

EDS LETTER / DEVIL'S PEAK / TROOP HIKE / UPTON 2019 SIMEON'S ADVENTURER HIKE JOSHUA'S DISCOVERER SERVICE PROJECT LIONS HEAD TROOP HIKE ZEBRAS PATROL CAMP MIKE STANLEY FAREWELL ROVER NEWS FOURTH OF JULY INTERVIEW MICHELLE ADLARD CHAPMANS PEAK HIKE ... AND MORE!

-



#### LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Another eventful term of Rovering, Scouting and Cubbing. Unfortunately these pages don't hold enough space to record all that's been done, but it's great to read and see everything that's going on.

Exciting news is that we have created some more space at the hall this term by the purchase of a container delivered by crane over our boundry wall. Thank you to all who made this happen especially Errol Soloman and Todd Malone.



Sad news though is that Mike Stanley will be leaving us after two years as our Caretaker Troop Scouter. His contribution to our Group has been immense, but Anja Mühr will be taking over ably assisted by Joe Harding. Thank you Mike for all you have done and we wish you well in your future endeavours. We also look forward to all that Anja and Joe bring.

At Mike's farewell function we also bid bon voyage to 5 of our scouts who will be winging their way to the 24th World Scout Jamboree taking place in West Virginia, USA. We look forward to hearing all about it in our next edition. Sounds like they are going to have LOTS of fun.

I must make mention of Zoe de Roo's cartoon of the Senior Cub camp she attended in March which was published in our last edition and for which she wasn't credited. Thank you Zoe for your contribution. You did a fantastic job and it was very funny.

Lastly, after nearly 5 years of working together Ian Mackie has decided to step away from the role of producing the Pinebranch. He has indicated that he will do one more after this one, but we are now looking for someone to help with production. If you are interested please give me a shout.

Enjoy the read. YIS JP Lugt (lugtjp@gmail.com / 082 994 1562)

## DEVIL'S PEAK TROOP HIKE

## **Devil's Peak Troop Hike 28th April**

We are excited to invite all 1st Pinelands scouts to join us on a day hike up Devil's Peak.

#### When: 28th April o8h30-13hoo

Where: The drop-off and pick-up point for the hike will be the parking area for the Devil's Peak trail on Tafelberg Road.

#### What to bring:

Please bring along a hat, pack-lunch, plenty of water, sunscreen and of course, your best and most repetitive hiking songs.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Consent forms for those scouts attending the hike must be handed in to the scouters by Friday 26th April. Those without a consent form will not be able to hike.

If you have any questions, please contact Tamsin via whatsapp (of) 30 9532) or email (tamsinm97@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you all bright and early on the 28th!













# A funny thing happened on the way to the scout hall ... (with apologies to Stephen Sondheim) –

Scene 1 In which you are out riding your bike in the vicinity of Forest Drive and you see two guys carrying a six metre pole in the general direction of Vincent Palotti Hospital. And it looks much like one of the pioneering poles at your scout hall.

Scene 2 In which your scout group leader tells you about this and on a hunch you take two patrol leaders with you to a private home in Oude Molen Eco-village. And in the yard you see any number of poles of various kinds laid out for some kind of construction. And some of them are painted in a way that only scouts mark their pioneering poles.

Scene 3 In which later, after dark, you sneak into the yard, take some photos and go tell the police, make a statement, but it seems unlikely anything can be done. And then the police call back later, they want to see for themselves.

Scene 4 In which you find yourself having to explain to police why poles, brought to you by unnamed persons, are colour-coded for length and are being identified as property stolen from the First Pinelands Scout Hall over a period of weeks recently. And the detective is sceptical and the warrant officer persuades you it would be in your best interests to relinquish the poles.

Scene 5 In which you're just a cub parent, but you get called on to bring your bakkie and transport all seven of these six metre poles back to the scout hall. And the scouts can build big towers again.

Cast acknowledgements: Kyle Loe, Yorke Lowe, unnamed home owner, W/O Burger, Errol Solomons Theatre run: 22-24 February 2019 Script: Norman Davies



Upton is an annual hikina competition and this year we were able to submit two teams. I was PL for the First Pinelands A team. Steven de Villiers was P2, Etam Wonkam P3 and Sam Malone P4. Our team was able to secure the 11th place in the competition through hard work and preparation and we all were truly chuffed with our results.

