

2nd RINGWOOD SCOUT GROUP.

A brief history and Group organisational structure.

HISTORY.

The Group was formed on 13/9/53 under the leadership of Mr. Jack Clarke. Under his leadership, four boys formed the first Scout Troop. They met at the old clock tower (Maroondah Highway and Warrandyte Roads corner) then walked to his property in North Ringwood, where the first meeting took place.

The boys chose Mr. Clarke's Scarf (bottle green and navy blue braid although faded at the time (should have been black braid) is worn by 1st Dundee in Scotland. This Group was often visited by Lord Baden Powell the founder of the Scout Association.

Basic Badges worn on the uniform.

They are received at his/her investiture ceremony. The District Badge - (green, wattle branch and white horse) represents the prominence of wattle and greenery in the District, The white horse - the old Cobb and Co route through Ringwood in the early days. The Membership Badge (purple and white) signifies membership of the Scout Association. The colours are official world scouting colours. Name Tapes - 2nd Ringwood, East Suburban Area - state who you belong to and in our case the Cub Packs are named Waratah (a flower) and Kurrajong (a Tree). Australian Scout Badge shows you are an Australian Scout. A diagram showing correct badge positions on the uniform is available.

Achievements.

The Group has moved location several times over the years. The Silver Anniversary was celebrated a few years ago, at which many past members attended, notably Mr. Jack Clarke, the founder of the Group. On the 13th February 1979, the Hall in Patterson Street East Ringwood was gutted by fire. Up until 1981, the Group used many halls in Ringwood. The lease on the present building (H.E. Parker Reserve) became available in March 1981. Recently an agreement between Heathmont Guide District and ourselves will enable the Hall complex to be used for Guides and Scout

GROUP ORGANISATION

(a) Sections:

The Scout Association is broken up into 4 sections -

Cubs	-	8	to	11	years.
Scouts	-	11	"	15	"
Venturers	-	15	"	18	"
Rovers	-	18	"	25	"

The combination of one or more becomes a Scout Group. Each section is broken down into small groups with a leader and an assistant leaders. A Cub Pack has sixers led by a sixer. The Pack Leader is called Akela. A Scout Troop has Patrols led by a Patrol Leader. A Scout Leader and Assistant Leaders run the Troop.

A Venturer Unit is different. They have an elected governing body consisting of a chairman, secretary, treasurer and activity advisers. They manage the unit. This is the first section to admit girls. A Rover Crew is very similar to venturers except they manage themselves completely.

(b) Group Leaders Role:

To organise 4 sections (Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers) and a Parents Committee. The committee help manage the Group. The Group Leader has overall authority within the group of all persons associated with it. All decisions made within the Group by him or someone else, he is responsible for that decision.

(c) Leaders Role:

Each Leader is responsible to the Group Leader. They in turn are responsible for the running of their section. Each month they attend a District and Group Meeting.

(d) Parents Role:

- To support the group by -
- (i) attending fundraising functions.
 - (ii) join a sub-committee.
 - (iii) when called upon join the Parent Committee.
 - (iv) be punctual in arrival and collection of your children.

- (v) help Leaders by returning forms promptly.
- (vi) help in any way you possibly are able .

(e) **Group Committees Role:**

The Committee's role is to manage the Group. This is achieved by Parents representing the Group at District and Group Committee Meetings. Joining parent sub-committees - Fundraising, recruitment, public relations or hall maintenance. All parents are expected to join a sub-committee. Four specialised jobs of the sub-committees are the backbone of any Scout Group. Every parent is expected to spend two years on the main committee when asked to do so.

GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Who can join the Scout Association.

- (i) Anyone from the age of 8 years to 26 years in youth membership. Adult Leaders commence at 18 years. A waiting list is available to boys under 8 and girls under 14 years. It is advisable for parents to put their sons/daughters names on this list to avoid disappointment. Girls may join at 14 years in the Venturer section.
- (ii) A person joining the Scout Association must believe in the existence of a god or being. Atheists are excluded from joining.
- (iii) Promise to the best of his/her ability to keep the Scout Promise and Laws.

GROUP FEES

A Registration Fee of \$22.40 is paid to the Scout Association. A group fee of \$25.00 is payable to the group, which is the only direct income from parents, except for fundraising and hall hire. At present the group is dependant on substantial fundraising (\$1,500 - \$2,000) which cannot be achieved without parental support.

UNIFORM

The uniform is worn to and from each Scouting function. It consists of a shirt, shorts or trousers for older age groups, socks, cap or hat, shoes - black, brown leather or desert boots. The scarf and badges are supplied by the Scout Group. You will also need a woggle.

Uniforms are purchased at Scout Outdoor Centres. The nearest is at 20 Station Street, Mitcham. 873 5061. Second-hand uniforms sometimes may be purchased through the scout group.

The uniform can be purchased and worn immediately. He/she may take up to 8 weeks before being invested into the Scout movement. This means making the scout promise and law, wearing a Group Scarf and badges.

BEHAVIOUR

A boys behaviour is usually controlled within the Cub Pack and Scout Troop. If a boy arrives home without his scarf and wearing a different coloured one, it means he has been uncooperative during the meeting night. Those that continue to play up and refuse to cooperate are brought home by a Leader.

Venturers and Rovers usually settle their own behaviour problems themselves. All behaviour problems are usually discussed at section or council meetings and eventually with the Group Leader if a solution to the problem is not found.