is basically upon us as soon as school starts back in the New Year.

It was a very poor turnout from the Kea section at the Area Swimming Sports held at the Mosgiel Pool. Those that did go had a great time. These activities are run for the enjoyment and interaction of other Keas and Leaders from different clubs, it is such a shame that some keas miss out on planned events.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Kea Leaders for your continued support to the Kea section and for all the great programmes you have provided the Keas over the last year. I look forward to catching up with you all at Founders Weekend.

Wishing you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sue Smith
Area Kea Leader

CUB NEWS

90th Birthday: This term has been another busy one. A lot of packs have been celebrating the 90th Birthday of cubbing, with some packs having parties and some packs joining together and celebrating while having a pack raid. These are only some of the ways that I have heard about so far.

Some packs have completed their third term challenge by having a bring a friend night, burying a time capsule, or completing the heritage badge and I am sure there was a lot more ideas out there.

Swimming Sports: What a fantastic turnout from the cub section at the swimming sports, thank you to all the Leaders who bought their cub packs to this fun night especially the cubs who traveled from Millers Flat.

New Packs: The West Taieri Cub pack (Outram) has been in recess for the last five years. It is now back up and running; current numbers are 21 Cubs and 5 new leaders. Well done to all involved.

New Programmes: By now all cub packs should have the new programmes that have been sent by National ready for you to start the first term with. The term 1 programmes are based on water. If you have not received these by now see your Group Leader.

Founders Weekend: Remember Founders Weekend is first up in the new year on 23 -25th February 2007. We would like to see as many cub packs camping all weekend as possible. Watch out for more information from the Area office in the New Year.

Thank you to all the leaders for your work in the Cub section over the last Year. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to working with you all again next year.

Wayne Smith

ROVER MOOT

The 65th New Zealand Rover Moot is being held in Dunedin over Easter Weekend (5th - 9th of April) 2007.

While information has already gone to most, if not all, rover crews in New Zealand, it is important to note that young leaders (under 26 years) in both the scouting and guiding movements are more than welcome to attend Moot.

Moot 2007 is going to be a great event, and encompasses the three aims of roving: service, social and self development, well and truly.

Further information, including application forms for young leaders and rovers can be found at www.rovers.org.nz, and any questions can be answered by emailing IamMoot@gmail.com

This is an event not to be missed!

Craig Miller is the Publicity Director for I am Moot 2007.

WIN A COPY OF OTAGO SCOUTING CENTENNIAL PUBLICATION

Early in 2007 our Centennial Book will go to press.

We want a good picture of a scouting activity, preferably in colour, for the front cover. If you, dear reader or someone you know, has a suitable picture which you would like to be considered please leave a copy at the Area Office. Please put your name and address (or the owner of the picture's name and address) on the outside of an envelope so that we can return it (or them) to you.

Pictures need to be at the Area Office by 1st March, 2007. You can include 2007 Founders Weekend activities.

The winning photographer will receive a free copy of the book when published.

HOW TO LEAD GAMES

Choose the right game for the right occasion.

Never overuse any particular game.

Name the games, to help the players remember which ones they like.

Ensure you have the required equipment to hand before starting the game.

Be clear as to how you want the players – standing, sitting, relay form, two equal teams, etc.

Change the name of a game to suit the theme; this will aid the players' enjoyment.

Modify games as appropriate to allow for disabled participants or special circumstances.

Explain the rules clearly and as concisely as possible, once the players are in position. Do not embellish the rules unnecessarily.

Avoid the use of a whistle to obtain quiet – personality and hand signals are all that are required.

Ask for any questions before you start the game.

Be enthusiastic in leading the games and this will rub off on the players.

Ensure silence whilst teaching the game, but encourage noise whilst playing it.

Do not encourage cheating, nor let it go unchecked, even if only due to over-enthusiasm.

Always remember the safety and happiness of the players.

Don't let a game drag on, nor play it more than twice in succession.

If a game isn't working, stop it, re-explain the rules and start again.

Ensure that the players know the boundary lines before starting a game.

If equal teams are needed, let the first player in a team with short numbers go twice. Avoid making an odd player drop out.

Take part in the games yourself from time to time – but only to show that you are game for a laugh. Never participate just to show off.

Five minute fillers

The following games and activities are designed to fill in an odd five minutes or so. Some of them need a modicum of equipment, but this is mostly nothing more than a pair of scissors, a ball or a newspaper. Many of these are also suitable for a small number of players.

Agility

Equipment: one chair, one matchbox.

Players: any number.

Put a matchbox on its end behind the rear right-hand leg of the chair.

