



NOTES and NEWS

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CHIEF SCOUT AWARDS PRESENTED

Challenges, leadership, experiences, knowledge and skills of many kinds are the attributes that led to two Scouts recently obtaining their Chief Scout Award (the highest scout section award). Over a number of years, Jadin Leslie and Tony Beckham rose to the challenges and they had this honour awarded to them at a celebration held at the Doubtless Bay Scout Den earlier last month.

Greg Beeson (MC for the evening) opened the ceremony after dinner, welcoming Zone Leaders, Scouts, Cubs and their families. Gay Lang (Northland Zone Leader) commended Jadin & Tony for their fantastic effort. Peggy Morrison (DB Group Leader since 2004) spoke of how Jadin and Tony had developed and displayed the required skills to meet the criteria and how they had readily passed on their knowledge, shown compassion and a willingness to assist fellow scouts, their commitment being evident in their participation in group, regional and national events. During their time in scouts, Jadin and Tony had both attended Jamboree in Christchurch, Aviation School in Fielding and Jadin also attended Photography School in Wellington.

“Our aim is to encourage the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual abilities of our youth, so they may take a constructive part in our society,” Peggy said. “In my time spent with our youth I have often shared a couple of sayings - one being about privilege and responsibility, and how they go hand in hand. For example: the privilege is camping, the responsibility is behaviour.”

As Peggy presented the Chief Scout Badge and certificate, she said, “Jadin and Tony you now enter a select group of people in Scouts New Zealand and Worldwide who hold this accolade. While it is a privilege to be part of this group, it also holds responsibility to take a constructive part in society, as set out in our Scout Association Aim. Think carefully, choose wisely and make valuable and precious memories. Always bear in mind, you may be someone else's role model.”

The opportunity was then taken for Andrea Beckham to present retiring Group Leader Peggy Morrison with a plaque to show the appreciation of the Doubtless Bay Group for the excellent service she had given to the Group over the past 6 1/2 years.



Jadin Leslie and Tony Beckham proudly display their Chief Scout Award certificates



Andrea Beckham presents retiring GL Peggy Morrison with a plaque as a token of thanks for her excellent contribution.

OUR ZONE LEADER writes

Sometimes it is too easy to moan and groan or whinge and whine when things don't get done on time (e.g. the writing of this column) or not at all (e.g. the activities and camps that happen with no activity permit being sent to me) and we forget that we all have a life outside of Scouting and there will be times, when things that should be done, just don't get done for one reason or another and that is just the way it is.

While I would encourage you all to make sure you do the important things (activity permits etc) please don't beat yourselves up if some of the not-so-important things (dotting "i"s and crossing "t"s) gets left undone. All I would ask of you is that you do YOUR BEST (that's right - your best - not someone else's best) and to make sure that you put your family, and yourself, first sometimes. Remember, if it wasn't for the sacrifices that you and your family make you wouldn't be able to give as much to Scouting as you do, so please tell them a BIG THANK YOU from me.

I would like to give a big pat on the back to Chris Fewtrell (Kerikeri) and Larry Gordon (Shackleton) who both had to postpone then cancel events last month because of atrocious weather. Both Leaders had planned an event, completed an Activity Permit and then as the bad weather started to put a spanner in the works, they kept me in the loop as to the decisions they were making - thanks guys, I really appreciated that.

On behalf of Ian Nicholson, John Van Veen, Hugh Fowlie and myself I would like to say a big thank you to Doubtless Bay for the great night we had at your den recently. It is always a pleasure to be invited to any special event that is happening in Northland Scouting.

It was sad to farewell Peggy Morrison who has stepped down as Group Leader. She leaves some big boots to fill and will be sadly missed by many, me included, but knowing Peg she will never be far away and will always be there to lend a hand if needed. Her husband George and daughter Katie were both there to share the night with her and it was a privilege for me to be able to congratulate Katie on obtaining both her Queen Scout and Gold D-O-E last year. Katie had her Gold D-O-E presented by Prince Edward but has chosen to wait and have her Queen Scout presented at the same time as Ross Kitchen, since they undertook many of the Queen Scout activities together.

It was a great thrill to see two of my scouts receive their Chief Scout Award, knowing how hard they had each worked to achieve it. Jadin Leslie and Tony Beckham are two lovely young guys that I have had the pleasure to get to know over the years, having seen them at many Zone events. I told them that they are so lucky to have had Leaders of the quality of Greg Beeson and George and Peggy Morrison as role models to them. I also pointed out to them, that when they were young Scouts, they had looked up to Katie and Ross as role models, and that now, in the same way, the younger Scouts and Cubs looked up to them. I reminded them that they have a responsibility to honour that respect that the young ones hold them in and also said that I hope that one day I will have the pleasure of seeing them both become Queen Scouts.

