



KwaZulu-Natal Scout Trail



REPORTING SCOUTING VIEWS AND NEWS IN KWAZULU-NATAL FOR OVER 60 YEARS

BP Sunday celebrations

The founder of the Scouting Movement, Lord Baden-Powell, was born on the 22nd February 1857 and each year on the Sunday closest to the 22nd, scouts from around the world get together to celebrate BP's birthday. In KZN many BP Sunday celebrations were held which include a Scouts Own Service, fun activities and a time to reflect on and celebrate the life of BP. It would seem that this year was no exception as many groups around our province made this a fun event for their scouts and cubs.

Northern Natal District

Linda Gale of 3rd Newcastle Scout Group reports...



Part of the 60 3rd Newcastle and 1st Ladysmith cubs, scouts and adult leaders who attended the Balele camp in Utrecht, east of Newcastle.



Peter Nelson (seagull), Northern Natal acting district commissioner hands out badges at the final Balele camp parade.

Northern Natal district celebrated BP's birthday with a camp, this time at the Balele camp in Utrecht, east of Newcastle.

The camp was attended by 60 cubs, scouts and adult leaders, as well as a contingent from the Newcastle Parent Association who ably managed the catering for all present.

The cubs attended a variety of bases, from learning to balance in a boat to building miniature camp fires, while the scouts developed veldcraft skills. The wet weather helped with developing tracking skills, stalking a seagull through wetlands and experiencing nature at its best. One scout described the feeling experienced while watching a herd of wildebeest past as "Awesome: just like being in the Lion King!" and everyone had the chance to get close to a number of wild animals.

The experience was enhanced by a series of STAs designed to help in interpreting the veldcraft experience for all. Leaves and grasses were collected, birds were identified and cast of animal spoor were taken.

Due to the weather the camp had the unusual experience of a Sunday morning campfire, followed by a 3km stalk, and a "Scouts Own" closed off the day. Scouts were awarded badges, and the Kestrels Patrol from 3rd Newcastle received the pendant for best patrol on camp, a tightly contested competition addressing all activity on the camp.

The fledgling Vryheid Scout Group ably represented by their three scouters (Elise, Sparrow and Mossie) joined the camp for the first time and are well on their way to getting Vryheid up and running again.

Northern Natal had another great BP camp, and the scouters have decided to hold it again next year, even if it doesn't rain!



Cubs and scouts having fun at one of the many activity bases.



Lynda Thurman, receiving the 1st Umbogintwini Cub Pack Gold Star Award from Omilla Jugoo, Stainbank Assistant District Commissioner Cub Programme.

Greater Durban/Endlovini District Cub Fun Water Day



Cubs at BP Camp cool off while having heaps of fun during a water activity.

Judy Elderton, Greater Durban/Endlovini Assistant District Commissioner Cub Programme, reports....

88 cubs and scouters from St Theresa's, 4th Durban, 57th Trafalgar 52nd Sea Scout Pack and 1st Glenashley, attended this fun filled BP day held at BP Camp in Durban.

The cubs arrived in their swimming costumes and group T-shirts. They attended bases including fun with water balloons, making water bombs wet and wild relay games, a water challenge and target shooting with water. The cubs got so wet which they thought was great. They also made a water wheel, windmill and a tornado in a bottle and learnt about the water cycle at the handcraft bases. Umgeni Water supplied peak caps and lunch boxes for all the cubs. After all the activities the cubs changed into their uniforms and attended a Scouts' Own Service to remember our Founder, Lord Robert Baden-Powell.



Part of the 88 cubs and scouters representing greater Durban/Endlovini District, who attended BP Sunday at BP Camp.

Stainbank District and Coastal District

Jean Thurman of 1st Umbogintwini Cub Pack reports...

Coastal District is a small district now, as far as I know only 1st Amanzimtoti and 1st Umbogintwini are still in our area representing the Coastal District. On the 19th February we all met at the Castle in Kenneth Stainbank Nature Reserve, where we held our BP service and awards were presented.

1st Umbogintwini Cub Pack received a Gold Star Award for the scout year 2011 and were all so over the moon, it is our first gold since 1998. After the BP service each Group went and set up their bases and just by listening to the sounds, you could hear that the scouts and cubs were enjoying themselves. Afterwards there was a picnic held and we all shared what we had brought along to eat and drink. All in all, it was a good BP Day for us all.

