



NEWS & VIEWS

From Scouting Coastal Otago
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FROM YOUR ZONE LEADER

There has been a noticeable change in the weather to indicate winter is near. Remember the "out" in **Scouting** and even when the weather is brisk keep up some outdoor activities. Every section meeting should include some outdoor event of some kind.

Talking of weather reminds me how cool it was on Poppy Day and early on ANZAC Day for those who went to the Dawn Parade. The Dunedin RSA Trust has written a letter of thanks saying that they were thrilled with the response to their request for Poppy Day assistance and asked that their thanks be passed on. Special thanks were to Christina McConnell and Melanie Downes who were "on duty" from 4 to 6pm. The Trust raised about \$50,000 this year.

The Zone Annual Meeting was successful. Thanks to those who attended and also to Cynthea and Tony Corbett for the supper. After the Annual Meeting we held a Zone Meeting. Group Leaders will have received a copy of the minutes sent out by Ruth.

It will be great to have the Pinewood Derby held again this year on 16th August. Order forms for kits have been sent to Section Leaders. The addition of Scout trucks this year will be of added interest. Plan ahead because the kits take more than a couple of weeks to convert to one of the amazing creations we often see. Parents are a wonderful source of help and some of them have workshops where magic things take place. Of course a parent may have a friend who can help and sometimes enthusiasm can lead to a new leader being recruited.

The Census forms should appear soon. A further note about these follows.

Keep up all the good work. Look out for the Zone Badge competition voting forms which will be out in a few days.

'Hec'
Zone Leader

ANZAC DAY BADGE AND ACTIVITIES

There is a free badge available. If you have not got yours please contact Scouting Direct. Any youth member or leader who has taken part in Poppy selling or ANZAC Day parades or events qualified for one of these badges as supplied by the Royal NZRSA.

Thanks to all those who took part and showed off Scouting so well and in such a positive manner. Please present the badges in a suitable way so that those who took part will be pleased that they did.

THE NEW COASTAL OTAGO ZONE BADGE

For those who were not able to attend the Annual Meeting on Tuesday 22 April here is the up-to-date situation on the possible new badge.

Very few entries were received for a design when called for last year and it was decided that a stall would be set up at Founders Weekend. From this several more ideas were received and the pile has been sent to Fred Shield who has a vast collection of badges, mainly on his campfire blanket.

Fred is choosing six possible designs and we will colour copy these and send a copy to each section leader in each group.

We will be asking Section Leaders to run a vote and to send the result to the Zone Badge competition. We only want one result from each section (a total of youth plus leaders).

We believe we have a design expert to look at the results and to see what we come up with. It will take another few weeks.

THE COASTAL OTAGO ZONE SCARF

At present the Scarf worn by Coastal Otago Zone Leaders is a dark blue scarf with a scotch thistle embroidered on the peak.

I am often asked about the origins of this and I have been able to find the following from the "Badgers Book" – (I hope they don't object to this!)

Otago County: Established in 1943, and formed by the merging of Otago Central and Clutha Country Districts with Dunedin Metropolitan District. Reconstituted with Provincial status in 1955.

The original badge depicts a scotch thistle representing the Scottish heritage of the province's early settlers. Originally the 'county emblem', it is still in use today where it appears on the peak of the area scarf. Also in current use is a similar badge inscribed 'Waiora Otago' – the badge of the area campsite.

Manufacturing details are unknown but the first order for the badge was in 1944.

A redesigned badge was introduced in 1952. This depicts St Andrew's cross within a gold shield. The colours, blue and gold, are those of the Otago Province. The superimposed trident is the brand for stock on the 2300 acre farm that is run in conjunction with Waiora.

The initial order of this latter badge is dated June 1952.

(a) Black ribbon, thistle. Unnamed.

(b) Green ribbon. Trident and St Andrew's cross.

Stan Kirkpatrick has told me that his late wife Helen used to embroider the thistle onto the scarves by hand.

We are therefore replacing the now 'ex-Otago County' and 'Otago Provincial' and 'Otago Area' badge (which is the St Andrew's Cross and Waiora Trident Badge) with a possible new device and will look at the scarf later.

Two people (at different meetings) have been most insistent that the current scarf should be replaced while the majority of those present were silent.

I write this well in advance so that others will hopefully think about a possible change, keeping a bit of the past or whatever.

'Hec'

KEA CLUBS

There appears to be a problem finding leaders for Kea Clubs. Many groups have decided that such Clubs should meet straight after school whereas this is not always suitable for Leaders or potential Leaders.

Why not try starting Kea Club meetings at say 5.30, 5.45 or even 6pm? Parents, including fathers can possibly be available at this later time whereas they are still working at 3.15 or 3.30pm.