Tony has chosen to take a break from Scouting (not for too long I hope) and Jadin is now a Venturer having been invested into the Unit that same night, together with Olivia Beeson and Natasha Bockus. Well done to you all and I hope you have lots of fun and undertake some great activities as Venturers.

I was so disappointed at have missed out on being a judge at the recent Masterchef Cooking Competition between HoraHora and Shackleton scouts, having had to cancel due to illness, and hope that I will be invited again next time. Thank you to John and Glenis for covering for me and to all the participants for being such great chefs, as I hear that there were some lovely meals served up. Also well done to Esther Adam (HoraHora) for "thinking outside the square" and coming up with the idea for such a great competition.

Keep up the good work and remember to spend time with your family.

Gay

Upcoming Events

- 7th Aug - UNI Region Swimming Sports
- 14th Aug - Shackleton Swim Challenge
- 14th Aug - Zone Leaders Meeting @ Wellington
- 14th/15th Aug - UNI Region Camping Competition.
- 18th Aug - Zone Team Meeting
- 21st/23rd Aug - SAPD 11 @ Motu Moana
- 22 Aug - Initial/Introduction Course
- 22 Aug - NZMSC Outdoor First Aid Revalidation @ Whatitiri
- 27th/29th Aug - Sandford Course (To be confirmed)
- 15th Sept - Notes & News closing date
- 18th/19th Sept - NZMSC Intermediate Bushcraft @ Pukenui Forest
- 18th/19th Sept - Training Regatta
- 20th Sept/10th Oct - Scout Job Weeks (Bob-A-Job)
- 24th Sept - Term 3 ends
- 26th Sept - Cooksey Course
- 26th Sept - Daylight Savings Starts
- 26th Sept/3rd Oct - Snow School
- 30th Sept - Boat Surveys Due
- 3rd/8th Oct - Mountain Craft School
- 10th Oct - Zone Council
- 16th/17th Oct - JOTA/JOTI
- 29th/31st Oct - Dargaville Scout Group 100th Celebrations
- 6th Nov - Kea Day
- 14th Nov - UNI Conference
- 12th Dec - Zone AGM
- 29th Dec /6th Jan 2011 - 19th N Z Scout Jamboree @ Mystery Creek
- 27th July/7th August 2011 - 22nd World Jamboree @ Sweden

Activity Permits

Issued recently in Northland Zone

Doubtless Bay

- UNI Mini Venture (Kai Iwi Lakes)
- NZMSC Risk Management Course (Tangihua Lions Lodge)
- Pitstop Total Exhaustion Competition (Swanson Auckland)

Ruakaka

- Scouts Bivouac Camp (Walters Road)
- Scouts visit to Anne Frank's exhibition (Whangarei Museum)
- Cubs visit to Fire Station (Waipu)
- Cubs Overnight Camp (Ruakaka Den)

Shackleton

- Scouts Masterchef Cooking Competition (HoraHora Den)
- Keas Amazing Race (Town Basin)
- Cubs Swimming (Whangarei Aquatic Centre)
- Scouts Kayaking & Rowing (Ngunguru River)
- Keas Star Gazing Night (Whg Observatory)

HoraHora

- Keas Amazing Race (Town Basin)
- Keas Star Gazing Night (Whg Observatory)
- Keas Campfire (Shackleton Den)

Kerikeri

- Venturers Sailing & Exploring Weekend (BOI)

Kamo

- Cubs Compass Course (Kamo West)

Maungaturoto

- Keas Star Gazing Night (Whg Observatory)

Whangarei Combined Venturers

- Pitstop Total Exhaustion Competition (Swanson Auckland)

Northland Zone

- Keas-in-action Walk/Hike (Mair Park)

Upper North Island Region

- UNI Mini Venture (Kai Iwi Lakes)
- Visiting English Scouts - 1st Hershaw Scout Group (BOI)

WHAT A WEEKEND !!



On the disappearing gun on Mt Victoria.



Antarctic explorers.



