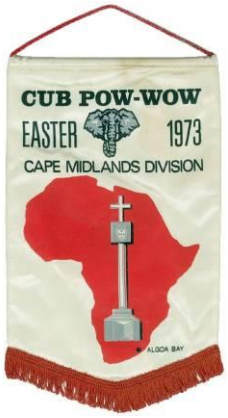
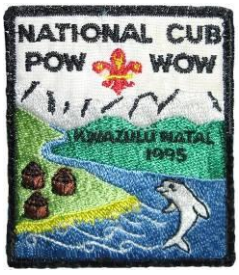
A History of Cub POW-WOW's in South Africa

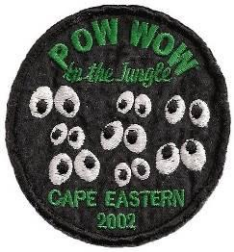
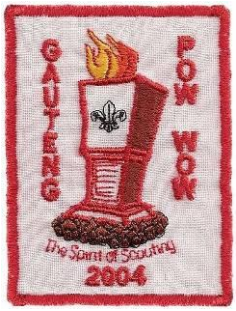
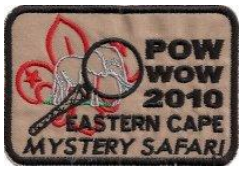
The following record was created in 2009 by the Western Cape Heritage Team and was researched using documentation from their archives. We hope you will enjoy reading about 'times past'.

As Cubbing developed, a need arose for Pack Scouters to meet and exchange ideas throughout the country and the South African Cub Pow-Wow was initiated.

1937/8	December 27, 1937 to January 2, 1938 The first South African Cub Palaver was held at Bishops Preparatory School in **Cape Town.** Apart from the many discussion sessions there were outings to Cape Point, Stellenbosch, and a trip up the Table Mountain cableway. The Mayor of Cape Town paid a visit as did other Scouting dignitaries and a Cub's Own was held at Gilcape in Diep River. A quote from New Year's eve: - "At midnight when the bells were ringing in the New Year, we renewed our Scout Promise and sang 'Auld Lang Syne'...and after toasts to the King, Chief Scout and visiting delegates, the evening was brought to a close with community singing". More .... (From actual 1938 logbook)	
1942	January 11 to 12 Pow Wow was held at Lexden Camp, **Pietermaritzburg**. The Natal Witness of Monday, 13 January 1942 carried the following caption to a photograph on which 53 people appeared: "Cubmasters and mistresses from all parts of South Africa gathered on Saturday and Sunday for the National Cubmasters Pow-Wow - the first since 1938".	
1964	January 11 to 12 Pow Wow was held at Lexden Camp, **Pietermaritzburg**. The Pow Wow took place at the same time as the Scout SANJAMB was being held at the nearby Chase Valley. Read about the combined activities. More	
1966	April 8 to 10, Held at Gilwood, **East London** and celebrated the Jubilee Year of Cubbing. It was attended by 78 delegates and the Camp Leader was Mrs J. Jesson.	
1971	Easter Held at B.P. Camp, **Durban** - 66 delegates were divided into 6 groups named in colours. The Camp Leader was Mrs E. Berry-Smith.	

1973	Easter Hosted by Cape Midlands Division - 77 delegates were divided into 10 groups, once again named in colours. The tents that the delegates were accommodated in were named for the indigenous trees of the Eastern Cape. The theme was "Our Green Heritage" and the Camp Leader was Mrs H. Cohn. The Chief Scout at the time, 'Chas' Martin, attended the whole Pow Wow. The camp was situated in the Humewood Sea Scout grounds, **Port Elizabeth** adjacent to their Scout Hall. Meals were enjoyed in the adjoining nursery school. The camp was right on the beachfront, so sea bathing was popular. A dawn Scouts Own was held on the beach on Easter Sunday	
1975	Easter Held at the Congress Centre in **Rustenburg** and was hosted by Northern Transvaal Division. The theme was past Jamborees and the 9 groups were named after them. Camp Leader was Mrs Dolly van der Bank and 73 delegates attended. There were opportunities for nature rambles and a trip was made to Bophuthatswana to see Scouting and Guiding in action. A contingent from Rhodesia was present. The occasion was attended by Chief Mangope. There was the usual lengthy discussion on uniform and casual dress for Pack Scouters	
1977	April 8 to 10 The camp was held at **Glencairn** and hosted by Cape Western Division with Miss Renee Hawes as Camp Leader. The 45 delegates who attended this Pow-Wow were divided into 6 'shoals' named for the fish found in the Cape waters. Delegates were taken on a drive around the Peninsula as far as Cape Point, which ended in a visit to the fishing harbour and packing house at Hout Bay, which included a trip by boat around Seal Island. On Easter Sunday and Easter egg hunt was held in the grounds at Glencairn. The banquet was held in the MOTH hall at Fish Hoek. More talk on uniforms	
1979	Easter The theme "Mining - Gold Rush" was used for this Pow-Wow hosted by Transvaal Division and attended by 47 delegates. The 6 groups were named after the types of rocks encountered in underground mining. A visit to Simmer and Jack Gold Mine which included an underground trip was one of the highlights of this Pow Wow. There was a 'gold rush' around Florida Lake, the gold being chocolates wrapped in gold paper.	
1981	April 17 to 19 Once again hosted by Cape Border, the Pow-Wow was held at Gilwood, **East London**. The theme was "Constructive Cubbing". 81 Delegates attended and were divided into 8 groups, named for the indigenous flowers of the area. News sheets were published on daily events and news. The merger of the four Scouting Movements in South Africa had taken place and we were pleased to have Black Scouters from Transkei and Natal Kwazulu Area with us. A mayoral reception was held at City Hall. A special request was made to consider having future Pow Wows over the Ascension weekend.	Logo wanting

