



## **2009 ANNUAL REPORT**

*12th CAULFIELD SCOUT GROUP  
THURSDAY 20th AUGUST 2009*

## **AGENDA**

---

- **Welcome**
- **Parade / Flag Break**
- **Apologies**
- **Minutes of 2008 AGM tabled**
- **Presentation of Reports**
  - Outgoing Presidents Report
  - Outgoing Treasurers Report
  - Group Leaders Report
- **Office Bearers**
  - President
  - Vice President position to be filled
  - Treasurer
  - Secretary
- **Committee positions to be filled**
  - Hall Hire
  - Fundraising
  - Property
- **Group Leaders Report**
- **District Commissioners Report**
- **General Business / Discussion**
- **Committee Presentations**
- **Parade / Scout Presentations**
- **Flag Down**
- **Supper**



12th CAULFIELD SCOUT GROUP  
78<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2008

## **MINUTES of MEETING 2008**

---

**Present:** Peter Chilton (acting chair), Lesley Valentini, James Scott, Karen Morrissey, Graeme Berry, Frank Moore, Kevin Payne, Mark Lawrence, James Fox, Elizabeth Richardson, Amanda Fothergill, Alison Raaymakers, Simone Dixon, Marc Collins, Maree Wood, Alison Lloyd, Paul Hastings, Lloyd Jones, Michael Pollard

**Apologies:** Jenny Bush, Michael Jones, Kristin Ludbey, Lyn Harrison

**Welcome:** Peter Chilton welcomed all to the meeting including Frank Moore (District Commissioner), Graeme Berry (District Representative).

**Previous AGM Minutes:** Accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Karen Morrissey

Seconded: James Scott

**President's Report:** Peter Chilton briefly presented the Presidents report as Jenny was ill. Her report is recorded in full in the 2008 Annual Report.

**Treasurer's Report:** James Scott presented the Treasurers report, which is recorded in the 2008 Annual Report. The group made a profit of \$8000 this year, which is an increase from last year. The main fundraising activities include hall hire, sausage sizzles and a Christmas Tree drive. Income was very good from these events in particular the hall hire. Expenses have been relatively stable.

Moved: Graeme Berry. Seconded: Karen Morrissey

### **Section Reports:**

Cubs: Report provided by Roger Parish

Scouts: Report provided by Bob Northey

Venturer: Report provided by Peter Chilton

These can be found in the 2008 Annual Report.

**Group Leader's Report:** Peter Chilton presented the group leaders report (full copy provided in the 2008 Annual Report). In summary, Peter kindly accepted the position of Group Leader again after Rosemary resigned and no one stepped forward to take

over the role. Despite the rocky start, the group has seen good consistent numbers of cubs, scouts and Venturers over the year, with approximately 28 cubs and 25-28 scouts and a growing number of Venturers. The weaknesses to be addressed include the all male cub group and mostly the same age (8yo). As a group, we should be looking to attract a variety of ages in the cubs as well as some girls. Some strategies to address this are planned for implementation in the New Year with advertising in local school newsletters and preparing a waiting list for boys. Another weakness of the group is the lack of leaders and committee members. The group currently has 3 cub leaders and 2 new scout leaders (from the same household) however more help is needed. Peter thanked the leaders for their commitment and enthusiasm.

Peter thanked Dawn Foster for her continuous improvements to our groups website. The website has been very successfully with a growing increase in information requests for the group as well as interest in hall hire.

Peter also thanked the committee for their work and called for more people to join and provide new ideas and change.

**District Commissioner's Report:** 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. He welcomed Peter back into the role of Group Leader, but suggested we recruit someone into an 'Assistant Group Leader position'. He was happy to learn that our Venturer unit was still running and we had growing numbers. He mentioned the lack of any group in the Bayside area and felt that these children would be directed toward our group and with them, potentially a leader. A growing group would also impact finances. He thanked our leaders for their enthusiastic programs and wished us well for the following year.

**Election of Office Bearers:** Nominations were received and nominees duly elected as follows:

PRESIDENT	Jenny Bush
TREASURER	James Scott / Lyn Harrison to take over in January-09
SECRETARY	Lesley Valentini
Q-STORE MGR	Michael Jones
FUNDRAISING	Karen Morrissey
HALL HIRE	Jenny Bush

**Closing Remarks:** Scouting offers a wonderful opportunity for children to expand their interests and friendship groups. It provides access to a variety of communal scout facilities, such as ski lodges, camps etc which can be used and shared.

