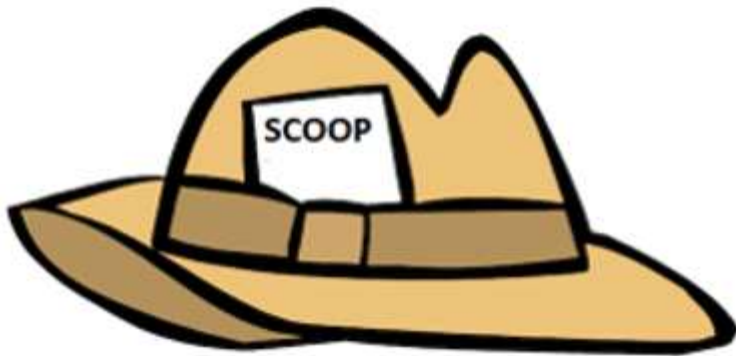


# SCOOP



**AUTUMN 2019**  
**NEWSLETTER FOR THE**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> UPWEY**  
**SCOUT GROUP**

## Camping, outdoors, navigation. It sounds like Scouts!

There's never a dull term in Scouting, but the first term each year seems to come and go in such a rush, that it seems strange to look back on it and believe that we managed to fit so much in!

From the first camp (under canvas) for our Joey Mob and Suburban Adventure Racing for the Cubs to a camp at Cobram for the Scouts and Anything Goes for Venturers – that is the tip of the iceberg! So I encourage you to read on

With 80+ youth members, 1st Upwey Cubs and Scouts, the Foresters Venturer Unit and the Rover crews our Rovers call home are really thriving. The help provided by leaders of each section to one another, and between sections, has enabled the program for each section to be delivered as well as possible.

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 [michael@walkerfamily.id.au](mailto:michael@walkerfamily.id.au) and I'll see what I can do.

# Joey Scouts

## Term 1 Joey Adventures

In February this year we celebrated 1 year since our Joey mob started at 1st Upwey!

We had our first Joey Scout Sleepover with just our mob at the hall - we had a 'Pirates Ahoy' theme and built a huge cardboard ship, enjoyed a nature treasure hunt, delicious supper and breakfast (donated by Sue Brown - thanks again!) and played with exploding balloon canons.



In another first we had our first Joey Camp under canvas at Gilwell Scout Camp in Gembrook.



With Old Baloo (Ken - Asst. group Leader) as Leader in Charge, Akela (Judith- Cub Leader) on first aid and Joey welfare and



Michael (Venturer Leader) and parents David, Maxine and James assisting Dinjinee (Sally - Joey Leader) and myself (Echidna) - we had a great team to plan and run the weekend away.



Many thanks to the nine awesome district Venturers who kindly came along to help keep our joeys safe, happy and entertained.



Joeys slept in the new canvas tents recently purchased by the Group which were easy to construct and fitted eleven Joeys beautifully.







We enjoyed the Flying Fox, archery and a hike to Kurth Kiln, some LEGO building, drawing and copious amounts of delicious food.

The Birdsland Environmental project outing in which we collected and documented samples of plants at the reserve and undertook a nature walk with Birdsland volunteer Garrique had us all thinking like environmental scientists and appreciating the importance of habitat right at our doorstep.



As part of our Mob Buddy badge we met with Joey scouts from 1st Vermont Scout Group (where Dinjinee and Echidna did their leader training) at Bayswater Train Park. It was very exciting catching the train and making new friends.





In March we visited Menarock Aged Care again to play board games with the residents there. We were warmly welcomed and received enthusiastic feedback from the leisure team there.



Coming up this year we have a district sleepover and camp and a few Joeys working towards achieving their Joey Scout Promise Challenge before linking to cubs. Good luck Joeys!

[Yours in Scouting,](#)  
[Monique \(Echidna\)](#)



We also started communicating with Beaver Scouts in England, we drew some pictures and recorded ourselves singing our favourite song to send to them. We look forward to their response next term.



# Cub Scouts

## Billycart Races

By Kira S

For The Newsletter In February, the 1st Upwey scout group sold sausages at the local billy cart racing. It was pure fun meeting new people and giving the customers their food. I learnt it was important not to touch anything other than the food while I had gloves on.



It was challenging not to touch the money. We got better at our \$2.50 timetables and giving change. We sold about 540 sausages we made \$920 profit for our group. Kyra reporting.