1983	May 12 to 14 The first Pow-Wow to be held over the Ascension weekend was hosted by Natal Kwazulu Area. 94 Delegates were divided into 7 groups, named after places in B.P.'s life history. The theme of the Pow-Wow was "The Spirit Lives On". Camp Leader was Sheila Surgeson.	Logo wanting
1985	May 16 to 19 Hosted by Central Area and held at the Youth Hostel, **Kimberley**, the theme of the Pow-Wow was "Diamonds". This Pow-Wow was the biggest ever, being attended by 140 delegates.	
1987	May 28 to 30 Not to be outdone, Cape Midlands hosted an even bigger Pow-Wow at their training grounds, Gilsands, in **Port Elizabeth**. The theme was "1820 Settlers" and 176 delegates attended. The Camp Leader was Sheila Morgan.	
1989	May 4 to 6 The Pow Wow was hosted by Northern Transvaal Area and was held at St Albans College, **Pretoria**. The theme of the Pow-Wow was "Jacaranda City". The groups were all named after indigenous trees found in the area (with the exception of the Jacaranda tree, which is not indigenous at all). More...	
1991	May 9 to 12 Held at the Okkie Jooste site in the beautiful Jonkershoek Valley just outside the town of **Stellenbosch**. The programme included walking tours of Stellenbosch and Franschhoek, and coach tours of the peninsula. Trips up the cableway and a boat trip to Duiker Island Photo of Cape Western contingent	
1993	May 20 to 22 Held at the Jeppe High School for Boys in **Johannesburg** and the theme was 'Our Youth is our Wealth'. Outings included trips to Gold Reef City, the Stock Exchange and the Carlton Tower Panorama. Guest of honour at the 'Mining Magnates Dinner' was Peter Robinson of Gencor. Day three was spent at Gilwell, Florida – with bases full of ideas, dinner and a campfire.	
1995	Details wanting	
1997	May 1 to 3 Held at the F.R. Tomlinson Camp at **Roodeplaat** Dam. Cost R300 with travelling provided to and from camp from Pretoria (excludes travel to Pretoria). Sleeping was in tents with beds.	

2000	Pow Wow 2000 was held at Okkie Jooste in Stellenbosch. Outings included trips to the V & A Waterfront, a picnic on Blaauwberg beach, Butterfly World with a final stop along the way with a take from the Bird Man. Throughout the week-end there were bases on Craft ideas, Interest badges and Advancements. There were lots of ideas and fun had by all. The meeting of old friends is always a highlight. At the opening there was a space ship with a message for the Scouters and the week-end ended with a banquet that was out of this world.	
2002	April 17 to 21 Held at Woodridge College, 35 km west of **Port Elizabeth** and the theme was "Pow-Wow in the Jungle". It was attended by 150 delegates from 6 Areas, namely Cape Eastern, Cape Western, Central, Gauteng, Kwazulu Natal and Tshwane, Pack Scouters came together to share ideas, have loads of fun, make new friendships and renew old ones. The strength of bonds formed was evident at the closing banquet by the many hugs, embraces, tears and promises to meet again.	
2004	April 24 to 26 Held at **Heronbridge**, Gauteng and was attended by 188 Pack Scouters representing Gauteng, Cape Western, Cape Eastern, KwaZulu Natal, Mpumalanga and Central Areas. As part of the gathering, the Scouters participated in skills training activities to provide new ideas and skills, which can assist them in training their youth. The Pack Scouters visited places of interest in the vicinity of Heronbridge. More1... More2...	
2006	September 24 to 26 Held in **Durban** – KwaZulu Natal Based at Durban at Glenwood Boys School, activities included trips to the Temple of Understanding in Chatsworth and Shaka world.	
2008	May 1 to 4 Held at the Okkie Jooste site in the beautiful Jonkershoek Valley just outside the town of **Stellenbosch**. The theme was "Carnival of Friends 189 Pack Scouters attended from all over SA More.....	
2010	April 23 to 27 Held at Sumcay Youth Centre on the banks of the Swartkops River just outside Port Elizabeth. The theme was 'Mystery Safari' filled with lots of outdoor action. Chief Organiser was Veronica Davies.	

This then, briefly, is a History of the gatherings of Pack Scouters and Commissioners in South Africa to discuss Cubbing matters and to get together to share ideas and fellowship. There are some gaps in the recorded history of Pow-Wows and should anyone have more facts on Pow-Wows, we would appreciate it if you could contact the Western Cape Scout Heritage Centre.

Acknowledgements:
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