



Spring - 2002

SCOUTING ABOUT

News from the South African Scout Association.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF SCOUT

We salute the indomitable spirit of Scouting About. After an unwelcome silence we are absolutely thrilled to welcome the voice of the movement back into our lives. I am sure that all of us missed this wonderful publication that had become a must read for us to keep abreast with general developments within our movement.

Now that the nexus has been re-established we look forward to greater interaction and involvement with Scouting About. It is a great medium for sharing ideas and making sure we stay in touch with each other. We are sure it will play a major role in keeping us ahead of major activities around us as well as opening a window to zonal, regional and international happenings.

We are grateful to the team that has helped us find our voice again. Let's proclaim from the mountains and hills of South Africa that this great youth movement is alive and let the valleys reverberate with a new positive attitude to heal our country. We have a voice, let's use it.

Indeed, we are on course.

Nkwenkwe Nkomo



Nkwenkwe Nkomo

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MESSAGE

National Headquarters are very proud indeed that "Scouting About" has been resurrected. It is with sincere appreciation that the Cape Eastern Area (Colin Stretton and team) and the Scout Foundation are thanked for their support. It is crucial that South African Scouting has a common voice for all, nationally and to some internationally.

Areas are strongly urged to contribute to "Scouting About".

Once again thank you and congratulations.

Luke van der Laan

Cape Western Canal Walk Cape Town

54 Children from Manenberg and Kayelitsha were chosen by the Scout Association to take part in the Outdoor Adventure Expo at the Canal Walk, Century City, Cape Town from 21 - 24 February 2002.

They were exposed to numerous activities such as camping, outdoor cooking, rock climbing. The aim of the game : to give these children an unforgettable fun-filled experience.

The Expo was an excellent platform for the Scout Association to showcase its aims and objectives !

CUB POW - WOW 2002 "IN THE JUNGLE"

A very enjoyable POW-WOW was held during April at the Woodridge College facility, a little distance outside Port Elizabeth - all agreed that the organisers had done a fantastic job!



SCOUT & GUIDE GATHERING AT NXARHUNI



Rural Scout Groups are springing up in the Cape Eastern Area. Earlier this year the Buffalo City District, outside East London, met for a day of activities and the Investiture of 50 new Scouts. Two new Scout Groups were formed at the Nxarhuni and Nontutuzelo Schools in the District. Teachers from four other schools asked how Scouting could be started in their schools. This year, 2002, twenty four new Groups have been formed in the Central, South Eastern and Eastern Regions of the Cape Eastern Area.



The Troop Scouter Invests the new scouts.



Mdantsane Troop entertains the visitors and new scouts.



S.A.H.Q. CALENDAR: 2ND HALF 2002

2002			
8/11 July	8th World Youth Forum - Metsovo	30 November	Final date for first payment of Area contributions – 2002/2003
15/19 July	36th World Scout Conference – Thessaloniki	November	National Finance Meeting
31 July	Census	10/21 December	Cedarberg Adventure
14 August	Boy Scout Jubilee Trust/Scout Foundation Meetings	11/18 December	2nd Swaziland National Jamboree, Manzini
4 September	National Finance Meeting	20 December	Annual Closure – SAHQ
21/24 September	Rover SARSI - Durban	28 Dec/8 Jan 03	20th World Jamboree, Thailand
30 September	Merit Award Applications close at SAHQ	31 December	National Awards Committee – completion of award applications
30 September	Financial year-end	31 December	2nd payment – Annual Area Contributions
30 September	Area Census due at SAHQ	2003	
October	Area Managers Seminar	6 January	SAHQ reopens
October	JOTA/JOTI	2004	
30 October	HV Marsh Award entries close	01/11 August	12th World Scout Moot, Taiwan
November	Boy Scout Jubilee Trust/Scout Foundation meetings	2007	
		01/10 August	21st World Scout Jamboree, United Kingdom

