

INTERCHANGE

Vol. 30 No. 1

A MAGAZINE FOR VENTURERS & ROVERS

February 2009

AV2009 - Australian Venture - W.A. - Vic. Contingent

Vic.venturers.com

18000+ hits in 17 months - thanks Rob

Venturer Review "Conversion
day" Sunday 15th Feb.
10am til 2pm - more info inside!

**EXTRAORDINARY ROVERS
EXTRAORDINARY CREWS**
Saturday 21/03/2009

BASIC - Fri 6th/Mon 9th Mar.

Course manager: Cliff Dent

bc.venturers@vicscouts.asn.au

ADVANCED - Wed 4th/Mon 9th Mar.

Course manager: Greg McDougall

greg.mcdougall@vicscouts.asn.au

INFO Book 2009

Now on *vicscouts.asn.au*
Calendar of events and much more
also mailed with Feb 2009 Scout mag

"All Victorians enjoying Scouting"

RECENT APPOINTMENTS

On 16/12/08, the Chief presented scarves and certificates to:

Right:

Annette Cook, BC Environment;

Below:

David Bossen BC International; and

Lower Right:

Bruce Ellis, ABC Venturers

BRANCH NEWSLETTER –February

Power of Ten DC Workshop

Have you seen your DC with his/her new Power of Ten cap? They will be wearing it at your next District Councils when they present to you to the challenges to which they have committed as an outcome of the Power of Ten workshop. Facilitator and BEC member Adrian Ohlsen workshopped these outcomes in the afternoon and DCs were videoed at their oral presentation and their documented strategies were duplicated for future reference.

The challenge I have already issued within Victoria is for every Section and hence every Group, District and Region to grow its Census membership by the Power of Ten, 10%, by 30 June 2009. This addresses the first priority in achieving our Vision to have All Victorians Enjoying Scouting.

The Development Team led by ACC Jon Willis provided a package of Ten Ideas from which DCs and GLs could select to implement in the next 90 days to reach the challenge of 10% youth membership growth.

ACC Margaret Tremewen refreshed the Vision and priorities and issued them on fridge magnets and spoke on the Power of Ten words - **IF IT IS TO BE, IT IS UP TO ME**

BC Training Brian Geary spoke of the Power of Ten Trained Leaders and outlined the new Common Core and Sectional Techniques break up of Basic training weekends and how a CAL is now achieved without the need to complete a Cert III

BEC Chairman Tom Hartley spoke of the Power of \$10 and how the Scout Raffle, Federal Government Volunteer grants and the Scout Foundation Property Improvement Grants will put \$1,000,000 into Group finances all over the State in this financial year. Tom asked DCs, "Are your Groups taking up the opportunities to access some of this money?"

I added a new challenge to your DC and their teams.

TO OPEN OR REOPEN 1 SCOUT GROUP WHICH HAD NO YOUTH MEMBERS AT CENSUS 2008.

At least 3 of our 49 Districts have already achieved this with 1st Elwood (Bayside), 1st Beaconsfield (Cardinia) and 1st Wonga Park (Manningham) already applying for the \$4500 establishment grant from the Foundation since last Census.

I outlined of Ten Achievements, worked through Ten Reminders and issued Ten District Challenges and Ten Branch Challenges to be achieved by our Annual District Reports Presentations starting in September this year.

At the start of the workshops RCs introduced their teams. 11 Districts were unable to have their DC or a deputy present to soak up the Powers of Ten and they will be inducted to these by their RCs at their next Region Council.

The Branch Team will be joining all Region Councils during the April/May period to hear the results of the District plans. The whole team will gather again on Saturday 27 June at Mt Waverley to take the next steps of our journey to ensure "**All Victorians Enjoying Scouting**"

Bob Taylor, Chief Commissioner

Newsletter continued on page 15

INTERCHANGE – YOUR COMMUNICATION & RESOURCE SERVICE!

- Aim:** to provide communication & resource material for Venturers & Rovers.
- Content:** the Editor reserves the right not to publish material that is contrary to or conflicts with, recognised Scouting practice.
- Contributions:** articles, photographs, reports, cartoons etc are most welcome, preferably submitted via email, but postal is acceptable.
- Postal:** **INTERCHANGE, c/o BC(VS) at P.O. Box 774, MOUNT WAVERLEY, VICTORIA, 3149.**
- Email:** **interchange@vicscouts.asn.au**
- Due date:** the due date for contributions is the last day of the month preceding the monthly issue (ie 30th June for July issue); this permits inclusion of info from the BRC (4th Wednesday), VVC (1st Tuesday) and BCs' meetings (1st Wednesday); for mailing on the next Monday - which will be the 13th of the month, at the latest.
- Distribution:** it is published up to 11 times a year by the Scout Association, Victorian Branch, with copies to each Crew and Unit.
- Web Page:** you can view 2 pdf versions of each issue (one with pics/graphics, one without) on the Victorian Branch web site, at: **vicventurers.com** - go to the Newsletter page for back copies from 2001
- Subscriptions:** Venturers, Rovers & Leaders may subscribe by sending \$15.00 (Victorian subscriber) and \$18.00 (interstate subscribers)
- Advertising:** all general Scouting activities are promoted free of charge, but a fee may be charged for major fundraising events.
- Printer:** **KWIK KOPY, 426 Burke Road, Camberwell, 3146. (W) 9889 0666 (F) 9889 4783.**

AV2009 - Perth - WA

Dec. 2008 - Jan. 2009 - Vic. Contingent - Pre Tour

The end of the beginning - by an inside source.

The 14th Australian Venture is now underway in Western Australia. The event is based at Fairbridge, about 80km south of Perth but for Victorians, including the pre-tour, has covered the whole south west of the state.

