

INTERCHANGE

Vol. 28 No. 4

A MAGAZINE FOR VENTURERS & ROVERS

May/June 2007

Venturer Review

Open Forum #2

Sunday 1st July at BHQ Waverley.

All welcome

Each D/ZVC and RVC to bring their own forum outcomes

0900 for 0930 til 1230, uniform, lunch provided, then visit the
Activity EXPO

Activity EXPO

A great opportunity to collect ideas for creating exciting programs for your Troop, Unit or Crew.

It is also a great chance to meet the Leaders of Abseiling, Air Activities, Canoeing, Rock climbing, Ski Touring, etc etc.

***The Branch Activity Training Centre (BAT. Centre), Legana St., Mt. Waverley.
Sunday 1st July 2007. Any time 9.00am/4.00pm. Stay as long/short as you like.***

Working With Children

Due 30th June

Group Leaders are reminded that for us to continue to hold overnight activities all adults members and rovers 18 of age and over need to have the Working with Children Card or at least applied for it by the 30/06/07.

Branch Changes

- ♣ Teena Walters presently the South Metro Region ARC Marketing Development & Public Relations has agreed to accept the position of Assistant Chief Commissioner to do a similar Marketing Development and Public Relation position at the Branch level.
- ♣ Rod Johns after a period of 3 ½ years as Northern Region Commissioner is retiring from that position but will return to his former appointment as Assistant Branch Commissioner – Police Liaison.
- ♣ Craig Waters District Commissioner – Tilba Tilba has agreed to assume the role of Northern Region Commissioner

Immigration Museum Display

Located in the Old Customs House in the heart of the city, the Immigration Museum explores stories of people from all over the world who have migrated to Victoria from the 1800s through to the present day. Stories are brought to life through moving images, computer interactive, voices, memories and belongings. The result is an entertaining experience that engages the senses.

Between the 26th of July and the 11th on November, the work of Scouts Australia will be on Display. Titled "Celebrating World Cultures through Scouting" this is part of the Community exhibitions programs.

General Admission is \$6 per adult with *Children (3-16 years inclusive) being free*. the Immigration Museum is 400 Flinders Street, Melbourne and open 10.00am to 5.00pm daily. This would be a suitable outing for all age

groups of Scouting.

For information about the museum call 03 9927 2700 or visit <http://immigration.museum.vic.gov.au/>

www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au

An initiative of the Vic. State Government. This may be of interest to Scouting, either as an opportunity for working together, or as a resource, or even just as a model.

Peter Newell, DC South Western

WINTER BLOOD CHALLENGE

ARE YOU THE TYPE WHO CAN SAVE A LIFE
CALL 13 14 95 TO MAKE APPOINTMENT TODAY

Australia needs 21,000 donations each week, or more than 270,000 donations this winter. Remember we all need to work together to get this total. Its not about getting a prize, but about helping saving lives. Just think, it is saving a mother, father, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, cousin, friend etc....

A couple things to remember when donating make sure you take 3 points of ID with you which include a photo, name and DOB. A drivers licence or passport will suffice.

After donating

Donors can register their donations for the challenge toward the organisations tally by completing the following:

1. log onto www.donateblood.com.au
2. or you can fill out the registration forms at the donor centre and leave them filled out and left at the donor centre after your donation

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact me, Chris Alleyn, on 0415 375 527 and ill try to answer them, if you would like to make a group booking please let me know as we have to arrange this another way.

INTERCHANGE - YOUR COMMUNICATION & RESOURCE SERVICE!

- Aim:** to provide communication & resource material for Venturers & Rovers.
- Content:** the Editor reserves the right not to publish material that is contrary to or conflicts with, recognised Scouting practice.
- Contributions:** articles, photographs, reports, cartoons etc are most welcome, preferably submitted via email, but postal is acceptable.
- Postal:** **INTERCHANGE, c/o BC(VS) at P.O. Box 774, MOUNT WAVERLEY, VICTORIA, 3149.**
- Email:** interchange@vicscouts.asn.au
- Due date:** the due date for contributions is the last day of the month preceding the monthly issue (ie 30th June for July issue); this permits inclusion of info from the BRC (4th Wednesday), VVC (1st Tuesday) and BCs' meetings (1st Wednesday); for mailing on the next Monday - which will be the 13th of the month, at the latest.
- Distribution:** it is published up to 11 times a year by the Scout Association, Victorian Branch, with copies to each Crew and Unit.
- Web Page:** you can view 2 pdf versions of each issue (one with pics/graphics, one without) on the Victorian Branch web site, at: <http://www.vicscouts.asn.au/venturers/venstuff/Interchange.asp>
- Subscriptions:** Venturers, Rovers & Leaders may subscribe by sending \$15.00 (Victorian subscriber) and \$18.00 (interstate subscribers)
- Advertising:** all general Scouting activities are promoted free of charge, but a fee may be charged for major fundraising events.
- Printer:** **KWIK KOPY, 426 Burke Road, Camberwell, 3146. (W) 9889 0666 (F) 9889 4783.**

Did you Scarf Up for Scouting in April?

Today I was pleased to attend a meeting with the Mayor of Maribyrnong, Cr Michael Clark who was presented with the Special Centenary Scout Scarf on behalf of the District Commissioner and all Scouts in Kariwara. Robert Wightwick, Crew Leader Gaudion Rovers and a Media Spokesperson for the Centenary of Scouting 2007 made the presentation. The Scout world pin was presented by Michelle Wightwick, CSL 2nd Footscray, Rover Scout and Secretary of Hoadley Region Rover Council. On Australia Day Michelle received a special Mayor's commendation in the Young Citizen of the Year award for her Scouting involvement.