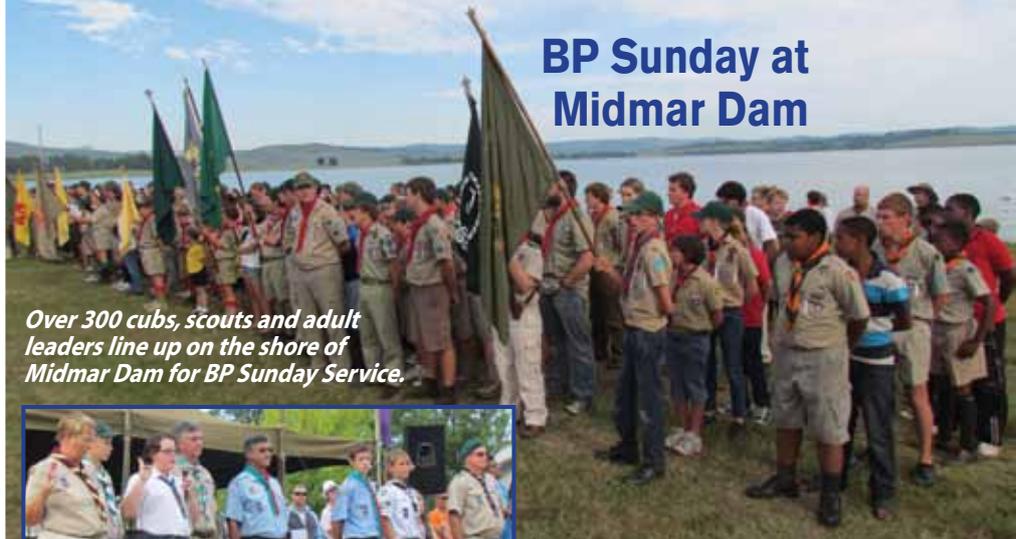


1st Umbogintwini cub, Shreya Beekum with his woodcraft trail signs.

Zululand District

Liz Scates-Wood Group Scouter 1st Richards Bay
Sea Scouts reports...

BP Sunday kicked off in Richards Bay with a very small but dedicated gathering that got going with a parade and welcome. Isak Labuschagne, father of patrol leader Andre Serfontein, was standing by with his public address system and how wonderful it was to hear our Founder Baden-Powell greeting us as though he was present in the flesh. Magda Nel our pack scouter downloaded this from the internet and we sat riveted to our seats as we heard the message from Baden-Powell. After the renewal of the scout promise we all enjoyed the enormous BP cake proudly sponsored by Meerensee Spar with huge thanks to Shaun Binaris. Thereafter scouts and cubs and scouters played games while the committee discussed our newest fund raising project which will be happening later in March (WATCH THIS SPACE !!!!!) Back into uniform and we set off for the Small Craft Harbour and a great ride around the Richards Bay harbour, kind courtesy of Sweet Waters and Isak labuschagne. Sadly we will be losing Isak and PL Andre Serfontein shortly as they sail off into the blue yonder to fulfil their life's ambition. We really will miss them so much and it will be a huge loss to the group. Everyone left for home exhausted but happy at 13h00 and agreed that it had been a great morning, one that the Founder would have approved of. Thanks are recorded to everyone who helped in this exercise. May you all be richly blessed.



BP Sunday at Midmar Dam

Over 300 cubs, scouts and adult leaders line up on the shore of Midmar Dam for BP Sunday Service.



Part of the BP Sunday Service was the affirmation of the cub, scout, rovers and guide laws, for all current and past members.

This coincided with the annual KZN scout raft race weekend which seems to just keep growing in numbers each year. It was a fantastic sight to see over 300 cubs and scouts on parade in uniform on the shoreline of a very full Midmar Dam against the magnificent back drop of the KwaZulu-Natal midlands all ready for BP Sunday. The Scouts Own Service started at 8am sharp and was led by Pedro Da Silva from 1st Cowies Hill Air Scouts. Pedro shared with us the occasion he had tea with Lady Olave Baden-Powell when she visited Durban many years ago. This was followed by an awards ceremony where scouting certificates such as the long service, leaping wolf and springbok scout awards were presented. An hour later it was all over and then it was a very different scene as the campsite was alive with frenetic energy as scouts rushed around having quickly changed into swimming costumes and their group T-shirts getting ready for the first raft race heats. This was a very fitting way in which to celebrate the birthday of our Founder and certainly embraced the true spirit of the brotherhood of scouting.



Patrol leaders Nel and Serfontein explain the aspects of sailing to second Governor after the BP Sunday Service while out on a yacht in Richards Bay.



Following the BP Sunday Service at the scout hall in Richards Bay one of the dads who charters Harbour Cruises took everyone around the harbour as a treat. Here Pack Scouter Nel, Troop Scouter Pearce, Asst Pack Scouter Pearce, Group Scouter Scates-Wood and two new female recruits prepare for the trip. A fitting ending to a great day.

