

# Camp Waller Gazette



Issue 1

February 2007

## Inside this Issue:

- Swan-a-bout (24-25 Feb)



- Leaders for 2007
- Group Fee Structure
- Venturers reach the open sea at Dive Course



- Group Committee
- The Rovers at Family Camp in 2006



- Section Reports
- Fundraising: Raising the Bar in 2007



## Welcome to Scouts for 2007

Welcome to the New Year and to this edition of our bimonthly Camp Waller Gazette. I do hope that all families have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and that your sons and daughters are eager to start Scouting activities during the week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> February 2007.

As you are probably aware Rob and Jenny Christensen have just departed on their 2 year round Australia trip and I have taken over Rob's role as 1<sup>st</sup> Fremantle Sea Scouts Group Leader.

This year will be full of fun activities and opportunities for all, commencing with Swan-a-bout (30 hour sail) on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February.

The ongoing success of the 1<sup>st</sup> Fremantle Sea Scouts is totally reliant on the commitment of Leaders and Parents who generously donate their time and skills to the running the Scout Group.

Increasing scouting numbers is being constrained by an acute shortage of Leaders; I encourage all parents to consider becoming more involved as a Leader or parent helper. Being a Leader carries great responsibilities but does offer tremendous personal satisfaction.



Andrew Wakeman at Family Camp 2006

I look forward to getting to know all Scouting parents and children over the coming months. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any suggestions, concerns or offers of assistance.

Andrew Wakeman  
GROUP LEADER

## Note from Group Committee Chairman

Happy New Year to all 1<sup>st</sup> Fremantle scouts and families. As chair of the Group Committee, I would like to welcome Andrew Wakeman as Group Leader, taking over from Rob Christensen. We wish Rob and Jenny well as they set off on "the big lap" of Australia. The Wakeman family have a long involvement with 1<sup>st</sup> Fremantle, and Andrew agreeing to take over as Group Leader is much appreciated.

The committee's objective for 2007 is to raise the level of parent involvement. As one parent said to me, "The more you put in, the more your child gets out." We need assistance with busy bees, one-off activities such as boat maintenance, and committee membership. The committee has agreed on some changes in the way we communicate with parents, in the hope that with better communication, more parents can get involved.

In recent years membership fees have been insufficient to cover costs, with the shortfall made up by fundraising. In 2006 the major fundraising effort was by a small core of volunteers, who carried an unfair load. Consequently, at the December 2006 committee meeting it was agreed to raise membership fees by \$50 per year to reduce the need to raise funds.

Chris Bourne  
GROUP COMMITTEE CHAIR

## Scouts in 2007

With the beginning of a new year, and what a year it is in scouting with the world celebrating the Centenary of Scouting, I was lucky enough to attend the first event for the year, the Australian Jamboree (AJ2007) in Elmore Victoria.

The scout section finished 2006 with



Scouts watermelon eating competition

21 scouts and I hope we will start 2007 with a few more. We finished the year with a sailing, swimming, watermelon eating competition and BBQ. Fun was had by all who attended.

I would like to congratulate Rebecca Siddall, Nick Barry, Philip Gehrman and Olivia Chiddick on their promotion to Patrol Leaders. These Patrol leaders will be taking a more active part in the organizing, running and planning of the program for the scout section during 2007, which should see a lot more blue and green badges being presented.

The main focus for Term 1 will be sailing and rowing sea boats in readiness for Swan-about (Feb 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>) and for the Master Mariner competition and training camp which will be

held at Pelican Point during the April school holidays (Camp 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> April & Competition 28<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> April ) and raft building in preparation for Peel Tiki on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

Sue Stack  
SCOUT LEADER

Did you know that 2007 is the  
centenary of Scouting  
worldwide?

**One World, One Promise**

[www.scouts2007.org](http://www.scouts2007.org)

## Cubs in 2007

2007 will see a few changes to the Cub Pack with long time leader Lance Poore moving on and Gabby Ryan taking over as Cub Leader. Lance is not leaving altogether and will be taking on an active role in boat maintenance for the group and helping out with Cubs at Leeuwin Sea Scouts. 1st Fremantle would like to thank Lance for his many years of service to the group and to Cubs in particular.

