

Scouting About

News from the South African Scout Association.

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SCOUTS
South Africa

Member of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement

0860SCOUTS

THE CHIEF'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE

As we enter into a year of transformation and change, let's reflect on the year behind us so we are able to look forward with great anticipation, secure in the knowledge that we as members of SCOUTS South Africa can do anything to which we set our minds.

2012 was a year of adventure, excitement, victory and growth. We learnt through our activities and camps, through our competitions and events and experienced how good it feels to overcome challenges by learning through doing. Every day we expanded our horizons, enhanced our skills and knowledge and helped children and young people develop into creative, confident and independent individuals.

However, 2012 was also a year of preparation, of dialogue and compromise. We planned and developed the way forward for a new SCOUTS South Africa, based on the same principles and laws as developed by Lord Baden Powell in 1907. Project Revlt took form and is ready to be implemented in order for Scouting in South Africa to grow even stronger in the next decennia to come.

This year - like every other - will bring obstacles and opportunities. Each day brings new challenges and each day Cubs, Scouts, Rovers, Leaders, Parents and all Scouting volunteers meet these challenges with grit and zeal and thus overcome them with ease. Our Movement is one of imagination, determination, resourcefulness and creativity. The skills and knowledge acquired are our tools against adversity. Each challenge brings us as pack, troop or crew closer together and each accomplishment makes us as individuals and as a Movement stronger.

As we introduce the new Revlt structures, new organisational procedures and policies and new programmes, we can feel secure in knowing that our essence, our Principles and Laws as defined by Baden Powell remain untouched. Even though we have new promotional materials and an additional range of branded clothing, the uniform remains untouched. And even though our programmes are adapted and updated to

the societal needs of our children and youths today, the fun and adventurous character remains in fact untouched.

All change comes with a level of uncertainty and a healthy portion of scepticism. It's important to stay focussed on our vision to help build a better world where people are self-fulfilled as individuals and to play a constructive role in society. It is comforting to remember that with renovation and change also comes growth and new opportunities that can lead to SCOUTS South African to strengthen its position on the civil society platform and to reclaim its place as the leading youth organisation in the country. Additionally by enhancing our profile and adapting our structures and programmes to address current societal needs, we can also ensure our sustainability, not only on a financial level, but also a humane one.

As we begin the new year, let's step forward in faith and look upon Revlt and the new direction we are taking as one that will help us to create a better world and let's be confident that together as a Movement we are ready to continue to do good turns, to be prepared, to be of service and to get involved, be excited and empower children and young adults to be the best they can be.

Rev. Vukile Mehana



Summer 2012/2013

CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOK SCOUTS



Elizabeth Smith – Eastern Cape
Adam Botes – KwaZulu Natal
Anna Talbot – KwaZulu Natal
Andrew Penberthy – KwaZulu Natal
Jason Smuts – KwaZulu Natal
Tara Naeser – Western Cape
Jason Raad – Western Cape
Ashley Clutten – Western Cape
Sean Farnham – Western Cape
Bryan Cloete – Western Cape
Martin Page – Western Cape
Jason van Basten – Gauteng
Calum Burton – Gauteng
Ryan McCallum – Gauteng
Andia Mansoor – Gauteng
Laura Martinus – Gauteng
Andrew Halstead – Gauteng
Sydney-Rae Kokott – Gauteng
Tyron Borralho – Gauteng

SA SCOUTS CAMP LIVE ON NATIONAL TV

On Wednesday the 12th of December 28 Scouts from all over the Western Cape participated live on the popular South African youth television programme Hectic Nine 9 on SABC 2. *(continued on page 3)*

be prepared....

DUTY TO GOD



At the start and close of every Cub or Scout meeting or activity we say a prayer. Do we do it well? How much thought goes into that prayer beforehand or is it just bounced onto some poor unsuspecting kid standing there anticipating the inspection? Something is mumbled that only those closest to he or she can hear and that's the prayer done with. Let's get on with the rest of the programme!

