



KwaZulu-Natal Scout Trail



REPORTING SCOUTING VIEWS AND NEWS IN KWAZULU-NATAL FOR OVER 60 YEARS

Welcome to the revival of the KZN Scout Trail

This bi-monthly electronic newsletter is designed for keeping scouting members in touch and holding their interest and enthusiasm for all that is happening in the Movement throughout KwaZulu-Natal. As our scouting numbers continue to grow the KZN Scout Trail is also an important means for keeping informed the many other supporters and potential supporters whose goodwill and backing is valuable to local scouting. Through this electronic newsletter, KZN scouts are aiming to reach: parents, sponsors, religious bodies, schools, local authorities, community leaders and all our other principal supporters and of course past KZN scouting members. If you have received this KZN Scout Trail, please forward it on to someone who you think will benefit from reading it. Enjoy the read!

Scout emblem has long history

Do you know the story of the scout emblem?

The basic design of the emblem is used by scouts in all of the 210 scouting countries. The scout emblem is also one of the most recognized symbols in the world, because it has been worn by an estimated 500 million former scouts and is currently used by over 30 million present scouts.

As Lord Baden-Powell wrote: 'Our badge we took from the 'North point' used on maps. Lady Baden Powell said later: 'it shows the true way to go'. So the emblem helps remind a scout that he is to be as true and reliable as a compass in keeping to his scouting ideals and in showing the way to others.

In scouting, the three tips of the emblem represent the scout motto (be prepared), scout promise and scout law. The two five-pointed stars represent the 10 points of the law.

The world scout emblem utilizes the arrow head surrounded by a rope in a circle with a reef knot to symbolize the unity of the world brotherhood throughout the scout movement. Said Baden Powell: 'as one cannot undo a reef knot, no matter how hard one pulls on it, thus the movement remains united'.

The arrowhead and rope are white, on a background of royal purple, the colours chosen by the Founder. In heraldry, 'purity' is the virtue most frequently symbolized by white, while the royal purple denotes leadership and helping other people.



Troop scouters conference a success

The 2011 KZN troop scouters forum organised by Assistant Provincial Commissioner - Scout Programme, Mondli Dlamini, proved to be a resounding success. Attended by mostly school based troop Scouters this three day forum held in Port Shepstone was designed to get feedback about scouting in our province. And that it did. A very full programme with input from the KZN Commissioner, Garth Kloppenborg, Goodenough Dlamini, Gordon Archibald, Steve Thorne, Denzil Barnard, Steve Camp and PLTU, ensured that the troop scouters were updated with latest developments of scouting, in our province. Resolutions stemming from this workshop were sent through to national for their input, comments and contributions.



1st Hillcrest, the overall winners at the Hastings Challenge Enduro Raft Event

Camp Fish Eagle at Bayhead is the sea scouting base in Durban harbour and of course sailing from there is one of the highlights of the month for many of the city's sea scouts and cubs. Each time they are out on the water they learn and gain more experience about the basics in how to skipper and crew a dingy and about other water related activities.

However, it was a very different Camp Fish Eagle when scout groups converged from all over the Durban Metro to test their raft building skills and ability to spend 24 hours' camping on water in their home made rafts.

Organised by the 57th Trafalgar Sea Scout Troop this popular scouting event was revived after a few years of absence from the KZN scouting calendar.

Murray Hodgskin, Assistant Troop Scouter and one of the organisers said, "Scouts who have been preparing for this event, take with them a huge amount of knowledge, not only of what they've learnt in terms of the competition, but also the skills they have learnt in managing people and project managing their entry into what is regarded as one of the most exciting sea scout competitions in KwaZulu-Natal".

It was 1st Hillcrest scouts though who had the best designed raft that saw them being presented with the overall winners trophy.

"We learnt a lot," said Jason Smuts, 1st Hillcrest scout. "It wasn't easy but we were determined to enjoy ourselves and our game plan was to maintain high scouting standards throughout the event. We thought we'd come in the top three. Winning was a real bonus!"

What's cooking?

