



Winter - 2006

# SA SCOUTING ABOUT

News from the South African Scout Association.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF SCOUT



Rev. Vukile C Mehana

It is now about ten months since I took over as the Chief Scout from the able hands of Nkwenkwe Nkomo. This has been one of the most interesting ten months of my life as it was full of anxiety and excitement. A "Baptism of fire" and an enormous amount of affirmation and support from various levels of our Scouting friends.

The most memorable highlight during this period was the privilege to lead the South African delegation to the last World Scout Conference in Tunisia last September when South African Scouting was so prominently featured as one of the Associations in the world of Scouting that plays a meaningful role in living out the current world theme which is "One World, One Promise".

My ascension to the leadership role of our Movement at this historic time of Scouting is quite significant especially given the fact that we are at the threshold of celebrating 100 years of the existence of the Scout Movement. With South Africa featuring prominently in reflecting on the beginnings of Scouting, the imminent centenary celebrations of 2007 brings a huge amount of challenges to us, as the current leadership of Scouting, as to how we are to lay the firm foundations upon which the next century of Scouting is to be built. Lord Baden Powell set the standard so high as

he shaped many leaders of the world through Scouting and by way of his charge to all of us that we are to ensure that this world is to be better than when we found it. This is indeed a mammoth responsibility on all of us which means that we need to pray for divine inspiration as we prepare ourselves for this formidable task.

To this end, may I share the vision I have for the first five years of the new centenary of Scouting in South Africa? The vision I have is fully informed by the Association's vision which is being "the premier youth movement dedicated to the development of young people in creating a better Country for all."

In the context of this dream and taking into consideration the realities facing all of us in South Africa, my vision is to see, in 2010, the South African Scout Association being fully transformed in the true sense, without any limitations, in the following areas:

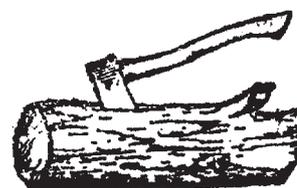
- ☞ Total racial integration as we live out the spirit, sentiments and outcomes of the Quo' Vadis Conference of 2 July 1977.
- ☞ The spirit of the brotherhood, sisterhood and fellowship of the Scout Movement is not only the essence of true Scouting but also fundamental to the cohesion of our society. This implies a genuine sharing amongst friends, and wishing prosperity for one another. The sharing of resources (equipment, facilities, skills and financial support) by Scouts who may be more privileged with those whom have no access to resources is critical to the future of Scouting in South Africa. This must be seen to take place locally up to the national level.
- ☞ The development of our Volunteer Leaders through our robust training programmes which should include transformational leadership courses for all our leaders so that such leaders can be ready to lead, meaningfully, the diverse youth of this Country without any historical prejudices, but with a desire to positively create a new cadre

## CONGRATULATIONS

### SPRINGBOK / TOP AWARDS



- Robert Pretorius - Kwazulu Natal
- Deshan Manikam - Kwazulu Natal
- Malcolm Alan Bartlett - Kwazulu Natal
- Jon-Clive Oliver - Gauteng Area
- Joseph Jarvis Ball - Gauteng Area
- Johan Michael Gibson - Gauteng Area
- Jonathan David Tayler - Gauteng Area
- Mark Skinner - Gauteng Area
- William Albert Haddad - Gauteng Area
- Joseph Jarvis Ball - Gauteng Area
- Lyndal Jane Wakeford - Cape Eastern
- Lynsey Danoyer - Cape Eastern
- Sean Rischbieter - Cape Eastern
- Richard Alan Van Zyl - Gauteng Area
- Cheralynne Huxtable - Gauteng Area
- Stephen Haupt - Cape Western
- Jason Pentz - Cape Western
- Jurgen Dunhofen - Cape Western
- Matthew Perring - Cape Western
- Darren Erasmus - Cape Western
- Stephen Thaele - Cape Western
- Nicholas Roets - Cape Western
- Peter Otzen - Cape Western
- Bronwyn Glass - Cape Western
- Matthew Schnetler - Cape Western
- Kyle Reed - Cape Western
- Troy Niddrie - Cape Western
- Clayton Warren - Gauteng Area



Continued overleaf.

of leaders who will make this country and this world a better place.