Gabby Ryan is Cub Leader for 2007,

as well as continuing as Joey Leader, with a view to phasing out her role with the Joey Mob in Term 1. We would also like to welcome Sharon Hurley as a new leader to the group, assisting Gabby with Cubs.

There are heaps of activities and adventures planned for the

*"We would like to welcome  
Sharon Hurley as a new leader  
to the group, assisting Gabby  
with Cubs."*

Cubs in 2007 but a key reminder from the Cub Leaders is for parents to sign their cubs in and out every week.

So get involved, make yourself known and look forward to a great year of Cubs at 1st Fremantle Sea Scouts!

## Joeys in 2007

Joey Scouts are the youngest section at 1st Fremantle, we are called a Mob. We meet every Wednesday night for an hour from 5.30 to 6.30 pm. Parents are required to sign in and collect the Joey scout from the hall.

Joeys introduces children to the scouting movement. Some of the activities we do are related to a theme for the term, like water, nature or the envi-

ronment. Joeys do many activities and we always play a game. For instance last year we went to the District Camp Fire, which is a really good night because you get to meet other Joey scouts and sing songs around the camp fire. We have an end of term activity and we get to ride on Albartross, which is the Group's biggest boat. We marched in the Anzac day

Parade. The Joey motto is Help Other People (HOP), we are all very friendly and we learn to respect each other. This year we will have three leaders Gabby, who holds a warrant, and Michelle and Sharon, who will embark on training this year. Look forward to seeing you at the Den!

Michelle Ryan  
ASSISTANT JOEY LEADER

## Venturers in 2007

This year of Venturers will be an exciting one and although the details are yet to be finalised (as always) we have many, many great ideas which are ready to be pushed into action.

At the end of last year Venturers took on the project of up-dating the Ven-

turer Den. This year we plan to continue the work we started, including re-carpeting the floor space, re-painting the cupboards, fixing lights to the roof and finding a way to get bunk beds up the stairs and through the door way, amongst other things. We also plan to update the Venturer



The Venturers built a fantastic Rope Bridge as part of a day of games and activities.

notice board – decorating it with photos from all of our activities and adventures.

A sail hike and a long weekend trip to Dunsborough have been planned. In Dunsborough the idea is for us to have a weekend of cav-

ing, abseiling, and possibly even paint-balling. In summer, we're thinking of designating particular nights to go sailing plus we all know that every body has been missing the pontoon so we have decided to re-build it, but we are yet to source the equipment that we're going to need to build it well, and somewhere along the line we plan to become involved in the courses which will allow us to work better, paper-work wise, as a unit.

Last year included a game of life size Cluedo, fish and chips at Fremantle and many, many more adventures. This year is going to be even more packed full of adventures.

Jen Wakeman  
1ST FREMANTLE VENTURER UNIT

## Rovers in 2007

The 1<sup>st</sup> Fremantle Rover Crew celebrated their tenth year in 2006 and are still achieving some firsts. Last year we celebrated the wedding of Krissy and Ryan who met at Fremantle rovers!! Congratulations guys! Will we be seeing some Joeys soon? This called for a gathering of past and present Rovers as ex-Rovers from all over the world flew in for the event. Paul Schaper (also Assistant Scout Leader) climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Kenya and became the first 1<sup>st</sup> Fremantle Rover to achieve his Baden Powell award. This is Scouting's top award and will be presented to Paul at a special ceremony held



Paul Schaper at the summit of Mt Kilimanjaro

at Government House on the 18<sup>th</sup> February. We also booted Alice and Paul from the crew and are happy to see them maintaining their ties with the group. We also recently fare welled Robby (our Rover Adviser) and Jenny on their journey around Australia. Fremantle Rover Crew continue to

run the Red Rover Day, regularly donating blood at the Fremantle blood bank with other Rover crews in the area. Chris and Sheamus have been leading the way with boat maintenance, slipping the two Space Sailors in November and December and got them looking good for the year ahead as well as work

in the boatshed and some more work on the fireball ready for Swan-a-Bout. Sheamus took over from Alice as crew leader for 2007 and is eagerly driving the crew towards some more achievements in the coming year. The Crew are looking to make JOTA (Jamboree of the air and internet) in October, a big, whole group event. We also have the potential to lead the way as the WA Rovers are planning to build a rope bridge across the Swan River to Herrison Island for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Scouting Camp to be held there in August. Bundled in with a full program of Physical, Spiritual, Intellectual, Emotional and Service activities, it looks like its going to be another big year for TeamFreo.