Held at the 1st Hillcrest Scout Hall, scouts and cubs in the Highway area came out in force recently to prove their outdoor cooking prowess. The cubs had to cook a three course meal in billy cans while the older scouts had the more challenging task to prepare a three course meal to include a roast with starch and at least three vegetables, a winter pudding, a hot drink and a creative salad. Denzil Barnard, 1st Hillcrest Troop Scouter, explained: "This fiercely contested Highway cooking competition is all about open fire cooking, when scouts and cubs cook and present a meal that they have devised themselves and cooked over an open wood fire. No charcoal or gas is allowed!" Steve Thorne, Highway District Commissioner pointed out that, "Anyone who enjoys wilderness camping will be acquainted with the concept of cooking over an open fire and this is a competition designed to bring on a good competitive spirit between the scouts and cubs in the highway area." The overall cub winners were from 1st Wandsbeck while the top honours went to 1st Cowies Hill Air Scouts. "I had a blast at this year's cooking competition," said a delighted Martin Fechter from the overall winning team. "Our roast beef was good, but I didn't think it would win an award!"



1st Cowies Hill winning Scouts being presented with the award for the best open fire cooking.

From left to right, Steve Thorne, Highway District Commissioner, Chahil Ramharakh, Sanath Maharaj and Martin Fechter.

Contributions PLEASE!

This is YOUR scouting newsletter, so please send through articles with captioned photos about interesting scouting activities happening in your district and group. Scouting news from around KZN, brings to the attention of other groups what you are doing and a good way to raise the profile of scouting in your community. See below dates and details for submission deadlines.

KZN scouting stalwart receives Order of the Baobab



Dr Dudley Forde is presented with his prestigious award by President Jacob Zuma

Anyone who has been involved with scouting in KZN will recognize the name Dudley Forde. More so if you have attended a Patrol Leaders' Training Unit (PLTU). Dudley was the founding father of the PLTU at Lexden in 1959, which quickly spread to many other provinces where these wonderful leadership courses are attended by scouts every year.

Dudley, who retired at the end of 2001 as the Rector of Michaelhouse, has been involved with education for almost his entire adult life. He taught at Maritzburg College and was also the principal of private and public primary and high schools.

Never one to sit around without a challenge of sorts, he has been working towards a PhD. The title of his thesis is: "Exploring the Teacher's Role as a Leader of Pupils in Class". At the University of KwaZulu-Natal graduation in May he was awarded his PhD and a few weeks later received the Order of the Baobab from President Jacob Zuma for outstanding services to scouting, and for his work in leadership development and education. Dr Dudley Forde was given the award at a ceremony held at the Presidential Guest House in Pretoria on Freedom Day.

The Order of the Baobab was instituted in 2002 to recognize the

contributions of South Africans to their country and fellow citizens.

"I am humbled by this award and realize that I owe a great deal to a number of people I have worked with in education and the Boy Scout Movement who have encouraged, assisted and guided me," said Dr Forde.

Dudley served within the Boy Scouts of South Africa in a variety of capacities from 1959 to 1999. "I have been told by scouting colleagues that in the 1970s I was often the only white person to go to local townships to provide scout and leadership training," said Dudley.

Dudley has held a number of scouting portfolios. He founded PLTU in 1959 and served as a member and chairman of the Patrol Leader's Training Unit until 1995. He was the National Commissioner for training in South Africa from 1976-1980; Area Commissioner-KZN from 1980-1982, as well as the Chief Scouts' Commissioner for South Africa.

Dudley has received the Long Service Medal for 40 years of service to scouting; and the Silver Protea and Springbok Medals for outstanding service to scouting.

From everyone in the KZN scouting community, bravo Dudley, jolly well done!

World Scout Jamboree was great experience for KZN scouts



Eight scouts from KZN, Andrew Phyfer, Stewart Demmer, Gareth Brown, Kieran Brown, Anna Talbot, Jess von der Meden, Rolf von der Meden and Lynton Cloete were selected to represent South Africa at the 22nd World Scout Jamboree held in Sweden from 27 July to 8 August.

Along with other scouts from around the country the South African contingent joined 40 061 other enthusiastic scouts representing 144 countries from around the globe, making this the largest jamboree to date.

For two weeks they lived together in a tent city, in a camp bigger than an average sized Swedish town, experiencing different activities and adventures. The scout jamboree is an international scout camp that since 1920, takes place every four years somewhere in the world. The participants are 14 to 17 years old, both male and female.

The youth participants are only three quarters of the 40 061 who were at the camp. The rest were scout leaders and volunteers over the age of 18 years. "I

learnt so much about scouting and how different and how much better South African scouting is compared to the rest of the world," said Andrew Phyfer. "I made lots of new friends and really enjoyed the camp-in-camp and cultural day activities," he added.

"Learning about the various cultures and making new friends was a highlight for me. The amount of people and the massive tented villages also blew me away," said Stuart Demmer.



