

INTERCHANGE

Vol. 30 No. 11

A MAGAZINE FOR VENTURERS & ROVERS

December 2009

Kangaree**2010**10th/11th April**Cuboree****2010**

27/09 - 01/10

Tasmania 2010

15th Australian Venture 2012

www.wilddayz.comtas.dir.av15@tas.scouts.com.au**WF Waters Award, Awardees - 2009**

"All Victorians enjoying Scouting"

INFO BOOK 2009

BE INFORMED!

Distributed with the February Scout Magazine, and on www.vicscouts.asn.au the web version was updated on 01/04/09, 01/07/09 and on 01/10/09. These quarterly updates should reduce long term errors being perpetuated and the volume of changes at year end.

A draft calendar of events is now on the web.

Extracts from Branch Newsletter, Nov. 2009

Submitting items for the next newsletter

Scout members wishing to have items published in the next newsletter should send them to newsletter@vicscouts.asn.au. All contributions are welcome but please be aware that for space considerations, editing may occur.

District Commissioner's Conference Saturday 30th January 2010

A great day has been planned and a new venue has been selected. This is the opportunity to start the year off with a bang. Invitations will be mailed out with agenda details within a fortnight. In the meantime all DC's to mark this very important event in their diaries.

Bob Taylor, Chief Commissioner

Property checklist and new guidelines for maintenance of our halls

New regulations require all owners of buildings to provide proof that they have correctly maintained the essential safety measures or services in their halls. That means us all! Confused about what that might mean? The Property Sub Committee of the BEC has prepared a checklist to assist you in the necessary work.

Photo competition. The winners!

Thank you to all who contributed photos. To date we have received over 190 great photos, some of which will be part of the AGM presentation and some of which have already been

used in Scout Mag. The judges had a hard time, but finally settled on joint winners - "[I knew I could - Cathedral Mountain conquered](#)" - submitted by Tom Thuys, 1st Eltham North and "[Misty morning, are we there yet?](#)" submitted by Bruce Every, Benalla Scouts.

Congratulations to the winners and all contributors. Didn't submit photos? Don't be shy; we are always looking for good kid oriented snaps

National Strategy for Young Australians

The Australian Government recently announced its intention to develop a National Strategy for Young Australians. The Government's vision is for all young Australians to grow up safely, healthy, happy and resilient and to have the opportunities and skills they need to learn, work, engage in community life and influence decisions that affect them.

Special assistance for those in need

If you have special needs, assistance is available and materials in accessible, alternative formats are also available. These are available on request.

Alistair Horne, Executive Manager & General Secretary

Let's smarten up our Scout halls

Did you know that every local councillor and local politician has a personal allocation of funds to spend on local organisations? A coat of paint, a nice garden, no graffiti, security lighting could all enhance your hall. Why not write to your local councillor and parliamentarian to help you? It could be a win / win situation.

Survey Winners!

The Fundraising and Sponsorship Sub-Committee drew the Monster Scout Raffle Survey winners for the 3 prizes at the meeting on 21st October and the following are the lucky winners: Maxwell Grinter, 1st Yarrowonga; Sarah Campbell, 1st Woodend; Bruce Ouwerkerk, 1st Alphington. Your \$100 Snowgum Gift cards are on the way!

Monster Scout Raffle 2010

The respondents are generally very happy with the running of the Monster Scout Raffle 2009 but the following arrangements have been incorporated for next year to make it even better:

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
- 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 (quarterly) and posting to the web (monthly) 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.
printed copies are mailed to each Crew and Unit in February, April, July and October; all 11 monthly issues are on the web.
- 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 web site at: 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.

* Important information & guidelines pertaining to Monster Scout Raffle 2009/2010 will be available in the website.
 * Scout Groups are prohibited buying tickets for themselves.
 * An online ordering system for you to order more than the standard allocation of tickets. The closing date for the ordering system is Sunday 6th December so that we can ascertain the number of tickets to be printed.
 * Prizes for Monster Scout Raffle 2009/2010 will be similar to last year's as suggested by 87% of the respondents.
 * The system for processing the ticket returns will be improved to make it easier to use.
 * A backing sheet will be added to the raffle book to assist Scout Groups in marking the names of the families where tickets are allocated.
 * A spreadsheet will also be added in the Raffle pack for Scout Group to manage the ticket allocations to Scout members' families.
 * 48% of the management of the last year's raffle was completed by office bearers, so next year access to the Extranet will be available for Office Bearers to manage the Monster Scout Raffle 2009/2010. An Office Bearer must exist in the Extranet before they can be given access. To arrange for this, Group Leaders are asked to send in their request to extranet@vicscouts.asn.au or their Service Centre.

Tom Hartley, Chairman of Branch Executive Committee

Scout's Ritchies Day, tentatively, Saturday and Sunday 27/28 March 2010

We have joined force with Ritchies to promote Scouting and promote the Ritchies' Community Benefit Card that donates 1% of the purchases to the nominated Scout Group. Over 70 Scout Groups have already participated in this Scheme. There is no limit to the number of Community Benefit Cards that can be issued to a Scout Group. The more shoppers that nominate your Group as their community group, the higher the donation you will get. The minimum spend for a month is \$1,000 by shoppers that have nominated your Group as the recipient.

There will be a Scout's Ritchies Day to be held on the weekend of 27/28 March 2010 where Scout Groups will be invited into their local Ritchies Stores to promote Scouting; get more shoppers to nominate the Group as the community group; and to sell Monster Scout Raffle tickets to the shoppers. The details of these arrangements are being finalized. Once your Group is nominated by shoppers, supporters of Scouting and friends, there is little to do but to wait for the donation to come in. How easy is that?

The Community Benefit Card does not contain names and addresses but a bar code identifying the nominated Group, and better still there is a key tag issued which you can put on your key ring, as an alternative of carrying the Card in your wallet! This is another initiative organized by the Fundraising & Sponsorship Sub-Committee to promote "Finance that Supports".

Please get behind this exciting program, contact fundraising@vicscouts.asn.au for further information.

Active Club Grants 2009/2010 are now open

These Grants will provide funding of an amount up to \$2,500 to assist Scout Group to support more Victorians to get active, and to:

- Encourage and increase participation opportunities in physical activity for those who are currently inactive or traditionally encounter barriers to participation by providing equipment or training.
- Improve the safety of sporting and active recreation environments and reduce the likelihood of injury while promoting physical activity.

Those Groups that received funding in previous rounds are NOT eligible, and grants are not available for Scout hall repairs or renovations.

All Groups are asked to apply directly by lodging an electronic application or paper based. As part of the application it is mandatory that you supply your Group's bank account detail. Preference will be given to applications from Scout Groups that satisfy the following criteria: Indigenous communities; People from culturally and linguistically diverse communities; People with a disability; located in low socio-economic status (SES) areas or rural and regional Victoria

Those Groups who were successful in applying for the 2008/2009 Grants are asked to forward a copy of their application to fundraising@vicscouts.asn.au so that the Grants team can leverage off your success and assist other Groups with their applications.

Please send in a copy of your 2009/2010 to fundraising@vicscouts.asn.au to help us monitor our performance on these Grants. Should you have further queries on what you can apply the Grants please Contact 03 9667 1308 or email activeclub@vichealth.vic.gov.au or visit the VicHealth website: <http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au>

Successful applicants will be notified by Friday, 5 March 2010.

John Peck, Chairman Fundraising & Sponsorship Sub Cte

The new production process for Interchange is here!

As mooted in past newsletters, the new distribution process for Interchange is in place. From now on Interchange is available on line each month and printed only once a quarter.

