



Winter 2007

SCOUTING ABOUT

News from the South African Scout Association

2007

One World One Promise



<http://www.scouting.org.za/scoutingabout/>

0860SCOUTS

53RD BADEN POWELL WORLD FELLOWSHIP, MEETS IN CAPE TOWN

68 Baden Powell Fellows and guests attended the World Fellowship Event that took place from 19-22 April 2007 in Cape Town. The most distinguished guest was His Majesty the King of Sweden.

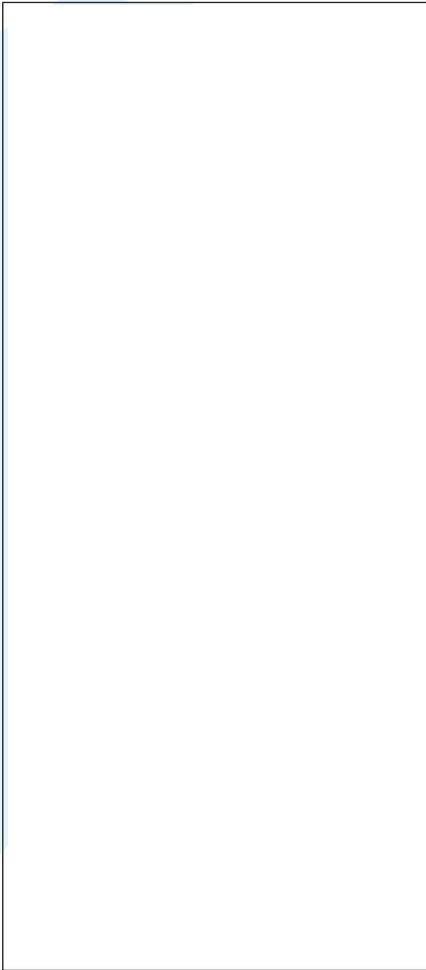
The guests were welcomed at a sunset function at Appleton on Signal Hill, had a tour of the Cape Peninsula and a walk through Kirstenbosch garden. The new fellows were welcomed during a gala dinner at Cape Town Castle on the Friday evening.

Many guests said that the highlight of the event was the visit to the Guguletu Scout Centre and Hawequas Scout ranch. This gave the guests an opportunity to talk to local Scouts about their experiences within the South African Scout Movement.

The event was closed with a tour of Robben Island, led by the former Chief Scout, Nkwenkwe Nkomo.



The King of Sweden talking to young leaders in Cape Town.



CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOK SCOUT AWARDS

Graeme Vrugtman - Gauteng Area
David Ian Scholtz - Gauteng Area
Matthew Pilkington - Gauteng Area
Andromachi Valassopoulos - Gauteng Area
Pavlo Theodorou - Gauteng Area
Stephen John Ovens - Cape Eastern
Gina Michelle Skinner - Gauteng Area
Gregory Dow - Gauteng Area
Juan Martin - Cape Western Area
Nicole Meyer - Cape Western Area
Andrew van den Honert - Cape Western
Tarryn- Kim Rudnick - Cape Western



Kyle Niddrie - Cape Western Area
Jon Laing - Cape Western Area
James Gaag - Cape Western Area
Peter Jones - Cape Western Area
Kerry-Ann Little - Cape Western Area
Tyron Tobler - Gauteng Area
Mandy Johnson - Gauteng Area
Gary Khan - Gauteng Area
Kyle Thorns - Gauteng Area
Andrew Marsh - Gauteng Area
Bronwyn Gopper - Gauteng Area
Amy Harworth - Cape Western Area
Wilko Tillwick - Gauteng Area



DUTY TO GOD

Nothing Is Created For Nothing. Baden-Powell enshrined in the Scout Law the idea that a Scout is a friend to animals. As one's thoughts mature, one begins to realise, that this friendship should in fact be extended to all living things. A very wise spiritual teacher has summed it up in these words. "From the tiniest micro-organism to the largest animal, from the smallest seed to the biggest tree, all living things are created for a purpose. Nothing is created for nothing. All nature is designed to work in harmony and man must work very, very closely with Nature if he is to survive in this wonderful country, on this beautiful planet. To love God is to love and serve his creations, understanding the profound Truth that all Nature is designed to work in harmony. Modern man's mindless destruction of his environment heralds the destruction of man himself."

Meditate on these other words of wisdom: "Every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer." 1. *Timothy IV. 4,5* "It is said that no animal can enter into God our Lord;" what then are the four* who. Around about Him? *Angelus Silesius* (*see *Revelation. IV. 6*) "And there is not an animal in the earth, nor a creature flying on two wings, but they are people like unto you. We have neglected nothing in the Book (of our decrees)." "Then unto their Lord they will be gathered." *Qur'an, VI. 38*. "We have to take the whole universe as the expression of the one Self. Then only our love flows to all creatures in the world equally." *Swami Ramdas. This piece appeared in Veld Lore 1978*. Vic Clapham, a man of Nature, was very aware, all that time ago, what man was doing to his only place of safety; planet earth.