The player must try to pick up the box in his/her teeth whilst remaining on the chair.

If he/she falls off or touches the ground, he/she has failed.

All I want for Christmas

Equipment: none.

Players: any number

The leader starts by saying two items he/she would like for Christmas.

Players take it in turns to describe what they would like. The leader will say if they "would be likely to get them" (i.e. if they are correct or not).

The players would only be correct if the two items they chose each began with their own initials. For example: Dave Wood could request a drum and a wombat, or a dog and a wheelbarrow; Adrian Duce, on the other hand, could request an angel cake and a dish.

How long does it take for players to identify the secret?

Chatterbox

Equipment: none

Players: any number

Two players face each other and start talking about a different subject as fast as they can.

No gestures or physical contact are allowed.

The first player to either stop talking or burst out laughing loses.

Cross, Uncrossed

Equipment: a pair of scissors

Players: any number.

Players sit in a circle.

The leader passes the pair of scissors to a player saying: “I pass these scissors to you crossed” or “I pass these scissors to you uncrossed.”

Other players must take the scissors and try to pass them on correctly.

The secret is that it doesn’t matter whether or not the scissors are crossed, but whether the player passing the scissors has his or her legs crossed!

Eye Shut Balance

Equipment: none

Players: any number

First, players find a space and balance on one leg. Their ‘spare foot’ must not be allowed to touch the ground nor rest on the other foot.

Easy, isn’t it?

Now, players must shut their eyes tightly and try to balance in the same way for one minute. Most will unbalance after five or ten seconds – try it and see, it’s a great spectator activity!

Fortunately, Unfortunately

Equipment: none

Players: any number

One player begins by saying something like: “We went to camp last week”.

The next player must then say something appropriate, starting with the word “unfortunately”, such as: “Unfortunately, we forgot our tents”.

Player three tops this with a statement starting with “fortunately”, such as:

Fortunately, one of us had an incredibly large waterproof groundsheet with her, which we used as a tent”.

This continues around the group, alternating between “unfortunately” and “fortunately”.

Grandma’s Tea

Equipment: none

Players: any number

The leader begins by describing something that Grandma would like for tea.

Players take it in turn to name more items and the leader says whether or not their assumption is correct.

They will only be correct, however, if what they say contains two or more of the same letter. Grandma, therefore, would like coffee, truffles, sausages and bananas, but not milk, cream or trifle.

Play for five minutes or so, until most players have worked out the secret.

Instant Story

Equipment: none

Players: any number

Players sit in a circle. Whilst one leaves the room, the others make up a story which she has to work out on her return by asking players in turn one question which can be answered 'yes' or 'no'.

The remaining players do not work out a story. Instead they agree to listen to each question carefully and answer thus: Questions which end with a vowel are answered "Yes"; questions which end with a consonant are answered "No". For example: "Is the story about me?" would be answered "yes", whilst "Am I in the story?" would be answered "No".

A game to play once, but a source of great amusement as a bizarre story is created!

FOUNDERS WEEKEND

You need to be planning now to attend Founders Weekend 2007. This will be held at Waiora Scout Camp on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 23, 24, 25 February. You should have received a notice about this recently giving an outline of the times for different sections. If you have not received one ask your Group Leader or Group Secretary. Please register your intention to attend with Scouting Otago now. This should be a great fun event for your youth to enjoy.

OFFICIAL: NOW IT'S GOOD TO PUSH YOUR KIDS

The following was taken from a recent article in the World Focus supplement to the Otago Daily Times in October:

New research dismisses fears that children encouraged to take extra classes feel stressed and says they do better at school and reap benefits in later life.

Children who take part in after-school activities such as drama and football get better exam results, have a stronger relationship with their parents and are less likely to smoke or drink than those who do not, according to a major new piece of research into young people's lifestyles.

"Our research shows that children who take part in organised activities benefit developmentally. They are healthier, judging from their academic performance and indicators of psychological and emotional wellbeing and self-esteem, as well as from their use of cigarettes, alcohol and drugs and their parent-child relationships," said Joseph Mahoney, an associate professor in the psychology department of Yale University in the United States who is the report's lead author.

“They are more competent than other children, better adjusted, less prone to antisocial behaviour such as dropping out of school, getting arrested or substance use, and they function better in the classroom.”

MOSGIEL SCOUTS' HOLLYFORD TRAMP

On the 20th October we started out at 1:30 pm. We picked up the covered trailer and packed. We loaded the scouts' and leaders' packs and departed at 4 pm for our first night's stopover at the Te Anau Scouts Hall. We arrived at 10:30 pm after a fish and chip stop in Gore.