News from the training Unit

This year has got off to a very busy but fruitful year for scout training in KZN.

The first course being The national assistant leader trainers course held at BP Camp, Durban over 5 days from 4th to 8th January 2012. There were many participants from all over KwaZulu-Natal – all of whom have a great potential to be trainers in the future. This was a very intense course and one that required a lot of preparation from the training team for the sessions, bases and the course programme. Dedication was also required from the participants to ensure they worked hard to complete the tasks and course curriculum which they all managed with flying colours! We look forward to working with you on the training team in the future.

Thank you to the following members of the training team: Goodenough Dlamini, Paul Brock, Nosisa Ntuli, Mildred Mchunu, Olga Mbhele, Bathabile Khuzwayo, Sizakele Masondo, Grace Sibisi and Beth Barkus. A special thanks to the caterers who kept us so well fed

and the team of quartermasters who worked so hard to clear up the pile of tents under Paul Brock's guidance and encouragement.

Another very successful training course held early in the year was the cub/scout camping course at BP Camp, Durban over the weekend 28th–29th January 2012. Twenty one participants from all over KwaZulu-Natal enjoyed the training programme and went away with a lot of information to help with the preparation and planning of their theory and "test" camp. Lynda Thurman was course director for the cub course while Lynton Cloete the course director for the scout course.



Blue Tutor Group at the campfire on the assistant leader trainers course. Group members were – Jabu Mlangeni, Kono Mollo, Sebenzile Buthelezi, Nokwazi Nkosi and Valoyi Bhhekuyise.



Adrienne van der Watt from the training unit running a cub/scout camping course at BP Camp.

All wrapped up for a good cause!



Robert Lewis Walker, Jodi Weeks, Mathew Allan, Andrea De Langa (58th and 1st Toti).



Mrs Omilla Jugoo, Sandy Maharaj (Umhlatazana).



Mrs Bindu Singh, Trishalan Moodley, Nikhail and Prashanth (Shallcross).



Mathew Allan, Andrea De Langa, Theesan Vedan, Sumesh Bugwandeem (58th and Chatsworth).

For the past four years the Stainbank District Court of Honour, have wrapped toys at the Toys R Us outlet in the Pavilion.

No remuneration is asked for, however, donations can be given towards the charity adopted by the Stainbank District Court of Honour. The money raised from the gift wrapping goes towards the Udobo Grade R School. This school is for underprivileged children and situated in the Montclair Area.

The Udobo Grade R School relies solely on donations and contributions from the public to operate. The school was opened

in 2004 with four children and has now grown to one hundred disadvantaged children who are happy to be attending school.

This occasion in December 2011, 36 scouts came along and helped wrap. The number of scouts who assist each year has grown and those scouts who take part in this community service project feel they are making a worthy contribution to a very good cause.

The Stainbank District Court of Honour wrapped from 1-7pm and the parents

from 7-10pm. A good time was had by all and of course we got many comments from the public how great it was to see that scouting was alive and well as the scouts were all in uniform.

A fair amount of funds was collected and presented to a delighted staff at the Udobo Grade R School.

Bravo to the Stainbank District Court of Honour, jolly well done!!

Cowies Hill Camp Hailed a Success

Camping is an activity that all scouts really look forward to. In this article below, 1st Cowies Hill PL, Steffen Wies shares his troop experience with us.

It was with much trepidation that the scouts of 1st Cowies Hill embarked on a 5 night camp at the Beier farm in Bulwer. None of the scouts had been on a camp of this nature before, but they were all excited nonetheless. Right from the word go, the scouts knew that they had their work cut out for them. On the first night, they had to construct a backwoodsman shelter, something which most of them had never done before. They also had to clean and cook a fish which was a lot of fun. But it was the weather that proved to be the

most entertainment for the boys. Halfway through the camp, a massive hailstorm brushed through the valley. As this storm was not expected, it did ruin some of the camp infrastructure, but the boys thought it was a great adventure, and were really keen for another one (well most of them were).

All in all, it was an incredible experience, where the scouts were able to brush up on their pioneering, backwoodsman and cooking skills with a variety of activities that kept them busy for the entire camp. The group bonded well together during the camp, and everybody returned home at the end tired and dirty but happy and proud to be part of 1st Cowies Hill.