Every child has inside him an aching void for excitement, and if we don't fill it with something, which is exciting and interesting and good for him, he will fill it with something which is exciting and interesting and which isn't good for him.
THEODORE ROOSEVELT

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

MEET PROFESSOR WANGARI MAATHAI



If you are concerned about "Climate Change on Africa", "Aids", "Animal and Wildlife Conservation", "African Culture", "Democracy and Civil Society", "Development", "Environmentalism" and other crucial matters you must get to know Wangari Maathai Wangari, born in Nyeri, Kenya the daughter of farmers in the highlands of Mount Kenya, a year or so before the death and burial of Baden Powell in that very region of Kenya. She was the first woman in Central and Eastern Africa to obtain a degree in Biological Sciences and later earned a Master of Science Degree in 1966. She obtained her Ph.D. at Nairobi University, where she taught veterinary anatomy and became chair of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy and an associate professor in 1976. In the 1980's Professor Maathai, as chairman of National Council of Women of Kenya introduced her concept of tree-planting to ordinary citizens. This developed into "The Green Belt Movement" in Kenya where more than 30 million trees have been planted in every corner of the country to improve the quality of women's lives. This movement has now spread to many other African Countries.

In 2004 Professor Wangari Maathai was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. To discover the many other remarkable achievements of Wangari, look at <http://www.greenbeltmovement.org/w.phb?id=3>

BAY TO BAY CHALLENGE

Scouting Cape Eastern Area challenge all Scouts (and Cubs) to walk the 100 km from Jeffreys Bay to Algoa Bay (finish in the EP Rugby Grounds, Comrades style.) Find sponsors for the kilometres you walk and support worthwhile Charities. You can go for the 100 km or decide the distance you will be able to make and complete that. Cubs will walk the last 10 km to the finish. Dates: 21/22 September 2007 The walk will coincide with a 100km Ultra Run for Professional athletes and a Relay for teams of amateurs. See www.baytobaychallenge.co.za for full details.



21st World Scout Jamboree



THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONTINGENT

The South African Jamboree Contingent has been finalised, members allocated to four troops UMFOLOZI with four patrols, Lions, Cheetahs, Leopards, Wolves. PONGOLA - with patrols Cobras, Crocodiles, Puff-Adders, Pythons. TUGELA - Eagles, Kestrels, Owls, Crows. And UMGENI - Giraffes, Gemsbok, Zebras, Rhinos. The Jamboree Contingent has their Web Site www.scouting.org.za/jamboree up and running and any Scout, back here in South Africa can join in and keep abreast of what the Contingent will be doing when they are away on this beautiful compiled site.

Young Correspondents One aspect, I see, will be that three Scouts from each Troop will be accredited as correspondents to reporting the goings on of their Troop during the Jamboree. They will be able to learn how to use and have the use of all the equipment in the Young Correspondents Zone in the Jamboree Media Centre.

50th JOTA - 11th JOTI

The 50th Jamboree On The Air (Golden Jubilee) and 11th Jamboree On The Internet will be held over the weekend of 19/20 and 21 October 2007. Circular 17/2007 has been sent out and includes extensive and detailed information about the event and how you can take part. You can download at http://www.scout.org/circulars2007/circular_n_17_april_2007 Additional information is also available at www.joti.org. As part of our Centenary year JOTI/JOTI presents an even bigger occasion to JOIN-IN with fellow Scouts all over the world through Ham Radio and the Internet.



BATTERED BOOT NIGHT HIKE

Kimberley District invites all Scouts to participate in their annual Nite Hike which takes place 25/26 August 2007, starting at the Cassandra Country Club, Kimberly not later than 11am on the Saturday. Only standing patrols may compete for the "Battered Boot Trophy" Composite Patrols may enter for the experience.

For full details contact brenda.orton@inl.co.za or phone 053-8420115



P/L Scott Elliot, with the Owl Patrol - Winners of the 2006 Nite Hike.



AN OPPORTUNITY IN SCOUTING!

In the lifetime of a Scout we really have only one opportunity to attend an International or National Jamboree. Those chosen to attend the 21st World Jamboree in the United Kingdom will always be able to say "I attended the World Jamboree in 2007!" as those who attended the 1957 Jamboree can say, "I was there with the thousands of brother Scouts from all over the world at the Jim Jam!"

This year, 2007 is a special year. Not only is it the 100th year of Scouting's existence but an opportunity for all Scouts to attend a Jamboree to be held very near their home town.