The meeting, lasting some 30 minutes, went extremely well and Cr Clark was impressed and understanding of what Scouting offered the community. He spoke of the relevance in today's society where youth needed to become more active and adventurous and Scouting was a perfect vehicle for them to achieve and learn.

In discussing Scouting's World Centenary in 2007, Australia's in 2008 and 1st Footscray Scout Group's in 2009, Cr Clark commented that it was the former City of Footscray's 150th year in 2009 and considering the youth of Australia, just over two hundred years it was a remarkable achievement.

Kariwara District has always had a close working relationship with Maribyrnong Council and today's meeting will serve to further strengthen that relationship.

We appreciate the opportunity to have been able to make this presentation to the Mayor and thank National for making the centenary scarf available.

John Wightwick, PR and Development, Kariwara District

FLY THE FLAG COMPETITION

- ♣ Looking for a challenge?
- ♣ Want the chance to share in \$5000 of prizes?
- ♣ Know how to show your Scouting pride to mark the Centenary Year?
- ♣ Then you better FLY THE FLAG!

How Do I Get Involved?

Get together a team of Scouts (any Section) and show the World Scout logo (see below) in a high profile and creative way. It's a great way for us to show our pride in the Scout Movement, letting the public know what Scouts can achieve.

How Is It Judged?

The two winning groups will be chosen based on a combination of creativity, originality, and of course the amount of exposure the entry receives.

Prizes!

There will be two prizes, one for a small group (one to three Scout members) and the other for a larger group (more than three members).

Small Group - \$2000 travel voucher

Large Group - \$3000 voucher for a major retailer

Send your entries to flytheflag@scouts.com.au or nat.marcomms@scouts.com.au. If you cannot email your entry, please post it to: Fly the Flag, c/- Scouts Australia, Level 1, 8 Help St, Chatswood NSW 2067.

Entries should include photos of your team 'Flying The Flag', as well as a description of what you did, how, why and who was involved.

Entries must be received by 31st August 2007

**Have you subscribed to the
National Youth E Newsletter?**

♣ **Be informed**

♣ **Get involved**

www.scoutsnyc.com.au/newsletter/

AQUA! THE WATER JAMBOREE AUSTRIA 5-14 AUG. 2008

Contingent Scouts Australia is not sending an official Australia Contingent to this event, however the following information is provided to members who may wish to organise a Contingent to this event in St. Georgen/Attergau from 5-14 August 2008.

Eligibility Both male and female, who are members of Scouts Australia. Youth members aged 13 to 20 years old and adult leaders.

Venue 12th International Scout Camp of Upper Austrian Scouts in the beautiful Lake District, Salzkammergut.

Participants Austrian Scout Association expect over 3,000 international and local Scouts.

Cost Scouts aged 13 – 16 225 Euro Venturers & Rovers aged 16-20 250 Euro price includes, programme food, infrastructure at the campsite, home hospitality, and the camp manual. Return airfares are at the individuals own expense.

Activities Participants will have the opportunity to participate in a number of activities that will deal with the topic of "Water". They will experience what it means and understand how everything is linked up. There will be lots of fun, laughter and games both in and out of the water.

For more information please contact:

Miss Emma Barker, International Commissioner
Scouts Australia, PO Box 730, HEATHMONT VIC
3135 **Email:** int.comm@scouts.com.au

ATTENTION: All Male Venturers

The 6th Camberwell North Scout Group for scouts with physical disabilities is currently interviewing male Venturers to be partners with disabled Scouts on a trip to Japan in July-August 2008. Prospective Venturers would be expected to undertake a training programme with our current leaders and also expected to help out at our fortnightly meetings on a regular basis.

Preference will be given to Venturers who have never travelled overseas. On your behalf, the 6th Camberwell North Scout Group will apply for financial assistance from different organisations. Thus, the cost for this 'working holiday' is only \$1,200 (not including your passport costs or spending money). If you are the slightest bit interested, then apply for an interview today! If you want, you can write down the questions you would like to ask and bring them with you.

Interested Venturers will also have the opportunity to talk with other Venturers and Rovers who are current members with our Group.

Grant Morrow

Victorian Venturer News

The Venturer Review *We Want Your Ideas!*

The Venturer Scout Review Team wants your ideas on the Venturer Section so as to improve the programming and enjoyment of this vital component of Australian Scouting.

From May until mid-September, Scout members are invited to submit feedback via the National Website www.scouts.com.au on the best aspects and ways to improve the: organisation, management and leadership of Venturing; retention; linking; image of the Section; and the program and award scheme; amongst a range of other topics. You can also submit these ideas to Julie Creed, National Commissioner for Youth program, via email or hard copy through the National Office. There are prizes to be won for people's efforts!

Such a method of feedback and listening to our members created an avalanche of useful information for the Adults in Scouting Review (AIS) that is being acted upon. So read all about the Venturer Scout Review and what we are looking for, on the National Website www.scouts.com.au from mid-April and be ready to submit your ideas from 1 May. You are helping shape the future direction of the Venturer Section.

JULY 2007

Deep Thought - 'The Question!'

Boroondara Personal Growth: Ideals 1 Course
Friday 13th July to Sunday 15th July 2007

Do you want to know the meaning of life, the universe and everything? Well, we probably won't be able to tell you that, but we will help you develop a better understanding of yourself and how you relate to those around you. This Ideals Weekend is a challenging and fun weekend, where you will examine religion, sex and relationships, Scout Promise and Law, drugs and other current moral and social issues. The Programme involves a mix of videos, games and discussions. The course is guaranteed to be an interesting weekend!

Cost: The weekend will cost \$45.00. Payment is to accompany your application form (cheque made out to '1st Hawthorn Venturer Unit') and a receipt will be issued.

