



SCOUTS®
South Africa

Western Cape Scouter



Kon-Tiki 2019



Rayner 2019 winners



Upton 2019 winners



Kon-Tiki 2019 winners

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ISSUE 1 - June 2019

Editor's note



When I was approached by Nigel Forshaw who asked me whether I would consider being the editor of a new Scout's newsletter, at first I was not sure whether I should accept this challenge. Having been the editor of a scout newsletter for 7 years, I felt that this should have given me enough confidence in accepting this role.

The brief was that this was to be a newsletter aimed at scouters, while my previous task had been editor of a newsletter aimed at cubs, scouts, scouters as well as parents.

Would this newsletter would be well received by its readers and worth continuing and would I be happy in continuing being the editor for 2020?

It was decided that this year's three issues (June, September and December) would be a trial run.

Obviously this first issue (June 2019) is being compiled with the idea of finding out whether there would be

a positive response and also whether there would be enough articles and news from various scouters to make this newsletter worth producing and reading in the future.

Constructive criticism will make this newsletter better as we proceed. I will welcome and consider any changes/additions to the layout and contents.

I am a parent of a Springbok scout but was never a scout myself. Due to this lack of practical involvement, I rely heavily on the experience of contributors to this newsletter. Looking forward to hearing from you all.

The name of this newsletter is currently the "Western Cape Scouter". If you think of a better name, please let us know.

Contact details:
paddy.milner@scouts.org.za
saporetti.mauro@gmail.com
(editor)

Deadline for next issue is Friday
20th September
Mauro

Regional Commissioner's Reflection

Winter 2019

How exciting it is to be reflecting on Scouting in our Region for inclusion in a revived quarterly Adult leaders e-news magazine. We have a good email subscribers list in place and many more local WhatsApp type groups for communication. But the need for a more relaxed reading of what's happening in Western Cape Scouting has long been challenging us. When Mauro offered to act as editor-in-chief of a newsletter format quarterly 'e-magazine' we were delighted. This edition is the first of what we believe will become a very anticipated mailing each quarter.

We want the newsletter to highlight the action and excitement that Scouting is delivering to youth across our Scout groups. To share great ideas for games, activities and programs. To highlight what's coming, and celebrate what's happened. We want it to be a helpful addition to your scout leaders toolkit.

As a Region we are seeing growth in



youth members in a number of groups. Scouts Digital is tracking an upward trend and our Scouting in Schools project has both grown in stature and numbers, but also delivered some exciting spinoffs for our young interns and learners.

Properties are a big administrative and security challenge, yet the growing usage and popularity of our facilities with members and non-members alike has been a pleasant result of the strong focus on offering a 'good, clean, working and comfortable' experience for our users. Read inside how the new tents for hire project has benefitted hirers.

Finances in a fee based organisation will always be a challenge. The Regional focus on balanced

Regional Commissioner's Reflection

budgets and tight control on spend, but investing in needed equipment and facilities has with the help of donors and members brought about refurbished halls, a fully equipped obstacle course, the new bridges at Hawequas and a buildup in reserves.

Looking ahead we will continue to consolidate membership data in Scouts Digital (17 units still to complete their take on data), as well as grow the courses offered for youth members around the LDC 1 & 2 introductions and water activities.

As we move into mid winter it is time to challenge all Groups to ensure you are doing your 'good turn' to

those less fortunate via Soup challenges involving the whole Group, blanket collecting, pet care or environmental cleanups and education around especially plastic usage.

Lastly, let's make 2019 an admin efficient year, get your census return in on time, have your first round star awards assessment by July, blow your parents away with a rocking AGM, and strive for those elusive Leaping Wolf and 1st class badges - and in between all of that keep the purple visible in your hood!

Happy Scouting
Paddy

Springbok Scouts

We congratulate our recent Springbok Scouts who are:

Hanna Ashley-Cooper
Thomas Barker
Maryka Bewee
James Bowden
Kyle Cato
Jamie Fraser
Thomas Goemans
Robyn-Anne Hyslop

1st Durbanville
1st Mossel Bay
1st Knysna
1st Bergvliet
3rd Pinelands
6th Rondebosch
1st Bergvliet
2nd Bergvliet

Laura Kingston
Thomas Leach
Christopher MacDonald
Jonathan O'Callaghan
Neil Smith
Connor Stockdale
Dirk Troost
Andre Truter

2nd Bergvliet
2nd Bergvliet
1st Bergvliet
2nd Fish Hoek
1st George
2nd Bergvliet
1st Hermanus
2nd Rondebosch

Leadership Development Course 1

Attending the LDC1 course is one of the optional activities that a Scout can participate in that counts towards the Traveller advancement badge. It is a course where the use of the Patrol System and a small group of Scouts in a Patrol under the leadership of a Patrol Leader, is highlighted. The course is almost like a Troop Meeting except it starts in the early morning and finishes in the late afternoon.

