



MPUMALANGA

Scouting

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

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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, 1st Msogwaba and 2 from 1st Pienaar. Scout Patrols were from 1st Mataffin, 1st Kabokweni, 1st Mayfern, 1st Pienaar, 1st Msogwaba, 1st Tshweni, 1st Millo, 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.

apples after the Scouts Own that we had. At the Scouts Own, Raymond (TS Mataffin) 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-



The Opening Ceremony.

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!

~ **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.