



NOTES and NEWS

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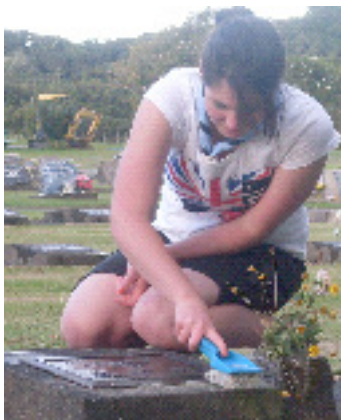
The GOOD TURN still LIVES ON!

On Good Friday members of the Whangarei Combined Venturer Unit and Zone Leader Gay Lang spent the afternoon and early evening cleaning the plaques in the RSA section of the local cemetery in preparation for AnzacDay. The Unit enjoyed doing this as a service for the members of the RSA who have done so much for this country. They also found it interesting to find relatives of some of the Venturers buried in the RSA cemetery. The Venturers found it educational and enjoyable realizing the diverse range of ages, nationalities and cultures buried there. All of us plan to be back again next year to help do this again.



(above) Emma Peacock, Michael Arnold, Steven Copeman, Connor Boyd, Aaron Corney and Hayley Corney get to work.

(below) Emma Peacock makes a solo effort.



Gay's Message

In 2006 Peter, Mike, Ross & I flew to Wellington to attend the National Scout Conference - it was a good weekend and the highlight for me was the bubbly, bouncing -off-the -walls Venturers and Rovers from Wellington. I remember how disappointed I was that we had taken no "young" people with us, and vowing that next time, things would be different.

Move forward three years to the 2009 National Conference - same venue - same city - but very few local Venturers and Rovers, instead there were some fantastic representatives from Northland. I would like to thank all of you that ventured south with me for the weekend (there was 16 of us in all - Peter, Alan, Peggy, Andrea, Edward, Helen, Glenn, Shaun, Karl, Laurel, Hadleigh, Hayley, Sarianna, Philip, Connor and myself) but a special thank you must go to the "younger" members of our Northland Contingent who made the Conference so special for everyone. This time it will be YOU that the other participants will remember long after the nitty-gritty of the conference is forgotten. I know that we more mature Northland participants, lapped up all the good comments we heard being made about you, and felt really proud that you were OUR "kids" (oops, I mean OUR "young people")

While Peter, Alan, Peggy, Andrea and Edward took to the skies and winged their way there, the rest of us piled in a van and headed south, leaving Whangarei at 4.30 a.m. to ensure that we were in Wellington in time for me to attend the Friday night function at Parliament. We made it, even after taking time out to relax at a few spots on the way down. I can tell you that thirteen hours in a van together is a great way to bond a group of people regardless of their ages, and besides which, we also had a lot of FUN.

Rather than me tell you all about the conference, I will let you read what the young people thought (in their own words) - it blew me away when I read what they had written, in only a very short time frame, before we headed out for dinner at Taihape, on the way home.

Well done to the members in the van who braved the "Flying Fox" or "The Swing" at Mokai Gravity Canyon the next morning (imagine being launched from a ledge 175 metres above a river canyon before racing down a 1-km zip-line at speeds up to 160kms per hour or experiencing a massive 50-metre freefall from the Mokai Bridge before arcing into a massive swing through the canyon below)- I chose to stay on terra-firma and take the photos instead!!!

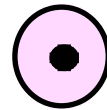
In Northland Scouting, we have some really wonderful young people - they are prepared to spend hours traveling in a van to a Scout Conference and AGM (not really knowing what they have let themselves in for), give up parts of their holidays to attend a National Scout School or participate in a training "Spirit of Adventure" trip or just spend a few hours washing all the RSA plaques in the Maunu Lawn Cemetery so that they are nice and clean for Anzac Day - I hope you are all very proud of them because I know that I am.

Your Zone Leader, *Gay*

FREE PHONE

To order Handbooks or to contact the Region Office in Auckland on any Scouting matter just phone 0800 SCOUTS

There is no charge for these calls!



