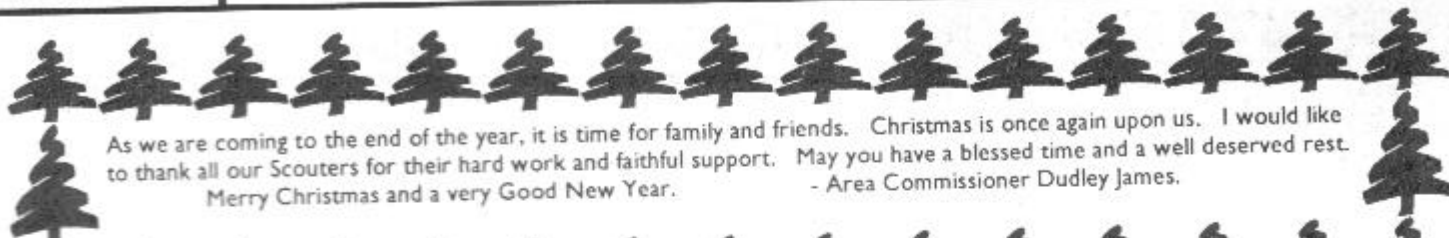




MPUMALANGA Scouting

"Come on" not "Go on"
when you want a job
done. - B.P.'s Secretary, E. Wade.

Volume 2, Issue 5
October-December 2001



As we are coming to the end of the year, it is time for family and friends. Christmas is once again upon us. I would like to thank all our Scouters for their hard work and faithful support. May you have a blessed time and a well deserved rest. Merry Christmas and a very Good New Year.

- Area Commissioner Dudley James.

SUMMER CAMPS ~ ~

East: On 1st October until the 6th October there was the **Simunye Summer Camp**, which was held around 1st Mataffin Community Hall. Joint Camp Chiefs were Vusi Segoenyane and Godfrey Mokoena. The camp was very successful and everyone who was there enjoyed it. We were all "Simunye" together as one, the name of the camp. There were many Patrols from different places. Guide Patrols from 1st Mataffin, 1 from 1st Msogwaba and 2 from 1st Pienaar. Scout Patrols were from 1st Mataffin, 1st Kabokweni, 1st Mayfern, 1st Pienaar, 1st Msogwaba, 1st Tshweni, 1st Mlilo, 1st Cophetsheni, 1st Malekutu, 1st Kanyamazane and 1st Mthayiza. There was Johannes Koppe from Germany and he enjoyed the camp as well.

We had a hike to Sibumbe Mountain and we all enjoyed going there. We also visited the Mataffin Dairy to see how to milk a cow. There were different bases where all the patrols participated. We had a lot of fun during those bases. We also went on a night hike where we were singing and learning about tracking signs. It was also very successful and we hope that everyone learnt many things from all the activities we took part in. The Campfire was very nice and well organised, and all patrols were participating, including the scouters. The food was enough for all the Patrols. On Thursday we were having visitors from the Department of Health to teach us about HIV/AIDS. They also showed us a video about how you can get HIV/AIDS. On Friday there were visitors from SANCA talking about drugs and alcohol. We also went for a cleaning campaign at Mataffin Skoomplaas. We enjoyed it and people were giving us a BRAVO!

Vinnas Phiri (Guide).

Saturday, 6th October, last day of camp—Morning exercise. After breakfast, inspection took place then striking of tents. Cleaning of the campsite was done and it was up to standard. The Scouts and Guides were then served with Hot Dogs, juice and



The Scouts moving into Camp.

gave a real encouraging and inspiring message to the Scouts and Guides as regards their Scouters and Guiders and also Scouting at large.

(The last portion is taken from the only report received from a Troop Scouter who remembered the 5th Scout Law, "A Scout is courteous" and took the trouble to write it all down and to send it in. Thank you so much, David Mauku, Troop Scouter 1st Kabokweni. Thank you too, Vinnas Phiri—you are Guide number One!

"CREATE-CREATOR-CREATIVITY"

was the name of the Cubs' Summer Camp 2001 at Mataffin, where 150 Cubs had a wonderful time: but with Solitha Themba and Eugenia Nkosi as Camp Chiefs, supported by their team of Nomathemba, Julie, Jane, Zodwa, Lucy, Carol, Grace, Theresia and Monica you could expect excitement, fun and real grand Cubbing!

