

# INTERCHANGE

Vol. 30 No. 6

A MAGAZINE FOR VENTURERS &amp; ROVERS

July 2009

## VENTURER LEADER TRAINING

### VAST POSSUM LUXURY CONDO PROJECT PAX HILL - JUNE 2009

How many VLs does it take to install  
a possum hutch in a tree?

### Date changes/confirmations:

- Victorian AGM/ARAP 04/12/09
- QS & BP still 03/10/09

## LEADER RECEPTIONS

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June at the Western Scout Centre.

*Your Branch team at work*

## NORTHERN CONFERENCE

4<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at the Benalla TAFE Centre.

*Evan Johns from the Environment Team*

## INTERCHANGE

How do you get your monthly Rover and Venturer news in Interchange? Currently, the monthly issue is prepared in the first week of the month and an electronic version is placed on the web. The printed copy is then mailed by the BVC and the BRC direct to each Unit/Crew.

There are now 3 electronic versions:

- **full pdf version** with photos and graphics is usually 15 to 30 meg, so may take time;
- a **smaller sans pics** (ie no pictures) pdf is provided – usually less than a half meg ; and
- a **new low res** (low resolution) pdf will be provided commencing with this issue, which will have the photos and graphics in low resolution

So, 3 versions (with examples based on June issue):

- 5.8 meg pdf full version – photos and graphics
- 1.9 meg pdf low res version
- 0.4 meg pdf sans pics version

**Do you want fries with that?**

# "All Victorians enjoying Scouting"

## INFO BOOK 2009 UPDATES

Distributed with the February Scout Magazine, and [www.vicscouts.asn.au](http://www.vicscouts.asn.au). The web version was updated in early April, and again on 01/07/09. These quarterly updates should reduce long term errors being perpetuated and the volume of changes at year end.

## VICTORIAN NEWS - JULY 2009

**BC Major Events** Russell Bradd has accepted the appointment of BC Major Events and will be building a team of leaders with specialist skills who can support and advise on major events run by Districts, Regions & Branch.

**Warden of Gilwell** I am now seeking expressions of interest from leaders in the revised role of Gilwell Warden who is a key member of the restructured Board of Management led by new Chairman Clive Keeble and Business Manager Bill Oakley.

**New Chair of the NEC** Congratulations to our Victorian Vice President, David Jones who has been elected to a 3 year term as Chairman of the National Executive Committee of Scouts Australia at the recent National Executive Committee meeting in Sydney.

*Bob Taylor, Chief Commissioner*

### **Scouting photos: see your best work on the big screen**

Calling all photographers! As part of our AGM in early December, I am keen to have a variety of Scouting photos which will be combined into a PowerPoint presentation to rival anything else see at an AGM. I am willing to receive photos on any Scouting subject, but primarily to have youth focused pictures of our Scouts (all ages) "enjoying Scouting". Submit your photos to [photos@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:photos@vicscouts.asn.au). The winner of the "best snap award" will have their Vic. Branch membership fee reimbursed.

### **Scouting events/ conferences - event registration module.**

Did you know that the extranet system has an event registration and management system? The system is designed to easily add attendees to any conference or event being run and provides a number of reports, communication

options, name tags and also allows attendee's extranet membership records to be updated if appropriate. If you are running an event and want the module to be set up for you please contact [extranet@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:extranet@vicscouts.asn.au). If you are a prospective attendee, all you need to do is follow the link the "owner" provides for you and log in - it's as simple as that!

*Alistair Horne, Exec. Manager & Gen. Secretary*

### **Volunteer Grants Program 08/09. Use it or lose it.**

The funding agreement for this program requires all grant monies to be spent by 30th September 2009. There are currently 22 Scout formations that have yet to spend any money from their grants. All unspent monies are required to be returned to the Department and I urge you to start spending your monies. Should you require assistance please e-mail [grants@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:grants@vicscouts.asn.au) or call YING on 8543 9886.

### **Grant Opportunities**

The Fundraising and Sponsorship Sub-Committee receives a monthly Newsletter called "EasyGrants", which contains grant opportunities available for various purposes and some of them are only available for a two week period. Mrs. Shirley Bean and Mr. Alston Park review these grant opportunities monthly and highlight the appropriate ones for Scouting. In order to maximize the benefits of their efforts, we are establishing a register to collect the details of grants sought and applied by Scout formations. This will enable us to match some of the grants sought against the opportunities available, also to investigate and design strategies to assist Scout formations in applying for future grants. You can send your details to [grants@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:grants@vicscouts.asn.au).

*Tom Hartley, Chairman Branch Exec. Committee*

### **BRING A FRIEND "Growing Youth Membership"**

- the information kit and the invitation template are now on the home page of the web; and
- the badges are available from the three Scout Centres.

## **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, P.O. Box 774, MOUNT WAVERLEY, VICTORIA, 3149.
- Email:** [interchange@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:interchange@vicscouts.asn.au)
- Due date:** the due date for contributions is the last day of the month preceding the monthly issue (ie 30<sup>th</sup> June for July issue); this permits inclusion of info from the BRC (4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday), VVC (1st Tuesday) and BCs' meetings (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday); for mailing on the next Monday - which will be the 13<sup>th</sup> 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 3 pdf versions of each issue:  
two versions with all photos and graphics – either full or low resolution, and one without photos and graphics on the Victorian Branch web site, at: [vicventurers.com](http://vicventurers.com) – go to the Newsletter page for back copies from 2001
- 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.

*Young Spokesperson PR training is now known as*

## **PR & MEDIA TRAINING**

**SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> AUG. - VIC. SCOUT CENTRE**

- Are you aged between 14 – 26?
- Are you enthusiastic?
- Are you committed to Scouting?
- Are you a good communicator?
- Are you willing to be the public face of Scouting?
- Are you willing to take on the challenge of journalists?

*If YES, then we just might have the job for YOU.*

The motivation behind this is to continue to develop a group of young Scouting people with the skills to become the public media face of Scouting for the future. Many of the participants at the 2006 course were involved in the centenary events during 2007 and 2008.

