

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

Winter 2013

SCOUTS South Africa on the path of change

The National Scout Council held its final meeting on 22 - 23 June 2013 at Tshwane with all Provincial Representatives, National Commissioners and members present. We are delighted to announce that Motion one and Motion two as circulated on 13 June 2013 were unanimously accepted by all Provinces and National NSC attendees with one wording clarification made in point four of Motion two of the Transition document.

This has now put SCOUTS South Africa on the path of change and these proposals are the first steps in finalising the framework for the implementation of the Revit project.

As a summary the following was agreed during the NSC

- All decisions around the new Board have been agreed upon, and the remaining two vacancies will be filled within the three months.
- For the duration of the transition period there will be flexibility in the adoption of the new systems, to ensure that the delivery of Scouting is not affected at Group and unit level.
- The implementation documentation with review feedback will be taken forward by the current Exco as nominated and approved at the previous NSC. This means that the actions and timeline for the transition process were tabled and discussed. Certain targeted Milestones for the transition were clearly set out; however the specific details are still to be discussed. Some of those are:
 - The Chief Scout continues in his current capacity until new Board meets in (September 2013) to appoint the new Chief Scout.
 - The Appointment of Chief Commissioner (previously known as Chief Scout Commissioner) by October 2013
 - Appointment of Exco in November 2013

- Appointment of Regional Commissioners (previously known as Provincial Commissioners) will then follow
- Provincial Finance consolidation to a National System by 30 September 2014 financial year end.
- It was further agreed that the Steercom formally hand over to new Exco when appointed, but remain in place to give clarity and direction in the transition period.
- The Policy documentation development's timeline is available online (<http://www.scouting.org.za/news/2013/nsc/Policy%20Tracking%20document.pdf>). It gives the dates when policies will be circulated to all members as well as the timeline for feedback. It is important that members send their feedback on these critical documents.

Revit! So now what?

As Chairman Mr. Garnet de la Hunt highlighted "this is not the ultimate, nor is it to be seen as cast in stone. The framework that has been approved serves as a starting point to change us back from an organisation or association to a dynamic movement."

A sentiment that is echoed by Gauteng Provincial Commissioner Brendon Hausberger "As a movement we have to get back to our core business, which is and always has been the education and upliftment of the children and youth in our care. Over the years we have evolved into a system that has layered bureaucracy on rule on regulation. We have created positions and jobs to make up for the poor performance of specific individuals and expected everyone to work at the lowest common denominator. In all this, we forgot what we were meant to be about. Scouting is about giving great experiences and setting examples to our youth, showing them how to be better citizens and people. We forgot that the person who actually makes a difference in this movement is the Scouter

CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOK SCOUTS



Michael Ketterer – Western Cape
Kiyan van Rensburg – Western Cape
Melissa Rijs – Western Cape
Stuart Demmer – KwaZulu-Natal
Richard Bettman – Gauteng
Kenneth Slabbert - Gauteng



Mr Garnet de la Hunt, Past Chief Scout of South Africa, National Scout Council Chairman Received the Presidential Order of the Baobab, from our country's President on Freedom Day – 27th April 2013. The Presidential Silver Supreme Counselor of the Order of the Baobab, is in recognition of his exceptional, inspirational volunteerism and dedication to community service and youth empowerment within the South African Scout Movement.

Continued on page 2.

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NATIONAL SCOUT AWARDS

At the National Scout Council, in May, the Chief Scout, Reverend Vukile Mehana presented national awards during the NSC dinner. The dinner was part of the celebration of SCOUTS South Africa moving in a new direction with the Constitution and Organisational Rules adopted earlier in the day. In recognition of years of loyal dedication to the empowerment of youth within the South African Scouting Movement, the following people received national awards:

SILVER SPRINGBOK awarded to **Professor Brian Figaji**. The Silver Springbok is the highest recognition to be awarded in South African Scouting. It recognises and honours people who have provided a service of the most exceptional character. Brian, an elected member of NSC and newly elected board member within the new Revit structure. He has been instrumental in the development of Scouting in South Africa over many years. He was actively involved as a member, in 1976 and played a key role in uniting the four Scout Movements into one unified non-racial entity, despite the political regime at the time. His dedication to education and youth goes well beyond the basic requirements



Professor Brian Figaji

and personifies the meaning of being of Service to Others.