Greg O'Byrne  
ROVER ADVISOR

*Just a couple of reminders...*

*Please do not leave valuables in your car when parked at the Hall!*

*Please keep the footpath clear if parking on the verge.*

## Group Committee 2007

Howdy folks! Is your child enjoying their time in Joeys, Cubs, Scouts or Venturers? The Group Committee is made up of people, like you and I, who like to see our kids enjoying the wonderful adventures that scouting has to offer.

The Group Committee's function is to support the group's successful operation by working behind the scenes to ensure youth members can participate in the various section programs. Our leaders do a wonderful job, but there is a lot more involved in running the 1<sup>st</sup> Fremantle Scout group.

The Group Committee meet on a monthly basis to manage the administrative, financial and maintenance aspects of the group. We organize fund raising events to subsidise an-

nual membership fees, run busy bee's to ensure our hall remains a safe and enjoyable place to attend and routinely maintain our boats and other equipment so that they are available for everyone to use. In reality, the list of tasks is a lot longer.

If your child is enjoying their time in scouting, what can you do? Consider doing one or more of the following.

- Become involved in the Group Committee. Take on a small task and be happy knowing that you are doing your bit. There is something for everyone! You are always welcome at our meetings.
- Introduce yourself to your child's leader. Do they know you? Ask the leader if you can stay one evening as a helper (not cool for Venturers!)

- Support activities run by the committee like fundraisers, busy bee's and whole group activities. This is a good way to help out, a great way to meet other parents and it's fun too!
- Attend the Annual General Meeting in May. We would love to see every family represented at this meeting to hear about what we are doing.

A big thank-you to all the families that have helped in 2006 and we look forward to your continuing assistance in 2007.

Greg O'Byrne  
GROUP COMMITTEE MEMBER  
ROVER ADVISER, 1ST FREMANTLE ROVER CREW.

## Fundraising: Raising the Bar in 2007

### *Sausage Sizzle December 2006*

Thanks to everyone who assisted with our sausage sizzle at Bunnings in O'Connor. It was an extremely hot weekend and fairly difficult conditions prevailed as sausages and onions were cooked over an even hotter barbecue! Nevertheless, we made a net profit of \$708.05 which will go towards

*"Nevertheless, we made a net profit of \$708.05 over the two days of the sausage sizzle"*

general upkeep of Camp Waller and the galley refit.

### *Fundraising ideas for 2007*

I am trying to think of an "easy" fundraiser for 2007 and am considering a wine raffle. This needs substantial donations of prizes to make it worthwhile for instance a weekend away at a

winery, cartons of wine etc. Does anyone have contacts or ideas that we can pursue? I would really appreciate feedback and help in this regard. A raffle license is granted when the prizes have been determined, so this is the first step. A "friendly" printer to print raffle books would also be greatly appreciated! I look forward to hearing from you, all the best in 2007.

Ros Bell  
FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR  
T: 9319 1658  
FUNDRAISING@FREOSEASCOOTS.ORG.AU

## Activity Shirts

All sections wear our Activity Shirts for group activities and when they are representing 1st Fremantle Sea Scouts in competitions or events when full uniform is not appropriate.

There are a few shirts left from the 2006 stock at **\$25.00 for a T-Shirt (long-sleeved)** and **\$35.00 for the Windcheater**. Get your order in now as stock is limited and the 2007 prices may be a little dearer!

To order your shirt please contact Linda Norton on 9330 6607 or email [treasurer@freoseascouts.org.au](mailto:treasurer@freoseascouts.org.au).