The Venture is running smoothly with not a single person being admitted to hospital – a great achievement considering that there are over 1100 people registered for the event – the most since the 2000 Venture in Victoria. We, as Victorians can take pride in our contingent of 302 – also the largest this century.

Here is a little what's of been happening – just for the Mum's of Venturers who have been too busy to call home: Many of you will recall the early start on 27 December for the pre-tour (it was the same again on 3 January for the rest of the Contingent. We were pleased to note that 300 bags did not bother QANTAS in the least but they did cause us to hire a 3 tonne truck to carry the excess bags once we got to Perth; really Mums, you have to stop packing for the Venturers and let them pack for themselves!!

Our first night was at a relaxing campsite by the beach where we all had an early night (If you believe that Mum, keep reading we have more good news for you). Sunday morning saw our convoy head off for Kalgoorlie where we thawed out after the cool Christmas in Melbourne. It had cooled down by the time we got there in mid afternoon – only 39 degrees, well short of the 44 degrees earlier in the day. The pool was a very popular choice before dinner. Accommodation was in air conditioned bunkhouse for most but some overflowed onto the grassed area – a popular choice when the temperature dropped overnight. We spent Monday discovering mining in Kalgoorlie including an underground tour and a view of the "Super Pit" a hole in the ground a third of a kilometre deep.

The best aspect of the tour though was underway almost continuously – getting to know new friends. There were over two hundred Venturers to get to know and that takes a lot of talking, all day and well into each evening.

Tuesday was another long travel day to Esperance but the cooler air there more than made up for the fact that our accommodation was not air-conditioned. The dorm was the local sports centre so it was just one big common

dorm – really good for keeping the conversation going. We spent two nights in Esperance so we had all day Wednesday to get ready for the New Year maybe it will be better to tell you about that when we get home.

New Year's morning saw us on the road to Albany to camp at Quaranup (the old Quarantine Station across the harbour from the city of Albany. An interesting, historic place which needed no air conditioning; the cool breeze blew off the sea from all four directions. Next morning gave us a choice of activities; a town tour, the Whaling Museum..... even a possibility of doing some washing at the Laundromat. The afternoon was extended well into the evening by some bus problems but after dinner we arrived at Camp Eaton, just out of Bunbury.

Saturday was a free day available for Laundry to those who decided not to do in Albany, a town tour or even some Scuba diving for those who were already qualified. The 60 member of the contingent who were not able to make it onto the pre-tour flew to Perth on Saturday morning and discovered the first dose of sleep deprivation before they even started. They spent Saturday night at Pelican point, on the bank of the Swan River with a fantastic view of Perth.

For those of them still on the pre tour they headed to Bunbury where 88 members of the pre tour took the opportunity to go paint balling it was a rather exciting event though some leaders didn't find it all that painless for those who didn't go paint balling many went swimming in the river or spent the day in town relaxing and getting ready for the big "move in."

We all moved into Fairbridge on Sunday – how easy it was – only about two minutes per person to check in. Camping was on the oval with about 400 tents erected for the night. It was hot during the day but by nightfall it cooled to a very pleasant 20 degrees. Even so, the pool party which was part of the opening ceremony cooled us all down.

Monday was the end of the beginning as we all moved out to our expeditions – if you want to see how much fun we have been having, have a look at the pictures on the web site at www.vicscouts.asn.au and click photo gallery.

More news after we get back from the expeditions.

Venture Trivia

- How many Victorian Venturers and leaders at the Venture? 302
- How many leaders 37
- How many Vics did not do the pre tour? Approx 60
- How many Overseas contingents? 7
- Who were they. Indonesia, Kiribati, Japan, Great Britain, New Zealand
- How far did the pre tour travel. 2220km
- How many times did the buses break down? And where were they? too many and everywhere
- Was it always the same bus? No
- What is the origin of Harry? In WA, emergency exit signs have a running man on them but facing the other direction to Harry's position
- Which bus did not have A/C the whole trip? one
- Was it the same bus with no on board TV. Yes
- Which was the best place to camp. At the Scout hall, the quarantine station, the basketball stadium, Kalgoorlie School camp
- Which was the coldest campsite? the old quarantine station - Quaranup
- What does the suffix -up mean in original Aussie language? Water
- Which campsite did we get to very late? The Scout hall- Bunbury
- Which was the oldest campsite. Quaranup
- Who had the best costume for New Years Eve? JD
- Why did we have a truck and who drove it? For your excess luggage and Phil, VL from Traralgon
- Where was the helicopter and who had a ride? Kalgoorlie and Phil's Unit
- How big was the shovel? holds 237 people with ease
- How many salad sandwiches did we eat, and why?
- How many shops made a year's trading profits in the first week of 2009 when descended on by cashed up venturers from broken down busses? Most towns.
- How many Aussie Sombrero's were abandoned after the new years eve party?
- How many full boxes of lost property were returned from the pre tour? at least 3
- How many Venturers actually used the open showers in Esperance?
- How many poly tarps had to be hung by an enterprising leader from Manningham to provide shower curtains in Esperance? 2
- How many busses had a swear jar, and financed all of their coke/ ice cream purchases with it?
- How many Venturers had their hair colour changed several times on the trip?
- Was the impromptu hairdresser – skilful/careful/busy?
- How many Venturers mislaid their back pack and or tent for the entire pre tour? At least 1
- Who was the favourite leader? Gary!!!
- How many accommodation sites were left in better condition than we found them? All of them - big thank you to the Venturers

ANZAC DAY MARCH

Friday 25th April 2009

Once again, the RSL have requested assistance from Venturers and Rovers to carry banners in the March. Those who have assisted in marches can attest the thanks and appreciation of the Veterans, so why not get involved this year! Banner Bearers, in full uniform, are required.. A great opportunity to provide service to the community.