Times: Course starts Friday evening 13th July 2007 & finishes mid afternoon on Sunday 15th July 2007.

Location: The course is held at Elliott Lodge, Healesville (1st Hawthorn / Scotch Scout Property). This is a residential weekend course.

Course Contact - Robert Evans (Course Leader): 0418-532505 Mobile or email gfd@gfd.com.au fax 51671615

**LOOKING TO HAVE FUN?
WANT TO CATCH UP WITH MATES?
THEN COME AND CHECK
OUT HOADLEY REGIONS**

ROVENTURE 2007

/ Archery, Abseiling, Campfire

**AUGUST 24TH-26TH 2007
TREETOPS SCOUT CAMP
(PLACES ARE LIMITED SO GET IN QUICK!!)**

DJ, Dash for Cash

(all these activities plus loads more!!)

SHAUN MCILVAIN

TANYA UWAROW

0400 890 429

0401 007 981

tazzie.666@hotmail.com

Tanya_rocks_your_world@hotmail.com

**for registration forms and more activities check
out our website at:**

<http://roventure.hoadleyrovers.com>

Venturer Leaders Wanted

"Talaskia" (Upper Ferntree Gully)

If interested, contact the Group Leader

Michelle Tanzen

9754 8234 or 0410 588 509

jmtanzen@netspace.net.au

Invitation to Visit West Heidelberg Mosque Sunday July 29th, 2.45 - 4.15 pm

Yarra Batman Zone Venturer Council, Banyule Scout District and the Victorian Branch Venturer Council invite you to visit the West Heidelberg Mosque on Sunday, July 29th, starting at 2.45 pm (sharp) – 4.15 pm.

The visit includes a tour of the mosque, afternoon prayers, introduction to Islam and Q&A session.

Members of community organisations are very welcome to join Venturers for this visit. Members of Scout Groups and their families are welcome. Scouts, Venturers & Rovers may be able to include this visit in progress towards a Scout Award.

Uniform is not required. (Venturers: remember to bring your award scheme record book.)

For catering, please RSVP by July 20th if possible.

RSVP, with your name, a contact phone number or email address, and the approximate number who will be visiting the mosque, to Christine, 9850 5045, or “Jerry” <jerome.winston@cedre.org.my>.

For additional information:

Christine, DVL, phone 9850 5045

Jerry, DVL, jerome.winston@cedre.org.my

Location: West Heidelberg Mosque,
corner of Lloyd & Elliott Streets,
West Heidelberg: Melway Map 31 G1.]

The main guideline for attending the mosque is to be modest in dress, ie, conservative clothing with simple / limited makeup and jewellery. See specific information, below, about dress code. Uniform is not required. Only wear your Scout Uniform if it fits within the dress code.

Shoes

- Casual shoes (not high heels) that are easy to take off before going into the prayer hall

- Socks or stockings to wear when walking without shoes

Men – Shirt with half or long sleeves

- Casual or dress shirt with half or long sleeves is appropriate
- Casual or dress trousers are appropriate
- Please, no T-shirts

Women – cover arms, legs, midriff

- Long sleeves, loose-fitting shirt, blouse or jacket is appropriate
- Full-length, loose-fitting trousers, jeans, slacks or long skirts are appropriate
- Please, no T-shirts, tight-fitting, short sleeves or sleeveless blouses/tops
- Please, no partial tops or low-fitting trousers/jeans that show midriff (belly) when standing, sitting on chair or floor

Women cover hair only when we go into the prayer hall

- For women – please bring a scarf that you can wear to cover your hair when we are in the prayer hall
- No need to cover your hair when your first arrive
-

A simple triangular scarf that can be tied at the back of your neck or under your chin is suitable when we are in the prayer hall. If you have a spare scarf, please bring it along with you, just in case someone else needs to borrow it.

RSVP: To “Jerry” <jerome.winston@cedre.org.my> or Christine, 9850-5045, as early in July as practical – if at all possible, before July 20th. When you RSVP, be sure to leave a contact name, contact phone number or email address, and an estimate of the number of people who plan to attend from your section, organisation or group.

Questions? Contact Jerry or Christine, District Venturer Leaders: Christine, 9850-5045, or “Jerry” <jerome.winston@cedre.org.my>.

***Great ideas, most of which are applicable
for Units – available on the Venturer web!***

Victorian Branch Rover Council Elections

BRC Chair	Libby Davison
Deputy Chair	David "Wombat" Lyons
Assistant Chair	Sarah Austin
Training	Chris "Cheese" Anderson
Minute Secretary	Chris Alleyn
Environment Officer	Gordon Young

>

We still have vacancies for a Marketing Officer and an Adventurous Activities Officer. With the election of Wombat to Deputy Chair, there is now a vacancy in the Journalist position. This position is hoped appointed by the BRC by November 2007.

I am also pleased to announce the appointment of a new admin officer for the Branch Rover Council - Jill Austin has agreed to take on this position and assist the already super efficient team looking after the running of the Vic Rover Centre.

Craig Whan, Branch Commissioner - Rovers
Victorian Branch Rover Council, www.vicrovers.com

A small world!

This story reminded me what a small world we live in. A new leader to Kariwara District lets call him John was travelling into Southern Cross from Bacchus Marsh on the 0739. With his backpack (which he always has with Him) and his black attaché case which he doesn't usually carry. When he arrived at Southern Cross he got off the train in quite a happy mood and made his way to the suburban platforms and then to Flinders Street station where he works.

As the train pulled into Flinders Street his mood changed when he realised he didn't have his black case which contained a lot of important Scouting paperwork relating to his membership and training. He said out loud 'oh no!' and got ready to head back to Southern

Cross to find his stuff if the V/Line hadn't already left on its next trip.

