



1st Bentleigh Scout Group
Annual Reports and Presentations for 2013/2014 Scouting Year

1st Bentleigh Group Leaders Report

1st Bentleigh Scout Group

Annual Reports and Presentations for 2013/2014 Scouting Year

1st Bentleigh Group Leaders Report

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a report on our Scouting activities as Group Leader of 1st Bentleigh Scout Group. We have had a Scouting Year packed full of activities for all, and I am very thankful for the support of all of the parents of the group and especially our Leaders and Group Support Committee.

Welcome & Highlights

For me, 2014 has really been a year of creating a new momentum for the Group. As a new Group Leader and having a new Group Support Committee there have been many learnings and challenges, but in all, the group have achieved some fantastic outcomes this year.

At a group level, one of the biggest milestones was the launch of the newly refurbished Premises. Building up on some hard work done by Gayle Whitaker (Former Group Leader) 1st Bentleigh finally received a \$50,000 grant to renovate the hall and facilities. The new space is bright, clean and something all our members can enjoy. A very special thank you to Lee Harvison and Janet Hulme who managed the renovation with Vic Scouts, as well as all of our parents who painted, plugged, cleaned and chatted away at our working bee.

The official opening was conducted by MP - Elizabeth Miller, and it was great to see so many from our extended community there to mark the occasion.

2014 has also seen the creation of our new website which I think you'll agree stands out from many other Scouting sites. Leading our online presence the website is playing an effective role in attracting new members and hall hires. A huge thank you to Russell Lucas and wife Tabitha who have done a sterling job in setting this up for us.

With our new hall and website we have been able to attract a series of Hall Hires that bring a tidy income to the group. At present we have four groups hiring our hall - A Taekwondo instructor, a Belly dance group, a personal trainer and a dance school. By next year we hope to have two more hires on the books significantly increasing our hall hire income. Our hope is that this income will help create substantial subsidies for major activities such as the Australian Jamboree in 2016 as well as enable us to update our kit and start thinking about watercraft and other specialised equipment.

The Scouting program itself has also been extremely busy this year with many members attending a series of fantastic camps and events including - Surf moot, Mud bash, Stradbroke cup, The Cohen shield, Cuboree 8 and the dawn service to name a few.

To compliment this, many of our cubs, Scouts and Rovers have been investing a lot of time into their badge work, learning new skills and working their way toward some major awards. From a development point of view it has been a privilege to see so much progress from our members.

As a new Group Leader I was invited to see our Rovers run their AGM. Systematically they struck their old committee, and through a very democratic process elected their new team. I was extremely impressed by the level of thought and debate around the skills each candidate would bring

to their role and indeed how they might benefit from undertaking on the role. Guided by David Rotor – Rover advisor, Hellsgate Rovers are indeed a 1st class operation, and an asset to 1st Bentleigh.

For seven of our Cubs who attended, 'Cuboree 8' proved to be an amazing experience. Thrown into an exciting world of adventure and activity, this was for many the longest time they'd spent away from parents. The maturity of our cubs was outstanding and I was amazed at how much confidence and poise they all returned with. Many parents have commented on this positive change and it's great to see Baden Powell's philosophy of 'Learning through doing' proving valuable today. A huge thank you must go out to our Cub leaders - Barb Allen & Tash Lema, who not only survived the event, but managed the Cubs beautifully.

Group Support Committee

Just over 12 months ago we saw the retirement of our former Group Leader, Gayle Whitaker, who tirelessly steered the group for over three years.

With the loss of Gayle, 1st Bentleigh was left without a key Leader, without a group support committee and facing closure should these roles not be filled.

November 2013 saw a limited but fresh group of faces step forward to fill these roles. Without so much as a group contact list at the start, this team has worked extremely hard and over the past year and have created some great momentum for us all. I'd personally like to thank the following people for their valued contributions.

Robert Waines – Chairman
Annie Niven – Treasurer
Lee Harvison & Janet Hulme – Building projects
Russell Lucas & Tabitha – Online
Chalotte Gorham – Fundraising
Carolyn Driscoll – Committee member
Colin Brown – Committee member

I cannot stress enough how important this committee is to the group. Every Scouting role is a voluntary one and without parental support the group cannot continue to deliver a quality program. In 2015 I'd like to invite you all to contribute to the 1st Bentleigh Scout Group community - please take the opportunity to help out when possible. The stronger our community, the better the program we can deliver.