The impressive front entrance to the KZN Scout HQ

New HQ for KZN scouts

Construction work got underway in January this year on gutting the inside of the old 11th Durban Air Scout Hall, and building a new purpose-designed first floor. The results have been simply outstanding and KZN scouts now have a very impressive HQ. It's also easily located at 19 Earl Haig Road (now Peter Makobi Road), just off North Ridge Road. There is plenty of off-street parking. The new shop area has two change rooms and a public toilet while there are a number of large offices and lots of open work space areas for the scouting staff. Downstairs is a large hall with breakaway meeting rooms, toilets, showers and a kitchen. The new HQ is only two kilometers from BP camp, which could easily allow the downstairs hall and meeting rooms to be used for adult training courses. The architect, Bill Williams (Springbok scout 1984) designed the building to have an earthy, environmental appearance. This has been superbly achieved with the clever use of stone and wood on the front entrance. Well done to all involved – this is a very proud moment indeed for KZN scouts.



The HQ construction team (l-r): Steve Camp, Alan McNaughton, Bill Williams, Paul Stanley and Garth Reynolds

Springbok scouts play role in new HQ

It wasn't planned that four past Springbok scouts would each play a role in the construction of the new KZN Scout HQ, it was just one of those little quirky things that happen in life. Steve Camp (Springbok scout 1979, 1st Hillcrest) was the driver behind the new HQ who took on the voluntary role as the project manager. Bill Williams (Springbok scout 1984, 1st Umbogintwini), an architect who not only designed a very aesthetically pleasing and utilitarian building, but also greatly reduced his professional fees. Paul Stanley (Springbok scout 1997, 1st Hillcrest), owner of APE; All Electrical and Plumbing, was the electrical contractor, who also kindly undercharged the KZN scouts for his services. Garth Reynolds, (Springbok scout 2000, 4th Durban), whose company Corporate Office Systems, installed all the computer network cabling, the CCTV security systems, the server and the new office till. Though not a Springbok scout, the structural engineer, Alan McNaughton was a scout at 7th Durban Sea Scouts in 1973. "This has been a wonderfully exciting and challenging project to be involved with," said Steve Camp. "It has certainly delivered a fantastic purpose-designed building which will serve as the headquarters for KZN scouting well into the future."

KZN scout think tank

To address a number of issues so critical to the growth and future of scouting in KZN, a think tank – *Scouting for Growth* – was held in February.

This proved most useful in developing a strategy to reverse declining numbers of registered scouts, raising the public profile of scouts, improve accessibility and standard of training and general support for groups across the province.

On 24 September a follow up think tank was held, making use of the hall for the very first time at the new KZN scout headquarters. This well attended think tank provided feedback on progress made to date on training, marketing, general group moral and a platform for members to identify group problems and how to



overcome them. Presentations were done by Steve Camp on the status of KZN scouting who offered some solutions to grow KZN membership. Goodenough Dlamini painted a very encouraging picture of sustained growth in the school groups and his vision for 2012. Dudley Forde presented a very enlightening talk on the fundamentals of good scouting and importance of training. Grant Vernon talked about what defines a healthy group. Cameron Belling

updated everyone about Rover Crews, and the useful role they can play in scouting. Craig Shaw shared with the groups some success stories of candidates who had attended PLTU's and the positive impact it had on their lives as a scout and long after they had left movement.

Feedback in general was very positive and those that attended left enthused and fired up ready to work towards growing scouting in KZN in the year ahead.

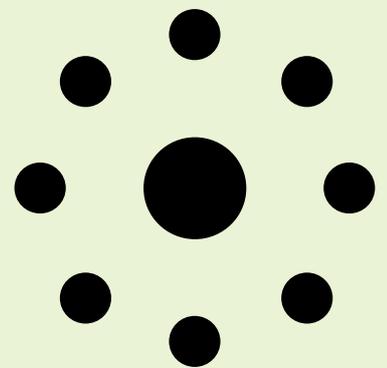
Gone Home

Dorothy Friedemann passed away on the 1st September 2011. Dorothy's involvement with scouting began in 1976 when she started the 1st Hillcrest Lena Falls cub pack. Dorothy was the Akela there until 1988. Dorothy continued for many years afterwards to be involved with 1st Hillcrest and was recognized for her service to scouting by the award of the Bar to the Good Service. The 1st Hillcrest Scout Hall is named after Dorothy and Robin Friedemann for their combined services to the Group.