As he was waiting at Flinders Street to catch a train back to Southern Cross, his mobile rang and it was Paul from the Luggage Hall at Southern Cross. he guessed what the call was about and said words to the effect 'you've got my case...thanks mate you're a legend' and he said words the effect 'only because you're in my district'.

What a coincidence! Paul was not only a former Scout, but was also a former Kariwara Scout. When John met Paul at the Luggage Hall about ten minutes later, he remarked that he was a new member and didn't think that he had met him before- it turned out that his father Graeme was John's PLA! It was a big Relief to get that case back and it was a nice touch that I got it back with the help of another Kariwara member.

What a Small world we live in, **David Lyons**

Keith Farquhar Rover Crew Invites You!

(and your family and your friends and your cousins and anybody else who wants to come!)!!!! To join us, and those close to us, for a **once** in a lifetime opportunity!! The **ONE** The **ONLY**

The KFRC official screening of the...

Simpsons Movie!

Everyone's talking about it but we're doing something about it. Hoyts Highpoint, Highpoint Shopping Centre.
200 Rosamond Road, Maribyrnong.

August 10th 2007, 7:15pm

BOOK YOUR SEAT NOW!!

Contact David Lyons, 0403676990
wombatlyons@yahoo.com

ROVER AWARD SCHEME

The Rover Section, like all sections, have an award scheme that is based around the Aims and Principles of Scouting. The Baden Powell Scout Award doesn't enjoy the same exposure as the Queen Scout, but it is still a prestigious award and all Rovers who attain it wear it with pride. To attain the Baden Powell Scout Award you first need to complete The Rover Skills Badge.

ROVER SKILLS BADGE

To complete the Rover Skills badge you are required to:

- Camp out for a minimum of 3 nights on no less than 3 occasions, demonstrating suitable Campcraft skills.
- Provide 10 hours of service to a worthy cause.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the Promise, Scout Law and the Rover Prayer from an adult point of view.

As with all the badges, the Crew determines if the Rover has met the required standard. The tasks above can be included as part of a Squire Training program the Crew has in place. Once the Rover Skills Badge has been earned then a Rover can commence the Baden Powell Scout Award.

BADEN POWELL SCOUT AWARD

The Baden Powell Scout Award is designed to provide challenge and growth to the individual and consists of two options – Method A or Method B. A Rover can choose either option, but cannot mix components of both options.

METHOD A

SERVICE BADGE

The Rover must provide a minimum of six months active service in a community service organization – these can include St John First Aid, Surf Rescue, State Emergency Service, Emergency Fire Fighting and of course in the younger sections of Scouting. The Crew will approve the organization and can call upon the Region Rover Council or Branch Rover Council for assistance.

PROJECT BADGE

The Rover must choose, plan and devote at least six months to a project and report their progress to the Crew on at least three occasions during that time. The project is a choice of the Rover involved, but should preferably be something which:

- bears no direct relation to their means of livelihood,
- they have had little to do with in the past, or
- if they are well versed in the subject they should aim to reach a considerably higher standard.

Some examples of projects have included rebuilding a car engine, lead lighting, produce a stage show, design of a web page and learn a musical instrument.

THE SCOUT CRAFT BADGE

The Rover must organise and camp on at least ten separate occasions on at least three different campsites. The Rover must show on all occasions a high standard of Campcraft and they must keep a log of these camps to submit to the Crew. The Crew determines whether the individual has met an appropriate standard of Campcraft.

THE RAMBLERS BADGE

A Rover must demonstrate to an examiner appointed by the Crew, a thorough knowledge of survival techniques and first aid. They must have completed, as a member of a team of Rovers, a journey extending over four consecutive days (with three nights out) or two journeys each extending over 48 hours. The journey must be organised by the Rover and the Crew must approve it as sufficiently high enough in standard. The journey can be by land or water and either by foot, vehicle or vessel. It must present a test of endurance and be challenging. The Rover must provide a log of the journey to the Crew. Some examples of Ramblers badge journeys are: Bushwalking, Canoeing, Bike Riding, 4 Wheel Driving, horses and camels.

METHOD B

THE SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT BADGE

The Rover should spend six months exploring self philosophy, religion or their personal values system. They could work at a mens/womens' youth refuge, with Alcoholics Anonymous or disadvantaged Scouts. They could talk to priests, rabbis, doctors, lawyers etc.... This badge is designed to help the Rover better understand their spiritual side, but doesn't have to involve religion. They must discuss their plan with the Crew and provide at least three progress reports over the six months.

THE INTELLECTUAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT BADGE

Some of the things a Rover can do to attain this badge include learning a foreign language, learn to play a musical instrument or write music, take up film, art or

drama appreciation, explore the media and produce scripts, direct a production or make a radio or TV recording. The project must take at least six months and the Rover must report to the Crew on at least three occasions.

THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BADGE

A Rover can earn this badge by learning about sociology, social psychology, join and participate in a conservation group, coach a sporting team or organise activities for the Crew with other organizations such as Rotaract or Jaycees. The Rover undertakes these tasks for at least six months with three progress reports over that time.

THE PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT BADGE

A Rover can attain this badge by:

- a one week walk along the Great Dividing Range,
- canoe or raft along the Murray River,
- explore Dutch wrecks on the West Coast,
- obtain the Surf Lifesaving Bronze Medallion,
- learn to Scuba Dive, or
- qualify as a coach/instructor in a sport or physical activity.

Once again the Rover must provide three progress reports over the six month period to the Crew.

So there you have it. The Baden Powell Scout Award is a challenging and rewarding award to attain. It is approved by your Crew and then passed on to the Region Rover Council or Branch Rover Council to ensure that the standards of Rovering have been met. Once all the technical tasks have been completed, the Rover meets with a panel to ensure that they are living the Scouting way of life and then the award is presented to the Rover in a celebratory ceremony. The Rover is invited to Government House where the Governor will present the certificate.