We are currently seeking a new Chairman and a new Secretary for the committee. Neither roles are particularly demanding but crucial to our successful operation. We are also seeking general committee members who can help support the co-ordination of general duties. Please let me know if you have a couple of hours a month to support us.

Leadership Team

Over the year 1st Bentleigh have been very fortunate for the unwavering support and commitment from its leaders.

Chris Anderson – District Commissioner,
Gayle Whitaker – Former Group Leader
David Rotor – Rover Advisor,
Kelsey Lockhart-Gillett – Venturer leader,
Darren Thomas – Scout Leader,
Barb Allen – Cub Leader,
Tash Lema – Cub Leader.

Rod Walker – Assistant Cub Leader
Andrew Morrow – Assistant Cub Leader

Each leader puts in a lot of hours of training, planning and in delivering our program each week. I'd like to acknowledge them for their dedication and commitment in delivering a fantastic program.

A very special thank you goes out to **Gayle Whitaker** who retired at the end of 2013 after more than three years of service (despite not having any children in the group). Thank you Gayle, your efforts over the past years will be well remembered and valued by our community.

I'd also like to take this chance to show our appreciation of **Rod Walker** and **Andrew Morrow**. Rod & Andrew have made a great contribution to the Cub pack in supporting Barb and Tash and I'm sure you'll agree have been fun and friendly faces at Cubs week in, week out. Although they are standing down from their roles as assistant leaders, Andrew and Rod have made a commitment to help us with our equipment store and will support the group in organising camps and offsite experiences.

To help fill this gap, I'm very pleased to welcome **Tyler Redman**, a Hellsgate Rover who is coming on-board to help Barb and Tash. Tyler is a versed Scouter and brings many skills to the group. We welcome him to the pack.

Some other great news for 2015 is that as we see at least 10 cubs moving up into Scouts, I'm very pleased to welcome **Ashley James** as our new assistant Scout Leader. Ashley has not previously had any Scouting experience but is a hard working, personable and well rounded character. He creates some very welcome support for Darren who has run our Scout Troop single handedly for most of the year. Welcome Ashley!

Group Youth Numbers at Census

Each year at the 30th June, Scouts Australia benchmarks its population in a Census. It was great to see that in general our numbers are growing.

Cubs had increased from 14 to 25 including new chums yet to be invested.

Scouts have lost a couple of members who have come of age and numbers have reduced from 7 to 5. With that we will be welcoming 10+ cubs who will move into Scouts early 2015.

Our Venturers have also seen a number of members go through to Rovers leaving us with only 1 Venturer.

Hellsgate Rovers on the other hand are going very strong with at least 10 1st Bentleigh registered Rovers.

As our current resources preclude operating a Venturer unit our Venturer is being hosted by other Groups in the District.

Awards

2014 has been a year of getting our momentum going and despite not achieving any major awards amongst our members I am very pleased to recognise;

Barbara Allen – For achieving her Special Service Award.

Barbara is not only a Cub Leader but is also an active Member of our local SES. She is a very community minded person who spends much of her time for the betterment of others. In acknowledgement of this she has been awarded a "Special Service Award" for her contributions to the Scouting movement.

Barb we are all very proud of you and in awe of your dedication.

Major Events Attended

Amongst a number of camps and weekend pack holidays, members of the Cub Pack attended:

- District Founders Day – at the Melbourne Zoo
- Cuboree #8
- ANZAC Day Dawn Service

The Scout Troop had another action-packed year with Scout Patrols attending amongst other things:

- Stradbroke Cup
- Cohen Shield
- Gillweroo

Similarly our Rovers are extremely active attending a range of district committees and events such as:

- Surf moot 2014
- Mud bash 2014

Plans for 2015

2015 is looking to be a great year ahead with a continued focus on building our momentum, and planning for lots of fun and interesting activities for the group.