We record with regret the recent deaths of two ex-Leaders from Northland

John Boyd
was a long-time Group Leader for Ruakaka Group while
Neil Hodgson
was Scout Leader for Mid-Northern Group.

We extend our sympathy to their families.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2009

Venturer Report by Hayley

On the weekend of the 27th of March Phil, Connor, Sarianna and I attended the National SCOUTS conference in Wellington.

More than anything the weekend was one of a "presentation of knowledge". During the two days the new branding was presented to us and everything that was affected by it. We all support the idea of "Adventure Plus" and appreciate the value behind incorporating the World Scouting Logo into our branding.

Early during the day on Saturday the National Section Leaders were presented to us. Cory Lang was invested as National Venturer Leader. We found this a very important and beneficial part of the weekend because it gave us a chance to meet and make connections with some of the main people we need to be communicating with.

Another very good benefit of this was that the structure of the organisation was really visually demonstrated to us. We now have a clear understanding of the chain of command and have faces to put to the names so that we know who and how to communicate, at the different levels.

We all felt that the weekend was really well structured in the sense that after every dreary or formal topic there was something more fun or inspirational to balance it. Another thing along the same lines that would be good to keep in mind when planning any presentation-based events aimed at Venturers is that "Who" is speaking, is really important. We found it much easier to concentrate and absorb what people were saying when they were enthusiastic, excited and passionate about their topic. People like Edward Cook are awesome to learn from.

We believe that one of the main benefits of us being there ("us" being YOUTH) was that all those higher-up people were constantly reminded right through out the weekend that "We" - The Youth are the reason they were all there.

And the reception we got for our reminder was amazing. The amount of compliments we got throughout the weekend was terrific! We got complimented on our uniform and we also got thanked for the effort we made to get there. The best pieces of feedback were:

- (a) When we got mentioned at dinner by Edward Cook
- (b) When Peter Bayne said how proud he was of us
Simply - our presence pleased everyone there.

When we had our section breakout session we got to further present Sarianna's idea for a new motto possibly along the lines of "Accept The Challenge". It was awesome to see how well it was received. The experience we gained from this was not to be afraid, that we do have good ideas and people are willing to listen to them.

This lesson was further reinforced when we saw the "Presentations From Our Young People". In hers, Kelly presented the outcomes from the Regional Youth Forum. It was awesome to see all the stuff we had talked about, had actually been taken into consideration. We had talked about uniform and Venture and saw results from both of these things.

All of us have come back from the weekend enthusiastic about the things we have learned and are ready to spread that to the rest of the youth in our Zone.

Scouts Leaders' Report by Shaun and Karl

On Saturday at approx 9 am we learnt that the "National" people didn't know how to run flag break properly - with no prayer or attention and stuff!!

We heard our new Chief Executive officer of SCOUTS New Zealand speak ("Scouts" in caps because that's how you have to write it if you mean all sections) He seems quite cool.

We had a section update where we were introduced to the new/existing National Section Leaders and Stuart hosted a talk show with them called "Why Knot" where he asked each Section Leader where they were trying to move their section, and their background in the movement. Our National Scout Leader is Kevin from Invercargill and our Assistant National Scout Leader is Helen from Auckland.

Then some young people, Kelly (best looking girl there) and Craig talked to us about the World Jamboree in Korea and showed us pictures of all the different cultures they met, followed by two young dudes talking about the Venture at the start of next year.

Guest speaker Billy Graham (funniest guy there) talked to us about his life and how he started boxing. Billy Graham began his life with few advantages. "He would have been born on the wrong side of the tracks if his mates hadn't stolen the tracks first" Billy is dyslexic and struggles to read and write. He was always quoting "Do what you can do, not what you can't". He said, if you want to get anywhere you need to ask lots of questions. Billy played the harmonica and we all sang "You Are My Sunshine". You need to set goals and listen to people who know. Billy won all the N Z boxing titles he could - he won the N Z Mens Championship when he was just 16.