INFO Book 2010 - entries closing soon

Some of the older members (you know who you are) will remember the "not happy Jan" ads when Jan forgot to get her entry into the phone directory. To avoid a "not happy Greg" this is a reminder that updates for the next Info book are due by Sunday 15th November. Something to add? Please send submissions to infobook2010@vicscouts.asn.au or greg.mcdougall@vicscouts.asn.au

Draft Calendar 2010

Most formations are keen to identify Branch events and significant dates as part of their planning. [Attached](#) is the calendar as it currently stands. If you would like to add items, please contact infobook2010@vicscouts.asn.au or greg.mcdougall@vicscouts.asn.au

Greg McDougall, Assistant Chief Commissioner

Marysville redevelopment project - expressions of interest

Scouts Australia - Victorian Branch invites Expressions of Interest from persons suitably qualified and interested in leading or being part of the rejuvenation of Scouting in

Marysville.

All members will be aware that the Marysville Scout Hall was destroyed in the bushfires earlier this year. Consideration is being given as to how Scouting will be offered and restarted in Marysville, with an open mind being given to all possible options, timing and models. Ideally, we are seeking a person, or number of people who can form a team, who has time available and, more importantly, strong interest in being part of the thinking and implementation of the most advantageous approach to the future of Scouting in Marysville.

If you would like any further information or to express interest, please contact Jon Willis on 0418 546 146 or via email at jon.willis@vicscouts.asn.au

Jon Willis, Assistant Chief Commissioner – Development

Facebook as a communications tool. Great, but it has a dark side.

Many people see Facebook as 'their way' to communicate.

National guidelines are being drafted, but in the meantime I would like to suggest to leaders of youth that they think seriously about their personal Facebook site, before making youth members under their care 'their friend on Facebook'.

If a Venturer Unit is using Facebook as a communications tool and leaders want to know what is happening, you should limit the amount of your personal information that others have access to.

Please also be aware and also make young people under your care aware, that anything put on these social networking sites leaves a footprint. There have been cases documented where photos have prevented employment opportunities in particular fields e.g. a photo of an underage person holding a glass of beer = underage drinking = no employment in education.

You also have a duty of care to your youth. Photos and activities you feel appropriate to report about to adults may not be appropriate for youth.

Barb Brook, Branch Commissioner – Health

Insurance Contribution – Administration fee

The due date for the insurance payments, Friday, 30th October, has already well passed. As stated in our previous letter on 2nd and 16th October, an administration fee will now be charged to all Groups with outstanding amount to make up the loss of interest.

If you have sent in your payment in the last few days or have lodged a query with Willis Australia and are still waiting for the result, or you have made payment arrangement with the Branch, the late payment penalty will not apply to you.

Should your amended Notice of Insurance Contribution Due require further clarification kindly direct your inquiry without delay to either Geoff Walsh (walshg@willis.com) or Scott O'Neill (oneillsx@willis.com) at Willis Australia.

We also would like to thank all Groups which have fully paid the Insurance contribution.

New Feature – Locate Group & Property on Map

Good news! The Locate Group & Property on Map feature in the Scout Extranet has been improved. Region Commissioners & District Commissioners are now able to modify the location of the Group & Property on the map without updating the address of the Group or Property. So, if you feel that the location is not accurate and do not know the address, you can just drag and pin point the Scouts logo to the right one.

Stephen Chew, Manager Corporate Services

Gilwell Park - Friends of Gilwell.

We need your assistance now.

Gilwell Park is the main training ground for Victorian Scouting and is known to most leaders. Gilwell is entering an exciting new renaissance and needs some friends to enable it to achieve some lofty aims. Interested in putting something back into this great venue?

**Clive Keeble,
Chairman Gilwell Park Board of Management**

Come fly with us at Scout Air Activity Centre - Victoria

Do you want to experience flying or do you want to become a pilot? The Scout Air Activity Centre - Victoria conducts flying days at Moorabbin Airport and by request, at country and regional airports for all sections of Scouting. Get a group together and book a date now! We also offer pilot training to scouting members over the age of 16 years.

To find out more about our flying days and learning to fly check: <https://www.vicscouts.asn.au/activities/airactivities/>

Phillip Leaman, Scout Air Activity Centre - Victoria

Fat Tyre Flyers (FTF) Mountain Bike Club

The committee will host a 6 hour cross country endurance Mountain Bike race in November this activity is organized by the 'Fat Tyre Flyers' (FTF) Mountain Bike club and will see approx 300 of Australia's best Mountain Bike Cross Country riders from all over Vic, NSW, SA, and further afield. For more information, go to <http://www.ftf.com.au/>. Visitors are welcome so come along and see how it is really done.

GWS Anderson Scout Park will soon have its own web site at <http://www.gwsandersonscoutcamp.org.au/> so look out for events, booking calendar, activities and many more.

Rob Armstrong, GWS Anderson Scout Park

Grand Opening – Snowgum 'The Scouts Shop'

IT'S HERE! The on-line store for all your Scouting gear.

Snowgum have created a dedicated site to look after the needs of Scouting members across Australia. It's easy to use, allows for bulk ordering and you will receive a speedy delivery of your order.

To celebrate the launch of The Scouts Shop, we are offering FREE SHIPPING on all purchases. Simply jump on to <http://www.thescoutsshop.com.au/>.

Kristen Frankland, Snowgum Australia

Bushfire At-Risk Register for 2009/10 Bushfire Season – Released

The safety of children and staff is our paramount consideration.

Schools (government and non-government), kindergartens and child care facilities determined by the Department to be at high-risk of fire danger have been placed on a Bushfire At-Risk Register and will be pre-emptively closed on days when a Code Red fire danger warning is issued.

Inclusion on the register is generally based on the facility having met more than one of the following risk criteria:

- Location within the 52 high risk townships, or other medium risk townships, as determined by the CFA and DSE
- The results of the DEECD Bushfire and Emergency Management Self- Assessment Tool
- Identification by DEECD Regional Offices and other key stakeholders including the Catholic Education Office of Victoria, the Association of Independent Schools of Victoria, the Municipal Association of Victoria, fire and emergency services, as being at potential risk due to location, geography, access or other risk factors.
- Whether the facility was damaged and/or closed during the 2008/09 Victorian bushfire season.

All schools and licensed children's services (both government and non-government) included on the register have been formally advised.

The register is available from www.education.vic.gov.au/bushfires

There are a number of schools that require further investigation.

The Department will conduct this investigation over the coming weeks and, if necessary, will advise of further schools to be considered for inclusion in the register.

INTERCHANGE

A trial has been conducted to provide Interchange in soft (electronic) copy only, two months out of three.

This means that:

- *the first month of each quarter (commencing July 2009) a printed copy will be mailed to each Unit and Crew as previously, as well as being posted on vicventurers.com, and*
- *the second & third months (commencing August & Sept. 2009) will be on the web only - usually by the 3rd of the month.*

Tell your Scouting mates to look for Interchange on the web from the 3rd of every month.

What will not change:

- *the same information and resources will be sought and included; so*
- *keep submitting your ideas!*

Why the trial?

- *to reduce printing efforts;*
- *to reduce printing costs;*
- *to reduce our environmental impact;*
- *to reduce significant delays in the distribution & handling of print copy;*
- *to encourage all to cut & paste what they need and distribute the info & resources to others promptly.*

What will change:

- *whilst we were restricted to 16 pages for postage and handling, we can now provide more information and resources; and*
- *we will be able to provide it more promptly.*

There are now 3 electronic versions:

- *the full pdf version (high resolution) with photos and graphics is usually 15 to 30 meg, so it may take time to download;*
- *a new pdf version (low resolution) will be provided commencing with the July 2009 issue, which will have the photos and graphics in low resolution – maybe 2 to 5 meg; and*
- *a smaller “sans pics” pdf (ie without pictures) is provided – usually less than a half meg.*

VICTORIA GATHERING

Fri. 4th – Sun. 6th Dec. 2009

**VG 2009 IS STILL
HAPPENING
ONLY ? SLEEPS TO GO**

**Applications are still being
accepted up till Friday 4th
December.**

Any Units/Venturers wishing to attend VG and haven't yet put in your applications, you can still attend, all you need to do is to bring with you your forms and money and hand them in at Check In on the Friday night. Cost is \$65.00 per Venturer and \$15.00 per Leader.