Contact bc.venturers@vicscouts.asn.au

'Their Service Our Heritage Badges' RRP: \$1.62 incl. GST

AV2009 - Perth - WA

300 Victorian Venturers Escape!!

The 14th Australian Venture called "Escape", held at Fairbridge Village just 50km's from Perth, was a true celebration of Venturing. It allowed a huge scope for everybody to choose what he or she wanted to do and to have as much fun as possible. For Victorians, there were three phases of the Venture:

"Phase 1" was an optional Pre-tour, which was undertaken with your home State contingent. The Victorian Pre-tour lasting 8 days, for example, visited Kalgoorlie, Esperance, Albany and Bunbury.

We then travelled to Fairbridge where the Venture started. During this "Phase 2", participants from every State were put into Units of about 20. This gave everyone a chance to get to know new members from around Australia and the world, in a smaller group. Each Unit had chosen one of several expedition options. These expeditions were offsite lasting five days and four nights. Options for the expeditions ranged from quiet tours of Perth to challenging expeditions such as a 100km hike.

I did "Adrenaline Junkies" – rock climbing, abseiling, mountain biking, caving and 4 Wheel Driving. In my Unit, we had a member from Kiribati whose country's highest point is just 12 metres above sea level. At the Venture, he abseiled down a 40-metre cliff!

The third and final phase of our Venture experience was back onsite at Fairbridge. Here we were altogether and you met all the participants from all over Australia, and the world (there were eighty-five international Venturers attending the event). At the main site there were a range of on and off-site activities, both day and night. The onsite activities included Go Karting, Paintballing, a trip to AdVenture World in Perth, ice skating, a trip to the movies and many more. The adrenaline rush as you reached 70 kph on the Go Karts was just mind-blowing.

Those who were not faint hearted tried "rampage" at AdVenture World. After doing 5 somersaults in a row many people turned a shade of lurid green and had the feeling that they were going to see their breakfast again. What was important was that each Venturer chose the activities that they wanted to do and this meant that everybody had a really great time. Finally, after 19 days of non-stop action and non-stop fun, it was time to say goodbye. For many, the hardest part of the Venture.

The Venture is like nothing I have ever done before.

Firstly, the atmosphere is so exciting - everyone is hyped up and there is something different on everyday. With so many people around you could barely get a moment to yourself!

However, most people found places to hang out and talk with their friends in the shade or in other places such as Roverscope.

Secondly, the Venture gave you much broader latitude to do your own things. You could choose to go into Mandurah for a day or simply pass a few hours playing games from a past generation such as quoits, boche and Giant Connect 4. For those who preferred modern technology there were 2 Wii's set up in the Roverscope!

For me it was a once in a lifetime opportunity that I won't forget and I would strongly recommend that every body who can, should go to the next Venture to be held in Tasmania in January 2012.

SCOUT SCUBA

After 70 Venturers learned to Scuba Dive on the recent Western Australian Venture, Scout Scuba Victoria took some of the new Victorian divers (and some of our regulars) diving in Port Phillip Bay on the last Sunday in January.

With new gear to try out, and new places to explore, we started with a dive under Portsea Pier before taking the boat out to the wreck of the Eliza Ramsden.

The Eliza Ramsden rises from a sandy bottom about 18 metres down, and the bow is still quite intact. It makes a fascinating dive, and we enjoyed both good weather and great diving.

Naythen Clow, 1st Craigieburn Venturers on his first dive in Victoria.

Scout Scuba can be contacted via our Secretary, Treasurer Trevor Clark trclark@ssc.net.au or 97444600.

Scout Scuba Victoria is an organisation of Scouting people, organised out of Hoadley Region, who also happen to be scuba divers. We offer inexpensive Try dives, dive courses and diving days, run by fully qualified and externally insured providers, to scouting associated people over 12 years old (ie Scouts, Venturers, Rovers, Leaders, and their families).

A Try Dive is not a formal qualification (that takes a minimum of 4 days, at the bargain cost of \$460), rather it's a chance to try out scuba diving in a controlled environment to see if you like it. As things progress, we look like we may be able to offer guided snorkelling experiences in 2009 as well.

Courses 2009:

- 21st/22nd February - Try Dives at "Anything Goes" (AG - Venturers)
- 14/15th & 21/22nd March 2009 – Open Water Course - \$460.00 (Normal Price \$550)
- 29th March 2009 Group Dive (Location TBA)
- TRY Dives will also be held in May and August 2009

DC Conference 31/01/2009

Most DCs participated in an enjoyable and informative workshop, preparing and modifying their District plans.

They will soon be looking for local assistance to help the District realise our Vision of

All Victorians enjoying Scouting.

Your opportunity to become involved in the planning process.

Vic Vents at AJ2010? – Why Not?
The event organisers are planning an activity to be run by Venturers. www.jamboree.asn.au

Australian Contingent January 2010

Venturers - born between 26/12/1991 and 26/12/1994
An invested Venturer and hold the Venturer Skills Award.

Adults - Registered adult member of Scouts, endorsed by Group & Region; accepted by Australian Contingent.

More info and apply at www.nzv2010.scouts.com.au

Fundraising for the Jamboree or the Venture?

It is less than 12 months to go, so here are some ideas:

- ☺ Garage Sales
- ☺ Sausage Sizzles
- ☺ Christmas trees
- ☺ Sports nights
- ☺ Gala Nights
- ☺ Trivia Nights
- ☺ Racing nights
- ☺ Pie Drives
- ☺ Lamington Drives

- ☺ Chocolate drives
- ☺ Stall at the local market
- ☺ Help Community festivals
- ☺ Clean up after local events
- ☺ Mother/Father Day Raffles
- ☺ Bush Dance
- ☺ Mowing Lawns
- ☺ Trivia & Cent Auction nights
- ☺ Fashion Parades
- ☺ Parcel wrapping for holidays
- ☺ Trash and Treasure sales

- ☺ Car Boot Sale
- ☺ Hold a funny money night
- ☺ Car Rally
- ☺ Approach local businesses

and of course, the

**Monster Scout
Raffle 2009**

Congratulations to

Jody Freeman, ARC Rovers - Hoadley Region on his Grevillea Group Award from Guides Victoria. This award recognizes his contribution to Girl Guides though auditing the books of their opportunity shop.