A presentation was made to Paul Klein for his contributions with Cubs and to Edward Hill for his valued efforts on the committee. He thanked Edward for successfully managing the hall hire process over a number of years.

Peter thanked everyone for coming and invited everyone to stay for supper.

Meeting closed 7.45pm.



*12th CAULFIELD SCOUT GROUP  
79<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REPORT & PRESENTATION  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2009*

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

---

Good evening everyone and thank you for coming to our Annual Report and Presentation Evening. This is my sixth report as Group President.

The year 2008-09 again proceeded well for 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield overall, having the usual ups and downs of any organization. Our sections are busy and buoyant... Peter reports their activities to us at each Committee meeting and I sometimes think I should dust off my sleeping bag and head off with our Scouts on their next adventure! Their year has been particularly busy as a record number prepare to attend next year's Jamboree in Sydney – the highlight of a Scout's life! A dwindling Cub pack due to an age imbalance issue is the major sectional concern and we are focussing on recruiting Cubs at the moment.

We welcomed two new leaders to our Scout section and are better for having Amy and Guy for join us. ALL our leaders are to be commended and on behalf of the parent body, I thank them wholeheartedly.

From the committee's point of view, the group is running well... the hall and the books are both sound. Hall hirings have increased dramatically with our listing on the Internet, a hall hire email address and improved invoicing. To some extent, this has eased the need for constant Glenhuntly Road Sausage Sizzles and we have focussed instead on a couple of larger venues. We have been nominated by Glen Eira Council and adopted by the National Trust as the Sausage Sizzle provider for Ripponlea Estate. This has huge potential for our fundraising – an especially crucial component of the committee's work with respect to Jamboree assistance to parents.

Of course, getting 'all hands on deck' is another issue.

The Committee has lost the services of Karen Morrissey – our fine fundraiser – and Lyn Harrison, our Treasurer. Thanks to these two lovely ladies for their help on our committee.

However this now leaves just Lesley Valentini (Secretary), Peter and myself. We desperately require more help/newer skills/younger hands from incoming parents to pick up the baton and help guide their children's group. We need to improve communication and bonds within the parent body. We need parents who can help with newsletters and networking. ***We need parents, full stop!***

I urge you to step forward and join our fun group... you'll benefit as much as your children do!

Thank you.

Jenny Bush  
Group President

## Treasurer's Report

The Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Summary and Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009 are presented with this report for your consideration.

The Group recorded a surplus for the year of \$20,276 compared to \$8787 the previous year. This improvement is largely a result of the increased amount of Hall Hire income achieved this year. The website has proved particularly useful in this regard. Particular thanks need to go to Jenny Bush (President) in her active role in co-ordinating this.

The Cubs and Scouts have run varied, regular and challenging activities and the increase in expenditure in program costs reflects this.

Funds raised through sausage sizzles have also increased and Karen Morrissey's involvement in this area has been most valuable.

I take this opportunity to thank Lesley Valentini, Peter Chilton, Karen Morrissey and Jenny Bush for their efforts in managing the Groups affairs.

I take this opportunity to thank our Leaders for their continued commitment to our Group.

I thank all members for their prompt payment of subs this year and the assistance of Peter Chiltern in achieving this.

As I am resigning from the position of Treasurer at the Annual meeting, I encourage any parent with an interest in the continuing success of the Group to consider a role on the Committee.



Lyn Harrison  
Honorary Treasurer  
12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield Scout Group.



*12th CAULFIELD SCOUT GROUP  
79<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REPORT and PRESENTATION  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2009*

## **GROUP REPORT**

---

We are now in our 80<sup>th</sup> year at 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield, and despite a difficult year in many ways there is still much to be pleased about and much to build on. Our youth numbers at Census show a modest increase of about 8% skewing slightly towards an average older age. I mentioned last year about an age and gender imbalance in our Cub pack, even though it was very full. We are now feeling the effect of that demographic bubble of boys entering the lower end of our Scout Troop and, more pertinently, the need to replace them with new younger Cubs coming in.

Our primary sectional focus last year was our Scout troop leadership and we are very pleased to report that we now have a new leader in Amy Tang. Amy adds a terrific balance to our established Leader team of Bob and Lesley and makes their task considerably easier. Guy Delon also joined us this term. Guy has recently applied to officially join us as a leader, and is keen to do his training. The addition of Amy and Guy will strengthen the leadership team in the Scout section.

