

This is a brief history of the 2nd Ringwood Scout Group  
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2<sup>ND</sup> RINGWOOD (OUR LADY'S) SCOUT GROUP

EARLY HISTORY

THE GROUPS EXISTANCE CAME ABOUT ~~IN 1926~~ <sup>IN 1926</sup> WHEN MR SACK CLARKE MET A SCOTSMAN CHARLIE HENRY. TOGETHER THEY FORMED 1<sup>ST</sup> MT DANDENONG. HE WAS NEWLY ARRIVED IN AUSTRALIA AND HAD BELONGED TO 3<sup>RD</sup> DUNDEE A GROUP WHICH HAD HAD ACTUAL CONTACT WITH BADEN POWELL THE FOUNDER OF SCOUTING THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

MANY YEARS LATER, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE LATE CORY OKE OF 1<sup>ST</sup> RINGWOOD IN THOSE DAYS & LATER DISTRICT COMMISSIONER OF RINGWOOD 2<sup>ND</sup> RINGWOOD WAS FORMED. 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 1953, 25 YEARS AGO TODAY THIS GROUP WAS FORMED ON A SATURDAY AFTERNOON MEETING AT THE RINGWOOD CLOCK TOWER, 5 BOYS & MR SACK CLARKE WALKED TO HIS PROPERTY ~~NEAR~~ IN NORTH RINGWOOD CLOSE TO LOUGHAN'S LAKE. FROM THIS SMALL BEGINNING BOYS SCOM FLOCKED ALONG UNTIL 2 WEEKS LATER TWO PATROLS WERE FORMED. DICK LYE BECAME THE FIRST TO GAIN HIS TENDERFOOT STANDARD AND ALSO THE FIRST TO BE INVESTED.

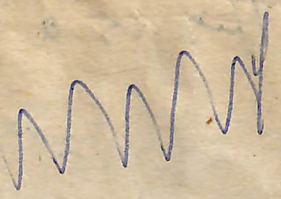
SOME WEEKS LATER THE CUB PACK WAS FORMED BY A MRS SCHOLTS. (WHO IS HERE TONIGHT) <sup>of green and blue</sup> ~~MISS MARY WHITFORD~~. AROUND THIS TIME THE GROUP SCARF WAS <sup>written</sup> CHOSEN. 3<sup>RD</sup> DUNDEE'S COLOURS WERE DECIDED UPON BY THE BOYS.

<sup>they were</sup> THE FIRST GROUP SCARVES WERE PRESENTED TO THE BOYS INVESTED BY A MR KING WHO HAD BEEN ONE OF THE BOYS WHO CAMPED ON BROWNSSEA ISLAND IN ENGLAND UNDER BADEN POWELL IN 1908. THE FIRST ORGANISED SCOUT CAMP. <sup>EXPERIMENTAL</sup>

THE GROUP WENT FORWARD FROM THIS POINT & GREW TO 120 BOYS - 2 CUB PACKS, 2 SCOUT TROOPS A SENIOR SCOUT TROOP & 12 SCOUTERS. BUT STILL MET AT THE LITTLE WOODEN CHURCH IN WILANA ST RINGWOOD, UNTIL AROUND LATE 1972 WHEN THE GROUP MOVED INTO THE PRESENT HALL YOU ARE STANDING IN TONIGHT.

The group went forward from this point and grew to 120 boys - 2 cub packs, 2 and 2 scout troops. A senior scout troop and 12 scouters. They still continued to meet in the old church hall at Our Lady's Ringwood until early 1972 when the hall was <sup>and</sup> deliberately set on alight and burnt down





There were no ~~meetings~~ <sup>meetings</sup> for about 6 months  
 until 2<sup>nd</sup> Ringwood purchased this hall ~~in~~  
~~late 1972~~ <sup>that</sup> we are standing in tonight in late  
 1972. At present we have 24 cubs, 14  
 scouts ~~mentors and 6 leaders.~~



## 2<sup>ND</sup> RINGWOOD (OUR LADY'S) SCOUT GROUP

① TODAY TO THE DATE, 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 1953, 25 YEARS AGO THIS GROUP WAS ~~FORMED~~ <sup>FORMED</sup> ON A ~~SUNDAY~~ <sup>SATURDAY</sup> AFTERNOON MEETING AT THE RINGWOOD CLOCK TOWER, 5 BOYS & MR. SACK CLARKE (WHO IS PRESENT HERE TONIGHT) ~~W~~ WALKED TO HIS PROPERTY IN NORTH RINGWOOD CLOSE TO LOUGHNAN'S LAKE. FROM A SMALL BEGINNING, BOYS SOON FLOCKED ALONG UNTIL 2 WEEKS LATER 2 PATROLS WERE FORMED. DICK LYE WAS THE FIRST ~~TENDER~~ <sup>TO GAIN</sup> HIS TENDERFOOT STANDARD AND ALSO THE FIRST TO BE INVESTED.

