



Chicken Scratchings



Summer, 2017

UPWEY SCOUT GROUP NEWS

Star Wars, Food and Adventure!

by Michael Walker

The Cubs had a Circus themed term culminating in fire twirling (thankfully, not by the Cubs); the Scouts got busy with some badgework, visiting other troops and orienteering; and the Venturers rounded the term out with some more Scout troop visits and the annual Vic Gathering camp.

In amongst all that we had 4 Venturers head to Government House to receive their Queen's Scout awards, Christmas tree sales and plenty of other activities.

With 70+ youth members, 1st Upwey Cubs and Scouts and Foresters Venturer Unit are

really thriving. The help provided by leaders of each section to one another has enabled the program for each section to be delivered as well as possible. Team work!

Remember, the newsletter is published once per term. It is anticipated that the newsletter will (hopefully) be published during each term break.

If you have any stories or photos you'd like included, please email me at venturer.leader@upweyscouts.asn.au and I'll see what I can do.



Inside this issue:

Cub Scouts: Circus, Horses and more

Scouts: Movements & Visits

Venturers: Suburban Adventure Racing, VG and Phillip Island

Group & Committee: Christmas Trees and more!



World Scout Jamboree 2019

by Vicki Morris & Michael Walker

World Jamboree is being held in the US in July 2019. The Jamboree site is in West Virginia (mountain momma, take me home ...). The eligible age range is from 14

to 18 at the time of Jamboree, so this makes older Scouts and all Venturers prime candidates!

Entries open early this year and will close very quickly. Costs are still to be confirmed but will be in the ballpark of \$7000 for 4 weeks, with the option of an additional trip possibly to Canada for a week. There

may be an option to go for 3 weeks for approximately \$6000. More details as they come to hand.

If you are interested, please speak with Vicki Morris (Scouts) or Michael Walker (Venturers) in the first instance.

For more info:
<http://wsj2019.scouts.com.au/>



CUB SCOUT NEWS

by Judi Liddell

Circus

This term had a Circus theme. From being schooled in plate twirling and other tricks, to enjoying a performance (with our families) from some ex-Upwey Cubs.



Horse night

Maddy took the Cubs to her friend's farm to visit some

horses. Who doesn't love a horse!

Moving on up

Emily and Levi moved up from Cubs to Scouts.

You leave Cubs as one of the bigger kids and start over again. A fresh challenge!

Happy Scouting Emily and Levi. Enjoy new adventures.



Term 1 for Cubs

Term 1 has the following treats in store Take only what you need to survive!

- Cub Survival camp!!
- Ice blocking
- Escape Sherbrooke Forest & more

SCOUT NEWS

by Vicki Morris & Tim Allchin

Movements

This term saw some changes as we welcomed some new scouts, new PLs and new APLs.

We celebrated the advancement of Emily, Levi and Blake to Scouts and the transfer of Arran to our Scout Troop and the 1st Upwey Group.

We also said goodbye and thank you to two of our PLs Guy and Ian as they advanced to the Foresters Venturer unit.

Congratulations to Rohan and Felicity for taking on the role of Patrol Leaders for Platypus and Wedge Tailed Eagle Patrols and to Zoe and Shaun for their new roles as Assistant Patrol Leaders.

Visits

During term 4 our Patrol Leaders organised a variety of nights including a Games Night, Robotics, Fire and Fuel, First Aid, Halloween and a Night Hike.

We visited a Mosque and took our friends Rock Climbing. We, along with Cockatoo Scout Troop, were also challenged by the



Kallista/ Selby Scout Troop to a Chariot Race. Great work on the lashings as all Chariots supported a brave scout for the length of a soccer pitch and back. Unfortunately Kallista/Selby won, but hopefully we will

build up our strength and speed ready for the next challenge.