1st Cowies Hill scouts all smiles shortly before the hail storm, from left to right; Chahil Ramharakh, Nathan Galley, Steffen Wies, Jason Meyer, Enzo Meyer, Matt Despy, Alex van Oers, Pedro da Silva (Troop Scouter), Travis Austin, Rudi Wles, Brandon Davie, Bathethwa Mthethwa, Minenhle Dlamini.



Malvern scouts, Kimei Govender, Prean Naidoo and Nicole Koekemoer placing the first tree tag on the 1st Malvern/ 1st Ethelbert Nature Trail.

A peaceful Scout Trail

As part of the Messengers of Peace programme, the 1st Malvern and 1st Ethelbert Scout Groups have adopted the stream along River Plate road, Malvern. This area has long been polluted with rubbish, infested with alien plants and a hangout for undesirable people. To date 17 work parties have been held along the stream. Litter has been collected and a good deal of alien plants have been removed. Patrol leaders Prean Naidoo and Nicole Koekemoer have been leading the project. The Parks Dept have been helpful with plant identification and the first identification tree tags have been placed. At the work party on the 21st January 2012, 17 people attended and started laying the footpath through the area. This will be the start of the 'Scout Trail'. There is much work to be done but a significant turnaround has been noticed. Thanks to Guy Caws, Group Scouter 1st Malvern, who has worked hard behind the scenes to make this project a success and yet another example of a worthy scouting initiative that has made a difference in their local community.

Scouts help clean up after road runners

It may not sound like fun, reports Louise Potgieter from 1st Yellowwood Park, but it's been a great way for scouting to be seen in the public eye and for scouts from different groups to work together and to network in a fun way. I'm a road runner and suggested back in 2009 that our 1st Yellowwood scouts assist at local road races. Since then 1st Yellowwood Park Scouts have done numerous water tables with 58th Air Scouts, the Girl Guides and more recently with 1st Pinetown. In the upper highway area 1st Hillcrest have helped at the Hillcrest Villagers Marathon for a number of years also clearing litter from the route after the run. Whilst it is the responsibility of the running clubs to clean up the road after a race, this is an enormous task and this is where we get involved and help clean up. Aside from being a great public relations exercise, you get to talk to scouts from other groups and best of all it



Wet, tired but happy scouts from 1st Pinetown and 1st Yellowwood Park after helping at the 25km PDAC road race.

keeps all of us fit!

Scouts have helped at the following road races:

PDAC 25 - 1st Pinetown and 1st Yellowwood Park.

Queensburgh Mine Shaft - Initially done by 1st Yellowwood Park for 3 years, then joined by 58th for 1 Year, last year joined

by a brownie and Girl Guide.

SPAR Ladies Race - 1st Yellowwood Park participated in the race (5 km) and cleaned up along the way.

Township to Township Marathon - 1st Year done by 1st Yellowwood Park then joined by 58th Air Scouts last year.

South Coast Marathon - 2 Years by 1st Yellowwood Park and 58th Air Scouts (WE LOVE THIS RACE).

Bearingman Stainbank Cup - 2 Years by 1st Yellowwood Park and 58th Air Scouts (IMG 9725 - 2011).

Hillcrest Villagers Marathon 2 years by 1st Hillcrest.

If any other groups are interested in doing something similar in your area, please contact Louise Potgieter on 079 696 3245 who can provide you with the contact details of a running club in your area.

Need help growing your group?

A steady flow of youth into scout groups is essential to maintain the group's health. New cubs and scouts bring energy and enthusiasm to the cub and scout program.

To avoid the pitfall of shrinking membership, a troop and pack should add at least 10 new scouts and 10 new cubs every year.

KZN Scout HQ has been in touch with a number of groups around the province to offer assistance with local recruiting programmes to help grow membership. We have had some brilliant successes last year and early this year. Strong groups are normally those that have a strong cub pack which acts as the important feeder for scouts in your troop.

Those groups who could do with some help to recruit new members please get in touch with **Steve Camp - 079 391 1866** and we will work together to make sure things happen. 1st Richards Bay Sea Scouts is one group who have embarked on an aggressive recruiting programme which will get their scout and cub numbers back up again.



1st Richards Bay Sea Scout, Xavier Pearce has just finished saying farewell to his old pack as he stands before the Group Scouter, Liz Scates-Wood about to be invested into the Sea Scout Troop as a scout. Bravo Xavier!



Recent investitures of adult leaders at 1st Richards Bay Sea Scouts, John and Lorna Pearce Troop Scouter and Assistant Pack Scouter with Liz Scates-Wood and Magda Nel.

Sigma Rover Crew gets new home

Being one of the larger and more established Rover Crews in KZN they were on the hunt for a more permanent premises of their own. Chad Smith, Sigma Rover Crew member takes up the story.