- There is no fee for this training day.
- Assistance may be available for travel expenses.
- Billeting will be arranged for country based Scouts.
- Limited places, so register your interest direct by 31/07/09 at the latest, c/o either the direct link [https://www.vicscouts.asn.au/PR\\_MediaTraining](https://www.vicscouts.asn.au/PR_MediaTraining) or email [greg.mcdougall@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:greg.mcdougall@vicscouts.asn.au)

## **VICTORIAN YOUTH COUNCIL**

The Branch Commissioners (Youth Program) are developing an ongoing, youth planned and managed, Victorian Youth Council to encourage the involvement of young people in decision making at a State level. Each section will be identifying youth members to form the initial planning group to meet on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2009. It is intended that the Youth Council would then meet on a regular basis, and possibly to plan a State Youth Forum in 2010.

The initial planning meeting will be at the Victorian Scout Centre, uniform, lunch and am/pm tea provided, from 10am til 4pm. Country participants will be assisted with transport expenses and billeting. Expressions of interest due by 04/09/09 – successful applicants will be advised by 06/09/09.

If you know of a youth member who may be interested to be involved, please encourage them to register their interest either with their Branch Commissioner or directly via <https://www.vicscouts.asn.au/YouthCouncil>.

## **ALL VICTORIANS ENJOYING SCOUTING**

The Vision for Victorian Scouting is “All Victorians enjoying Scouting”, and our membership already comprises many diverse cultures and beliefs. But, can we make Scouting more accessible to Victorians?

There are some opportunities for interested people to further develop our initiatives in:

- **Multicultural Scouting;**
- **Indigenous Scouting; and**
- **Faith Awareness.**

If interested in any of these initiatives, contact [greg.mcdougall@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:greg.mcdougall@vicscouts.asn.au)

## **Multi Cultural Scouting**

### **Walk for Harmony - Sunday 12 July**

Join the Premier of Victoria on the Walk for Harmony on 12 July 2009 to show your support for cultural diversity in Victoria.

Meet at the Carlton Gardens at 1pm and head down La Trobe St and Swanston St to reach Federation Square. The Walk will finish with a free half an musical hour concert. Details will be announced in the coming days. Check this website regularly for updates.

**Volunteers** especially are required. Duties will include: assisting marshals to direct people along the route of the Walk; distributing promotional materials and providing general information about the Walk. The time commitment will be 4 hours between 11.30am-3.30pm on Sunday 12 July. If you would like to be involved fill out the [Walk For Harmony Volunteer form \(Word 439kb\)](#) and email or fax it to the VMC. Find out more about the [Walk for Harmony](#)

<http://culturaldiversity.vic.gov.au>

## Contemplation 2009

### "The Course"

Ideals 2 or Ideals Q.S. just for you!

Covers all the requirements of either badge

- This Ideals Weekend is a challenging and fun residential weekend, where you will examine issues about religion, culture, sex and relationships, morals and ethics, drugs and alcohol and other current social issues.
- The Programme involves a mix of videos, games and discussions.

**14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

**Cost:\$55**

Location: To be advised (awaiting bushfire assessment)

- Pre-course material will be sent out to you during August
- Some work will be required prior to arrival on the course
- Attendance does not guarantee a pass
- Must be over 16 years of age, have mature life skills and approval from Unit and Leader
- Maximum of two members from any Unit admitted.
- Minimum numbers required for the course to run – assessed at closing date.

Applications due 17<sup>th</sup> July 2009 to:  
'Contemplation 2009'

P.O. Box 330 Moe 3825

Chqs made out to: Latrobe Valley Venturer Council

Want more info?

Michelle Simberg 0408 371 957

(Course Manager) 0408 371 957

traveller@net-tech.com.au

## Deep Thought 2009

### 'The Question!'

**Boroondara Personal Growth: Ideals 1 Course**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

Do you want to know the meaning of life, the universe and everything? - Well, we probably won't be able to tell you that, but we will help you develop a better understanding of yourself and how you relate to those around you.

This Ideals Weekend is a challenging and fun weekend, where you will examine religion, sex and relationships, Scout Promise and Law, drugs and other current moral and social issues. The Programme involves a mix of videos, games and discussions.

The course is guaranteed to be an interesting weekend!

Cost: The weekend will cost \$49.00. Payment is to accompany your application form (cheque made out to '1<sup>st</sup> Hawthorn Venturer Unit') - a receipt will be issued.

Times: Course starts Friday evening 10<sup>th</sup> July 2009 & finishes mid afternoon on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

Location: The course is held at Elliott Lodge, Healesville (1<sup>st</sup> Hawthorn / Scotch Scout Property). This is a residential weekend course.

We will supply you with a map showing directions to the property, when we send you the pre-course material. The pre-course material will be sent out to you during the week immediately prior to the Course.

Note: Some preparation before the weekend may be required, and attendance does not guarantee a pass.

It is strongly recommended that you do the pre-course preparation prior to the weekend, as there will be limited free time available during the Course. This may include contacting other participants.

Transport: Venturers will be required to make their own way to the course, about a 75 minute drive from Box Hill (or organise transport for your Unit members).

Course Contact - Robert Evans (Course Leader): 0418-532505 Mobile or email [gfd@gfd.com.au](mailto:gfd@gfd.com.au)

Applications, due by the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2009, are to be posted, complete with your payment [ \*\* send application now!

\*\* to: -

'Deep Thought 2009', P.O. Box 330, Moe, 3825

## VICTORIAN VENTURER COUNCIL

### D/L (VS) DAY – SUN. 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

#### WAS YOUR D/ZL(VS THERE?)

#### WAS YOUR D/ZVC REPRESENTED?

Twenty eight leaders from around Vic came together to discuss Venturer matters, including an update on the new Award Scheme, and ironed out a few kinks

For the first two hours, they experienced life as a Venturer on the newly released interactive Unit Management Course. Must be the first time some of them paid for morning tea!

After a delicious lunch catered by Gary Steinhardt, several new challenges were announced.

#### Branch Youth Venturer Council

To start on January 1 2010, it is planned to comprise 2 venturers from each region around the state. One from each region to be nominated by the region, the other to be elected or to volunteer. Terms of 2 years, with senatorial style elections. Tasks are to offer Venturer input into the running of Venturers at the state level. Meetings in Melbourne and by instant messaging – IM, Skype, etc

#### Certificate II

Under the current award scheme, those completing all the requirements can now apply for a Certificate II in Frontline Management Support and a Cert II in Leadership Support, and then apply to their school to have it added to their record.

There should be a flow-on effect to year 11 and year 12 results.

Please check out the Venturer website for an overview in a day or two.

This is a State Government initiative.