We had an orienteering skills practice day at Heany Park, improving on our map reading, compass and GPS skills. Unfortunately only a few of the Troop managed to get to go to JOTA as it was booked out earlier than usual. For 2017 we have put out the bookings early so we don't miss out on events in 2017.



Troop Council

Troop Council have put Term 1 2017 program together that includes Stradbroke Cup. Before the cup we are going to practice our Patrol Camping at the pre – Stradbroke camp for early March. The Cubs will also be joining us as they have their camp in preparation for Cuboree.

Term 1 for Scouts

Term 1 has the following treats in store for your Scout:

- Ice blocking



- Water Safety Target Badge
- Stradbroke Cup
- CFA Visit

VENTURER NEWS

by Michael Walker



Smoothies - yuk!

Term 4 started with a taste for the weird and wonderful. We were joined by the Selby/Kallista scout troops for a night of Gross Smoothies.

All participants were asked to bring an ingredient that could be blended. The group was split into three teams and they then needed to



throw balls into a bin to select an ingredient. If they missed their opponents got to choose the ingredient!

Once all ingredients were selected, each team had to split their ingredients into two so that they could create two different smoothies.

Ingredients such as sardines, asparagus, blue heaven ice cream topping and red rope liquorice were among those available for selection.

Some groups fared better than others when it came to the smoothie consumption. Despite Venturers being known for their cast iron stomachs (due to some of the concoctions they make on camps) it was the Scouts that showed true grit when downing these monstrosities.

It was a very enjoyable night (as a spectator) and it was great to include the Selby/Kallista scout troops in the evening.



Queen's Scout Awards

The final step in the Queen's Scout Award for our four recent recipients was to receive the award at Government House.

Pat, Declan, Maddy and Shannon were accompanied by their leaders and families on this auspicious occasion, on a lovely spring day in the gardens of Government House. Well done and good luck in your future endeavours.



Vic Gathering

The annual Vic Gathering camp was held at Bay Park, Mt Martha for the first of two years. Once again this year we camped with our district buddies the Jets

Venturers and had a great weekend.

Suburban Adventure Racing

We took part in the Suburban Adventure Racing activity that is hosted by a group of orienteering/Rogaining/Scouting people. For Term 4 and 1 each year they host orienteering activities for Scouts as well as the general community.

We attended round 2 which was hosted at the 1st Nunawading Scout Hall and the course was set over the nearby area. From the time you 'touch on' until you are due back, you have one hour to check in at as many checkpoints as possible.

This was a great activity and we were very fortunate that the rain held off.

Sonja sneaks over the line

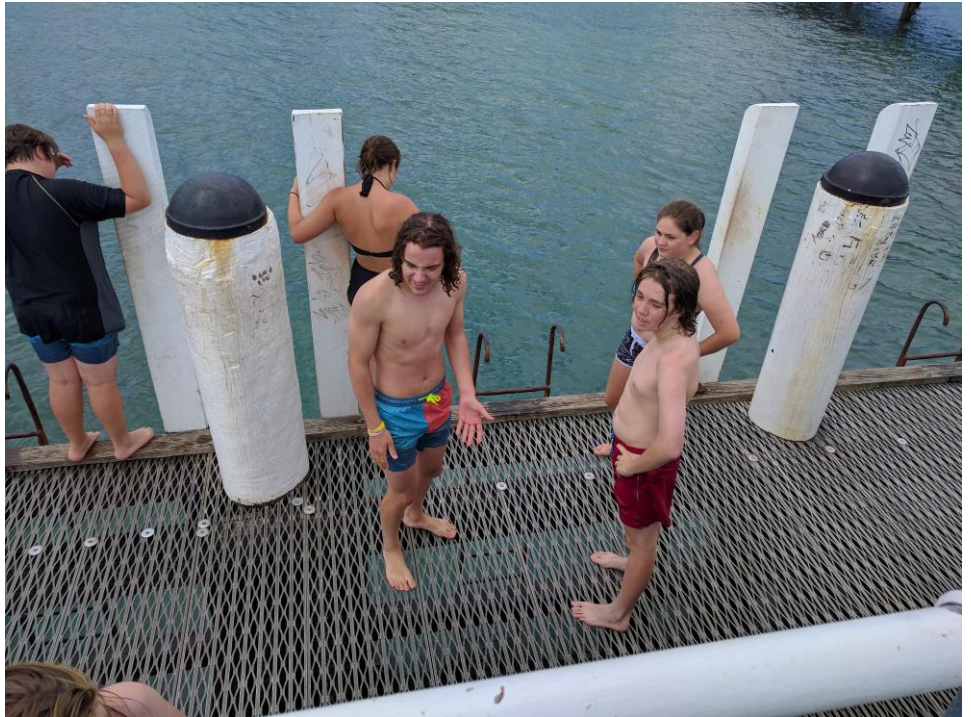
With Sonja turning 18 at the end of October, it was her wish that her last night was held at a wave pool. Her wish was our command, so we headed off to the Monash Aquatic Centre for an evening of swimming and general frolicking in the pool.