The 1st Port Natal Hall had been vacant for a few years. With the kind assistance of Dudley Forde we were given the keys and permission to use this hall as our new base of operations

Our first encounter with the 1st Port Natal Scout Hall situated on Maydon Wharf we could see there was plenty of potential to turn the hall into an area that provided functionality and a place of recreation for our Sigma Rover Crew. Everything from

plastering and painting to tiling and a total revamp with furniture and electrical and everything in-between needed to be done. This was a perfect opportunity for me to get stuck in and get involved to use the hall for my Projects Award.

Soon we had managed to find new chairs for the meeting room while an old serving table and board room table were stained, varnished and brought back to life. A projector and screen were donated and installed by Hirezone. The main room was separated into three distinct parts: One, being the training side with the chairs in an audience formation; the second on the other side was turned into

a meeting area with the board room set up and finally the third, the recreational area. The electrical elements had to be replaced and upgraded throughout. The process involved three weeks of intense preparation as the room needed to be complete for the KZN Rover Chairman's Course which was scheduled over the weekend of the 5th and 6th of November 2011.

The National Commissioner for Rovers, Gerard Evans, traveled down from Johannesburg to facilitate the course in our new fresh looking hall that we all felt very proud to call our new home! Other Rover Crews in the KZN Area were invited to attend with the Highway Rover Crew

accepting and sending two representatives to attend the course. The course was a huge success and most informative and very useful to all of us rovers going forward as we get to grips with what being a rover is all about.

Looking back, those last three weeks were the best roller coaster rides in my recent memory. Absolutely amazing what can be achieved with a common vision and lots of hard work.



What a transformation! The Sigma Rover Crew's new smart meeting room after some hard work.

A new summer adventure camp was organized by the Sigma Rover Crew

Cameron Belling from the organising crew reports...

This adventure camp was held on the 15th-18th December at Lexden in Pietermaritzburg which is just so rich with scouting history ranging from PLTU to many other training courses. Lexden proved to be an amazing resource. Newly elected SIGMA Rover Crew Chairman for 2012, Chad Smith was the person behind organizing this successful camp. Invitations were sent out to over ten troops in the greater Durban/Pietermaritzburg area to take part in this action packed four day scouting adventure.

And what better way to end off the year with four days of non-stop scouting fun? Some of the highlights included pizza making, scout olympics and commando course to name a few.

The weather proved to be a challenge on the camp with only one day of sunshine – but this didn't stop the scout fun. Water balloon fights and a slippery slide were just added into the mix of wetness.

Paintball!!!! SIGMA Rover Crew has

invested in a set of paintball guns. Needless to say this was one of the most popular bases on the camp. Plans are well advanced for the SIGMA Rover Crew to run a scout/rover paintball war camp this year.

On Saturday a very scrumptious Christmas dinner was held in camp – gammon, turkey, roast vegetables. Boy what a feast and awesome conclusion to a successful camp! In the evening was the camp talent show – which casted a variety of upcoming performers in scouts.

A special thanks to Chad Smith for all his hard work, planning and running of this camp. Sigma Rover Crew aim to make this an annual adventure summer and based on the feedback from those who attended this inaugural event, the next one later this year will be a much larger affair.

For more information on the summer adventure camp and the paintball war camp contact Cameron Belling on 072 204 2477.

Air scouts market their group on the move

Greta Butcher pack scouter of 58th Durban Air Scouts with four of her cubs stand alongside the car magnet sign on her car door that is attracting much interest in her community and in doing so raising the profile of scouts.



Groups are always on the lookout for clever ways to raise their profile in the community. If you thought your group was creative and a trend setter in this department... well think again. The 58th Durban Air Scouts are one step ahead of all of us.

They have had a number of sponsored car magnet signs made up all branded with the details of their scout group. These are displayed on the car doors of adult scout leaders for all to see. "It may seem a novel way for us to promote scouting in our area," said Rob Allan, Group and District Chairman, "but you'd be surprised by the number of people who've noticed and made contact with us. It's certainly attracted the attention of many people in our community."

What other groups have clever marketing ideas that have worked for you - let us know and we will share your success stories with other KZN scout groups?



Lights, action, roll! Evening talent show skits in full swing

Earth Hour has grown from a one city event in 2007 into the world's largest and most well-known environmental campaign for the planet reaching over 1.8 billion people worldwide last year. World Scouting has been supporting this initiative every year since it came into being. In 2012 Earth Hour is on again - in an even bigger way - to protect and celebrate the one thing we all have in common - the planet. This year Earth Hour will launch the I Will If You Will challenge. An opportunity for every scout, every scout group, our scout leaders and all of our scouting community to challenge and inspire our friends, family and colleagues - in a fun way - to go a little greener in our everyday lives. As KZN Scouting, let's all get behind this global green initiative and do our bit to raise awareness about the environment to demonstrate our commitment to save the planet - a common inheritance to all mankind.