#### Guidelines for the new Award Scheme

As a result of discussion, emails, phone calls, and various conferences, a DRAFT policy will be posted on the web to assist Leaders and Venturers to refine everyone's understanding and to clarify some errors and problems.

## VICTORIAN GATHERING 2009

Organisation now underway for this year's event -the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VG/MG. We would like to hear from people who are interested in getting involved in this big event. New ideas welcome. Contact Rob: [gfd@gfd.com.au](mailto:gfd@gfd.com.au)

## AG2010 – 26<sup>TH</sup> / 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2010

The dates for AG 2010 are Friday Feb 26<sup>th</sup> til Sunday Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, not the first weekend in March as previously planned. Change was made by the venue operator. Revamped website will go live shortly.

## ARE YOU IN THE INFO LOOP?

- *Venturer Web & Resources* - [www.vicventurers.com](http://www.vicventurers.com)
- *Vic Venturer E News* - [venturer.news@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:venturer.news@vicscouts.asn.au)
- *National E News?* - [www.scouts.com.au/register.asp](http://www.scouts.com.au/register.asp)
- *Nat Youth E News?* - [scoutsnyc.com.au/newsletter](http://scoutsnyc.com.au/newsletter)
- *The latest Venturer news can be found on vicventurers.com - check the Calendar page for the latest calendar of courses, events etc and Newsletters page for current/previous issues*



## **BIG BURGER 2009**

**When is it?** Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2009. Book in commences at 12.00 noon, Cooking begins at dusk.

**Where is it?** Harkaway Scout Camp, Melways 210 A 6/7  
**Chris 0425 710 077 - [cira@ihug.com.au](mailto:cira@ihug.com.au)**  
**Goatee (Ian) 0401 878 355 - [goateeavl@live.com](mailto:goateeavl@live.com)**

## **TRY DIVE DAYS IN ANY POOL YOU LIKE**

Scout Scuba was going to try and hold a Try Dive Day on August 29<sup>th</sup> at Queenscliff but they no longer have access to the pool. There are dates scheduled for 12 Sep and 14 Nov (check with team for locations) Cost is \$15 which includes safety briefing, loan of gear about 30 mins in a heated pool and a certificate and BBQ after. If you have a local Pool of about 2 metres depth Scout Scuba will happily come to you. Try Dives are for any member of the Scouting family aged 12 (including parents)and over and are run by externally qualified instructors who carry their own insurance. See flier for additional details on Diving Camps. Contact is Trevor Clark ph 97444600 or [trclark@ssc.net.au](mailto:trclark@ssc.net.au) -

## **ESKIMO ROLLING (KAYAKING)**

Conducted by members of the South Metro Canoe Team. \$10 for scouts, \$20 for non scouts. Kayaks, PFD's and paddles can be provided by prior arrangement at a reasonable cost. Held at Don Tatnell Leisure centre, Cnr Warren Rd and Brisbane Terrace, Mordialloc. Bookings essential, Contact jimmy on 0410 561 159 or [eskimorollingnights@gmail.com](mailto:eskimorollingnights@gmail.com) Potential dates include July 3, Aug 7, Sep 4, Oct 2 & Nov 6

## World Scout Dollar Day

Luc Pannisod, Acting Secretary General of the World Scout Movement in Geneva has identified a great project for Australian "dollar day" funds.

You will remember that late last year, Scouts Victoria launched a project to raise at least \$1 from each of our members on World Scout Day. The delay in information was caused by the lack of a suitable project; we didn't just want to collect funds without having a worthwhile outcome.

Our project is based in Africa and was originally to be funded by an Irish charity, but due to the current global financial crisis they cannot continue. The project is simple. It is called "Food for Life" and consists of training "Scouts" (all sections) to grow food for their families.

The members are given packets of seeds, taught how to sow them and they in turn teach their families, who in turn grow food for their homes and in some cases have some left over to sell at the local markets.

This is a situation where in the end they could be growing food and also having the seeds of the plant to perpetuate the process, for example 1 pumpkin seed may have several fruit, which in turn has many more seeds from which to grow many more pumpkins.

To keep the project running, funding of around A\$60,000 will be needed, which is about our current National membership @ \$1 each.

Some groups are already geared up to collect on World Scout Day (1st August), some are not. It doesn't really matter, as long as we do it.

Victoria will nominate a coordinator soon and some ideas and plans will be promulgated in due course.

This is a great initiative.

Think what your \$1 could do to make life easier for so many. Remember a "Scout cares".

More details soon.

*David Jones OAM. FCA.*  
*Chairman National Executive Committee*

# THE AMAZING RYVER RACE

## Information Sheet

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July

**Starting** 7.30pm registration Friday for 8.00pm start.

**Finishing** 8.00am Saturday afternoon

**Where?** Mystery Location. Once registered and allocated into teams of Venturers and Rovers, you will be using all forms of transport to compete in 12 hours of activities in the hope of winning the ultimate prize and gloating rights. As there will be some driving involved, we can ensure that Venturers travel with a fully licenced driver if requested to put your parent's minds at ease.

### What is included in your fee:

- Public Transport Ticket
- Overnight Accomodation
- Activities with a difference

Please return registration forms via email to [servact@ryver.com](mailto:servact@ryver.com) or via post to PO Box 111, Vermont 3133 by 19<sup>th</sup> July. No registration will mean you cannot compete as we need to know numbers for planning and purchasing purposes.

On receiving your application form, you will receive a gear list and further information

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us at [servact@ryver.com](mailto:servact@ryver.com) or on 0409563055.

Hope to see you there,  
Liz Hardy, RYVER Region Exec

### Venturers

Want to get away from your parents....  
Want to meet new people both Venturers and Rovers...  
Come and compete at RYVER's

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July until Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July  
Entry is only \$20- BARGAIN

To register for your information pack, send an email to [servact@ryver.com](mailto:servact@ryver.com) with: your name and your Unit

Final entries will be accepted until 19<sup>th</sup> July.  
See your information pack for more details.

[www.ryver.com](http://www.ryver.com)

It is the 1950's Academy Awards presentation with the Marx Brothers, Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Prestley, Groucho Marx, Mae West, Vivien Leigh and more. When a new process is announced to add sound and colour to silent movies the studios are happy as they can replace expensive modern stars with old fashion films. Somebody does not want this new process to go ahead and the stage is set for action. A glamorous evening for all.