Consideration should be given to a suitable finishing time, with perhaps 7pm the latest sensible hour for this age group to finish up.

FUNDRAISING

They say that with the price of cheese being about \$10 per kg the days of cheese rolls as a fundraiser have passed. No doubt we will hear what groups are doing and if there is a sales resistance (i.e., the price of a dozen cheese rolls is not too high).

Group Leaders will have received information about Cub Cookies. The markup on the cost price seems quite high so the effort of organising the distribution and sales and collecting the money and all that that means may be worthwhile. Groups should try to involve some parents/supporters to take the load off the leaders. I hope you are successful. The Guides (did you know it was their 100th birthday on 9th May when Girl Peace Scouts were started) do very well financially out of guide biscuits which we all enjoy. This is their key fundraiser locally and nationally. We can be aware of how well they do and try to follow!

Group Leaders will soon get a communication from Margaret Gee of Cabbage Tree Fundraisers. She has a plan where if you can involve parents (or yourselves) ordering household needs (cleaning stuff and the likes), your group will benefit by having your bank account (i.e. the group Account) credited with \$s.

You don't have to sell anything or deliver it, just get supporters to sign up.

AWARDS AND AN AWARDS NIGHT

As part of 'New Scouting' a new awards scheme for Leaders and lay workers is soon to be made known.

Please note that awards are, in most cases, made to adult Leaders and lay workers, the exception being that there is a "Leader Service Award" for 3 years as a Leader. This will remain in the system and is obviously available only to Leaders.

The Scouting Otago Coastal Zone hopes to introduce a festive night, including a dinner at which we can present awards to hand at the time of the event. This matter was brought forward at the time of the Zone Annual Meeting and gained support from those present.

At present we are planning for a function to be held on 1st or 2nd November or 8th or 9th November at a venue which will not cost participants "an arm and a leg".

Any such event will be open to all adult members (uniform and lay) and it could be that Groups will consider "treating" their Leaders and partners or subsidising their attendance, especially for those receiving awards.

To date the Election Day has not been announced except that it is known that it must be conducted by 15th November at the latest so we will dodge that date.

We will advise Groups when we know a day that a venue will be available.

By the way – awards will be in two categories:

- A. Long Service Awards
- B. Good Service Awards

The Long Service Awards will be automatic with 3, 5, 10 and so on awards (medallic after and including 5 years).

GRANTS

Scouting Otago Coastal Zone gratefully acknowledges grants received recently from the following trusts:

Lion Foundation
Southern Trust
Bendigo Valley Sports and Charity Foundation
Pub Charity

These funds have been or are being spent on radio advertising on the Radioworks network, banners, flags, trophies and the venue hire for our Centennial Campfire Event.
If you are having an event where you wish to advertise Scouting to the public with banners please see Ruth to borrow our display stands and banners.

JIGGER RACING

Sunday 20 April 2008

The entries were good. It is pleasing to note that information is getting through to sections. We thought that with teams of three we would have about 150 people and we had near to that number so the catering worked out well. Only 2 teams failed to appear. The show started at 10am and was finished soon after 12.30pm so people were fed and watered and the prize-giving was held at 1pm sharp. The results are printed below and we congratulate the winners in each section each of which received \$100 of vouchers from R&R Sports.

Sponsorships were:

- \$100 from R&R Sports
- \$100 from Settlers Museum
- \$100 from Scouting Otago Coastal Zone

Thanks to John Ingram and his wife Jo for running the event. Jo was the safety "brake person" on the jigger. John is the events person at the Settlers Museum. Participants voted to continue with the event next year.

RESULTS OF JIGGER RACING

Held at Dunedin Railway Station Sunday 20 April 2008

Times given are the better of two runs.

Scouts

1 st Wakari	16.53 seconds
2 nd Tainui 1	16.78 seconds
3 rd Tainui 2	16.8 seconds

Venturers

1 st Fairfield	16.06 seconds
2 nd Mornington	16.16 seconds
3 rd Roslyn 2	16.19 seconds

Rovers/Leaders

1 st Wakari	12.94 seconds
2 nd Macandrew Bay	13.62 seconds
3 rd Green Island 1	13.81 seconds

Thanks to the sponsors – Otago Settlers Museum and R & R Sports

CENSUS - ADVANCE NOTICE

The 2008 Scout Census will be taken as at 30th June 2008. Within a couple of weeks census forms will be sent to Group Leaders who are responsible to ensure that they are completed and returned. Many of our Group Leaders are also involved in running or helping to run sections so it is suggested that they appoint someone else to 'do the job'. This could be a keen young Leader or perhaps a parent who has agreed to help 'in some way at sometime'.

