



## Fourth Term of Scouting, 2012

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back for the fourth and final term of scouting for the year. Last term was chocker block with activities, including the overnight hike held a few weeks ago camping on the top of Mount Solitary. This term we are planning a less demanding term of activities (especially given that Jamboree will be happening very soon). Nonetheless, a number of activities are planned, as follows:

**Weekend of 20 and 21 October:** Jamboree Shakedown camp. This is a camp to allow the Jamboree Troop to get to know each other better (as we will all be camping together for two weeks in January), and to fine-tune the gear that we will be taking to Jamboree. All the Jamboree Scouts minus Tanya should be attending. Permission notes were handed out last week, but I attach an electronic version to this message, just in case, as well as a map for getting to the Shakedown camp, being held at Camp Ku-Ring-Gai (lower Portland).

I will be needing one other driver on the way there, and one on the way back, as we have four Scouts, 1 leader and four eskies to carry. Vicky and Brian – are you able to do this (one of you one day and one on the other)?

The Shakedown camp costs (\$55) include \$25 for the Jamboree Troop T-shirt (so, while Tanya is not attending the Shakedown camp, she will need to get the \$25 to me for the T-shirt).

**Saturday 3 November:** Bushcare work with the Pemberton Street Bushcare group. Permission note to follow closer to the date.

**Sunday 4 November:** Parramatta District Wide Game. This is a competition amongst the Parramatta District Scout patrols in which team work, problem-solving and navigational skills are tested. The event runs all day, between 8:00am and 3:00pm. Start and finish will be from Parramatta Park, Westmead end (around the bend from the playground). Scouts will be travelling to and from the city (much of the cost - \$20 - is transport-related) all day, and need to bring their own food, including lunch and morning/afternoon teas, as well as **full scout uniform**, a hat, water (there should be opportunity to refill bottles at various places), sunscreen and decent walking shoes (good runners at least). Each patrol will also need at least a compass, some writing implements and some paper (notepad, for example).

A permission note, registration form and Parent Helpers' instructions are attached. Further information, including rules will follow soon.

**Sunday, 11 November:** Troop Council at The Count's place (Patrol Leaders and Assistant Patrol Leaders only).

**Saturday 24 November to Sunday 25 November:** Group camp at Camp Coutts (near Waterfall/Sutherland). The Scouts will have a great time at this camp, which is in a lovely secluded area of bush near Sydney, next to a creek (which can be waded in). The Scouts will be doing much of the cooking on this camp, although we anticipate that the Cubs may cook lunch on the Sunday while the Scouts take down any structures raised. Cost is estimated at ~\$35 per person for the weekend (including camping fees and food).

Families are also welcome (and any Cub Scouts must be accompanied by at least one parent), at the same costs per person outlined above. Families may also hike in from Waterfall train station if they wish (\$6.40 per adult and \$3.20 per child on the way there and Family fun day Sunday rates - \$2.50 per person on the way back), or drive in convoy with the rest of us. If you are being driven by someone, you may be expected to contribute \$5 per person in transport costs. A limited number of tents are available for families to use - please let me know if you require use of a tent.

A permission note (with further information) will follow in the near future.

**Saturday 1 December:** Bushcare work with the Pemberton Street Bushcare group. A permission note is required to be brought on the day, and this is will be forwarded closer to the activity.

**Sunday, 2 December:** Troop Council at The Count's place (Patrol Leaders and Assistant Patrol Leaders only).

**Sunday 9 December:** Fun day on the water (Pirate-themed). This has been a big hit with those cubs and scouts who have attended in the past. Cost is \$5 per participant, or \$20 per family (does not include food, which will be available at the venue, Angle Park on Lake Chipping Norton). You could (and many do) arrange to have this as a family picnic day out.

While I will be attending for the whole day (~9:00am to 3:00pm), there is no obligation for you or your youth member(s) to be there all day (provided you will be providing their transport). We may require some assistance with transport, and any offers will be much appreciated.

A permission note and a flyer are attached. Please note that anyone (including parents and relatives or friends) intending to participate in the organised water activities must hand in a permission note and pay the fee. Anyone not participating in the water activities does not pay.

There will also be a joint Scouts/Cub Scouts Christmas party either on Wednesday 6 or Wednesday 13 December (to be confirmed) instead of our usual Thursday meeting that week.

There may also be a day hike planned for later this term – to be advised.

Yours in scouting



The Count (David Myers)