**Whealers Rover Crew in conjunction with  
The Murder Company, presents their annual  
Murder Mystery Weekend.**

**11th – 13th SEPTEMBER 2009  
EMD Centre, Gilwell Scout Park, Gembrook**

The weekend is just the small cost of **\$45.00** per head.

This includes:

- \* All Meals (Fri Supper – Sun Lunch)
- \* Gauntlet Challenge
- \* Murder Mystery with a 3 course dinner
- \* Prizes
- \* Camping fees
- \* Activities for the whole weekend.

**Applications close Fri. 14<sup>th</sup> August 2009.  
Whealers Rovers Venturer MM  
c/o 26 Hilda Avenue Boronia, VIC, 3155**

**Questions?**

Please call Jess Lewis:

- 0433 420 674 or
- [whealers.rovers@gmail.com](mailto:whealers.rovers@gmail.com)

On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June approximately 70 Leaders attended the District Commissioners' workshop at the Vic. Scout Centre.

Craig Whan, Branch Commissioner (Rovers) provided a most informative session on Generation Scouting, using much of the available research. Whilst many of us have heard or read similar sessions previously, it was likely the first time for most to review it from a Scouting perspective. Craig raised several potential issues for Leaders of all levels, ages and experiences, to consider how they better interact with our youth and adult members.

Readers of Interchange will recall some of the recent articles on this topic, also available at [vicventurers.com](http://vicventurers.com).

**Understanding Generation Y?**

Description	Born	Age	Million	(%)
Seniors	Before 1925	77+	0.94	5%
Builders	1926–1945	57 – 76	2.75	15%
Boomers	1946–1964	38 – 56	4.75	25%
Gen X	1965–1981	21 – 37	4.83	26%
Gen Y	1982–2000	2 – 20.5	15	28%
Gen Z	2001+	<20	25	1%

**HOW CAN WE BETTER COMMUNICATE WITH GEN Y?**

- *Traditional talk and chalk won't work with this generation.*
- *Our communication style is structured, yet they want freedom.*
- *We stress learning, they like experiencing. We react, they relate.*
- *We focus on the individual, while they are socially driven.*
- **Four essentials to consider when engaging with youth today:**

**REAL:** *Not only must our communication style be credible, but we must be also. They don't expect us to know all about their lifestyle, nor do they want us to embrace their culture. They are simply seeking understanding, and respect. If our communication has a hidden agenda, or we are less than transparent, it will be seen. This generation can sniff a phoney from a long distance.*

**RAW:** *Today's youth have access to the most advanced technology, movie special effects, and video games with which we can never compete. But the good news is that they are not impacted by slick presentations. They don't want a rehearsed talk, or a manufactured spiel. The more spontaneous and interactive we are in the classroom, the less intimidated, and more open they will be.*

**RELEVANT:** *Obviously what we are communicating has to fall within their area of interest. But the style, as well as the content of our message must be relevant to a generation who are visually educated and entertained. There is no point in giving music to a friend on a cassette tape if they only have a CD player, or on CD if they only use MP3. Similarly we must research in the most appropriate format for those we are reaching. So in understanding the communication styles of our target cohort we will be better equipped to reach them.*

**RELATIONAL:** *There is an old and true saying in education circles: "They don't care how much you know until they know how much you care!" Communicating to this generation requires openness, vulnerability, and genuine interest in those we are trying to teach, and above all else, understanding. The more relaxed the environment, and the more socially conducive to discussions; the better will be the quality of the learning.*

**A FINAL WORD:** *Whether we are involved in educating youth, or in a leadership role, a quality outcome is dependent on our understanding of them - once we have a foundational grasp of their characteristics, communication styles, and social attitudes.*

***Have you acted on any of these?***

## This is for everyone who once was, or still is, in Scouting and proud of it!

### You know you're a scout when:

- You eat better at camp than you do at home
- You can pitch a tent anywhere with your eyes closed.
- You can relate anything you do to a camp story.
- Your friends tell you to shut up about what you did on the weekend coz they are like rightio... and you did that why?!?!?!?!?
- You get excited about camping in weather any sane person wouldn't venture out in
- You've been to at least one jamboree and had the time of your life.
- You know what a jamboree is.
- You forget that girls in scouting are actually girls until you see them in girly clothing eg. a Bathing suit.
- Girls, you NEVER forget that guys in scouting are guys
- You see a fleur-de-lis and think of scouts before Quebec, unless you live in Quebec.
- You are not actually a scout but you tell people you are because they have never heard of Ventures or Rovers.
- You automatically hit it off when someone tells you they are also in Scouting.
- Fires are made from more petrol than wood.
- The meetings go on, even if you are locked out of the meeting room.
- Tents/Sleeping are optional when camping.
- Rain is seen as a source of drinking water not a pain in the butt.
- You have more badges from camps than you know what to do with.
- You don't know why people use torches.
- You can kick white water ass in a canoe, but the moment you hit flat water you tip.
- You first move away from home and all you eat is camp food because it is the only thing you know how to cook.
- EVERYTHING is just better outdoors.
- You give a normal person your left hand to shake and don't even realize it until they look at you funny.
- You see the dirt in your food, but eat it anyway.
- You begin packing 20 minutes before you're supposed to leave.
- When every stain has a story behind it.
- You start humming camp songs in class.
- You couldn't imagine dating someone non-scouting.
- You see a pile of wood near the river and within a day you're floating away.
- Camping is second hand nature to you.
- You could not think of a better way to meet great people than scouting.
- When camping and ashes get into your hot chocolate it adds the little bit of extra flavour. Same goes for marshmallows.
- All fires built must be massive!!!!
- You buy your next car based on how much gear it will carry.
- You have mastered the skill of changing in public without exposing yourself.
- You know you're a scout when people at work ask what you did at the weekend then stare at you like you're crazy when you tell them.
- You know you're a scout when you can get everyone's attention with "Is everybody happy?!"
- You know you're a scout when you bet your life we are!
- When you & your group do a cheer for a group of people who aren't in scouts they look at you insane.
- When you have a weather rock outside your house.
- When your house has as much troop stuff in it as anything else.
- You are known by your scout name to more people than by your real name.
- People offer to lend you a tent for a non Scouting event and then look at you strangely when you explain you have 3 at home.
- You know you're a scout when you wear a camping shirt to class and everyone looks at you like your diseased.
- You know you're a scout when you brag to your friends about how indestructible your socks are.
- You know you're a scout when someone says "I just broke my arm" and you respond immediately with "its okay I brought duct tape".
- You know you're a scout when people don't believe you that the lighter in your pocket is not there to light up cigarettes but to light up fires.
- You know you're a scout when you have a separate drawer just for camp shirts.
- You know you're a scout when you watch Survivor and you know you could do so much better!
- You know you're a scout when tents are optional...along with a shelter at all.
- You know you're a Scout when you come home from a camping trip and your nice Elmore tan washes off in the shower.
- You know you're a scout when you get back from camp and realize you've had 4 hours sleep in 60 hours.... and you have a Biology test the next day.
- You know you're a scout when you won't even consider buying white clothes because you know they'll end up a different color.
- You know you're a scout when you start off a sentence by saying "this one time at camp...".
- You know you're a scout when you can have an entire conversation around a fire by saying one word and everyone laughs eg. "seconds"
- You know you're a scout when you know that rope bridges should be built with cable ties and duct tape.
- You know you're a scout when it's normal to cross dress at a formal dinner at mcdonalds
- You know you're a scout when the no sharing tents if you're of opposite sex rules never work.
- You know you're a scout when you know what bigger or better is.
- You know you're a scout when you know what "the game" is and you just lost it.
- You know you're a scout when you come up with terrible names for your friends such as "spungo", "the crazy ginger ninja" or "macarena guy". and have too many in jokes to count.
- You know you're a scout when you take an abundance of lollies on every camp.
- You know you're a scout when you can make a joke about a teepee and wigwam related to scouts.
- You know your a scout when you introduce yourself as a venturer or a rover when you dont want people to know what you do.
- You know you're a scout when YOUR JUST JEALOUS 'CAUSE WE'RE VICTORIAN!
- You know you're a scout when you smile knowingly when people respond "Isn't that full of guys?"
- You know you're a scout when hiking means 20KM's or more. Everything else is a leisurely bushwalk.
- You know you're a scout when you will quiet happily walk 3 kilometres for a bottle of coke and an ice cream.