I know that God hears even my silent bed-time prayer, but I think that He deserves a bit more respect at our Troop and Pack activities. Let us build up a prayer book of suitable prayers for various occasions, then, give that unsuspecting kid a slip of paper beforehand, to read your appropriate prayer with meaning, in a voice that you have trained to read in public.

Just recently, I attended a Scouts Own presented by a Scout preparing for his Springbok Award in front of over a hundred persons. Sitting only about a third of the way back from the main speaker, I was only able to hear half of what he was saying. He fidgeted around, looking this way and that, wringing his hands together, which was most distracting. That he was nervous can be expected, but with training in public speaking his superb content could have been enjoyed by all. We don't need professionals for this training, we can do it ourselves by expecting each and every one of our Cubs or Scouts to enunciate well when they pray, and then use the language they feel most comfortable in.

It's wonderful to think that God can understand every language spoken in South Africa.

To start off, I recently came across some beautiful Sea Scout Prayers; go to <http://europe.seascout.org/resources/prayer.html> and have a look. Scouting worldwide have many web pages with good Scout prayers, It just needs some time to look around. Or if you have the ability, write your own down in a note book.

In this edition I have included what B-P expected a Scouts Own to be.

CEDERBERG 2012

Lying under a star filled sky, friends on your right and friends on your left. Escaping the heat of a summer's day by swimming in a crystal cold pool. Drinking from mountain streams and the cold cool drink at the end of the day. Standing on the highest peak and having the breath knocked out of you at the beauty and splendour of one of the most beautiful places on earth. This is the Cederberg Senior Scout Adventure

The Senior Scout Adventure is one of the most incredible experiences that a Scout can ever attend. It is the highlight of many a Scout's career. Hiking in one of the most amazing places on earth, sweltering heat but to achieve a fantastic goal. Waking up at 4 in the morning may sound like a far stretch but you come to appreciate the beautiful sunrise with breakfast on the rocks. Encouraging your friends to just climb that one more hill, just so that you can swim in that pool that all your mates back home told you about.

Arriving at Headquarters you are immediately impressed by the setup provided for you. Comfortable area, friendly staff and a great place to kick back and relax before the real hiking begins! The hiking is tough, no doubt about it, but it is all worth it to get to the bases and do something you enjoy, learn a new skill or just kick back and relax. Bases to look out for include Pizza, Dutch Oven, Marksmanship and Diving. The hiking is strenuous and will challenge you and your patrol but everyone loves a little competition (the mountains provide plenty of that!). Hiking on top of the mountains and in the valleys is one of the most awesome sights anyone can experience. Trail camping is one of the biggest highlights of the



Adventure, just you and your patrol in the open nothingness, talking nonsense and having loud debates whilst supper preparation whistles in the background.

This is the place where you gain a new energy for Scouting, a passion for the outdoors and friends that will last you a lifetime. Is this what Scouting is about? So when you are considering a quiet holiday on the beach, just think, what new experiences could I be gaining, who will I meet, what am I doing here!?! Your friends aren't going to ask about your lazy days doing nothing. Get up, get out there... Cederberg Senior Scout Adventure.

P/L Michael Vosloo

B-P's OUTLOOK

Some ideas on Scouts' Owns

For an open Troop, or for Troops in Camp, I think the Scouts' Own should be open to all denominations, and carried out in such a manner as to offend none. There should not be any special form, but it should abound in the right spirit, and should be conducted not from any ecclesiastical point of view, but from that of a Scout. Everything likely to make an artificial atmosphere should be avoided. We do not want a kind of imposed Church Parade, but a voluntary uplifting of their hearts by the Scouts in thanksgiving for the joys of life, and a desire on their part to seek inspiration and strength for greater love and service for others.

A Scouts' Own should have as big an effect on the young people as any service in Church, if in conducting the Scouts' Own we remember that Scouts are not grown men and women, and if we go by the pace of the

youngest and most uneducated of those present. Boredom is not reverence, nor will it breed religion.

