

# 12<sup>TH</sup> CAULFIELD SCOUT GROUP

# 77<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

# THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> 2006, 7.00pm 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield Scout Hall, Elsternwick.

# **AGENDA**

Flag Break And Prayer

Welcome

**Present** 

**Apologies** 

**Confirmation Of The Previous AGM Minutes** 

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

**Group Leader's Report** 

Section Leaders' Reports

**Election Of Office Bearers** 

President

Treasurer

Secretary

**District Commissioner's Report** 

**Presentations** 

**Closing Remarks** 

Flag Down



# 12th Caulfield Scout/Cub Group

# 76<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Minutes Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2006

<u>Present:</u> Jenny Bush (chair), Rosemary Parr, Lesley Valentini, Alison Lloyd, Jenny Kempster, Dawn Foster, Peter Chilton, Rob Foster, Kristin Ludbey-Gillham, Caroline Murphy, Dennis Thoroughgood, Doug Lamb, Matthew Harrison, Graham and Glenda Mitchell, Frank Moore, Hilary Bush, Wendy and Roger Parish.

<u>Apologies:</u> Andrew Fraser, Mary Fraser, James Scott, Miyagi family, Jennifer Keirnan, Bruce Briedahl, Victoria Briedahl, David Woodman, Stephanie Woodman, Elizabeth Richardson, Rob Baker, Bernie Baker, Andrew Gibson, Lyn Gibson, Jan Kerr, John Kerr, Eloise Porter, Michelle Watson.

<u>Welcome:</u> Jenny Bush welcomed all to the meeting including Frank Moore (District Commissioner), Graham Mitchell (District Association President) and Glenda Mitchell.

AGM 2005 Minutes: Accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Alison Lloyd Seconded: Dawn Foster

<u>President's Report:</u> Jenny Bush presented her report which is recorded in full in the 2006 Annual Report. She highlighted efforts of the leaders, outlined the tasks of the committee and the fundraising activities for the year.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u> Jenny Bush presented the Treasurers report which is recorded in the 2006 Annual Report. She mentioned the reduction in Hall Hire this year was due to the committee showing more diligence regarding tenants due to damage done in the past. Peter Chilton added that a large payment for Jamboree fees was included in the accounts but is due to be recovered from parents in this coming year's accounts.

#### Section Reports:

Cubs: Report presented by Rob Foster.
Scouts: Report presented by Caroline Murphy.
Venturers: Report presented by Dennis Thoroughgood.

Rovers: An overview of the activities offered by Rovers was

presented by Hilary Bush.

<u>Group Leader's Report:</u> Rosemary Parr presented the group leaders report which is provided in the 2006 Annual Report. She thanked the efforts of the leaders and mentioned the need for recruitment as some leaders would be leaving shortly.

<u>District Commissioner's Report:</u> Frank Moore spoke about the strength of the 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield group and advised that we were one of the strongest groups in the district. This can be directly attributed to the interesting program provided by the leaders and the strength of the parent commitment.

Frank mentioned that development plans were to be reviewed over the year in order to retain the group's strength over time.

Election Of Office Bearers: Nominations were received and nominees

duly elected as follows:

PRESIDENT Jenny Bush
TREASURER James Scott
SECRETARY Lesley Valentini

<u>Closing Remarks:</u> A presentation was made to Alison Lloyd for her valued fundraising efforts on the committee. A presentation was also made to Peter Chilton for his valued efforts and contributions as group leader, cub leader and now committee member.

Jenny Bush thanked everyone for coming and invited everyone to stay for supper.

The meeting closed 8.05pm.



# 77TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 6th September 2007

## **GROUP REPORT**

As we enter our 77<sup>th</sup> year, we are pleased to report that the Group is in good shape with strong programs running in all three sections.

# **Group President's Report 2006-07**

The 2006-07 year has proceeded smoothly and routinely for the Group Committee. The hall is in good shape and fundraising efforts continued with special thanks to Peter and Lesley Valentini coordinating the sausage sizzles. James Scott our Treasurer has managed our finances capably and we are in a sound position. We farewelled Jenny Kempster and Dawn Foster and I thank them both for their years of service to the Group. Thanks also to Edward Hill who has again managed our hall hiring, committee member Peter Chilton and finally to Rosemary Parr, our Group Leader who does a large amount of behind-the-scenes work. The Committee thanks all our existing and retiring leaders and we congratulate Caroline and Dennis on their marriage and the birth of their daughter.

Apart from the added excitement of the Australian Jamboree in January, 2006-07 has been another good year of Scouting at 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield. The Cubs have enjoyed a diverse program and last weekend enjoyed a Pack Holiday. Many are ready to move to the busy Scout section while the Venturers are wondering where the Rover Crew is for them... The problem here is the same old, same old... leaders are retiring and noone is replacing them, so there is no chance of setting up a Rover Crew for 18-26 year olds at 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield at the moment. Interestingly, the main objective of Scouting – service to others – culminates in the Rover section, often as Rovers returning to the lower sections as leaders. This is not going to happen if the lower sections collapse before then...

