

SCOOP



NEWSLETTER FOR THE
1ST UPWEY
SCOUT GROUP



Looking for a Newsletter Editor!

If **anybody** - youth member, leader, parent, supporter - is interested in taking over the preparation and editing of this newsletter (only 4 times a year) please contact Michael Walker to discuss. This is the second and last call for a volunteer Newsletter Editor. If no volunteer comes forward, this will be the last newsletter for the foreseeable future. I'm sure there's some creative youth members or parents out there that could give the newsletter the attention it deserves. Please give it some thought.

The newsletter is a great means of communicating about what each section is up to however; it is now not possible for me to manage this along with my other commitments. I'm happy to help somebody get set up and assist - no experience necessary.

Joey Scouts

Wow! Where did the year go?

We have welcomed new Joeys Penny, Will, Katie, James, Ivy and Josh who make valued and fun new additions to our mob. Penny's Mum, Sally, has now been officially invested to 1st Upwey having transferred from Vermont. Brilliant! We have also welcomed a new training Joey leader, Wren, aka our amazing Cub helper Tayla's Mum, Nikita! Hugh's Dad, James, has also bravely taken on the role of adult helper and now also leader in training. Thanks and well done (now he needs to think about a Joey leader name - suggestions welcome!)





Some of our Joeys attended the statewide Joey Zoo Day. Hugh and Oliver both enjoyed the district Joey camp in a December at Gilwell Park. We enjoyed preparing for Zoo Day by playing animal games and making fruity animal faces.



We shared some fun activities with the Cubs this term including a hike at Glenfern Valley Bushland with experts from the Friend of Glenfern Valley Bushland volunteer group, a tour of the Upwey CFA and canoeing at Auravale Lake. Emily from Surry Park Swimming came and taught us all about water safety with fun games and props in November, so we were well prepared for canoeing and swimming at Belgrave Outdoor Pool. Thanks to Akela, Judith, and Old Baloo, Ken, for their support with our programs this term, in particular.



Last of all, congratulations to some of our founding Joeys who linked to Cubs this

year - Riley, Harry, Daniel, Lucas, Liam and Lillie Jean. You will be missed but we will plan lots of shared Cub activities so we can share some of your amazing scouting adventures into the future. Well done team!

Cub Scouts

Halloween

The Cubs ran a Fright Night on Halloween for the Joeys. It looked quite the Fright!



CFA visit

In term 4 of 2019 the Joeys joined the Cubs for a visit to the Upwey CFA station. The firies were very generous with their time and talked to the kids about fire safety. All the Cubs and Joeys had a turn sitting in the fire truck and got to experience the lights and sirens. Everyone had lots of questions and they were all answered thoroughly, the evening proved to be entertaining and educational.





Canoeing on Auravale Lake

Much fun was had by all recently on an outing to Aura Vale Lake for a canoeing evening. Keith (Belgrave South group leader and member of the scout Water Activity team) and his trusty crew lead the Cubs on an exciting paddle around the lake. Cubs were joined by their families and all took turns expertly manoeuvring on the water while others decided they would rather jump overboard and swim in the lake instead. After an hour or two on the water everyone enjoyed a BBQ with many families providing salads to go with our sausages.



And a surprise at the pool night supper. Akela and Old Baloo shared birthday cake!



Scouts

Term 4 highlights

For the last term of 2019 we welcomed three new members to Scouts, Willow, Will and Oliver and invested Dylan into our Scout Troop. We said goodbye to Zoe and Arran as they advance to Venturers.



Achievements

We had some great achievements with Erin achieving her Adventurer (Green) Cord award and Blake his Pioneer (Red) Cord. Patrick also completing his Adventurer level hike. With Erin's completion of Adventurer level she has also achieved Australian Scout Medallion, to be awarded in a ceremony this term. Congratulations Erin!

Scouting Fun

This term we had Kookaburras run a night of Wide games, Lyrebirds a Cake night and Redbacks a Navigation night. Scorpions ran a Halloween special murder mystery night, and Violet completed her proficiency in craft where she showed us the masks she made that were so realistic they confused passing dogs. Platypus ran a Kendo night and Wedge Tail Eagles ran a Kahoot night. The leaders ran another Wheelchair basketball night with special guests to show as how to play, fortunately they slowed down a bit (a lot) for us to keep up. We ended the term at Clip n Climb with our friends including the Kallista Scout Troop.



Camping and Hiking

This term a patrol of us went to JOTA. We unfortunately had to cancel our Explorer level hike to Wilson's Prom several times due to bad weather, we are hoping to reschedule the hike early this year.

Venturers

A massive Term 4

We started with a night where we changed our approach to planning and got everybody onboard with how to plan, why we plan and what is required of the plan. Venturers run their program with guidance from the leaders, but sometimes we need to review, remind and reset. The rest of the Venturer section newsletter shows you what the Venturers organised and ran for Term 4.

Gnome Night

Not every activity has to make sense, and this was one of those!

What did we do? We split up into teams, grabbed a garden gnome (that we purchased) and set off about the local area taking creative photos of our gnome in any manner of locations and predicaments. It was a very entertaining evening.