This was the first time the course was to be run in the Western Cape Region so I contacted Jearóid Harris from the Gauteng Region who had previously run the course and who was very helpful in passing on the Gauteng programme to the Western Cape Region. The programme comprised registering, falling in, an icebreaker ball game, a Patrol Meeting demo and orienteering exercise, a Scout Law and Promise game, the role of the APL and other Patrol members, Patrol Camp/Activities paperwork (permissions, permits, consent forms, transport, invites, etc.), pioneering lashings, menus, shopping lists and budgets. The day finished off with a fun chariot race which requires pioneering construction. It was so noticeable

and delightful to see all the smiles and laughs on the faces of the Scouts during the race.

The course was a great success with 87 junior Scouts attending in 12 Patrols, all lead by a senior Scout. Scouts earned the LDC1 badge which is worn on the Scout uniform where the Interest badges go. The course was quite challenging to run for so many Scouts but issues relating to this were thought about beforehand and overcome.

Ideally, I would like to see LDC1 being run at District level, as well as Regional. District Commissioners are being encouraged to put LDC1 into their District programme.

Thanks go to Peter Otzen, Jason Raad, Cedric Pienaar, Petra Botes, Jamie Stewart, Daniel Middleton, Gershwin Botes, Byron Kingwill, Ewan Blamire, Mia Ehlers, Taylor Williams, Dayton Charles, Oliver Murphy, Andrew Venter, Jamie Fraser, Justin Cheney, Caden Sampson, Mika Wessels, Rebecca Sparg and Robyn Hyslop for staffing, acting as Patrol leaders or Patrol Quartermasters. Thanks to 1st Bergvliet for allowing the use of their Scout hall.

Leadership Development Course 1

Now for the LDC2 course to be run in July 2019.

Nigel Forshaw
RTC Scout Programme – WCape



Training Talk



Adult leader training is a critical support function provided for all Scouters and adults who assist in the Movement. The team of volunteers run a range of courses from the Stage 1 Introduction to Adult Leadership to Stage 3 The Wood Badge. Specialist courses like First Aid, Cub Camping, Jungle Book and Mountain Awareness give Scouters the skills

needed to safely deliver exciting programs.

Additionally hands on Workshops for Committees cover key aspects of running a group and optimising resources. Around 25 Nationally registered courses are presented in the year. The Stage 3 Wood Badge is the aspired level of training for all Scouters.

The symbol of training is the axe and log logo, which was used as above in the 2019 annual membership badge to celebrate the Wood Badge Centenary.

Scouts' Properties

HOLDERNESS ROAD HALL

This property is based in Kenwyn . We are currently upgrading the outside of the property, thanks to a generous donation of R25000 from the Abe Bailey Trust. This is fully owned by Scouts SA (Western Cape). 1st Belvedere Scout Group are busy relocating from 124 Belvedere Road (currently Scouts HQ South Africa) into this property. We have replaced all the facias/eaves/gutters and downpipes as well as refurbishing and painting of all the metal windows. We still need to replace the 8 small windows on the north facing wall.



BELVEDERE ROAD HALL (HQ SCOUTS SA)

This is a leased hall and we are currently waiting for the lease to be renewed. HQ will be occupying the entire hall as from the end of June 2019. We are busy with minor repairs and will undertake major renovations once the new lease is received.

1st STRAND SCOUT GROUP

This is also a fully owned property. We are busy looking to develop this into a regional camping ground should current negotiations prove successful.

GILRAY

We are on a month to month lease with the COCT. Our future is uncertain hence the lack of funds to develop the property.

Scouts' Properties

APPLETON CAMP SITE SIGNAL HILL

The future of this camp site is rather uncertain. After more than 60 years of occupation by the Scouts, SANParks seem reluctant to want to renew our lease. However, the camp site is still very popular and well used.

SCOUT HUT ON TOP OF TABLE MOUNTAIN

Thanks to Thomas Shrick and his team, the hut is in a very good condition and perhaps one of our most popular and well used facility.