We would really appreciate any Unit wishing to attend to email Donna at vgather@netlink.com.au before 12 noon Friday 4th December or call her on 0409 123 043 with your Unit name and how many Venturers and Leaders are attending. If calling after 2.00 pm on Friday 4th December, please leave a message as phone reception is not the best at Gilwell, but your message will be listened to.

Please look at the Receipt Information, as it has any last minute information that has been sent to Units that have paid. If you have sent in your application form and payment, and have not received any information back, please look at this also, as our last mailout of this information will be sent Tuesday 1st December.

VICTORIAN VENTURER COUNCIL

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? - scoutsny.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

What happened in November?

Leadership Course @ Healesville.

Relay 4 Life on 14th/15th Nov.

Amateur Radio Foundation Training Course

What's happening in Dec?

Vic Gathering 50th Anniversary

- To mark the 50th Anniversary of VG / MG we are holding a 'battle of the bands'
- Prizes on offer!
- Check the vicgathering.asn.au website - as more details become available.

UNIT MANAGEMENT COURSE

SATURDAY 12th DECEMBER 2009, 8.00am/5.00pm

Note: You do not need to be a member of your Unit Council to attend.

Only 4 members per unit will be allowed.

Closing Date: 4th December 2009

Contact:

- **Betsy Earl** Home: (03) 85213360
- **1/38 Flinders Street, Mentone 3194**
- bearl@slv.vic.gov.au

What's happening in Jan.?

BADGEWORK at the Jamboree

Any Venturers going to the Jamboree who wish to have their hours counted towards the Service to Scouting component of the Service Badge(s) need to contact Dot McCullagh BC(VS) Tasmania & Jamboree Scout Leader directly and ASAP - as badgework that has not been organised before the Jamboree **WILL NOT BE SIGNED OFF**. Dot's E-mail is : dotmc01@bigpond.com

Venturer Courses 2010

From	To	Course	Location	Contact Person	
13-3-2010		Unit Management	Eastern Region	Maxine	97991012
13-3-2010	14-3-2010	Unit Management	Yarra Valley	Region Office	92985050
14-3-2010		Young Leaders Course	Eastern region	Maxine	97991012
19-3-2010	20-3-2010	Initiative Course	Hoadley region	Region Office	83796222
19-3-2010	21-3-2010	Leadership Course	Yarra Valley City of Knox	Region Office	92985050

26-3-2010	29-3-2010	Blue Diamond	Riddell's Creek	Region Office	83796222
17-4-2010		Unit Management Course	YV City of Knox	Region Office	92985050
30-4-2010	2-5-2010	Leadership Course	South Metro	Gary Steinhardt	0418545325
8-5-2010		Young leaders	Eastern region	Maxine	97991012
14-5-2010		Initiative Course	Yarra Valley	Region Office	92985050
22-5-2010		Unit Management	Geelong	Karen Kennedy	Keno99@ncable.net.au
28-5-2010	30-5-2010	Leadership Course	Hoadley	Region Office	83796222
12-6-2010	13-6-2010	Values and Visions	Yarra Valley	Region Office	92985050
2-7-2010	3-7-2010	Initiative Course	Eastern	Maxine	97991012
9-7-2010	11-7-2010	Leadership Course	Eastern	Maxine	97991012
10-7-2010	11-7-2010	Deep Thought	Yarra Valley	Region Office	92985050
16-7-2010	17-7-2010	Unit Management	Hoadley	Region Office	83796222
23-7-2010	25-7-2010	Leadership Course	Geelong	Karen Kennedy	Keno99@ncable.net.au
30-7-2010	1-8-2010	Leadership Course	South Metro	Gary Steinhardt	0418545325
7-8-2010	8-8-2010	Initiative Course	Hoadley	Region Office	83796222
27-8-2010	28-8-2010	Initiative Course	Yarra Valley	Region Office	92985050
17-9-2010	21-9-2010	Blue Diamond	Eastern Region	Maxine	97991012
16-10-2010	17-10-2010	Initiative Course	Geelong	Karen Kennedy	Keno99@ncable.net.au
19-11-2010	21-11-2010	Leadership – Killer Klowns	Yarra Valley (Healsville)	Calum Dyer	0418501561
11-12-2010	11-12-2010	Unit Management Course	South Metro	Betsy, DVL Casey	

What's happening in Feb.?

SCOUT SCUBA VICTORIA

6th February 2010 Group Shore Dive

27th/28th February 2010 - Try Dives At "Anything Goes" -

Bruce Ellis abc.venturers@vicscouts.asn.au (W) 54282669

Trevor Clark trclark@ssc.net.au (M) 0408035511

What's happening in March?

EASTERN VENTURER COUNCIL

UNIT MANAGEMENT COURSE

SATURDAY 13th MARCH 2010

Clive Disher Scout Camp, Perry Bridge (East from Sale)

Time: Register at 7.45am

Cost: \$10.00 Per Person (send with application)

Cheques payable to Eastern Region Venturer Council.

Wanted

Venturers who want to change the world!

We are looking for Venturers who want to improve or "fix" Venturers, and/or the entire Scouting movement. Applications are now being accepted for the Branch Venturer Youth Council (BVYC), and Branch Youth Council (BYC).

BVYC will consist of YOU, 2 Venturers per Region, 1 elected, 1 appointed, for every Region in Victoria. They will meet – in person 4 times a year (think subsidised travel to fun locations – the first a Beach Camp, lots of great people, and a chance to change the world) and they will also meet electronically as required.

2010 face to face meetings: 19 Feb, 16/5, 15/8 & 21/1.

Application Form is in this issue.

BYC is a little different – representatives of Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers meet together to advise and maybe guide the future of Scouting in Victoria. This committee will meet early next year.

Application forms for both are available from vicventurers.com.au, or your District Venturer Leader

What's happening in April?

Hoadley Hide 2010 - The first site visit was run last Sunday at the Hoadley Hide 2010 location. The first Rover Crew were on site before the opening of the site visit – they had left it till late last year and finished up with their third choice of stunt site. This year they were in first!

About a quarter of the sites have been snapped up and about the same again have been requested but not yet allocated. There is now no doubt at all that we will get the full 40 stunts running for this hide. For crews that have not yet done so – please register your interest with the hide chief at dgri4717@bigpond.net.au or call 9752 6657. There will be information available at VG.

For Venturers who want to win, call your local Rover Crew and ask them to run a "How to Win the Hoadley Hide" evening for you. Winning next year will get more than the hide – they'll get the meat as well – first team back to the VOC on Sunday with all stunts completed wins a kilo of steak for every member of the team. They don't have to carry it or cook it – just eat it.

For those others who register on time and complete 23 stunts, there will be a regular size steak for your dinner on Sunday night too. Again no carrying, no cooking, just eating – it will add some real flavour to those noodles.

REMOTE VENTURERS

The Venturer Council has been considering how to provide the best support to remote and regional Venturers - particularly those who are in Groups which have insufficient numbers to run an active Venturer program.

The solution agreed has been to initiate a Remote Venturing program for Victoria. This Venturer "Unit" will be available to Venturers who are not well served by their Group due to geography, meeting availability or other such difficulties.

