

Scouting About

News from the South African Scout Association.

www.scouting.org.za



SCOUTS
South Africa

Member of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement

0860SCOUTS

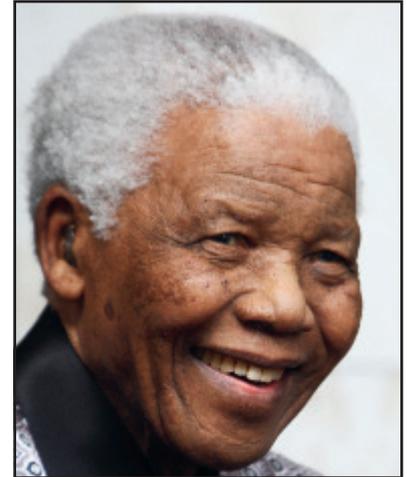
Winter 2012

TAKE ACTION! INSPIRE CHANGE ON MANDELA DAY

On the 18th of July Scout patron and former President, Nelson Mandela, is turning 93 years old. His foundation is calling for people to devote 67 minutes of

their time to help others, as a way to mark this special day.

As Scouts we are all Messengers of Peace so, let us all take action and inspire



Be Prepared ... South Africa ... This is Scouting!

Since the beginning of the year a new wind has been blowing through the ranks of the Scouting family. You have welcomed new members, brought forward new ideas, have initiated new programmes and have developed a new look for the SCOUTS South Africa brand.

My name is Natasha Kayle. Since the 1st of June I've been appointed as the part-time Public Relations Officer for SCOUTS South Africa. I've been working in the media industry for years in a variety of countries, but recently I moved back



home to South Africa. My role is to help with the final development and implementation of a marketing strategy and with the production of materials that can be used to market and promote Scouting nation-wide.

Personally, I can't wait to talk about the exciting and innovative projects Scouts get involved in. Together with a creative and dedicated marketing team we hope to produce new marketing materials that

can be used to celebrate the good work you do! It includes the production of new promotional booklets, posters, stickers, presentations and competitions. We also aim to make use of new technologies and innovative ideas to communicate with and about Scouts all over the country.

In order for me to be able to provide the best service I can, I'm humbly asking for your support and input. If you have projects you would like to promote, if you have success stories that need to be shared and if you have ideas you would like

to bring forward, just send me an email. My email address is PR@scouting.org.za or you can reach me on 0860 SCOUTS.

I'm very honoured to be part of such a vibrant Movement with a strong heritage and dedicated volunteers. I'm ready and prepared to be inspired and to provide others with the information they need to join our Scouting family and get involved, excited and empowered!

By Natasha Kayle

change on Nelson Mandela Day by helping out a local school. Let's find out what we can do to be of service. Perhaps it's repainting a classroom, planting a food garden, fixing a gate and tidying up the playground. You could also consider helping with afterschool classes or being creative with children and read, draw and play together. There are so many things we can do to support schools in our areas.

According to our SCOUTS Patron "Scouting inspires patriotism, sound moral values, courage, character-building, self-reliance and community awareness. It also motivates our young people to achieve their full potential."

Let's be a friend to all, promote education and lead by example on Nelson Mandela Day or the weekend prior (Saturday 14th July) or after (Saturday 18th July)! Let's take action and inspire change!

When your troop does participate on Nelson Mandela Day, please let Natasha (PR) know. Send her a photograph and a short story on what it is you did to help a school near you! pr@scouting.org.za

0860 SCOUTS - SAVE THE NUMBER - 0860 SCOUTS

Don't you just hate it when.... you need a number but can't remember it?
you need information and don't know where to go?

Save the **SCOUTS South Africa** information number now and always be prepared ...

0860 SCOUTS!

be prepared....

"A DECADE OF SCOUTING ABOUT"

For ten years Colin Stretton has been informing Scout leaders all over the country about the events, successes and initiatives of the movement. In September 2002 the first edition of Scouting About saw the light. Now, a decade later, he is still going strong and couldn't be prouder to be a part of the Scouting family.

"I was putting out "Outtray", our Area information sheet. Then one day I got a call from Luke van der Laan, Scouting's CEO at the time. In his persuasive manner he soon had me convinced that the continuation of Scouting About would be important for the growth of Scouting nationally", explains Colin.

"Over all these years I have seen the dynamics of the Scout Law and Promise and how it's been able to influence so many young men's lives for the better. So many of my "old boys" have gone on to be leaders in our community and in other parts of the world. Over the past twelve years even girls have joined the ranks."

Colin himself has been involved in the Scouting Movement for more than 64 years! "I stumbled into the old wood and iron Sea Scout Den in April 1948. A 'gang' of us were going to bust up the show - I enjoyed it so much that I was Invested on 1st May of that year", reminisces Colin.