The description on the certificate reads: in recognition of your dedication and outstanding service to Essendon Division Girl Guide Opportunity Shop over many years

Humble as always, Jody claimed to have no earned the award; however for a number of years, Jody has audited the books of the shop, a skill he has also applied to Hoadley Region and the Victorian Branch Rover Council

Kariwara District on being the 2009 recipient of the City of Maribyrnong- Community Service group Mayoral award. In his speech, Cr Michael Clarke (Mayor) talked about the experiences a young person could enjoy in scouting listing a range of outings and adventure activities offered by Scouting.

The Mayor went on to talk about the close working relationship between the council and our DA and their willingness to drag out the equipment and be a part of any community event. The Mayor also noted this was our 100th year. Congratulations to everyone. We will bring the award around to show people.

David Lyons

DL (PR)

EXTRAORDINARY ROVERS = EXTRAORDINARY CREWS YOUR INVITATION

This is your official invitation to join the rest of Victorian Rovers and Rover Advisers, for an opportunity of a lifetime. On the 21st of March 2009, the Victorian Branch Rover Council are hosting a workshop day for you to come along and have your say.

DATE: 21st March 2009

TIME: 1:30pm- 9:30pm

VENUE: Latrobe University Union Hall, Bundoora (Melways Ref:)

COST: Absolutely NOTHING! This is being run at no cost to you

An evening meal will be provided to thank you for your input. The university café will also be open for you to purchase snacks throughout the day.

The aim of this day is to ensure that Roving in Victoria is providing the activities and program that meets your needs and the needs of future Rovers. We want to know, what is good about Rovers? What can be improved? What is no longer relevant? What makes an Extraordinary Rover? What support does your Crew need? How do we get more members? Are our Activities appropriate? Should we look at reducing the upper age of Rovers? Are Rovers relevant in today's scouting?

I can assure you this will not be a day where you will have to sit and listen to boring speaker after boring speaker. You will be actively participating in the workshops, because it is your ideas and opinions that we want to hear. You will never have this opportunity again, whilst you are in Rovers.

So how do you become a part of this epic one off day?

To register, you need to go onto the web and follow this link: <http://www.vicscouts.asn.au/extraordinaryRovers> Or go to www.vicrovers.com and follow the Extraordinary Rovers = Extraordinary Crews link.

You will need your registration number for this process and to make it even simpler we have included it at the bottom of this letter.

If you have any further questions or have any problems registering please contact the organising team via rovers.seminar@vicscouts.asn.au , call the Vic Rover Centre on 03) 8543-9900 each Wednesday evening or call me on 0438 393228.

This is an exciting process for all Victorian Rovers, I strongly encourage you to come along and have your say and join hundred's of other Rovers in securing the future of Roving in Victoria.

Yours in Roving,

Craig Whan, BC for Rovers

WESTERN REGION WATER ACTIVITIES 2009

Jan 2-5	SAIL	GEELONG
Feb 22	COME AND TRY DAY	BENDIGO
Feb 27-1	CANOE &/OR KAYAK	LAKE CHARM
Mar 6-9	SAIL	GEELONG
Mar 13-15	CANOE &/OR KAYAK	LAANECOORIE
Mar 27-29	CANOE &/OR KAYAK	LAANECOORIE
Apr 3-7	SAIL	GEELONG
May 1-3	CANOE &/OR KAYAK	HORSHAM???
May 15-17	CANOE &/OR KAYAK	LAANECOORIE
Sept 11-14	CANOE &/OR KAYAK	LAANECOORIE
Sept 24-28	SAIL	LAKE CHARM
Oct 23-25	CANOE &/OR KAYAK	LAANECOORIE
Nov 20-22	CANOE &/OR KAYAK	LAANECOORIE
Dec 11-13	CANOE &/OR KAYAK	LAANECOORIE
Jan 2010	SAIL	GEELONG

NO course is booked until TR1s & deposits are received. Subject to number of instructors available we can accommodate up to 24 canoeing and 6 kayaking, extra courses maybe available. **Rob Mitchell,**
Region Activity Leader, 5461 1397, 040961 1397

Scout Radio

A service opportunity?

More info in INFO 2009 - page 32

youTHINK - AYF

Your voice to Government - be part of the conversation

Closes 15 Feb, So act now!

On 20 February 2009, the Australian Youth Forum will host the first ever national youth forum, **youTHINK**. If you are 15-24 years of age, you are invited to participate.

youTHINK will be held simultaneously across Australia, in all capital cities. Participants will be connected to the host venue in Sydney through a live satellite broadcast. By using this technology, participants in all locations will have a chance to hear directly from the Hon Kate Ellis MP, Minister for Youth, who will also be connecting with all locations at the end of the event. The 2 topics are:

- Violence and Safety; and
- Contributing to our Democracy.

If you would like to attend the **youTHINK** event, you will need to register through www.youth.gov.au/ayf, but be quick as places are limited.

The Government would like as many young people as possible to be involved and contribute their opinions, so if you are not able to attend one of the **youTHINK** forums, there are other ways to get involved:

- You may share your opinions, views and comments via the discussion boards www.youth.gov.au/ayf.
- You may organise and host your own discussion and send a summary of main issues to the AYF.
- Host Your Own Forum kits are available to download from the AYF website www.youth.gov.au/ayf.