These Venturers will remain members of their own Group/District/Region but will be hosted by the Branch Remote Venturer unit. The unit will use all modern communication methods (text, internet, Skype etc) as well as good old snail mail to provide the sort of interaction with other Venturers that regular Units take for granted - getting other Venturers to join an activity, get a team together for VG, AG or Hoadley Hide, get help on the award scheme and yes - just meet new friends to hang out with.

Support will also be provided to help recruit local Leaders, more Venturers and ultimately to form a local unit.

Branch has appointed an experienced Leader to support this Unit - David Griffiths. While David lives in the suburbs of Melbourne, he has some of the same remote problems as you do - he works all over the world and may answer you e-mails or messages from anywhere in the world.

If you don't currently have an active local Unit and want to take advantage of this support send an e-mail to dgri4717@bigpond.net.au or call David 03 9752 6657 for more information

**VL Remote Venturers: David Griffiths,
70 Belmont Ave Upwey 3158 03 9752 6657
Skype: davidgriffithsasus**

Stockman's Challenge

On the 14th of November two venturers, Shannon Hodges and Neville Hall, and our leader Collin Ritchie participated in the Stockman's Challenge at the Dandenong Agricultural and Horticultural Show. The challenge consisted of four teams of three, and to participate we needed to don an akubra and driza-bone.

The challenge was a race, and the first step was to build a sheep pen out of round logs, seven logs high. Then, with Neville in the wheelbarrow carrying leaky buckets of water, we had to fill our trough from the tank. Once that was full, we had to dump two bales of hay in his lap and wheel them back to our pen.

Next the fun bit, catching a lamb! Once it was caught, the squirming lamb was dumped in Neville's lap and sped back to our pen. After that was the final stretch, rolling our great big round bale of hay over the finish line, flipping it on its side and climbing on top.

There were two heats of two teams, and the winner of each competed in a third and final race. Not even expecting to win our heat, we were quite shocked when we were announced the winners of the tournament. Of course, in true venturer fashion we won on a technicality; their sheep jumped out of its pen!

W.F. Waters Dinner

Sat. 24th October 2010

WF Waters Award, Awardees

Back from left,
Christopher "Cheese" Anderson, Travis Parkes, Peter Gibson, Dean Castle
Front from left,
Elizabeth Hardy, Libby Davison, Belinda Henderson, Sarah Austin

Rover Dinner, RSM Awardees

Back, from left,
Shaun McIlvain on behalf of Craigieburn RC, 1st Runner Up RSM
Championship Series,
Sam Miles & Brad Kent on behalf of Fort Nepean RC, RSM
Championship Winners,
Paul Teys on behalf of Hellsgate R.C 2nd Runner Up RSM
Championship Series
Front from left,
Craig Bevan, Craigieburn R.C, RSM Clubman of the Year,
Jess Grant, RSM Official of the Year

Rovers - The Year that Was!

We began the year, as always with the fantastic Surfmoort over the Australia Day Long Weekend at Eumerella Scout Camp at Angelsea. Under the guidance of Chairman Bianca "Bee" Vincent and her fabulous team, the weekend saw huge success with approximately 700 Rovers passing through the gate over the weekend. These Rovers were entertained with many activities such as Watermelon Rugby, the Annual Surfmoort Cricket Competition and live bands on stage, Saturday and Sunday nights. It also offered the opportunity for Rovers to catch up with old friends and make plenty of new ones.

April 4th -5th saw the commencement of Rover Motorsport for the year with Lead Foot Challenge held at the wonderful Mafeking Rover Park. The weekends saw Craigieburn Rover Crew taking out Top Honours with their car Bloody Oath MkII. Across the whole weekend there was some great driving with everyone having a go, having a good time and showing support for other teams. This was best illustrated by Birubi Rover Crew's *Whippit* being driven by Corhanwarrabul RC's Franklin after *Back To Basics* suffered a broken axle on the final track. The final run of the day was also Franklin's last run as a Rover - thanks to Birubi for allowing him to do his run - The Rover Spirit at its best.

Mafeking Rover Park, or "The Park", as it is affectionately known, is located at Caveat, about 30km from the township of Yea. This year has seen many improvements to the park through the hard work of the Management Committee and many dedicated Rovers. This includes the improvement of the spectator mounds around the main arena, fire safety equipment upgrade, a

new pay phone at the Harold Gardiner Hall, a 125,000L tank and flushing toilet system installed, a kitchen upgrade in the Harold Gardiner Hall, to all stainless steel fixtures and a training course held for the operation of "Big Red", the park tractor.

We then saw the ski season open, bringing lots of snow traffic through of Rover Ski Lodges, the WF. Waters Lodge at Mt Baw Baw and the Bogong Rover Chalet at Falls Creek. For the WF Waters Lodge, the 2008 AGM saw three new members invested to the Baw Baw Rover Crew (the crew responsible for maintaining the lodge). Come summer they held three successful working bees, preparing the lodge for the winter season. These included fitting new emergency exit lighting, door locks, painting the exterior to match the Mount Baw Baw Resort criteria, and fixing the well loved couches. This year has also seen the committee putting together a business plan in preparation for the lodge to become Camp Australia Accredited, to help keep the lodge full, with school groups over the warmer summer months. The 2009 ski season shaped up well, with all the weekends and most mid-week availability booked out.

As for the Bogong Chalet it is unlike any chalet found on Australia's snowfields. It holds a communal atmosphere where everyone pitches in to make each Winter Party a success. The Bogong Rover Chalet caters not only for Rovers, but also for venturers and the wider scouting community. This year the chalet continued its proud tradition of providing a truly unique cross country skiing experience to rovers and the wider scouting community from all over Australia throughout the snow season. In addition to the usual rover weeks, a Mountain Bike weekend (April) and two Snow Ventures also ran this year during the school holidays (July and September). The Mountain Bike Weekend runs every year during the second week of the Easter school holidays. It provides a wonderful opportunity to get back to nature (while hanging with friends) and bike riding around the picturesque Bogong High Plains.

When all the snow disappears after winter, the chalet makes for a dependable and comfortable base-camp for hikes and treks throughout the Bogong High Plains. The non-winter months also sees routine maintenance and further improvements carried out on the chalet as well as great summer activities such as mountain bike weekends and rover crew or scout group retreats.

The Queens Birthday Long Weekend saw yet another successful Mudbash held at the Mafeking Rover Park under the guidance of Pip Gray and the Mudbash Committee for 2009. Mudbash combines CAMS supported motor sport with general activities and camping. Over the course of the weekend over 1900 Rovers and members of the scouting public passed through the gates to get a glimpse of the action. But it wasn't just the scouts getting in on the action. The

weekend saw a visit from Channel 7's Sunrise weather girl Fifi Box, who broadcast live from the park on the Friday morning, experiencing all we had to throw at her, and also getting to drive one of our buggies.

This Year, the Metropolitan Area Rover Ball (MARB) was hosted by Hoadley Region. August 8th 2009 saw over 400 Rovers from across the state flock to Latrobe University Bundoora's Union Hall for a night themed Made In Australia. MARB is a 2 course sit down dinner and then Rovers party the night away to a fabulous band. This year Rovers sat down to a dinner of Chicken Parma or Roast Lamb and then a good old Aussie dessert of Pavlova. The night saw everyone dressed in awesome costumes. Some included lifesavers, gumboots, rather large vegemite jars, utes, and our very own rowdy football team.