There was the Treasure Hunt Nature Trail which ended up with a special message on a card which led them to the Treasure. The Challenge—which team could build the highest tower in 10 minutes using . . . Toothpicks and jelly tots! Making pictures with beans and peas glued on to cards; and their own special pocket First aid Kit, all in a plastic bag! And much, much more!

For the Saturday evening Cub Campfire, each team had to make up their own song and sing it there. And the Cubs Own Ser-

vice had Eugenie tell a wonderful story about God the Creator creating, in keeping with the name of the camp. Solitha tells us she has a very special Thank you letter from one of the cubs, Melusi Khoza, who wrote that he has attended BP Camp and Cub Camps with his Pack, but this Summer Camp 2001 was his Best Ever!

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~ **IN THE WEST:** Botshebelo Mission, Historical Village and Nature Reserve was the venue of Mpumalanga West's Summer Camp 2001 run by the Guides. 54 Guides, Ranger Guides and Scouts from Secunda, Lesedi, Mhluzi and Middelburg enjoyed a busy, fun-filled week of activities. Totally mixed Activity Patrols were formed for the Camp games, sessions, craft bases, which included designing and making their Own District Flags.

The Community Service Project was the clearing and collecting of all foreign objects - wire, sharp bits of metal, glass and plastic bags - from round the Mission and the Reserve. Several animals, including 2 large Eland had died through eating plastic bags.

Through the auspices of Rand Water Company who supplied the Test Kits, an Ecological Survey Project was carried out on the Klein Olifants River banks and the river water tested. There was an HIV/AIDS morning of talks, activities and plays made up by the Guides and Scouts themselves. This resulted in a number of Guides and Ranger Guides qualifying for the first three requirements of the National Aids Challenge. Another highlight was the Abel Tasman Barter game run by our visiting German Scouter, Stefan Klatt, which saw frantic trading between various Patrols representing countries, and resulting in the complete building of a model ship by each Patrol, to allow Abel Tasman to continue his journeys of discovery. Thanks have been expressed elsewhere in this magazine, but special thanks to Thandeka Ndhlovu, Quartermaster of the Camp, for the excellent catering.



The Opening Ceremony.



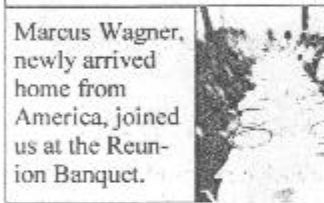
BACK TO GILWELL—HAPPY LAND!



Dr. Sue Hart chatting to the Scouters during the Nature trail through Eco Link.



Elvis Mdaka presenting Sue with a Thankyou Certificate for her support.



Marcus Wagner, newly arrived home from America, joined us at the Reunion Banquet.

These are the words of a Gilwell song sung by all the Scouters who have gained their Woodbadge, at the Annual Gilwell Reunion held the 1st weekend in September in every Scouting Country in the World. Reunions were held all over South Africa including our own Mpumalanga, where Scouters and ex-Scouters met on the Karlsson's and Carlisle's farm, "Distant Views" just outside White River, where the magnificent view across the Lowveld was a really good introduction to the theme "The World of Nature". Sharing Scouting experiences and Woodbadge Course memories over tea; being taken through, and into, the World of Nature on the



The main table—Charlie proposing the Toast.

Eco Link Trail experience by Dr. Sue Hart and her Chief Trail Guide,

Moses. The fun of the Numbers Observation Game on the return hike back to the farm—all the answers were numbers which added up to 1919, the year of the very first Woodbadge Course. The entertainment by the Secunjalo Scouters' Choir before

sitting down to an evening meal prepared and served by Guider Busi Mdaka and her 1st Mataffin Guides, Deputy Area

Commissioner Elvis Mdaka brought a message from the Mpumalanga Area, Assistant Area Commissioner Charlie Baty proposed the toast to World Scouting and Leader Trainer Dee Chandler spoke of the wonderful progress made in training our Scouters in Mpumalanga, all due to the hard work and vision of her Training Team.

Retired Head Game Ranger, Mike English shared his experiences and responsibilities towards the World of Nature and to his wife Andre and family during their 34 years in the Kruger National Park. Mike's nickname was Mashangaan and we all realised why, when he expressed himself so fluently in the vernacular as he told us experiences and anecdotes with the animals, his staff and with poachers.