BAR TO THE SILVER PROTEA awarded to **Dr George Dehlan**, member of the Awards Committee for his loyalty, wisdom and role within Scouting, especially in the Gauteng Province.

ORDER OF THE SILVER PROTEA awarded to **Ms Jeanette Angus**, National Commissioner for Cubs. **Dr Brendon Hausberger**, Gauteng Provincial Commissioner. **Mr Paddy Milner**,

Western Cape Provincial Commissioner. **Mr Arnold Witte**, the former Chairperson of the Eastern Cape Provincial Council. **Mr Reg Lane**, the Chairperson of the Scout Foundation was recognised for his exceptional contributions to Scouting in South Africa.

MEDAL OF MERIT: Mr Lea Hardy, Provincial Chairperson in the Free State. **Mr Frank Peart**, Provincial Chairperson of the Western Cape.

BARS TO THE LONG SERVICE MEDAL: Garnet de la Hunt, National Scout Chairman, (60 years), **Brian February**, Chief Scout's Commissioner, (50 years), **Andrew Tanner**, Provincial Commissioner Limpopo, (40 years), **Garth Kloppenborg**, Provincial Commissioner KwaZulu-Natal, (20 years).

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE GIRL GUIDES OF SOUTH AFRICA



Because of the changed Constitution of SCOUTS South Africa, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by our Chief Scout, Reverend Dr Vukile Mehana and Mrs Ntombizine Madyibi, Chief Commissioner, GIRL GUIDES South Africa, at the conclusion of the National Scout Council in May.

on the rock face. That is the person who makes or breaks us. The rest of the movement should only serve as the enabler to the Scouter."

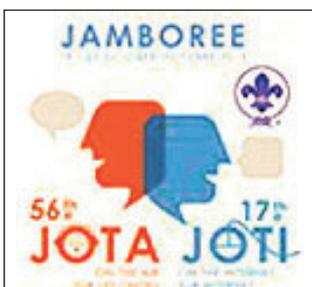
What does this now mean for the Cubs, Scouts, Rovers, Adult Leaders and volunteers that enjoy Scouting every week?

"The Revit framework enables us to move in a direction where:

1. The senior leadership of the organisation in future can be appointed by application and interview.
2. The ability to change things about the movement would no longer be in the hands of a group of people far removed from the ground, but in the hands of the national teams who are required to have - at the very least - recent pack or troop experience. These teams can also change aspects of the Programme without the cumbersome process of waiting a year for a NSC.
3. The removal of multiple tiers of hierarchy and duplicate lay and uniformed structures achieves two things. Firstly, the liberation of human resources to get involved in what really matters, namely the children and youths. Secondly, the simplified structure cuts away the mountains of red tape that the hierarchy created.
4. The proposed new modular training Programme with recognition of members prior training and skills should significantly reduce the overhead and repetition. Many Scouters have had to repeat training in the past, which now could be avoided.
5. The centralised database should reduce the administration on our Scouters and Groups considerably. This will come at the initial cost of some work to get the system completed and up and running, but some of the benefits are potentially game changing.

That's what the vote to adopt this could mean to us all. As for the changes to the Cub and Scout on the ground, it should be seen only in the improved experience they have while learning by doing the "Scouting" way," explains Brendon.

As with all change things will not always work as predicted, so the roll out will be done on a staggered basis over the provinces. The lessons learnt will be taken onboard and revisions made as required.



56th Jamboree-On-The-Air 17th Jamboree-On-The-Internet 19 - 20 October 2013

The 56th Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) and the 17th Jamboree-On-The-Internet (JOTI) will be held over the weekend of 19 and 20 October 2013.



B-P's OUTLOOK

First Aid

"What is the matter with your patient?"

I ask the Ambulance Scout who has just bandaged up another in most approved fashion.

"Please Sir – broken clavicle."

"Yes. Now what bone is this?"

"The femur, sir. No – it's – it's the tibi – it's the –"

"Well, what would you call it, if you got a kick in it, and you were telling your pal about it?"

"Shin, sir."

