

Clevedon Scouts Out and About... Scouts Hit the Slopes

the official newspaper of
the ...

Clevedon Scout Group

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Over Labour Weekend, 8 Scouts and Venturers from Clevedon, were at the Scout Lodge at Whakapapa Ski Field on Mt Ruapehu, skiing their hearts out.

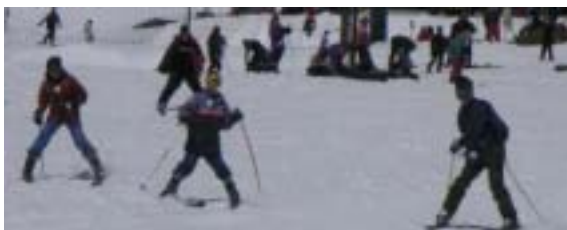
The 31 bed Lodge is located right on the ski-field and is ideal for a weekend's skiing for Scouting people.

Our Troop (who invited the Venturers along) have been planning this trip for the last 6 months. The weekend at the lodge was shared with another Troop and some Venturers from Wellington. The NPC Rugby Final took place on the Saturday night between Auckland and Wellington and that provided some hilarious moments of

friendly camaraderie!

After three days of learning to ski in fabulous weather doused in copious amounts of sun block, all of the group had progressed from the learners slopes to the more difficult upper mountain.

Scout Leader, Tony Francis (Ambo) reported "it was a great weekend for all who attended and we look forward to doing it all again next season".



Joined by Jarrod

The Scout Troop are enjoying a new young leader with the addition of Jarrod Taylor.

Previously, Jarrod was a leader with the Selwyn Scout Troop, however, with the recent closure of that Group, he was looking for a new Scouting home. The Clevedon Leadership Team were only too happy to oblige.

Jarrod is also very involved with the Counties-Manukau Rover Crew as a Rover Scout. Welcome to Clevedon Jarrod!

13 Year Journey Completed

Hayden McAllister, a Venturer Scout at the Clevedon Venturer Unit, will shortly complete the last part of his Queens Scout Award and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award - a 13 year journey that commenced with Kea Scouts at age 6.

"A life isn't worth living if it's not challenging, and a load of fun, and all the best things that I've ever done or achieved have either been *Scout* activities, or related to Scouting in some way", states this remarkable young man. "Scouting has had the biggest impact on my life".

"I can even remember, as a little Cub Scout, the first time I felt a real sense of achievement. I was sewing a little scented strawberry Christmas tree decoration and

it was a real challenge, sewing that is, I kept getting my finger with the needle rather than the strawberry - but I finished it!"

Hayden plans to further his Scouting by looking at Rover Scouts as an option and by becoming a Kea Leader with the Clevedon Scout Group. During the last 18 months Hayden has helped with Keas every week as a Programme Activity Leader.

"From here on, I don't know what Scouting will bring my way. All I know is, I'm limited only by my imagination".

Hayden will sit his Citizenship Panel just prior to Christmas and his 19th Birthday with our best wishes for his success.

Our Mission Statement: Clevedon Scout Group will provide youth, adults and our community a challenging and positive experience within a safe environment



Group Leaders Report

When things are busy and there is so much happening in every corner... often its easy to misunderstand a lighter period of workflow as being a time of not moving forward.

So what am I speaking about? Well I speak about the Clevedon Scout Group. As I wander around the Group, sit on Group Council and Committee Meetings, I hear leaders dissatisfied with their own performance, a Committee indicating it hasn't "done anything", people feeling a little dispirited and out of sorts. Yet we have an entirely functioning group that regularly raises money, makes purchases of major assets, is active in our community, is active in Scouting generally and **most** importantly is a place where young people love to come and join with their fellow Keas, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers for fun filled activities that give them new information, skills and motivation, delivered by the well trained Leaders of this Group.

So here is an opportunity for celebration of our Scouting Year. A celebration of the new young people that have joined us, a celebration of those who have continued to be consistent members of our Group and a celebration for all of the programmes, care and attention we provide for the youth members of *this* community.

Our Group numbers still stand at around the 70 mark and the Leadership team remains consistent so that although sadly we have lost two Kea Leaders during the year, we have recruited a new Scout Leader and many parent helpers.

Here are some of our year highlights in brief:

- Cub Membership growth to 31 Cubs
- Venturer Membership growth to 11 Venturers
- Recruitment of Jarrod Taylor, Scout Leader
- Appointment of Tony Francis to Assistant Area Scout Leader and appointed to the National Training Team
- Appointment of Bryan Lawrence to District Cub Leader
- Attendance by Hayden McAllister at the Walsh Memorial Flying School
- Completion of Stage 5 Training by Lynne Brannagan
- Participation in National Cub Day and award of the Best Pack
- Space Camp for the Group July 2003
- 9 Venturers and 1 Leader to attend V04 January 2004
- Introduction of the new Scout Award Scheme
- Attendance at World Jamboree in Thailand, January 2003 by Jack Bright

I would like to thank all the leaders of our Group; you have provided a solid foundation for this Group's growth and development in working towards our Group's Vision that the Clevedon Scout Group strives to be the preferred youth movement within our community.

To the Committee and in particular it's Executive thank you for your continued efforts to act as role models for those wishing to support their young people on this Scouting Journey.

I would like to close with a thought... in 1999 the Cub Pack planted a tree in the bushline with prayers of hope for the future of this Group. And last week, when walking to the top of the hill with the Venturers and Cubs, I was delighted to see how much that once little tree has grown and how secure it's future now appears!



Merry Christmas
and a
Safe & Happy New Year
to all the
Clevedon Community
from the
Clevedon Scout Group!



PIC CORNER



**Would you like to
join us in 2004?**

**Phone the Group Leader
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