



Wood Badge Advanced Leadership Course

The final part of the Leadership Training Award (Wood Badge) is to undertake a residential Leadership Course of three days. Recently four of our Northland Leaders did just that and were since asked to tell of their feelings about the weekend.

On behalf of all at Scouting Northland we thank them for their efforts and for the time they gave to provide better Scouting for our young members. Well done.

What an awesome weekend to be a part of. Leaders from all over NZ met at El Rancho, Waikanae (near Wellington) for 3 hard out, intensive, long learning days - during which, I might add, no alcohol was consumed either. (At times a little would have helped the stress levels).

Lesley Anderson headed an inspirational team of trainers who reinforced why we are there as Leaders and how important our role is for Scouting of the future. We were encouraged to step out of our "Comfort Zones" into our "Courage Zones", and were taught more about ourselves as individuals, and understand why we are the way we are. I learned that I am an Earth person - and for those who have done the course in the past you will know exactly what I mean when I say "Get things done Now".

I was very privileged to be a part of an awesome tutorial group consisting of Six Leaders. We named our group Tutahi (translation - We are Tutor group 2, but we work as One). During that weekend, we were able to identify one another's strengths and work with one another to achieve all the goals that had been set out for us. We even looked out for one another when one was hurt or if another was stressed. I know I am being biased, but at the end of the weekend the friendship and companionship we all felt was a brilliant feeling; we had cracked the barriers and had worked as one.

I even wrote 3 songs to 3 different well-known tunes, something I haven't done in a very long time. I was told by a lot of the leaders to record them on a CD for Scouting. Maybe one day, when I have enough time - who knows.

The knowledge and strength that I have gained from this course has re-ignited the passion that I experienced when I first became a Leader and has put me in good stead to go out and have fun as well as challenge my pack to their limits in Cubs. Thank you once again to all the Leaders I met that weekend, for your friendship and knowledge. I will carry these memories forever.

Esther Adam
Kamo Cub Section Leader

The weekend was long and tiring but was worth every minute, to meet other energetic leaders from around the country all wanting to be on the course.

The course started with a real highlight - a fire alarm as breakfast was served and two fire appliances rushing to find a false alarm and breakfast finally is served.

To work as a team with a common goal was a dream to see. Every one left the course with much sense of achievement and satisfaction in their team's efforts paying off - to earn your Wood Beads and to be able to wear them with pride from now on

The course at times was stressful but never a cruel thought or cruel word was muttered for we all had a common interest in completing the tasks together.

Miles Crowther
Hora Hora Scouts



Northland Leaders Debra Crook, Esther Adams,
Miles Crowther and Anne Grbin at SAD4

Leys Camping Competition

By Sarianna Crook (Shackleton Venturer)

This competition was held on 21/22 April in the Kaimai Ranges, near Te Aroha.

Who Attended: Nikki and Sarianna (Shackleton / Doubtless Bay team), and Sean and Andrew (Shackleton / Whangarei Combined Venturers).

What Happened: I've written a lot on this I know but there is so much to tell. We were picked up around 4pm Friday in Whangarei by the Doubtless Bay team. We drove down as far as Auckland that night and stayed at Olivia's (one of the Doubtless Bay Venturers) Granddad's house in the sleep out. Saturday morning we got up early (5am) to head the rest of the way to Te Aroha and the Kaimais. It was very foggy and we almost got lost but we made it to Te Aroha where we stopped at 'Kevin's Bakery' to get our lunch for that day. Then we made it to where the tramp started.

Each group started 5 minutes after one another so there'd be a gap between groups. Along the track there were a series of bases. At each base there was something you had to do to earn points - you could go to as many or as few as you liked. At the first base, the people running it had to weigh our packs and check that they were packed properly. I think we got full points, maybe. At second base we had to make a carry case for our 3 kg can of baked beans. This can of baked beans we were supposed to take care of like 'our baby', so we made a carry case using a pair of Nikki's shorts and some rope. We got it marked and 5 min further down the track the carrier broke. Still got the points for it, but one of the rules was that it (baked beans can) was not allowed to touch the ground.

