

# 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

PO BOX 16117

DOWERGLEN

1612

17 May 2013

Ref: Troop 2013/05

## Re: Troop News

Dear scouts and parents

### Congratulations:

The troop and many scouts in the troop have achieved a great deal since the last newsletter.

Firstly, the Troop did very well at the recent Kontiki Competition, walking away with a third place in the Beaver Challenge and a second place for the Supporter's Campsite. The theme for next year is "Kontiki goes Green" so start thinking about how we can put together an environmentally friendly raft!



**Members of the Kontiki team with their certificates**

Secondly, the Troop also did very well at the recent District Competition Camp. With fourteen teams entered this is the largest District Compo Camp we have seen for years and competition was stiff. The troop managed a third place in camping standards, a third place on STAs, a fourth place in cooking and an eighth place on the bases. All this added up to a third place overall, an excellent result.

Thirdly several scouts have been hard at work on their badges. Matthew Leishman earned his Silver Recruiter's Badge, Martin Kleer earned his Swimmers badge and his Survival Scoutcraft Badge and Douglas Grossett completed his First Aid badge.

Finally, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the newcomers who have been invested since the last troop newsletter. Matthew Leishman, Keanan Nunn, Gordon Grossett and Stuart Omand have all embarked on their path to Springbok over the past month-and-a-half. All the best on the scouting trail!



be prepared....

Troop Scouter:

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

## Troop Hike

Next week the troop will be going hiking on the Rooikrans Trail near Loskop Dam in Mpumalanga. There will be no regular scout programme next Friday for those scouts not attending the hike. The hike promises to be a great deal of fun and will also offer you an opportunity to complete part of your Pathfinder or Adventurer Badges. I am also hopeful that scouts wanting to complete their Scoutcraft Map Reading Badges will be able to do this on the hike. More information on the hike is available at <http://www.jacanacollection.co.za/details.aspx?prid=248>.

The following scouts have booked their place on the hike:

Byron Date-Line, Martin Kleer, Matthew Leishman, Keanan Nunn, Michael Omand, Craig Ransom, Michael Westhoff and Chris Woods. There is space for an additional four scouts, but I need details by Sunday if you want to join in the fun.

The cost of the hike is R220,00 which covers the cost of the use of the hiking trail. **This does NOT include the cost of your food.** Each scout will be responsible for his own food for the weekend (and equipment to cook it with!)

We normally have a braai on the Friday evening and I would recommend bringing along some meat. We will not have a huge amount of time to prepare breakfast, so something simple would be good, and you will be carrying your lunch with you, so take something light rather than something heavy. You will be tired on the Saturday evening but you will be able to cook at the base camp. A light breakfast and lunch is probably a good idea for the Sunday.



A kit list for the hike has been attached separately to this letter. Please make sure you pack according to the list.

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## Bandits on the way to hold up the raft at Kontiki

I would ask that all scouts pay for the hike by Monday as we need to pay the owners of the trail for the use of the trail timeously. Payments may be made to the following account:

1st Bedfordview Scout Group  
Standard Bank  
Eastgate, branch # 018505  
Account number: 022646221  
Ref: Rooikrans Hike + your name

As always, invested troop members who would like to attend the hike but who are experiencing financial difficulties can request assistance from the Group Committee. Such requests will be treated confidentially.

Friends who are potential scouts (boys between 10 ½ and 18) are also welcome to join us on the hike on the understanding that they need to act in terms of the Scout Law and Promise and that they will, like any scout, have to fill out the required consent form.

We will be meeting at the scout hall at 15h00 on Friday afternoon in full scout uniform. We will probably be back at about 16h00 on the Sunday.

### **Rock Climbing:**

On 31 May 2013 that troop programme will be taking place at the Leishman residence (10 St Peter Road, Hurleyvale, EDENVALE). During the programme we will be learning about rock climbing, including the use of the relevant safety equipment. You will receive the training necessary to allow you to complete the Scoutcraft Climbing Badge. A copy of the badge requirements have been sent out with this letter.

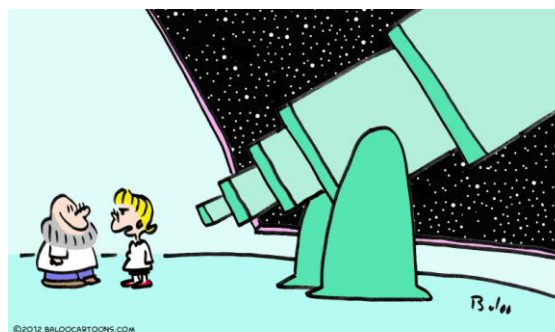


The programme will take place at regular scout time. As there are no facilities to change, please do not wear your scout uniform to this programme. Instead please wear your 1<sup>st</sup> Bedfordview Golf Shirt. Please wear sensible shoes to the programme.