Anon

## LEADER RECEPTIONS & NETWORKING

Receptions have been developed for recently appointed Leaders to meet and network with members of Branch and Region support teams, to understand the support available, and gain an overview of the Scout Centres.

The first reception was held successfully on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April at the Victorian Scout Centre, and the second on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June at the Western Scout Centre.

Despite less than favourable weather, more than 80 leaders attended the second Reception. Tables were staffed by each of the 5 youth sections Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers, as well as Training, International, Heritage and several Adventurous Activities, with the Chief, Region and Assistant Commissioners circulating and several District Commissioners.

### *Once again, a successful evening.*

The reception process will be now be reviewed by the Region Commissioners at the July Branch Management Council, and the Branch Commissioners at their August Council, to determine how we schedule future receptions, in particular for country locations. If you have any thoughts how this is best offered to new leaders, please forward your ideas to [greg.mcdougall@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:greg.mcdougall@vicscouts.asn.au).

*A new Leader checking out the Rover display  
(and more importantly, a copy of Interchange)*

## NORTHERN REGION CONFERENCE

The Northern Region ran a successful All Leader Conference on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2009 at the Benalla TAFE Centre.

This Conference was open to all Northern Region Leaders, and more than 100 participated.

The aim and purpose of this Conference was to provide the appropriate support, knowledge and skills required by Leaders of today and to offer them guidance in all areas.

Seminars included – Environment, International, PR / Marketing, and Adventurous Activities. Each of these seminars enabled all Leaders in attendance to gain a clearer insight to these areas which will give them the resources and knowledge to provide even better programs and activities to their members.

Each seminar ran for 30 minutes, and after lunch, all Leaders met in their relevant section to take part in section management seminars. These seminars were run by Northern Region ARC's and District section Leaders.

The LOA's met with the RC and ARC AT&D, focussing on the management of a Scout Group including managing conflict, applying for grants and working with your community.

*Congratulations to Craig and the Northern Region team*

## Scout Hike needs you!

Dear Leaders and Rovers

Scouthike is a Yarra Valley Scout's competition hiking event attended by Scouts from across Victoria.

In the past this was a Whitehorse District run event that has outgrown the capabilities of Whitehorse (nearly out-lived some of the stalwarts). Whitehorse District currently provide the administration and organisation of the overall event, organisation of two out of the five sleep points (others are run by Booroondarra District, Banyule District and YV Region Mindari)

Sleep points are required to manage an overnight camp for Scout Patrols (similar to a Hoadley VOC but smaller & quieter) as well as provide support for up to six activity bases. The activity bases are initiative and scouting skill Patrol challenges, spread throughout nearby forest tracks and manned throughout the day. Activity leaders return to the Sleep point for meals and overnight camping (generally). Most sleep points provide a "catering" service for the activity and sleep point leaders. Sleep Point organisation includes ensuring staffing and coordinating for their attached activity bases although activity leaders generally plan and facilitate their own bases.

I am looking for a team to take over one of the Whitehorse sleep points as the leaders have resigned their roles after many years of support. There will be activity leaders available to continue under the "new Management", however other newbies are encouraged to come along and lighten the load for all.

I would also like a team to re-institute a sixth Sleep Point and attached activity bases.

I propose this as an opportunity for Region Seeonee or Region DVC to get away for a weekend camp without their young charges and support Scouthike at the same time. The Scout Patrols are transitory during the day and almost self-reliant overnight so the demands for directly looking after the kids is minimal.

This is also an opportunity for an enthusiastic Rover Crew(s) to take on a service role in the Region.

Please encourage all leaders & Rovers to consider this, if there is no appetite for taking the Sleep Point leadership role, there is still a chance of a great weekend's camping supporting other team leaders.

I don't think this is suitable for Venturer Scouts, however it is still a good opportunity for Venturer Leaders to get together and have fun (unless there is a linking or "try Venturing" opportunity).

Scouthike entertained 300 scouts in 2008 and we are looking to double that number so the more "fresh-blood" leaders we get on board the merrier.

Scouthike in 2009 will be run over the weekend 6th-8th November most likely in the Tallarook Forest (originally planned for Mt Disappointment but that site burned out)

Can you please consider this as we are moving ahead with planning for Scouthike 2009, can I ask that you let me have some indication at our next Region meeting 7th July?