Sam, Steven and Etam, had never been on Upton before and it was also my last year to compete, as it is a junior competition, and 11th is a areat place for them to start and me to end. Considering that most of us had never been on Upton before. I can only imagine what they could do next year. I also know that Upton has taught us all a lot about scoutina.

The biggest lessons that I take away are, preparation is key and your scout trail knows everything. By just reading our scout trails and practicing knots and first aid, we felt more prepared, and less stressed. We also were able to enjoy ourselves

#voluitvolstruis

more because we weren't stressing about whether or not we'll know what to do at the next base. And we were able to focus better and work better.

I also know that going on Upton helps you prepare for the next. Even though we competed well, there is still more for us to practice. We need to work on: Lashings, First aid, Veldcraft (Flora and Fauna).

SCOUTS

South Africa

**Bv Josh Beerwinkel** 

#upton2019



## Upton Shield 2019...

#### will be held in the Helderberg Nature Reserve on Sunday 5th May.

Teams should be dropped off between 08h00 & 08h15 at the Environmental Education Centre Parking (34° 3'52:00"S 18°52'21.00"E - First turn-off left after entering the boom gate - follow the signs). Reserve gates open at 07h30. Registration from 08h15-08h45. Opening Parade at 09h00 sharp

Final parade will be at 15h00 and held at the Concert Area next to the top parking (34° 3'44.00"S 18°52'26.00"E ). Parents collecting teams should park at the same spot as the morning drop-off point (Will be sign-posted. Coordinates above). A Scout Group will be selling chips, cooldrinks, sweets and hotdogs at the finish area to raise funds

Things for parents to do between drop-off and collection: go for a hike in the reserve; have breakfast at the tea room; visit the Lourensford or Route 44 markets; visit Vergelegen Wine Estate; go to Strand or Gordons Bay beach; (don't go to the mall ;o)

Enquiries: Andrew 082 454 3744 | Nigel 082 991 0720

#### Tegms:

Bring:

- 50x40cm fabric of any colour and marker pens / paint Magnetic compass
- First Aid kit with triangular bandage 4 staves and 6 lashing roper
- Y shoped stick, 2 x lengths of inner-tube rubber, string, 3x5cm piece of leather (to make a catapult -- individual iter will be checked -- do not make it before the competition)
- Clipboard, A4 paper, pens and pencils
- Team spirit and your Scouting Skills.

#### Each Scout:

- Lunch, snacks and 2L of water in a backpack
- Dress for the whole day is purple Scout / group T-shirt &
- Hat, sunscreen & clothing to suit the weather
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Personal medication
- Signed Parent Consent Form
- Lots of smiles and a great attitude.













On Monday 22nd of April 2019, I (Simeon) organised and hiked a route upon Table Mountain. Malini Mistery, Joshua and Daniel Lugt and my father Peter Davies accompanied me. Malini's mother assisted me to transport two of the Scouts where we rendezvoused at Kloof Nek parking lot. We started the hike from the Pipe Track.

We could see the breathtaking scenery of Camps Bay as we looked across to the west. Unfortunately, a recent fire had destroyed the nearby vegetation, however I was glad to see that many plants and trees revealed new growth. I could tell that the fire was put out quickly because the damage would have been worse.

As we followed the Pipe Track, we could see where two water pipes appeared and disappeared in and out of the ground. I pondered about the ingenuity of laying down water pipes so that we may have tap water. Eventually, further along this gentle path, we lost all sight of the two pipes.