There was a long walk to the next base. The main track was a 4wheel-drive track so you really couldn't get lost, but there were many side and loop tracks with more bases you could take if you wanted. The third base was up a track called the trig track. You call it a track? First we walked up a stream to a small waterfall then turned and went straight up or as close as you can get to it! In all it took us over four hours to get up and down. On the way up we made friends with a group called Tauhinu and they helped us get up the hill and down. Our entire group made it up though and I'm so proud of us. At the top we had lunch and did base three, which was map and compass reading. The way down was just as exhausting and hard. By the time we got back on the main track we were last. So we decided just to go straight to camp, but we didn't make it back in time and we had to get a ride in the 4wheel drives. That was fun and a relief from walking. We weren't the only group that needed a ride though. At camp there was a desert challenge and we got first equal for that. The night was cold and everyone camped on top of the hill.

Next morning we decided that we should just take the most direct track back and make it on time stopping only for bases along the main track. Two bases we stopped at. One was about gun knowledge and the other was getting some floating bottles over a bamboo stick. We were the first group back, a couple hours early, so we put are bags in the van and had something to eat and a nice long rest. When everyone had got back there was an informal prize giving (we didn't win) and we then went home. There was 7 hours for us to go, 9 hours for the Doubtless Bay Venturers. We didn't get back to Whangarei till midnight.

This isn't quite everything that happened. It was so much fun I would have a book if I put in everything testing and funny. But hopefully this gives a good picture of how it went and what happened.

Highlights: making friends with other groups and the completion of something so hard. :

Hint: if you ever go on this camp **Pack Light!!!!!!**



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Zone Leader:
Mike Rowlands
RD #1
Kerikeri
Phone 407 6336



Here we are again, with only 2 months (all right 2 months and 16 days) of 2007 to go. Julie and I had a superb trip to UK, France and Hong Kong, and seem to have crammed a lot into five and a bit weeks.

I think one of the best bits was sitting outside Auckland domestic terminal, watching the birds, listening to the relative quiet, looking at a real blue sky and, believe it or not, breathing clean air. Yes it was a great trip; caught up with my old Scouting mates and spent a weekend on a competition with them -- actually got a 2nd place.

It still amazes me how all our learned skills despite time, distance and cultures still take over in situations like camping and hiking and rising to challenges. Of the 90 participants in this 'Big Un' competition (see www.EnfieldScouts.org.uk website) most were under 45 and Leaders. In fact the 8 of us 55-62 years were the oldest (named the Meerkats for the way we stood in a group and watched the younger crowd!). It was great to see their fun and enthusiasm for Scouting and their willingness to be involved in whatever was happening - very social.

It was also interesting to note similar problems with recruitment of adults, training and growth.

Several of the younger 'Fellowship' (equivalent to our Rovers), intend visiting NZ in their Gap year and are trying to include Northland Scouts in their busy itineraries.

Well six weeks has flown by and at our Council meeting on Sunday we started laying plans for the end of this year and the first term next year.

We do need your help. Scouts need people to assist in running a very important Sandford Course before the end of the year - Patrol Leaders Training. Contact John V V if you can help for the whole w/e or even a day.

Over Founders w/e next year, NZ Celebrates its 100 years so Founders Day and Mudslide will be fun, and energy to show Northland what we as Scouts are and what we can do.

Here Peter Bayne (Zone Events Leader) is putting together a team to organise and run activities and promote Scouting in Northland. Again he needs help and support --please give him a call. This has to be Northland's event of the year and a good way to kick off the Northland 2008 calendar.

Please Group Leaders, ensure you communicate with Peter (acting Treasurer) regarding your audited accounts and a simple Group report.

In some ways it has (and still is) a trying year, desperate to shed the old and remove the lumps from under the carpet, so we can properly start new Scouting in 2008 with a truly green field.

Northland Zone is still looking for a Zone Kea Leader, Zone Cub Leader, Zone Rover Leader, Zone Water Activities Advisor and Zone Treasurer. If you are interested in any of the above or know someone who would be interested please let me know.

To give the best to our youth, we must ensure our Leaders get good and timely support. This needs a good team who are enthusiastic, mobile and want to change and grow Northland Scouting. Please give me a call.

Willow.

POWER BOAT RACING ON HATEA RIVER

Imagine the noise of engines as crews make final adjustments to the boats, the roar of the crowd as the boats prepare to start. The tension and final commands between skipper and co-pilot. The starting gun fires. Throttles are pushed right to the end stop. The boats leap forward, rising out of the water and onto the plane. They're off and away!

Power boats on Whangarei's Hatea River? Surely there isn't enough room between the moored yachts for a power boat race?

Yep, there is when each high performance vessel is only 10 inches long. Each designed, crafted and painted by its proud owner. Each carrying its own set of unique modifications to improve speed at full throttle.