HAWEQUAS SCOUT ADVENTURE CENTRE - WELLINGTON

Hawequas has seen many milestone recently. For the past four years we have been working on making Hawequas legal – we have needed to reconcile building plans to municipal records. After a lot of work all buildings had plans draughted and these were submitted for approval. Council eventually came back to us and informed us that we had too many beds and toilets to be a farm! We were advised that we needed to re-zone the farm, which has been a very lengthy process; many professionals gave us help and yes, finally we have been re-zoned as an Open Space 3 category – a Private Nature Reserve! We will soon have a competition to get to a new name that will incorporate the words "Private Nature Reserve". Watch this space! We can now submit plans for new buildings we want to build: the first



will be the Terrace Ablution Block, that will also have a communal kitchen and a covered dining/events area. We are hoping to start on this project still this year.

A lot of homework is being done on creating a brief for a new Barn building, incorporating a big kitchen, accommodation, store rooms and an office – this is an exciting project.

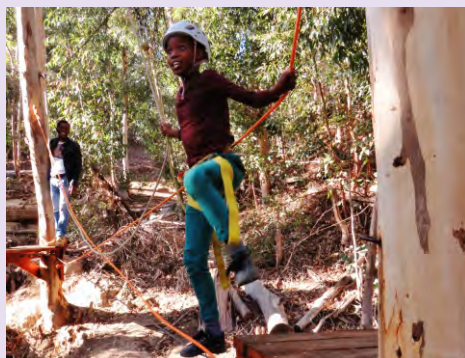
The usage of Hawequas is increasing dramatically, which is wonderful to see but still only 10%

Scouts' Properties

of Hawequas is being used, there is so much more that can be done here, get out and explore! To help with the exploring we will soon be erecting our Adirondack Shelter up in the saddle next to the koppie – you will be able to do a two-night hike without leaving Hawequas boundaries! We are working on a helicopter airlift.

The MTB Cycle Trails have now been mapped; the map is on display at the entrance to Hawequas. One can now do a 22 km trail on a circular route from Hawequas. You can pay by using Snapscan for a riding/running permit. We have a full set of Harnesses, "Cowtails" and Helmets which you can hire so that you can use the Ropes Course – This equipment needs to be booked with your booking of Hawequas.

We have 6 x full patrol kits now, with gas and all the cooking equipment a patrol needs, as well as 10 x 6 person Dome tents. We have now had over a 1000 nights spent in these tents! Apart from all the Scouting events happening at Hawequas, we will be having a three day stage trail race being run from Hawequas in September – these



events bring us very good revenue, which we need to keep upgrading Hawequas and being able to continue eradicating alien vegetation on our reserve.

I need to thank our Property Committee for all the support and all the kind donors who continue to support us. We always have projects on the go at Hawequas, so scouts are always welcome to contact me to find out how you can help; come spend time over your holidays getting to grips with your Hawequas Scout Adventure Centre.



Rayner Trophy 2019



When I agreed to be Rayner Chief Judge, I saw it as an opportunity to link my Woodbadge project of introducing Scouts to my topic of environmental ethics by using Leave No Trace (LNT) as my theme.

As part of my LNT goals, I worked the theme into all aspects of the competition.

Bases had markers stating one of the seven principles.

Several bases had direct associations to one or more of the principles.

STA's had one or more of the principles worked into them.

The route was designed to leave no impact.

The scouts were made aware



from the start that there were penalties for scouts or patrols leaving a trace or impacting the environment.

Rayner Trophy 2019

For day 1 the route was from Bain's Kloof Pass across Canetsfontein to Hawequas Scout Adventure Centre where we camped for the night.

For day 2 a circular route in the Dal Josaphat Forest Reserve took the scouts up the mountain to just below the Du Toits Kloof Pass and back to Hawequas. A total distance of approximately 20km was covered in the two days.

With the help of Nigel Forshaw I introduced the City Nature Challenge 2019 as an STA. Each team had to use the iNaturalist app that had been pre-installed on their cell phone to record at least one or more plants, animals or fungi that they found on the route by taking a photograph and uploading it to the web using the app.

Other activities included, rucksack weigh in, uniform inspection, first aid incident that required treating the patient and a stretcher, hanking a rope, knotting, cloud identification, water rescue, plaster cast, cooking supper, height



estimation, morse code, soap carving, BP crossword, Naismith's rule, whipping, plaiting a woggle, axemanship, carry rescue, mapwork, and a darts blowpipe challenge amongst others not mentioned here.

The LNT theme for Rayner 2019 made an impact on scouts during the competition and for the most part, maintained a high level of cooperation in adhering to the LNT principles. I have noted a higher environmental ethics awareness with the scouts that participated in Rayner at other events.

Congratulations to 1st Claremont for coming 1st and 2nd and thus retaining the Rayner Trophy. Very well done to 6th Rondebosch for

Rayner Trophy 2019

coming 3rd. Full results can be found at

<https://westerncape.scouts.org.za/2019/03/05/rayner-trophy2019>.