Up the wall

Kamo Cubs
Had a great weekend down in Auckland.
Thirty children had huge smiles from 6am Saturday when they left to 4pm Sunday when they arrived back, They explored Mt Victoria in Devonport
They played indoor Mini Golf
All went Indoor Rock Climbing
Ate 'All you can eat' Pizza and dessert at Pizza Hut
Slept in the fish/shark tunnels at Kelly Tarltons and went behind the scenes and fed fish
Completed a Scavenger Hunt in the Auckland Museum
ATE LOTS OF HOMEBAKING!!!!!!
Had lunch in the Auckland Domain and then it was bedtime.



Glow in the dark Mini-golf



Akela will save us.



It's a long way up.



What bird can you see up there?

Kea Chatter



ZKL: Anne Grbin (09 4323053)

AZKL: Claire McSkimming (09 4355662)

Saturday 12th June 2010 'Kea in Action Walk/Hike'

The weather during the week prior to the Kea Hike wasn't the best so it was a nice surprise to find that Saturday's weather was lovely. The turnout at Mair Park for the 2 hour hike was great, there were 30 Keas and families from Hora Hora, Shackleton, Mid-Northern, Kamo and Maungaturoto.

After the Scroggin had been distributed the Keas began their hike by walking along the footpath to Whareora Road and then hiked along the Hatea River Track. Around 12.15pm we all gathered at Mair Park by the playground for a picnic lunch.

After everyone had eaten and the Keas had had a play we began our climb up Parihaka via the Dobbie Track. There was a 10min breather at the top and then back down to Mair Park via the Drummond Track.

The hike finished around 1.30pm and everyone who participated in the 1st Zone Kea in Action Hike/Walk enjoyed themselves.

It was a most pleasant day and we look forward to organising another hike day next year.

Term 2's Theme- 'Beyond the Hedge'

We hear that Northland Keas had a great term. There was learning about Scouting in other counties, amazing races and learning about the deaf and blind. It was awesome to see Keas out and about in their neighbourhood, observing, discovering and picking up rubbish.

Three Kea Clubs joined together to go star gazing at the Whangarei Observatory and enjoyed viewing stars, the moon and Saturn through the large telescopes.

The term finished for some Keas with an indoor campfire where they learnt about camp blankets, sang, danced and had hot chocolate and yummy Smore Biscuits (Marshmallows melted between Chocolate wheaten biscuits).

Term 3's Theme is 'Scouts give you...'

The programme looks good and incorporates some challenges and new experiences for your Keas. We look forward to hearing about all the FUN things that your Keas did during the term.

Dates to put on your calendar

- o Saturday 14th August- Shackleton Swim Challenge, Whangarei Aquatic Centre
- o Saturday 6th November- Kea Day

Anne Grbin ZKL
Claire McSkimming AZKL



Venturer Viewpoint

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First off a huge congratulation to Aaron, B.O, Steven aka “The Future” and Michael from Whangarei Combined Venturers who won First Place at the UNI “Pit Stop” Regional Venturer competition held on the 4th July in Swanson. Pit Stop is a day of full on physical activities and once again it was wet and cold this year. It was pleasing to see Doubtless Bay Venturers enter a team this year. Next year the event will be hosted by Whangarei Combined so I look forward to seeing all the Northland Venturer units represented.



The other big Venturer event has been the Inaugural “Regional Mini-Venture” held at Kai-Iwi lakes, which 70 Venturers from across the Upper North Island region attended for a weekend of fun. The comments that came from the de-brief, will see this become an annual Regional event with more emphasis on organized activities.

Don't forget Venturers that Boomerang the Regional Venturer pioneering competition is the last weekend of Term 3.

THE MINI-VENTURE as reported by DOUBTLESS BAY VENTURERS

Moving up from Scouts to Venturers has bought a new element of adventure and discovery for Jadin Leslie, Natasha Bockus and Olivia Beeson. As you may recall from a previous article, Jadin and Natasha along with their leader Andrea Beckham spent 10 incredible days during January at Venture Wellington - Open Your Eyes.

Last month, Mini Venture for the Upper North Island Region took place - a weekend camp, was organised at Lake Taharoa - Kai Iwi Lakes. With some of the other members of the unit they headed off on a rainy Friday afternoon, setting up camp in a paddock, along with 80 other Venturers and Leaders.



Awaking to a welcome sunny, Saturday morning, breakfast was eaten and the day's activities began. These included, kayaking and sailing on the lake. Sumo cricket, bought plenty of laughs, this is a fun game played with inner tubes wrapped around the bowler and batter. A difficult game to play by all accounts, as one can imagine a lot of falling over. There was a sauna tent set up with hot rocks, anyone could warm up and listen to music. Some people went on a 2hr walk to Rapiro Beach, finding field mushrooms along the way and also one venturer found a plastic fish shaped floating marker. It was discovered that the marker had been dropped off the coast of Queensland. It had a serial number on it and a return address with a .30c reward being offered for its return. Everyone wondered how long it could have been out there. Saturday night brought DJ Ari to the marquee for a rage, with plenty of dancing and fun. Everyone crashing out rather late.