And one might ask why Rosemary and I are still here when we have no children enrolled? It's Scouting, it's fun, it attracts good people and it does good things for our young people. Why not put your hand up as a leader or a committee member. Helping others has been medically shown to have lasting effects on inner happiness - and plenty of children will be glad you did too.

Jenny Bush Group President

#### Our Cub section

Roger, Paul and Hilary have shared the leadership load this year, enthusiastically assisted by David Haines, one of our Venturers.

Our Cubs have experienced a busy and exciting program in 2006/07 with lots of enthusiasm, new members, good leadership and parent support. As a result the Cub section is strong with around twenty Cubs attending each week.

The three Cubs working towards their Grey Wolf Badge prior to our last AGM were successful. Congratulations to them, their leaders and parents for this wonderful achievement. It takes a great deal of organisation and dedication to attain this highest level in the Cub section.

The Cubs have just returned from a fun-filled Pack Holiday to Caringal Scout Camp over the weekend, and their participation in the many and varied Group and District activities on offer widens their life experience. The quality of the program is reflected in the Cubs' enthusiasm. Some of the activities and experience gained on this camp and for those taking part in the forthcoming District camp will stand the Cubs in good stead for Cuboree, coming up at Easter next year. There is always lots to look forward to in Cubs.

#### **Our Scout section**

This year in scouts we've seen many changes, with many new scouts joining our group while older scouts move on. We have many enthusiastic scouts with lots of ideas of things they'd like to do. This fuels our programming and provides the scouts with a range of activities to participate in throughout the year.

At the beginning of this year we said goodbye to Michelle who left us to travel overseas and play with lion cubs. We thank her for all the time and energy that she brought to 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield. We have also welcomed Bob Northey to 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield; Bob has joined the leader team and is a wonderful asset to us.

The big event in the last 12 months was of course the Jamboree; 12 days living in the hot and dusty place they call Elmore. We had 12 scouts attend the Jamboree and by all reports they had a great time and recommend it to everyone. The scouts thank the committee for their financial assistance, as without it many of the scouts would not have had the opportunity to attend.

As well as the Jamboree we've had lots of other activities going on. The beginning of the financial year saw 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield win the district swimming sports, something we haven't managed to do since about 1995, when Eloise and I were swimming in them as scouts. Attending activities organized by other scout troops enables the scouts to meet new scouts in the area. We attended 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Central Moorabbin's 'Amazing Race' last year, which was just that - Amazing! We also had a laser force challenge with 1<sup>st</sup> Edithvale. A 4 night camp in the September school holidays at Upper Beaconsfield saw many scouts complete lots of badge work required for the Jamboree.

In term 4 the scouts experimented with magnets and LED lights and attend the annual beach camp, which doubled as our pre jamboree camp.

The beginning of this year saw us making pancakes, riding our bikes to St Kilda, canoeing and abseiling at Clifford Park and going ten pin bowling. We had 2 scouts join with another troop for Stradbroke Cup and they achieved a silver pennant, which is a fantastic effort. Term 2 was as busy as ever with a trip to the Windsor fire station, some hiking in the Bunyip State park, a night tour of the St Kilda Cemetery, complete with ghost, a patrol at 15<sup>th</sup> Brighton's war camp (commando camp for those needing to be a little more politically correct) and a trip to the Gang Show to see some of our own scouts in action.

This past year has been a very busy one, and I hope it continues, as a busy program offers the children in this scout troop opportunities they may otherwise not have, it does require lots of time and effort on behalf of the leaders, and the committee who make the leaders job easier, by providing support and assistance when it's needed. Thanks and have a great 2007.

## Caroline Thoroughgood

On behalf of the leader team (Caroline Thoroughgood, Eloise Porter, Michelle Watson & Bob Northey)

#### **Our Venturer section**

Andrew Holmes and Kristin Ludbey have stepped up to fill the void left by Dennis' retirement at the end of 2006. Big shoes to fill, metaphorically speaking of course, but they have approached it with vigour and enthusiasm. Venturers have many demands on their time - school, homework, sport, work. It is very gratifying to see regular attendance at the weekly meetings and activities with other Venturer Units. This pressure of time forced a move of the meeting time for the Venturers to Tuesday evenings, bringing them more in line with other Venturer Units in the District. Hopefully this will ease the pressure for the leaders as well. Our Venturers spend a lot of time in combined Unit activities with other Venturer Units and the Districts Rover Crews, wherein strong friendships develop.

The Venturers had a remarkable and hilarious raft trip on the Murray River earlier this year, on a raft they designed and built themselves. As our Venturer leader team find their feet, the Unit can only continue to prosper.

## **Leadership and Training**

As always, recruiting, training and movement of leaders is an ongoing process in an active Group such as ours. Apart from getting on with the basics of delivering and constantly trying to improve our youth programs, managing change is a big part of what we do. Rob Foster and Wendy Parish stepped down from their leadership roles in the cub section at the end of last year. We thank them for their wonderful and dedicated efforts. Dawn Foster also relinquished her role as Admin Assistant to the Cub section leaders, she has been followed by Julie Marshall, Lynne Harrison and Iona Wield all taking a share of the load.