The Baden Powell Scout Award (BP Award) is the highest Scouting award available to Youth in Australia. This Award is designed to challenge and test all who set out to achieve this prestigious Award. It takes into consideration the Aims of Scouting, to encourage the Physical, Intellectual, Emotional, Social and Spiritual Development of young people. This year saw 5 dedicated and hard working Rovers achieve the award. Bianca Vincent, Amaroo Rover Crew, Hoadley, Christopher Anderson, Ettamogah Rover Crew, South Metro, Rebecca Breurer, Sally Waterman and Jessica Dalmau, E.J Chittick Rover Crew, Yarra Valley and Kristen Knight, Lasseter Rover Crew Yarra Valley.

October 24th saw Rovers and other Scouting dignitaries gathering to celebrate the achievements of Rovers over the past year. It is a combination of the Branch Rover Council Annual General Meeting and the presentation of the awards for the year. These include the Branch Commissioners Award, the Branch Chairman's Award, the perpetual trophy for the winners of the Winter Games final, RSM awards, the BP Lodge Service Award, and the prestigious WF Waters Award. This year the dinner was hosted by Ryver (Yarra Valley) Region who put in a lot of hard work to make it a very enjoyable and successful night.

At the moment, we are waiting for the final events for this year, however most of these will have happened by the time this goes to print. These include, Opposite Lock, the final racing event for the year, CARB, a night of friends, food and fun in Wallan, the Mafeking Masters and finally the Mafeking Christmas Party.

Along with all these weekends of fun, service is still a big part of the Roving way, this year; it was demonstrated most through the assistance provided by the Rovers to the Bushfire Effort. This saw Rovers helping out in many ways including the call centre at the Channel 9's Bushfire Appeal, assisting in the food and clothing distribution centres, helping clean up fire affected properties and

assisted in re-fencing these properties too. We have also had a busy year helping out with activities and events within the Scouting Movement. Rovers have been showing up to help at events such as Venture in WA at the beginning of the year, Anything Goes (AG), District Scout and Cub Camps, marched at Anzac Day and assisted with parking at the Queen Scout and Baden Powell Award Presentation at Government House just to name a few.

2009 has seen a busy year for the Roving Section, with much enjoyment had by all involved and next year is shaping up to be just as busy, commencing with Surfmoor, Shipwrecked over the Australia Day Long Weekend.

Bung' it in the Ute Show

*By Matt Bloomfield - Crew Leader
Sir Dallas Brooks RC - 1st Seaford*

Rover Crew buggies are not only great for racing, but they are also great for promoting Rovers in the community.

Melbourne Cup weekend we decided to haul our buggy (Bung'ole, a Holden HJ utility) along to the Heyfield Ute Muster, held in conjunction with the Great Victorian Camp Oven Festival.

Warmly received and recognised, we found many people had once been Rovers many years ago, all having Mudbash stories of their own. Some were also quick to comment, "Isn't that the ute Fifi Box drove at Mudbash on Channel 7's Sunrise?"

It proved to be a great event to promote Rovers and also to show our buggy in amongst some other, equally, 'beaut utes'.

Impressed with our showing, we were awarded with 1st place in the "Best Unregistered Feral" category.

Bung'ole; promoting Rovers across Australia.

Scouting PR (Max) in Action

Max on the Move

Mc Happy Day 2010

Just to let you know that Mc Happy Day was very successful as far as Scout groups participating this year.

A big THANK YOU to almost 100 Scout Groups around Australia (51 of which were from Victoria!!!) who pitched in to raise funds for **Ronald McDonald House Charities** on McHappy Day.

You have helped make life happier for seriously ill children and their families!

Check out the photo gallery on Scouts Australia website and see what some of us got up to on the day.

<http://www.scouts.com.au/main.asp?iStoryID=17528702>

Relay for Life in Castlemaine

On Sunday Max was a special guest at the Relay for Life in Castlemaine in support of the Anti Cancer Foundation.

The catering for the event was managed by two Victorian Ventures Phillipa Wiener and Caitlin Squiggle.

They did a fantastic job and the event was very successful.

Children's Picnic, Werribee Mansion

By invitation of the Wyndham City Council, Max the Vicscouts mascot was special guest at their Children's week picnic at Werribee mansion on Sunday Nov 1st.

It was a very successful event and Tony Staddon and his team of leaders from Werribee Plains hosted a fantastic PR activity.

Seville Community Festival

Sunday the 8th Nov and Max was invited to assist with Scouting activity at the Seville Community Festival.

Dorothy Salter and her team were most excited to have Max attend to help promote Scouting in the area.

Victorian Police, Streetbeat Festival

Once again, Scouts Vic participated in the Victorian Police, Streetbeat Festival at the Caulfield racecourse.

Along with the Police, SES, MFB and many other services, max the Mascot proudly promoted Scouting. Doc and Adele Sharpe provided the scouts tabooing service and were kept busy all day. Frank Moore (DC G&S) provided Scout leaders to help out with the Tattooing activity, whilst Team Max took care of Max!!

Check the November 2009 issue of Scout Magazine for this information about Scouting and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Victorian Branch Abseiling Council

VBAC is running participants courses (old assistant instructors) in 2010 dates are as follows
27/28 March and 24/24 July 2010 – venues TBA
TR1 's are required to register for the course
Send TR1's to VBAC Training Officer,
P.O. Box 785 Mount Waverley, Victoria 3149

Cardboard Canoe Challenge

On Saturday 24th October, Venturers from 1st & 2nd Werribee, 1st Hoppers Crossing and 3rd Williamstown competed in the 2nd annual Cardboard Canoe Challenge.

After weeks of hard work building vessels out of corrugated cardboard and paper, the day arrived. With the boats loaded, we headed to Hazelwood pondage to rendezvous with Venturers from Morwell & Yinnar.

At 1pm the first of 3 heats kicked off; a race out and back around a 50m marker buoy. There were some lightening times posted, with most of the canoes finishing surprisingly. 1st Werribee came in first by a few lengths.

The second race was a one hour challenge to build a boat out of a single box of cardboard and a roll of tape. This event glory went to 2nd Werribee. Their secret, lots of tape.

The third heat was pirate class, where everybody had a great time sinking their hard built boats.

In the end 1st Werribee came out victorious with an impressive canoe that survived about 50 mins and even supported 5 people.

Thank you to all the Venturers, Leaders and Parents for their enthusiasm and participation.

A big thank you to Yinnar Scout group for the accommodation.

Hope you can join us in October 2010 for the 3rd Annual CCC.

Rochelle Reynolds, ZVL, Greater Werribee Plains

Lighten the Trip Fantastic

Continuing a series of articles reprinted with the approval of the author, Peter Thomas. Peter is the Venturer Scout Leader at Otway Sea Venturers, Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scouts, and the Chair of Scouts ACT's Bushwalking Committee, Yerrabi. We are thankful for the opportunity to reprint these articles, the copyright of which remains with Peter.

Navigation is something everybody does everyday. You learn how to navigate as soon as you are old enough to move about on the floor of your home. Navigation out in the bush is simply an extension of those skills.

The concepts are the same. The only way to improve your navigation skills is to learn how to use a map and compass and then get out and put it into practice. To be proficient takes much practice and experience over many bushwalks or day hikes but it's a great way of developing a fun and challenging skill. There is a great sense of achievement in getting it right and more importantly of not getting lost. There is also the added bonus of knowing where you are most of the time and of being able to make side trips if the opportunity comes up.

On any bushwalk, it is important to nominate a navigator or to pass the task on at the end of every leg so everybody gets some practice. It shouldn't necessarily fall to the leader. However, even good navigators make mistakes so it's a benefit to the entire party that everyone has skills and there are several maps and compasses amongst the party.

Navigation Concepts

(Know the route specific)

Once you understand the five concepts outlined below you will be able to navigate between any two points on the Earth no matter the distance between them.