Our cub program is being planned as we speak and we hope to get all of our cubs qualified to 'Sleep under canvas'. This means that we as a pack are able to attend a larger range of camping activities.

With Scouts numbers growing considerably we will also be looking to ensure we get the troop underway with their badge work, as well as qualified for Jamboree 2016 (a national Scout camp not to be missed). The troop will be moving back to Victory Park Hall which will be familiar for all and run directly by Darren & Ashley. New Patrols will be established and the kids will be challenged in getting hands on in developing their own activities.

The Rovers have already created a focus for themselves and are planning to send at least 6 members over to Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand. Their intention is to connect with local Groups, stay with their families and get involved in local initiatives.

At a group level we will continue to focus on an energetic fundraising program including the *Scout Monster Raffle*, Sausage sizzles as well as a few group & extended family events such as a Trivia night.

If all goes well with our hall hires we plan to completely overhaul our camping equipment and look to invest in some exciting new equipment such as Canoes & Kayaks, Billy carts, abseiling gear, rock climbing wall etc.

These funds will also allow us to turn our attention to promoting the group and creating a real presence for ourselves in the community. Our current advertising campaign can be extended, attracting new members and quality leaders.

Key to 2015 will be a focus on building a sense of community within our group. We started the year without even so much as a contact list, by the end of 2015 we hope to have an active and engaged parent group who are all familiar with each other. Expect to be invited down on a cub night to help run some activities and get to know some of the other Mums and Dads.

Dads – You can look forward to a Father & child camp where you can test your camping abilities and see who fares better spending a night or two away from the comforts of home.

A Final Thank You

As my first year as Group Leader I have learnt a great deal and have appreciated the guidance of many people. I would particularly like to thank Chris Anderson – District Commissioner and all of our Leaders for their support in getting me up and running.

To all of our uniformed Leaders, without whom we would not have a group...Thank You. You are doing something so right! The Cubs, Scouts & Rovers are enjoying themselves so much and the credit really does belong with you.

I would also genuinely like to thank the Office bearers who have picked up the reins and worked tirelessly behind the scenes to turn this group around and create some fantastic momentum. Thank you for your commitment and success.

Last but not least I'd also like to thank all of the parents who have put their hands up to help out on camp, to sell raffle tickets, to paint walls, cook sausages and help out in any way you can. Thank you for the effort you have put in, to make your (and other peoples!) children have a great scouting experience.

Looking forward to an exciting and rewarding 2015

Yours in Scouting

James Horton

Group Leader

1st Bentleigh Scout Group

1st Bentleigh Treasurers Report

I am pleased to present the 2013-14 financial report for the 1st Bentleigh Scout Group.

Overall, we ended the financial year on a positive note with a small operational surplus of nearly \$560. The expenditure during the year was relatively standard, being principally census fees to Scouts Victoria, hall costs (insurance, rates, power, maintenance, etc) plus normal Scouting costs such as scarves and badges.

The small surplus is reflected in slightly increased assets in the balance sheet, bringing our net assets at 30 June 2014 to nearly \$12,000. Our assets are usually at their highest at 30 June since we have received fees for the year but not yet spent that money on maintaining the hall and Scouting activities.

As outlined in the Group Leader's Report, a major focus in the past financial year was the refurbishment of the Scout Hall. Although we received \$50,000 towards this refurbishment, we have also taken out a \$10,000 loan from Scouts Victoria, repayable over five years. We have also incurred around \$3,500 to have the ceiling painted – a job that we thought was better undertaken by professionals than parents!

Our hall hire income is likely to increase this year thanks to the renovations and we are actively pursuing these opportunities. However, we also need to continue our active fund raising to help us provide better facilities, equipment and experiences for our members and also to build up reserves to give us more flexibility in the future.