This was the final setting for the Shackleton Cubs' boat race. The boys created their boats from cardboard, with masking tape seams and house paint to waterproof them. They are battery powered, with a wire propeller shaft and a drinking straw for the shaft housing. The prop is created from a small piece of ice-cream container and glued to the end of the shaft.

They work great. I am sure there are still one or two ducks having nightmares about this strange white thing that makes a faint purring noise as it quickly closes in for the kill. I never realised before how fast a duck can paddle, while above the surface they look as if they are doing nothing at all.

Many thanks to the mums who cleaned house paint and Hatea river mud from uniforms, to dads who helped with racing colours and design improvements and to everyone who enjoyed the day and encouraged the boys with praise

FOUNDERS WEEKEND 2008

This is to be a major Northland event to celebrate the Centennial Year of Scouting in NZ. It is proposed to hold a camp for all Scouting Northland members on the Whangarei Boys High and Whangarei Intermediate Schools' grounds over the weekend of 22/23 February, 2008.

Following an organisational meeting last weekend the following tentative programme has been suggested and is subject to alteration:

- 1 Come in on Saturday Morning
- 2 10.00 a.m. Flag Break, notices and programme choices to the scouts.
- 3 1.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Mudslide, Wall scaling, Bridge Building and Flying Fox. (and other Section Activities)
- 4 6.00 to 7.00 p.m. Separate Group Dinner
- 5 8.00 a.m. Campfire and release of Night Glow Hot air miniature balloons
- 6 10.30 p.m. Camp Quiet (Security Patrol out)
- 7 Sunday 8.00 a.m. Flag Break
- 8 10.00 a.m. Parade at BP Garden, awards etc.
- 9 11.00 a.m. till 2.30 p.m. Activities in Sections
- 10 2.30 p.m. Flag down.
- 11 3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. pack up and go

The Principals of the schools have been most co-operative and a classroom will be available for the Kea sleepover, and the gym in case of wet weather.

It is proposed that this should be a major publicity effort and to that end the public will be encouraged to attend and participate in activities for part of the weekend (probably Saturday afternoon).

Following the Zone AGM on 9th December, it is planned to make an allocation of roles and tasks so that everyone can share the load. Fresh ideas are welcome but care must be taken that we do not overload the programme.

Please contact Peter if you have any ideas, or wish to volunteer for a task. To be a top-notch event, everyone needs to be fully committed to making it a real success.

P Bayne
Zone Event Manager

VENTURER NEWS

I attended a pot luck tea night with Doubtless Bay, and also 10 BOI Venturers and Kimberly their leader.

The food as always was very good with heaps of it. The main purpose of the meeting and visit was to meet with Bob Hale the Regional Venturer leader. He gave a description of some of the regional events that the Venturers can attend, so we hope that at the next one both BOI & Doubtless Bay Venturers will try to attend.

Doubtless Bay hope to have another couple of scouts going up to Venturers in the new year, which will help them.

BOI have a few new young people interested in joining them, and I believe an old venturer wanting to come back, so Venturing is happening up in the north.

Regards

Alan (ZVL)

Spirit of Adventure Voyage

On the 21st March 2008 at 9am, the ship will sail from Auckland's Princes Wharf and arrive back on the 25th March 2008 at 4pm.

We have berths available for 20 female and 20 male trainees between the ages of 15-19.

The cost of the trip is \$580 per person, not including travel. You will need to arrange your own transport to and from Auckland.

While on board we will be running a specially designed programme with an emphasis on adventure and leadership.

It will be a wonderful adventure for everyone who takes part.

If you would like to reserve your place on this Easter 2008 Sailing please forward your postal address and we at National Office will send out an application form.

Please note that a deposit of \$100, payable to Scouting New Zealand, is required with all returned application forms. As numbers are limited placement will be on a first-in first-served basis.

Full payment and the return of all nomination and medical forms must be received by Friday 28th January 2008.

For any further information please contact Marika or Richard at National office.



ROVER AMBLINGS

The Crew has held its AGM and a new Rover Crew Leader and Assistant have been elected. They are Sara King and Scott McSkimming. Claire McSkimming, having completed her 2 years as RCL stood down, and was thanked for her efforts.

In her annual report, Claire commented on the many activities the Crew had been involved in, both in Northland and further afield including the Moot in Dunedin and events in Auckland. Service was rendered to Scouting Northland on several occasions.

