



Winter - 2005

# SA SCOUTING ABOUT

News from the South African Scout Association.

## SCOUTS AND FRIENDS GATHER TO WELCOME NEW CHIEF SCOUT

The **Reverend Vukile C Mehana** is set to lead South Africa's largest youth development organisation into the second century of Scouting.

Over six hundred Cubs and Scouts from the Western Cape participated in a procession through the streets of Cape Town last Saturday in the lead up to the inauguration ceremony of the new Chief Scout of South Africa, Reverend Vukhile Mehana, in St Georges Cathedral.

Lead by the Habibiah Muslim brigade from Kensington and with colourful flags flying, Cubs and Scouts between the ages of 8 and 18 from fifty Scout groups stepped out to mark the occasion.

Among the dignitaries who joined senior officials from the South African Scout Association in the inauguration of Reverend Mehana were the National and Provincial Ministers of Education, **Naledi Pandor** and **Aziz Pahad**. Their support for the largest youth development organisation in South Africa is a tribute to the role that Scouting plays in the education of South Africa's youth.

Mehana emphasised the value of Scouting for young people and their communities, "Scoutings programme of non-formal education builds character and provides young people with life skills, a set a values and leadership experience as they develop towards responsible adulthood."

Reverend Mehana, who began his Scouting career as a Cub in Langa, Cape Town, has formed part of the national leadership of Scouting since 1999. Rev. Mehana aims to strengthen Scoutings partnerships with government and community organisations during his five-year term of office.

According to **Mr Luke van der Laan**, the CEO of the South African Scout Association, "The election of Reverend Vukile Mehana as the new Chief Scout continues to assert the commitment of the South African Scout Association to the development of all South African

youth. The National Scout Council is very pleased to have someone of the background, influence and calibre of Reverend Mehana to lend his expertise to this position. This is a very exciting time for Scouting worldwide. With the World Organisation of the Scout Movement celebrating its centenary in 2007, the South African Scout Association is favourably poised to strengthen its position as South Africa's largest youth development organisation."

With 28 million members in 216 countries and territories, Scouting is the largest youth organisation in the world and plays a significant role in global decision-making on youth issues. The organisation has shown over the last ninety eight years that it is able to provide young people with fun and exciting programmes that, through a system of progressive and self-paced non-formal education, build character and prepare them for their role as responsible global citizens.

No matter where you go in the world of business or politics today, you will find graduates of the Scout programme in prominent positions. The grounding provided by Scouting in the areas of leadership, decision-making, problem solving, personal development and community service is unparalleled. The products of the Scout programme are young people, thoroughly prepared to take their place as the leaders of tomorrow.

In the words of the outgoing Chief Scout, **Nkwenkwe Nkomo**, "We are pleased with the progress Scouting has made in South Africa and with the steps that are being taken to make Scouting accessible to more young girls and boys. The new Chief Scout now faces the challenge of ensuring that a meaningful difference is made in the lives of all young people in this magnificent country."



Rev. Vukile C Mehana

## CONGRATULATIONS!

**Ian Harry** of Gauteng Area and **Colin Stretton** of Cape Eastern Area, on having the Silver Springbok Award conferred on them by the Chief Scout. **Andre Bredenkamp**, our Chief Scout Commissioner, on receiving the Bronze Medal for Gallantry for his remarkable feat of reaching the summit of Mount Everest, the first South African, on the more difficult North Face. The presentation ceremony took place at the National Council Dinner 12 March this year. **Andre** presented a scout flag, that had accompanied him to the summit of Everest, to our outgoing Chief Scout **Nkwenkwe Nkomo**.

## CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOK / TOP AWARDS

Calvin Pool - Kwazulu Natal  
 Cecylia Karcz - Kwazulu Natal  
 Colin Levey - Kwazulu Natal  
 Brian Mckenzie - Kwazulu Natal  
 Demlen Chetty - Kwazulu Natal  
 Bhekinthlathla Dlamini - Kwazulu Natal  
 Amanda Freeman - Cape Eastern  
 Darren Heins - Cape Eastern  
 Tammerin Smith - Cape Eastern  
 Alicia Abbot - Cape Eastern  
 Rocco du Plessis - Cape Western  
 Theo du Plessis - Cape Western  
 Johan de Meyer - Cape Western  
 Richard Wiese - Cape Western  
 Neil Withers - Tshwane  
 Mary Ann Caldwell - Cape Western  
 Jean Nel - Gauteng  
 Ryan Inkley - Gauteng



## GONE HOME

**Bob Saunders** – It is with great sadness that we have lost Bob on 27 May 2005 after a time of serious illness. Bob has followed a lifetime of Scouting and was known as “Uncle Bob”, whose long service in the Scout Shop (Gauteng) endeared him to so many.

## WORLD SCOUT COMMITTEE CANDIDATE

Our past Chief Scout, **Mr Nkwenkwe Nkomo**, with leaders from various other countries, have submitted their candidatures for election to the World Scout Committee. Elections will be held at the World Scout Conference to be held in Tunisia during September.



## DUTY TO GOD

### A Scout Prayer

*Great Maker of all Scouts and all living things, we pray that You will make us trustworthy, for there are those who trust us. Make us loyal, for through loyalty we reach our highest ideals. Teach us to be helpful, for through serving others we serve You. Make us friendly, for the world's greatest need is for love of one another. Train us in courtesy, for courtesy is the carpet on life's floor. Make us kind and compassionate, for the veld and the forest, the air and the waters around us abound with Your creations. Guide us in obedience, for success comes to him who first learns to obey. Make us cheerful, that our smiles may spread Your word. Teach us thrift, that we may not waste. Your bounty. Help us to be clean in thought, word and deed, and may we remember that our bodies are Your Holy Temples. We ask Your guidance in all these things, and may we never forget the Scout Promise to which we are pledged. Amen.*

### Morning Prayer

*O Loving Father, we thank You for Your protection through the night, and for countless other blessings. Cleanse us in body, mind and soul, as the morning dew cleanses the grasses of the veld. Light the fires of friendship and service in our hearts, and walk beside us through this day, to the setting of the sun. Amen.*

### Evening Prayer

*O Loving Father, Who has been our Guide and Guardian throughout this day, we thank You for the many blessings You have showered upon us. Watch over us, Father, as we sleep through the night, that we may rest safely, and awaken to receive Your glorious gift of a new dawn. Amen.*

*Veld Lore*

## TSUNAMI SCOUT AID

The special fundraising appeal called Tsunami Scout Aid, launched by the World Scout Committee and the Asia-Pacific Region Committee, has topped US\$485 442 in donations from Scouts, Scout Groups and National Organisations. Fundraising continues and substantial contributions are still to be announced.

In addition, more than US\$120 000 in money and supplies has been donated, these have been made for Scouts via other channels.

[http://www.scout.org/tsunami/tsunami\\_in dex.shtml](http://www.scout.org/tsunami/tsunami_in dex.shtml)

*WORLDinfo*

## SCOUT TRAINING RESOURCES

Since the very beginning of Scouting, Leaders have cried out for more and more printed resource material – first “Scouting for Boys” was the handbook, still useful but a little old fashioned? If that is your idea, get a copy and have another look at it – still full of great ideas. Then came a library of scouting books, by B-P himself, John Therman, Swift etc., all at an affordable price and today lying in many scout dens and Area HQ Libraries around the country. People like Vic Clapham, Colin Inglis, Dr Frank Opie and others produced cheap booklets on many scouting subjects, including the incomparable “Veld Lore” that was published for over 25 years without a break.

Now we have the “Troop Leaders Handbook” and the very new “Scout Trail”.

A fantastic publication that gives the scout EVERYTHING that he/she will require to reach “Springbok Scout” qualification. The illustrations and text of this book are so clear, even the youngest Scout should have no difficulty in following them.