Next day the five leaders and eleven scouts were all up bright and early, had breakfast and repacked the three four-wheel drive vehicles. After calling into DOC in Te Anau to inform them of our intentions and to get an update on the weather conditions we filled our vehicles with fuel and were on our way by 8:30 am. After a 100km drive we arrived at Gunns Camp, had a short stopover and then we were off to the start of the Hollyford track. The weather was cloud down to low levels, cold and raining (with snow down to low levels).

After walking approximately for 1 hour we reached the Humboldt River. With the leaders standing in mid river we had no problems with our crossing. It was then onto our second destination, the DOC hut at Hidden Falls. The going was very rough over parts of the trail, and after a wet and hard tramp with no problems we arrived, three and a half hours later at the Hidden Falls Hut. The order of the day was a quick change into dry clothes and a hot meal.

After this some of our party made the short walk to see the Hidden falls (30 minutes return). These falls, due to the amount of rain, were very spectacular, and well worth the effort to see. After returning to the hut, it was then onto try drying our wet clothing over the wood-stove (the place looked like a Chinese laundry).

Next day 22 October after a hot breakfast and repack we were on our way by 8 am. The weather was very kind for us with clear blue skies and plenty of sunshine. The 15 km hike to the Lake Alabaster hut was very pleasant, the track passing through a wide variety of wilderness, marshland, rain forests, river flats, etc. We stopped on the top of the Little Homer Saddle (with very spectacular scenery) and had a head count and lunch. By this time the weather was very hot, and plenty of water was drunk by all.

It would be as well to mention a horrible smell that kept following our party (blamed on swamp gas). This was found to be produced from a member of the party (whose new name is now Swampy). After a very pleasant 5 hour walk we arrived at the DOC Lake Alabaster Hut. This new hut is like a four star hotel and has a very spectacular outlook.

After a quick change of clothes and a hot meal it was onto exploring the area. Some of the leaders and scouts tried their luck at fishing. A campfire was organised at night time, with a very pleasant 2 hour sing-song and story telling.

Next day due to a report on a new front on its way, it was decided to have an early exit from the Lake Alabaster Hut. The leaders started at 5:30 am with preparing a hot breakfast. The call went out at 6:30 am for tents down and packed (as the weather was fine, the scouts had camped near the hut). This call was not very popular. At 6:30 am most of the scouts wanted extra time in bed.

It was decided to hike all the way in one go, so as to beat the new front expected within the next three hours. 8 am saw us packed and on our way. By the time we reached the Hidden Falls Hut, the expected front had arrived. A hot meal and sandwiches was had by all, then onwards to the start (or finish).

Yes, Swampy was at his best. Next time he can walk by himself. The strong smell of sulphur followed him for the rest of the day. At 3pm we were at last back at the start (or finish).

25 km later it was a very tired party that made its way to Gunns Camp. Once again, dry clothes were the order of the day. After a short stopover at Gunns Museum, it was on our way to Te Anau and a feed.

The feed in Te Anau was not to be, no-one wanted our business; they only wanted to close their shops. A phone call to a Gore shop saw no such problems, and they held their shop open till we arrived at 9:30 pm. After a feed of fish and chips, it was a tired lot of scouts and leaders that arrived back in Mosgiel.

I must mention it was very pleasing to see such a high standard in all aspects of scouting. The scouts on this tramp were well trained and smart (at all times) and are a credit to their leaders. To conclude it was a very well planned hike.

"Success is not measured by what you accomplish but by the opposition you have encountered, and the courage with which you have maintained the struggle against overwhelming odds."

Orison Swett Marden

"Empty pockets never held anyone back. Only empty heads and empty hearts can do that."

Norman Vincent Peale

Check out <http://www.ordinarypeoplecanwin.com/quotesachievement.htm> for some more good quotes.

Labour Weekend Regatta

Otago Southland Sea Scout Regatta – Labour Weekend, 2006

Held once again at McNulty Inlet , Lake Dunstan, Cromwell, this year's Regatta enjoyed a mixed bag of weather, from rather strong winds, to beautifully calm and sunny weather and a hard spring frost. 115 Scouts and Venturers and 36 leaders and supporters attended. Groups represented included Jellicoe and Te Anau from Southland, Terra Nova Monowai, Waitaha and Anderson's Bay from Otago and Lyttelton, Britomart and Mt Pleasant from Canterbury. Being an Otago and Southland event, the Canterbury Groups were not officially "competing".