The census can be completed sometime in June because numbers are unlikely to change by the end of the month. The key thing will be to get it done completely and accurately and back in on time. Term 2 ends on Friday 4th July and experience has shown it is fateful to leave the task until after that time. Please be ready to react. All Section Leaders will have to supply details to the group census person. Reminder: Groups have to pay their levies to National based on the return of youth members so don't count in 'visitors' or those who have come to 'have a look' but please be honest and include all invested section members.

Leader returns are needed too. No payment is made for them but warrants are renewed as at 30th June so include your Leaders!

TAXATION AND CHARITIES

Scouting New Zealand has registered with the Charities Commission and this extends to all Zones and Scout Groups.

All Groups should be using the exemption number which is 10-149-134 and this is what should be registered with your bank.

If your Group (or Group Treasurer) has recently been sent a letter from the IRD telling you to register with the Charities Commission please send it back to them and give your bank the exemption as stated.

If your group has suddenly been taxed on any interest earned because you have not been using 10-140-134 you need to take steps to get the tax back.

At least one group in the Coastal Otago Zone has been taxed. Please check your situation.

If you have any problems or need help please contact 'Hec' Browett at the Zone Office 477 6644 or hec@scoutingotago.org.nz

GROUP ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND ANNUAL REPORTS

Groups are required to send to the Zone a copy of their verified annual accounts and a copy of their annual report as presented at their annual meetings. Remember the Scout financial year ended on 30th September and each group was to balance at that date.

If there is any problem with finding a suitable person to check the annual accounts please ask us. A full audit does not need to be done by a chartered accountant but a verification that records are properly kept is needed. All parents are invited to your annual meeting. The fact that you are holding an annual meeting does not have to be advertised in a newspaper. Save money.

Thanks to those who have sent copies of their accounts and reports.

NEW AWARD SCHEME

Due to time pressures and production delays the NEC has delayed the introduction of the new Awards Scheme until Term 1 of 2009. Full details of the new scheme will be provided at special Leader briefings in Term 4 of 2008. These briefings will combine with a full Regional Conference covering other important New Scouting developments. All Leaders, Associates and Supporters are encouraged to attend – details on dates and venues will be circulated shortly.

With the introduction of a New Awards Scheme we are anxious to avoid having to manufacture any more badges for the old scheme. If Groups have surplus stocks of old badges, we request that they pass them on to neighbouring groups who may need them. Cub Wero badges and Scout Discovery and Endeavour Award badges may be returned to Scouting Direct for credit to a Group's account – we can then reissue these. Cub and Scout Interest/Challenge badges remain current in the foreseeable future and will not be accepted for credit.

We will monitor our badge supply situation closely but are hopeful, with everyone's cooperation, to avoid setting up small and uneconomic production runs.

Chris Hooper - Chief Executive - Scouting New Zealand

Tell me:

- Why do you call it a building when it is already built?
- Why do you cut a tree down and then cut it up?
- Why do you put a shipment in a car but a cargo in a ship?
- Why do you call it a TV set when there is only one?
- Why is the word 'abbreviate' so long?
- Why isn't nostalgia what it used to be?
- Why do invaluable and valuable mean the same thing?
- Why is it that feet smell but a nose runs?

Planning outdoor activities?

If you want to try the tourist tracks read this:

Track fees waived for under-18s

Bid to increase youth activity

By Tracey Roxburgh and NZPA

Hut and campsite fees will be waived for people under 18 on New Zealand's nine Great Walks in an effort to encourage that age group to become more active.

Conservation Minister Chris Carter made the announcement yesterday in advance of conservation week, which starts today.

Three of the nine Great Walks are near Fiordland – the Kepler, Milford and Routeburn Tracks.

The other walks are Lake Waikaremoana, Tongariro Northern Circuit, Heaphy Track, Abel Tasman Coast Track, the Rakiura Track and the Whanganui Journey.

Fees vary on each track.

Mr Carter said he hoped the move would result in more young people enjoying New Zealand's "spectacular tracks".

The New Zealand Outdoor Recreation Summit last year recommended the move to improve access, and it complemented government efforts to tackle obesity, Mr Carter said.

"As our population becomes more urbanised, it is crucial we make it as easy as we can for young people to switch off the TV and the PlayStation and discover the outdoors." - Conservation Minister Chris Carter.

DUNEDIN GASWORKS MUSEUM

The Dunedin Gasworks Museum open days are held on the first and third Sunday of each month from 12-4pm. Donations are welcome because there is no entry fee.

It is the only working town Gas Museum in the Southern Hemisphere. It exhibits a unique collection of working gas and steam technology. Complete with machinery, the conserved Dunedin Gasworks Museum features a boiler house, fitting shop and steam engines all in working order. It is important as the only surviving and preserved example of a city gasworks, where the process is explained and the original equipment demonstrated by on-site specialists.

