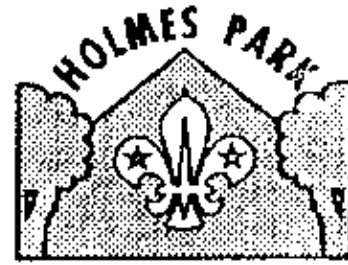


Holmes Park Scout Group Newsletter



Issue 8, August 2004

Greetings to all members of the Holmes Park Scout Group and their families!

I had intended for this to be the second group newsletter for the year, however life got so busy at the start of the year, that I haven't had the opportunity until now to prepare this for you.

New Members

First of all, I want to welcome our new Keas, Cubs and Scouts who have joined us this year. I hope you are enjoying your time with us, and want to stay and bring your friends. We had a large influx of Cubs in term 1, after a recruitment drive at Our Lady of Victories School. It's great to see you all coming.

New Leaders

Well, we couldn't mention the new members without also mentioning our new Leaders. In Keas, we have **Leanne Page**, who has been a Leader for over four years at Wigram Scout Group, before following her sons to Holmes Park. In Cubs, we welcome **Warren Hines**, who has agreed to become a leader after helping so many times as a parent. And finally we welcome **Christine Griffiths** in the Scout Section.

Unfortunately, new leaders usually means leaders have left, and in this instance we have lost a few. Freerk Numan has retired after over 9 years as a Cub Leader. And in Scouts, Andrew and Wendy Rennie, Paul Connor, and John Saywell have all said good bye for various reasons. Helen Pugh is also leaving us shortly, as her son finishes Scouts. We wish to thank all our leaders for the time and effort they have put into being leaders at Holmes Park, and wish them well for the future.

We are now in a position that we need more Scout Leaders to run an effective programme. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a leader, please let me know. Suitable persons would be given appropriate training to give them the skills and knowledge to lead a Scout Troop. Ask any of the current leaders and they will tell you how much fun it can be for you too, and how satisfying it can be.

Jamboree

We have 16 Scouts and 2 Leaders going to Jamboree at Manfeild Park, Feilding at the end of the year. With Manfeild Park being a racing track, the Jamboree has a lot of activities based around wheels. It will be a great 10 days, which the scouts won't forget in a hurry. Thank you to all that have supported their fundraising over the last 10 months.

Cub Cookies

Most of you will have received notices about the Cub Cookies that we are currently selling. This is a fundraising opportunity organised in Canterbury, but with plans to go national. Guides have had a very successful fundraiser for many years, selling their biscuits, so we are doing something similar, selling Cub Cookies. These are yummy chocolate chip cookies. We ask that all families try to sell a few

packets to help support the group. Many boxes and packets went out last week, but I still have more to be taken for sale. If you are interested in selling some, please see me at the end of Keas, Cubs or Scouts, and I can probably give you some to sell.

Group Camp

You may remember that we had a very successful Group Camp earlier this year, held at Rimu Park. Group Camp is a great opportunity for all the sections to spend time together, and doing activities that aren't usually possible in the time constraints of a normal section night. This year's "Fear Factor" camp at Rimu Park was very successful, and a lot of children faced their "fears" and stretched themselves to do challenges they normally wouldn't do. Thank you to all the leaders and parent helpers for providing a great weekend.

Next year we hope to have another Group Camp early in the year, while the weather is still nice. But it will be at a fully equipped camp site, so naturally the cost will be higher. Start saving that pocket money now and we will have a great time at camp.

Fees Invoices

Many of you will be receiving an invoice for fees at this time, showing the amount you still have you pay for this year. Please pay this promptly, by the end of the term if possible. Our financial year ends on 30 September, and it is a lot easier for us if we have the fees paid in by then. We also have ongoing costs during the year to pay, and the fees are needed to pay these.

If you need to discuss the payment of your fees, please contact our Treasurer Janet Saywell, ph 342-3767, or me (Group Leader – Libby Davis), ph 348-0360.

Lost Property

Again, we have built up quite a collection of lost property since the beginning of this year. Much of it was left behind at Group Camp at Rimu Park. If you think you may be missing an item of clothing etc, please have a look. The large box is situated near the noticeboard in the main hall area. Any items unclaimed at the end of the year will be donated to charity.

Congratulations

I realise that I have omitted to include some congratulations in the last newsletter for scouts who achieved their Chief Scout Award. This is the top badge a Scout can earn, and a lot of work goes into achieving this. Congratulations go to:

Nicole Healy, Samantha Mitchell, Katrina Rennie, and Andrew Pugh who have all achieved their Chief Scout Award in the last 15 months. I am pleased to see that Nicole and Samantha have gone on to become Venturers at Rimu Venturer Unit.

As well as Scouts, we have Leaders receiving awards. At the end of last year Terry Mitchell was awarded the Bronze Tiki, for 15 years of service to Scouting (both at Holmes Park and previously in Dunedin). Also, I received the Chief Scout Commendation for 5 years of service.

Scout Shirts

For those of you who have been unable to obtain a new shirt at the Scout Shop, we have been advised that they are available again. If you don't currently have one, please purchase one as soon as possible, as they are a compulsory part of the uniform. I also have a few second hand ones available.

I hope you enjoy the rest of your year of Scouting at Holmes Park, and that I see you at various Group activities.

Libby Davis – Group Leader