Over the years Colin has been very active in the Scouting Movement, he participated and grew in his Group, he attended international jamborees in Japan, Norway and recently he joined the centenary Jamboree in England as a visitor. For twenty years he was Adult Leader Trainer in the Eastern Cape Area. At this time, he explains, he is Akela of a lively cub pack while he looks out for a willing replacement. In 2010 Colin received the 60 year bar to the long service award. Sixty years of being his best, of being prepared and of service to God, others and himself. In 2004 he was awarded with the Order of the Silver Springbok.

In true Scouting tradition, Colin's son Michael, also joined the movement. "My son Michael is a former Springbok and Chief Scout Award Scout and now my partner in my printing business. He has been instrumental in getting the newsletter designed and formatted to be posted on the SCOUTS South Africa website. I suppose, my highlight over the years was to see my first effort appearing on the SCOUTS South Africa website in all its glory. It's still there, together with all the other editions. I have been contacted by Scout folk from all over the world, besides South Africans, even past Scouts commenting on certain matters", he explains.

A HEART OF SERVICE

When we asked him whether there have been any challenges he humbly replied "Challenges? What challenges? I suppose if you do what you love doing and you have the God given ability, and health to get it done, it will be done. The only challenge I could mention is the apparent lack of interest on the part of some people, who have their own publications and feel that's sufficient".

"What has motivated me in this task, are a number of men of the movement that devoted so much to Communication. When I was a Troop Scouter, Vic Clapham gave me so much material to use. Ron Nicol and Viv Kendal, both of my area, kept communicating until the day they died. I do want to add that over the years first Luke van der Laan and now Milly Siebrits our CEOs, have always been supportive".

So after 64 years of scouting and ten years of publishing Scouting About, Colin summarises his experience as "It's been FUN!"

We would like to thank him for all the years he has been inspiring and guiding Scouters to be the best they can be.

DUTY TO GOD



Inscribed on a surround of President J.F. Kennedy's grave in Arlington cemetery, Virginia, overlooking the massive memorial to President Abraham Lincoln, one of the great leaders of the United States, in the distance - *"With a good conscience our only sure reward, with history the final judge of our deeds; go forth to lead the land we love – asking His blessing and His help – but knowing that here on earth God's work must truly be our own."*

We may not be leading our land, but what we do well, will lead others to a better life with prospects and meaning.

CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOK SCOUTS



Carig Evans – Western Cape
Ulrich Vogeli – Western Cape
Andrew Forte – Western Cape
Jodie Layman – Western Cape
Kathryn Peart – Western Cape
Reuben Kade – Western Cape
Gravin Phyfer – Kwa-Zulu Natal
Kyle Mills – Kwa-Zulu Natal
Murray Brown – Kwa-Zulu Natal
Richard Matthias – Kwa-Zulu Natal
James Moore – Eastern Cape



B-P SAID:

"Our standard for badge earning – as I have frequently said – is not the attainment of a certain level of quality of work (as in the school), but the amount of effort exercised by the individual candidate. This brings the most hopeless case on to the same footing of equal possibility with his more brilliant or better off brother."

"We want to get them ALL along through cheery self-development from within and not through the imposition of formal instruction from without."

SWITCHED ON PEOPLE

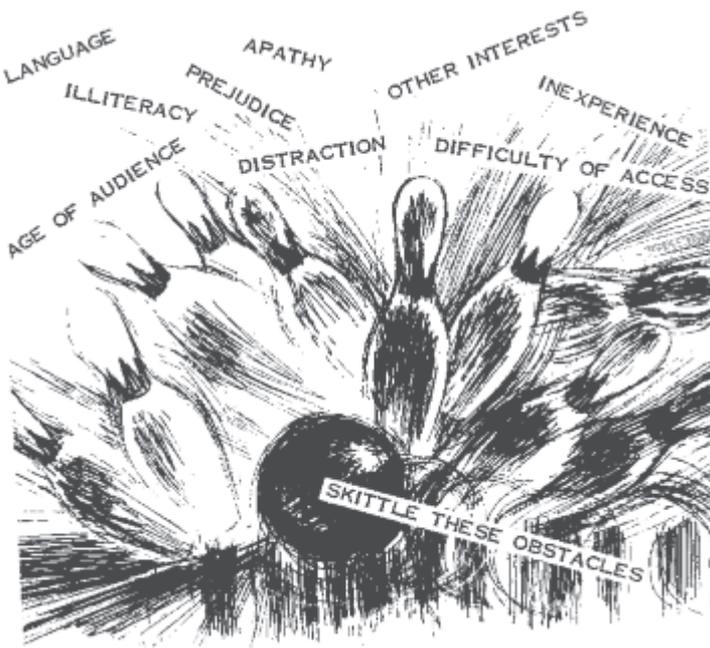
What do you do if you don't want to listen to a radio or television programme? You switch it off. People are sometimes like that, when you are communicating with them. Mentally, for one reason or another, they "switch you off". They "turn a deaf ear" to what you are saying. They "shut their eyes" to 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 South Africa, as we know, is starting anew, and whether the PR lady and 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 everyone - 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.