How should we use these books? They were designed that every Leader has a copy of the “Handbook” and every Scout would have a copy of the “Trail”, particularly the P/L. With the aid of the books, the Leader and the P/Ls design a progressive, exciting and active programme. The P/L makes sure he knows exactly what is needed to run the programme; he has the “Trail” and he ‘swots’ up on what is required beforehand. The Leader uses the “Troop Leaders Handbook” for ideas on how the requirements can be built into that exciting programme.

Please do not get the Patrol to sit around the “Trail” and work it out from there. The P/L or instructor must know his stuff, and put it over to the scouts in an activity

or game. The scouts have their copy of the “Trail” at home to refer to at any time.

A Provincial Government Official has been so impressed with the “Scout Trail” that he has made 1200 copies available to scouts throughout his Province, this to assist with the growth of Scouting in the Area.

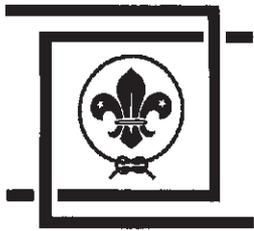


## B-P Said ....

### On Parents

“The first step is to know your boy, but the second step is to know his home”

“Where the sympathy and support of the boy's parents are secured, where the parents have been brought into the mutual partnership with a fuller interest in the working of the Troop and the aim of the Movement, the task of the Scoutmaster becomes proportionally light”.



# Look Wide

"World Friendship Circle" to celebrate Scouting's hundredth birthday together.

I recall sitting on the slopes of Mount Fuji, at the World Jamboree - Japan, having supper with

three other Group magazine editors. We had "swapped" magazines for a number of years, then arranged to meet at the Jamboree. Myself from South Africa, John from Calgary, Canada, Eric from Manchester, England and PJ from Manila, Philippines; I could never pronounce his name!

There are any number of ways of linking with individual scouts or other scout groups:

**GROUP MAGAZINES:** Swap magazines via the post; or put your newsletter on the Web and search for other groups doing the same. Correspond on the Internet.

### SWAP STAMPS:

There will be Stamp Collectors in your link Group - including collectors of Scouting on Stamps. South Africa has a wide selection of African animals and fauna on stamps. These will be sought after overseas - make up a "Big Five" plate and post as gifts to your links.



**STUDY THE HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS** of your link's country. Send them historical material about South Africa in pictures, maps and even photos you have taken yourself.



### LEARN THE FOLK

**MUSIC** of your link. Exchange folk music via sheet music, records, tapes.



### WILDLIFE PROVIDES A GREAT LINK

**THEME:** Swap photos, colour slides, spoor casts or drawings you have made. Discuss Wildlife Preservation in your respective

countries. **WHO'S ZOO?** Links can study each others national animals by organising an expedition to the nearest Zoo or Museum. **BIRDLIFE:** Swap photos, slides, pictures with details about our birdlife! Even go as far as to record birdsong on tape. Compare birds that might migrate between your link's country and ours. What's their national bird? Tell them about ours.

Make your link interesting and you will always get a prompt reply and perhaps a lifelong friendship.

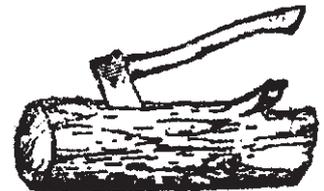
## SCOUTING IN IRAQ

Scouting is alive in Iraq! Efforts to restore a scouting community in the country are under way.

Scout leaders, within the country, have managed to keep the scouting spirit alive even with all the dreadful things and uncertainty that these people have had to endure. What an achievement! Leaders have surfaced after more than 18 years of not being able to run Scout Groups in that country. They have managed to get Scouting underway even in the face of great adversity.

Two projects are underway to help in this resurgence, one is to build a National Scout Camp and Training Centre on 20 hectares of former government land that was donated to Iraqi Scouting. The other is to send 40 male and 40 female Leaders to a two week professional course overseas to update them on the scout programme and management.