## Suburban Adventure Racing

By Chil (Pelyta Sarris)

Not only does Daylight Savings bring an extra hour of daylight, but it also brings Suburban Adventure Racing!!



In February, Cubs received some on-the-spot training in Map Reading then travelled in small groups around Heathmont to find several points marked on the map.



The aim was for this to be done in the quickest possible time -but with no longer than 1 hour.

Cubs enjoyed the challenge, working as a team and navigating their way through all kinds of terrain. A Sausage sizzle was a fantastic way to end their efforts which also raised money for the local HEATHMONT Scout Group.



# Environment Project

By Raksha (Karen Walker)

In early March the cubs met at Birdsland as part of the 1st Upwey/Birdsland Environmental project.

We met at the BBQ area and walked as a group to the Environmental Education Centre where we were met by Garrique.





The cubs were split into 3 groups and were shown where they would be planting some native wildflowers.

All the cubs took turns digging a hole with a mattock while others placed the tube stick into the hole.



Soon the hill will be covered in beautiful wild flowers which Garrique assures us will attract lots of butterflies.

At the end of the night we invested Luke into our cub pack (welcome Luke) and gave out lots of badges that the cubs have been working hard to achieve.





# Scouts

## Term 1 activities

In this first term of 2019 the Scout Troop have been out and about at Silvan Reservoir for Ice Blocking, at the Pool for our Water Safety Target Badge, at Birdland as part of our Environment project, down at the Beach with our friends from 1st Carrum Downs Scout Troop. And on the final weekend before the term finished some of the Troop headed to Mafeking for Top Gear Scout while part of the Troop travelled by train and bus to Cobram to meet with our friends from 1st Carrum Downs and 1st Cobram Scout Troop.



We welcomed Zac and April as they advanced from Cubs to Scouts. We have also had many friends try out Scouts at our Troop and look forward to them joining the Troop next term along with linking Cubs Mitchell, Seamus and Alistair.

When we were at the Scout Hall our Patrol Leaders ran a night of Outdoor games and

a Mystery night where we had to find out clues using a GPS. They also ran the Breaking the Cycle program where we wrote signed our new Troop Code for the year (Look out for it in the hall).







## Cobram Camp

While Melbourne was wet some of us travelled to Cobram for fine weather.



Which was just as well as we had no tents.

Our journey started at Glen Waverley Station where we caught the train to Southern Cross and joined up with 1st Carrum Downs Scouts. We then caught the V Line train to Shepparton. Then the VLine

Bus to Cobram where we were met at the Bus stop by 1st Cobram Scouts and their SL Paul and ASL Andrew.



Our first task was to find answers to the Scavenger hunt around Cobram, once completed we had to head for our camp



site on the Murray River. The first Patrol to make it to the camp site got first pick of the equipment for their shelter. At the camp site we made our shelters to sleep in overnight. The SL and ASL prepare a great feast of lamb for us all as we sat around and enjoyed the campfire, with Marshmallows.



The next day we were taken to SL Paul's dairy farm.



A modern farm with some of the latest technology. Special feeders for calves so they get the right amount of milk each day. For the new calves 2 to 3 days old we hand fed them their milk.



The farm had a carousel where the cows got on to be milked. Here farmer Paul checked the cows and treated the cows that weren't well. He inseminated the ones he wanted to breed and we checked on the cows that were carrying a calf. How do you do that? – see if you can work it out from the pictures.



We then went on a hay ride around the farm and to a peach orchard where we pick and ate fruit straight off the trees.

## Top Gear Scout 2019

At 7pm on Friday the 1st of March 1, 6 scouts and 2 leaders left for a weekend of driving cars and other activities at Mafeking Rover Park. After 2 hours of driving, we arrived at Mafeking, were assigned our campsite and then proceeded to set up our tents.

The event was then rescheduled for the weekend of March 29, 30 & 31. Again, we arrived at 9 on the Friday night, pitched our tents, made acquaintances with our neighbours from Knox, then hit the Hay for the night.

Breakfast was from 6:30, with opening parade at 8:30, with the activities commencing at 9.

The activities consisted of Radio Fox Hunting, Billy Cart Races, Car smash 'em



As the tents were new, some last-minute instructions under vehicle headlights allowed the scouts to get them set up. As they were getting their bedding set up, all the leaders were summoned to an urgent meeting at the Mess Hall.