Rovers wearing the Activity Shirt in Master Mariners 2006



## Swan Maritime Institute

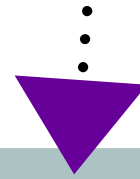
In 2006 the Swan Maritime Institute (SMI) approached the 1st Fremantle Sea Scouts with a proposal to lease the hall and jetty on a part time basis as a venue to conduct classes for the Recreational Skipper's Ticket. The Group agreed to trial this proposal with SMI paying the group rent on a weekly basis in return for use of the hall on weekends and some week nights. A key condition of this arrangement was that SMI activities could not preclude pre-arranged scouting activities.

There have been a few teething problems, principally surrounding a lack of communication and impromptu activities by some members. These teething problems have largely been worked through and Andrew Wakeman is working

closely with SMI to ensure that the arrangement is of benefit to both parties.

There have been a number of spin-off benefits to SMI using our hall including decreased vandalism with increased use of the hall and grounds, extra publicity, regular lawn mowing and a generally tidier appearance of the hall and grounds. With visitors now frequently coming to the hall to attend SMI courses it is even more important to ensure that 'Camp Waller' is kept in top shape.

Another bonus is SMI's offer to conduct the RST course for our members and a greatly reduced rate - dates will be advertised in the Camp Waller Gazette.



### Sign-In, Sign-Out

- All Joeys & Cubs must be signed-in at the start and signed-out at the end of every meeting night.
- This is implemented for the safety of your children and does require parents and carers to walk down the hill to the hall.
- Why not use this opportunity to get to know your child's leader, their friends and other parents!

## Swan-a-bout

Swan-a-bout is a sailing marathon held each year with all sea scout groups on the Swan River. Teams of Scouts, Venturers and Rovers race around a 7 NM course, covering as many laps as possible in 30 hours. Teams must check in at each base around the



Rovers sailed the fireball to win the dinghy class in 2006

course (the various sea scout groups on the River) where they can stop for a break if required or just pass through if they are on the go!

Shore side, there is plenty of activity. Camp Waller is the southern most check point for the competition and the group keeps tabs on the sailors and

## 25-26 February 2007

reports back to race HQ. This needs to happen day and night so there is always room for volunteers! The WA contingent to the 2007 Scout Jamboree will be down to experience sailing on the Swan. There's also plenty of water activities going on and the joeys and cubs will be invited down to check out the action!

## Rovers at Family Camp 2006

The year was fast coming to an end and the Family Camp was upon us again before we knew it. Family camp is an annual camp and it is held at the Vasse Scout campsite near Busselton. We headed down on Friday night to get the most out of the weekend. We arrived at around 10:30 pm and were pleased to discover that the mosquitoes had already gone to bed. We set up our tents and soon followed

the mosquito's example.

Saturday morning was a relaxing combination of swimming, paddling, eating, an attempt at crabbing and just plain doing nothing. Unfortunately there wasn't a huge turnout of families, but there was enough people to make it a successful weekend (not too hard,



Paul Schaper kayaking at Family Camp.

considering the aim of the weekend is to do nothing).

Unfortunately the weekend was cut short for the Rovers. We headed back to Perth on Saturday night as we were going to the air race early on Sunday morning.

Terry Weaver  
1ST FREMANTLE ROVER CREW

# Venturers Dive Deep and Find New Heights

What was claimed to be the first ever Pelican Point Scuba Diving Course started on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> of January and ran to Friday 19<sup>th</sup>. It was, in fact, the second ever course to be hosted, as the first dive course took place sometime in the 1900s – a fair time before the ‘first ever’ course had even been thought of.

Each day of the course we did something different and every night we learnt new things.

We had talks every night from Sunday to Thursday (which were open to the public) from a multitude of Scuba Diving authorities. The speeches varied from all the different aspects of scuba, from the recreational, medical and even on the professional side of the diving world. Each and every talk was intriguing and brilliant to listen to, each one opened new doors to the world of scuba that we hadn't considered. Among the guest speakers the Navy (clearance diving team 4), a marine biologist, a cave diver, and many more.