The AYF was launched on 2 October 2008 by the Hon Kate Ellis MP, Minister for Youth. It represents a new, dynamic and accessible approach to communication between young Australians and the Government. One of the main objectives of the AYF is widespread youth engagement across Australia. To achieve this aim, the AYF offers various forms of engagement and communication for instance public forums, such as the forthcoming event, or the AYF website which facilitates young people's contact with the Government online, wherever they are and at the time of their own choosing. The website provides an opportunity for all young Australians to contribute their opinions on various current issues and topics through its 'ideas boards'.

There is also an outreach initiative to ensure that the Government meets with young people in their own locations and communities. This is aimed particularly at young people in rural and regional areas, or groups of young people who may find it difficult to participate in a local forum or online.

The AYF Steering Committee, consisting of eleven young people, plays an important role in the development of the AYF activities by involving its members in decision making about the AYF. For more info on **youTHINK** and AYF, visit www.youth.gov.au/ayf.

ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES

RADIO

Caution....This activity is not for everyone!!!

The SRESU is conducting our first National Radio Active Camp on 15/04/2009 at GILWELL PARK.

- Scouts (Adventure Level) can earn their Communications Badge by attending the camp.
- Venturers can use the course and the Formal Assessments to gain their Pursuits Badges.
- Rovers can extend the knowledge learnt and start an interesting pathway as part of their BP Award Scheme or a stepping stone into a career path.
- Leaders can use the skills learnt to improve their communications planning or skills for activities.
- All successful candidates in the formal assessment will be entitled to wear the Amateur Radio Badge.

Participants on successful completion of the approved assessment at the completion of the training and on receipt of their Certificate of Proficiency from the ACMA are entitled to wear the Scout Amateur Radio Badge

*Please ring for more information visit our Web Page.
<http://www.sresu.asn.au/index.php?p=main>

Applications Close when maximum applicant numbers are reached or the end of February 2009.

Philip Adams

<http://www.sresu.asn.au/>

P O Box 269
Box Hill
Victoria. 3128

03 94383013 (AH)
03 9262 1073 (BH)
03 9262 1777 (Fax BH)
0418 398 813

ABSEILING

Starting the year with a bang

To start 2009 off with a bang, 1st Hoppers Crossing decided to host the annual Zone meeting somewhere a little different. On the 31st of January, we invited other units to attend a night of abseiling at Big Rock in the You Yang's State Park. To kick off the night we all had a few jumps in the daylight so that we could all get use to the rock face and become more familiar with abseiling for those who had never tried it before. By dusk, we all had built up an appetite and were ready for some snags. Sitting down we had to have a bit of a catch up with some familiar faces and get to meet some new additions to the zone.

When everyone was full up on sausages and watermelon, it was time for the business part of the evening. The Zone meeting was a short but constructive one, we gathered ideas on what we wanted to achieve as a zone and improvements that could be made. With the paperwork now out of the way it was time for the fun to begin. Equipped with two glow sticks each, one on the back of our helmets and one in our shoe, we were ready for some night jumping. Sitting at the top, waiting for our turn we got a great view of Geelong's lights and the Barwon Prison. Everyone had plenty of jumps and lots of fun, opening the New Year with a positive outlook on activities soon to come. On behalf of everyone who attended, I would like to thank the VBAC for their help running the activity and insuring everyone had a safe and enjoyable time.

Stephanie James, 1st Hoppers Crossing Venturer.

Where do you find out about the Adventurous Activities?

The INFO book is full of ideas and contacts to assist you to fill your program, with courses, event, activities and qualifications.

Check it out NOW!

Training for the Future *by Brian Geary, BC, Adult Training and Development*

Starting in 2009 we are putting in place a structure to make training more accessible for everyone. We have done this by looking at all the Woodbadge Training and trying to determine how we can best deliver this to meet the needs of everyone.

Whilst we will not be completely successful, the process we have used will mean that Leaders undertaking their training will have more control over when and where they complete their training.


The Basic training will consist of:

- Introduction to Scouting/Rovering
- Technical Skills and In-Service
- Basic Common Core
- Basic Sectional Techniques

Each of these is a separate, stand alone course, meaning that you apply for the one that suit your needs and availability. You need to complete the Basic Common Core before the Basic Sectional Techniques course. Additionally for Leaders who wish to transfer sections or change roles, the Basic Common Core will not need to be redone.

We are also looking at how we deliver these courses. There are a number of the Basic Common Core courses that are non-residential aiming to assist those Leaders who are unable to get away overnight.

We have also looked at delivering some of the Joey Scout, Cub Scout and Rover Basic Sectional Techniques courses as non-residential courses as well. The Scout and Venturer Sectional Techniques courses will continue to be delivered only as residential



Adult Training & Development News




Be part of the synergy ... participate in a continuous training course at Gilwell Park in March 2009.

The full spectrum of Leader of Youth and Leader of Adult courses for both Basic and Advanced are available.

