



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

DISA ROAD, BEDFORDVIEW

[www.1stbedfordview.org.za](http://www.1stbedfordview.org.za)

GPS Co-Ordinates: 26° 10' 12" S 28° 08' 29" E

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Ref: Troop 2012/06

## Re: General News

Dear scouts and parents

### Backwoodsman Camp Feedback:

A handful of scouts recently braved the winter cold to pit themselves against the worst the elements could throw at them at the bi-annual survival camp held at Gilbanken.

Shortly after hiking into camp the scouts showed that they were up to the challenge by setting up shelters and purifying water to drink. Then it was off to look for some edible plants and to clean some chickens for dinner.



**Craig emerges from his shelter**

After dinner the scouts undertook a gruelling hike through thornveld back to their camp, navigating by the stars. Although the wind was howling the thick grass of the shelters helped to keep away the worst of the cold.

Cooking eggs for breakfast is no easy task when you have no utensils and no matches to light a fire, but ingenuity and skill helped make sure that the scouts did not go hungry. Finally a slap-up lunch awaited the survivors before they returned to the hall.

The scouts who successfully completed the camp can give themselves a pat on the back. This was no "Survivor" with a tropical setting, plentiful fish in the sea and a gushing stream nearby. I doubt if many of their colleagues from school would have done as well as the survivors from Bedfordview did, and they will all hopefully have proof of their achievements on their arm soon. Keegan Reynolds and Craig Ransom already sport Survival Scoutcraft badges on their arms and I am confident that the other survivors will have something on their arms too in the not too distant future.

Will you be man enough to meet the challenge at the next survival camp?

### 702 Walk the Talk:

Several members and friends of the troop will be taking part in the 702 "Walk the Talk" event this weekend. Participants should have already received an email from me (if you have not, please contact me). Race numbers etc will be available for collection at scouts on Friday, alternatively they can be collected by prior arrangement with me.



be prepared....

Troop Scouter:

Andrew Campbell 084 758 4189 ([advcampbell@mwebbiz.co.za](mailto:advcampbell@mwebbiz.co.za))

SASA has asked that all scouts wear full scout uniform for the event. If this is not possible, will participants please wear their troop golf shirts with their scarves. Could all scouts also please wear their troop caps to the event.

Well done to all those who are taking part in this challenge.



#### World Scarf Day:

On 1 August 2012 scouts and former scouts from around the world will be wearing their scout scarves as a way of boosting the image of scouting.

I am issuing a challenge to all scouts to wear their scarves on this day and to take a picture of you with your scarf on doing something awesome to draw attention to yourself. The best picture will be included in the next troop newsletter and will win a slab of chocolate.

#### Boys Weekend Away:

Sometimes guys need time to get away from moms, wives, sisters and daughters and to spend some time with the *manne*. With this in mind, there will be a “Boys Weekend Away” from 31 August 2012 to 2 September 2012, which will replace the troop hike currently scheduled for 17 – 19 August 2012.

The weekend will take the form of a hike and is open to all scouts, brothers, fathers, uncles, rovers and other interested friends of the troop who enjoy some time in the great outdoors. Due to the physical nature of the activity planned, the weekend is regrettably only open to guys over the age of 10 ½. People interested in the weekend should be aware that the hike is being run under the auspices of scouting and unacceptable behaviour, including drunkenness, will not be tolerated. The troop reserves the right to refuse any person entry to the event.

Application has been made for the troop to hike the pristine Kaapschehoop Hiking Trail in Mpumalanga. Warmer weather should have returned by then and the new spring growth should make for an awesome weekend away. The estimated cost of the hike is R105 per person per night, but this is in the process of being confirmed by the trail managers. This cost excludes food and transport to the venue. Once we have a better idea of numbers we will look at sharing vehicles with a view keeping petrol costs at a minimum. In the event that our application to hike the trail is unsuccessful, a similar trail will be booked for the weekend.



Dean and Robin in their “backwoodsman” wardrobe

Space on the trail is limited and places will be allocated on a “first come first served basis”. Accommodation is in huts and converted railway coaches and there are braai facilities and ablutions at the site.

If you are interested in attending, please email details of how many people you would like to attend together with details as to whether you can assist with transport and whether you have company petrol available to you. Payment for the hike will have to be made before the event and this will not be refundable.

Further details will be provided after 18 August 2012, but in the interim please let us know if you are keen on attending.

District Boot Hike:

At present there is no information available for the District Boot Hike scheduled for Saturday 4 August 2012. As information becomes available I will email it out to you.

Congratulations:

Well done to Douglas Grossett on the recent completion of his Pathfinder Badge. Congratulations must also go out to Keegan Reynolds and Craig Ransom on the completion of their Survival Scoutcraft Badges.

Finally, Ashton Du Toit was invited to join the Rover Crew at the annual Pop Bolton competition. The crew took on 27 other teams from around Gauteng and came first with 1 298 points, more than 200 points clear of the runners-up. This is the first time since 1986 that the Crew has won the “Look Wide” Trophy. Well done Ashton.



Upcoming Dates:

**July**

22 Walk The Talk

**August**

1 World Scarf Day  
4 Boot Hike  
31 – 2 Sep Guys Weekend Away

**Ashton helped the rovers win the “Look Wide” trophy**

Yours in scouting

Andrew Campbell