Each morning began similarly, with

us being dragged from our warm sleeping bags into the frigid air, and each night ended with us falling asleep in uncooperative, yet exhausted heaps.



The team taking to the pool as part of their open water dive course.

diverse and enthusiastic bunch that couldn't wait to get their gear on and jump into the water at each and every opportunity.

The first dives that we did were in Claremont Pool, amongst the general public and their gawking stares. It was here that we learnt and performed the practical skills that we would need for the open water dives; including removal and replacement of our gear in and on the water, the all important buddy check, controlled emergency ascent, regulator retrieval and clear and many other useful and possibly life saving techniques.



The participants, including the Venturers, in the 'First Ever' Pelican Point Scuba Diving Course.

Our open water dives took place in the Swan River; firstly in Mosman Bay Reserve and the Coombe. Here we practiced the skills we learnt the previous day in the pool and

witnessed some interesting aquatic life. The second day, and the third open water dive, we went to Blackwall Reach where we learnt navigation skills underwater and the importance of being in eyesight of our buddies.

Even though the Swan River only allowed us 1 – 2 m of visibility, we all managed to see some intriguing underwater life, including sea-horses (Tamika) off the Blackwall Reach Barge, and giant starfish the size of a car wheel.

With our entertaining instructors, Jules and Steve, the time we spent underwater and above was never dull, there was always a standard joke travelling around the group, such as our very own PADI professional, Alex, our always dead or dying Scott, and our number one favourite serial killer Ethan. But truly the most remem-

bered and outstanding joke was that of the PADI motto, which even the non-participants all know.

“meet people, go places, do things underwater!”

In all the Scuba Course was and is a memory and an experience that none involved will ever forget.

Jen Wakeman & Bec Porter  
1ST FREMANTLE VENTURER UNIT



Jen Wakeman in her Scuba Gear

“Meet people, go places, do things underwater!”

# Leaders for 2007

As with any organization it is the leaders that make it happen. The dedicated, hard working leadership team is back in 2007 with a few changes and a few new faces.

In particular, Gabby Ryan has taken on both Joeys and Cubs for Term 1 as a new Joey leader couldn't be found. Serious discussions were held at the end of last year regarding this situation, including the option of closing the Joey Mob at 1st Fremantle. Given the lack of Joey Mobs in the district, however, it was decided to continue Joeys at 1st Fremantle with Gabby agreeing to take on both sections for Term 1. This is not an ideal situation and if no-one steps forward to undertake training and become a Joey Leader by the end of first term, Joeys may be folded. Gabby's daughter, Michelle Ryan will be assisting Gabby with Joeys and Sharon Hurley, our newest leader at 1st Fremantle, will

be the Assistant Cub Leader but both sections need extra help!

For Scouts, Sue Stack has agreed to continue as Scout Leader, with Tony Timmins, moving up from Cub to Assistant Scout Leader. Paul Schaper, assistant Scout Leader in 2006, will continue to help out but is moving to Kalgoorlie with work for much of the year.

Tanya Wakeman is continuing with Venturers and it sounds like they have an exciting year ahead (see articles on Venturers in this issue for more detail).

Sheamus Christidis has been elected as Crew Leader for 2007. The Rover section is self governing with a Rover elected by their peers as Leader each year. With Rob's trip around Australia, Greg O'Byrne has stepped up to the role of Rover Advisor.

Being a leader does involve commitment but any of our current or past leaders will tell you that it also tell you about the value and rewards they receive in return. Becoming a leader is not hard and support, both in terms of formal training, mentoring and the informal networks within the group. If you think you might be interested then start by volunteering as a parent helper, all sections could do with a hand!

## Term 1 Leaders

Joeys	Gabby Ryan & Michelle Ryan
Cubs	Gabby Ryan & Sharon Hurley
Scouts	Sue Stack & Tony Timmins
Venturers	Tanya Wakeman
Rovers	Sheamus Christidis (Crew Leader) & Greg O'Byrne (Rover Advisor)

# Group Fee Structure

All families will have received an invoice for group fees in 2007, together with a copy of this newsletter, in the mail. Fees for all Scout Groups in the state are divided into two components. The Branch component is set each year by the WA Branch of Scouts Australia and covers insurance both for youth members and for Scout Group assets such as our hall and the boats. The Group component is set by each Scout Group and covers the running costs of the group such as utili-

ties, maintenance costs for both the hall and boats, running costs for the groups, equipment and training for leaders.