Design a budget room at Ikea

In the past, other Venturer units have played hide and seek at Ikea. The staff don't take too kindly to that. So the team that planned this activity came up with a different approach - split the unit into teams and give them a brief for a room they need to plan within a given budget.

Learning a couple of life skills on the way, this was another great evening that ended in a bite to eat (many meatballs were consumed) in the cafe and then we invested some new members into the unit on Ikea. Well done team!

Mindfulness

With everybody being so busy, and many demands placed on us, it was great to see Mindfulness suggested as an activity for the unit. The team that ran the night made a presentation on why mindfulness matters, followed by some guided meditation and rounded out by an adult colouring in activity.

The unit were super-engaged on the night and enjoyed the activities a lot. The work that went into planning this evening was well received and this was definitely the quietest I've heard the unit in my 7 years as a leader!



Bonfire with the Rovers

In what has become a bit of a tradition between our unit and the EJ Marshall Rover Crew, we visited Will Ashburner's place for a bonfire and pizza night with the Rovers.

With Rover numbers down quite a bit, we outnumbered them - but we all had a great night and Will is a super host. And that fire is as big as it looks!



Watermelon night

I must say that when this evening was suggested, I was dubious as to how you could make a 2 hour night out of watermelon - but they did it!

Capture the (watermelon) flag was quite the game, and this was followed up by watermelon rugby. The balls were fatally wounded (as we thought they would

be), but the delicate touch and skills shown throughout the game were superb!

It was quite a warm early summer evening, and Asta's foresight in providing ice blocks was welcomed by the entire unit. Well done everyone on another great night.



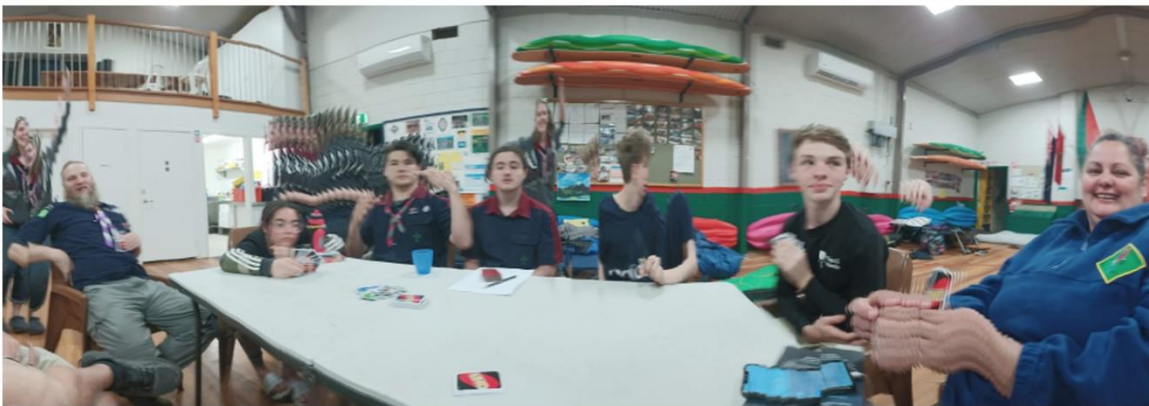
Beach Camp

For the second year in a row, the district has run a Venturer Beach Camp to finish the year and it was another well run activity.

This year we stayed at the Baden Powell Park Scout Group hall right on the beach at Canada Bay, Mt Martha. The hall is metres from the bay, and provided everything we needed.

Seeing Venturers from our three district units spend time together and get to

know each other better is always a wonderful sight. Throw in some time on the beach, some time in Mt Martha and sharing chores - it's a recipe for a great weekend!



Group Leader & Committee

Christmas Trees

Christmas tree selling was in full swing again this year. Over 2 weekends we sold 205 trees. Thanks to our youth members delivering their 20 pre-order forms and 49 people took up our offer to select any size tree for \$55.

The 3rd weekend of December saw the Cubs selling trees as a fundraiser for those going to next September's **Cuboree**, which will see over 4,500 Cubs & Leaders camp for 5 days at Gilwell Park, Gembrook.

A great big thanks to all those parents & youth members, along with committee members, Eric Yates, George Eldon, David & Megan Sporle who helped sell our trees. Also leaders Karen Walker and Monique Bassiner.



Another big thanks to Eric Staff, Bruce Gaulke, Maxine Armstrong and Damian Bassiner who fell out of bed before the sparrows were awake to head to the Officer tree farm to collect our trees.

Money raised this year will go toward new LED lighting in the main hall. 2 new marquees. Quick release emergency exit door locks on 3 doors.

Again thank you all for your help.

New Marquees

With some assistance from each of the sections, and some frugal money management, we have recently purchased 2 new marquees . The cost was a little over \$3,000. The sizes are 3m x 4.5m and 3m x 3 m.

These will complement our existing 6m x 3m and 4m x 4m marquees. With very healthy numbers in all four sections, and very active programs, this will be great!