Being Chief Judge has given me a new appreciation of how it takes the efforts of many to help give a positive experience for our scouts on competitions. I am extremely grateful for the support of all the judges who volunteered their time because without them there would be no competition.

David Bosch
Rayner Chief Judge



Upton Shield 2019

The Upton Shield is a day hiking competition for junior Scouts under the age of 14½. This year it took place at the Helderberg Nature Reserve at Somerset West.

Congratulations to 2nd Bergvliet for winning the competition.

1st Claremont came second. In joint third were 1st Claremont (a different team), Durbanville Kraaifontein and 6th Rondebosch.



Cape Town City Nature Challenge

The Western Cape Scouts took part in the recently held Cape Town City Nature Challenge. This is a world wide citizen science challenge where Scouts installed the iNaturalist app on their cell phone and then took photographs of their observations of birds, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, fish, molluscs, arachnids, insects, plants, fungi and protozoa. Some people preferred to use digital cameras and then uploaded photos to the iNaturalist website. 159 cities took part.

The Western Cape Cubs and Scouts did a fantastic job in contributing almost 10% of all the data that Cape Town submitted. Cubs and Scouts who submitted 10 or more observations earned the Cape Town City Nature Challenge event badge which may be worn on the uniform.

The great news is that Cape Town won two out of the three categories. We had the most observations at 53,775 and the most number of species recorded at 4587. This was a stunning result that blew the minds of the organisers. Scouts SA contributed!

The City of Cape Town recognized contributors at an awards evening at the City Hall. Emily Vergeer and

Therese-Anne Goemans submitted the most observations for Cubs. Kaylee and Luke Fittock

submitted the most observations for Scouts. Gunther Henshilwood and I received awards for organising Cubs and Scouts to take part in the challenge.

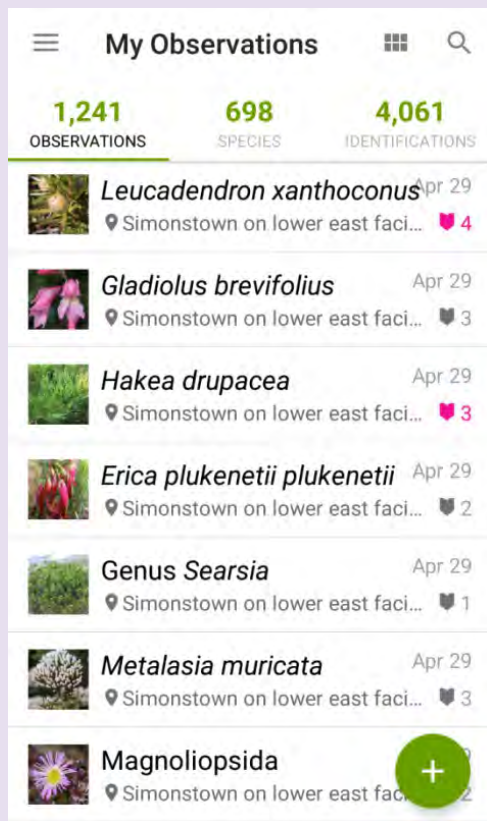
You are encouraged to use iNaturalist as a tool to assist in citizen science and widen the knowledge of Cubs and Scouts. Use the iNaturalist cell phone app or go to www.inaturalist.org. For more information have a look at westerncape.scouts.org.za/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2019/02/Cape-Town-City-Nature-Challenge.pdf.

Cape Town is going to defend its title in 2020 so be on the lookout for more iNaturalist fun. Two tentative dates are already in the 2020 online diary.

Nigel Forshaw
RTC Scout Programme –
Western Cape



Cape Town City Nature Challenge



Gilwell Reunion 2019



Woodbadge training has been offered by scouting for 100 years. Save the date Saturday 07 September 2019 for this special 1st Gilwell Troop reunion celebration.

All Woodbadge holders remain lifelong members of the Gilwell Troop and are invited to attend. Full details will be given when the invitations are sent out on Scouters mailing list.