Many thanks

*Ian Lancaster*  
*arc.scouts.yarravalley@vicscouts.asn.au*

## From the National E News

### Letting youth have a say - *It's the Scouting way!*

The Scout Method – it's what we are all about but is it happening in your Mob, Pack, Troop or Unit? One of the seven methods is: 'The provision of opportunities for leadership and responsibility.' All young people want to be given responsibility and have leadership opportunities – it is our responsibility to ensure all youth Members are provided with these outcomes.

As a Leader how do you both encourage and provide leadership opportunities for youth Members? Do you run a Pack, Troop or Unit Council? How much say do youth Members have in developing the program? Does your Mob sit down and brainstorm program ideas at the beginning of each term? Do your Patrol Leaders run patrol activities? Do your Cub Scouts choose the themes for the year as a part of your Sixers Council?

Is leadership just the responsibility of the youth Members wearing the stripes? Sharing the leadership can be challenging – but check out the faces of the kids provided with these opportunities. Even the shyest or most disruptive member will thrive when given new opportunities. To create a strong, robust section make sure you give out heaps of responsibility every week.

But, there is a catch! The reins can't just be handed over so all of the Leaders can have a chat and coffee in the den! Our job is to model, coach and support the development of our youth leaders. It requires heaps of training and even more patience. It is all worth it though when, in the future, you see in the media one of your former youth Members taking on significant roles in the community. For further information check out the Leader handbooks for your section or ask your District/Region team for support.

**If your section isn't providing dynamic involvement in decision making and leadership opportunities for the youth Members then what you're running isn't Scouting!**

### **National Youth Council have their say!**

From across Australia the NYC members recently converged on Sydney for the Annual Conference. The NYC certainly promotes the positive virtues of youth leadership. The thirty-one members worked non-stop for three days debating, discussing and arguing about a number of issues close to their hearts and their passion for Scouting. As Leaders it is important that we step back and listen to their opinions as they look at issues from a different perspective and come up with new ideas.

The NYC has provided feedback about National HQ AJ2010 activities, suggested strategies to develop the roles of a Patrol Leader at Jamborees, contributed their

opinions in relation to the new Scouts Australia Strategic Plan, and much more. The members continue their discussions regularly via MSN. As National Commissioner for Youth Program I consult with the NYC re programming issues. The NYC chair also presents recommendations to the National Operations Committee.

### **John Clarke speaking with NYC members**

Congratulations to Jade Elliott (NYC Chair) and Steve Tyas (NYC Adviser) for their efforts in supporting and nurturing our National Youth Council. They should be proud of their achievements.

Nearly all branches have a youth council or forum. Besides feedback and great ideas, these activities provide outstanding leadership opportunities for young people. Make sure you encourage your youth Members to apply for these groups.

### **Working together - to make a difference!**

**Be prepared** for the launch of an exciting new concept in Scouting. Next year every Mob, Pack, Troop, Unit and Crew across Australia will have the opportunity to run a special program all within the same week. It will happen in collaboration with other organisations and generate media interest... so watch this space for more information!

### **Australian major events**

One of the many strengths of Scouting in Australia is our ability to run outstanding major events – we have a strong reputation around the world for the standard of our Jamborees, Ventures and Moots. Youth members always rate their participation in any of these events as a major life experience.

The following list highlights the planned cycle of events around the country as approved by the National Operations Committee. Branches have formally accepted the responsibility (and have started planning) to host the events highlighted in bold. Due to unforeseen circumstances and future programming priorities changes to this roster can occur at any time.

- 18th Australian Moot SA
- 15th Australian Venture TAS
- 23rd Australian Jamboree QLD
- 19th Australian Moot WA
- 16th Australian Venture SA
- 24th Australian Jamboree NSW
- 20th Australian Moot VIC
- 17th Australian Venture QLD
- 25th Australian Jamboree SA
- 21st Australian Moot ACT
- 18th Australian Venture Victoria

- 26th Australian Jamboree NSW
- 22nd Australian Moot Queensland
- 19th Australian Venture ACT
- 27th Australian Jamboree Victoria

**John Clarke**, *National Commissioner Youth Program*  
[youth.comm@scouts.com.au](mailto:youth.comm@scouts.com.au)

### **Great International Opportunities**

#### **Boy Scouts of America Centenary Jamboree 2010**

Scouts Australia has been invited to send one patrol comprising of 8 Scouts (boys only) to the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Centenary Jamboree in Virginia USA in July and August 2010. **Applications close 30th June 2009 so be quick!**

#### **Asia-Pacific Region Outstanding Scout Award**

The International Office is searching for Australia's most Outstanding Scout to nominate for the 2009 APR Outstanding Scout Award. **Nominations must be received by 5th July 2009.**

#### **Nippon Jamboree 2010**

The 15th Nippon Jamboree will be held from the 2 to 8 August 2010 at the Asagiri Plateau, located at the southeast base of Mount Fuji in Fujinomiya, Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan. Very little information has been received from Japan to date, but if you are interested, please contact Julie Creed (Contingent Leader) on [jcreed8@bigpond.com](mailto:jcreed8@bigpond.com).

#### **World Scout Moot 2010 - Kenya**

Scouts Australia is sending a Contingent to the 13th World Scout Moot, Kenya, which will be held from July to August 2010. The 13th World Scout Moot will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience with the program focused on community service and development, international cooperation and leadership development. For more information contact the Contingent Leader, Mick Freeman, at [mick.freeman@hotmail.com](mailto:mick.freeman@hotmail.com).

For the latest information on upcoming events, visit the Scouts Australia International website at [www.international.scouts.com.au](http://www.international.scouts.com.au).

**Emma Barker**, *International Commissioner*  
[int.comm@scouts.com.au](mailto:int.comm@scouts.com.au)

### **Keep up with the latest news online!**

Connect with other Scouts and upload your videos, photos and links at the [official Scouts Australia Facebook page](#) (a joint project between the National Youth Council and the National Rover Council).

Want to stay up to date? Follow [Scouts Australia's official Twitter feed!](#)

Over the last few months the [Scouts Australia website](#) has been steadily updated with news, information and photos. If you haven't been to the site for a while, check it out... and make sure you visit the 'Member Resources' menu which contains info on Award Schemes, uniforms, Scout products and publications, supplementary Fieldbook resources, the Scouts Australia Online Career & Networking Community... and much more!