Derek Twine is the Chief Executive Officer of the United Kingdom Scout Association. He flew over from the UK for the weekend to talk to us about the ideas they have implemented in the UK that are bucking the trend.

We then broke into our sections and we started to talk about the New Award Scheme, then moved on to National Programmes, which was about as far as we got in our time frame, because they kept talking about the same stuff over and over.

The Scout Youth Foundation did a presentation on the work they do to help SCOUTS, donating over \$30,000 a year and how they have lost about \$80,000 because they invested in the wrong companies, but it won't affect the money it donates to the SCOUTS.

AGM was pretty boring really.

At the Awards dinner we heard about Earth Hour and in NZ we saved 3% of power usage - 8 people got Life Membership and some Silver Tuis were given out.

On Sunday Jessica Pigg talked to us about National fundraising ideas, and marketing our new branding "Adventure Plus" and how we can market it in our own areas with posters, letterheads, gay shirts are available (the purple shirts are gay!!) and a CD will be coming out on how to use the brand "Adventure Plus"

We were then shown how to use the new website, coming out on Friday, and where the info will be and how to join and log on - 3 clicks to get anything.

Guest speaker Rob Hamill (The Naked Rowler) was really good - just told us to keep doing what we were doing and to set goals and that anything is possible if you set your mind to it. Really good to listen to - easy to understand and comprehend.

2009 a busy start to Venturing

2009 got off to a hectic start for the Whangarei Combined Venturer Unit with a good attendance at Waitangi Day, fundraising for Venture in Wellington at the end of the year and working bees at our den.

We had a great night hike over Mt Aubrey and then headed north to cater for the Velocity course being held at Trefoil Park, where we fed the 18 Venturers (9 from Northland) and leaders attending the course.

We then sent 4 Venturers on their way to National Conference while the rest of the Unit participated in the Regional Venturers' tramping competition "Leys" where we came fifth and made a huge amount of friends.

Our finale for the term was community service where we cleaned the plaques at the RSA section of the cemetery in preparation for Anzac Day. We look forward to seeing you all out there doing stuff in 2009.

.....Aaron

2009 SCOUT Conference Report:

A Venturer's View

On the weekend of the 27th of March Phil Clements, Connor Boyd, Sarianna Crooke and I travelled 13 hours to Wellington to represent Northland Venturers at the National SCOUT conference.

Our highlights of the weekend were the amazingly inspirational speakers such as Billy Graham, who spoke with such a passion that was so relevant to scouting and to the weekend.

The main topic of the weekend was the presentation of the new branding. This was very exciting to see first hand. To meet the people who were putting in so much time and energy to give all of New Zealand the awesome view of Scouting that we have, was an awesome opportunity.

Another opportunity we got was to meet people and make connections. Over the course of the weekend we met so many people who help scouting on a national level. In particular we met Cory Lang, our National Venturer Leader, who was very keen to hear our ideas and help us in any way he could.

The best part of the weekend for me was when the youth representatives from the National Council did their presentation. In this they talked about the outcomes from the Regional Youth Forum which I attended last year. It was so cool to see that the things we had talked about there had actually had an effect, that our participation had actually made a difference.

Over all it was an excellent weekend and everyone really appreciated having a few youth faces about. We hope that we can come away from this event and share with everyone the knowledge we gained.

..... Hayley Corney



1st - 10th Jan, 2010
Brookfield, Wellington

Get all the gen at
www.venturewellington.org.nz

Register interest now!



Glenn Davis &
 Sarianna Crook
 with the
 Conference
 T-Shirts advertising
 "Adventure Plus"

Scouting Advanced Training Course -SAPD6

On 21 - 23 March, I attended the Scouting Advanced Wood Badge training course at the fabulous Motu Moana Camp in Auckland. The course was very good with 29 participants and 3 trainers.