As we continued walking along the unchanging gentle slope, we came across a path with a 'No Entry' sign that leads up to The Table. Immediately thereafter, we found the next path that read 'Diagonal' which I had not chosen in my route. We checked the map when we reached the start of the path that would take us to the top of Kasteelspoort where we found a map marker. It showed where the paths would end up going in each direction. We chose to have a brief discussion at this juncture to decide whether to proceed hiking up the incline towards the Valley of the Red Gods, pass through Echo Valley on up to Maclear's Beacon and then down Platteklip Gorge or hike up towards the Valley of the Red Gods, then turn off towards the Scout Hut, hike past the dams and make our way to Maclear's Beacon and down Platteklip Gorge. The final decision was my original route to hike past the Scout Hut and the dams, up to Maclear's Beacon and down Platteklip Gorge. When we reached Hely-Hutchinson Dam, we turned off onto the immediate path that we found, moved swiftly up and around to Junction Peak. Once we arrived at the start of the Hoerikwaggo Hiking Trail, we found ourselves at a junction point where we checked the map to make sure that we were going in the right direction towards Maclear's Beacon. We had to check the map again at the next junction further along the path toward Maclear's Beacon. Soon afterwards, we met an American couple that seemed to be lost trying to reach Maclear's Beacon who agreed to follow us as we were going there too.

When we reached Maclear's Beacon, we stopped to eat our packed lunches and to take photos (see below this article). This was the first time that Malini and Daniel had been to Maclear's Beacon. We hiked down from this memorable point, onto the path parallel to the Hoerikwaggo hiking trail and then all the way up to the top of Platteklip Gorge. This was, quote "The worst route in the history of hiking routes" said Joshua. We could understand why many Hikers disliked that route. Personally, I felt somewhat impatient, as Platteklip seemed to go on forever with a dominating zigzag route. I will definitely avoid it next time. Below Platteklip, we found ourselves at a sign- post that also revealed where the different paths would lead. I also checked my map to confirm our continuation.

We followed the Upper Contour Path that had led us towards the Lower Cable Station. When we arrived at the path that went down towards the Lower Cable Station, we continued the gentle slope down towards the Lower Cable Station. After passing the Lower Cable Station, we made our way down Tafelberg road and back to Kloof Nek parking lot, where Joshua and Daniel's mother was waiting for us. Mrs Lugt kindly helped to transport Malini, Joshua and Daniel home. My Dad managed to drive the two of us home with aching muscles. In my opinion besides that horrible Platteklip section, the hike went pretty smoothly. There were no injuries and we all agreed that we had fun!

By Simeon Davies









## **JOSHUA'S DISCOVERER SERVICE PROJECT**

On 4 May 2019, 6 scouts and one friend went to Friends Daycare, a daycare for children with severe physical and mental disabilities.

We cleared away an old bench, old, perished tyres, and rubble, we painted jungle gym equipment, swings, benches and a table. The entire project was a huge success. thanks very much to Mica Pinelands for donating all of the paint that we used.

By Josh Lugt



#### Before









#### During







<image>











This troop meeting was an event that I have never been through before. It was however a memory I will never forget. The patrol, myself being one were told by the scouters to organise a permit, kit list, patrol theme and what kind of furniture to carry up Lion's Head, luckily despite all my other tasks, examples being, advancement, school work and others, I managed to organise everything.

I also learned something from this experience, it certainly helps if you inform the parents of the scouts in your patrol sufficiently ahead of time to reduce or prevent the parents from stressing about what is going on for anything important. I decided that the Eagles patrol's theme was "The Knights of the Round Table" and the furniture used was a small round table. I thought this was brilliant as I had a smallish round table that we could use. On the day all the scouts aathered at the hall to finalise lifts to Lion's Head, make sure everyone had everything that was needed and resolved any last minute problems. Once we all arrived at the base of Lion's Head, the parking lot, everyone realised that it was raining and put on their raincoats. There was one person in the whole troop who decided not to wear a raincoat, mad person, their name will not be mentioned; they may know who I'm referring to.

We then proceeded to fall in, report and were finally sent off on our hike in individual patrols along with our furniture. The rain poured nonstop making the rocks we all walked on slippery; this made me a little nervous, especially when I was carrying a round table on my back. The Eagles unfortunately only made it to the trees with the slippery/worn roots. From there we proceeded down a different route from Lion's Head as carrying a table can complicate things. We made it back to the base of Lion's Head, table still intact and pictures were taken.

Despite the rain everyone enjoyed this evening and it should remain among everyone's good memories and stories.