To interest the youngsters, the Scouts' Own must be a cheery and varied function. Short hymns (three verses are as a rule quite enough – never more than four); understandable prayers; a good address from an adult who really understands the youth (a homely "talk" rather than an address), which grips the Scouts, and in which they may laugh or applaud as the spirit moves them, so that they take a real interest in what is said. If that person cannot make his point to keen young people in ten minutes he or she ought to be shot! If he or she has not got them keen, it would be better not to hold a Scouts' Own at all.

November 1928

1ST BERGVLIET SEA SCOUTS WIN HALL MAKEOVER COMPETITION!

SCOUTS South Africa was looking for the best Scout hall makeover in the country. The group that showed originality, creativity and the best usage of the SCOUTS South Africa brand and who Exco identified as the winner is 1st Bergvliet Sea Scouts!

The Group have a property that was built in 1960 and that is owned by SSA. We spoke to Adrian Velaers, Troop Scouter for 1st Bergvliet Sea Scouts about their make-over journey. "We raised funds and volunteers invested a lot of their time in renovating our hall," explains Adrian. "One of our Springbok Scouts, Lee Croeser, built a permanent stilt tower construction at the entrance of the grounds. Additionally, the hall was extended, a new entrance and a foyer were built, the old kitchen became a new Cub Den and a new fully equipped kitchen was installed."

"We try to keep our hall clean and accessible to our members. If we keep our premises in a good condition it reflects a positive image for Scouting in general. People form an image of Scouting through our activities and through the way we present ourselves. We decided to



include the new branding in a prominent place to assist in getting our name out there and it's important to realise that in fact our Hall is part of our Scouting identity" says Adrian with pride.

DPSG FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY BASED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

All over the world Scouts are "Creating a Better World" by doing remarkable work in the communities in which they live. As Scouts, we are helping to alleviate a number of important social issues ranging from feeding the hungry to creating solutions to environmental issues, through the service projects we do.

As a result of the partnership we had with the Climate Change Challenge 2011, SCOUTS South Africa received funding from one of the German Scout Associations, DPSG, to provide financial support to Members that

want to initiate service projects within their communities.

Provinces/Regions, Districts and/or Groups can apply for funding for specific projects by filling in an application form that includes a description of your project, the timing and a detailed budget. Groups that twin will be favoured. A project committee will adjudicate the proposals. Those that are selected to receive funding will receive 50% up front and will be required to send in a detailed report, photographs and the invoices/receipts for the funds spent on

completion of the project, after which they will receive the balance of the funding.

The funding available is: Group: Max R 2,000; District: Max R 4,000; and Province/Region: Max R 10,000.

For more information or to apply for DPSG funding: email info@scouting.org.za or fax SCOUTS SA HQ to get the APPLICATION FORM.

APPLICATION DEADLINE is Sunday 6th February 2013.

NEW NATIONALLY STANDARD MEMBERSHIP AND CONSENT FORMS

New, Nationally standard and up to date Membership and Consent forms are available for download. Legal opinion has been obtained and the revised forms available in the SCOUTS South Africa library

web pages, or visit your Provincial headquarters for a printout to have a supply you can have copied. These forms are to be used immediately, to safeguard our members on their journey through Scouting.

SA SCOUTS CAMP LIVE ON NATIONAL TELEVISION

(Continued from page 1)

With the support of Scouter Brendan Dale, the young Scouts showed off their skills by swinging into the studio on a rope, setting up a tent live on air, cooking an apple crumble in an improvised oven and teaching the presenters how to purify water from a river. The presenters also chatted to our members about what makes Scouting so exciting, what goes into a hiking backpack and what to do if you come across a snake during a hike! We have a good relationship with his awesome youth programme with an estimated audience of 2.5 million people nationwide. We are looking forward to the next live show where we can showcase the adventurous spirit of Scouting combined with a message on being prepared...

A LETTER TO SEA SCOUTERS ON NAVIGATION

Good day!

I was informed of this new publication which I think Scouts, but particularly older Scouts may find interesting. Scouters as well will hopefully enhance their feeling of worth by understanding that doing what we do in Seascouting can have significant relevance in a Scout's future life.