So the challenge now is to encourage all our Rovers to further develop themselves and receive some recognition along the way...

ROVER CREWS & SERVICE

Rovers are a Brotherhood of Open Air and Service. They are Hikers on the Open Road and Campers of the Woods, able to shift for themselves, but equally able and ready to be of some service to others. They are, in fact, a senior branch of the Boy Scout Movement - young men of over seventeen years of age.

The four main aims of the Scout training in Woodcraft are to develop these points:

- *Character and Intelligence*
- *Handcraft and Skill*
- *Health and Strength*
- *Service for others and Citizenship*

These are the requirements for a happy and active life. Many young men just drift passively along and never reach happiness. With Rover Scouting they would not let slip their golden opportunities.

Rovering to Success - Chapter 7...

The words of our founder are just as true today as they were in the 1920's when he wrote them. Service is an essential part of a balanced Rover program, it is vital as we strive to develop the citizens of tomorrow.

The list of the activities a Crew can do that would be considered Service is endless, from organising an outing for the Joey Mob to running a weekend for the Venturer Unit. There are many activities that are already planned that just need a Crew to turn up, like a Venturer Initiative Course or a Cuboree. There are also activities outside of Scouting that Rovers can plan, activities that can help the community like tree planting, rubbish clean up or meals on wheels. A benefit of a good community service project is that there are good marketing opportunities as well, there is no better advertisement than a group of young people working together to improve their community.

In October 2006, I was lucky enough to attend a Children's Festival organised by the Tran Van Khac Rover Crew (Victoria). This activity was held in a local park and where hundreds of children enjoyed a range of activities from abseiling to face painting, and a huge chess game to a huge inflatable climbing castle. What impressed me most from my short visit was the enthusiasm of the Rovers who had been there all day (I arrived at around 4.00pm - it was just about time to pack up), but were still having a great time. The hallmark of a great Service activity is that it so much fun, it doesn't feel like work at all.

The Keith Farquhar Rover Crew (Victoria) has won the BP Lodge Crew Service award for the past two years and they provide a huge amount of Service back into Scouting. They are actively involved in the organisation of Hoadley Hide and provide many hours of labour at their District campsite. They also provide many leaders to the movement.

The list of examples of Crew's providing Service is endless. A good Crew will have a Service component in their program on a regular basis. Service is more than just "doing stuff", it involves helping others, listening and providing support. It is about planning and considering the needs of others, as well as working as a team to achieve an outcome.

**Will you
survive
Wheeler's
Rover Crew's
murder
mystery
weekend?**

Come and join Wheeler's Rover Crew for our murder mystery night:

Saturday 18th August, 2007 @ 7pm. Heany Park Scout Hall, Heany Park, Rowville

Tickets cost \$20 (Leaders \$10)
Tickets close August 3rd, '07.

CONTACT: DAN SWALLOW 0420263870
dswallow@optusnet.com.au
MORE INFO: members.optusnet.com.au/danswallow

Highlights:

- Spit-roast dinner provided with free soft drink!
- Run by professional actors!
- We provide your character for you...all you have to do is dress up!
- Prizes for best dressed male and female!
- Venturers and Venturer Leaders only
- No extra camping fee

The BIG BURGER CHALLENGE

Dandenong Venturer Unit is challenging you to make a bigger & better burger than they can.

7.30pm, Friday 27th July 2007

Dandenong Scout Hall

100 McFees Road, Dandenong. Mel Ref 90 D/E 1

Prizes Trophies for Tallest, Heaviest, Presentation and Champion Burger (also gets 100 + Chuppa Chupps)

Entry Fee payable on the night

\$5.00 per Unit / Crew

Contacts are

Goatee (Ian) 0406 280 037

Chris 0425 710 077 email cira@ihug.com.au

Leadership in the Venturer Section Tip Sheet No. 1

12 Tips to enable the Unit Council to take charge.
Courtesy of Max McDonnell, BC(VS) ACT Branch

1. **Hold Unit Council Meetings.** – As simple as this seems, it would appear that the greatest failing in many units is that they don't actually meet as a unit council. A Unit Council needs to be coached and supported, and it is difficult to make that happen, when it never meets. Many Units find excuses for not having meetings, "Our unit programs together", or "Our Unit is too small", or "There is no time", none of these are reasons to drop *the simple most important element of the Venturer Program*. Too many units do, don't let your unit be one of them.
2. **Do it properly.** - Make sure the meetings are regular, held in a comfortable environment and given the time to get results. A Unit Council meeting will take an hour at least, so allocate two hours, make sure there is food and drink available and that you are in a place where you can discuss things, and get results. A half hour meeting in a cold hall, in the middle of winter is not going to help you have good meetings.
3. **Support your team.** – Too many leaders expect the young people to take charge, with out offering any real guidance. "I just have the power of Veto, to make sure you don't do anything stupid", is the catchcry of the lazy leader. Young people want and need support and this means being involved. Now this is not just to organise things, its about emotional support as well. For some of them it's a real challenge, and they need to know you are there to help.
4. **Coach your Unit Chair.** – One of the best things you can do is to coach your unit chair. You wouldn't see Thorpie race without a briefing and a pep talk from the coach, and your unit council chair needs the same guidance. Make sure they understand the issues on the table and that they know how the meeting is supposed to go. If you expect a touchy subject to be discussed, talk to them about ways of getting a resolution.
5. **Provide Tools for your Secretary.** – Your Unit Council Secretary has great power, but more often than not, they just need to know what to do. If you give them a template for the minutes that they just need to type over, then they will learn much faster. Make sure they know they can change them if they want. You can do the same for the agenda.
6. **Use Correspondence to empower.** – By giving your input in the form of correspondence (Say an email to the unit secretary, 'for the agenda') you achieve two things. First you give the meeting some form, by making sure there is a secretarial report, you should try to make sure that group and branch news are presented that way too. Secondly you ensure that leader input is not too over powering, it is quite intimidating to those unsure of themselves to have the leader talk about a subject. Believe me, this works.
7. **Provide follow up support.** – When young people take on responsibility, they are often a little out of their depth. Make sure you or someone else calls to offer assistance. You have no right to expect a venturer to follow through without support.
8. **Adjust support to suit** – The need for support changes over time. What a Unit Council needs early will be different to when they are established. And the same goes for individuals, on the same council. Fair does not mean equal distribution, it means equally important.
9. **Make time for conversation.** – Your unit council members will want to chat about ideas and also about other stuff. Remember that they want to know what you think about stuff, so make sure you make time for a chat. It's a good time to feed in your ideas, so that you aren't pounding them in at unit council
10. **Listen to your Venturers.** – No idea is stupid unless you don't give it a try. So try to make surer you allow for listening without judgement. And remember that a venturers taste in music and in

