



## Third Term Letter, 2010

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I thought I would get this letter off to everyone before the end of term, to give you sufficient notice of some upcoming events. As you all know, the abseiling course has commenced (we had the theory night at 1st Wentworthville Scout Hall on Friday 18 June), but the practical segment is to be held this weekend, and we have some events early on in third term.

### **Saturday 3 July and Sunday 4 July:**

Please note that the activity locations for these events have changed:

Saturday 3 July: Corner of Sanctuary Point Rd and Highs Rd, West Pennant Hills. Start 9 am, finish 4 pm

Sunday 4 July: Bowen Mountain – end of Lieutenant Bowen Rd. (at locked gate). Start 9 am, finish 4 pm

Copies of road maps for both venues are attached.

Abseils will be up to 15 metres.

Bring lunch, water, raincoat if it looks like rain.

I can carry up to four Scouts in my car. However, we have five Scouts coming, so we will need one more driver. This should be of little consequence as far as the West Pennant Hills venue is concerned, but may be more of an imposition as far as the Bowen Mountain venue is concerned (just past North Richmond: allow 1 hour travel time - so depart Parramatta by 8am and travel via Windsor Rd or M4 thence through Rooty Hill).

**Friday 23 July to Sunday 25 July:** Troop Camp at Camp Coutts. This is being organised by Liam Cuttance, and a permission note is attached. This camp is being planned to allow the patrols to practice for the Parramatta District Competition Camp, as well as to gain further troop camping experience. I strongly recommend that as many Scouts as possible attend. We do need permission notes and monies **by 9 July** (and I apologise for the short notice). Cost is \$40 per youth member, and includes camping, food and transport expenses (yes, we can organise a camp at half the price of GWS or Sydney North Regions).

**Sunday 1 August:** Greater Western Sydney Region Big Day In (at Bundilla, Winston Hills). This is a fund, and reasonably short day event, with lots of fun activities organised, and runs from 10:00am to 3:00pm. My family and I will not be there until the afternoon, but you and family and/or friends can attend without me (and I believe that at least one Cub Scout leader will be there). A permission note for this event is also attached. Cost is \$5 per person participating in activities. Again, we need permission notes and monies **by 9 July**.

**Sunday 1 August (continued):** We also have National Tree Day in the morning (that is why my family and I will not be at the Big Day In until afternoon). A permission note and further information will be sent soon.

**Sunday 1 August (further continued):** This day never ends! Troop Council (unless held at Camp Coutts on 24 July) – 4:00pm at my place (23 Irving St. Parramatta) – Patrol Leaders and APLs only.

**Friday evening 6 August to Sunday 8 August:** NSW Branch State Rally. This is an activity similar to Scout Hike (held back at the beginning of May), which is lightweight hiking combined with Patrol activities which require problem solving and teamwork. Like Scout Hike, this event provides a great opportunity for the Scouts to learn to work and interact in a patrol, and to see how successful patrols work. Fees for attendance (which do not include food or transport) are \$20 per Scout. The deadline for registering (and paying fees) is also **9 July 2010** (I don't think there was a conspiracy to have all event application deadlines fall on 9 July, but if there was, I was not responsible!). Permission note, registration form (to be completed by Patrol Leaders only) and Patrol Leader information are attached – Patrol leaders are responsible for collecting the permission notes and taking them to State Rally.

**Sunday 22 August:** First Aid Course. This is an all-day activity with a test at the end. If successful, the Scout will qualify for their Junior First Aid badge and certificate. Permission note and advice of cost per Scout will be sent soon to those selected to attend the course. There are limitations on the number of Scouts we can send and a minimum age. At this stage we envisage Li Zhu and Michael Lytwyn going on this course, but should be able to accommodate 1 or 2 others as well if considered suitable candidates.

**Sunday 5 September:** Troop Council – 4:00pm at my place (23 Irving St. Parramatta) – Patrol Leaders and APLs only.

**Saturday 11 September and Sunday 12 September:** Parramatta District Competition Camp. The Scouts have hopefully been working hard towards this event (that's what the July Troop Camp was for), which provides the winner with bragging rights as the year's most effective standing camp patrol. Further information, a permission note and application forms will be sent out shortly.

Yours in scouting



The Count (David Myers)