Yours in Scouting

Annie Niven

1st Bentleigh Treasurer

1st Bentleigh Scout Group

Victory Park, Patterson Road, Bentleigh

Annual Accounts 2014

1st Bentleigh Scout Group

POBox 2002
Moorabbin, Vic, 3189

Income and Expenditure Statement 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014

Income and Spending

Income Categories

	\$	\$
Fees 2013-14		
Cub Fees 2014	1,720.00	
Venturer Fees 2014	510.00	
Fees 2013-14 - Unassigned	720.00	
Total Fees 2013-14	<hr/>	2,950.00
Fees 2014-15		
Cub Fees 2014-15	6,124.00	
Rover Fees 2014-15	1,154.00	
Scout Fees 2014-15	1,155.00	
Venturer Fees 2014-15	1,205.00	
Total Fees 2014-15		9,802.00
Fund raising (net)		1,829.00
Hall Hire		1,330.00
interest		1.61
Total Income Categories		<hr/> 15,912.81

Expense Categories

Camp Outgoings	933.57
Census Fees 2013-14	1,571.00
Census Fees 2014-15	6,080.00
Hall Maintenance	728.57
insurance	2,332.72
Other	67.95
Post and stationery	138.20
Rates, Power & Water	2,608.22
Scarves & Badges	556.82
Training	100.00
Web hosting and iT	34.90
Xmas BBQ	201.94
Total Expense Categories	<hr/> 15,353.89

Excess of Income over Expenditure	<hr/> 558.92 <hr/>
--	---------------------------

1st Benteigh Scout Group

POBox 2002
Moorabbin, Vic, 3189

Statement of Financial Position 30 June 2014 (and prior year)

	30 June 2013	30 June 2014
Assets		
Bank and Cash Accounts		
Cub Pack Cheque Account	87.26	87.26
Fund Raising Account	3.21	3.30
Main Cheque Account (xxx3113)	14,089.58	14,260.34
Scout Troop Account (xx0074)	2,876.67	2,462.74
Total Bank and Cash Accounts	17,056.72	16,813.64
Other Assets		
Vic Scouts Raffle 2014	0.00	1,208.00
Total Assets	17,056.72	18,021.64
Liabilities		
Census Fees 2013-14	5,674.00	0.00
Census Fees 2014-15	0.00	6,080.00
Total Other Liabilities	5,674.00	6,080.00
Net Assets	11,382.72	11,941.64

Notes:

- 1 Only major accruals have been made.
- 2 At 30 June 2014, the Scout Hall was being refurbished with the majority of the costs being borne by Scouts Victoria. However, 1st Benteigh has agreed to pay \$10,000 over five years, being \$2,000 per annum. As there is no corresponding asset, the liability has not been shown.

1st Benteigh Scout Group

I have examined the books and supporting documents that form the basis of the Annual Financial Statements of the 1st Benteigh Scout Group for the year ending 30 June 2014. Recorded values for major classification of income and expenditure have been agreed to source documents. On the available evidence, I believe that the values recorded represent a true and fair record of the financial activities of the group for the stated financial period.



Roger Micalessi,

September 2014

1st Benteigh Scout Group Annual Report 2013-14

1st Bentleigh Cubs Report

Over the past 12 months the 1st Bentleigh cub pack has grown considerably with 6 new chums being invested at the end of last year and another 6 invested in term 1.

With the growing numbers of the pack Tash Lema has joined us as a leader and has almost completed her basic training. This ensures we have capacity for our numbers and that if one of us is unable to attend, cubs can still go ahead.

The end of this year we will be very proud to send 9 of our older cubs up to scouts with some great skills under their belt. By end of term 1 in 2015 we will also be seeing off another smaller group to join what will be a growing Scout group full of familiar faces. This means our Cub numbers will be dropping down to about 16 but we do not expect this to be for long with consistent new applications coming in.

In 2015 we will also be introducing a 3rd leader in Tyler Redman who was helping us while we were meeting at the Foch street hall. Tyler is a 'Hellsgate' Rover and brings some great skills and enthusiasm. We look forward to having Tyler as part of the Leadership team.

Highlights

In June the cubs had a great time camping at Clifford Park with 1st Central Moorabbin. They participated in a variety of activities such as bush walks, abseiling, the challenge valley obstacle course, archery, climbing the bouldering wall plus campfire games and sing along. We are looking at running this camp again in 2015.

Straight after camp a few of our cubs attended the district Bowling competition and came first. Well done guys.