On the new recruitment side, we welcome Hilary Bush who has stepped forward and commenced her training with us in the Cub section. She has completed her basic training and displays enormous enthusiasm. Roger has stayed on as Cub leader and has completed further training. We will be sad to see Paul Klein step down later this year as Assistant Cub leader, and thank Paul for his dedication and time.

Our Scout section leadership has suffered a huge loss this year with Michelle Watson heading off overseas, Eloise Porter furthering her career in the country and Caroline taking on a new maternal role. Fortunately she has not abandoned us altogether and I am very happy to welcome Bob Northey as the new Scout leader in training. He is being assisted with great enthusiasm by Karen Morrissey.

It is a significant Group asset to have this calibre of leadership at 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield.

As our president Jenny Bush mentioned earlier in her report, our on-going recruitment drive will need to be pursued with even more than our usual vigour during the next year. With Michelle, Caroline and Eloise leaving our Scout leadership and Paul moving on from the Cub Leadership role, we will, as always, require more Leaders both in the Cub section and even more so in Scout section. With your help, we will achieve this.

If we can share the load we are able to reduce the burden. Scouting is fun for our children, but without sufficient leaders and a strong committee, the load on the leaders does become burdensome and the fun diminishes.

# **Our Group numbers**

Our Group strength can never be measured purely in numbers. Nevertheless, each year we complete the annual Census returns to the Victorian Branch of Scouting Australia. Looking back at the figures over the last three years as a comparative snapshot at 30<sup>th</sup> June, our youth numbers have varied a little, from 58 in 2005 to 55 for the current year. In the same period, our leader numbers have declined to 7, most of whom have taken up the challenge this year.

| Group Numbers at Census | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|
| Total youth members     | 58   | 46   | 55   |
| Total leaders           | 13   | 12   | 7    |

Despite numerous changes in the Cub section leadership we continue to have a full Cub pack. Our Cub pack currently has 25 Cubs with excellent participation rates and more on the waiting list ready to come in. It is unfortunate but that we are not able to take everyone when they would like to come in, particularly those who wish to come in with a friend. The Scout section, while losing more members than we would like in the transition of our youth to secondary school, remains healthy with an active program and a number of Cubs ready to make the transition to Scouts, and several new members who did not come up from Cubs. The fact that we have maintained a substantial base in the Scout section is quite an achievement when we take into account the overall reduction in leadership numbers. Our Venturer section has declined in numbers this year, and we have changed the meeting date and time, hopefully this will suit both leaders and youth better.

### **Our Committee**

Our thanks go to Jenny Bush, our president, Lesley Valentini, our secretary, James Scott our treasurer, Edward Hill our hall hire co-ordinator and all of our committee. We now have a committee of five. I would like to thank Kristin Ludbey and Karen Morrissey, both of whom volunteered to help out as committee members but decided that assisting in the sections was what they preferred to be doing, Kristin in the Venturer section and Karen in the Scout section. Many thanks to both of them.

#### In conclusion

Thank you to our parents, our committee, all of our leaders, our supporters, and our District leader team. We have lots of kids, well-structured and busy programs, an active Committee, a sound financial base, good leaders, continuing recruitment and an ongoing training program. Nevertheless there are significant challenges ahead of us and more leaders are required. I ask all of our parents and friends for your help as we look forward to meeting those challenges to ensure another strong year of scouting at 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield. We need you to help us get the message out. If you, or anyone you know can help us, directly or indirectly, please let us know. Adult participation is as important as youth participation. The kids can't run the programs themselves. We've been fortunate so far, saved in the nick of time by Andrew Holmes and Kristin Ludbey taking on the Venturers, and Bob Northey and Karen Morrissey taking on the Scouts.

On a personal note, congratulations to Dennis and Caroline Thoroughgood for producing a Cub Scout of the future, Harriet Louise who was born in July.

Rosemary Parr
LIC 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield
On behalf of the leadership team

# Treasurer's Report

The Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Summary and Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 20<sup>th</sup> June 2007 are presented with this report for your consideration.

The group recorded a surplus for the year of \$4, 494 compared to a deficit of \$9,906 the previous year. This improvement arose form:

- 1. Increase in subscripts receipts due to an increase in subscription fee, and tighter control over the affiliation members with Scout's Victoria.
- 2. Increase in hall hire income of \$3,922 compared to the previous year.
- 3. Previous year expenditure included subsidies for members attending the Jamboree.

Funds raised through sausage sizzles and hall hire are critical to supporting and funding the Group's programs. I take this opportunity to thank Rosemary Parr, Peter Chilton, Jenny Bush, Lesley Valentini and Edward Hill for their efforts.

I also thank Caroline, Eloise, Michelle, Roger Paul, Hilary and Rosemary for their efforts running the programs during the year.

I would appreciate all the members forwarding any outstanding amounts to the Group as soon as possible.

James Scott

**Honorary Treasurer** 

12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield Scout Group