Boys/Girls is just about as important as a thing can be, so if you don't listen to them then, why would they tell you about less important stuff, like venturers.

- 11. Trust your Venturers.** – You need to support your venturers, and you need to trust them. But remember that they will let you down from time to time, and that is normal. If they don't, then you probably are not giving them enough responsibility and trust. And when they do, by all means talk to them but remember to

- 12. Trust them again.**

Leadership in the Venturer Section – Tip Sheet No. 2 Don't's for your Unit Council

- 13. Don't make decisions for them** – If you make decisions that they should be making, or pre-empt those decisions, then the Venturers may feel that that they have no reason to meet at all. Building a successful youth leadership culture takes time, but it can be destroyed in a breath.
- 14. Don't contradict your Unit Chair in front of the Unit.** – The simple, simple truth is that it will take substantial courage for most young people to take the helm and act like a leader. And no courage to give it away again. You will find that venturers will feel undermined by contradictions from you, and most often, will surrender leadership of the unit. It can be very hard to get them to take it up again. The simple way to deal with this kind of thing is to brief and debrief your unit Council Chair, and to speak to them privately about concerns you have. Even if you need to pull them aside during parade, or a meeting.
- 15. Don't make commitments** – When the Group Leader, the Group Council or the District, Region or Venturer Commissioner asks for your units support or assistance, remember that the unit council gets to decide. As much as we all want to do the right thing by the Group, Region or Branch, its not our decision. Tell the person making the request that you will get back to them, and let the Unit Council make the call.
- 16. Don't allow the Unit to be used as cheap labour.** – This should be self explanatory, but it is surprising the number of young people who feel that they have an obligation to be somewhere or perform a function, that the leaders would never agree to. The Venturer Unit is a youth section and is deserving of an inclusive program. They are not, and should not be used as a pool of volunteers for the Group.
- 17. Don't put people down** – Even in jest, the ridicule of a Venturer leader can be seriously effect a young leaders self esteem. This is very easy to do and a trap for all of us. It is especially true where the young members of the Unit Council decide to tease one of their number. It is sometimes very hard to recognise the bully in your self, but repeated jibes and jokes at one persons expense are bullying, so don't fall into the trap.
- 18. Don't do the Unit Councils job for them.** – It is surprising the number of leaders who fall into this trap. Providing support can be a tricky business, but it doesn't mean getting on with things and making the program happen. Certainly, there are times when a leader should organise a few activities, but it is not something that should be ongoing.
- 19. Don't tell Venturers in the Unit Council that they have to fix the unit.** – They Don't. It is not a Venturers job to build, repair or rebuild a unit. Venturers have the right to be part of a successful unit, and that means the leader is responsible for erecting the support that will help the unit to grow and flourish. The magic word in this environment is 'we'. Together, 'we' will rebuild the unit and create something special. It is never up to you, it is up to us.
- 20. Don't stop them when they are excited.** - It does not happen enough so simply don't stop it when it does. Sometimes the ideas will be so extreme that they are just not going to make it happen. Let them work that out for themselves, in fact its likely that they know already, but ideas breed ideas. Let them go.
- 21. Don't represent them** - Try to avoid representing the unit, when one of them could do it just as effectively. Much of the time, Venturers have a hard time being taken seriously, you can improve that situation by treating them the way you would like others to treat them. This can occur at Group Council, Branch Venturer Council and other Representative Groups.
- 22. Don't call them Kids.** – They are Young people, they are Venturers but they are not kids. This is a big mistake made by many people, that is part of this big dismissal of their importance, their feelings their opinions and their culture. Youth culture is real and vibrant, it is not stupid nor is it going away. When these Kids grow up they will still like the music they listen to now, in the same way that you still like "The Chemical Brothers", "The Violent Femmes", "Dire Straits", "Status Quo", "Pink Floyd" or "AC/DC". It was all rubbish to our parents but it never was, and never will be rubbish to us. The same applies to Eminem, Reel Big Fish and Britney Spears.

"TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE"

Newtown West Geelong Venturer Scouts are taking part in a tribute to the Tasmanian community of Beaconsfield. The close-knit mining town launched a knitting project in late August to create a 925-metre-long scarf, representing the length of depth, miners Todd Russell and Brant Webb were trapped underground for 14 days earlier this year. The Newtown West Geelong Venturers knitted five metres of the massive scarf and has also sent written reflections.