After much deliberation with Victoria Police and the CFA, it was decided to evacuate the park and cancel the event due to a fire that had broken out approximately 7km Sth West of the camp.

A very hurried pack up and departure had the whole camp evacuated of all 300 odd Scouts plus leaders/parent helpers.

up, BMX riding, a Hot Lap in one of the 5-6 Rover Mud Bash cars, and a Junior Development Program where the scouts actually got to drive a car under the instruction of the Rovers around an obstacle course, and various other activities.

Each activity had a points value to be earned. All points were to be tallied up at the end of the weekend to find out which Patrol would be crowned Top Gear Scout for 2019. Needless to say we did our best for first time attendees.





As a leader who went for the first time, the continual discussions that I heard from the scouts over the weekend has led me to believe it was a complete success. All scouts were wanting to either re-attend next year, or for those going up to Venturers, they were interested in attending Top Gear Venture in September this year.

# Venturers

## Using those extra daylight hours

Outdoor games, swimming followed by a BBQ, ice blocking and matchbox trading night were all first term activities that got us out of the hall using the extra daylight hours.

We started the term with a swim at Belgrave pool followed by a BBQ to kick off the year.

We used the Menzies Creek oval for some wide games and split up into teams to trade up from a matchbox in the streets of Belgrave South.

And in great Scouting tradition, we went ice blocking on the back slopes of Birds land one balmy evening.

## Anything Goes

Anything Goes is a Term 1 staple, so we headed down to Lardner Park with over





1,000 of our closest friends from around the state.

AG is always a massive affair, and this year was no different. We also hosted 5 Scouts from Monbulk who are at the start of their Venturing journey. Thanks to Foresters for being so welcoming of the extra campers!

## Planning for success

We spent a night re-visiting how we plan activities – because as Venturers it's up to the Venturers to plan and run the weekly activities as well as have a big hand in running camps and other activities away from the hall.

## Parents,

your support in encouraging your Venturer to communicate with their peers and spend time planning activities they are assigned is vitally important. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the leaders, but we really do need your support to make the Unit the best it can be.

## Suspended platforms

Just as AG is a program staple, one of the favourite Venturer activities to run in the hall is a suspended platform evening.

After all – what teenager doesn't like the opportunity to hang from the rafters!



## Molly's Queen's Scout presentation

The peak award in the Venturer section is a well earned achievement, and congratulations goes out to Molly D for achieving her Queen's Scout Award.





In front of family, friends and Scouting members that helped Molly along her journey, she received the award in a presentation that took time to reflect on Molly's achievements.







As much as Molly dislikes being the centre of attention, it was a great afternoon and a fitting conclusion. Well done Molly.

## End of Term

To wrap up the term, the Unit Council planned and ran an Easter Egg Hunt before settling in to decorate some cupcakes (enthusiastically baked by Blake!).

And for 9 Venturers and 1 Venturer Leader, the first weekend of the term holidays was spent helping the Joeys enjoy their first camping experience. You guys were STARS! Thank you very much for all your work over that weekend.



# Mountain Biking in the High Country



Michael, in one of his other roles as an Activity Guide with the Scouts Victoria Cycling Team, headed off to the Bogong Rover Chalet (out the back of Falls Creek) for the middle weekend of the school holidays. This year he was joined by Rohan, Angus and Oliver C among other Venturers, leaders and Activity Guides from around the state.

Day One is spent getting familiar with our surrounds, making sure our bikes are up to scratch, improving our bike handling skills and some cross country riding in the back country.

Day Two saw us venture into the Falls Creek resort and attack the single track trails the resort has become known for. And for those of us lucky enough to ride Flowtown – it was worth every ounce of effort.







The group was broken up in to smaller riding groups based on confidence and ability, and it suited everybody.

Even if you don't ride a lot, if you enjoy it I'd thoroughly recommend you attend next year. It will definitely help your riding, and your enjoyment of riding.

# Group Leader & Committee

## Special Defibrillator Sponsorship Program – 2018

The Bendigo Community Bank took great pleasure in advising the group that our application for a defibrillator was successful. The 1st Upwey Scout Group contributed \$500 towards the AED

machine and the bank covered the remainder!

Ken (Assistant Group Leader) and Eric Y (committee office bearer) attended a group presentation of the units in at the bank Business Centre.

The unit is now fitted in the hall and will hopefully not need to be used. However, in the event that it is needed, it is a powerful life saving device.





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