1. COLLECTABLE FEATURES

When you plan a route for an expedition you must note a series of major features which you will pass. Write up a route card with a collectable feature at the end of each leg and put it in your map case. Check off the features as you pass them. Collectable features can include major peaks, creeks, creek junctions, vegetation changes,

boulders and even constructed features. eg tracks, track junctions, bridges, huts, yards, etc. Be aware that the topography on a map is always right. If the natural features you see around you do not match what is on the map then you need to recheck your position. (WARNING: A constructed feature on a map may not be there and the converse applies. CHECK THE DATE ON YOUR MAP)

2. ATTACK POINTS

An Attack Point is a prominent Collectable Feature that is close to, bigger than and much easier to locate than your destination. Finding an Attack Point first is much easier than heading directly to your destination. Once at your Attack Point your destination is much closer and easier to locate with accurate compass bearings.

3. CATCHING FEATURES

Catching Features are like Collectable Features but they are the most important ones to have on your route. A Catching Feature is a prominent landmark that is *past* your destination. When you reach your Catching Feature you know you have gone too far and *you must turn back*.

4. HANDRAILS

Handrails are line features that run in the general direction that you want to go. Navigation is simple using handrails because they are easy to follow. They may not go exactly where you want to go but by using them you will get to your destination sooner because you don't have to stop and check your navigation. Examples of Handrails are ridgelines, tracks, creeks and fencelines.

5. AIMING OFF

Aiming Off is a technique used in conjunction with Handrails. If one of your Collectable Features, your Attack Point or your destination lies along a prominent Handrail, you deliberately take a bearing off to the right or left of the feature and follow your bearing until you reach the Handrail. Once at the Handrail you will know which way to turn, left or right, so as to reach the feature.

Compass Care

(Look after the needle magnetic)

Compasses are invariably treated as infallible because we rely on them to give us accurate directions. The sad truth is that any one of a thousand things can affect their accuracy. They do have one incredible advantage over GPSs and that is that they're powered by the earth's magnetic field which will not run out while you're on a hike (unlike GPS batteries). You have to look after them though. Here are a few ideas.

- ⊕ Don't store them or leave them near any sort of electrical motor or magnetic field. These include TVs, stereo speakers, computers, fridges or other compasses. These will happily realign the north/south polarisation.
- ⊕ Always store them vertical. My compasses hang on pins on my cork board over my desk
- ⊕ Don't hit them, swing them around or drop them. The shock can upset the polarisation.
- ⊕ Don't try to use them near ferrous (i.e. metal) objects. Be aware of belt buckles, pack frames, fences, car bonnets, huts with iron roofs, etc.
- ⊕ Don't try to use them near electrical fields such as overhead power lines or high voltage towers. Funnily enough, standing outside Guthega Power Station trying to take a bearing doesn't seem to

work either.

- ⊕ Be aware of the geology of the area you're travelling in. Ferrous bedrock will turn a compass into a paperweight for the corner of your map. Guidebooks, ski maps and Bureau of Mineral Resources' maps will have warnings on them
- ⊕ Do hold them flat when using them.
- ⊕ Don't get the South end of the needle confused with the North end otherwise you will be 180° off. (It happens.)
- ⊕ Ensure you allow for the difference between Grid North and Magnetic North. i.e. What's North on the map is not North on your compass.

Estimating Time/Distance

(Calculate the stroll chronologic)

It's only five kilometres over those two ridges, across the river, through the forest and along the fire trail to your campsite. It should only take two, three or five hours right? You really have to estimate the time it takes to walk better than that. On any walk it may mean the difference between a comfortable camp and a not quite as comfortable night out.

Use Naismith's Rules (bottom paragraph, p. 50, Field Book for Australian Scouting) to plan your walk and get to the top of that mountain with plenty of time to get back down to a comfortable campsite.

For an average walker with a medium pack allow:

- ⊕ 1 hour for every 5 kms. of easy going. (firetrails, open plains etc.)
- ⊕ 1 hour for every 3 kms. of medium going. (light bush, small tracks etc.)
- ⊕ 1 hour for every 1.5 kms. of rough going. (deep sand, soft snow, thick bush)
- ⊕ 1 hour for every 500m. up
- ⊕ 1 hour for every 1000m. down.
- ⊕ 1 hour for every hour over 5 hours for fatigue.
- ⊕ Be aware of the effects of weather on these times. High/cold temperatures and/or bad weather will increase these times.

Who hath smelt woodsmoke at twilight?

A draft calendar of events

2010

JANUARY 2010

28/12 – 03/01	26 th Asia Pacific Region Jamboree – Phillipines
Fri 1	New Year Day
Fri 1 / Sun 10	NZ2010 – New Zealand Venture
Sat 2	AJ2010 - Victorian Contingent depart on Buses
Mon 4	AJ2010 - Opening Ceremony
Sat 9	AJ2010 - Market Day
Thurs 14	AJ2010 - Closing Ceremony - Victorian Buses leave in the evening
Fri 15	AJ2010 - Victorian Contingent Buses arrive home
Fri 15 / Mon 18	National Rover Council
TBA	AJ2010 - Gear Pick up days
Fri 22 / Sun 24	Gilwell Reunion
Fri 22 / Tues 26	Surfmoot
Tue 26	Australia Day
Tue 26	Clifford Park team - Scouting Promotion – Kings Domain Gardens
Tue 26	Government House Open day
Sat 30	District Commissioner Workshop
Sat 30	National Youth Council 2010 – applications close – Note: the Victorian quota 2010 has been filled!

FEBRUARY

TBA	The 2010 Great Scout Raffle commences
Mon 1	School Term 1 commences
Sat 6	Scout Scuba - Group Shore Dive
Sat 6 / Sun 7	Cub Scout – Program Development
Sat 13 / Sun 14	Training Team Conference
Sat 20	Hoadley Region – Key to the City
Sat 20/ Sun 21	Patrol Activity Camping at Gilwell – Bushcraft, Abseiling, Haybox Cooking and Mapping
Mon 22	Founder's Day
Mon 22	Baden Powell Masonic Lodge - Uniform night
Fri 26	Corporate Lunch #1
Fri 26	Australian Queen's Scouts Association - Centenary Dinner - Queen's Hall, Parliament of Victoria.
Fri 26 / Sun 28	Anything Goes – Venturers at Lardner Park, Drouin
Sat 27 / Sun 28	Scout Scuba - Try Dives At "Anything Goes" - Drouin
Sat 27 / Sun 28	Scout's Ritchies Day – Fundraising and sales of Monster Raffle tickets
Sat 27 / Sun 28	Scout Scuba - Try Dives At "Anything Goes" - Drouin
Sun 28	Hoadley Hide 2010 site visit #2

MARCH

Wed 3 / Mon 8	Continuous Training courses at Gilwell – Basic & Advanced
Sat 6 / Mon 8	Labour Day Weekend
Sun 7	Clean Up Australia Day
Mon 8	Leader Good Service Award Nominations (2010) close with DCs
Sat. 20-Sun.21	Patrol Activity Camping at Clifford Park – Water Activities , Abseiling,
Sun 21	Harmony Day
Sun 21	Scout Scuba - Try Dives -Sunbury
Fri 26	School Term 1 ends