A highlight of the year, locally, was the Mid-Winter Dinner although it did not receive the hoped-for support from Northland Leaders in general. Likewise, the Hobby Show had less support this year, but with wider and earlier advertising the 2008 Show should be bigger.

A goal this year will be to get out more in the public eye and make Rovering known to more and especially to Venturers.

Chris Smith, the Zone Rover Leader, has relinquished that position and a replacement is being sought for this position.

SHACKLETON SWIM CHALLENGE

The origins of the Shackleton Swim Challenge date back to the early 1970's when Shackleton had Northland rep swimmer Mark Palmer in the Group. The Palmer family has been involved with competitive swimming in Whangarei for many years and on the back of Mark's efforts, Shackleton was able to post some competitive times in the Auckland event.




However there was a realisation that the standard of swimming in general was way below that of Auckland and in an effort to raise Northland standards, Bob Phillips and his family donated a Cub and a Scout challenge trophy in 1974 to be competed for amongst Northland groups. In 1992, then Group Leader, Des Imms donated the Imms family trophy to recognise the top overall group, and in 2002 Venturer and Kea trophies were also added.

This year the annual Swim Challenge was held on the 18th August with 129 swimmers from Shackleton, Kamo, Horahora, Kerikeri, Onerahi, Doubtless Bay and Whangarei Young Mariners competing. The programme ran smoothly thanks to our organising group led by Liz McKenzie, although the times slipped a little thanks to the increased number of swimmers this year.

All groups managed some placings but, to the loudest applause of the night, Kerikeri managed to retain the Scout Challenge trophy, with Shackleton securing the Kea, Cub, Venturer & overall placings.

Many thanks the organisers and all who helped on the night and we look forward to more great competition next year.



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A copy of Notes and News
is provided
for each Northland Leader
either on-line or by hard-copy PLUS one copy for each Group Secretary.

Please be sure your Group Committee sees its copy.



LEADER'S SERVICE AWARD

Esther Adam	Kamo
Innes Anderson	Kaiwaka
Christopher Fewtrell	Kerikeri

NORTHLAND CERTIFICATE

Greg Beeson	Doubtless Bay
Sara King	Whangarei Rovers
Andy Dowdle	Kerikeri
Guy Ellingham	Kerikeri
Ric Martini	Russell
Shaun Davies	Ruakaka

GROUP LEADER CHANGES

Kerikeri Stewart Fraser (Actg)
Ruakaka Ben Trail
Onerahi Graeme Gallagher

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 1 Notes & News published
- 4 Zone Team meeting
- 10 Award Nominations for Founders' Day
2008 close with Area.
- 24/25 Charge Certificate Course (?)

DECEMBER

ALL Group AGMs by early December

- 9 Zone AGM
- 14 Term 4 ends (Secondary Schools)
- 21 Term 4 ends (Primary Schools)
- 28 18th NZ Jamboree starts

ZONE ADDRESS LIST

ZONE LEADER:

Mike Rowlands- RD#1, Kerikeri407 6336
zl@scoutingnorthland.org.nz

ASSISTANT ZONE LEADERS:

North:

Alan Wheatley- 75A Kerikeri Inlet Rd., Kerikeri407 4262
azlnorth@scoutingnorthland.org.nz

Central/South-

Jim Neil- 41 Murdoch Cres., Whangarei438 2070
azlcentral@scoutingnorthland.org.nz

Admin-

Des Olney- 220 Marsden Point Rd., Ruakaka 432 7778
nnn@scoutingnorthland.org.nz

ZONE TRAINING LEADER:

Gay Lang- 62 Riverside Dr., Whangarei438 0636
ztl@scoutingnorthland.org.nz

ZONE KEA LEADER:

To be advised

ZONE CUB LEADER:

To be advised

Assistant

Hugh Fowlie- Prescott Rd., RD#1, Ruakaka433 0486

ZONE SCOUT LEADER:

John Van Veen- 100 Beach Rd., Whangarei.....436 3333
zsl@scoutingnorthland.org.nz

ZONE VENTURER LEADER:

Alan Wheatley- 75A Kerikeri Inlet Rd., Kerikeri407 4262
zvl@scoutingnorthland.org.nz

ZONE ROVER LEADER:

To be advised.

ZONE EVENTS MANAGER:

Peter Bayne- 8a Three Mile Bush Rd, Kamo.....435 3229
zem@scoutingnorthland.org.nz

ZONE BADGE SECRETARY:

Shirley Olney- 220 Marsden Point Rd, Ruakaka..... 432 7778
dolney@xtra.co.nz



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