



Pinebranch

First Pinelands



www.firstpinelands.org

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Another edition of our award winning Pinebranch again brings news of an active 1st Pinelands Group. So much has happened over this past term and the stories and pictures published here give us a glimpse into all of that. Amazingly, we celebrate 90 years of history since the opening of 1st Pinelands in 1928. Just think of all who have gone before us and one can stand amazed at what the scouting movement has achieved for so many young people over those years.

We have already started planning the celebration to take place on Friday 9th November. Please your invitation below and book online through Quicket.

Congratulations to Daniel Lugt for achieving his Leaping Wolf Award. The is the highest award a cub can get so is always noteworthy.

Congratulations too to our Group Scouter, Norman Davies for achieving a silver medal in the men's over 50 Western Cape Orienteering Champs. Laura Troost got a bronze in the senior woman category at the same event. Well done to you both.

Hope you enjoy the read!

Yours in scouting
JP Lugt

1ST PINELANDS SCOUTS 90TH CELEBRATION

COME CELEBRATE FIRST PINELANDS SCOUT GROUP'S 90TH BIRTHDAY ON FRIDAY 9TH NOVEMBER.

In the past 9 decades hundreds of young people have experienced scouting in our hall and we will be celebrating how the group has evolved for a few boys in 1928 to our current group of 80 uniformed girls, boys, men and women.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT:

Opportunity to meet past 1st Pinelands members · Applaud the achievements of 2018 cubs, scouts and rovers
Vote in the 2019 committee · Excellent food truck meal options (Pre-ordering essential) · Soft drinks and snacks available for purchase (cash only) · Commemorative badges for R50 for sale (cash only)

All funds raised will go towards sending four Scouts to the 2019 World Scouts Jamboree in United States. There is an opportunity to donate to this when you reserve your ticket.



Click here for tickets for 1st Pinelands Scouts 90th Celebration <http://qkt.io/xngUsr>



SCOUTING SINCE 1928

1ST PINELANDS SCOUT GROUP



90TH COMMEMORATIVE BADGE

To celebrate the 90th anniversary we asked both cubs and scouts to design a commemorative 90th anniversary badge the best of which we would use.

Congratulations to Adam Mackie (scout) and James Malan (cub) who each gave in well thought out designs. The Group Committee decided that

both were great and so a combined badge was made. Thanks too, to everyone else who made submissions.



James Malan



Adam Mackie

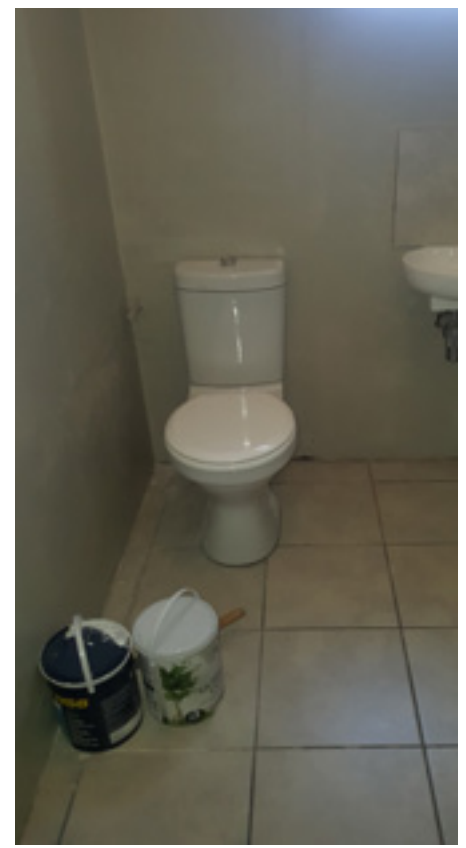
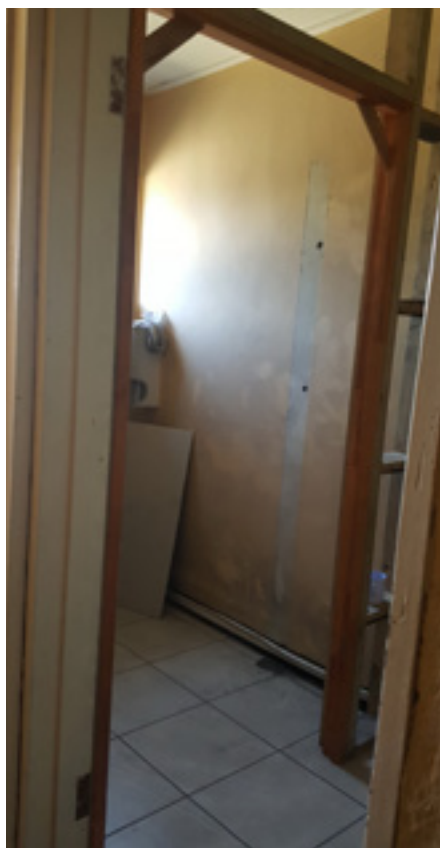