Former Head Game Ranger, Mike English

Former Scouter & support Trainer, Norman Calmeyer led an enjoyable Scouting Round the World Campfire to round off another unforgettable Gilwell Reunion.



The Kitchen staff—the 1st Mataffin Guides, who served up a lovely meal.

ILANGA ELIKANYAYO 2002 — Taking our Sunshine to Germany.



L-R: Leader Claudette James; Whitney Wright & Hayley Smith from Secunda; Sylvia Thabethe & Charlotte Nkambule from Middelburg; and Charlene May from Witbank.

Mpumalanga Ranger Guides are doing it again! July 2002 marks the beginning of three weeks of fun for young girls from both Germany and South Africa. The Mpumalanga Rangers will be spreading their "sunshine" in Germany by participating in community service projects and Youth Conferences. By doing this, the girls from Germany and

South Africa will work together and learn from each other while dealing with common issues like cultural diversity and AIDS awareness. The tour will take the girls to northern Germany, where they will visit the towns of Bremen, Berlin and the surrounding areas. The girls will also have the opportunity to attend an International Youth Camp, where they will meet fellow Guides and Scouts from around the world.

On the 18th August this year, we had our first 'get-together' to start our bonding process. The girls had a lot of fun playing the "Ooblie Dooblie" game and this soon broke the ice. We discussed fund raising and what they would like to do while in Ger-

many. We had our second get-together on 10th November. The main challenge of the day was that the five girls had only R5 each to buy lunch, and had to plan together to buy a three course meal that was tasty as well as healthy! With a 15 minute time limit, the girls made sure that the concept of working as a team was emphasized. Both get-togethers have proved worth while exercises, as we have started to bond as a team. The tour promises to be an exciting adventure and we look forward to our next get-together in April 2002.

But most of all, we aim to live up to the saying: **Guiding is fun!**

- Team Leader Claudette James.
"Ooblie Dooblie" Game—
The players sit in a circle and are

numbered, leaving out a few numbers, e.g. 1,2,3,5,6,8,9,etc. Ask the players to make sure they remember their numbers. Have a mixture of Aqueous Cream and powder paint in a cup. You start the game by sitting in front of one of the players, saying the rhyme to her: "I, ooblie dooblie no. (.1) with (no) ooblie dooblies on my face, give this special cup to you Ooblie Dooblie number (e.g. 6) with (...) Ooblie Dooblies on your face, to take over from me." If you make a mistake, the other player takes a small amount of the Ooblie Dooblie mixture and dabs it on your face, then you have to start again. For every mistake you make, you get another Ooblie Dooblie. If you make no mistakes, you can then pass the cup on to the player who chooses a new player and continues the game.

ADULT LEADER TRAINING. The Mpumalanga Training Team has trained 215 Scouters during the past year, with a total of 66 brand new Scouters in our Area. Courses included Introduction to Adult Leadership, Jungle Background & Handcraft, Cub & Scout Warrant, Cub & Scout Advanced Skills, Training Aids in the Pack & Troop and Advanced Programme Planning. My thanks must go to all the Scouters who have made themselves available for training. With the financial help and support from Nangu Thina, we were able to take 10 Scouters to Durban to attend the Training the Trainer Course in August. - ALT Dee Chandler.

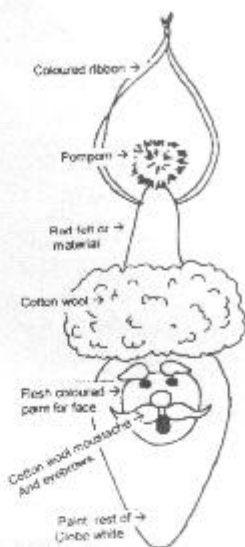


SANTA LIGHT BULB ORNAMENT

Materials: - One used white candle light bulb.
One 1cm white pompom.
Piece of red felt or material.
Strip of white cotton wool.
15 cms. Narrow ribbon.
Glitter (optional).
Glue.