By Simeon Davies

## **ZEBRAS PATROL CAMP**

On the 18-19th of May we had our patrol camp! For the most part it was loads of fun, sadly one of our members could only stay the day, though we did our best to make it fun for them while they where there. We had a few little ... surprises, such as a dead frog/ toad rolled up in the tent from last troop camp, SOMEBODY forgot the milk so for breakfast we had a lovely 5 star meal of oats/granola (no idea what its called) with water and hot chocolate mix, it tasted... interesting....

We practiced a lot of knots and lashings, most of them where very fast learners so it took a lot less time than I thought it would, this left us with A LOT of extra time. We attempted/failed and somehow succeeded to make a fire, watched a dog eat the dead toad (it looked like a dead toad pancake), had a mini campfire and did some skits and songs, and talked about planning a hike. We also got to see a lot of paragliders. They flew really close to us, that was really cool.

YIS By Josie Adlard



## PL'S + 2 WEEKEND



PL's + 2 weekend took place on the weekend of 29 - 30 June. It was an amazing experience which we bonded very well with each other. On the first day we did cool STA's with Anja and Laura. On the second day we had an interesting discussion with Norman, Laura and Anja. Overall it was a great weekend spent with everyone and bonding with each other.

By Caden Samson





















1st Pinelands - Scouts News

## **LETTER TO PARENTS** RE MIKE STANLEY





Member of the World Organisation of the Scout Hovement

#### Dear 1st Pinelands parents, scouts and scouters

I am writing to inform you of a change in adult leadership in First Pinelands Troop. Mike Stanley has completed his caretaker role as Troop Scouter for the past two years. During this time he has reinvigorated our patrol system, has encouraged our Scouts to get out and about and has overseen a significant increase in advancement in the Troop. We are all incredibly grateful for his efforts and wish him all the best in his further endeavours.

Anja Mühr will be taking over as Troop Scouter from the beginning of the Third Term 2019, ably assisted by Joe Harding and the rest of the Scouter team.

We will be hosting a parent social sometime near the beginning of the third term in order for parents to meet the new team. Details will follow soon.

You can contact Anja at anja@firstpinelands.org or on 073 235 6666.

Yours in Scouting,

avi

Norman Davies Scout Group Leader First Pinelands Scout Group

m	
be	pre



## invitation

To say farewell to Mike Stanley, who is finishing his tenure with us, and to send our scouts off to the Jamboree, you are condially invited to attend a

#### FAREWELL PRESENTATION

Date: Friday, 14 June 2019 Time: 8.30 for 8.45 pm Venue: First Pinelands Scout Hall

Scouts can be collected from the hall at the usual time of 9.45 pm











**1st Pinelands - Scouts News** 



## **BADGE ACTIVITY**

Membership - Alex Everatt, Rachel MacIntyre, Christopher Marks Pathfinder - Malini Mistry Adventurer - Simeon Davies, Jakob Malone, Guy Yates Camping (scoutcraft) - Guy Yates Climbing (scoutcraft) - Josie Adlard, Jakob Malone Fires and cooking (scoutcraft) - Guy Yates Hiking (scoutcraft) - Simeon Davies, Joshua Lugt, Jakob Malone Map reading (scoutcraft) - CJ Beerwinkel, Joshua Beerwinkel Patrol Activities (scoutcraft) - Jakob Malone Sports Fan (scoutcraft) - Jakob Malone Boatman - CJ Beerwinkel Master-at-arms - Jakob Malone

## **JAMBATS ALL READY TO GO....**







# **GOLDEN RULE NO 1 - NO RUNNING**

OOPS! The First Pinelands Rovers went for a game Lazertag at Grandwest last Saturday and even though it's designed for children, we're pretty sure we had more fun than any of the 12 years olds who were running around shooting us!

We had a great turn out with most of our rovers, our latest squire and a few recruits tagging along. It was a fairly wild exercise with crazy pseudonyms and being tagged by your allies. This photo is from after because before the game we were distracted by cheeky waffles and banter. Some of us thought about outfits a bit more carefully and picked all black or camo outfits, Tamsin figured she'd just blind the opponents with her bright colours and Harry shone brightly under the UV lights.

Thanks Anja Mühr for organising and we're definitely keen to go again!

