



Chicken Scratchings



Autumn 2016

UPWEY SCOUT GROUP NEWS

A very quick Term 1 - gone!

by Michael Walker

Welcome to the autumn newsletter. You've no doubt just had a relaxing Easter break and were looking forward to school resuming for Term 2. Where does the year go?

2016 at 1st Upwey has, as always, been a busy affair. As well as running programs for the three youth sections, the committee has been busy keeping the building, facilities and equipment in check as well as supporting the section leaders.

Term 1 saw the Cubs enjoy a spicy, hot Salsa themed term

with activities such as International Night, Mexican Billy Carts and Camp Fire Fun at the hall.

The Scouts caught up with their Jamboree buddies at an ice-blocking reunion evening at Silvan, enjoyed water slides, entered the Upwey Billy Cart races, played some medieval games and some even hiked through the Prom over the school holidays.

Foresters Venturers made another waterslide, went to the statewide Anything Goes camp, had an evening of

Yoga and went caving in the lava tubes in the far west of the state.

The group committee has been busy overseeing the re-stumping of the hall, wrangling the sausage sizzle at the Billy Cart Races and supporting the youth sections.

It's been a busy term.



Cub Scouts

by Judi Liddell & Chrystal Carter

Term 1 in a nutshell - Hot Salsa, No Siesta

We had a full program in term 1 squeezed in to a very short term. We started with a photo trail around the Upwey Main street and were surprised at how much the cubs knew about the shops and local spots. Luckily for Upwey it was a quiet evening as the Cubs were determined to do everything at full pace.

We did international culture comparing Mexico and Australia and made some simple toys and Group Leader Ken introduced us to the Mexican Blanket Game. Given that lots of the cubs were new or not long joined, guessing who was under the blanket resulted in some good descriptions such as the girl in the pretty dress, the noisy one and hey is there two under there!

We finished our cultural theme with a sleepover at

the Hall. We ate Mexican food, tacos and churros, slept in sleeping bags in the hall and watched the film Rango.

We practiced Billy Cart races down the grassy area at the hall and only had one accident. Luckily no Cubs or animals were injured in this event.

Back at the hall after Billy Cart day we did some camp and hiking survival skills. Lucky for us we had Venturers to look after the fire and help us eat our giant marshmallows. Damper was not quite a success unless you like it doughy but fun was had in the attempt.

Baloo's picnic was a massive state wide Cub event at the Zoo. And 4 resilient cubs made it the event. I report that they are resilient as they had to catch the train, then a bus, then a train, then another train to get there and then do all the same in reverse to get home.

This year is the 100 year celebration of Cubs in Scouting and we will continue to be involved with special events with state, district or here within our own Group. Next one coming up is Shere Khan



Hunting Day around the 4th of June. Stay tuned for how we will celebrate that!

We finished the term with a Group event at Bubble Soccer. Cubs had lots of fun as they were small enough to curl up in the bubbles and be completely rolled down the courts.

Well done to Emily Carter and Levi Yarra for becoming Sixers and welcome to Oliver Esse and Seamus Dwyer who accepted their white scarves and are on their journey to making their promise as Cubs. We also said good luck to Patrick Beggs, Hamish Liddell and Adam Gorry who have moved up to Scouts.

Judi Liddell (KO)

CSL 1st Upwey

Billy Cart Races

My 1st unofficial, official event that required my attendance since I put up my hand to become an Assistant Cub Scout Leader, and also my 1st ever time at the Upwey Billy Cart Races.

I was to man, or rather woman a lonely Cub Scout water station, however the lure of the crowds and the thrill of the impending race



was too much to bare, and so I soon found myself at the edge of the track, a few metres away from the starting blocks. I knew I



would never see who had won from my position, but I got to witness all the pre-race jitters, the hearts starting to pound, the fingers twist around the steering wheels as the countdown began and the leap of excitement, as the blocks fell away.

Enthusiastic parents cheering on their tiny tearaways, carts of many colours and designs

rolling by. A pink Minecraft pig caught my eye, and its little driver so deep in concentration, determined

to win. At the start of every race, you'd find the trusty Scout Leaders, organising the chaos, you'd hear the blowing



of whistle, and see the waving of the flag. As I pointed and clicked with my camera, I caught the beginning of almost every race, the moment when the carts were released, each snapshot captured a heartbeat frozen in time, a creation of a memory that would last forever...