Two nights later we attended our last District Venturer Council meeting for the year where Sonja had the completion of her Queen's Scout Award approved. This is a great achievement and we congratulate Sonja on her efforts to complete the award and wish her well in Rovers (and World Moot in Iceland).

Farewell to the old guard

Over the past 12 months or so we have bid farewell to a large number of our unit members. In no particular order we have farewelled Maddy, George, Zac, Jordan D, Nathan, Pat, Declan, Shannon, Jess, Claire,

Pippa, Bailey, Sonja, Lachlan, Hannah, Izaak and Baeckea. Most have turned 18 and have either moved to Rovers or are contemplating life after Venturers whereas others have left scouting to pursue other interests. Whatever the reason we thank them for their contribution to the unit wish them luck in their future endeavours.



Welcome to the future!

As we have farewelled several members, so too have we welcomed several new members. Tamika, Molly, Angus, Jeremy, Julian, Ian and Guy have joined us while Riley, Ollie, Matt, Brendan & Amy have also begun linking and will likely join in the New Year.

Welcome to 2017

As a different way to kick off the Venturing year, we headed to Phillip Island for a weekend in January. Beautiful weather, a great Scout Hall to stay in and enough Venturers to make their own fun. We had a ball.

Term 1 for Venturers

Term 1 has the following treats in store for your Venturer:

- Ice blocking
- Anything Goes
- Waterslides
- Sign language & more



GROUP & COMMITTEE NEWS

by Ken Stanford

CareMonkey

CareMonkey is a new online system that Scouts Victoria are implementing to capture the details you used to provide on the Health forms. Instead of needing to fill in a new form each time your Cub/Scout/Venturer goes on a camp/activity, you fill in the details online once and unless they change, that's it.

You will all have received an email (or several reminders)

about completing the CareMonkey profile for your children. For those that have done this – thank you. For those that are yet to do this, it is compulsory and from 2017 your children will not be able to attend camps and activities unless their profile details are added to CareMonkey.

Once added, the only thing you need to do is keep it up to date. This could be due to a change of medication, a new condition, temporary medications etc.

Many schools are using CareMonkey, and if yours is one you can even share your existing profile with Scouts. Simple!

Christmas Tree Stall

This year we sold 93 on the first weekend & 81 on the second weekend for a total of 174 trees. That's a great effort! Many thanks go out to the families & youth members for delivering approximately 1,500 pre order forms. 32 people took up our offer to pre order a tree. This is up from 11 last year. Some might argue that's a poor return, but I say that's 1,500 homes that knew where & when 1st Upwey were selling trees.

Thanks go to the committee, leaders, families & youth who helped with selling trees. And a

mighty big thanks to Eric Staff, Doug Leggett, Ben Harris, Bruce Gaulke & Ken Stanford who were at the tree farm at 7am on those Saturday mornings to collect the trees.