March 2009

Common Core – Leader of Youth	
Basic	Friday 6 – Sunday 8 March 2009
Advanced	Wednesday 4 – Friday 6 March 2009
Joey Scout	
Basic Sectional Techniques	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Advanced Outdoor Activities	Friday 6 – Saturday 7 March 2009
Advanced Sectional Techniques	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Cub Scout	
Basic Sectional Techniques	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Advanced Outdoor Activities	Friday 6 – Saturday 7 March 2009
Advanced Sectional Techniques	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Scout	
Basic Sectional Techniques	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Advanced Outdoor Activities	Friday 6 – Saturday 7 March 2009
Advanced Sectional Techniques	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Venturer Scout	
Basic Sectional Techniques	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Advanced Outdoor Activities	Friday 6 – Saturday 7 March 2009
Advanced Sectional Techniques	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Rovers	
Basic Sectional Techniques	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Advanced Sectional Techniques	Friday 6 – Sunday 9 March 2009
Activity Leaders	
Activity Guide	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Activity Instructor	Saturday 7 – Monday 9 March 2009
Leader of Adults	
Basic Common Core	Saturday 7 March 2009
Group Leader Basic	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
D/Leader/Commissioner Basic	Sunday 8 – Monday 9 March 2009
Advanced	Friday 6 – Monday 9 March 2009

GILWELL – A great place to BE – – – A great place to TRAIN

- ⇨ Take advantage of the time efficiency of a continuous course
- ⇨ Use a quieter time early in the year to train
- ⇨ Share in the fun and fellowship from other sections
- ⇨ Tutor group work on Certificate 3 & 4
- ⇨ Organise some other leaders from your Group or District to join in the fun
- ⇨ Apply NOW by enrolling on-line or completing a TR1 form. Contact your Group Leader, Personal Leader Advisor or District Leader (Adult Training Support) for further information.

courses due to the outdoor nature of these courses. The Leader of Adults (Group leader, District Leader and Commissioner) Basic courses will also be delivered as non-residential courses.

We are also looking to experiment with on-line delivery for the Introduction to Scouting Seminars. This trial will occur in the first half of 2009 as we still have some issues to work through before we can implement this.

The other thing that has changed with the Basic requirements is the removal of the compulsory requirement of completing the workbooks and submitting them for assessment. You will still need to complete the Skills and In-Service sign-off sheets at Leadership Support and the Certificate III in Frontline Management.

For Advanced Training for Leaders of Youth the structure will be:

- Pre-Course Workbook
- Advanced Common Core
- Advanced Outdoor Activities
- Advanced Sectional Techniques
- Post Course Assessment and evaluation

Again, each of these training courses is a stand-alone course that you will need to apply for. And you can select the one that you wish to attend to suit your availability. You can complete the Advanced Outdoor Activities course anytime after you complete your Basic training. You must wait six months after your Basic Training to attend the Advanced Common core and you will need to complete the Common Core before attending the Advanced Sectional Techniques. Again for Leaders transferring sections, you will not need to complete the Advanced Common Core weekend again. There is still the six month post basic requirement before attending the Advanced Common Core.

For Leaders of Adults the structure is:

- Pre-Course Workbook
- Advanced Sectional Techniques
- Post Course Assessment and evaluation

For Activity Leaders, Rovers and Rover Advisers, the structure is:

- Pre-Course Workbook
- Advanced Common Core
- Advanced Sectional Techniques
- Post Course Assessment and evaluation

To receive your Woodbadge, you will complete all the assessment activities contained in the workbooks and submit them for assessment. ***This can all be summarised in the table provided***

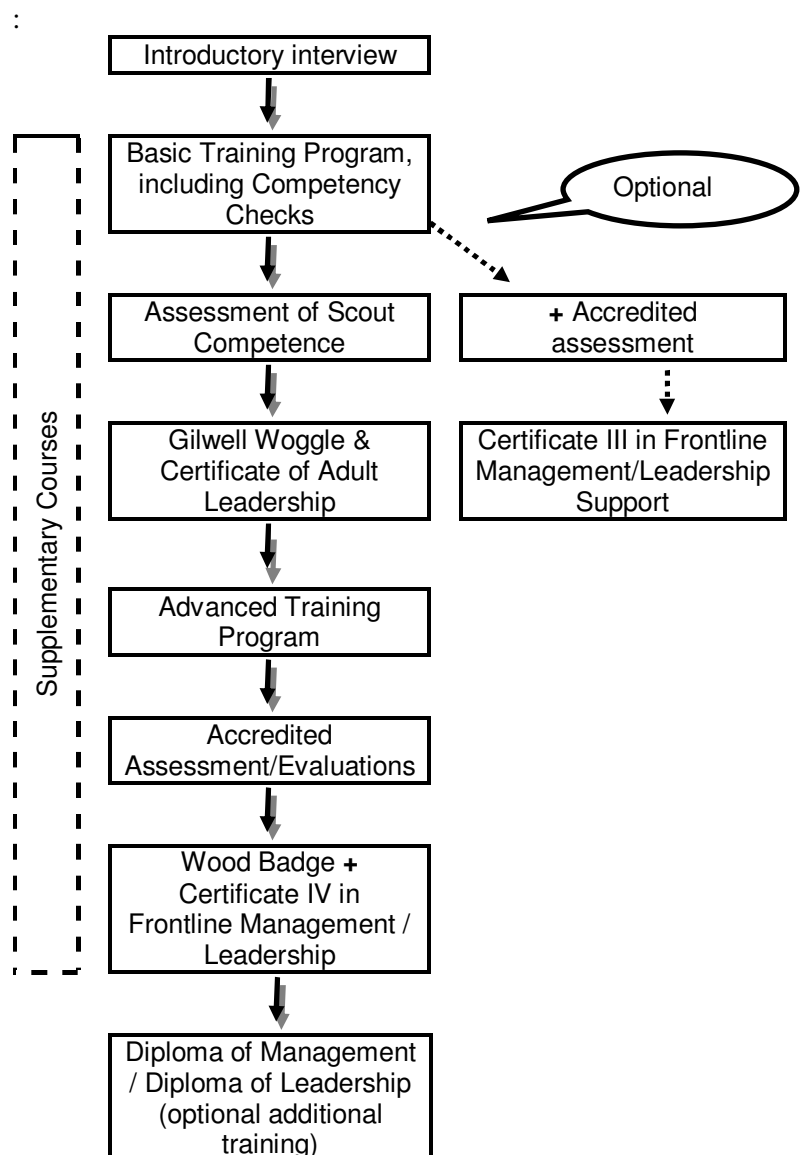
We have also looked at the petrol subsidies provided to Leaders. This has been improved and extended to cover Basic training as well as Advanced. The subsidy will be \$25.00 per car per weekend provided

the rear of the Orange Basic In-Service and Technical Skills Workbook and complete the pre-course activities. The Blue Basic Course Workbook will still be used as a training aid on course, but you will only submit your workbooks for assessment if you wish to receive the Certificate III in

to the Leader who drives in excess of 200 but less than 400 kilometres round trip, and \$50 for those who drive in excess of 400 kilometres round trip. This distance is based on an 'as the crow flies' determination. Fuel vouchers will be handed out at the course by the course leader.