### **McHappy Day 2009 - Kids helping kids!**

Put the 14th of November 2009 in your diary! Scouts Australia will once again participate in McHappy Day to raise funds for Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC).

RMHC creates and supports programs across Australia that help sick children and their families. The main RMHC project is the Ronald McDonald House Program, which provides affordable accommodation for families of seriously ill children being treated at major hospitals.

This year, Groups will get involved by helping to collect money at their local McDonald's restaurants across Australia on McHappy Day.

100% of the money raised on McHappy Day goes to RMHC, so the kids can feel good about helping other kids... and it's also a great way for Scout Groups to get talking to families in their local communities.

Jot down the date now and keep an eye out for more information coming your way soon!

### **Give Us Your Best Shot!**

Scouts Australia is always on the look out for new and creative photos for use in publications like the Annual Report, National E Newsletter and also on the National Website. If you have great shots of events, activities and anything relating to Scouting, please send them in to [nat.marcomms@scouts.com.au](mailto:nat.marcomms@scouts.com.au) or contact Shanna Hanson 02 8440 5905 for more details

## Final Recommendation Report of National Venturer Youth Forum

14th Australian Venture, escape, Fairbridge  
Village, WA - 13/01/09

*June article continued:*

### Venture Feedback and Future Recommendations

#### Executive Summary

The Forum delegates were asked the following questions:

- **What really worked well at this Venture?**
- **What recommendations do you have for the next Venture (Tasmania 2012 "Wild Dayz")?**

Overall, Venturers were extremely satisfied with the organisation of the event. Many positive comments were written about the activities, both on and offsite, during phase two of the Venture. Expeditions received very positive comments, with some commenting specifically on the organisation and quality of leaders on their own expedition. Evening entertainment also had positive reviews, although some suggested entertainment and activities run later into the night. Barcode scanning on/off site, and the activity booking system were noted by some Venturers as being smooth and well implemented.

One comment "No curfew! Then its my own fault if I'm tired" suggests that Venturers appreciated being given responsibility to make their own decisions during the Venture.

Food had mixed reviews. Some Venturers recognised the difficulty of feeding a 1000 person event, while others were disappointed with quantity, the general quality, and the availability of special meals. Flexible meal times were appreciated by Venturers.

Comments about the site of the Venture mainly related to the sand on the campsite and the state of toilets and showers. More regular cleaning of amenities was consistently mentioned in feedback for future Ventures. One Venturer suggested toilet wardens be used. The swimming pool was appreciated, although some also requested more shade (both on the campsite and around the rest of the site).

The lead up to the Venture received little comment, although one indicated communication was good and another suggested more communication was necessary. Some concerns were raised about the availability and accuracy of information about the site, the activities, and the expeditions, leading up to the Venture.

## Actual Comments

### What really worked well at this Venture?

*The variety of activities.*

*No curfew*

*Being allowed so much freedom.*

*Expeditions*

*The site, except sand.*

*The offsites.*

*The onsites.*

*The food.*

*4wd – awesome!*

*meal times – we walked in, ate and left.*

*No curfews! Then its my own fault if I'm tired.*

*free coffee*

*Roverscope – multiplayer Wii \_*

*Time to consume food in.*

*Good DJ!*

*Rides, Carnival*

*meal times*

*The expeditions were really well planned.*

*Expeditions = amazingly well organised, great, leaders and authoritarian positions were well thought out so that all bases are covered in organisations.*

*Onsite activities/general onsite = variety and a lot of free choice, well organised.*

*The offsite activities.*

*The passes for public transport.*

*The offsite activities worked really well and the dining facilities also worked very well.*

*The Amazing Race expedition worked really well as did the expeditions with a variety of activities over three days.*

*The expeditions worked well and the location of the Diving 101 site was great.*

*Offsite activities*

*Expeditions*

*The mess hall \_ Crowded but not too crowded*

*The internet café was slow but good.*

*Amazing Race expedition*

*Roverscope*

*Offsite options*

*Keep up the good work.*

*Expeditions*

*The chick in for offsite*

*Organisation*

*The check in and out system*

*The running of the expedition and off site organisation*

*Expeditions – TALL SHIPS FANTASTIC*

*Carnival*

*Organisation of activities, expeditions or travel.*

*Information sent out to contingents. All Venturers knew what was going on.*

*First Aid is fantastic.*

*Meal times. Although waiting in line is no fun.*

*Food has been good*

*Offsite bookings*

*Youth forum*

*Onsite pool (due to the heat)*

*NSW Pre Tour*

*I pretty much liked everything. Some people complained about the food but I thought it was pretty good for a camp this size.*

*Random, strange, weird, spontaneous things!!!*

*The Barcode Tags*

*Most of the Entertainment Expeditions*  
*Expeditions*  
*Barcode, scanning in and out*  
*Food.*  
*Working in small groups at the youth forum.*  
*Being able to swap offsite activities.*  
*The ability to find out about the new award scheme.*  
*The program worked well.*  
*The pool party.*  
*Every1 is having fun.*  
*The check in and out system for offsite.*  
*The expedition and the leaving/arrival from it.*

### **What recs do you have for the next Venture?** **Tasmania 2012 "Wild Dayz"**

*Entertainment could be better.*  
*We need more time to explore the onsite stuff.*  
*Music over the PA needs to be chosen more like it was at AJ07.*  
*ie. You can request songs.*  
*No sand.*  
*Food was way too expensive.*  
*More showers.*  
*More DJs*  
*Grass*  
*Grass!!!*  
*Toilet clean!*  
*Varied food.*  
*Not in Tas. Please.*  
*Never, ever have a sand campsite. Ever.*  
*Camping site could be improved.*  
*More eco friendly (not using disposable plates, cups, cutlery)*  
*Cleaner toilets & showers*  
*No more blue tshirts!*  
*More fixed toilets and showers.*  
*More Rover activities*  
*More random, strange, weird, and spontaneous things!!!! :D*  
*Larger contingent areas.*  
*Clean toilets.*  
*Variety for lunch.*  
*Toilets cleaned more frequently, including initiatives such as toilet wardens outside showers.*  
*Security STOPPING noise in tent lines at night.*  
*Turning music down after 11pm*  
*Need a bouncy castle.*  
*Generators for lights away from tents.*  
*More shops.*  
*Cheaper food and drinks.*  
*No shade in tent lines making it difficult to find leaders*  
*No sand*  
*Have a dust free camping ground*  
*Better organisation of offsite activities such as change of activities choices.*  
*Different lunches offsite*  
*Figuring out a liability form or similar so clothing etc isn't pushed by leaders. – Venturers can look afte THEMSELVES*  
*Need desert on expeditions*  
*Decent toilets*  
*Decent levels of shade on site*  
*Less expeditions involving sand &/or beach.*  
*Food needs top be better, more variety, amount of food (morning and afternoon tea)*  
*Better bands (play own songs)*