Laura Troost

- 1. Rover meeting held on 18 April Jonathan Campbell was invested as a squire.
- 2. Upton 3 rovers judged on Upton, it was an incredibly well organised competition and our scouts did well.
- 3. Rover Hike/Power walk held on 7 May Sunset at Kloof corner.
- 4. Lazertag held of 11 May Great fun and highly recommended for adults to try.
- 5. Next meeting to be held in June.
- 6. Rovers are itching to get the rover den done once the container is in place.
- 7. Great to see the rovers a bit more active recently, keen to keep the

momentum going.

5 Active Rovers, 1 Active Squire, 2 Active Recruits.

## **FELLOW SCOUTERS,**

There is nothing more that builds a team than by sharing and achieving a common goal. In scouting this translates to patrols, troops, packs and groups including parents working towards an outcome, that is challenging and fun, which results in an achievement that one can be proud of.

Two Oceans Ironwood Rover Crew have recognized the need for great team work in scouting and have put together this awesome and unique event which scouts, scouters and scout parents can exploit in their own time, to build that cohesion in what ever grouping you choose.. be it patrol, pack, troop or group etc.

Scouters take this up and challenge your patrol's, troop, other groups and parents to participate, and in so doing broadening the support for scouting which we all love and enjoy. All the details are in the attached flyer, and lets make this event a success.

YIS

Conrad Thomas District Commissioner: Two Oceans District Mobile: +27 082 889 0263 Email: dctwooceans@gmail.com







## **1ST PINELANDS & 6TH RONDEBOSCH ROVERS TACKLE THE KRAKENS CHALLENGE!**

(Geocaching Challenge around Cape Town)















## ROVER NEWS





We saw a lot of Cape Town! We set off in 2 cars on Saturday morning in a jovial mood, ready for an adventure. First, to Milnerton - The first few were incredibly difficult but once our senses were refined and we were using the right clues we were off to a good start.

Note: Nano caches are super tiny. Then off to Constantia and time for a snack! The River was probably the most difficult to find. Next we missioned towards Noordhoek, we were a little tired but the pancakes kept us going all the way to Simonstown to see the penguins. Back towards the central southern suburbs and the sun was starting to set.

We found all 15 caches and decoded the clue to the 16th cache which was the Krakens treasure. If you've got a whole day free we highly recommend going on this adventure and the Iron Wood Challenge badge is worth it. If this seems cryptic it's because the more we say the easier the challenge will be if you choose to accept it. Take on the adventure and then reminisce with us over the fun!

By Laura and Megan with adjective help from Kirschner











1st Pinelands - Scouts News



## WALKING IN THE FOURTH OF JULY PARADE IN CALIFORNIA

On my trip to America, Jakob and I found out from my parents that we were walking in the 4th of July parade with our cousin. My experience walking as a scout in the 4th of July parade was amazing.

I walked with my cousin Charlie while helping carry the giant American flag with him. We were carrying the part with the stars.

There were 100 different kinds of floats in the entire parade and the Scouts were right at the end. My estimate for how many scouts there were walking with us is about 60. The Cubs walked under the flag and the Scouts carried it. It was huge! At the end of the parade, Charlie and I exchanged badges and scarves. I gave him a First Pinelands 90th Anniversary badge and he gave me a Marin County badge.

I also gave him a First Pinelands scarf and he gave me a Troop 73 Novato, California scarf. By Samuel Malone







## INTERVIEW WITH ASSISTANT PACK SCOUTER MICHELLE ADLARD

What are your passions in life? My passions are God and my four girls. I am an artist so I also enjoy being creative.

## What inspired you to join as an Assistant Cup Scouter?

Assistant Cup scotler? Akela was my inspiration. We have been good friends for a long time and I wanted to help. And once I was there each week it made sense to go into uniform as well.

#### What training have you had to go on to become an Assistant Cup Scouter?

I needed to attend a two day training session in Goodwood which was a lot of fun. I met other parents and scouts who recently turned 18 and were staying on to be scouters. We learned more about the organisation and how to run meetings.

## Was this training worthwhile and if so, why?

It was amazing. It made me appreciate even more, all the effort volunteers have made to make the movement possible. Especially once I understood what it stood for, and the training that they had been through. It really is an amazing leadership organisation and I feel proud to be a part of it.

## What have you enjoyed most about being involved with the cubs?

I have enjoyed getting to know the cubs better and being part of a team. I have also had the satisfaction that comes from serving.