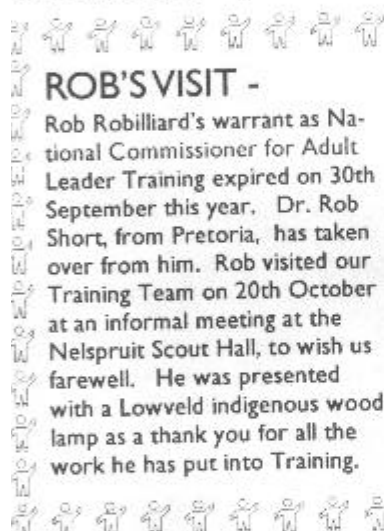
Instructions:-

Paint the facial area with two coats of flesh-coloured paint and allow to dry between coats.
Glue black dots for eyes and



mouth, and red dot for nose. Cut pieces of cotton wool for moustache and eyebrows. To make the hat, cut a triangle of the red material and glue to cover the metal rim of the bulb. Wrap a strip of cotton wool around the base of the hat and glue in position. Glue the pompom to the top of the hat. Lightly spray the hat with clear varnish and while still wet sprinkle with glitter if wished. Seal again with clear varnish to prevent the glitter from falling off. Thread a needle with the ribbon and thread through the top of the hat. Knot ribbon at top to form a hanger.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
 "Dennis brought Akela the Christmas picture he had drawn at school. "That's a beautiful picture, Dennis—I can see Mary on the donkey with Baby Jesus in her arms. I can see Joseph leading the donkey. But what's this just behind Mary on the donkey? It looks like a dot with 8 legs sticking out of it."
 "That's the flea, Akela."
 "What flea?" asked Akela.
 "In the story, God told Joseph to take Mary and Jesus and FLEA into Egypt."
 ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



ROB'S VISIT -

Rob Robilliard's warrant as National Commissioner for Adult Leader Training expired on 30th September this year. Dr. Rob Short, from Pretoria, has taken over from him. Rob visited our Training Team on 20th October at an informal meeting at the Nelspruit Scout Hall, to wish us farewell. He was presented with a Lowveld indigenous wood lamp as a thank you for all the work he has put into Training.

JOTA 2001



JOTA has the reputation for being overcast and raining and this year's JOTA was no exception. We left White River Scout Hall at 7.15 a.m. for the Dodd's farm. David had already made contact with Australia that morning and we could just hear them as they began to fade away due to the atmospheric and weather conditions. The boys found it most intriguing that the signal was reaching

them and us via the North Pole. David gave some instruction on how this all works and the boys just lapped this up (some budding radio hams in the making)! Next on the programme was the bum slide (another JOTA tradition for White River Scouts). Stephan from Germany, destroyed his pants on the first slide down! This must surely be a record as far as torn pants and bum slides goes? The boys thoroughly enjoyed the slide. We had a few games and then it was

back to the radio shack to make contact with some other stations, while some of the boys went down to the swimming pool for a dip. Scout stations contacted: 2 Zimbabwe, 3 Dutch, 1 on the Island of St. Helena (a first), 1 station in England, and Hermanus in the Cape. We had to end the day early as Jenny, David's wife, was in hospital and he had to get in to see her. On the whole it was a great day. The boys did enjoy the day and learnt a lot.

- TS Robert Buchanan.

"THE SHIP"

A Ship can be either a heaven or a hell; it depends entirely on the fellows in her. If they are surly, inclined to grumble, and untidy, they will be an unhappy ship's company. If they are, like Scouts, cheerily determined to make the best of things, to give and take, and to keep their place tidy and clean, they will be a happy family and enjoy their life at sea.

Our ship has been sailing forth since 1997 and it will continue to do so. We have had a lot happening this year. I am sure every Scout and Guide has had his day. Let us continue with the work that has started. We have to steer the ship forth, come hail or storm. Because we are the Mpumalanga Scouts and Guides. Mighty, Mighty Mpumalanga Scouts and Guides.

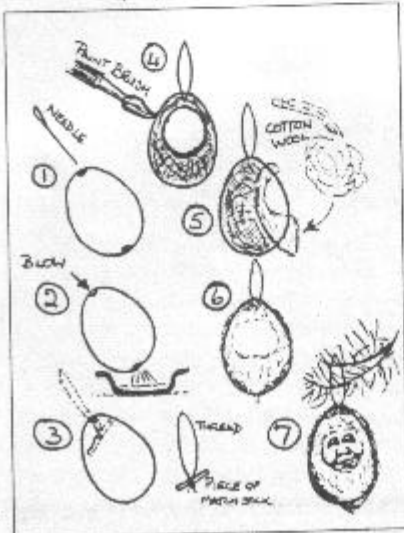
Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

- Busi and Elvis Mdaka. (1st Mataffin Guider and Deputy Area Commissioner).