*Play music later at night.*  
*Activities later at night.*  
*Better bathrooms eg toilets showers*  
*More variety of food*  
*Better live entertainment.*  
*More info to go to Leaders, not just to Branch. Also direct to Venturers.*  
*Better toilets (clean) showers.*  
*Improved catering with more diverse range of food and better preparation of special diets.*  
*Clean, well prepared (with toilet paper holders etc.) toilets and more regular cleaning/replacing of toilet stuff.*  
*The food needs to be altered and menu changed for people with allergies or dislikes.*  
*Hygiene is a problem. Toilets/showers need to be changed regularly (daily/ 2x daily).*  
*Curfew lights time.*  
*Better food at Fairbridge and on expeditions.*  
*Better promotion of what is actually at the Venture*  
*Showers and toilets not very adequate.*  
*More food more often. Bigger serves etc.*  
*More variety with in meals, especially on expeditions.*  
*More shaded areas.*  
*Theme nights, even if its only a tent with this happening.*  
*Cleaner and bigger pool.*  
*Better transport organisation.*  
*Better entertainment.*  
*ID tags that are stronger in that the bar codes etc don't rub off. Facilities etc)*  
*Blurb for activities should have been more detailed/ accurate.*  
*Everything is closing early while leaders are still awake.*  
*Why cant they supervise some quiet activities until at least 12.*  
*Some of the toilets were not kept clean. Did not have toilets. at AV09, I would like to see a change.*  
*Better food.*

### **The Venturer Suggestion Boxes**

At the National Team table in the Contingent HQ, a Venturer Suggestion box was setup for Venturers and Leaders to make suggestions about the future of Venturing. Below are the comments, in verbatim, received.

*Invite more Kiwi*  
*Do NOT put too much emphasis on the actual "knots, poles & hiking" side of Scouting. Most Scouts I know are in it for other reasons.*  
*Don't make it look too "cheery outdoors robots" when you make ads. People do not want to be a part of that. People join because of their parents or because of their friends, not because they have it forced down their throats.*  
*Ease up.*  
*Just tell people to haite [sic] friends to Scouts. Make more wristbands, stickers, gear. It intrigues people.*  
*No pressure, no zombies. Just fun.\* unless, of course, for you fun = zombies. Just thought I'd make sure.*  
*The old Uniform.*  
*The new uniform sucks.*  
*I want Sea Scout Badge on Uniform.*  
*Need more support for Units to get started. Too many units die because of no prior planning or lack of activities.*

## Forum Coordinator's Report

### *Forum Format*

The Forum was held from 9am – 5pm on one day of the Venture. A one hour briefing was conducted in the evening, two days prior to the Forum, to get introductions and house keeping out of the way and allow maximum time for topic discussion.

The outline of the forum day (refer Appendix 1), involved a morning of discussion time (about 3.5 hours), report writing time after lunch (about 2 hours), and a formal (in uniform) presentation of findings at the end of the day. Only half of the delegates were needed for the report writing phase.

Delegates worked in groups of 6 (mixed Branches) to discuss and record their ideas. This worked well as it allowed delegates to express a view to a small group. Ideas from all teams were put together into topic groups for the report writing phase.

Six topics were covered in the forum. Although emphasis was placed on groups tackling the topics in any order and that it wasn't expected that they got through all the topics, most groups were able to do so. The Venturers participating in the report write-up were also able to complete the task within the allotted time.

It is important that youth members who are prepared to volunteer their day instead of participating in other, possibly more exciting, activities of the Venture, be recognised for their contributions. Certificates were issued, however a more local thank you ought to be considered.

### **Recommendation**

- That future Venturer Youth forums retain this existing format.
- Delegates should be recognised and thanked by the respective Branches for their contributions to the Forum.

### **Recommendation**

- An amount of \$100 is set aside in the Venture Budget for the future running of the youth forum (consideration of inflation may need to be performed). Additional funds will need to be set aside for catering and supply of consumables.
- (Note that travel expenses and Venture attendance fees for the Forum Coordinator were covered by the National Office out of the Youth Program budget.)

### **Recommendation**

- That the Forum Coordinator attends the Venturer Programming Meetings in the two years prior to the Venture to ensure all Branch Commissioners understand the concept and expectations on them for the Forum.

- That Branch Commissioners endeavour to cooperate in providing details of delegates well in advance of the Venture.
- The Youth Forum Coordinator should set a due date for delegate nominations as late as practically possible. Late November would be a possibility so that a mail out could occur at the beginning of December with Forum Details (including chosen topics). It will be important to consider that Venturer Units will stop meeting around mid-December.

### **Recommendation**

- That the Forum Coordinator attend the Venturer Program Meeting in the year prior to the Venture to collect and finalise topics.
- To use an online forum for collection and discussion of topic ideas from the general Venturer population.
- Continue to allow both Branch Commissioners and Venturers themselves to select topics of discussion.

### **Recommendation**

- Initial discussions to begin with the Venture Organising Committee within two years of the next Venture, and that a forum liaison be appointed from the committee. This could be the chairman, if appropriate.
- *Note: An approach has already been made to the Chair of the 2012 Venture (Tasmania) to ensure that the Youth Forum is included in relevant planning for the event.*
- Integration of the Forum into the Venture database. Specifications would need to be written and submitted 18 months prior to the event.
- Maintain good relations and communications between Forum Coordinator and Venture Organising Committee to ensure positive outcomes for the Forum.

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

**24<sup>TH</sup> - 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY**  
**REGENT HONEYEATER PLANTING AND ENVIRONMENT WEEKEND**

**SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST**  
**NATIONAL TREE DAY**

**SEPTEMBER 2009**  
**SCOUT ENVIRONMENT WEEKS**

*Annette Cook,*  
*Branch Commissioner - Environment*  
*bc.environment@vicscouts.asn.au*

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