Tom Stephenson of 52nd Durban Sea Scouts passed away in September after suffering a second stroke. Tom will be remembered by many scouters – not only in the sea scouting fraternity – as being very caring of the environment and an expert on water issues. He had a passion for scouting that made him give his all to the 52nd Durban Sea Scout Group he worked with and to scouting generally for many many years. Tom's service was commended when he earned a 30 year bar to the long service medal in 2008.

Fazela Moosa, Assistant Pack Scouter at St Theresa's and previously at Surat Hindoo, passed away very suddenly on Sunday 19 September, after an illness bravely borne. Fazela started as a Pack Helper at Surat Hindoo in 2000 and was then appointed as Assistant Pack Scouter and eventually as Pack Scouter at Surat Hindoo. She then became an Assistant Pack Scouter at St Theresa's School. Fazela did not drive and used to catch taxis to and from the pack meetings and was a great assistant to Val Koopman at St Theresa's. She will be missed by the cubs and scouters at St Theresa's.

Bheki Khuboni was involved for many years in the school system and passed away very suddenly recently after a long battle with diabetes. He served on the Provincial Executive for two years and was a training team member for many years. He also served as a Commissioner. Bheki worked for the Department of Education where he was responsible for assisting with establishing governing bodies in schools.



Camping in the city

The Barkus Boot Hike was held for the first time since 2005. This 15 kilometer hike in an urban setting attracted a lot of interest from kzn scouts.

Those scouts who took part enjoyed a wide variety of unusual challenges not often found in a city and were able to put their scouting skills to the test.

There were 11 special tasks ranging from air rifle shooting, building an aerial runway across the Sutton Park pool (having to

carry all their kit across the pool without getting wet) abseiling down the tower at the Central Fire Station and orienteering around Sutton Park. Each task had to be successfully completed to be given directions to the next task. The scouts camped overnight in Mitchell Park, a far cry from the usual country camping done by scouts!

This Barkus Boot was a joint exercise with Durban based South African Defence Force, Reserve Force Unit, 84 Signal Unit. Members of 84 Signal Unit participated in the actual hike, providing security for the scouts and radio communication of their movements on the planned route. The scouts also had the opportunity to learn and practice radio procedure.

The suburban route was mostly in the Morningside area and attracted much attention from the public, seeing scouts walking along the street accompanied by three armed soldiers in full kit.

There was no outright winner, and the Trophy was jointly awarded to 58th Durban and 1st Eshowe scout troops.

The organizer of the event Garth Kloppenborg who is also the Provincial Commissioner, thanked everyone for their hard work in making a success of the 2011 Barkus Boot Hike, in particular the fantastic support from 84 Signals Unit.

This will be an annual event on the KZN scouting calendar, so those scouts who missed out on all the fun this year, ensure you have this on your Troop Year Planner for 2012!



2011 Diary Dates

Group Annual General Meetings

October

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| 15-16 | JOTA/JOTI; KZN Provincial Rally |
| 21-23 | Scout Camp Quartermaster Course, BP Camp |
| 28-30 | General Scouters/Commissioners Course, Lexden |

Local Area/District Annual General Meetings

November

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| 5 | Uniformed Meeting, KZN HQ |
| 12 | KZN Executive Meeting, KZN HQ |
| 20 | Universal Children's Day |

December

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|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | World Aids Day |
| 3 | Provincial Scout Council, KZN HQ |
| 9 | Schools Close |
| 9-10 | KZN Reserve Force Army Exercise |
| 10-11 | Permit Phase Training, KZN HQ |
| 10 | Group Management Workshop, KZN HQ |
| 15 | Provincial Office Closes |

Next Issue: 10 December 2011
Copy Deadline: 28 November

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Visiting UK scouts

Northern Natal District played host to 52 British and 12 Swaziland visiting scouts recently. The UK scouts were in South Africa for three weeks which included visits to Kruger Park, Swaziland, Lesotho, hiking in the

Drakensberg and Anglo Boer War battle field tours. The purpose though was community service. The UK scouts teamed up with 1st Ladysmith and 3rd Newcastle scouts to clean up the SAPS Ladysmith Child Protection unit and a Newcastle Methodist Church aids orphan centre where the scouts painted walls, helped create a vegetable gardens



and construct a jungle gym. The UK scouts got a taste of what its like camping in Africa compared to the English countryside when a Rhino walked through their



campsite at Spionkop Dam, Ladysmith! Well done to all the Northern Natal District scouts who worked so hard to make this visit for UK scouts one they'll always cherish.