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS

1. Take an egg and carefully with a needle, make a small hole in the top and the bottom.
2. Blow steadily in the top hole and the contents of the egg will come out the bottom into a dish. (Use this for Cooking or Baking!)
3. Take a piece of thread, tie it in a loop on to a short piece of matchstick and pass the stick through the top hole into the egg, keeping the loop out..
4. Paint the egg red, leaving a round

- section brown unpainted for the face—or paint it flesh coloured.
- 5+6. Take cotton wool and glue it round the face and down for the beard.
 7. Paint the eyes, nose and mouth on, or use a Koki pen. And hang Father Christmas on your Tree!
- Extra Suggestions—** Paint pictures on the egg. Paint the egg one colour or several colours. Design an Angel with wings. Cover the egg with coloured glitter.



THE 1st 2002 ISSUE OF THIS MAGAZINE WILL BE PUBLISHED FOR BP CAMP — PLEASE!
 Articles / District Reports / News must be in by **10th February, 2002,**

to: The Editor,
 PO Box 3629,
 White River. 1240.
 E-mail:
 cbat@mwweb.co.za



NEWS FROM THE WEST DISTRICT: SUMMER FUN DAY -

We held our summer Fun Day for the Brownies and Cubs at the Middelburg Scout Hall on 1st October 2001.

The event started at 09h00 with 93 excited children coming to register.

The theme for the day was "Gladiators". Each child was put into a different team with the name of a Gladiator. We spent the morning with each team visiting each base. There were a wide variety of activities to be done. Crafts, trails, kim's game, and obstacle courses.

Most of the children enjoyed the craft bases, and the obstacle course, which was



A Brownie and Cub experiencing the fun and challenge of the slippery, soapy, "Travellator"

constructed by the 2nd Coalfields Scouts.

After lunch we went into the Gladiator's Arena, where the boys and girls pitted their skills against

each other. Tug of war, walking on stilts, the Travellator and other water sports helped to cool the youngsters down.

At the end of the day we handed out prizes and certificates to the winners of each event. Then the tired children and the exhausted adults went home.

Our sincere thanks to Nangu Thina for making this day possible.



This Brownie found the Obstacle course fun!

NATIONAL TOUGHEES CHALLENGE -

2nd Coalfields once again took up the National Toughees Challenge. This year the theme was "Our Heritage". The Challenge was divided into 3 parts:-

1. Help Preserve our heritage.—Our Pack collected funds which were given to Dr. Rezin, the local wildlife, conservationist and Vet in Witbank. He is going to build a cage to trap leopard so that they can be relocated. Dr. Rezin visited the Pack and gave a very interesting talk to the Cubs about preserving our endangered animals.
2. Cubs Care—The Cubs made bookmarks and brought in



various items which were put into little bags. These bags, once filled with sweets, stationery and toys were donated to Child Welfare.

3. "A Walk in the Wild" - A special Pack Programme was run with this as the theme. For this Pack Meeting, one of the newest Packs in our District, 1st Spring Valley, was invited to join us. The activities included jigsaw puzzles, following a spoor trail, a yarn about the Great Tusker, smuggling of bottle tops (ivory), a variety of games, and ended with a sing-song. All 50 boys enjoyed their afternoon together.

Cubs in our Pack will each receive a special badge for completing this Toughees Challenge. I hope that more Packs will join us next year in taking up the National Toughees Cub Challenge.

- Lynn Miller, ADC Cubs

day. Kruisrivier, 15-17th March 2002. Costs + R100 per child. Closing Date, 10th February 2002—Only enrolled and Registered Guiders, Guides, Rangers and Brownies will be allowed to attend! The final costs will be announced during the middle of January—start saving now!!!! Please remember that 1 Guider per 6 girls is the "legal limit" for the above event.

Training—A calendar of Training dates will be drawn up at the Regional Meeting on 17th November. If your District is not represented and you have dates in mind, please let me have these before the 16th so as to include them in the Agenda.

I do hope you all have a good Christmas holiday and come back "Geared up for Guiding" in 2002.

I leave you with :-

"Friends share secrets (friends don't tell),
Friends share good times (and bad as well),
Friends share things with one another,
That's because friends like each other.
Of all the happy things there are,
Friends are the very best by far!"