Final design - Ian Mackie

KITCHEN, HALL AND OUTSIDE REFURB

You may have noticed some changes in the kitchen and toilet areas of the hall as well as the braais outside and new ramp outside the back door. Thanks to the driving force of our Maintenance Profile Committee member, Anton Malan, these changes have been effected and

in a most effective and economically efficient way possible. Anton has put an amazing amount of time and thought into this project and the effects are clear to see. The kitchen is a better designed space so working in it will be a lot more efficient and pleasant.



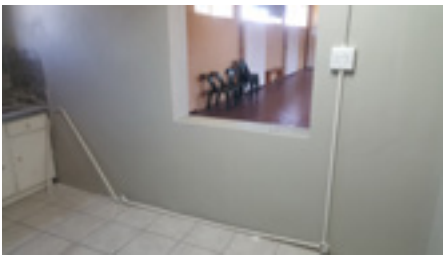


Thanks too must go to the following people :

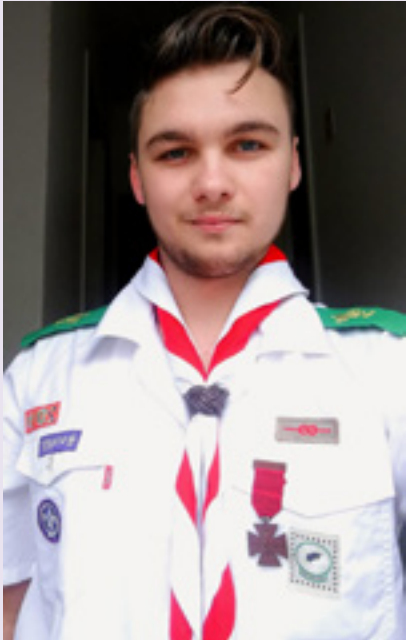
- Kevin Fischer of King Fischer Kitchens for donating the kitchen cupboards – a very generous donation!
- Errol Solomons for donating the steel reinforcing for the braais.
- Gail Malan for the bulk of the new bricks required to rebuild the braais.
- Norest Mapindla for his handiwork in this project.

From these improvements we will not only benefit ourselves, but also make our hall more attractive for hire which in turn benefits the group again through increased donations.

Thanks to all involved!



BRONZE GALLANTRY AWARD AWARDED TO FOR JOHAN HARZON



We are proud to report of the brave conduct of a previous Springbok Scout of 1st Pinelands, Johann Harzon who received a Bronze Cross for his gallantry.

While travelling in a train near the Stellenbosch station 6 or 7 youths accosted 2 girls in the same carriage that he was travelling in. They threatened the girls with knives and a BB gun and demanded their possessions. Their threats included rape. Johann came to their defence by challenging them to stop. The group then turned on him and pulled him out of his seat and he was pushed out of the moving train.

The train was pulling out of the Stellenbosch Station and due to the commotion was stopped. Johann was slightly concussed from the fall and bleeding, but got back on the train back to Pinelands. We are not sure what happened to the girls, but trust that they got away fine after the train was stopped and through Johann's brave intervention.

Well done Johann.

UPTON TROPHY REPORT

My Upton 2018 experience I woke up at 5am, got dressed and had my breakfast. I had scrambled eggs on toast. Breakfast of champions. I was picked up by Josh. Ben was already in the car. After picking up Jacob we headed off to the starting point. The drive was fine, but we did miss the turnoff. After a bit of excitement, we arrived at the starting point. We had to pose for a photo, after which the parents left. After an easy 15-minute wait, the opening ceremony started.