When I asked the instructor why it is considered necessary to confuse the Scouts' minds with the Latin names for ordinary bones, he said it was necessary in order to pass the doctor's examination for badges and certificates.

I hope that all Commissioners and Scoutmasters will explain to their instructors that we want to teach the Scouts how to deal practically with accidents, not how to pass examinations.

I attach very little value to the smartly done bandaging where each Scout is told beforehand what injury he is to tie up, and has all the appliances ready, and has merely to fold and tie neatly and know the Latin names of the bones he is dealing with. No, I very much prefer the more practical demonstration, which I am glad to see is now becoming so prevalent with the Scouts, and it is the closest possible imitation of an accident. A patient is found covered with mud and blood, which has to be gently sponged or squirted away before a card is found giving the nature of the injury (fixed face downwards to prevent obliteration). The first Scout to reach him, or the one selected by the inspector, or audience, takes charge of the case, does the work and directs the others – he does not use Latin words. It is all the better if improvised materials are used and the wound really dealt with properly, instead merely superficially bandaged over. For instance the motions should be gone through of slitting the clothes, plugging the wound, or whatever may be the detail in the case.

April, 1911

OVER 913 LITRES OF SOUP FOR THE COLD AND HUNGRY

Young Scouts make over 913 litres of soup in an attempt to provide a warm meal to people in need during these cold times.

In response to the cold fronts over the past weeks, the Western Cape Scouting Leadership challenged Scout Groups to make soup and give it to community members in need of some warming up. It was an urgent call to 'do a good turn' and be of service to others that are living in hardship and could benefit from a warm and healthy meal.

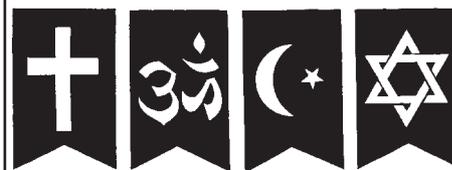
Whilst the project is still ongoing, 17 Scout Groups throughout the province have reported making a whopping 913 litres of soup with a variety of healthy ingredients and collected well over 100 loaves of bread. The soup was then



distributed to community members in their surrounds.

The challenge was to bring together Cubs, Scouts and in some areas also parents at short notice to prepare and distribute the soup. Additional criteria were to teach the Cubs and Scouts how to make soup, how to identify healthy ingredients, how to be safe and hygienic whilst cooking and ultimately how to be of service to those in need.

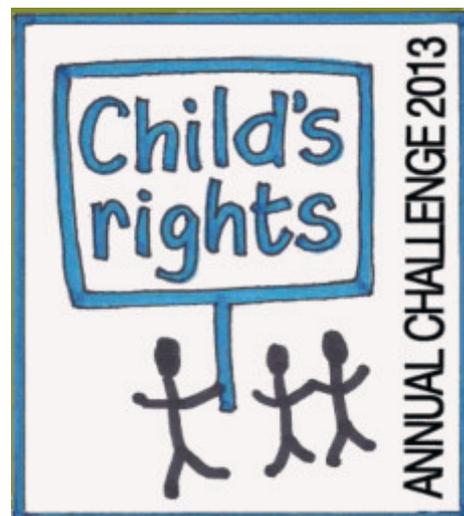
DUTY TO GOD



I used to be surprised that even my youngest Cub could sing the National Anthem; Nkosi sikelel' iAfrica, perfectly, both black children and white children. Then of course I realised that they sing it daily at assembly at school, but do they really understand what they are praying? That's right, our National Anthem is a beautiful prayer. Written in 1897 by Enoch Sontongo, a teacher at a mission school in the Transvaal. Then in 1997 a verse of "Die Stem" and "The Call of South Africa" was added, one of each in Afrikaans and in English.

If you are an isiXhosa isiZulu, Sesoutho, Afrikaans or English speaker, then you are singing the part in your own language, you can fully understand the beautiful words. For some of us we need some prompting and I give an English translation that you might use in your evening prayers.