☞ The paradigm shift from being a man-based organisation to an organisation which shall make an impact to the communities we live in. I believe that the future existence of the movement shall not depend on the number of young people we record on our census forms, and the amount of fees we collect, but it shall depend on the impact it makes on the lives of the community. We are required to grapple with real challenges facing the life of a young person (in particular) today. Such challenges include HIV/Aids, poverty, unemployment, ignorance and diversity.

☞ One other area is the relevance of this Movement so that it may continuously attract the young people of the 21st century especially in relation to things like its outlook, programmes, governance and involvement of young people. The challenge will be to allow flexibility as proposed by the young people, but such flexibility should not shake the basic fundamentals of Scouting such as the Law and Promise. These fundamentals cannot be compromised.

Having noted the above five visionary and transformational imperatives, the current "mission" of our Movement which is "to contribute to the education of young people, through a value system based on the Scout Promise and Law, to help build a better world where people are self – fulfilled as individuals and play a constructive role in society", provides a firm base for these imperative to be fully realised in the next five years.

Therefore the five Strategic objectives as agreed by the 2005 National Scout Council,

- ☞ Transformation
- ☞ Youth Involvement
- ☞ Volunteers
- ☞ Profile
- ☞ Organisation for the 21st Century

are to form a practical programme of action in the realisation of the visionary and strategic direction of this Movement. I therefore appeal to all the Scouting people of South Africa to roll up our sleeves and get on with the job.

**" ONE WORLD,  
ONE PROMISE"**

*Rev. Vukile Mehana  
Chief Scout*



## DUTY TO GOD

Scouting stands, as it always has, on fostering peace, friendship and understanding among the peoples of the community, the country and the world, irrespective of any differences our neighbour might have. In short, for love of our fellow man and, beyond that, love for all the flora and fauna, for all of God's creation.

It's why we Promise to help other people at all times. It's why in the Scout Law we stress being a friend to all – including animals.

As we approach the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of our movement with all it's great Scouting precepts, we are asked to give particular attention to our "Gift for Peace", to help, in our way, to lessen the impact of the great scourge of HIV/Aids.

**As B-P said in his last message –**

"leave the world a better place for you having been a member of the human race". - or words to that effect.

Some of us might be reluctant to discuss, or be involved in this matter. Why? It's one of the greatest scourges the world has ever known and more so in our own country and in southern Africa. Without everyone being involved in eradicating it, how can we live up to our Scout Promise and law? – "help other people at all times – being a friend to all".

## SAHQ ANNOUNCEMENTS

As winter rapidly sets in across South Africa, somewhat earlier than expected, we are reminded of the many families and communities amongst us who will bear the brunt of the cold weather. Our duty to others requires that reach out to those facing challenges such as these. The Association encourages the support of those affected by the recent dramatic onset of winter. As many Scouts across the country have already shown, we can make a difference in helping others.

Statistics show that 4.3 million young people (under 15 years old) have already died from Aids. By 2001, 11 million young people had been orphaned by the pandemic and orphaning will continue until 2030. The HSRC correctly concludes that HIV/Aids directly affects all young people as it changes the very nature of the society we live in (L Richter 2004). The Association thanks all those who have responded to this most devastating challenge by embracing the "scouting and aids" programme and by reaching out to others. The Association, together with brother and sister Scouts in the 10 Southern Zone countries, further mobilized more than 50000 young people in Southern Africa on 1 December 2005. Together, the message was clearly made – Scouts are committed to fighting the spread of HIV/Aids and are

committed to serving those affected by AIDS in all our communities.

The National Scout Council meeting held in Pretoria on 7 May 2006 confirmed the Association's commitment to serving others. Poverty, HIV/AIDS, Climate Change, a lack of employment and those marginalised in our communities face ever increasing challenges – very often in close proximity to where we have active Scouting. In response to these challenges, the Association has not only addressed how we can help young people overcome these challenges through various programmes but is mindful of what can be done for others by Scouts.

The National Scout Council further announced the appointment of Brian February as the Association's International Commissioner. Brian, who has served as



**Brian February the Association's  
International Commissioner**

the Area Commissioner in the Cape Western Area for three years, is warmly welcomed. He faces an enormous task especially in view of the forthcoming Centenary of Scouting activities. The Association is in the advanced stages of planning all the events which include the Cederberg Adventure and Mafikeng Centenary Moot which will both be the first Centenary events worldwide.