Chrystal Carter (Chil)

ACSL 1st Upwey

COMING UP IN TERM 2

- ANZAC Day march
 - Night hike
- And much more

Scouts

by Vicki Morris & Tim Allchin

Welcome back & Ice blocking

This term although short has been quite active. We had an evening sliding down a hill on ice blocks at Silvan Reservoir with the Jamboree Troop including Scouts from Box Hill North and Wurringga as well as our fellow district Scout Troop at Monbulk. Then following week spent many metres swimming, treading water and rescuing fellow scouts for our Target water safety badge.

Advancements

We have 5 linking cubs coming up over the next few months and they all seem to be enjoying the scout things they have attended so far. Hamish and Patrick advanced at Bubble Soccer running through a tube of bubble soccer balls and others will advance during term 2.

Bubble soccer was great with

over 70 Upwey Cubs, Scouts and Foresters Venturers there.

Beach walk @ the Prom

Instead of attending Stradbroke Cup this year, we had a great walk down at Wilsons Prom with lots of white sand and blue water during the days and a wide game at our campsite at night as well as time to reflect lying on our backs gazing up at the stars. It's been a good start to the year!



Upwey Billy Cart Races

The Billy Carts again proved fun and we assisted with the starting and marshalling this year. This is a great event to be involved in in terms of getting known in the community and helping these fun events run.





COMING UP IN TERM 2

- Scout Hike
 - Wide Games night with Selby
 - ANZAC Day march
- And much more

Venturer Scouts

by Michael Walker

Welcome Back Swim & BBQ

To see in the New Year, Foresters met at the Olinda pool for a swim before heading to the Olinda Scout Hall for a BBQ and chill out in the playground next door.

This was a great way to catch up with everybody and ease our way back into the Scouting year.

Anything Goes

The annual Anything Goes camp was well attended again this year. With over 1,000 Venturers (including several from interstate), this was the biggest AG in the history of the event.

From helicopter joy flights and driving lessons to a bogan dance party and watermelon tossing, this camp has it all!

Yoga

After introducing the Venturers to Yoga last year on a Leader's Surprise night,



they put it in the program themselves this year.

We contacted our friendly Yoga instructor, Ivana, again and she was most happy to join us again.

Being young and flexible, a night of Yoga with the Venturers generally ends up like this:



Canoeing

Making the most of daylight savings, we headed to Aura Vale Lake for an evening of canoeing. We were joined by some local Sherbrooke Forest district Cubs as well.

Caving

The Labour Day weekend saw about half of the unit head to Byaduk (down Mt Eccles way) to go caving with the Branch Caving team.

Caving is a very popular scouting activity and we were lucky enough to score a trip this year.