We had to hike to various bases. The first base was a code which none of us knew. The next few bases were easy, and we did them well. One of my favourite bases was next. It was a "kims" game and we aced it! After that we had to walk a bit slower because Ben had hurt his knee on a rock, but we dealt with it. I hadn't noticed that it had been 2 hours already, the place we were going next had the longest down hill in the competition and it was quite hard to control yourself going down it.

When we got to the end there were a few extra bases such as making a: square lashing, hard boiled egg (where to get some extra points Ben ate the egg raw), stokbrood, a water filter (Jacob and myself fell into the dam near us) and flag signals.

We were coming home tired but what was nice we got ice-cream because we came 15th.

I enjoyed the day and the chance to represent our scout troop.
by Ruan Loe



JOSH LUGT'S ADVENTURER HIKE LOG OVER TABLE MOUNTAIN

08:20 Just briefed everyone on the route and started to hike.
 09:10 Just stopped for a break and found that Heath's water bottle was leaking.
 09:30 Just stopped at the bottom of Nursery Ravine for Jakob to take off his jersey.
 09:40 Started hiking up Skeleton Gorge. We're starting to get tired.
 10:10 Past the ladders.
 10:25 Found some huge spiders.
 11:00 At the top of Skeleton Gorge. We are all very tired now and can't wait to get to the dams and have lunch.
 11:30 Just stopped for lunch and chilling by the dams. Decided to take an alternative route around the dams.
 12:00 Found a blackberry patch and ate a few. We all got spiked while collecting them.
 12:20 At the scout mountain club hut and we are all extremely tired, but still need to go all the way down.
 12:50 At the museum.
 13:15 Quarter of the way down Kasteelpoort.
 13:05 Half way down Kasteelpoort Heath has just fallen, but he is fine.
 13:40 Bottom of Kasteelpoort. Met some ladies who are very tired and have hardly started the route.
 14:20 On the contour path.
 15:00 At the end. All exhausted, but happy.

By Josh Lugt



SEAGULL'S PATROL MEETING

The seagulls patrol meeting took place at Caden Sampson's house. It took place from 6:30PM to 10:00PM and we stayed at his place during the entire duration of the event.

We had planned to play some PlayStation 4 together and pass off advancement tasks and badges. This is what we did. While some played on the console, others were passing off badges. We ended up passing a few badges and I, personally, passed off my model designer as well as getting started on my musician badge.

I believe that these events are a good way to build strong relationships between patrol mates and subsequently more motivation to take part in scout activities. I personally find them to be a load of fun and I think that they should happen more often. I enjoyed this patrol meeting and I can't wait for the next one.

By Ramses Wonkam



ZEBRA'S PATROL MEETING



The Zebra patrol consisting of Ashleigh, Josie, Maggie and I all went ice-skating at Grand West on Friday the 25 of February.

We all had lots of fun dancing and singing to the music or sticking to the sides. We finished at 19:20 as our feet were sore and it was getting fuller. We had a lot of time to waste so we decided to go laser tagging instead. Our game was at 20:00 with the eagles. It was exciting and fun. It was a first time for most of us. We teamed up in the beginning and half way through we turned on each other.

Ashleigh came 1st, Josie came 5th, I came 7th and Maggie came 11th. We went to get something to eat and spoke about going on hikes, planning a weekend to do our knots. We all had a wonderful, amazing and exciting time, we bonded as a patrol and got to know more about each other. We discovered that Maggie can't carry a pair of socks, and Josie does not like chairs. We got back to the hall at 21:20.

By Jodie

THE STORY OF THE DRUMS

Ahead of this year's Kontiki we realised that the drums which we had been storing outside under the trees had almost all been stolen! Obviously in the midst of the most serious drought in some three centuries (apparently), 200L drums are in high demand! With only about 3 weeks to go we found drums that the Cape Olive Trust kindly offered to donate.

Russel and Niall Sampson went out to collect them and brought all 26 back on a bakkie and trailer. Unfortunately we realised after some days that they were the wrong shape for our Kontiki raft so we had to source some elsewhere.

As we wouldn't be able to use them we decided to sell them off to generate funds for the group. Being quite dirty with dust and olive oil baked together we approached the Pinelands branch of Kleenbin to "kleen" them up which they willingly agreed to. Thank you to Benita Berry of Kleenbin for getting her team to help with this job. They worked hard and with such a joyful attitude. It was a privilege and pleasure working with you. In the end the bins were all sold and we made around R5000 in the process. Thank you to all involved in this effort.