The publication on Navigation puts into a long term perspective why the training we give them can be of significant use if they chose a career at sea, or just being a watchkeeper on a yacht which is voyaging in commercial waters. This is why we teach rule of the road, basic navigation and safety. This is where such basic foundation knowledge becomes invaluable.

I feel that this information is of importance to all Seascouts in the country, so if you concur, it would be great if you could pass this down the line to your Troop Scouters and ask them to please print out these pages for their notice boards and perhaps discuss with their Scouts why they can, if they so wish, make great use of the knowledge and experience they gain with us.

<http://bit.ly/Prppzo>

Regards Alan Forde

ADVENTURE FILLED ROVER MOOT IN KZN

From the 11th till the 13th of October the SIGMA Crew hosted a Rover Moot at Lexden. The Moot was attended by 13 crews from all over South Africa with a total of 48 Rovers. Lexden has not held a Rover Activity since 1955, which made it an exceptional historic event for this campsite.

The Moot started with uniting all participants around a beautiful campfire. The campfire leader was Cameron who got the crews together to produce either a song or a skit. All the Rovers present learnt some new songs!

Saturday was off to a good start with a ray of sunshine. The official opening was conducted in uniform on the parade ground. The two guest speakers filled up the morning with Pat McKrill sharing life lessons using his snakes and Dudley Forde sharing his leadership knowledge. Both sessions were very well received by the participants. After lunch it was off to combat in the paint ball arena after which some creative quiet time was introduced. The artistic exercise promoted self reflection and creativity flared thanks to Amy Topper who organised the art supplies. Later in the day an open discussion was held on programmes, encouraging the new badge system and ways to incorporate it. The day ended with a scavenger hunt, organised by Chad Smith, which lead to running around, picture taking, inventive word plays and some sceptical caricatures of Moot Chief Carmen. Prizes were won by all so the delicious sweet treats definitely increased sugar levels.

On Sunday Scouts Own continued and sustained the theme of service with Baden Powel based readings. The last two sessions lead by Gerard Evans focused on the service to the movement with the Rover trail subcommittee being envisioned and the action plan being



formed. The closing ceremony was a short one to thank everyone for attending and their efforts in participating. A special thanks to the team Grant Vernon, Cameron Belling, Chad Smith, Joseph Brickhill, Adam Botas and Mathew Thyse for all their hard work, to the grounds keepers Monti and his wife for helping set up camp and to Lynton Cloete, Gravin Phyfer and Gerard Evans for their help with the "nitty gritty" paper work.

It was great to see how a movement can unite people from all over the country and to see their excitement and passion for Scouting! The challenge has been set for the 2014 Rover Moot – let's wait and see who will take up the challenge to host it.

By Carmen Jearey – Moot Chief 2012.

For more information: carmen@sigmaholdings.org

DPSG SUPPORTING "TREES FOR LIFE" IN MPUMALANGA

A Group led by Bheki Sithole, formed of Cubs and Scouts based in the Nkomazi District, in Mpumalanga embarked on a community project named "Trees for life". They planted 100 trees at 12 schools in their mission to establish a greener environment. The project was funded by the DPSG project funding (see how you can apply in article alongside).

In a bid to raise awareness amongst Cubs and Scouts about global warming and climate change, they only planted indigenous plants. The Group partnered with the Nelspruit SANBI Botanical Garden, the Nkomazi local Municipality, Mahushe-Shongwe-Game-Reserve and the Kruger National park. They informed the Municipality and local NGOs about their project to promote values of scouting. To get donation for the trees the Group held a workshop with the local Municipality about the project. With the help of eight volunteers the Group distributed trees to 12 schools across Mpumalanga.

The first tree was planted at Roman Catholic Church in Kamhlushwa. While working on the project the Cubs and Scouts learnt skills which they can also use at home such as the importance of trees, how to plant them and maintain their growth.

Climate change and global warming are big challenges facing the environment today. All 12 schools that were identified for this project were lacking trees, and now, with the help of the Cubs and Scouts, they are now going to be provided with shade in hot and sunny seasons. Teachers from all schools were very impressed by the Group's commitment to the project and the environment.



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be prepared....