HUNI SCHOOL - CAPE EASTERN AREA



SWITCHED ON PEOPLE

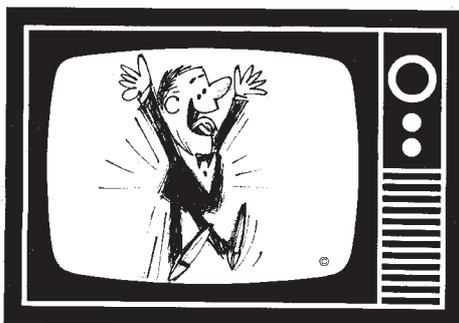
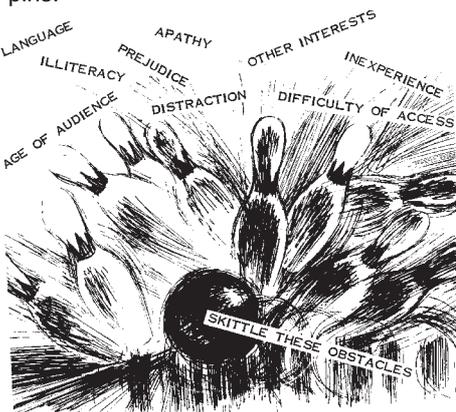
What do you do if you don't want to listen to a radio or television programme? You switch it off. People are sometimes like that, when you are communicating with them. Mentally, for one reason or another, they "switch you off". They "turn a deaf ear" to what you are saying. They "shut their eyes" to what you are showing them.

However you try to communicate with others, you'll sometimes get "switched off". But if you plan your communications well, you'll keep more people "switched on".

IT'S A MOUTHFUL

The word "communicate" is a bit of a mouthful. To communicate is to inform; to tell; to reveal; to disclose; to explain; to impart; to instruct; to direct; to get a message or an idea over.

In a 1966 edition of "Veld Lore" on Communications, Vic Clapham suggests that communicating is like a game of skittles, ten pin bowling as we know it. The pins represent "natural obstacles" that stand in the way of all communications, whether they are spoken, written or illustrated. Now imagine the ball as your message. To get your message through you have to knock down most of the ten pins.



You can't get your message through unless you use language the other fellow understands. If he's illiterate you'll have to use the spoken word, or pictures. If he's apathetic, you will have to overcome his lack of interest in some way. If he's prejudiced, he has already formed opinions in advance - you'll have to be persuasive and convincing, and change his opinions.

The person to whom you are communicating may have other interests, or be distracted by other things. His inexperience may be an obstacle in the way of his understanding your communication. His age and intelligence will influence the manner in which you communicate with him. Difficulty of access is another "natural obstacle" - he may be many kilometres away, have no telephone, and so on.

Here's the secret : When you want to get a message through, or an idea across, try and pinpoint what "natural obstacles" exist. Then you can plan to overcome them.

SCOUTING ABOUT is starting off, anew, and whether this publication will succeed in 'communicating', will depend on our keeping you "switched on", but not only that, we need feedback from you to know if there is anything we can change to keep you "switched on". We also need input from Areas - let us know what you are doing. It may be something that will "switch on" other Scout Leaders and make their activities more imaginative or interesting for their scouts or cubs. This publication appears on the Worldwide Web to be seen by Scouting throughout the world - let them see that we are "with it" and our youth is getting the best out of scouting.

Our job, as Scout Leaders, is difficult enough with all the other activities today's boys and girls have - apart from their most important school work - sport, extramural school activities, church activities, music, dancing, you can carry on - we must offer them an outstanding scout or cub programme to keep them coming back to us for more. Hopefully SCOUTING ABOUT will keep you informed of the bigger National and Area events and projects that you can build into that programme.

AFRICA SCOUT RADIO SETS OFF

Africa Scout Radio have reported the ongoing production of radio programmes under the banner of Africa Scout Radio. These are 15 minute programmes on Scouting, recorded by Scouts for broadcast in Africa. The first package of six programmes, in English, are ready. National Scout Organisations in Africa are asked to negotiate for airtime with their various radio stations, and to request for the tapes from the Africa Regional Office in Nairobi. The next series of six programmes has been in the production process and should be ready by this time. We are reaching out to more young people with the Scout message through the medium of radio.