**Earth Hour 2012
Turn off your lights for one hour on 31 March 2012**

Scouting back on the map in Vryheid

Scouts closed down in Vryheid a good number of years ago which got local resident Kevin Sparrow thinking. Why not get it back up and running again? Kevin, himself a past 1st Vryheid scout many years ago set about to do something positive for the youth in Vryheid and with Carla his wife began to look for a venue, adult leaders and of course to recruit youngsters into their new scout group. Kevin shares his story with us:

My brother in-law had always mentioned how jealous he was of the fact that I had had the chance to be a scout and he had not, as I had often told him of my adventures as a child with the scouts.

This got me thinking, if he was interested in being a scout, I was sure that there would be others too. Scouting had been a huge part of my life and had given me so much joy and opportunity. It was something I had to share with the youth of Vryheid. Round about the 1st of December last year, my wife and I made the decision to contact KZN HQ to find out how we could get the ball rolling. HQ contacted us back, and asked the Northern Natal District Commissioner to get in touch with us. The ball had started rolling.

To see what we were letting ourselves in for, I attended the PPT course in Durban that same month. It got me even more convinced that this was the right thing to do. Shortly after returning from the course we made contact with Elize Booysen, who was very excited about the opportunity to be the new Akela for the cubs.

We then started advertising our intention to establish a scout group in Vryheid on Facebook, using a classifieds group I had started in 2010. What a fantastic and positive response. We also managed to make contact with 3rd Newcastle, who kindly offered to help us where ever they could. We started attending meetings in Newcastle to complete the three meetings quota required of us to get our permits. Carla (my wife) and Elize attended their PPT courses in Paulpietersburg

over a weekend where more valuable information was gleaned from Hawkeye and the training team that had a wealth of information and experience to share.

Vryheid Printers volunteered to print fliers for free to distribute into schools, and hand outs for adult volunteers at the parent meetings. In order to make our fliers more interactive, we incorporated a word puzzle that would appeal to the inquisitive minds of young people. In the puzzle, we hid words that described fun activities they would be able to participate in while at scouts. These were given to schools to give to children, and the teachers were told to inform the children that we would be having a parent meeting the following week.

The venue was a hall in a nearby game reserve the honorary officers had so kindly allowed us to use for scouts, cubs and our other meetings. This venue is probably one of the best places I've ever seen for scouts to meet. It is a hall built inside a game park which is still very close to town allowing easy access. We are now just a few short days away for our parent meeting and have received a lot of positive feedback from our fliers and a newspaper article about this year's BP Camp, that we attended at Utrecht Dam with the rest of the district scouts. We also received a generous donation from a local businessman who placed a picture and an article in the newspaper challenging other businessmen to meet or beat his donation.

Note from the editor

At the time of going to press 1st Vryheid will be having their inaugural meeting towards the end of March. Well done to Kevin, Carla and Elize for making this happen. From everyone in KZN Scouting we extend a warm welcome to you into the brotherhood of scouting - may you and 1st Vryheid have a long and rewarding association with the scouting movement.

Go well Ant

Scouts in Northern Natal bid a sad farewell to an Anthony Macgregor who was for many years their district commissioner. Ant has relocated with his family to Albany in Australia and we will all miss his scouting energy, enthusiasm and wisdom. A collective BIG thanks from KZN scouting for all the good work you did for the movement in Northern Natal. We wish you and your family all the very best in your newly adopted country.



Ant Macgregor (centre) is bid a fond scouting farewell at a function held in Northern Natal by his many scouting colleagues.

2012

Diary Dates

March 2012

3	District Commissioner's Meeting
2-4	Weekend 1: Pack/Troop/GS-Com Wood Badge Course – English
9-11	Warrant Course – Ulundi/Lower Mfolozi – Zulu
10	Executive Meeting
16-18	Weekend 2: Pack/Troop/ GS-Com Wood Badge Course – English
16-18	Permit and Warrant Course – Ilembe – Zulu
16-18	Tutor Course – Lexden
21	Public Holiday: Human Right's Day
22	World Water Day
23	School Term 1 Ends
23-25	Permit and Warrant Course – Amajuba District – Newcastle – Zulu
26	Development Meeting