The Gasworks Museum provides an excellent example of Dunedin's Industrial Heritage, historical elements and engineering past. It would also provide an excellent opportunity for Group visits of family excursions.

If you would like to know more about organising a tour, or require further information, please contact the Gasworks Museum Trust Secretary, Bill Cowan (03) 454 5673.

Ruth at

Scouting Otago Coastal Zone Office has some more information if you are interested. Please ask.

If people feel good about themselves, they can start to create change.

B. (Venky) Venkatesh – Director of Action on Disability in India who has been blind since his teens.

*Where does a 10-tonne gorilla sleep?
Anywhere he wants.*

HANDY CONTACTS

Acting Southern Regional Manager	Mike Blackburn	039827836	mike@scoutingnz.org.nz
Zone Leader	Hec Browett	487 6726	hec@scoutingotago.org.nz
Zone Treasurer	Greg Verhoef	454 3366	greg@horwathdn.co.nz
Zone Support Office Manager	Eckhard Marthen	477 6644	admin@scoutingotago.org.nz
Zone Training Leader	Peter Marr	467 9944	lvconstruction@xtra.co.nz
Zone Kea Leader	vacant		
Zone Cub Leader	Wayne Smith	455 0144	thebigsmiths@hotmail.com
Zone Scout Leader	Wayne Reichell	03 418 3969	w.reichel@xtra.co.nz
Zone Venturer Leader	Mark Godsiff	03 418 3658	nmgodsiff@callsouth.net.nz
Programme and Training Administration Manager	Ruth Pearce	477 6644	trainingsupport@scoutingotago.org.nz
Otago Water Activities Advisor	Murray Body	454 3709	mbody@xtra.co.nz
Campsite Manager	Clive Sims	454 2441	clive_sims@ihug.co.nz
Central Otago/Lakes Cluster	Brian Seymour	03 448 8290	bgseymour@xtra.co.nz
South Otago Cluster	Rodney Jopson	03 418 0156	rod.jop@ihug.co.nz
Publicity	Christina McConnell	453 4746	
Youth Media Liaison	Steph Linnell	466 7195	steph_linnell@hotmail.com
Youth Media Liaison	Rebecca Rees	0273882905	becarees@hotmail.com

Calendar 2008

June

Mon 2	Queens Birthday
Wed 4	Zone Training Module 7-9pm Scouting Principles
Thu 5	Arbour Day
Tues 12	Campsite Committee 7:30pm
Wed 11	Programme and Training Meeting 7pm
Tue 17	Admin & Finance Committee 5:30pm
Sat 21	Centennial Campfire

July

Wed 2	Zone Training Module 7-9pm
Fri 4	Term 2 ends
Sat-Sun 5-6	Leaders' mid-year party
Sun-Fri 6-11	Snow School – Garvie Mountain Retreat
Tues 8	Campsite Committee 7:30pm
Tue 15	Admin & Finance Committee 5:30pm
Mon 21	Term 3 starts
Sat-Sun 26-27	Scout Brass Monkey
Sat-Sun 26-27	Tainui Cub Brass Monkey

August

Fri-Sun 1-3	Velocity Course – Beaumont Station
Wed 6	Zone Training Module 7-9pm
Tues 12	Campsite Committee 7:30pm
Sat 16	Pinewood Derby
Tue 19	Admin & Finance Committee 5:30pm
Fri-Sun 22-24	Otago & Southland Velocity/Cooksey Course
Thu-Tue 28-2 Sep	Snow School – Garvie Mountain Retreat

Take care when lighting fires – The following article was in the news in November 2003.

Scout Leader hurt lighting camp fire

Putting duty ahead of personal safety, Napier Scout leader John de Lautour gave his charges a graphic display of how not to light a campfire.

Onlookers watched aghast as Mr de Lautour's lower legs were engulfed in flames after he used half a litre of petrol to get things cracking at Weka Camp at Rissington 29km northwest of Napier.

Mr de Lautour had put a match to a stack of wood and turned to walk away when it burst into a 2m-high flame.

A scout leader for 10 years, Mr de Lautour, 36, was wearing shorts and jandals. He suffered moderate burns and rushed into the nearby Mangaone River, where he sat while campers called emergency services. A helicopter flew him to Hawke's Bay Hospital. Speaking from his home yesterday, Mr de Lautour said he was embarrassed by his "foolish" actions on Saturday night.

"It was a silly thing to do. We know better. I look back and think. 'Why on earth did I do that?' "I spend all that time telling kids not to put gas near fire and then go and do it myself...It was a valuable lesson learned."

Mr de Lautour said the correct way to start a fire was with paper or dried grass, not petrol. He will spend next week nursing his wounds.

-NZPA