SPRINGBOK SCOUT MATTHEW LANE REPRESENTS SOUTH AFRICAN SPRINGBOK SCOUTS AT WINDSOR

Matthew had the honour of representing South African Springbok Scouts at the recent Windsor Queen Scout Parade of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II's 50th Jubilee year. The weekend started on Saturday the 20th April in the balmy morning, when all the representatives from the Commonwealth gathered outside the Tower of London to receive their commemorative sweatshirts and booklets. A tour of London began after they had all met each other, about 40 in all. On a red London bus they toured the city, including watching the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace from inside the gates, while thousands of onlookers watched from outside. After lunch at the Guild Hall where the Mayor of London presides and holds his meetings, they went and rode the London Eye, the large ferrous wheel. The party walked along the Thames River and across Westminster Bridge to the Houses of Parliament where they visited. The truly amazing day ended with a posh Tea where they were able to socialise more and meet the British Chief Scout and a member of the House of Commons.

The following day, Queen Elizabeth II birthday, began early as Matthew met his hosts for the day. He set off for Windsor, about 45 minutes drive outside London to gather at a nearby army base to register and form groups. In these groups they

practised marching which they needed for the actual parade. They were together with 400/500 scouts from all over Britain who had all achieved the Queen Scout award, the equivalent to our Springbok Badge. Working together in the group made Mark realise how quickly they were working together smartly, which gave them such a sense of pride.

They then gathered inside Windsor Castle at the stables to be ready for the march into the Royal Mews Quadrangular, which is in the middle of the castle. They marched behind one of the three bands into the Quadrangular. "WOW! What a shock and surprise awaited us as we entered - about 3000 spectators and families gathered around to watch the ceremony. This got me to think about the magnitude of what was going on at the parade", was Matthews response. Finally Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh inspected the lines of Scouts. The Duke asked Matthew about the Cedarberg Adventure badge he was wearing and the Queen acknowledged he was indeed from South Africa.

With the Queen and Duke on the podium, the assembled Scouts marched past to a thunderous applause. The ceremony ended with the service in the St Georges Chapel where Matthew had time to think what achieving the Springbok Badge has meant in his life.

FROM THE TRANSFORMATION MANAGER

Transformation! What's its all about? What needs to be transformed? These were the questions we all grappled with, the past months. On top of it we were bombarded with documents that we need to read and give comments on.

We had to start somewhere with this journey. Some of us are rushing and others are back-peddalling. I believe whether we are back-peddalling or rushing, we will all get there.

We find ourselves as an Association *in this time* and *it's not wasted time*. This could be an opportunity of great creativity and innovation.

On our journey let us remember the 4 P's

The **purpose**: Why we had to do this
The **picture**: What it will look and feel like when we reach our goal

The **plan**: Step-by-Step, how we will get there

The **part**: What you can (and need to) do to help us to move forward.

Let us create an atmosphere of good communications, openness and leadership and a climate conducive to creative thinking.

Maria van Staden

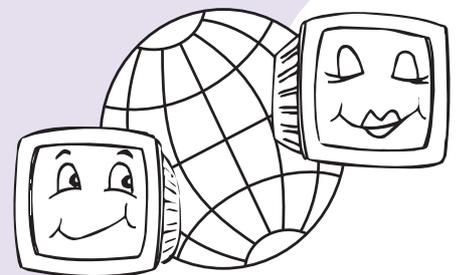
Rover Warrant Course - Gilwood East London



Leader Trainer Jeff Ferreira conducted the first Rover Warrant Course in the area with the assistance of Kath Douglas.

Contributions can be:

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Luanda - Angola

The Angolan Girl and Boy Scouts are mobilising Angola to eradicate Polio. In their aim to try to eradicate the virus, they educate the population by talking to the people and convincing them to take their kids to get the free vaccinations. They are supported by UNICEF, who provide the social mobilisation training for the Scouts and who are also the only providers for the oral polio vaccine in Angola since 1997. It is a tremendous global coalition between a variety of nations and organisations in a joint effort to stop the transmission of the polio virus by the end of 2002 and finally eradicate it from Angola by 2005.

**Kent Page - Communication Officer,
UNICEF Angola**