URBAN REJUVENATION



BEFORE

Recently 1st Pinelands Scout Group was faced with a challenge of increasing litter and mess on the side of their hall in an unused alley way. Things were becoming increasingly problematic as it was evident that vagrants were using it as storage and even as a toileting area.

Credit to the City Council Solid Waste



Department after a phone-call to them describing the situation and their prompt response in cleaning the area up.

As a group we considered how to manage this area with various options being considered. In the end it was decided that the avenue of urban rejuvenation should be followed and so the idea of a



AFTER

garden being planted in that space set in motion. It has been amazing to see that the area has not since been misused or polluted again and at the same time has made it aesthetically pleasing.

Well done to all involved. It was a great team effort as can be seen from the photos attached.



THE TEAM

PACK HIGHLIGHTS Q2

1st Pinelands/1st Claremont joint pack meeting was held at the 1st Claremont Hall. We launched into the 2018 Cub National Challenge Theme "Plastic not so Fantastic". Hayley from the Aquarium gave an eye-opening presentation on the extent of the worldwide problem

of plastic pollution. We learned how we can all make a difference by being aware and reducing our use of especially single-use plastic. Cubs tracked down clues to different types of plastic to discover which plastics can be recycled and which not. A vacant plot neighbours the 1st

Claremont hall. The party scoured the plot collecting litter, especially plastic. The programme ended with a quick lesson on how to make an ecobrick. Thanks to this programme, our pack are all way motivated to be part of the solution to the enormous plastic pollution problem.

PLASTIC NOT SO FANTASTIC



THE INTERSIX SOUP COMPETITION

The Intersix Soup Competition, always a highlight of the cub calendar, saw each six scheming and planning their secret soup recipe a week before the competition.

Sixers had the final say in what goes into the soup. Cubs competed with great enthusiasm on the day. All the soups were most edible with some interesting flavours in a couple! The judges agreed that a convincing win went to Blue Six – Soup Ladle Trophy holders for the second year running!



ROAD SAFETY



Road safety is an essential life skill but can be really boring to learn. Not when you can learn it through Kaskar F1 though! The hall back yard made an ideal venue for a track. Two teams raced each other to be the first to complete ten laps. Both hands on the steering, no chatting on your cell phone, beware of other road users and concentrate on your driving.



Q2 HIKE

It was a clear, cool, windless morning. Perfect conditions for a hike. The trail was steep and, in some spots, slippery clay after recent rain. The fynbos and birdlife were beautiful. A geocache find prompted by Bagheera was a highlight at a scenic rest spot with a panoramic view of the Heldeberg basin. We hiked up to Disa Kloof to find our planned destination - the spring.

Akela remembered it being a gushing torrent at the same time last year. This year however it was a slow trickle. Nevertheless, there it was, a tiny fresh stream appearing from between two nondescript rocks. Everybody filled their water bottles with lovely fresh mountain water.

What a treat!

The destination for our Q2 hike took us away from Table Mountain towards Helderberg Nature Reserve and Somerset West's towering Helderberg Mountain.



Q2 HIKE

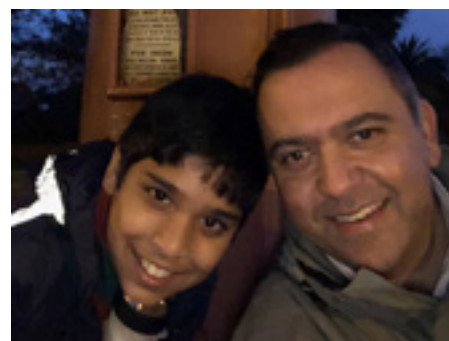




SCAVENGER HUNT

Q2 came to a close with a fun Scavenger Hunt where cubs were joined by their parents and siblings. The teams were tasked with finding a few historical spots and solving a few problems. The first houses in Pinelands were built in Mead Way. In which year was the first house completed?

Find your way using a street map. What is the second line of the Rotarian's Code on the monument outside the Spar? Decipher a message typed in Braille. (thank you to Ecklavya, Malani and Malathi who used a Braille typewriter to painstakingly type all the message strips – one dot at a time!) Take a selfie of your team at the old red post box in Mead Way. The cubs lived up to their motto of “cubs do your best.” Well done to mother and son team of Christy and Telson Wheeler who came in first.