*Gilwell Reunion Express*



## SCOUTING AND THE UN MILLIUM CAMPAIGN

In April, the World Organization of the Scout Movement signed a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations Millennium Campaign. The agreement establishes a programme between World Scouting and the United Nations aimed at helping young people to become more aware of development issues.

At the same occasion, WOSM officially launched its "Youth of the World" campaign.

Information on: <http://www.scout.org/front/0504moumdg.shtml>

[scout.org/front/0504moumdg.shtml](http://www.scout.org/front/0504moumdg.shtml)

*WORLDInfo*

## SCOUTS IN ANGOLA SPREAD INFO ABOUT DEADLY MARBURG FEVER

About 1500 Scouts in Angola are working with the Ministry of Health and UNICEF to inform people about the Marburg haemorrhagic fever. In the cities of Luanda, Cacuaco and Viana the Scouts stand on strategic street corners or go from house to house to distribute brochures containing critical information

on what the epidemic is, how it spreads and what can be done to avoid becoming infected. There are plans to conduct in-depth training for the Scouts so they can further interact with the people they reach and if needed, provide clarification on the epidemic.

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## REUNION 57

### A UK 2007 Centenary Event

Peter Dearn (Blondie) and his team are organising the 50 year Reunion of those who attended the 1957 Jim-Jam at Sutton-Coalfield in the UK. If you would like to attend this Reunion or be involved in any way – contact Peter by post – 56 Wensum Valley Close, Halesdon, Norwich, Norfolk NR6 5DJ , UK or Tel +44 1603 407627 – but quickest of all e-mail: [peter.dearn@scouting2007.org](mailto:peter.dearn@scouting2007.org)

Peter is putting together a collection of 1957 memorabilia, which will be shown at Eurojam in July this year and then displayed at the world Jamboree 2007. If you have anything you would like to contribute, he would be most grateful. After 2007 the items will be placed with scout museums.



This is where it all started, with 20 boys from a variety of backgrounds, in the first experimental Scout camp on Brownsea Island, situated in Pool harbour in the south of England. And now it's your chance to relive the magic.

From April to September each year starting in 2005, if you are over 10 you can camp on Brownsea Island. Brownsea Reloaded, in early August 2005, offers Scouts and Guides between 14 and 18 the chance to experience 36 hours of non-stop high-energy activities on Brownsea Island.

And in 2007, Brownsea Island will host many more activities and events – from a Replica Camp, to Scoutings Sunrise on Brownsea. Contact - <http://www.scoutnetwork.org.uk/>

## MPUMALANGA AREA AWARDED “DISNEY HAND” MINNIE GRANT

“Mpumalanga Sun”, the Area Magazine reports that their Area has been awarded this grant, an outreach of the Walt Disney Organisation, to be used in encouraging young people up to the age of 14 in Community Service projects. They were selected by Youth Service America, one of 25 Youth Organisations in 15 countries throughout the World, for their effort in establishing vegetable gardens to support

HIV/Aids orphans and Old Age Pensioners in their community.

Four Groups, 1st Sandzile, 1st Revival, 1st Emtfontini and 1st Tenteleni, took part in festivities, at their individual schools, on the appointed day to co-inside with the 6th Annual Global Youth Service Day. The entire school was present at all four functions where the Scouts re-affirmed their Promise to help other people at all times.

## CENTRAL AREA

Another Area whose boundaries have changed from time to time. The central motif, the orange tree with nice ripe orange fruits, has been around from the earliest days of Scouting. If you keep stamps you will know that the orange tree appeared on the old Orange Free State Republic stamps, before Union in 1910. In my stamp collection I have 6d stamps issued by the Union of South Africa prior to 1962, also reflecting the same motif.

The Central Area incorporates the Free State and the country around Kimberly that was once part of the old Cape Province, with their administrative HQ in Welkom.



## CUB / SCOUT WARRANT COURSE



**A happy band of new Leaders stand behind the Trainers;  
Kath Douglis, ALT Jeff Ferreira, Martin de Bruyn and Daphne McNeil.  
This recent course was held in the Western Region of Cape Eastern Area.**



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