It was full on from 8.30 on Saturday morning to 3pm on Monday. There was certainly a lot of thought provoking discussion and team building, and the great opportunity to meet and work with other like minded Scouting people. It was also good to see how all 29 attendees developed over this course, and to realise that we are all part of a really great organisation, working for the betterment of our young people.

Chris from Kerikeri, Andrea & Greg from Doubtless Bay, myself from Northland Zone and Edward Cook, also from Kerikeri who was a trainer as well as an attendee, participated from our Zone

To the Zone, many thanks for giving me this opportunity, and I would really like to recommend that all leaders be given the chance to attend when they can.

... Alan Wheatley (Zone Venturer Leader)

Training Shop

ztl@scoutingnorthland.org.nz

A special welcome to **Chris Rumens** our **new Zone Training Leader**. Chris, who moved here from England just over a year ago, is a detective with the Whangarei Police.

Chris was a Leader in England for about ten years and was involved in the organization of the last World Jamboree. His son and daughter, who are still in England, are also now Leaders - his son a Scout Leader and his daughter a Cub Leader.

I will leave it to Chris to tell you some more about himself either in person or in future editions of Notes & News, but it is sufficient to say that we are very lucky to have a person of his caliber and experience join Northland Scouting.

By the time you read this Chris will have helped run his first Scout Training Course in N Z. Chris and I will have taken a "One Hundred Days in One" training course at Kaiwaka with new Leaders from Kaiwaka, Doubtless Bay, Russell and Kamo, so a very special welcome to all those Leaders as well.

Chris will no doubt be looking forward to meeting the rest of you Northland Leaders in the very near future.

Activity Permits issued recently in Northland Zone

- o Shackleton Keas: Water Safety Beach Day at Tamatarau Beach
- o Shackleton Cubs: Hatea River Kayak (x2)
- o Doubtless Bay Scouts: Pre Regatta Camp at Torerau Beach
- o Shackleton Scouts: Training Camp at Parua Bay (postponed)
- o Shackleton Keas: Kayaking at Tamatarau Beach (postponed)
- o Shackleton Cubs: Bike Ride - Waimahanga Track Onerahi
- o Maungaturoto Cubs & Scouts: Weekend Camp at Ruakaka
- o Leaders, Rovers & Venturers: Road Trip to the 2009 Scout Conference Wellington
- o Kaiwaka Scouts: Trip to the National Scout Aviation School at Ohakea Air Force Base
- o Doubtless Bay Leader & Scouts: Trip to Auckland to join the "Spirit of Adventure"
- o Doubtless Bay Scouts: Trip to the National Scout Aviation School at Ohakea Air Force Base
- o Doubtless Bay Scout: Trip to the National Scout Caving School at Waitomo
- o Doubtless Bay Venturers: Trip to Ruapehu District to tramp the Tongariro Northern Circuit
- o Northland Zone: Regatta at Kai Iwi Lakes

National Scout Schools Participants

- Caving School**
- o Olivia Beeson (Doubtless Bay)
- Aviation School**
- o Tony Beckham (Doubtless Bay)
- o Jadin Leslie (Doubtless Bay)
- o Kim Nordmeier (Kaiwaka)
- o Tom Nordmeier (Kaiwaka)
- o Janos Panyoczki (Kaiwaka)
- o Poppy Tohill (Kaiwaka)
- o Mitchell MacKenzie (Kaiwaka)
- o Kiri Anne Abel (Kaiwaka)

"Spirit of Adventure" Participants

- Doubtless Bay**
- o Andrea Beckham (Adult Helper)
- o Olivia Beeson (Leading Hand)
- o Dion Hickey
- Shackleton**
- o Stacey Wright
- o Kate Pickens
- o Cameron Lazenby

"There's only one thing wrong with Boy Scouts... there aren't enough of 'em."
..... Will Rogers



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Steel \$28.00

11mm Abseil Rope
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\$4.50/metre

Outdoor Equipment

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"Adventure" - \$69.00 lg/m/vm

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