



1st BEDFORDVIEW SCOUT TROOP

DISA ROAD, BEDFORDVIEW

PO BOX 16117
DOWERGLEN
1612

1 May 2011
Ref: Troop 2011/04

Re: Winter Programme

Dear scouts and parents



I trust that you all had a pleasant Easter break and that you are all feeling well-rested and ready for the remainder of the year.

Congratulations to Tona Mutsimura who won our Easter Raffle. The Raffle raised some R1 500,00 which will go towards the funds for the upcoming Jamboree.

The troop has also done very well at recent district events. A second place was obtained at the District Gala run at the Edenvale Municipal pool. The scoring went right down to the wire with the infamous "sabotage" event costing the troop gold at the last moment. Congratulations to 1st Hellenic on winning the event and to all those scouts who swam for the troop and managed to keep our flag flying high.

The troop fared better at the District Challenge. A light drizzle did not dampen the scout's spirits and the troop managed to send two patrols to answer Kengray's challenge at Paintball City.

1st Bedfordview at the Gala

Many bruises later one patrol had won the event and the second patrol had tied with a Kengray patrol for second place. This means that we need to issue the challenge for next year, so start chatting with your PL and let him know what sort of fun activity you would like to see run next year.

The troop did not enter the District Competition Camp this year, and accordingly forfeited the right to challenge for the trophy. Hopefully we will be back next year to show the rest of the District a thing or two about camping.



Brandon at the District Challenge

be prepared....

Troop Scouter:
Assistant Troop Scouters:

Andrew Campbell 084 758 4189 (advcampbell@mwebbiz.co.za)
Mark Brown 082 788 0139 (Mark.brown@mweb.co.za)
Warrick Muller 076 153 9291 (wmuller!@oldmutualpfa.com)

Kontiki on TV:

Tomorrow (2 May 2011) at 19h30, 50/50 (SABC 2) will be broadcasting an item on Kontiki 2011. All scouts who attended the event (and even those who did not) should keep an eye out on this in case some of our scouts have made it onto the small screen. Who knows, this may be the start of a career in TV!

Kim Shield 2011:

Your PL has been given information on the upcoming Kim Shield event run by Gauteng Province. The top-secret venue will be somewhere in the Magaliesberg and the event will take place from 14 – 15 May 2011.

Kim Shield is a fun competition between patrols from throughout Gauteng. Participants spend the Saturday and Sunday hiking between bases designed to test scouting skills. There is plenty of interaction between troops and if you enjoy events like Kontiki you will definitely enjoy Kim Shield.



Entries close on 6 May 2011 and entries are limited to 50 patrols. Most places have already been taken so if you are keen on attending talk to your PL as quickly as possible to avoid disappointment.

District Boot Hike:

Your PL has also been given information on the upcoming District Boot Hike, scheduled to be held at Saddle Creek on the evening of 3 June 2011.

It seems that Bear Grylls, the Chief Scout of the UK, has gone missing in the area and your patrol has been challenged to try and locate him and save the day by proving that you are the "Ultimate Survivor". Patrols need to be at the venue by 16h00 on the Friday evening and you will be finished by 08h00 on the Saturday morning.

The hike is open to the entire Northrand District, so this is once again an excellent way to interact with scouts from other troops.

Entries for this competition also close on 6 May 2011 so please let your PL know if you can attend this event ASAP. Patrols need to comprise of at least four members from a standing patrol, so we need as many scouts as possible to attend in order to be able to compete.



UK Chief Scout Bear Grylls needs your help!

Cub Night Hike:

It is time again for the annual cub night hike. Further details will be provided closer to the time, but if you have any ideas for a fun base for the cubs please chat to your PL.

The hike will be run on 27 May 2011 and will probably take place at SAHETI School in Bedfordview.

Patrol Camps:

All four patrols recently went on patrol hikes. Kudu and Wildebeest explored the Vredefort Dome, Sable went to Suikerbosrand and Springbok braved inclement weather to conquer the Suikerboschfontein Hiking Trail near Carolina.

Early in June the patrols will once again be off on their own as they embark on patrol camps. Please keep the weekend of 10 – 12 June open as it is very important that the PLs run successful patrol camps as part of the run-up to the World Jamboree.

Springbok has already organised a campsite in the Natal Midlands and the other three patrols are also busy organising venues. Chat to your PLs for more information on your patrol camp.

Events in the More Distant Future:

It is never too early to start preparing for the future, and two exciting events are on the distant horizon which you may want to consider.

Firstly there is a troop holiday scheduled for 9 – 13 December 2011. These dates are subject to change, but I would appreciate input from all the scouts in order to ensure an event which can be enjoyed by all, with the maximum attendance possible.



The Court of Honour has requested a trip to Durban. There is a scout campsite in Morningside in Durban and I would like to make a booking as quickly as possible if there is sufficient interest.

Should a trip to Durban not be possible, the Court of Honour has requested a trip to Mafikeng, the birthplace of scouting. A scout centre has been built in the town and an adjacent game farm allows scouts the opportunity to track game such as rhinoceros with professional trackers.

Preparing to take on Kengray in the finale of the Challenge

The biggest factor of the trip will be cost and a five day trip will probably cost in the region of R700,00 per scout. Prices are obviously vary according to the petrol price and the number of scouts attending, but hopefully this will allow parents to have a rough idea of what the trip will cost. At the end of this letter is a reply form which should be returned by no later than 27 May 2011. The format and dates of the trip will be determined according to your responses on this form, so please respond promptly.

The second event is scheduled for December 2012. Every two years the Senior Scout Adventure is run in the Cedarberg Mountains for eleven days. This event is only open to scouts who are 15 and older and who hold the Adventurer Advancement Badge. Man-sized activities like parasailing, abseiling, flying, paintballing, skeet-shooting and 4 x 4ing are only part of the biggest scout adventure in South Africa.

Several scouts in the troop will be of the right age to attend, but currently lack the advancement to go on this exciting adventure. If you are keen on attending please let me know so that we can start working on your advancement to get you up to speed.

Upcoming Events at a glance:

May

- 6 Scouts reopens
Closing date for Kim Shield and District Boot Hike Entries
- 14 – 15 Kim Shield
- 27 Cub Night Hike

June

- 3 District Boot Hike
- 10 – 12 Patrol Camps
- 25 Group Fun Day

July

- 16 Departure for World Jamboree

August

- 8 Return from World Jamboree

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in scouting

Andrew Campbell

REPLY SLIP – 2011 TROOP HOLIDAY

Name: _____

1. I would be able to attend a troop holiday on: (you can mark several options)

9 – 13 December	14 – 18 December	15 – 18 December	15 – 19 December
-----------------	------------------	------------------	------------------

2. I would prefer to attend a troop holiday on: (choose only one option)

9 – 13 December	14 – 18 December	15 – 18 December	15 – 19 December
-----------------	------------------	------------------	------------------

3. I would be prepared to spend the following on the troop holiday per scout:

R600 – R700	R700 – R750	R750 - R800	R800 – R900
-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

4. I think the troop holiday should be _____ days long:

A weekend	3 days	4 days	5 days
-----------	--------	--------	--------

5. Please put down any other comments about the holiday that you might feel should be considered: _____