Arrangements for South African participation in the World Jamboree are at an advanced stage. More than 170 applications were received by the due date and as such a strong and vibrant South African contingent promises to make a significant impact at the Jamboree. This will truly be a magnificent and life changing experience.

The Association thanks every volunteer and those who support Scouting in South Africa for their, often unacknowledged, service in making the gift of Scouting a possibility for so many young people in all our communities. Your contribution to making our country (and the world) "a better place" is sincerely appreciated.



# Reach For The Stars

Are the Patrols in your Troop up to National Standard?

There's nothing difficult about achieving the National Standard, and thus becoming a Star Patrol. It's the normal standard of any good, average Patrol.

By making your Patrols all Star Patrols, in fact the P.L. and his patrol set about reaching the goals themselves, you'll find it vastly improves the quality of your Scouting, the progress of the individual members in the Patrol, and the fun and enjoyment that comes with top class performance.

Contact your District Scout Programme Commissioner, ask him for the necessary Forms, or look in the "Troop Leaders Handbook" and see what is required to reach for the stars!

## **Star Patrol Guidelines:**

**Patrol Camps:-** must be recorded in logbook. PL in sole charge. At least overnight.

**Patrol Hikes:-** must be recorded in logbook. PL was in charge. Not necessary overnight but at least 4 hours on hike.

**Patrol Activities:-** must be recorded in logbook. PL in charge. Defined as a gathering of the patrol to carry out an

activity as a patrol. Does not include activities credited in sections 1 & 2.

**Court of Honour:-** record of attendance to be kept in COH minute book.

**Number of Scouts:-** average of 6 or more over the year.

**Patrol Leader:-** must have passed First Class by the end of the year.

**Patrol Second:-** to have passed Adventurer Badge by end of the year.

**No 3 & 4:-** to have passed the Parthfinder Badge by the end of the year.

**Patrol Logbook:-** simple, up to date and containing at least items for sections 1 to 3.

**Visual Progress Chart:-** simple and up to date, on display.

**Attendance:-** must be recorded in a patrol register.

**Attendance Register:-** simple, up to date and on hand for both inspections.

**Patrol Corner:-** Where permanent dens or corners not available, a portable display is satisfactory.

**Patrol Jobs:-** Jobs must be realistic, understood and functioning.

**"It's not who you are, it's who you want to be".**

*Paul Arden*

We all come into the movement with our baggage – what we are and what we know when we first join. Some of us for the excitement and fun we hear is to be had in Scouting. Others to make a contribution to "youth". What ever it is, we are surely a raw material and must be moulded by instruction and experience into something that can be "used" by Scouting to reach "it's" ends.

A pretty blunt statement – but adults in the movement are a special breed. They come in voluntarily, devote their time and money to reach, not their own desires, but the aims of the movement, using the tried and trusted method as laid out since the very beginning.

Scouting accepts suitable adults to train youth, then expects of those adults to **"want to be the best they can, in helping the youth they come in contact with, to reach Scouting's goals"**.



## **SOUTH AFRICAN SUPPORTERS TOUR UK Late July/August 2007**

Interest has been shown in this proposed Tour and arrangements are proceeding. There will be a limit to the numbers travelling to one Tour Bus load – 50 persons. As soon as a more accurate itinerary and price has been worked out a brochure will be available at all Area Scout Headquarters and Shops.

Contact: Colin Stretton – Tel 041 585 1147 or Email [scout2007@iafrica.com](mailto:scout2007@iafrica.com)

## **DAY VISITORS: WORLD JAMBOREE 2007, UK**

For those who are unable to join the SA contingent to the World Jamboree but either are in the UK or just wish to visit – Day visitors are welcome to attend. The Jamboree organisers expect 10,000 visitors a day who will have an opportunity see the world's largest youth event in action! Day visitors would need to register (for security reasons) online: more information to follow or dial 0860SCOUTS with your query.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

It's scary to read what appears in the media and magazines to inform us of what WE are doing to our planet! "Time" has just published an article telling us that the world is "tipping over" the edge into an abyss, a point where the world will not recover from consequences of what mankind has done, and continues to do, to our only safe place in the universe..

If I was sailing my yacht across the Atlantic Ocean, would I cut up my sails to make more warm clothing, or take planks from the yacht's bottom to build a larger cabin for my comfort? Well that's what people, many, many people, are doing to our world just for more riches and more comfort in the very short term.

What can we Leaders do about it?