FROM “PACK CHAT” APRIL 2018 – FOOD FOR THOUGHT

“It’s the little things that count” How often do we count our money? How often were we disappointed when we didn’t get the first prize? How many times do we wish for things we can’t get? If you ask me, far too often. We always strive for the bigger and better in this world. And don’t get me wrong, sometimes we have to leave the good to get the better, but we lose our ability to be content with what we have.

We are in a mad rush called life, we are never satisfied, never finished.

Nothing is good enough for us. We forget to just stop, live in the moment and appreciate what we have. We should be grateful for the opportunity to wake up every morning, for the sun shining on our heads, for the chance to change our future and our next generations’ lives.

There are millions of little things around us that can make us smile, that can make our day brighter. The neighbour is playing some nice tunes on the piano, we caught the bus at the last minute this morning, a child

flies a kite and looks with shining eyes up to the sky. Those things aren’t materialistic, they aren’t selfish, they simply aren’t big. But that’s what we work for as Pack Scouters. We won’t see big things happening every week. We work our way from one little thing to the other.

From one remembered knot to a painting of a giraffe that actually looks like one. And as the years pass and we look back all those little things stacked up, they changed and they made a difference.

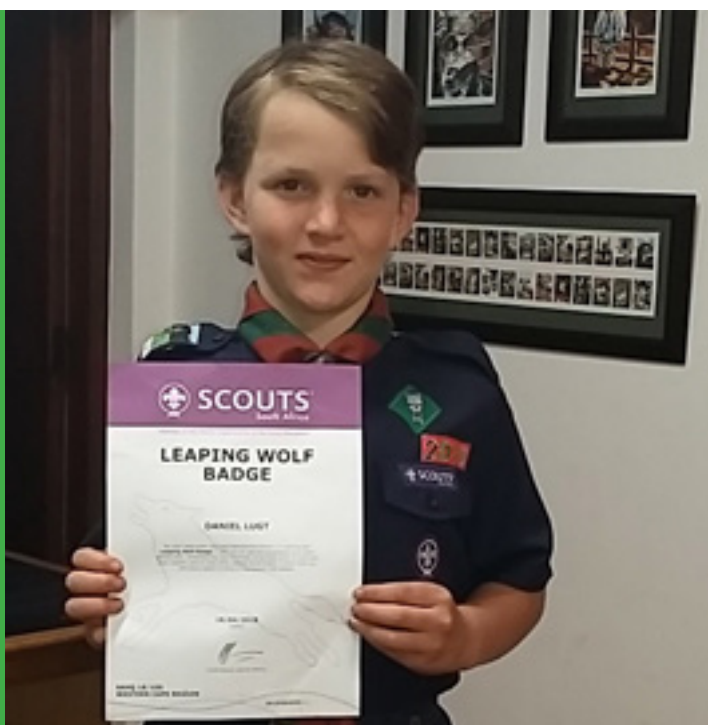
DANIEL LUGT'S LEAPING WOLF

When I started my Leaping Wolf, I started with my Food for Life badge because I like growing plants and it was the only Leaping Wolf requirement I could do before I was ten years.

I also did my First Aid badge, Outdoorsman and World Scout Environment badge which is an international badge. For my personal challenge I aimed to win a beginner tennis tournament at Pinelands Club and did it.

I wanted to get my Leaping Wolf because my older brother had and I wanted to leap into the troop and have that sense of achievement.

By Daniel Lugt



10 LITTLE THINGS TO DO FOR SOMEONE NEXT WEEK:

1. GIVE SOMEONE A BISCUIT
2. GREET SOMEONE ON THE STREET
3. WISH SOMEONE A GREAT DAY
4. TELL SOMEONE HOW MUCH THEY MEAN TO YOU
5. MAKE SOMEONE TEA
6. GIVE SOMEONE A HUG
7. TELL SOMEONE YOUR BEST JOKE
8. GIVE SOMEONE A COMPLIMENT
9. CLEAN UP FOR SOMEONE
10. MAKE SOMEONE SMILE

TAKEN FROM "PACK CHAT" NEWSLETTER APRIL 2018

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