APRIL

Thurs 1 / Mon 5	Easter - Stradbroke Cup
Thurs 1 / Mon 5	Easter - Hoadley Hide
Sun 4	Daylight Saving ends
Sat 10 / Sun 18	National Youth Week
Sat 10 / Sun 11	KANGAREE 2010 – Victorian Joey Scout event at Gilwell Park
Sat 10 / Sun 11	Patrol Activity Camping at Gilwell – Welding, Forge, Soldering, Rope making
Sat 10 / Sun 11	Scout Scuba - Camp - Mornington Peninsula
Mon 12	School term 2 commences
Fri. 16 / Sat 17	Branch Venturer Council at Pax Hill
Sat 17 / Sun 18	National Training Council meeting
Sat. 17-Sun.18	Patrol Activity Camping at Clifford Park – Challenges
Fri 23	St George's Day Service - East Ivanhoe
Sun 25	Anzac Day (Public Holiday Mon 26)
Mon 26 / Fri 30	Scouts in Action - First Aid Week
Wed 28	Leader Reception and Networking – Victorian Scout Centre

MAY

Sat 1 / Sun 2	Patrol Activity Camping at Gilwell - Environment
Sat 8	Australian Scout Medallion Presentation at Tintern Grammar School
Sun 9	Mothers Day
Fri 14 / Sun 16	NYC Meeting
Sat.15-Sun.16	Patrol Activity Camping at Clifford Park – Welding, Blacksmith, Mechanics
Fri 28	Corporate Lunch #2 – drawing of the Great Scout Raffle 2009
Fri 28	Temple Beth Service
Sat 22 / Sun 23	National Scout Program Council meeting

JUNE

Sat 5 / Sun 6	Patrol Activity Camping at Gilwell – Rogaining and Compass – Go for the record!
Fri 11	Student Free day (vic.gov.au/victorian-school-term-dates.html)
Fri 11 / Mon 14	Mudbash at Mafeking Park (www.mudbash.com)
Sun 13	Mudbash Open Day open day for all sections, 8am to 5pm.
Sat 12 / Mon 14	Queen's Birthday Weekend
Fri 12 / Mon 14	National Environment Commissioners' meeting
Sat 19	Scouts Australia – AGM
Sat 19	Special Needs Workshop
Sat.19-Sun.20	Patrol Activity Camping at Clifford Park – First Aid Badge
Tues 22 / Sat 27	Melbourne Gang Show at Besen Centre, Burwood. (www.gangshow.org)
Fri 25	School term 2 ends
Sat 26	Scout Scuba – Try Dives
Sat 26 / Sun 27	National Joey Scout Program Council meeting
Sun. 27	District Leader (Venturer) Conference
Sun 27	Fellowship (Vic Division) Committee – Christmas in June [All ASF Members Welcome]!
Tues 29	Leader Reception and Networking – Western Scout Centre

JULY

	Regent Honeyeater Planting and Environment Weekend – in July - TBA
Sat 3	Level 1 Skitour Leader Training - Mt Stirling
Sun 4	See & Ski Day - Mt Stirling
Sat 3 / Sun 4	National Cub Scout Program Council meeting
Sun 11	District Leader (Scout) Conference
Sun 11	See & Ski Day - Lake Mountain
Fri 9 / Sun 11	Deep Thought (Venturer) Ideals Course
Mon 12	School Term 3 commences
15 / 17	National Rover Council meeting
MID JULY??	Metropolitan Area Rover Ball will be sometime in the middle of July.
Sat 17 / Sun 18	Patrol Activity Camping at Gilwell – Radio Communications – Get your Communications Badge
Sat.17-Sun.18	Patrol Activity Camping at Clifford Park – Electronics, parts Communication & Technology Badges
Sun 18	DLATS (District Leader Adult TrainingSupport) Conference
Sun 18	See & Ski Day - Mt Baw Baw
Sun 25	Ideals visit to the West Heidelberg Mosque
Sun 25	See & Ski Day - Lake Mountain
Tues 27 / 07 Aug	22 nd World Rover Moot – Kenya
Mid July / early Aug.	BSA Centenary Jamboree - America
Sat 31 / Sun 1 Aug.	National International Commissioners' meeting
Sat 31 / Sun 1 Aug.	Scout Fantastic Race

AUGUST

	Group Annual Reports & Awards Presentations month
Sun 1	World Scout Day
Sun 1	World Scout Dollar Day
Sun 1	BARCOM 2010 – closing date for applications for either trip 1 or 2
Mon 2 / Sun 8	15 th Nippon Jamboree
Fri 6 / Sun 8	Iglute – Snow camping for Venturers & Rovers
Sat 7 / Sun 8	National Adventurous Activities meeting
Sat 7 / Sun 8	Patrol Activity Camping at Gilwell – Rogaining and Compass – Go for the record!
Sun 8	Training Team Conference
Fri 13 / Sun 15	Branch Scout Council Youth Forum
Sat 14 / Sun 15	National Venturer Scout Program Council meeting
Fri 20	Corporate Lunch #3
Fri 20 / Sat 28	South Metro Showtime at Alexander Theatre, Monash Uni, Clayton
Sat 21	See & Ski Day - Lake Mountain
Sun 22	See & Ski Day - Mt Baw Baw
Sat 21 / Sun 22	National Rover Program Council meeting
Sat. 21-Sun.22	Patrol Activity Camping at Clifford Park – Gourmet Camp Cooking, how to eat well in camp
Fri 27 / Sun 29	Admiral Napier Cup at Albert Park Lake, sailing & rowing
Tues 31	Queen's Scout applications close at Branch

SEPTEMBER**TBA**

Fri 3 / Sun 5 / 9/10
 Sun 5
 Mon 6
 Fri 10 / Sun 12
 Sat. 11
 Sat 11 / Sun 12
 Sun. 12
 Fri 17
 Fri 17
 Fri. 17 / Sun. 19
 Fri 17 / Sun 26
 Sat. 18-Sun.19
 Sun 19
 Thurs 23
 Fri 24 / Sun 26
 Sat 25
 Sat 25 / Sun 26
 Sat 25 / Sun 03 Oct
 Mon 27 / Sat 01 Oct

District Annual Reports & Awards Presentations month
Scout Environment Month
Scout Environment Week

Ski Touring - Feathertop in Spring - Feathertop via Bungalow or Razorback
 Fathers Day
 South Metro Queen's Scout Dinner
 Armstrong 500
 Yarra Valley Ranges – Scout Section – Billy Cart Derby at Clifford Park
 Patrol Activity Camping at Gilwell – Welding, Forge, Soldering, Rope making
 Cohen Shield – at Clifford Park
 Citizenship Day
 School Term 3 ends
 Fire on the Lake – Scouts - Officer
 BARCOM Trip # 1 - Rafting on the Murray
 Patrol Activity Camping at Clifford Park – Building & Construction Skills
 Good Service Awards Presentation at Gilwell
 Scout Heritage Victoria Annual Report & Presentations
 Ski Touring - McKay-Fainters Trip: Pretty Valley / Tawonga Huts / Fainters
 AFL Grand Final- Carlton versus TBA
 National Performing Arts meeting
 BARCOM Trip # 2- Rafting on the Murray
CUBOREE 2010 – Victorian Cub Scout event at Gilwell Park

OCTOBER**TBA****TBA****TBA****TBA****TBA****TBA****TBA**

Sat 2

Sun 3

Sun 3

Sun 3

Mon 4

Sat 9 / Sun 10

Sun 10

Sat 16

Sat 16 / Sun 17

Sat. 16-Sun 17

Sat 16 / Sun 17

Sun 17

Sat 23 / Sun 24

Sun 24

Wed 27**Fri 29****Sun 31****Region Annual Reports & Awards Presentations month****Geelong Region Annual Report & Presentations****Northern Region Annual Report & Presentations****North West Region Annual Report & Presentations****South Metro Region Annual Report & Presentations****West Coast Region Annual Report & presentations****Western Region Annual Report & presentations****Yarra Valley Region Annual Report & Presentations**