First off – become aware of what is happening and why! Then make our Scouts aware of the practices that are going on around them and participate in the Climate Change programme being implemented by SA Scouting.

The future world belongs to them!

## **CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP 25 - 27<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2006, NAMIBIA**

The workshop was hosted by Namibia Scouts Association and facilitated by the South African Scout Association in conjunction with Scouting Canada.

The focus was on the expansion of the Climate Change Programme, currently being implemented by the South African Scout Association, to a number of other countries in the Zone including Botswana, Angola, Zimbabwe and Namibia. Mauritius Scout Association also sent a representative.

The Project aims at empowering Scouts to participate in environmental conservation and preservation as a means of averting the consequences of climate change, such as global warming and its attendant consequences. The workshop was sponsored by UNEP.

2007  
One World One Promise



## WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE

**27 July – 8 August 2007**  
**Hylands Park Chelmsford UK**



The jamboree will be one of many events held during the Centenary year and will undoubtedly be the biggest event of that year. It will also prove to be one of the best ever held.

### Hopes and Dreams

- ☞ That every country is represented. This has never happened before
- ☞ That it will truly be a World Jamboree
- ☞ That it will challenge, motivate and excite the participants
- ☞ That it will be educational
- ☞ That it would be a safe place (site and activities)
- ☞ That the participants will go away with life time memories and that they will have fun.

### Are you going to be there?

The Association registered a contingent of 200 Scouts to take part. To date, 172 applications have been received and processed. As such, it has been suggested that applications together with payment of the R4000 deposit will be accepted on a first come first serve basis until the remaining 28 places have been filled – without prejudice to those who have already applied. The final cut off date for applications together with payment is 15 July 2006. No further applications will be accepted.

While the initial costs of participating were expected to be R15000 – R18000 we have managed to reduce the cost to R13 500. This includes flights, visas, Jamboree fees, a short tour to the Netherlands, various uniform items, tents, daypacks and Home Hospitality in the UK (which carries a charge) after the Jamboree. It excludes pocket money and travel to main centres of departure in South Africa (Johannesburg and Cape Town).

You are guaranteed to have fun as the objective of the programme is to excite, motivate and challenge the participants.

The sub camp programme days will be at the beginning and end of the week when participants are in their sub camps setting up and taking down. Sunrise Day events will be on 1st August and 8 day time programme days will include 3 off site programme days and 5 days on site – two of these will be World Village days offering full day programme areas. The other three days are made up of a half day activity and Choice time. Choice time is where the scouts can choose what they want to do. In the evening, the main events will be the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and a Vigil on the eve of the NEW centenary of Scouting.

Do not miss the opportunity to be part of Scouting's history by attending this historical event – the Jamboree of the Centenary!

For more information contact the SA Contingent Manager Brian February at the following:

**Mobile:** 0834688243

**Office:** 021- 6841077

**Home:** 021 – 3745037

**E-mail:** brian@scouting.org.za



The organisers of the **Mafikeng Moot 2007** have opened a web site  
[www.mafikeng2007.com](http://www.mafikeng2007.com)

There is quite a lively forum going at  
[www.scouting.org.za/forum](http://www.scouting.org.za/forum) and we suggest that all Rovers intending being at the Moot get involved in the forum.

Matthew Percival –  
[trollscoutuk@googlemail.com](mailto:trollscoutuk@googlemail.com) is an UK contact and

Lydia Kiburu –  
[lkiburu@africa.scout.org](mailto:lkiburu@africa.scout.org) can be contacted in the Africa Southern Zone.

## SCOUT ACTION ON WORLD AIDS DAY 2005

Have you seen the magnificent publication reporting on what the African Region Southern Zone Scouting undertook on Aids Day 2005?

Full colour photographs and reports of the activities from Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The South African section reported on activities held in six of our Areas. In 2006 Aids Day is 1st December 2006, so lets make sure that every Area organises activities for that day, and that reports and photographs are submitted to SAHQ for inclusion in the next edition.

## THE TEAM

The power of a shared experience. Empower your team with the techniques to learn and more importantly to teach. Non team players are weeded out or forced to change. Make your heroes those who teach others, not those who create empires. Love them for the human beings they are, but love them without spoiling them and most importantly do not take the easy way out, love them enough to criticise them. Always expect excellence from them, to do less, is to undervalue yourself and to meander into mediocrity.

*Thanks Bob Glinister.*

### Contributions can be:

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