In the second week of the September school holidays we sent seven 1st Bentleigh cubs to attend 'Cuboree 8' for 5 days at the Gilwell Scout Park in Gembrook. Our seven cubs and two leaders were part of the biggest cuboree to date with a total of 4,498 cubs attending, Venturers, rovers, leaders and adult helpers. The Cubs got to get muddy, have a water fight, see a great pantomime, meet Doctor Who (not the real one) play with sling shots, run through mazes, save Maid Marion and much much more. It was very busy, extremely tiring, but the best fun anyone could have on camp. I'm very proud to say that our Cubs did very well learning how to look after themselves and make the most of the amazing activities on offer.

In 2015 we are looking to do more fun and interesting activities for the cubs and to learn new things through our badge work program.

I would like to thank Tash, Andrew Morrow and Rodney Walker for all their help in organizing activities, helping run week nights, sleepovers and attending various other events. Also thank you to James Horton (Group Leader) and the parents committee for all their help and efforts.

Looking forward to a great 2015!

Barbara Allan

Akela

1st Bentleigh Scouts Report

Scout Section report

This year has seen a small, but enthusiastic troop, develop independence and leadership while participating in a diverse range of fun activities.

Camping skills were honed at Stradbroke Cup camp over Easter, where our scouts were judged on their camping abilities. The scouts planned their own menu for the weekend, did their own shopping (coming in on budget!), planned out and constructed their own campsite, cooked all their own meals and washed up! The scouts must have been paying attention earlier in the term when we conducted some camping training sessions. The scouts did extremely well on their camping skills and were awarded a Co-holder award, the highest possible.

During the winter we had plenty of fire-lighting practice, always followed by some marshmallow toasting. We joined with some other troops to do indoor rock climbing at Richmond, a great way to test your nerve!

For the last term of the year we will join with 1st central Moorabbin troop for our scout nights and camps like Cohen shield, as our numbers are a little low.

Next year we look forward to 10 new scouts coming up from Cubs in the first term and a few more in the Second. We also look forward to a new Assistant Scout Leader joining, please make Ashley James welcome.

On behalf of the scout troop I would like to thank James, our group leader, the parents committee and our scout parents for their ongoing support.

Regards

Darren Thomas

1st Bentleigh Scout Leader

Hellsgate Rovers Report

It's been a great year for Hellsgate Rover Crew in 2014. We've welcomed two new Rovers - Emma and Sam - and they're both in the midst of their Squire training. We've also had "Going Up" ceremonies for 4 Venturers, including 3 from the 1st Bentleigh Venturer Unit. Congratulations also to Tini and Shelley who were Squires at the start of the year and during the course of 2014 have become fully "Knighthood" members of Hellsgate. Erin also transferred from New South Wales and joined Hellsgate - just in time to win the Branch Chairman's Award! Sadly with new additions come some losses and we've also seen the "booting" of James and Lauren from the crew this year.

The crew as a whole has also seen some great successes throughout the year. We have had members travel to the national Moot in Western Australia, Victoria's major Rover events Surfmoort and Mudbash, and a few even ventured to the Sydney North Region Summer Moot. Our weekly programme has stayed diverse and representative of the Scouting Areas of Personal Growth, with activities ranging from Circus Skills to First Aid, Swing Dancing to Boot Camps and regular Blood Donations. For the second year in a row, Hellsgate was awarded the Glen Eira Stonnington District "Most Active Crew" award which is a great honour. The crew has also made a number of fundraising endeavours to raise money for renovations of our newly reacquired shed, crew jumpers and our own projector, as well as beginning to raise funds for a community service & cultural trip to South-East Asia in July 2015.

Members of the crew have been achieving great things inside and outside of Rovers with 4 members of our crew having completed Rover Advanced training and a majority of the crew now holding a Rover Basic training qualification. We've seen 3 members earn their St. George Award - the midpoint of the Rover Award Scheme on the way to their Baden-Powell Scout Award - and the majority of other members are progressing towards it. Outside of Roving we're proud to have members in leadership positions within other sections of Scouting, with Hellsgate Rovers in Venturer, Scout and Cub leadership roles within the district.

Ryan Muldoon

Hellsgate Rovers