Our Primary sectional focus this year is our Cub pack and Cub pack support for Roger and Kristin. However we have another very important issue that we need to address and that is a more even and active parent participation helping out, not only with our Cubs but also in other ways, both on the committee and outside it. No one need be scared of being on our committee it is simply a forum which takes very little of anyone's time to make sure we co-ordinate the well being of our Group and it is not at all onerous. We are very grateful for the people who have always supported us in many ways We just needs some new parents, ideas and fresh faces!

### **Our Cub section**

Our Cubs have experienced a full and innovative program with enthusiastic kids, and whilst we have an excellent leader team we desperately need another leader and more parent support. It is a testament to the commitment of our leaders that our Cub section has an excellent participation rate with numbers in the high teens on most nights.



There have been several new cubs joining through the year, but the section is still comprised almost entirely of boys, with one exception. I am pleased to report that our one exception, is not the least bit fazed by a teeming mass of boisterous young boys!

As discussed in this forum last year we would prefer to have a better gender mix and for planning purposes, we would like to re-establish our waiting list. If your children have siblings coming up, please let us know.

Our current numbers are 19 with one coming in but we have a number going up into Scouts shortly and our primary task in the youth sections this year is to build both adult support and youth numbers in our Cub section.

We again have Cubs at every level actively working towards their gold, silver and bronze boomerangs. Apart from a large number of varied programs run in the hall, the highlights of last year included the Billy Cart Derby in October where 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield came second. We have had several theme nights at the hall with a Halloween night in October. There was a Medieval District camp held at Pax Hill, Ballarat in November with ten of our members attending. There was another relaxed Beach Camp at Point Leo in December, which was attended by Cubs, Scouts Venturers and some parents. The weather was awful with pelting rain, but our Cubs were amused sliding on puddles on boogie boards and slime. Unfortunately, because we will be preparing our big tents and equipment for the Scout Jamboree we will not be having that camp this year. During term 1, we usually have our Cubs taking advantage of the light and getting out of the hall to Harleston Park. As well as being able to have wide games, we also hold boomerang activities there such as first aid and safety.

There was a reptile night in March when snakes, turtles and a crocodile came to the hall. Again this year cubs attended the Anzac Day service at the RSL provide an excellent opportunity for the wider community to see our Group involved in active community service.

In May there was also a Leadership Course for sixers and seconds attended by two of our Cubs. These are an excellent preparation for leadership roles in Cubs. We had a sleepover and film night in June in the hall. There was also the district 10 pin Bowling where 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield came second in 1<sup>st</sup> June.

We have also had musical evenings with violins; keyboard, guitars and our Cubs have cooked, learnt codes and, of course, been swimming.

Thank you to our leader team - Roger Parish, and Kristin Ludby assisted by Richard Bycroft who is now planning to undertake formal training. We also thank Lyn Harrison for her assistance.

Strengths:	Excellent participation and enthusiastic Cubs.
Weaknesses:	Youth age & gender imbalance / new leaders to complete training
Opportunities:	Recruiting girl Cubs / membership potential from Bayside area
Threats:	Smaller pack if younger Cubs aren't successfully recruited

## **Our Scout section**

Let's avoid the business/ football jargon of Key Performance Indicators (we have enough of our own) and just say they are all ticked off. Our Scouts have had an extraordinarily successful year by any measure. The current Troop size is 24 all of whom are actively pursuing their Scouting life with three new Scouts who are just joining up and another four coming in shortly from Cubs.

The year has been a particularly busy one with activities designed to test and develop skills and leadership. The activities have included the following:

- 7 one-to-four night camps including at Officer, Gilwell, Mt Martha and Pax Hill Scout Camps. We took 24 Scouts to the Stradbroke Cup at Easter, and the four patrols came away with two Silver and two Gold pennants. This is an excellent result for a competitive Cup, which focuses on campcraft.
- Several Pioneer Journeys, a 2-day Explorer Hike and a 3-day Adventurer Hike. These correspond to the major award categories in Scout section.
- 41 Scout night activities with a busy program and our Scouts being tested for components of the award scheme on most nights.
- Places visited included Lake Mountain, Daylesford, Castlemaine, Point Leo, the Otways, Ballarat, Linton, right around Port Phillip Bay on the Fantastic Race, and numerous locations closer to home.
- We visited the SES and CFA, assisted at the ANZAC Day parade to the Shrine and the Glen Eira Volunteer Award night, as well as doing a 'good turn' garden working bee for a local senior citizen.
- Our senior Scouts participated in a "Try Driving" activity at the Mudbash event at Mafeking Rover Park.