Sunday morning started out with tug-o-war, strongman and other games. Following this the frankfurter eating competition got underway. Finding the immunity idol (a wooden treasure) automatically qualified Doubtless Bay for the final. Natasha took her place at the table, being the fastest eater and winning first prize. After flag down on Sunday afternoon, the groups packed up and headed home. Meeting up with old friends and making new ones had ended the weekend on a high.

SCOUTING - A World-wide Brotherhood

Did I hear you say, "I know that!", but how do we make it more real for our Scouts?

Of course the best way would be to take them on a world trip but that is hardly practical, so maybe the next best is to get them to a Jamboree. Our NZ ones have some visiting Scouts from other countries, but attending a World Jamboree would be even better.

Another idea is to take part in JOTA and JOTI and at least converse with other members in different countries, or by using snailmail or email set up a link with a Group in another part of NZ or, even better, in another country. By exchanging pictures and ideas it is easy to see what differences there may be, but also how much we share in common. I remember some years back all countries followed the UK rules and we had the silly situation where Scouts in, say, Kenya or Fiji, had to do the same tests for 2nd Class Scout as Britain- yes that meant learning how to thaw frozen water pipes!! Things have progressed since then.

These days with the advent of computers and the like, the idea of a hobby as a leisure activity seems to have lessened but for scouts a good one is to make a collection of Scouting stamps. Most countries have issued stamps with a scouting theme, either to honour an event like a jamboree, or a milestone in scouting like the centennial of Scouting or B-P's birthday. This hobby is also a way to set up a link with others with this hobby and exchange stamps. There are many Clubs specialising in scout stamps, one of the best being "Scouts on Stamps Society International" (SOSSI) which has a local contact in NZ at 7 Brixton Road, Mt Eden, Auckland 1024. They have a web-page at www.sossi.org.

A source of stamps for those without access to a stamp dealer is to look at Trade Me or Sella under 'scout stamps' and bid for what may interest you, which is how I got these.



Having got a stamp try to find out a bit more about it. Why was it issued - if it was a Jamboree or camp, where was it held - what interesting facts can be found about this country?

And finally, mount the stamps carefully in a loose leaf folder so other pages can be added (I now have 4 full folders) or in an album.

Happy collecting and better knowledge that Scouting is World-wide!

Des Olney

Cardboard, Rice, and Water

In an effort to support World Vision, the Doubtless Bay Scouts spent a Saturday night sleeping in a cardboard structure/home they had made. Weather necessitated building the structure inside the den, although this did not seem to prevent a cold, but rewarding night.

The group successfully cooked perfect rice on an open fire and drank only water. Through games and stories, they learnt about other countries and some of the less fortunate children who live in them.

With our sponsors help, we raised over \$500. This is enough to provide a village a step action water pump (designed by a Kiwi), or renovate a community health centre, or renovate 2 classrooms, plus purchase educational and sports equipment. One of these gifts from a small group of children in the Far North of New Zealand is a great contribution to a struggling community in the developing world. (It's not too late to make a donation at www.famine.co.nz under Christopher Brace).

The Doubtless Bay Scouts would like to thank all of our sponsors for donating to this very worthwhile cause.





NORTHLAND ZONE CENSUS

I had hoped to be able to tell you what a great increase in numbers we had this year in Northland, but as I write this 4 returns have not yet come to hand (10 days overdue).

However, the results look promising and from those returns received there is an increase of 29 (approx 7%). Hopefully this increase will also be reflected in the remaining results.

We are also still awaiting full details of all Leaders as only one or two sent back the necessary listing of Leader details (see Zone Leader article re this) and even less advised of Wood Badge holders.

To date no return has been completely correct, with figures missing, spelling errors of names, etc. (and I'm not meaning personal numbers missing).

Thank you to those who have sent in Census on time.

I now have to seek indulgence from Region as our consolidated return is now overdue there.

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FREE PHONE

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

There is no charge for these calls!

NOTE THE NEXT DEADLINE

Please note that the absolute deadline for the next issue of Notes and News will be **Wednesday, 15th September 2010.**

Send in photos (low resolution preferred) and reports of your Group's activities as soon as possible.

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

Please be sure your Group Committee gets a copy