The Regatta began with a formal parade in front of the Lake Dunstan Boat Club on Saturday morning. This year's parade was different in that we were joined by David Wardle, National Water Activities Adviser, and we formally welcomed Commodore David Anson, the Maritime Component Commander, Joint Forces Headquarters of the New Zealand Defense Force (in short, Commodore Anson is the operational commander of the Royal New Zealand Navy). Commodore Anson presented Naval Recognition pennants and badges to three of the attending Groups and he participated in some events by starting and umpiring some rowing races.

On Saturday morning we sailed in winds of 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots. For safety the cutters sailed with reefed mainsails, but the spectators still witnessed a few spectacular capsizes and some good seamanship on the part of the crews who righted their boats and managed to continue in the race. With four patrol boats on hand on the water, the Scouts were never in any real danger but the hot lunches at the Boat Club were appreciated by all.

Due to increasing wind speeds, the afternoon racing was abandoned, to be replaced by a Seamanship Theory test based on a new "Safe Boating New Zealand" DVD produced for Maritime New Zealand and available to all Scout Groups. This activity was followed by a practical seamanship test involving crews of seven Scouts preparing, launching and rowing the cutters. This was followed by the swimming competition at the Cromwell Swim Centre, an hour and a half session involving 20 events with nearly every Scout, Venturer and some Leaders taking to the water.

The day concluded with a dinner at the Cromwell Sports Clubrooms and a brief address by Commodore Anson. Let us not be coy. The RNZN is on a recruiting drive for sailors to man the new inshore and offshore patrol vessels and the multi-purpose transport vessel arriving in New Zealand in 2007.

Sunday morning dawned cool and calm, so we completed a programme of rowing races over a kilometre long course during the morning, followed by a novelty leaders' race over a much longer course. While waiting for the wind to start to blow we held another practical seamanship test for Venturers, involving rigging cutters for sailing, taking them out into deep water, capsizing, righting, bailing out and returning to shore. Two further sailing races were completed

during the afternoon as a slightly fickle wind built. Unfortunately the final sailing race had to be abandoned due to very strong winds later in the afternoon.

In the evening David Wardle put on a video presentation at the Boat Club for the Scouts, Venturers and Leaders and talked very positively about the future of sea scouting in New Zealand, national regattas and water activities in general.

After waking to a noticeable frost on Monday morning, we concluded the Regatta with a closing parade including the presentation of trophies for a range of events. This year the winning group which took away the majority of the "silverware" was Jellicoe Group from Invercargill.

For the official record, naval recognition was presented to Jellicoe, Lyttelton and Mt Pleasant Groups. These groups had attended the recent National Regatta in Auckland and all demonstrated that their awards were well deserved.

Finally I would like to thank the Groups that supplied and manned patrol boats to support the water activities and the leaders who assisted willingly in the running of the various events over the weekend. Without that support, the Regatta could not be run.

Murray Body
Area Water Activities Adviser
Scouting Otago

Calendar

December 2006

Wednesday	6	Campsite Committee 7:30pm
Wednesday	6	Area Training Christmas Event
Tuesday	12	Administration and Finance Committee 5:30pm
Wednesday	20	Term 4 ends

January 2007

Monday	15	Area Office opens
Monday	29	Scouting starts for the year

February 2007

Tuesday	6	Waitangi Day
Wednesday	7	Term 1 Starts
Friday-Sunday	9-11	National Executive Committee Meeting
Monday	12	Area Water Activities Committee 7:30pm
Wednesday	14	Campsite Committee 7:30pm
Sunday-Friday	18-23	Gang Show Auditions
Tuesday	20	Administration and Finance Committee 5:30pm
Thursday	22	150 th Anniversary BP birthday
Saturday-Sunday	24-25	Founders Weekend - Waiora

WANTED: ASSISTANT COOKS

Lesley Anderson says: I have had a call from David Jupp looking for assistant cooks for the Walsh Flying School at Matamata from 10th January to 25th January 2007. The assistant cooks do not need to be there the whole time so if you know somebody who could give some days (part time) to help Kevin Farley please let us know at the National Programme and Training Office. It is a great experience being part of Walsh. I went and cooked 1 year and would put it down as one of the highlights during my time in Scouting.

HANDY CONTACTS

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	kackmoore@xtra.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	Eckhard Marthen	477 6644	admin@scoutingotago.org.nz
Acting Area Training Leader	Peter Marr	467 9944	lvconstruction@xtra.co.nz
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	Leith Brew	03 443 8553	
Central Otago	Brian Seymour	03 448 8290	bgseymour@xtra.co.nz