We have a very large contingent of 20 Scouts and two Leaders booked to attend the triennial Australian Jamboree in NSW in January 2010 ("AJ2010"), the premier Scouting camp and activity – preparations for which have been underway for most of 2009.

Competency progress as measured by badgework has been impressive at all levels. We have three Scouts (Chloe Love, Rosie Marshall & Rebecca Parish) who have or are about to complete the requirements of the highest merit award in Scouts: the Scout Medallion. This will be the first time in our collective memory we have had three Scouts achieve the highest award in the one year.

The Scouting system encourages the older Scouts to take increasing roles in not only assisting and training the younger ones, but also in the management of the Troop and running activities. This past year has seen our Patrol Leaders in particular showing great maturity and commitment in this regard, whilst having a lot of fun along the way. This will bode them well in any Venturer unit and in later life.

While AJ2010 is a major focus for the remainder of 2009, our Leaders are now working on a strong program for 2010, which will provide many exciting opportunities for the Troop.

With Jamboree occurring at the beginning of the year and the large contingent from our own Group, our major focus in the Scout Troop will be the retention of AJ 2010 participants so they may continue to enjoy their Scouting and go on and achieve personal milestones or higher awards.

Strengths:	Excellent participation and enthusiastic Scouts / major awards
Weaknesses:	New leaders to complete training / gender imbalance from Cubs
Opportunities:	Patrol development in younger Scouts / events after Jamboree
Threats:	Losing Scouts after Jamboree (AJ 2010)

### **Our Venturer section**

We regard Venturing as a vital part of our group. During the entire year we have retained all of our existing eligible unit members, added some more and the unit of 10 continues to be a vibrant part of 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield. It provides a space where adolescents are able to express themselves and have the freedom to develop their own program. It also provides a framework for a huge raft of adventurous activities and the Queen Scout award.

We are very pleased that David Haines one of our ex Venturers, who will be with us tonight has achieved his Queen Scout award, the highest award in the youth section and internationally recognized. As part of his requirements David helped out in our Cub Leader team and we are proud to have David here tonight and to have the opportunity to thank him on behalf of the Group.

During Venturers it is also a time where school pressures are high and there are a lot of competing time constraints. However, there are no limits apart from the imagination and of our adolescent youth members as to what they can achieve.

The unit has elected a new unit chairman with the past unit chairman going up to Rovers in October. Apart from the 'fun' activities listed in their attached report, there have also been both mainstream events eg. a debate on euthanasia and learning about life in the cold from an Antarctica veteran (another Venturer Leader) and more formal nights.

However, it is much better for the Venturers to have their own voice and here it is ...

## **Our Venturers' report**

Leader: Andrew Holmes Unit members: Nick L. (unit Chairman) Marcus, Nick H. (fundraising management), Nathan (Vice Chairman), Marcus, Emma (secretary), Nicole, Tini, Joanna (treasurer), John.

Hello to all 12th Caulfield Group members,

As the unit chairman I would like to warmly welcome you, and I hope you enjoy my formal report on the proceedings of our unit :]

Our unit holds an untraditional and seemingly un-orthodox approach to scouting. Over the last twelve-ish months at 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield we have actually been surprisingly productive. In contradiction to public belief, our unit has organised numerous incursions and excursions.

A very special super doper mention should go to our very own David Haines who defied all odds and thrived in achieving a Queen Scout award through 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield. I quote myself from the presentation ceremony *"if David can manage to achieve a Queen Scout award within the 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield venturer unit, I reckon he can pretty much achieve anything"* \*everyone laughed, while understanding the truth\*

During the last twelve months, our unit's highlight has undoubtedly been the organisation and execution of our fundraiser event project giggy-gog-gig town. During this event multiple live bands played including our very own Silent Sound Check. The event raised hundreds of dollars, which we donated towards Melbourne Gang Show

Complementing this pinnacle of our efforts have been a whole smorgasbord of ravishing events. They are made up of the following.