Venturer Unit Vice Chairman Rory Williams said; The Venturer Unit all had input knitting a Black & White link. The colours depict the darkest below and the light above. Blake Whelan, the Venturer Unit Chairman said; While in the mine Brant and Todd faced many challenges and were handed impossible obstacles to overcome. 'Working together' they endured and survived 14 days while waiting rescue. Through the challenges they faced they managed to grasp great levels of courage and strength. The skills they showed while in entrapment 925 meters below ground went far beyond anything we may ever learn. We are proud to be able to contribute knitted links, as every meter has a story to tell.

The scarf is expected to tour Australia next year after being unveiled at the first anniversary of the mine rescue, May 9, 2007.

Newtown West Geelong Venturer Unit takes pride in practicing traditional Scouting and is well accustomed to high level adventures and expeditions in the great outdoors. Last month, they entered two teams in "Gunn Hide" and walking away with first and second place in the competition, but knitting, as seen in these photo's, for these youth it really meant 'Stepping out of their comfort zone'. Just when you consider it's time to hang up your Woggle, you get a great bunch of kids like this that remind us to also practice the basic principals and fundamentals of what Scouting is all about.

Monday, 30 October 2006 was the launching of Trust Foundation - Russell Webb Legacy and the first release of the book, *Bad Ground: Inside the Beaconsfield Mine Rescue*. The Trust Foundation - Russell Webb Legacy was established by Todd Russell and Brant Webb to give back to the Beaconsfield community in Tasmania by supporting the youth of this region. This legacy perpetuates the memory of the tragedy that shocked the world in April 2006 when a minor earthquake rocked the small town of Beaconsfield, collapsing one of the tunnels in a local gold mine and trapping miners Larry Knight, Todd Russell and Brant Webb.

Speaking about their Legacy, Brant said that it's tough for kids especially in rural Australia. "There is nothing for the kids and nothing for them to do. Things are different for this generation with less freedom for them outside the house and school. They need our support as well as venues such as playgrounds and outdoor sporting arenas to help them feel a part of the community. We figured that by helping the kids, we're helping the adults and essentially helping the community and making a better future." Todd added that they both feel great about it and about being in a position to give back to a community that helped so much during the ordeal.

The Legacy has already started to attract enormous support with Kmart generously announcing a donation of \$5 for each book sold at any of their stores nationally. "When Kmart jumped on board we felt even better knowing that there were companies out there who felt like we did and wanted to support our kids," said Brant. Todd and Brant did more than just start the Legacy, they also negotiated a number of initiatives to benefit the youth of the community including a percentage of the retail price for each copy of *Bad Ground* sold going towards the Legacy.

Trust Foundation - Russell Webb Legacy is open to the public and interested parties should visit
www.trust.com.au/russell_webb_legacy, 1800650358.

Venturers at AJ2007

V Extreme - Try Venturing

The Venturer Extreme activity base, designed by Venturer Leaders and run by the Leaders and Venturers, was one of the highlights of the Jamboree. It was reported in the *Herald Sun* on Saturday January 6 and presented on Channel 7 news. *Kevin*, the Jamboree newspaper described the base as follows: "Venturer Extreme is proving a big hit, but it's very controversial. Lots of mud makes for happy scouts but exasperated Leaders. The activities are based around the four diamonds (Outdoor Activities, Leadership Development, Adventurous Activities and Community service) which make up the Venturer Award Scheme..... This activity is fantastic ... Venturer Extreme is an awesome adventure filled with fun and excitement."

How did it all come about? Many months before the jamboree, a bunch of Venturer Leaders got together to work out the best way of letting Scouts and Scout Leaders know what a fantastic time Scouts can continue to have once they are too old for the Scout Section.

Bruce Ouwerkerk took on the job of Activity manager, responsible for the layout and day-to-day running of the whole base. He was assisted before and during the jamboree by Venturer Leaders not only from Victoria, but from all over the country, and a few International Leaders as well. And of course the Venturers did a fantastic job explaining the base to the Scouts, escorting patrols through safely and generally assisting in the smooth running of the whole site.

There were 365 Venturers at the jamboree, divided up into twenty Jamboree units, each with a Jamboree Venturer Leader to look after them. Nine of these units were allocated to Venturer Extreme, where they worked for ten days making sure that the 8000 Scouts with whom they came in contact had a great time .

The **Outdoor Activities** diamond was represented by the Obstacle course, designed by Bruce, built with the help of the Scout Four Wheel Drive Service club and other Venturer Leaders, and completed with the aid of the ever-helpful Jamboree fire brigade, without whose help there would have been no ponds and no mud.

The **Leadership Development** diamond was represented by the Billy Cart course, where each patrol made up a billy cart from a kit, participated in a time trial and then raced around a circuit. The design of the billy carts was modified and improved as heavy-handed usage took its toll, and it was fortunate that there was a

dedicated team of mechanics in the workshop behind the pits constantly doing running repairs.

Adventurous Activities was represented by the Initiative Course with its giant jigsaw puzzles and brain-teasing stunts which also tested patrol teamwork and the leadership abilities of the Patrol Leaders

Community Service was to be found in the shade of the big marquee, where the patrols were given enormous sheets of paper and big textas and their challenge was to design a poster to promote an issue about the Environment.

The Administration team at the entrance made sure that all patrols were checked in, and that all jamboree passports were stamped when the Scouts had completed the activity. Those who had already experienced Kaleidoscope were awarded the Try Venturing badge, those who had not were recommended to do so. First Aiders looked after the injured and overwrought, and lost property was collected, sorted and where possible, returned to rightful owners.

Venturer Extreme – Scouts loved it, and Venturers did a fantastic job, led by a great bunch of hard-working and dedicated Leaders.

2007 VICTORIAN VENTURERS

VENTURER MINI CALENDAR 2007

Why not fold me and put me in your wallet or Record Book?