*God (Lord) bless Africa
May her glory be lifted high
Hear our petitions
Lord bless us your children
God we ask you to protect our nation
Intervene and stop all conflicts
Protect us, protect us, protect our nation
Our nation South Africa.
From the blue of our heavens
From the depths of our seas
Over our everlasting mountains
Where the crags resound
Sounds the call to come together
And united we shall stand
Let us live and strive for freedom
In South Africa our land*





INTERNATIONAL SCOUT PEACE CAMP

Indonesia
25th – 31st March 2013



Nkululeko Mabuza, a Pack Scouter of 1st Shiluvane Pack and a Rover, was one of the first thirteen Scouts to join Louise Batey in her "Keep the Dream 196" activity in Limpopo Province, in 2003, was chosen to represent South Africa in the "Messengers of Peace" International camp in Indonesia.

Nkulu reports:- "This was a great experience for me, not only did I make new friends but learned about new cultures and how they do things and their rituals. There were more than 400 participants present, all from different countries and we were all happy to be part of the international Scout Peace Camp."

"The opening ceremony was great, we had cultural dances and the Chief Scout addressed us. We had our pictures taken and we were warmly welcomed and informed of our activities for the week. I met Mr. Frederic T. Kama-Kama, Regional Director of Africa Region. We prepared a presentation from the African Region and mixed the four different cultures Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Kenya and South Africa, together and came up with a great performance. Campfire songs seem to be universal and I tried to learn other songs but the languages made it difficult."

www.Keepthedream196.com

STATISTICS AGAIN

Since the publication of the last Scouting About, the latest (March 2013) WOSM list of Scouting's membership has come out.

Indonesia, now 21,032,755 – unbelievable. Scouting reached Indonesia in 1912 as a branch of Nederland Scouting and went through dramatic times, including the Japanese occupation during the Second World War. At one time there were 60 sub-divisions of the movement, on the thousands of islands that make up that country. In 1961 the country's President proclaimed Gerakan Pramuka Indonesia as the official Scout Movement and since then, "the youth who are prepared to work", the translation of the letters of PRAMUKA, have gone from strength to strength.

A correction! The Principality of Monaco – 1001. And the figure we are interested in – South Africa – 68,488. The youngest member – Belarus - 1,250 (rejoined 2010)

There is a Scout delegation at present in Myanmar (Burma) to investigate their readmission to WOSM.

THE CELLPHONE

An everyday part of our anatomy!

Some time ago I wrote a piece about the dangers inherent in our use of the cell phone by school children, and how it was the cause of a suicide in this city. Well, again I read in our local paper how parents are up in arms about bullies using the device to browbeat and intimidate their fellow school mates. One girl, a promising swimmer, gave up her dream after a pornographic threat was circulated on cell phones, in the school.

Our National Challenge in 2013 – **Child's Rights**. One of those rights is to be protected from physical, sexual and emotional harm. And another - They have the right to privacy and the responsibility to respect the privacy of others. Let us adults in the movement be aware of what is going on, not only the physical bullying in the playground, but also the mental anguish brought about by these morons hiding behind a supposed anonymity of the cell phone. Let us encourage our Scouts to have the courage to report such cases, if it is happening to themselves, or when they become aware it is happening to one of their fellow school mates. Let them not be embarrassed if unsolicited porn appears on their device, report that too, the sender can be easily traced.

KZN scouts get airborne!

A parachute course for KwaZulu-Natal scouts was recently held at the Durban Skydive Centre at Eston, outside of Pietermaritzburg. Each scout has to do five static line jumps to qualify for their scout parachute wings.

The KZN Assistant Provincial commissioner for air scouts, and organiser of the scout parachute course, Nigel Lewis Walker travelled to 1st Hillcrest to present this very special award to 1st Hillcrest Assistant Troop Scouter, David Rees and 1st Hillcrest patrol leader, Devon Oosthuizen.



Dave Rees (Left) and Devon Oosthuizen (right), with Nigel Lewis-Walker who presented the prestigious scout parachute wings.

"Very few scouts throughout South Africa have their scout wings, so you are part of an elite group who can wear scout parachute wings on your uniform," said Walker as he pinned the scout parachute wings onto Rees and Oosthuizen's uniforms.

"It was great fun," said Devon, "the experience you

feel when you jump from the aircraft was awesome and something I'll never forget!"

Another parachute course for the Kwazulu Natal scouts is being planned for later in the year.

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