Best Guiding wishes. - Jan Davidson, Regional Commissioner.

AND FROM THE GUIDES—

Summer Camp ~ ~ By all accounts this was thoroughly enjoyed by all and we thank all the guiders for their efforts in making it a success. A BIG thank you to Stefan Klatt, VCP—Germany, for all his help and we hope to see him again soon!! Thank you to Michelle Lawler for enabling the girls to complete another 3 clauses in the HIV/AIDS programme during the week.

A special thanks to Nangu Thina for their sponsorship of part of the camp fees!!!
See Report elsewhere.

Congratulations to the following:-

- Thandeka Ndhlovu, Mhluzi District A, on gaining the Quarter-master's Certificate.
- Michelle Lawler, Secunda District, on gaining her Camper's License.
- Magdeline Letau, Lesedi District, on gaining the Assistant Brownies Guider's Warrant.

Forthcoming Event— Regional Camp and Pack Holi-

"O What a taste!" - Sekunjalo.

A taste of a lifetime is what every member of the Sekunjalo Scouters'

Choir will never forget. This was so when we left Mpumalanga on 23rd May 2001 for Germany. All first seemed like a dream, until we pinched ourselves several times to make sure! On arrival, it was inexplicable the way we were so heartily welcomed by the Germans when we made our first communication the German way "Guten Morgen!"

The vegetation is dense, with tall trees mostly. They have very strict laws on the caring of nature and its resources—waste is carefully sorted out for recycling, so there is not waste! With such a huge population of plus 80 Million many modes of transport are used, but almost every family have bicycles, and we could see even the oldest Granny riding around town. The buildings are strong and some are as old as 600 years. There's a very low crime level. You can leave a car unlocked for the whole month and still find it where you left it, with all your belongings in it untouched. Did you know? The government gives every unemployed person a living wage. We learned a lot from the Germans, as much as we think they did from us.

We sang our way through and everywhere we performed, the people would want some more. We even

(Continued on page 5.)



NEWS FROM THE EAST DISTRICT:-

Weedbusters!"

Working for Water and Scouting have much in common - they share a Patron (Nelson Mandela) as well as an interest in their environment.

What better reason to accept the Working for Water invitation to attend the National Launch of the International Weed-buster Week at Casterbridge Farm on Monday, 8th October?

Despite the short notice and the fact that he was called away on family business at the last moment, TS David Mauku arranged for 10 Scouts from 1st Kabokweni Troop to meet Wendy in white River at 14h00. Transport was unreliable—but true to their form of courtesy, the PL phoned to tell Wendy of their anticipated late arrival. Neither did the wet and dreary weather deter them. They arrived smiling and ready for the event.

On arrival, they were re-vitalised with cool drink and biscuits before being introduced to "Mechanical Man" with his chainsaw, "Chemical Can" and his herbicides and "Bionic Bug" who sucks the life from the alien invader plants. Penwell (a Project Manager) gave an interesting talk on the menace of alien invader plants, and then followed demonstrations of



"Chemical Can" and "Bionic Bug" explaining their uses in controlling Alien plants.

Penwell (to the left of the picture with the S.A. flag on his sleeve), talking to the Scouts.



control methods. This included high altitude clearance using ropes and pulleys (now the Troop want to try their hand at abseiling!).

Perhaps the Scouts will be encouraged to arrange a "hack" around the areas of their schools and homes in an attempt to control these alien menaces.

"Splish Splash!", 20th October. 37 Cubs braved the weather to share in the fun at Nelspruit Primary Swimming Pool. Before taking the plunge, water safety rules were re-enforced by playing wide games.

Then came the Splish -Splash time with relay races across the shallow end of the pool—nose the orange, carry the tray of full cups, piggy back, rescue, tube rafts and more!

It wasn't even dry on 'shore' as wet sponges flew in 'battle'!

A brief banana break and more games revived the Cubs for more water activity. While some just had fun, 7 worked hard to achieve their Swimmer Interest Badge.

Thank you to the Pack Scouters and their Assistants for bringing their Cubs along for a new and exciting experience!

ADC Cubs, Wendy Brown.

The Scottish Scouts, a Credit to Scotland and to Scouting-The Reason Why!