I was privileged, not as a Scout, but as an Adult Leader, to attend the 13th World Jamboree held on the slopes of Mount Fuji in Japan, and the 14th World Jamboree in Lillhammer, Norway. Not only did I make many, many Scouting friends from every part of the world, but have everlasting memories of the experiences. Meeting Neil Armstrong, the astronaut and first man on the moon, at a "Koeksuster & Coffee" party at the tailend of a typhoon which came through and almost flattened our camp site in Japan. Kayaking on the beautiful rivers of Norway. Being included in the thousands that formed the human hand "Five Fingers One Hand" unity, the logo of the 14th World Jamboree.

Those who were Boy Scouts of those days are now mature men of business, making a contribution to the welfare of our country.

THE FIRST SCOUT TROOPS REGISTERED IN SOUTH AFRICA

I am asked, from time to time, which are the oldest Troops in South Africa? With our Centenary year on hand, many Troops are making a big occasion of their founding anniversaries. I am aware of a number of Troops registered in Port Elizabeth in 1909 the earliest date that Divisions and Districts were in existence and some "authority" was in place in this area. Some of these Troops were formed earlier than that and did their "thing" as "B-P" advised in his writings which reached South Africa on the "Mail Boat" as early as 1907. In this city I have seen records on the registration of **1st Princes Street Methodist Troop**, **1st Grey Institute Troop** (both extinct) 1909 and **1st Graaff-Reinet Troop** in 1911 (still going strong in the middle of the Karoo). Many Troops sprang up in those early years all around the country. If you have information of the founding of your Troop in those years, please email or write me with details to publish in the next edition.

1st Green & Sea Point Scout Group an edited report on their history maintained by Kevin Wall. Late in 1907, a series of articles on outdoor adventure and service to the community began to appear in a boys' magazine published in Britain. It would have been enough that these articles were written by General Robert Baden-Powell, a hero of the war in South Africa that had ended only five years before but how they grabbed the imagination! Enthused by the ideas put forward by "B-P", groups of boys began to join together and take part in this great new activity called "Scouting". As soon as the magazines began to arrive in South Africa, boys here, too, read them. In Sea Point, teenagers Norman Hill and E Douglas-Clark gathered a few of their friends to go out to do the things "B-P" had suggested. Quick off the mark as they were, however, they weren't the first in South Africa this honour belongs to the

teenagers that started what became **1st Observatory**, **1st Claremont**, and some other Troops. We don't know exactly when this took place, but we had been active for several months before our February 1909 official registration by the newly-constituted South African headquarters as the **1st Sea Point Division**.

Look at the following Web sites:

1st Claremont

www.scouting.org.za/groups/1stclaremont

2nd Rondebosch

<http://infolist.co.za/2ndRondeboschScouts/>

1st Muizenberg

<http://www.scouts.entry.co.za>

It seems that those in Cape Town had a jump start on the rest of the country as the "Mail Boat" reached that city, first, with "B-P's" writings, then P.E. East London and Durban. When did they reach the hinterland?

SASA hailed for its Climate Change Programme

South Africa The Greening the Future initiative is impressed by South Africa Scouts Association(SASA)'s project on climate change. SASA's programme aims to encourage the youth to become « change agents for climate change education and action .»

Through the project which is managed by Milly Siebrits, the youth undertake activities that help them understand the cause and effects of climate change and hence take necessary action. According to the Mail&Guardian (June 8 to 14, 2007), the project is the first to be developed by a Scout Association in a developing country. The first phase of the project was completed in March 2005 and involved more than 700 youths throughout South Africa. It also included 3600 underprivileged rural youngsters involved in an outreach programme managed by Scout Centre for Excellence in Nature and Environment (SCENE) in North West Province. SCENE won a Greening the Future Award in 2004 for excellence in environmental education. At a Scout workshop held in Namibia last year, several other African countries adopted the South African climate change model and Namibia is implementing it. At the World Scout Conference in Tunisia in September 2005, it was hailed as a best practice model for all NSOs.

FOOD FOR LIFE

The South African Scout Association with financial assistance from the Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society has been able to roll-out the Food for Life programme. The programme will teach Cubs and Scouts agricultural, nutrition and entrepreneurial skills by making individual food gardens.

EFATA SCHOOL OF THE DEAF CUB PACK UMTHATA



Kneeling: Akela and Commissioner Patience Vili with her Cubs. Standing third from the left, Regional Commissioner Vido Gibson with the Scouts and Scouters of the Group.

It is a three-stage development programme: **Starter** for Cubs and Scouts, **Silver** for Scouts and **Gold** for Scouts. There is a comprehensive **Adult Leader Hand Book**. Workshops have been held in North West, Mpumalanga, Western Cape and Eastern Cape. The adults attending these workshops receive the Adult Manual, which contains all three stages, with detailed information on the programme. Contact **Milly Siebrits** at SAHQ on further Workshops and information.



Contributions can be:

Posted to: The Editor, P.O. Box 1733, Port Elizabeth 6000
Faxed to: 041 585 8513 - Email to: scout2007@iafrica.com
Editor: Colin Stretton - Tel: 041 585 1147

