

# 1<sup>st</sup> BEDFORDVIEW SCOUT TROOP

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Ref: Troop 2011/05

## Re: General News

Dear scouts and parents

### 22<sup>nd</sup> World Scout Jamboree:

Robert Jones, Ashton Du Toit, Dean Theron, Robin Serafino, Mark Brown and I have just returned from the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Scout Jamboree in Sweden, where we formed part of a proud SA contingent of 134.

The Jamboree was preceded by a tour of Germany. Highlights of this tour included a cruise on the Rhine, exploring Marksberg Castle, climbing to the top of Colgne Cathedral, completing a tree-top obstacle course 20m off the ground in Schwindelfrei, visiting the Volkswagen factory in Wolfberg, exploring Berlin and attending a Medieval feast.



**Setting up camp in southern Sweden**

We were then hosted for three days by Danish scouts. The contingent split up at this point, some scouts experiencing the delights of Copenhagen, others visiting Hamlet's castle in Helsingor. In addition to learning how to camp like Danes, we learnt about Danish ecology and culture, how to survive in the wilds of Denmark and Danish scout games like "stick" (ask Ashton or Robin).



**Dinner with Dutch scouts**

We then took a ferry to the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Scout Jamboree and joined 40 000 other scouts in the cultural experience of a lifetime. From camping in Norwegian tee-pees to sharing dinner with the Dutch, to dancing and piping in the Irish house and seeing ABBA live, the scouts had an absolute ball. Imagine popping your head out of your tent and seeing King Gustav of Sweden or Bear Grylls walking around? Several members of the SA contingent experienced just that. (Both celebrities now have Springbok woggles to prove it!)

On the Jamboree participants had an opportunity to experience cooking from over 150 countries, to see cultural dances and displays, to make friends from around the world and to trade items with thousands of scouts. (One of the Bedfordview scouts now has a set of Welsh underwear. Do not ask me why!)



**Troop Scouter:**  
**Assistant Troop Scouters:**

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Ashton Du Toit in particular has been raving about the Jamboree and insists that every scout needs to attend one during his scouting career! That being said, if you are between ten and fourteen the chances are that you will be the right age to attend the World Jamboree in 2015, to be hosted by Japan. Start saving now!

Congratulations:

A very warm welcome to Connor Schoeman, Andrew Hull, Gabriel Douglas and Craig Ransom who were recently invested as members of the troop. Congratulations! We trust that you will have many full and enjoyable years with the troop on your path to Springbok.

Congratulations must also be extended to Brandon Els, Jarred Els and Keegan Reynolds who recently completed their Swimmers badges, to Ashton Du Toit on completing his Map Reading Scoutcraft Badge, to Connor Schoeman for completing his Swimming Scoutcraft Badge, to Ashton Du Toit, Robert Jones, Dean Theron and Robin Serafino on completing their First Class badges and to William Booysen on achieving his Silver Recruiters badge.

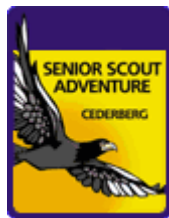
Keep up the good work all of you!



**Proudly South African!!!**

Cederberg 2012:

It may seem very early to start looking towards 2012, but those scouts who will be between the ages of 15 and 18 in December 2012 should start considering whether or not you want to attend the National Senior Scout Adventure, held bi-annually in the Cederberg Mountains.



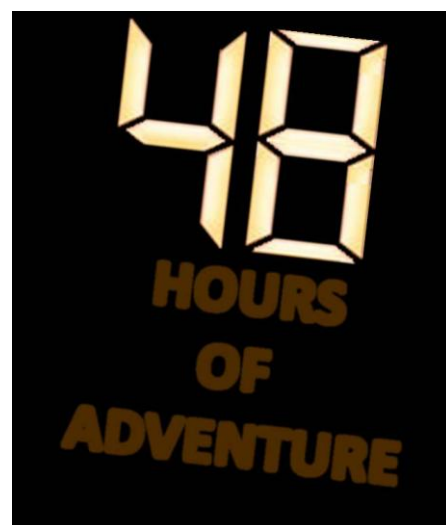
Participants will need to hold at least the Adventurer advancement badge. The Adventure is normally 11 days long and takes place just before Christmas. Activities on past adventures have included flying, parasailing, water skiing, paintballing, skeet shooting, a 4 x 4 adventure course, archery, scuba or hooka diving, abseiling and much more. The troop normally travels down to Cape Town a few days before the adventure to take in the sights of the city before taking a bus to the Cederberg (about 200km north of Cape Town). If you are interested please let me know and start looking at your advancement!

Cooking and Pioneering Competitions:

A weekend of adventure will be taking place from 23 to 25 September at the Edenvale Quarry. In addition to the pioneering and cooking competitions, a series of fun events will be taking place, including water activities and an orienteering event.

The cost for the event is R100,00 per patrol. This excludes food, which will be catered for by each patrol.

The closing day for entries for this event is Friday (19 August) so if you are interested in attending please let your PL know ASAP (ie before Friday) so we can determine if we have enough scouts to enter. Your PL has more information on the event, so chat to him if you want to find out more.



### Troop Hike:

The troop hike scheduled for 2 – 4 September is being moved one week later to the weekend of 9 – 11 September.

The estimated cost of the hike will be R260 per person, which will include transportation, trail fees and accommodation but which will not include food. The hike will probably take place in either the eastern Transvaal or the eastern Free State. The hike will be discussed at the Court of Honour on Monday and it would be appreciated if anyone interested in the hike can let their PL know on Friday to assist with planning. If you would like to do a specific hike please also chat to your PL.

### Star Patrol Evaluations:

It is almost time again for the Star Patrol and Star Troop evaluations to be completed. Due to the hard work of the PLs it should be possible for all of the patrols to achieve at least a bronze award, but patrols must ensure that they sort out their dens, attendance records and other similar items prior to the end of September to ensure that you receive the award which you are entitled to.

### Troop Holiday:

A huge thanks to those of you who submitted your reply slips as requested. Further information on the troop holiday will be forthcoming shortly. The majority of scouts who returned their forms favoured the holiday taking place from 9 to 13 December 2011 and these dates will probably be the final dates for this event. The venue of the holiday will depend on prices, but I am hopeful for a trip to Durban at this stage.

### Upcoming Events at a glance:

#### **September**

9 – 11 Troop Hike  
23 – 25 Northrand District Cooking and  
Pioneering Competitions  
30 Star Patrol evaluations

#### **October**

7 – 9 Troop Camp  
15 – 16 PLTC (by invitation only)

#### **November**

4 Group AGM  
26 District Go-cart competition

#### **December**

2 Last meeting of the year  
3 White Stripe Dinner  
9 – 13 Troop Holiday



**Aerial commando course at Schwindelfrei!**

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

Yours in scouting

Andrew Campbell