April 2012

6	Public Holiday : Good Friday
9	Public Holiday: Easter Monday
10	School Term 2 Commences
13-15	Adult Skills Workshop: Troop – Pioneering Lexden – Zulu Pack – Jungle Background and Handcraft
14	EXCO
14-15	Adult Skills Workshop: Troop-Pioneering – English
14-15	Pack - Jungle Background and Handcraft
14-15	Permit and Warrant Course (Pietermaritzburg/Ugu) – Zulu
22	Earth Day
27	Public Holiday: Freedom day
27-29	Barkus Boot Hike
30	School Holiday
27-1 May	Pack Scouters' Pow Wow, Johannesburg

May 2012

1	Public Holiday: Workers Day
5	PC's Management Meeting
4-6	Pack/Troop/GS-Com Warrant Courses Weekend 1 – English
11-13	Permit Phase and Warrant Course – Umlazi – Zulu
12	Executive Meeting
13	Mother's Day
19	Development Meeting
18-20	Pack/Troop/GS-Com Warrant Courses Weekend 2 – English
18-20	Scouts: Cooking Course
25-27	Prayer Weekend : Durban

Pioneering meets water

This year's 19th running of the Midmar Scout Raft Race attracted a record entry of over 50 scout constructed rafts from 16 scout groups around KwaZulu-Natal who competed against each other in various categories. Close on 800 scouts, cubs and parents packed into the Orient Park campsite at Midmar Dam to take part in this year's event, which has been hailed by the organisers, 1st New Germany Scout Group, as one of the best yet. "The support and enthusiasm from the scouts and cubs was outstanding, which was clearly reflected in one of the highest numbers of entries into this scout raft race in many years," said event organiser, Kevin McQueen. "We take part in the raft race because it shows our scouts the benefits of core skills we teach throughout the year, including knots lashings and the importance of developing an understanding about team work at a young age," commented 1st Hillcrest Troop Scouter, Denzil Barnard.

The raft race is an annual event which

is normally held in the last week end of February.

"It would be fantastic to have troops from out of province compete in this raft race. It's a great fun filled event that really embraces the true spirit of scouting and then of course there is the legendary KZN scouting hospitality that would make any visiting Group to our province one that they'll always remember," commented Garth Kloppenborg, the Provincial Commissioner KZN.

On Saturday evening a massive campfire was held which was well supported by all the groups who camped over most taking part in skits and leading campfire songs.

BP Sunday was held on the banks of Midmar dam against the magnificent back drop of the surrounding hills of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands. What a sight with well over 300 scouts and cubs all in uniform. After the Scouts Own a presentation ceremony was held to

hand over a number of scouting awards which included leaping wolf and Springbok badge certificates.

A fantastic weekend of fun, adventure and fellowship in the true spirit of scouting.

Results

Best Raft – 1st Hillcrest Wednesday Cubs – Trophy
Cubs 9 and under – 1st Wandsbeck
Cubs 10 and over tubes – 1st Wandsbeck
Treasurers – Trophy
Cubs 10 and over Rafts – 1st Howick Zebras – Trophy
Scouts 14 and under – 1st Hillcrest, Sizanyoni Swifts – Trophy
Scouts 15 and over – 1st Hillcrest, Sizanyoni Owls – Trophy
Girls 14 and under – 1st Margate
2x2x2 – 4th Pmb
Enduro – 1st Hillcrest Sizanyoni
Rovers – 1st Hillcrest rovers
Siblings Rafts – 4th Pmb Tadpoles
Siblings Tubes – 1st Cowies Hill



Steve Thorne, Highway District commissioner and MC for the day announces the winning teams to come up and receive awards.



Lots of scouting fun and activity on and off the water.

KZN Scouts to go on line

It's all systems go for KZN Scout's new website that will go live in early April. It will be fun, informative and a valuable resource for members of all ages, and visitors looking to access information about the Movement in KZN.

"It's been long overdue and we needed a site that fully reflected the bright, modern image of scouting and I'm really pleased with the results," said Provincial Chairman, Steve Camp.

The site has been developed by web specialist and 4th Durban, assistant troop scouter, Brendon Hatcher, who apart from other business interests owns Brilliant Web Designs.

"A tremendous amount of work has gone into making the site

work in the way our members will want it to, but also to make it as accessible as possible for everyone who visits," said Brendon.

The site will be regularly updated with news, blogs and all the information for KZN Scouting events, training activities, campsites, joining details, an interactive scout programme calendar, photo gallery, resources that can be down loaded and much more.

