



Sunnynook Scout Group Newsletter

Term 4 – 2015



LEADERS' REPORT

Group Leader – Paul Davey

Well - one more term till the end of the year. The weather has been great for the last few days and it's awesome that our young people can get outside and enjoy daylight savings.

Later in the term there will be the group AGM and I encourage everyone to attend and become part of this dynamic group that is growing and providing excellent Scouting opportunities.

My thanks go again to Darin, our Chairman, who has done an amazing job with the building projects that have fully exceeded all of our expectations. If you can help on his working bee please be in touch.

We have some new Leaders joining the team. The Kea section welcomes Ann-Marie Woodcock and the Cub section welcomes Wendy Viki & Glen Redgwell. Thank you for joining the team to offer great Scouting here at Sunnynook.

Committee Chairperson – Darin Hutcheson

It's been great to see the Sunnynook group really starting to move ahead this year. The number of kids and leaders in the group is really growing fast – thanks to Paul, the existing leaders and committee for making this happen.

Since joining the group I've been really surprised and impressed at how much work the leaders are putting into developing the programmes for our kids. It isn't just once a week for 90 minutes – there is a lot of preparation, planning and administration that most of us don't see. Not only that, 3 of our leaders are also on the committee, largely to help get things done. Whilst they are great people with valuable contributions, I'd really like to give them a break. At the upcoming AGM we will be looking for additional people to join the committee. Just like the rest of the group, the committee is starting to gather some momentum and we need some help from some other parents. Please consider whether you would like to help us develop the group. As well as attending the meeting once a month, you'll need to be prepared to spend a few hours implementing the things we decide at the committee. We are trying to become an action focused group – hopefully you've noticed some steady progress this year.

If you don't fancy being on our committee, even though it's awesome, maybe you could still help us out? We currently need help with grant applications, someone to promote hall hire and someone to promote membership. Have a chat to me or Paul at the upcoming Working Bee – we are always looking for good keen helpers.

KEAS' REPORT

Kea Leader – Louise Brown

Sunnynook Keas have had a fun-filled and diverse time in Term Three –working on our Award Scheme Skills, some members earning Personal Challenge Badges, plus some fabulous first-time experiences for many of our Keas.

We wished a fond farewell to Elaine and Christie from Tuesday night Keas whose experience will be greatly missed, and to Jaimie from Thursday night Keas as she embarks on some new ventures. Although we have some big shoes to fill, we are slowly starting to find our feet with Helen and Anne-Marie on Tuesday nights, and Louise and Ellie on Thursday night sessions. We are gaining confidence on session, and getting ourselves sorted on OSM – probably the more challenging of the two!! We are sending five Keas up to Cubs this term – a great excitement for all our Keas as they see the progression through the Groups at Sunnynook Club.

Highlights of Term 3 were our Night at the Museum Sleep-over at the Den, which helped prepare us for our Night Sleeping with the Fish at Kelly Tarltons. Both wonderful experiences that made the news at many a School News Day in the weeks following the events.

We loved creating puppets and performing a show for family members, and of course sessions involving food – such as damper, rocky road and toasted marshmallows were always a highlight.



In term 4, we look forward to more outdoor games with the warmer summer weather, including Natural Treasure Hunts, creating rain, clouds-in-jars, dressing-up, and Christmas fun... intrigued?? Come and join us!!

The Kea Team (Helen, Anne-Marie, Ellie and Louise)

CUBS' REPORT

Cub Leader – Moyra Black

Sunnynook Cubs have had a busy and fun Term 3. We cooked ourselves a tasty meal on a fire using tin-foil packages, and tested our nerves slipping and sliding around blindfolded in the dark in the mud on a Burma trail behind the den. We made shadow puppets, and had quite a laugh performing short stories for each other using our shadow-puppet theatre. We learned about our local community and the importance of helpfulness within the community, with a neighbourhood walkabout, a collection of our old unbroken toys to donate to less fortunate children (through Women's Refuge) and a clean-up of rubbish from Kell Park in Albany (with special thanks to our own Cub Tim, who thought of and organized the park clean up event). We also had an amazing night sleeping under the sharks and fish in the tunnels at Kelly Tarlton's and an awesome Campfire and glow-worm experience at Mayfield Cubs, where our Cubs did us proud with their behaviour and enthusiasm.

We have much planned for the final term of the year, including trips to the bush and to the beach, some orienteering, more fire-cooking, lots of games and even a Halloween-themed dress-up spooky fun night. This term we also welcome several new cubs, graduating from the Kea section, as well as two new leaders – Wendy and Glen.

Regards,
The Sunnynook Cubs Leaders (Moyra, Nigel, Wendy and Glen)



Sunnynook Cubs Matthew and Ben recovering a dumped shopping trolley during Tim's Clean Up Albany event at Kell Park

SCOUTS' REPORT

Scout Leader – Jess McShane

Term 3 was a busy term for the Sunnynook Scouts with highlights including visits to the Takapuna Fire Station, Guest Speaker Noel Watkins telling us about his adventures rowing Atlantic Ocean and an overnight tramp along the Waitawheta tramline staying at the Waitawheta hut. During this term our scouts have continued working through their award schemes (Bronze, Silver and Gold) and earning their personal challenge badges. Congratulations to the following scouts for their achievements this term:

Bronze Scout Award: Austin Patterson

Sanford Bronze: Kalib Patterson

Fire Fighting: Callum Irving and Kalib Patterson

Master At Arms: Kalib Patterson and Daniel Gutierrez

Sports: Hana Lee

Arts & Crafts – Craftsperson: Daniel Gutierrez

Arts & Crafts – Art: Hana Lee

Book Reading: Martin Lim

Chemistry: Aidan Knox

Collector: Daniel Gutierrez and Martin Lim

Photography: Kalib Patterson

As we enter term 4 our busy program is set to continue. This term the scouts will continue working through their award schemes (many are very close to finishing their current level) and achieving their personal challenge badges. During this term we will also continue our program of tramps to continue to build the scouts' fitness and outdoor knowledge to undertake more challenging and rewarding tramps during 2016. We will also re-introduce the scouts to standing camps which the scouts have missed out on over winter.





From the Scouts Mouth:

Mathew Greenwood – Da Grylls

I didn't like carrying my pack but it was made up for sleeping at the hut. We did a few river crossings, and played spotlight around the hut with some girl guides. It was a good tramp.

VENTURERS' REPORT

Venturer Leader – Nigel Boyce

Venturers is on a bit of a go-slow this term as most of our Venturers are distracted by their senior exams.

Some of our Venturers are growing up and sadly will be leaving us at the end of the year. If you know of any Scouts who are in year 10 and are in a group that doesn't have a Venturers section, please let them know about our group.

GENERAL NEWS

Working Bee

There is a working bee to clean up the Den on Saturday 17 October at 2pm. We really need your help and it will be great to get to know each other a bit better. Look out for the reminder email for all the details.

2015 AGM

Please come along to our AGM on Thursday 26 November at 7pm. It is really important that we get someone along from each family so we can keep you up to date with our progress and plans for 2016.

End of year celebrations

Please keep the evening of Wednesday 16 December free for our end of year family event. We will be holding a shared dinner / social evening at the Den. We will let you know the details closer to the time, but please write it on your calendar today!

Fridge wanted!

The fridge/freezer in the kitchen is well past its prime and we suspect it uses a lot of energy. If anyone has a spare fridge/freezer in good working order that they would like to donate we would greatly appreciate it.