VENTURER WEB PAGE

Access the current calendar and application forms at:
<http://www.vicscouts.asn.au/Venturers/>

VENTURER EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Send an email with **subscribe** in the subject matter to:
venturer.news@vicscouts.asn.au

APRIL

12 – 15	L/ship, Unit Mgt, Voctns	Hoadley
12 – 15	Mountain Bike weekend	Branch
14 – 22	National Youth Week	Branch
15	Youth Helper Course	NorthWest
20 – 22	Canoe/kayak Level 1	Western
25	ANZAC - assist veterans	Branch
28	Unit Management	Yarra Valley
29	First Aid - Remote	Branch

MAY

4 – 6	Canoe/kayak Level 1	Western
5 – 6	Initiative Course	NorthWest
5 – 6	Initiative Course	Yarra Valley
5	Youth Helper Course	Eastern
11	St. George's Day	Branch
11 – 12	Initiative Course	Yarra Valley
18 – 20	Caving - instruction & trip	Caving
19 – 20	Initiative Course	Geelong
25	Ideals - Temple Beth	Branch
25 – 27	Landcare Tree Planting	Western

25 – 27	Leadership Course	Yarra Valley
26 – 27	First Aid Course – L2	Branch
26	Unit Management	Hoadley
JUNE		
1	First Aid Course	Branch
3	Youth Helper Course	Hoadley
8 – 11	Caving - instruction & trip	Caving
15 – 17	Leadership Course	Northern
16 – 17	Ideals Course	Hoadley
22 – 30	Gang Show - all shows	Branch
22 – 24	Landcare Tree Planting	Western
29	Gang Show - Venturers	Branch
29 – 30	Initiative Course	Eastern
30 – 7/7	Venturer Ski Week #1	Rovers
JULY		
1	Activity Expo	Branch
6 – 8	Caving – activity leader	Caving
8	Snow 'Ski & See'	Branch
8	XC Ski Basic	Branch
13 – 15	Ideals Course	Yarra Valley
13 – 15	Leadership Course	Eastern
13 – 21	Showtime	NorthWest
20	Ideals - BaHi Faith - intro	Eastern
22 – 5/8	First Aid Course - L2	Branch
22	Snow 'Ski & See'	Branch
22	XC Ski Basic	Branch
27	Big Burger Competition	South Metro
27 – 29	Landcare Tree Planting	Western
28 – 7/8	Join in Jamboree	International
29	Ideals - mosque visit	Yarra Valley
AUGUST		
1	World Scout Day	National
5	Youth Helper Course	Geelong
10 – 12	Armstrong 500	Yarra Valley
10 – 12	I'Glute - Snow tour/camp	Branch
10 – 12	Initiative Course	Yarra Valley
11 – 12	Initiative Course	Hoadley
17 – 19	Landcare Tree Planting	Western
17 – 19	Murray Darling Rescue	Branch
17 – 25	Showtime	Yarra Valley
18	Youth Helper Course	Yarra Valley
24 – 26	Initiative Course	Yarra Valley
24 – 1/9	Showtime	Yarra Valley
25	Snow 'Ski & See'	Ski Touring
25	XC Ski Basic & Advcd	Branch
31	QS nominations due	Branch
31 – 8/9	Showtime	South Metro
SEPTEMBER		
7 – 9	Caving - instruction & trip	Branch
7 – 8	Unit Management	Yarra Valley
8 – 9	Initiative Course	Northern
8	Youth Helper Course	South Metro
14 – 16	Canoe/kayak Level 1	Western
14 – 16	Leadership Course	Hoadley
15 – 18	Beyond Bogong	Ski Touring
22 – 30	BARCOM # 1	South Metro
22 – 23	Unit Management	Eastern
22 – 29	Venturer Ski Week #2	Rovers
24 – 30	Sailing Course	Western
29 – 7/10	BARCOM # 2	South Metro
29 – 30	Bluff Bash - Advanced	Ski Touring
29 – 30	Leaders - Basic Course	Hoadley
30	Boat Certificates Expiry	Branch
30	Canoe Certs. Expiry	Branch
OCTOBER		
7	First Aid Course	Branch

12 – 14	Feathertop - Advanced	Ski Touring
12 – 20	Showtime	Eastern
13 – 14	Leaders - Basic Course	Hoadley
13	Youth Helper Course	Eastern
14	Youth Helper Course	NorthWest
19 – 20	Caving - instruction & trip	Caving
20 – 21	JOTA & JOTI	International
20	QS Dinner	Yarra Valley
26 – 28	Canoe/kayak Level 1	Western
27 – 28	First Aid Course – L2	Branch
28	Ideals - church visit	Yarra Valley
28	Unit Management	Northern
NOVEMBER		
16 - 18	Caving - activity leader	Caving
23 – 25	Leadership Course	Yarra Valley
30 – 2/12	VG 2007 – Gathering!	Yarra Valley
DECEMBER		
5	International Volunteer	National
7 - 9	Canoe/kayak Level 1	Western

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you require more information, contact the event organiser:

Branch Scout Centre 8543 9800reception@vicscouts.asn.au for all Branch Events**Bentleigh Scout Centre 8575 4000**bentleigh@vicscouts.asn.au

South Metro & Eastern Regions

Western Scout Centre 8331 8000western@vicscouts.asn.au

Hoadley, Western, WestCoast, Geelong & NthWest Regions

Heathmont Scout Centre 9298 5050heathmont@vicscouts.asn.au

Yarra Valley & Northern Regions

Deep Thought 2007 'The Question!'

Boroondara Personal Growth: Ideals 1 Course

Friday 13th July to Sunday 15th July 2007

The Course is DEFINITELY running.

*Final applications need to be received
by 1st July. NO exceptions.*

More info inside!

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