- A week spent at the Mt Baw Baw rover chalet snowboarding and skiing.
- Attended the scout centenary street party in the city.
- Visited the Wilson brothers rally car factory, in which we have all lost a few percent of hearing range due to his SICK exhaust and air induction system.
- "Bring a friend camp" at point Leo where a few non-ventures attended.
- Attended the two thousand and eight Vic Gathering, where Nick Love daringly dislocated his left shoulder attempting to prove his unicycle virtuosity.
- Spent a few nights at the beach during summer soaking up the warm weather and playing various beach games.
- Organised a ride into station pier and back.
- Spent a weekend on the Murray River building a raft and paddling it fifty kilometres to the Torrumbarry weir. No actually, I lied; we didn't paddle much at all.
- Held a music night at Nick Love's where we successfully destroyed Imagine by John Lennon. Reports on the ten o'clock news the night after claimed that a small earth tremor was measured from Lennon's very grave

- Competed against 3<sup>rd</sup> Box Hill in laser force at Box Hill time zone. The 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield Platoon demolish all foes then went on to draw in the world laser force competition with the British S.A.S
- Over a few weeks we painted a street style mural on the wall of our venturer den, which looks freaking sweet. This was truly a group effort and I personally think it shows off our unit's creative ability.
- The pool (billiards) night at Princes sporting complex proved to be entertaining with Andrew Holmes and Chris Love wiping all other players clean in competition.
- Joint night in the city catching up with our great pals from 1<sup>st</sup> Glen Waverley.
- Another night in the city included the red light district...nahhh, just kidding we all competed in a photography scavenger hunt trekking between the C.B.D's monuments in order to attain the most impressive photo of each.
- Our Sing Star night was truly unforgettable by all those who were within audible proximity; according to the Guinness book of records we now hold the record for most out of tune notes performed within an hour, Honest.
- Adding to our contribution to the 2009 Melbourne Gangshow. We organised a jolly bunch of people to watch the show then attend the final show after party. A special mention should go to three of our very own superstars Marcus, Marcus and Nathan who did a spectacular job their leading roles.
- The joint night between the other units within our district made us realise how fortunate we were to have Andrew Holmes as our leader. The exhilarating events held on this night included blindfold navigation, tarpaulin folding, and silent ball...
- Crate stacking, where a Bytecrafft rigging expert introduced us to the safety harness systems used in the rigging industry. We made use of the super advance equipment to undergo the relatively mundane activity of piling milk crates on top of each in order to reach the roof.
- Last week we held a subzero theme going ice skating on the Tuesday and then spending the weekend up at Mount Buller shredding up the slopes.

The future looks promising for 12th Caulfield. The program for the next few months set to outdo all precedents. Written high upon the official term planner white board in the den are.....

- Construction night where we plan to put our engineering, construction and project management skills into place in order to build another contraption to add to the couch on wheels legacy.
- A bon fire camp which will most likely include a pyro-maniac no scratch that, I mean pyro-technics effects
- Photography night.
- And of course many business meetings to keep our unit organised and punctual... As usual

That's it everybody, as this is my first Unit Report I apologise for any informalities. Just to throw in a bit of spice, I have made an effort to make this report just a tiny winny little bit humorous, I hope you enjoyed it.

Love from Nick Love and the entire 12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield Venturer Unit.

## **Our Committee**

This year we wish to extend a special thank you to Jenny Bush, our president. Jenny has done and continues to do an extraordinary job in our Group in a huge variety of ways. This is Jenny's 12<sup>th</sup> year helping our Group to keep strong. Thanks also to Lesley Valentini, our secretary who has also been with us many years; James Scott, our auditor; Lyn Harrison our outgoing Treasurer; Dawn Foster, our webmaster; Karen Morrissey our sausage sizzle co-ordinator who has also helped out in numerous ways. We especially welcome and thank our incoming Treasurer, Matthew Lloyd, who has stepped forward. Our committee has traditionally been one of the strengths of this group, and we thank Matthew for accepting this role. However more new helpers are needed urgently and we call upon the parents of our newer members to join in and help out.

## **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, notwithstanding our lower than usual Cub numbers, well-structured and busy programs, a sound financial base and new leaders about to embark on their training program. Nevertheless there are significant challenges ahead of us and more leaders and fresh faces are required particularly in the Cub section and the committee. 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 or provide leadership roles with our Cubs, our Venturers, our committee, with newsletters, or in any way at all, please come forward. **WE NEED YOU!**

Peter Chilton  
Group Leader  
12<sup>th</sup> Caulfield Scout Group  
On behalf of the leadership team