MR. CLARKE IN 1926 MET A SCOTSMAN NAMED CHARLIE HENRY ~~HAD BEEN ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER OF THE~~ NEWLY ARRIVED IN AUSTRALIA. HE HAD BELONGED TO 3<sup>RD</sup> DUNDEE, A GROUP WHICH ~~HE HAD BELONGED TO~~ ~~FROM 1926~~. ~~THE SCOUTMASTER CHARLIE HENRY~~ HAD HAD ACTUAL CONTACT WITH BADEN POWELL ~~OF~~ THE FOUNDER OF SCOUTING ~~AT SCOTSMAN FROM 3<sup>RD</sup> DUNDEE IN SCOTLAND HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED~~ WITH LORD BADEN POWELL THE FOUNDER OF THE MOVEMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

THE TWO FORMED 1<sup>ST</sup> MT DANDENONG. ~~MANY YEARS LATER IN~~ CONSULTATION WITH THE LATE CORRY OKE, OF 1<sup>ST</sup> RINGWOOD IN THOSE DAYS & LATER ~~AFTER THE~~ 2<sup>ND</sup> RINGWOOD WAS FORMED. ① DISTRICT COMMISSIONER,

### ~~SOON AFTERWARDS~~

SOME WEEKS LATER THE CUB PACK WAS FORMED BY A MISS MARY WHITTAM. AROUND THIS TIME THE GROUP SCARF WAS CHOSEN. 3<sup>RD</sup> DUNDEE'S COLOURS ~~WERE~~ <sup>WERE DECIDED UPON</sup> BY THE BOYS & THE 1<sup>ST</sup> GROUP SCARVES WERE PRESENTED TO THE BOYS INVESTED BY A MR KING WHO HAD BEEN ONE OF THE BOYS WHO CAMPED ON BROWNSEA ISLAND ~~IN~~ IN ENGLAND UNDER BADEN POWELL IN 1908 THE FIRST ORGANISED SCOUT CAMP.



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TO 120 BOYS, 2 CUB PACKS, 2 SCOUT TROOPS & A SENIOR SCOUT TROOP  
WITH 12 SCOUTERS BUT STILL MET AT THE LITTLE <sup>WOODEN</sup> CHURCH IN  
WILIMA ST RINGWOOD. IT WAS NOT UNTIL AROUND <sup>LATE</sup> 1972 THAT  
THE GROUP MOVED INTO THE PRESENT HALL YOU ARE STANDING IN  
TONIGHT.



THE FATHERS IMPRESSION.

THIS MAGAZINE IT IS HOPED WILL BE REBORN AGAIN TO FORM AN INTRICATE PART IN THE COMMUNICATION SET UP OF THE GROUP AS A WHOLE (CUBS, SCOUTS, READERS, PARENTS & INTERESTED PERSONS).

THIS YEAR BEING OUR <sup>25<sup>TH</sup></sup> SILVER ANNIVERSARY HAS SEEN AN INFLUX OF BOYS & LEADERS FAR IN ADVANCE OF ~~AS LITTLE AS~~ 3 YRS AGO, WHEN THE GROUP ~~WAS~~ <sup>WAS</sup> DECLINING IN NUMBERS. ~~STAGNANT~~. IT WAS INVIGORATED AGAIN BY ~~THE~~ DECISIONS OF PARENTS COMMITTEES TO SPEND MONEY ON NEW EQUIPMENT, <sup>FIND NEW LEADERS</sup> & BEGIN PLANNING EXTENSIONS TO THE PRESENT HALL WHICH WILL INCLUDE A KITCHEN, TOILETS, MEETING ROOM & STORAGE ROOM. TO THIS END IT HAS BEEN A SUCCESS BEYOND OUR WILDEST DREAMS BUT AN ABUNDANT AMOUNT OF <sup>HOURS &</sup> HARD WORK REMAIN. UNTIL THESE AIMS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED.

# **THE BEGINNING OF 2nd RINGWOOD**

## **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) as worn by 1st Dundee in Scotland. This Group was often visited by Lord Baden Powell the founder of the Scout Association.**



84  
53  
31

**BOX HILL  
89-2714**

**ESTABLISHED SINCE 1859**

**OUR LADY'S CALISTHENICS CLUB :**

Congratulations to Our Lady's Parish in celebrating its Golden Jubilee.