Kon-Tiki 2019



by **Angela Lee-Wright**

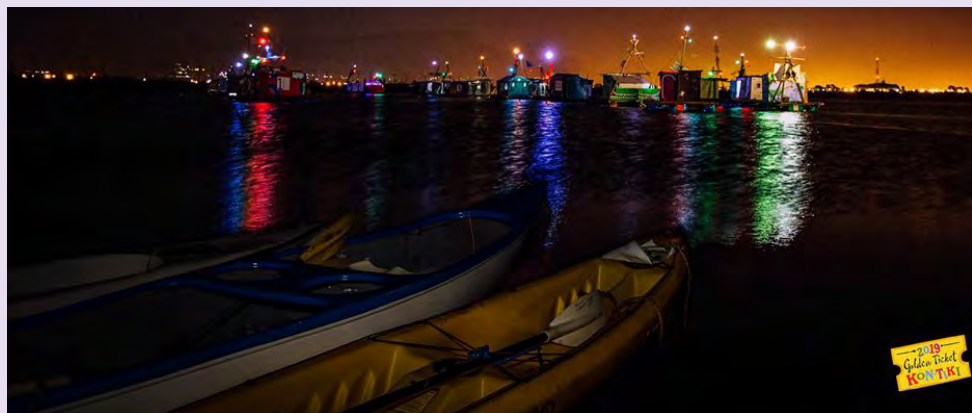
Kon-Tiki 2019 was a splendifirous affair with 22 Raft Crew entries, 40 Fringe Teams and more than 50 judges from around the Western Cape taking part in an exciting weekend. With "The Works of Roald Dahl" as this year's theme, we were graced with some truly magical costumes and huts: from witches to giants, Willy Wonka and his oompa loompas, to a library of books, an ENORMOUS crocodile, talking animals and more, it was a feast for the eyes!

Even though Kon-Tiki started a little later this year, we were blessed with magnificent weather all weekend. The base was a hum of activity as construction of the rafts commenced promptly at 3pm.

Much camaraderie and excitement abounded within and between groups as construction continued well into the night, ending at 11pm. Campers and Boatshed-dwellers turned in shortly after as Kon-Tiki Saturday always promises an early start with many activities taking place in every aspect of the competition.

Construction of the rafts and huts recommenced at the crack of dawn. As the new day set in, Groups banded together to finish their construction in time so as not to lose valuable points. Judges began the ever-important task of safety judging, as huts were being assembled all around the Base. Spectators from the community came down to marvel at the feat achieved by the Scouts, from the

Kon-Tiki 2019



solid construction of the rafts, to the creative decor of the huts and theme items to the impressive costumes from the magical world of Roald Dahl. It was a pleasure to announce that all constructions were awarded "A" grade Seaworthy Certificates.

Parade was a whizzpopping affair as each group paraded their time and effort spent on really magnificent costumes. It was nice to see a significant group of Cubs enjoying the Parade this year as a new Cub Competition was implemented in 2019. This we hope to continue in years to come. Chief Judge, Dave Roux officially opened the

competition and the adventure began.

Rafts were launched into the Bay with the safety crew doing an exemplary job and STAs were distributed without further ado. Kon-Tiki 2019 had begun! The rafts were anchored in the bay for 24hrs in a water-world type village. Raft crew members hunkered down and



Kon-Tiki 2019



engaged their creative juices to deliver a high standard of work. This year the Fringe competition ensured that the rest of the Scouts were kept on their toes with activities such as volleyball, kneeboarding, tug-of-war and an obstacle course. We even enjoyed an indoor campfire on Saturday night!.

Parents also got to take part, by cooking up a storm and practising their Master Chef skills for the Bob Bell Cooking Trophy. Needless to say that the Sea Scout Base became a true Scouting village. The Fringe Teams enjoyed some Night Activities while the Raft Crews stayed up all night, managing their time as best as they could in order to

get their tasks finished on time.

Sunday kicked off with a bang with the much-loved tender race. Frying pans and missing oars made it quite a spectacle that was enjoyed by all. Runners and enthusiastic group members took part in the annual Cross Country race with winners bringing great prestige to their groups. Spectators were able to view the final STAs constructed by the Raft and Fringe teams as Sunday drew down to a close. Rafts were pulled back to shore and dismantled with tired, disheveled but happy Scouts assisting or resting on the banks of the vlei.



Kon-Tiki 2019



Congratulations to 1st Bergvliet for winning the Raft Competition, 1st Durbanville for winning the Fringe



Competition and 2nd Bergvliet for winning the Cub Competition.



1st Durbanville - Fringe Competition



2nd Bergvliet - Cub Competition



1st Bergvliet - Raft Competition

Kon-Tiki 2019



Kon-Tiki 2019 - Cubs



Awards Ceremony



Milly Siebrits (CEO Scouts SA) and the Western Cape Region Management team



Awards were held at 1st Monte Vista Scout Hall



Springbok Scouts being recognized



Opening prayer



Nimmy Abrahams, our MC



Paddy Milner, Regional Commissioner addressing the audience



Jana Lorenz and Christian Reimers, Scouts SA German volunteers



Rory Rochat receiving the Silver Cross for Gallantry