More detail on all the above is contained in Section 6 of the new Info Book due for release early in 2009. If you have any questions please contact your District Leaders or your ARC Adult Training and Development in the first instance. If you need further information you can then contact me at bc.training@vicscouts.asn.au.

Looking forward to catching up with you at a training course sometime, somewhere
Brian.



A CALENDAR PACKED WITH OPPORTUNITIES!

These were mailed with Feb. Interchange:

- **Program Planner kit for Units; and**
- **Mini Calendars,**
- **Which are also on *vicventurers.com***

The latest Vic Venturer news can be found on the website vicventurers.com - check the Calendar page for the latest calendar of courses, events etc and the Newsletters page for current and previous issues of Interchange

Venturer Review

The new Venturer Award Scheme was released at the Venture, held in Western Australia in January 2009.

Amongst the changes is more responsibility at Unit Council level for Unit Standards, and more reliance on the technical skills of the Venturer Leaders.

Venturers will be able to earn Certificate II TAFE equivalent qualifications while having a great time as a Venturer and doing fun things.

Despite that, there is also a vast decrease in paperwork requirements.

All Venturer Leaders and DVL's should attend the training day being held on February 15 at Forster Road, where possible.

A country road show is in the > planning stages.

Please let us know if you are coming, for catering purposes. You could RSVP to Forster Road or Email bc.venturers@vicscouts.asn.au.

Cheers, Cliff

Hard copies mailed with February Interchange, also on the web at *vicventurers.com*

A valuable resource mailed to each DL(VS) & ARC(VS) every quarter:

- **Do they share this resource?**
- **Have you asked to see a copy?**
- **Did you know you can access it at *vicventurers.com*?!**

In the January 2009 issue you will find the results of a recent survey.

Check it out!

Venturers & Leaders often ask:
"Waddya do for IDEALS?"

Some ideas for your program:
by the Yarra Batman Zone Venturer Council

Ideals Visit #1
St. Aidan's Uniting Church,
North Balwyn

St. Aidan's Uniting Church, North Balwyn, welcomes Venturers and others to their February "Mind-Body-Spirit" Program, **Sunday, 22nd February 2009.**

Prof Stuart Macintyre will discuss the question:

**WHAT SORT OF HISTORY
 SHOULD WE TEACH?**

The new Australian Curriculum raises important questions about why should Australians learn history and what approach should be taken to curriculum design.

Professor Macintyre is the Ernest Scott Professor of History, University of Melbourne; Professorial Research Fellow, Australian Research Council; President of the Academy of the Social Sciences; Author of many books incl. *A Concise History of Australia* (2009).

He is currently editing vol 4 (1800-1945) of the international *Oxford History of Historical Writing*.

Scouts and Guides are particularly welcome.

Uniform is not required.

Venturers may plan to include this visit in their Ideals I or Ideals II Activity (Venturer Award Scheme).

Date: Sunday, **February 22**, 2009

Time: Talk from **5.30pm to 6.30pm followed by soup** and then a short service of Evening Prayer from **7.00pm to 7.30pm**

Venue: **St Aidan's Uniting Church**, 17 - 21 Duggan St, North Balwyn. **Melway 46 F3.** Phone/Fax: 9857 8412 or mail@staidans.org.au.

For additional information: contact Jerry, DVL, jerome.winston@cedre.org.my or 9435 8048.

Ideals Visit #2
Civic Service, Refreshments and
Tour of Synagogue

Saturday, 21st March 2009, 9.45 am to 12.45 pm

The **Leo Baeck Centre** welcomes visitors to its annual **Civic Service** on **Saturday, March 21st** held in conjunction with the **Kew Community Festival**.

The Service celebrates the Sabbath (Saturday) and LBC's place in the local community. The Service begins at 10 am and is conducted in Hebrew and English. (If possible, arrive by **9.45 am.**)

Please introduce yourselves when you arrive, so LBC may acknowledge your Unit, Troop or Group. The **Service** concludes around 12 noon and is followed by **refreshments** (Kiddush). After refreshments, visitors are invited to join a **tour of the synagogue**, ask questions and have a closer look at the Torah scrolls.

Scouts and Guides are particularly welcome.

Uniform is not required.

Venturers may include this visit in their Ideals I or Ideals II Activity (Venturer Award Scheme).

Travel: High Street tram to corner of High & Harp Rds. Limited parking (eg, for elderly and disabled) behind synagogue. Parking available on Harp Road and side streets.

RSVP? Let us know if you are coming with 10+.

For additional information, contact: Jerry, DVL, jerome.winston@cedre.org.my or 9435 8048; or

Christine, DVL, christine@clandsberg.com or 9850 5045.

Interchange Survey - '08

In late 2008 we asked

'how would you prefer your Interchange News?'