Queens Scout & BP Awards Presentation at Government House

Daylight Saving commences

PLA (Personal Leader Adviser) Conference

Fellowship (Vic Division) Committee – Annual Report & Presentations

School Term 4 commences

Outdoors for Life Expo

Western Region Annual Report & Presentations

Scout Scuba – Try Dives

53rd World Scout JOTA / 14th JOTI

Patrol Activity Camping at Clifford Park – JOTA/JOTI plus 5 fun activities

Patrol Activity Camping at Gilwell – JOTA/JOTI, Lots of Activities

Stonnington Cup Regatta at Albert Park Lake, Canoeing

National Training Council meeting

North West Region Annual Report & Presentations

Hoadley Region Annual Report & Presentations**INFO BOOK 2011 submissions due****Eastern Region Annual Report & Presentations****NOVEMBER**

Tues 2

Fri 5 / Sun 7

Fri. 5 / Sat 6

Thurs 11

Sat 13

Sat 13 / Sun 14

Fri 19 / Sun 21

Sat. 20-Sun.21

Sat 20

Fri 26

Fri 26

Sun 28

Melbourne Cup day – Public Holiday

Scout Hike - doncuff@optusnet.com.au

Branch Venturer Council at Eastern Region

Remembrance Day

Joey Scout Leaders' Conference – location TBA

Patrol Activity Camping at Gilwell - Environment

Gilweroo at Bay Park

Patrol Activity Camping at Clifford Park – Canoeing, Abseiling, Environment

Australian Scout Medallion Presentation at Tintern Grammar School

Corporate Lunch #4

Branch Annual Reports & Awards Presentation & Branch Council AGM

Hoadley Hide 2011 site visit #1

DECEMBER

Fri 3 / Sun 5

Fri 17

Vic Gathering – Gilwell Park

School Term 4 ends

Sat 25
Sun 26
30 - 11/01

Christmas Day (Public Holiday Mon 27)
Boxing Day (Public Holiday Tues 28)
OZ MOOT – South Australia

2011

JANUARY 2011

01 / 10
Sat 1
3 / 6
10 / 14
Wed 26

NZ Jamboree
New Year Day (Public Holiday Mon 03)
11th World Scout Youth Forum – Brazil
39th World Scout Conference – Brazil
Australia Day

FEBRUARY 2011

Tues 1
Sun 28

School Term 1 commences
Hoadley Hide 2011 site visit #2

JULY 2011

27 / 07 Aug

22nd World Jamboree – Sweden

SCHOOL TERMS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS - 2010

	2010	2011	2012	2013
New Year	Friday 1 Jan.	Mon. 3 Jan. (Sat 1)		
Australia	Tues. 26 Jan.	Wed. 26 Jan.		
Start term 1	Mon. 1 Feb.	Tues. 1 Feb.	1 Feb.	29 Feb.
Labour	Mon. 8 March	Mon. 14 March		
End term 1	Fri. 26 March	Fri. 8 April	30 March	28 March
Good Friday	Fri. 2 April	Fri. 22 April		
Daylight Saving Ends	Sun. 4 April	Sun. 3 April		
Easter Mon	Mon. 5 April	Mon. 25 April		
Start term 2	Mon. 12 April	Wed. 27 April	16 April	15 April
ANZAC	Mon. 26 April (Sun. 25)	Tues 26 April (Mon. 25)		
Student Free Day	Fri. 11 June			
Queen's B'dy	Mon. 14 June	Mon. 13 June		
End term 2	Fri. 25 June	1 July	29 June	28 June
Start term 3	Mon. 12 July	18 July	16 July	15 July
End term 3	Fri. 17 Sept.	23 Sept.	21 Sept.	20 Sept.
Daylight Saving Starts	Sun. 3 Oct.			
Start term 4	Mon. 4 Oct.	10 Oct.	8 Oct.	7 Oct.
Melb. Cup	Tues. 2 Nov.	Tues. 1 Nov.		
End term 4	Fri. 17 Dec.	Thurs. 22 Dec.	21 Dec.	20 Dec.
Christmas	Mon. 27 Dec. (Sat. 25)	Tues. 27 Dec. (Sun. 25)		
Boxing	Tues. 28 Dec (Sun. 26)	Mon. 26 Dec.		

Source: Victoria Online: <http://www.vic.gov.au/victorian-school-term-dates.html>

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS – 2010

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
ADULT												
National (AGM)						19						
Executive						19-20					13-14	
Operations			20-21			18-19					12-13	
Chairmen's						19					13	
Finance					17					18		
National Team	30-31			16-17					18-19			
Adult Resources						5-6						
YOUTH												
Joey Scout						26-27						
Cub Scout							3-4					
Scout					22-23							
Venturer Scout								14-15				
Rover	15-18							21-22				
Natl. Youth (NYC)					14-16							
NYC Selection Ctee		20										
Natl. Rover (NRC)							15-17					
Performing Arts									25-26			
OTHER												
Training				17-18						23-24		
Adventurous								7-8				
Leader Trainers	Held every other year. Not to be held in 2010											
International							31-	1				
Environment						12-14						
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug.	sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.

VICTORIAN COUNCILS / MEETINGS – 2010

* indicates ARAP

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
BEC	2/2	23	23	27	25	22	27	24	28	26	23	
GOVERNANCE	2/2	23	23	27	25	22	27	24	28	26	23	
FINANCE	2/2	23	23	27	25	22	27	24	28	26	23	
PROPERTY	19	16	16	20	18	15	20	17	21	19	16	
INSURANCE	19	16	16	20	18	15	20	17	21	19	16	
BMC	30	27	27	24	22	26	24	28	26	23	27	
REGION COUNCILS												
EASTERN		7			2		18			31 *		
GEELONG												
HOADLEY	26	23	23	27	25	22	27	24	28	27 *	23	
NORTH WEST			21		23			22		23 *		
NORTHERN												
STH. METRO												
WEST COAST												
WESTERN			7			6		8		10 *		
Y. VALLEY												
BC YOUTH CNCL.		3	3	7	5	2	7	4	1	6	3	1
JOEYS		6	20		8	6	10	7	4		13	
CUBS		6 & 7		18		20		15		17		5
SCOUTS		9	9	13	8	8	13	14	14	12	20	
VENTURERS		6	2	16 & 17	4	1 & 26		3	7	2	5 & 6	
ROVERS	27	24	24	28	26	2	28	25	29	27	24	
TRAINING												
ADVENTUROUS			22		24		26		27		(22) 29	
SPECIALISED		24			26			25			24	
LDR. RECEPTIONS				28		29						
SCOUT MAGAZINE												
SCT. MAG. - THEME												
FELLOWSHIP		9	9	13	11	27		28		3 *	6	
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.

Application Form for the Victorian Branch Youth Venturer Council

Full Name: _____ Reg. Number: _____

Address: _____ D.O.B.: _____

Suburb: _____ Post Code: _____

Contact Number: _____

Home Unit: _____ Region: _____

Please get the following people to endorse your application.

Unit Chairperson: _____ Date: _____

Unit Leader: _____ Date: _____

Group Leader
(If applicable) _____ Date: _____

District Leader: _____ Date: _____

Region Leader: _____ Date: _____

Please answer the following questions and attach to your application form.

1. Give a brief outline of your Scouting experience
2. What are your interests outside Scouting
3. How are you involved in your District and Region
4. How would you benefit from being a member of the Branch Youth Venturer Council?
5. What in your eyes is the most important issue that is facing the Venturer section and why?
6. What is one thing you can tell us about yourself that makes your application stand out from the rest of the applications we will be reading?

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
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GROUP LEADER	GROUP LEADER
FINALLY, THE UNIT LIBRARY	FINALLY, THE CREW LIBRARY

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

RISK AVOIDANCE

Identify the risk and possibly decide not to do the activity

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