#### What would you say to any parents wondering whether they should get involved as an Assistant Cup Scouter?

I highly recommend getting involved. It's not a huge commitment of time and the rewards are great. And the bonus is that you get to do it with your child. It really is a lot of fun!





# CHAPMANS PEAK HIKE

We went on a hike up Chapmans peak. Akela organised the hike for the First Pinelands cubs. There were 12 cubs and 6 grown-ups. Akela put us with two partners each. My partners where Iris and Seetoo.

No one was allowed to go in front of Akela. Thomas's dad was the sweeper and no one could go behind him. Thomas and my friend Eklavya had the most mountain fitness. They were always in the front with Akela. There were lots of rocks and some loose rocks.

The cubs helped each other up and down. Some cubs got tired and rested while the other cubs carried on to reach the top. My dad, Dr Chanakya, took Thomas and Eklavya up the mountain. They were the first people on top of the mountain. When I was going up the mountain with my mom, Kiranmai, Iris and my sister Divya we saw the most beautiful Protea. It was a king Protea. Some cubs said that the King Protea is as big as a Kings crown. At the top, it was a most beautiful view. We could see Hermanus from up there. At the top, it was like a natural playground and we had lots of fun at the top.

At the top, we saw two lizards. Thomas tried to catch one lizard. When we were coming down, I showed everyone the king Protea. Thomas and Eklavya were in front of everyone again. Me and my mom fell behind with my friend Luke and James. Dad was also with us. I slipped twice on the way down. Thomas and Eklavya's group waited once for us and when they saw us coming they went immediately. They also caught up to Akela, Seetoo and my friend Malathi. We sat down to have a good lunch break. After a while we got back on the road. My dad said it would take a half a hour. After a while James ran to us and we aot down. Everyone said finally you got down. On the way back Eklavya and Malathi came with us. It was a wonderful hike. The End

By Padma Laasya Jonnalagadda









At first it took so long to get there then we had to wait for everyone. The start was one of the steepest parts. We went past two piles of rocks and there were parts where we had to wait for the people at the back with my dad, the sweeper.

We all were running low on water and there were only a few people including me who went to the top. I was the first one to touch land mark. In the end we where all out of water. When me and my dad checked in the car we found a bottle of water and shared it.

By Thomas Wiseman





# SOUP COMPETITION





# FOLLOW US FOR 1ST PINELANDS

## UP-COMING SCOUT & CUB EVENTS

#### **CLICK HERE!**

**CLICK HERE!** 

www.firstpinelands.org

www.facebook.com/1stPinelands

### **GROUP COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF 1ST PINELANDS**

Chair Group Leader Troop Leader Assistant Troop Leader Rover Chair Cub Leader Secretary Treasurer Hall Hire Quarter Master Hall Maintanance Pinebranch PR

Todd Malone Norman Davies Anja Muhr Joe Harding Laura Troost Joi Lugt Michele Mistry Ansa Ferreira Vikki Dietchmann Monique Horroks Errol Soloman JP Lugt

tmalone@fastmail.fm wolf@firstpinelands.org anjamuhr@gmail.com joe@nortylemon.com heugoh@gmail.com joannlugt@gmail.com miamistry@gmail.com ansa.ferreira@telkomsa.net vickideitch@gmail.com mmhorrocks@mweb.co.za solomonerrol@gmail.com lugtjp@gmail.com

# GHITEC 15% off for Scouts & Cubs\*

## **1st Pinelands**



\*Off full price merchandise only in the *HI-TEC*<sup>•</sup> stores at Access Park, Kuils River, Montague Gardens and HI-TEC Stellenbosch. Scouts and Cubs must show their troop scarf in order to claim the 15% discount.

Kuils River, Unit No B24 & 25 Access Park, 1 Van Riebeeck Road, Kuils River. Tel: 021 903 7877 / 021 903 5635HI-TEC Stellenbosch, De Wet Centre, Church Street, Stellenbosch. Tel: 021 886 4063Access Park, Shop F1 and F2, Chichester Road, Kenilworth. Tel: 021 671 5132Montague, Unit B6, Montague Drive, Montague Gardens. Tel: 021 551 4939