*.How do you want your news? Hard Copy or Soft Copy?
Scouts Vic. is reviewing their methods of communication,
to improve timeliness, availability and relevance.*

*Should Interchange continue as a hard copy, mailed
direct to each Crew and Unit on a monthly basis, or
should it be provided electronically on the site
vicventurers.com (as it is currently) with current info in
Scout mag? If you had a choice, would you access the
monthly issue yourself on the web, or 'Opt in' for a
hard copy by mail - have your say now! (ie by late 08)*

A few responded, and the summary (easily done) is:

Maintain the mailed, paper version:

- The xx Rover Council would prefer hard copies as this is a useful communication tool - it is easy for a Crew to read it on a den night, as they can pick it up and review.
- However, it was also felt that perhaps it could explore some form of online version. For instance when it is published each month a PDF is loaded to the www, and an email with a link is mailed to a distribution group.
ED Note - pdf is already placed on vicventurers.com!

Provide an electronic version:

- We have a large unit (20+) - getting it around to all is just impossible. It ends up getting lost
- is a more environmentally way to go. We get inundated with junk mail -it often gets swept up in the cleanup!
- will save on costs - no more printing/postage.
- It will be easier to distribute to everyone in one hit.

So where to from here?

- The monthly hardcopy will be mailed to each Unit and Crew as per lists maintained by the BC(VS) for Venturers (bc.venturers@vicscouts.asn.au) and BC(R) for Rovers (bc.rovers@vicscouts.asn.au).
- Electronic copies of current and past issues may be viewed and/or downloaded from the Newsletters page of vicventurers.com - refer page 50 INFO 2009
- The BC(VS) and BC(R) will arrange a section based E news to Units and Crews to remind them that electronic copies may still be viewed/downloaded.

This prompts the question - are your Unit/Crew mailing/contact details currently up to date?

Are you in the info loop?

Venturer Web & Resources - www.vicventurers.com
Vic Venturer E News - venturer.news@vicscouts.asn.au
National E News? - www.scouts.com.au/register.asp
Nat Youth E News? - scoutsnyc.com.au/newsletter

BRANCH NEWS -February

continued from p2

Monster Scouts Raffle 2009

Our Aim with This Year's Raffle - 10% more Groups (418 to 459) and All Groups will raise 10% more (\$500,000). We aim to send tickets to Groups by 22nd Feb. Closing date for sale is 8th May. Draw conducted on 22nd My at the Sofitel.

Prizes:

•1st Prize	Toyota RAV4 CV Automatic	\$38,039
•2nd Prize	Wish Gift Card	\$10,000*
•3rd Prize	Wish Gift Card	\$5,000*
•4th Prize	Snowgum Gift Vouchers	\$1,000.

Scouts Australia, Victorian Branch would like to acknowledge the continued support received from the Saxton Speaking Agency, Bendigo Bank and Snowgum Australia.

**Wish Gift cards can be used for: Woolworths, Safeway, Caltex, Big W, Dick Smith, Dan Murphy and BWS.*

Volunteers Grants Program 2008

A total amount of \$343,375 was granted to 99 successful Groups, which facilitated by the Victorian Branch..

Executive Manager Scouts Australia - Victorian Branch

Scouts Australia - Victorian Branch seeks applications for the position of Executive Manager. The Executive Manager will play an important role in supporting and advising the Chief Commissioner and the Branch Executive Committee. The EM reports to and is accountable to the BEC and works closely with and receives instructions from the Chief Commissioner to ensure the Branch supports the CC's strategic and operational plans. You must be able to demonstrate a successful record in managing a complex organisation, preferably in the not for profit sector. Enquiries regarding the position and requests for a position description including the key responsibilities and qualifications, should be directed to the CC or Chairman BEC or from the website. All applications must be received on or before Monday 23rd Feb. and should be marked 'confidential' and addressed to the Chairman of the BEC, Vic. Branch

Tom Hartley, Chairman, BEC

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY 2009

- Fri 20/Sun 22 Anything Goes - Venturers at Lardner Park,
- Sat 21 Mountain Bike Riding - Officer

MARCH 2009

- Sun 1 Clean Up Australia Day
- Wed 4/ Mon 9, Continuous Advanced & Basic Training
- Sat 7 Leader Good Service Award (2009) close with DCs
- Sat 7 / Mon 9, Moomba, Scout Waterfest
- Sat 14 / Sun 15 Scuba - Open Water, also Sat 21 / Sun 22
- Sat 21 Extraordinary Rovers - Conference at Latrobe Uni
- Sat 21 Harmony Day
- Sat 28 / Sun 5 April National Youth Week
- Sun 29 Scout Scuba - Group Dive (Location TBA)
- Tue 31 Leader Good Service Award (2009) close with RCs

APRIL 2009

- Fri 3 School Term 1 ends
- Thurs 9 / Mon 13 Easter - Hoadley Hide & Stradbroke Cup
- Thurs 16 - Sun 19 Venturer Mountain Bike at Bogong Chalet
- Mon 20 School term 2 commences
- Sat 25 Anzac Day
- Sun 26 Leader Good Service Award (2009) close with CC

Does everyone in your CRUNIT have an opportunity to See/Read INTERCHANGE each month?

Why not suggest they check this list off as they pass it on.

UNIT CHAIRMAN	CREW LEADER
VENTURER LEADER	ROVER ADVISER
SECRETARY	SECRETARY
TREASURER	TREASURER
---	---
---	---
GROUP LEADER	GROUP LEADER
FINALLY, THE UNIT LIBRARY	FINALLY, THE CREW LIBRARY

Back issues of Interchange since 2001 - viccenturers.com

**Change of address? Please let us know, c/o:
P.O. Box 774 Mount WAVERLEY 3149 or
INTERCHANGE@VICSCOUTS.ASN.AU**

If undeliverable return to
INTERCHANGE
PO Box 774
MOUNT WAVERLEY VIC 3149

INTERCHANGE

PRINT POST APPROVED
PP 326852/00002

**SURFACE
MAIL**

**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**