**Very Important Notice —**

Would the mothers of all girls participating in the concert please ensure that their daughter attends their class **EVERY WEEK** between now and the concert. We need every mothers' cooperation to ensure the success of our 2nd concert, for without the girls, there cannot be a concert.

Owing to the hall being used for the parish carnival on Saturday, 17th October the lessons will not be held that weekend.

**EARLY DAYS IN THE 2nd RINGWOOD SCOUT GROUP :**

**By Wonga**

In middle 1953 whilst I was a member of the Ringwood Conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society, I read an appeal in the Advocate from the Central Council to all Catholic men who had experience in Scouting to



**Better Communications at East Ringwood and Our Lady's.**

come forward and help expand the movement in Catholic Sponsored Groups. Despite the fact that I had lost contact with Scouting over the years, I felt this was a personal call, so I approached Father O'Toole (the then Parish Priest) and offered my services in establishing a group in the Parish. He gave me an enthusiastic instruction to go ahead.

My own association with the movement commenced in 1926 when I met Charlie Henry, a young Scotsman newly arrived in Australia who had been through all sections of the 3rd Dundee. He and I decided to form the 1st Dandenong with himself as S.M. and myself as A.S.M. He also encouraged me to go through all training and entered me for the Wood Badge Course at Gilwell Park in 1927.

On 13th September, 1953, having previously contacted the officials of the 1st Ringwood Group including Mr. Cory Oke (the present District Commissioner) I called a meeting. Five boys turned up as I wished to start in a small way.

At this time I met Mary Whitt<sup>AA</sup> who was working as a Lady Cub Master with the Camberwell Group. She agreed to form a Cub Pack as part of Our Lady's 2nd Ringwood. I later called a meeting of the troop, and taking from round my neck the scarf which I had worn in the 1st Mount Dandenong, I pointed out that these colours (green and dark blue) were very scouty colours, much better for camouflage than gaudy ones and if they accepted them as theirs they had an historic link through 1st Mt. Dandenong with the ancient Scottish Group. The boys agreed to accept these colours.

The Group officially came into existence with the first investment on 15th November, 1953. Scarves were presented by Mr. King who had been one of the boys who camped at Brownsea Island in England under Baden-Powell in 1908. The first to be presented was Dick Lye followed by John and Peter Hamilton, Kevin and Graham Lindsay, Peter Burns and Greg. Naylor. Mary was there in uniform and presented the hats.

For years a log book was entered spasmodically and contains much information which I will relate in later issues.

Meetings were held on Friday nights in the school room which was the little old church, and in time Mary arranged for a Papal Blessing, which duly came to hand but there was no-

where to display it as accommodation has always been a problem with the Group.

Over the years there have been large intakes of boys in both Scouts and Cubs but there has also been a big leakage due to many causes. The group has had its ups and downs during its life-time, but looking back I can't help feeling a sense of satisfaction in the end result.

**ST. MARY'S TENNIS CLUB :**

In 1933 a meeting was held in Ringwood with a view to forming a tennis club. Among those present were — Misses Hilda Clark, Josie Coyle, Patricia Cheevers, Kath Cheevers, Betty Pratt, Patricia Conlan, Messrs. Bill Cheevers, Rex Bailey, Gerry Bond, Ray Clark, Bill Clavant, Mrs. Pat Cottrill and Joan and Maurie Enright. Our first office bearers were —

Rex Bailey — President.

Gerry Bond — Secretary.

Patricia Cheevers — Treasurer.

The first matter to be considered was the site for the tennis club. Some thought was given to putting down one asphalt court on the site where the present church stands and from which the original presbytery had been removed (to become a beach holiday house for the Carmelite Fathers). It was realised that this would be a shortsighted policy and Father O'Toole, our Parish Priest made the very generous offer of our present site in Thomas Street. It was decided to construct two courts on this land and quotations were sought. At the same time a survey was made of the likely support that could be expected for a Tennis Club. As a result of this survey but with finances at this stage almost "nil" the bold decision was made to build three courts at a total cost of £1,650. A series of house parties and other fund raising functions were held and in a short time over £500 was raised. With generous financial help from Father O'Toole and interested parishioners, who took out debentures the go-ahead was given to the contractor and three very fine courts were constructed which were the envy of all clubs in the area.

A grand Opening Day was organised, with invitations to the Mayor and Councillors and a tennis exhibition by top amateurs was arranged. Unfortunately because of a violent storm arrangements had to be cancelled. Despite this unfortunate occurrence the Club got away to a good start and has provided good facilities for tennis and social activities since. As could