The very full and comprehensive report of the Scottish Scout Expedition to South Africa 2001, received by Dudley, our Area Commissioner reveals the "secrets" of the excellent Scouting Spirit—team spirit—smartness and behaviour of the Group, as witnessed by all who came in contact with them.

1. A series of 18 Training/Selection/Fund raising weekends were organised over a 1-2 year period prior to the expedition. This included a 10 day PLTU in Scoutcraft and expedition training.
2. Each participant was chosen through his/her personal application, and over two special selection weekends by a selection board of 4 leaders: the successful Scout had to satisfy each and all 4 leaders.
3. Attendance at all 18 training weekends was obligatory—no charge was made, and expenses were covered by fund raising events. The PLTU training was optional but the majority attended.
4. Once a Scout was accepted on to the expedition it was on condition that he paid 100 pounds deposit, signed a contract which stated they were prepared to abide by the expedition rules and attend all training weekends. Acceptance could be withdrawn if the Scout failed to live up to the contract, failed to attend the training weekends, or failed to reach the required levels of physical fitness, Scouting skills and expedition skills.

The aims of the Training Weekends -

To build a Team spirit in advance. To ensure all participants were Team Players and were suitable for the expedition. To



ensure a high level of physical fitness through a series of fitness tests of increasing standard. To ensure a high level of Camping, hiking and back-packing skills through hill climbing and back-packing activities. To ensure a good level of Scouting skills through training bases. To educate participants about South Africa with respect to its wildlife, culture, problems, health and safety etc. To carry out fund raising events towards the cost of Training weekends and the cost of an extra week in Cape Town. To give Scouts the experience of home hospitality with families in the Scottish towns of Greenock and Gourock. All the above aims were met and went a long way to the success of the expedition.

The final Training weekend held 2 weeks prior to departure ensured that everyone attending was ready for the expedition, both physically and mentally, and that everyone was properly primed such that they had the correct balance of expectation and realism. As part of this process it was pointed out through talks and personal interviews that many things could go wrong on an expedition to Africa and often did. It was stressed how important it was to tackle such set backs with the right attitude and team spirit.

It was noticeable on the expedition itself that this message had been taken in by all those attending. The performance of the Scouts (and Venture Scouts) throughout the expedition was superb.

- (Well done, Scottish Scouts and Scouters and we look forward to your next visit! - Ed.)

(Continued from page 4) gave them a taste of our mieliepap and chakalaka which they enjoyed. We displayed our culture and shared our experiences all through the place. We also met Scouts from all over Germany, visited youth organisations, governmental institutions and schools, the MEC for Environment and Agriculture, as well as the Mayor of Bonn during the exhibition of the "Faces of Scouting". We had a wonderful taste and hope that we can visit the place again.

- Michael Nsimba (Choir Master)



"Come on" not "Go on" when you want a job done. - B.P's Secretary, E. Wade.

Training courses—2002.

Saturday 19th January— Guide District Commissioner's Refresher Course from 9h00 to 16h00 at the Witbank Guide Hall.
2nd & 3rd February— Jungle Background, and Cub Handcraft. (East.)
9th & 10th February— Leadership and Fundamentals. (East.)

Important Events

23rd & 24th February—AREA BP CAMP.

Renate rides a "Harley!"

Yes, Renate Wagner, new to the Training Team, but long and wise in Cubbing and Scouting, rides a beautiful big Harley Davidson "Fat Boy" 1340cc. She is a member of the Lowveld Chapter of the Bikers Club—Ulysses, and a member of HOG, the Harley Owners' Group.



Renate, her late husband, Tony and their 2 sons Marcus and Stefan, came from 1st Bordeaux, Scout Group in Gauteng, and immediately put all their efforts into the 1st White River Group, where Renate took over the position of Akela. During this time she gained her Cub Wood-badge. Mpumalanga welcomes Renate on to the Training Team, through which she will share her experience and skills. And of course, with her Motor bike, she will be the envy of every Cub and Scout in Mpumalanga!

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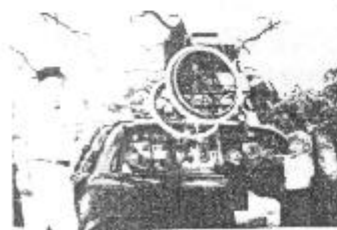
Scouter Sandy sticks to her Scout Law, especially the 8th!