Each group in KZN will also have a contact page with all your details, even if you don't have a website of your own. This will allow people interested in joining scouts to do an on-line search for their area and direct them to the nearest scout group to their community.

Scouting for aliens

3rd Newcastle came out in support of Chelmsford Dam in their bid to eradicate alien vegetation that has invaded this beautiful gem of natural grassland in this northern Natal nature reserve. More than 15 young 3rd Newcastle scouts joined forces with Ezemvelo Parks rangers who all worked hard to remove large tracts of these aliens.



3rd Newcastle scouts stand on the banks of Chelmsford Dam with Ezemvelo staff after a successful community project clearing alien vegetation in the reserve.



Proudly scouting

Cubs, brownies, teddies and bears from 1st Hillcrest Scout and Guide Group in uniform at Winston Park Primary school, celebrate BP's birthday in uniform with headmaster, Neville Green (top back right) and Pack Scouter, Kerry Anne Dolloway.

To raise awareness about scouting many schools allow cubs and scouts to attend school in their uniforms for one day during the week of Baden-Powell's birthday, 22 February. This is a wonderful way to attract new members into your group as there is always a lot of interest when this happens. The cub and scout uniforms really stand out and make people realise that scouting still exists. A lot of the KZN groups made use of this opportunity – if you didn't then build it into your group marketing plans for next year! Remember though to first clear this with the schools.

KZN SCOUTING AWARDS

Congratulations to all the following who recently received awards.

SPRINGBOK AWARDS:

Group	Recipient
1st Amanzimtoti	Travis Duck
4th Durban	Carmen Jearey
4th Durban	Jean-luc Regaud
4th Durban	Jessica von der Meden
57th Durban	Kelsey Escolme
58th Durban	Robert Lewis-Walker
1st Hillcrest	Waldo Staude
1st Malvern	Yerissa Govender
4th Pietermaritzburg	Alice O'Neill
1st Wandsbeck	Chad Dormehl
1st Wandsbeck	Semeshan Naidoo
1st Wandsbeck	Riley Somiah
1st Yellow Wood Park	Keith Potgieter

LEAPING WOLVES:

Group	Recipients
4th Durban	Jordan Oxley, Caitlyn Dyer, Rae du Plooy, Genevieve Field, Christopher James, Riolan Moodley, Jonathan Montague, Nathan Saville, Caitlyn Slaughter
1st Hillcrest	Liam Hobden, Stuart Griffiths, Cormac O'Riley, Trystan Streak, Jeremy Swan
1st Malvern	Theolin Govender, Aaron Balmogim
4th Pietermaritzburg	Christopher Tooke, Jonathan Bertram, Amy Johnson, Thomas Southway
1st Umbogintwini	Clio Glenister, Keshari Pillay, Joe Wortmann
1st Wandsbeck	Jason Buck, Sean Chater, Matthew Grant, Matthew Hislop, Ian Modola, Dylan Jung, Cameron Wasserman
1st Wandsbeck	Jordan Cloete, Joshua Woods, Luke Yunnie
52nd Durban	Darren Murphy
57th Durban	Hannah Fokkens, Sarah-May Rawlins
58th Durban	David van Staden
1st Glenashley	Craigan Ivison
1st Howick	Jonathan Leslie, Michael Rautenbach
1st Kokstad	Loyiso Lugongolo
1st Ladysmith	Dylan Moore
3rd Newcastle	Jaryd Steenkamp
1st Pinetown	Tyler Boutle
1st Yellow Wood Park	Jamie-Lee Burton

ADULT AWARDS:

Group	Recipients
Long Service Medal:	Stella Nene, Grace Mollo, Busisiwe Kunene, Theresa Hair, Olga Mbhele
Bar to Long Service Medal	Olga Mbhele – 30 year bar, Greta Butcher – 30 year bar, Raymond de Broize – 40 year bar
Chief Scouts Commendation	Nelisiwe Dlamini, Muriel Ngcobo
Medal of Merit	Omilla Jugoo, Bindu Singh
Bar to Medal of Merit	Raymond de Broize
Certificate of Merit (Non-uniformed)	Robert Allan
Medal of Merit (Non-uniformed)	Derrick Poole



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*A very proud scouting moment for the following who were presented with the highest award in scouting – their Springbok award by Garth Kloppenborg.
(standing l-r) Robert Lewis-Walker, Garth Kloppenborg (Provincial Commissioner KZN), Chad Dormehl, Semeshan Naidoo, Steve Thorne (Highway District Commissioner and Chairman Springbok selection panel),
(kneeling l-r) Keith Potgieter, Travis Duck, Alice O'Neill, Yarissa Govender, Riley Somiah.*