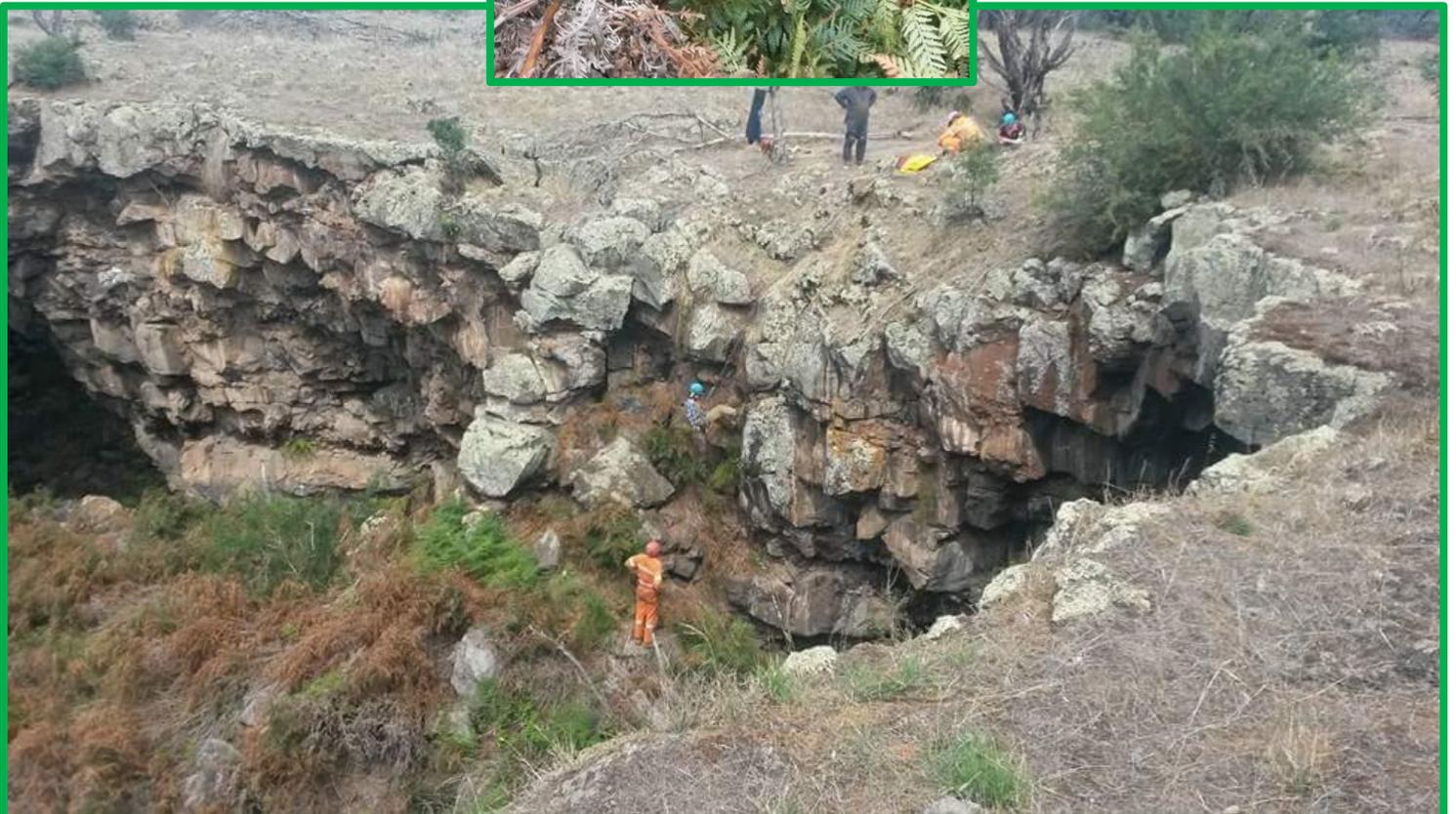
The caves down here are lava tubes and come in all shapes and sizes.



Linking, Advancing & Investitures

2016 marks a big year for Foresters. We have 12 Venturers that we farewell during the year. We have already bid Shannon and Zac farewell and Term 2 sees Hannah M, Jordan D, Nathan and Patrick turn 18 as well as Izaak from Summit who we've been hosting since last year. That's a massive turnover.

Fortunately we've been able to welcome some new members! At AG we welcomed Jasmine, Jordan



D, Jordan P and Angus to the fold.

During the second last week of term we advanced Molly and Tamika in the presence of their fellow Belgrave South Scouts and leaders.

During term 2 we'll be investing Baeckea, advancing Jeremy (1st Upwey) and helping Julian (1st Kallista) finish his linking before advancing.

Anything is possible with the right attitude, a sledge hammer and some duct tape!!

COMING UP IN TERM 2

- Venturing Skills
 - Rock climbing in the Grampians
 - Scout Hike and Puffing Billy Fun Run service
 - Night hike
- And much more



Committee

by Ken Stanford

Scouts Monster Raffle

The annual Scouts Monster Raffle is now on.

Tickets will be distributed to all group members during

This obviously represents only a part of our fundraising efforts; however it is a significant part and one that we rely on each year.

Please make sure your family seels their book/s of tickets and returns the money as soon as possible. If you have opportunity to sell more, please ask for more books.



the first week of term.

This is a great fundraiser for the group. Scouts Victoria organises and runs the raffle and all we need to do is sell the tickets. From each \$2 ticket sold, the group keeps \$2. It doesn't get any better than that. The more we sell, the more the group raises to fund projects such as:

- Front door replacement
- Q store renovations
- Scouting equipment purchases and repairs
- And much more

Thank you for your continued support.

Re-stumping

The re-stumping of the southern half of the hall is now complete! That's great news, because it means ...

New entry doors

Are now on order and will be installed in the near future. These will be very similar to the double doors that were replaced in the main hall area last year.

At last we will no longer be able to see daylight through the front door!

Group leader transition

Eric Staff has now completed his Leader of Adults training and has transitioned to the position of Group Leader. Congratulations Eric.

This means we now have an Assistant Group Leader in the form of Ken Stanford. Ken will continue to assist Eric during the transition period.

It's great when a (succession) plan comes together!