ISENGARD TOWER

Gauteng Scouts, Scouters and Rovers work together to build the Isengard Tower at Outdoor Expo.

After many weeks of planning, building a model and then 4 days of building, Scouts, Scouters and Rovers from throughout Gauteng have constructed a massive pioneering tower at the Outdoor Expo in Midrand from Friday 8 to Sunday 10 June 2012. The project enabled Scouts, Scouters and Rovers from many groups and Districts to work together for the benefit of Scouting. The project demonstrated that Scouting develops leadership, planning and successful execution.



INTERNATIONAL SCOUTING EVENTS

2012 – 2019

World Scouting is truly "Prepared" if you look at this comprehensive list. Twice a year the list is updated and anyone interested to attend a Scouting event in a particular part of the world can contact SAHQ and they can give you an event, it's dates and how to search for the particulars.

You might like to attend the First International Jamboree in Mongolia – July 27 – August 3 2012, or the 2012 Baden-Powell Scout Peak Climb – Nepal, 12 days in September. More seriously, there are six International County Jamborees or Activities in Great Britain between now, the Diamond Jubilee Camp, and Campdown, August 2013. For Woodbadge holders there is always the awesome Gilwell Reunion at Gilwell, the home of Scouting, 7 – 9 September 2012 or even September 2013, when 2000 like-minded Scouting folk gather for a memorable three days.
<http://www.scouts.org.uk/reunion>

Scouting South Africa's – 20th Senior Scout Adventure, December 2012, is listed for 400 Scouts 15 to 17 year olds. The description of activities is what every Scout longs for.
<http://www.scouting.org.za/adventure>

There are Activities listed from A – Algeria to W - Worldwide events. Among them are the 23rd World Scout Jamboree – Japan – July/August 2015, <http://www.23wsj.jp> and the 24th World Scout Jamboree – New River Gorge, W Virginia, United States – July 2019. Don't say you did not have time to prepare to attend these events as part of a South African Contingent.

Please be advised that any Scout or adult, being a member of Scouting South Africa, must have a recommendation from his or her Provincial Commissioner before they apply to SAHQ for permission to represent the Movement at an International Scouting event.

Annual challenge

2012

The Power of Solar

Each year Cubs, Scouts and Rovers are challenged to participate in the Annual Challenge. This year, the theme is "THE POWER OF SOLAR". All three branches (Cubs, Scouts and Rovers) will take part in a fun challenge programme related to this theme.



With Climate Change being the main topic of discussion these days, and being challenged by our Founder, Robert Baden-Powell, in his last message, "to leave this place a little better than we found it", this is a good way to test our members.

JAPANESE SCOUTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH THEIR PREPAREDNESS IN TIMES OF NATURAL DISASTERS

Scouts' timely response during emergencies is a call of service, as they are known to help during unfortunate events especially when disaster strikes. We have seen this significant trait of Scouts in Japan when a major earthquake and tsunami struck north-eastern Japan in March last year. The tsunami caused massive loss of lives and properties in Tohoku, Hokkaido and Kanto regions. The Fukushima nuclear power plant was hit by the tsunami, and all the power supplies were unusable. As a result, the nuclear reactor went out of control and a vast amount of radioactive materials was emitted causing people living around the power plant to be evacuated from their homes.

I have a magnificent poster print on my wall: It pictures a surfer approaching a massive 10 meter wave swell, with the breaking wave to his right with the wind whipping white spume off the top. Printed on it - "**Face your fears. Live your dreams.**" It is issued by a commercial firm as an advertisement, but reminds me, every day, of how red blooded Scouts should live.

SCOUTING PORT ELIZABETH INVITED TO BUILD TEN OBSTACLES FOR THE URBAN RUN - 2012

Last September Port Elizabeth Scouts built four obstacles for over 1200 participants in the very first URBAN RUN – 10.5 km through the heart of the city. Two bridges across the Baakens River in the picturesque Settlers Valley Reserve, a scrambling net up the side of the historic Fort Frederick, and a massive water slide into the same valley. These obstacles can be viewed on www.urbanrun.co.za

For the second event, 16 September 2012, the organizers, who were so impressed with last year's effort, have asked the Scouts to construct ten Scoutcraft obstacles this year, all testing their Scouting skills, making them showcase what they have learned back in the hall, thus making their effort a service to the city in which they live.

Last year's event was televised nationally, as will this year's bigger and better event.



The Floating Steps obstacle will be made of plastic cool drink bottles tied together to make a floating platform or steps for the Urban Run participants to balance their way across.

This Campaign has already appeared in the local press.

Contributions can be:

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Faxed to: 041 585 8513

Email to: scout101@marinelitho.co.za

Editor: Colin Stretton - Tel: 041 585 1147

be prepared....