At this stage testing for the badge is scheduled to place on Sunday 9 June 2013. We will be travelling to a rock face on the West Rand for the testing of the badge. Full details of the testing session will be made available once we know exactly who will be attending the testing session and once we have further details on who will be attending the astronomy trip on 8 June 2013. If there is a major problem with the testing session in light of the astronomy visit we may move the date for the testing session.

### **Astronomy Visit:**

On Saturday 8 June 2013 we will be doing a joint activity with our cub pack and the St Benedict's Cub Pack at the Hartebeeshoek Radio Astronomy Observatory near Broederstroom. The cost of the trip is R100,00 per scout, which will include dinner, breakfast and a bus trip to and from the venue.



"What do you mean, you can't look at the Milky Way because you're lactose-intolerant?"

We will be meeting at St Benedict's College at 14h30 on Saturday 8 June and will be back at approximately 09h30 on the Sunday.

The trip is not only a great opportunity to get to meet cubs who may well join the troop in the not-too-distant future, it also promises to be a good opportunity to see highly technical radio telescopes in action. The staff at the base are all highly trained and the programme promises to be a fun one. Previous visitors have used lasers to determine the height of satellites, launch mini-rockets and made star finders. I have no doubt that the staff will put together a cracker-jack programme for us. The visit should also be a good opportunity for those who are interested in either their Astronomy badges or their Space Explorer Badge.

If you are interested in attending please let me know by no later than 2 June 2012. Payments for the trip can be made into the group bank account under the reference of your name + astronomy trip.

### **702 Walk the Talk**

Gauteng Province have once again organised a special deal with the organisers of the 702 Walk the Talk whereby adults who enter the event under the banner of Gauteng Scouting will earn Scouts South Africa a small amount of their entry fee. This is credited against the Group's capitation account, which means that we pay less for capitation next year.

The registration process is fairly complicated so I will send out a separate email about



*"What you hate is walking. This is hiking—biking is different from walking."*

the 702 Walk the Talk, but if you are keen on entering please do so through scouts! Last year a large number of us entered and walked in full scout uniform. Not only was it a great deal of fun we also managed to reduce our capitation, which meant that there was money to be spent on other things like new equipment.

### **Troop Song:**

During Kontiki I put some scouting words to the popular Irish folk song "Killaloe". A number of people have asked me for the words and I think it would be great for the troop to have an unofficial "anthem" to sing at competitions and campfires.

**“THE BOYS FROM BEDFORDVIEW”** (sung to the tune of Killaloe)

We are the boy scouts  
From 1<sup>st</sup> Bedfordview  
We work, we play, we keep our Law  
And our Promise too  
For we are the boy scouts  
From 1<sup>st</sup> Bedfordview  
And we’re gonna show you how its done  
I tell you now the truth

We whistle while we work  
And we always keep a smile  
We always help out others  
And we go the extra mile  
‘Cause we’re loyal and we’re true  
In everything we do  
We’re gonna show you how its done  
The Boys from Bedfordview!

**(Chorus) x2**

We will do our best. We will do our best.  
And our best is better than any of the rest.  
While the others struggle and run round in a muddle  
We take a bow, the crowds will shout!  
HEY!  
The Boys from Bedfordview



**Stuart and Gordon’s Investiture**

### **District Events**

You will notice that there are a number of district events scheduled for the not-too-distant future. At present I have no information on these events aside from the date and venue but will pass on information as and when it becomes available.

### **Reply Slips**

In order to keep track with the astronomy and rock climbing events I would ask each scout to complete the reply slip below and to return it to me before 28 May 2013. I would prefer a hard copy but email will do.

### **Troop Challenges**

A reminder that we are running two competitions which will be accessed at the end of the year. Firstly we are looking at the scout who recruits the most friends during the year, and secondly we are looking for the patrol with the best patrol den. The Committee has promised some fantastic prizes for the winners!

## Upcoming Events:

### May

24 – 26 Troop Hike (Loskop Dam) – no normal scout programme  
31 Rock climbing programme (Hurleyvale)

### June

7 Northrand District First Aid Competition (Bedfordview Scout Hall)  
8 Hartebeeshoek Astronomy Visit (near Broederstroom)  
9 Rock climbing excursion (Strubensvalley, Roodepoort)  
14 Troop Boot Hike (venue t.b.a)  
21 Northrand District Campfire (Edenvale Scout Hall) + Robert Jones  
going up ceremony.  
28 Scouts closed

### July

5 Scouts closed  
20 Northrand District Boot Hike (venue tba)  
28 702 Walk The Talk

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

Yours in scouting

Andrew Campbell

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### REPLY SLIP

Name of scout: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be attending the rock climbing training programme on 31 May 2013      **Y/N**  
I will be attending the astronomy evening on 8 June 2013      **Y/N**  
I want to attend a rock climbing testing session (ignore the planned date)      **Y/N**  
I will be attending the rock climbing testing session on 9 June 2013      **Y/N**  
I would prefer it if the rock climbing testing session was not on 9 June      **Y/N/indifferent**