... And what is the 8th Scout Law? - "A Scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties."

Yes, Sandy has done just that, right from the day in 1998 when that horrific road accident left her paralyzed from the waist down. Together with her family and friends, she began the long road to recovery. With the generous help of 2 Scout Groups in Germany, Refrath & Netphen, Sandy was mobilised with a wheel chair. Always with her infectious smile and twinkle in her eye, she got back to work and eventually back into Scouting and Cubbing,

even assisting on Training Courses, running bases.

Just recently Sand has taken the final step to independence when she



got her little green car, which she climbs into from her wheel chair, loads the chair mechanically on to the roof carrier and drives off with that indomitable Scouting smile. Yes, she is the shining example of a true Scouter to us all.

JUST A THOUGHT- from an ex scout's Father.

A MESSAGE FOR YOU TO PASS ON ..

How many times have you read in a letter from your son's Scout Group—"We have R..... Subs outstanding—we can't go on!" ??
 How many times have you received an account for your Cub/Scout son's Subs, (or known that they are due) and not responded?

Do you really realise the REAL value of SCOUTING?

Do you realise that by holding back payment of Subs, the boys cannot get the full benefit of Scouting?

Do you realise that by doing so YOU are a stumbling block in the development of Cubbing and Scouting? *The very Asset which will equip your sons for their lives ahead, better than any other activity or pastime!!*

Friends—open your eyes and ears! And read on ...

In Mpumalanga there are Cub Packs and Scout Troops all around you bursting at the seams. The Schools, the Colleges, the Communities, are all clamouring for those boys BECAUSE they are CUBS and SCOUTS! In the schools throughout Mpumalanga and the rest of the country, the majority of the Head Boys and Prefects are Scouts! When a batch of CVs go through to Top Management Personnel, the one which includes "Was member of the Scout Movement", with details, is almost surely selected before the others.

Scouting is worth something - It's worth EVERYTHING!

Not one Pack or Troop Scouter gets paid for what he/she does. They do it for the love and the importance of Cubbing and Scouting. They know what it means to your sons! Don't make them fork out more from their own pockets because the funds have run out, because You haven't paid YOUR DUES. **Come on! - Pay Up! - Play the Game! - Help Scouting make a difference to your sons, for it sure made a difference to mine!!**

SAHQ'S NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE VISITS MPUMALANGA

Mpumalanga was privileged to get a brief visit from South African Scouting's new Chief Executive, Luke van de Laan, who recently took over from John Hunneyball, who retired due to ill health after many years of faithful service to the Scout Movement. Scouting Mpumalanga salutes John and wishes him a full recovery to enjoy his retirement, as well as thanking him for all his help over the years.



Luke had lengthy discussions with the Area Staff, during which he outlined his vision and task in his position, assuring Scouting Mpumalanga of his whole-hearted support. He commended the Area and all its Scouters for their hard work in expanding Scouting in Mpumalanga.

Area Secretary Dee Chandler, Luke van der Laan, Area Comm. Dudley James & Asst. Area Comm. Elvis Mdaka

OLD SCOUTING FRIENDS ALWAYS PASSING THROUGH ...

Like Neil Broughton and Chris Bourne, who recently called in to say Hello again! Neil was one of the brave team of Scouters from Hertfordshire who led their Contingent on the "Under African Skies" expedition in 1997, which included activities in Mpumalanga. Neil and Chris e-mailed this message: "Back home again after our fantastic holiday in South Africa. Everywhere we went was special and it is hard to pick out highlights from the experiences that we had. It was really good to see you again and meet up with old and new friends. I hope that



Dudley, Neil, Chris and Dee at the Steers Restaurant.

Scouting in Mpumalanga continues to go from strength to strength and the relationship with Royston Scouts will grow.

A Christmas gift for the family or a friend— "BORN IN AFRICA" the new CD from John Edmond

(who made our Campfire 'n Jamboree tape for us!), includes Mbube/Wemoweh/The Lion Sleeps tonight; Meadowlands; Skokiaan; Little Umfaan; Jambo Kilimanjaro; West of Zanzibar and more. Guaranteed to get your feet tapping as you sing along! R112 including packaging and insured postage. Cheques payable to J.EDMOND Or Direct Deposit to:- First National Bank, Warmbaths Branch Code 260347.

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Post your order (and include the FNB Deposit slip if used), to :-
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