With the increase in the Branch component in 2006 it was decided not to raise the Group component of fees. However, in 2007, with the ongoing costs of running

*"...with the ongoing costs of running our Scout Group and the difficulty finding members and parents to assist with fundraising, the Group component has been raised by \$50."*

our Scout Group and the difficulty finding members and parents to assist with fundraising, the Group component has been raised by \$50.

This does not negate the need for fundraising as the Group Component does not cover the full running costs of the 1st Fremantle Scout Group.

# Editorial

Welcome to the first issue of the Camp Waller Gazette! As you will see when you read the articles in this issue a common theme running through this issue of the Camp Waller Gazette is the need for parents and members of our Scout Group to step forward and help out in any way they can. One way that we hope to encourage more participation in all our events, both for fun and service, is to

improve the communication within the group. In order to help achieve this goal I have taken on the job of editing and producing the Camp Waller Gazette for 2007. I hope to produce bimonthly issues and would love to hear from you about the kind of articles and information you would like to see.

I'm very excited about 2007 - we have

a great bunch of really enthusiastic people working behind the scenes and with the worldwide centenary of Scouting in 2007 there are plenty of activities planned! So look out for the next issue and don't forget you can also see this issue on our website ([www.freoseascouts.org.au](http://www.freoseascouts.org.au))!

Alice Turnbull  
EDITOR, CAMP WALLER GAZETTE  
NEWSLETTER@FREOSEASCOOTS.ORG.AU

**1ST FREMANTLE SEA SCOUTS**

Camp Waller  
 Jerrat Drive, East Fremantle  
 PO Box 211, Palmyra 6957  
 Camp Waller Phone: (08) 9339 3201

The deadline for submissions for Issue 2 of the Camp Waller Gazette is 23 March 2007. Please email all submissions to the Editor;  
[newsletter@freoseascouts.org.au](mailto:newsletter@freoseascouts.org.au)



*Leadership and Adventure for the Youth of Today*

[www.freoseascouts.org.au](http://www.freoseascouts.org.au)

**Key Contacts****Joeys**

Gabby Ryan

[joeys@freoseascouts.org.au](mailto:joeys@freoseascouts.org.au)

**Cubs**

Gabby Ryan

[cubs@freoseascouts.org.au](mailto:cubs@freoseascouts.org.au)

**Scouts**

Sue Stack

[scouts@freoseascouts.org.au](mailto:scouts@freoseascouts.org.au)

**Venturers**

Tanya Wakeman

[venturers@freoseascouts.org.au](mailto:venturers@freoseascouts.org.au)

**Rovers**

Sheamus Christidis

[rovers@freoseascouts.org.au](mailto:rovers@freoseascouts.org.au)

**Group Leader**

Andrew Wakeman

[gl@freoseascouts.org.au](mailto:gl@freoseascouts.org.au)

**Group Committee Chairman**

Chris Bourne

[chair@freoseascouts.org.au](mailto:chair@freoseascouts.org.au)

**Term I Calendar**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
29	30	31 Term I Starts	1 Feb	2 Venturers Start	3	4
5	6	7 Joeys and Cubs Start	8 Scouts Start	9	10	11 Rover Crew Meeting
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Group Committee Meeting	21	22	23	24 Swan-a-bout	25 Swan-a-bout
26	27	28	1 March	2	3 Rover SandMoot	4 Rover SandMoot Clean-Up Australia Day
5 Rover SandMoot	6	7	8	9	10	11 Peel-Tiki Rover Crew Meeting
12	13 Group Committee Meetingg	14	15	16	17	18
19 Sea Scouts Council Meeting	20	21 Harmony Day	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 April
2	3	4 Term I Ends	5	6 Good Friday	7	8 Easter Sunday