

SCOUTS VICTORIA

REPORT TO VICTORIA

2014-2015

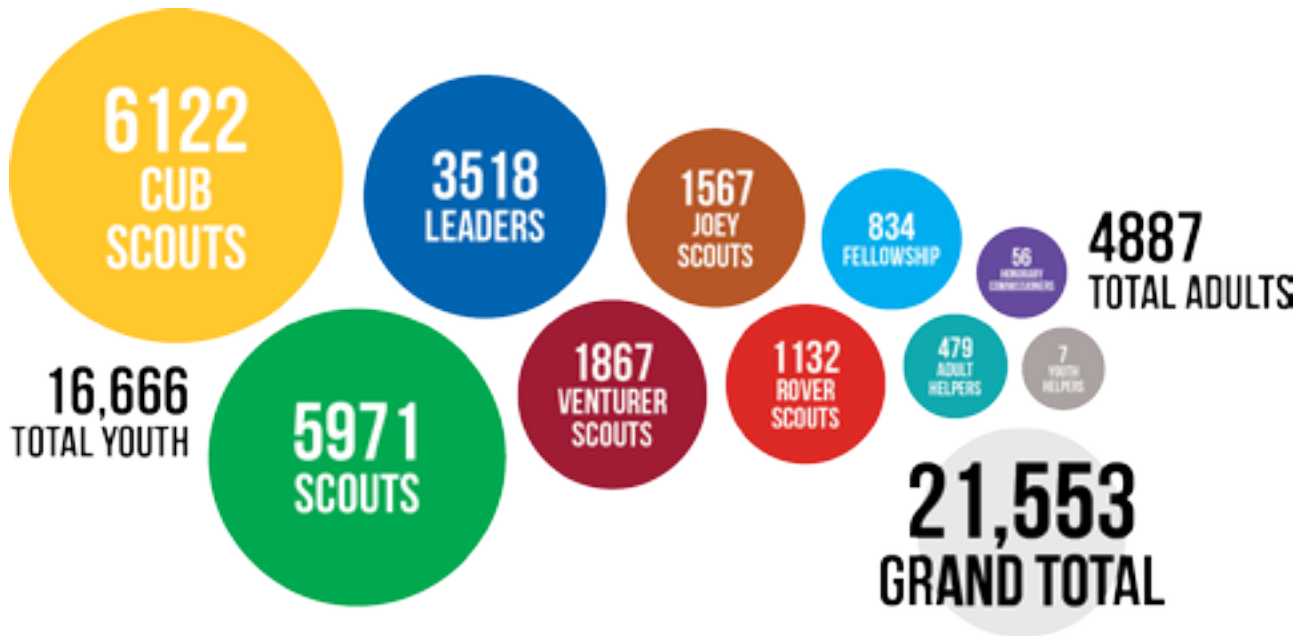


PREPARE FOR
ADVENTURE
PREPARE FOR LIFE

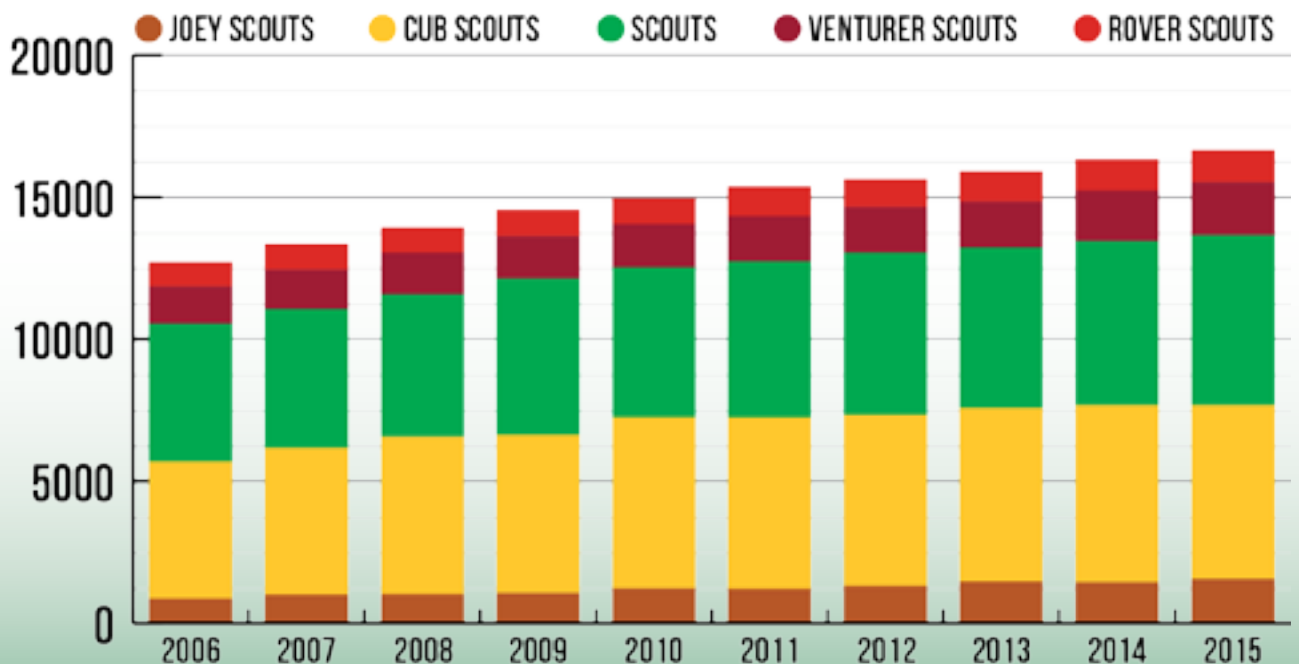
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SCOUTS VICTORIA TODAY



NINE YEARS OF GROWTH



CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

BRENDAN J. WATSON OAM
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
SCOUTS VICTORIA



to meet more of our amazing members. At a State level we have continued to work as hard as we can to serve local Leaders in their achievements.

Youth Engagement

All we do is about our youth members, from 'Big Day Scout' to 'Prepare for the Future', the statewide conference on August 1 for all adults in Scouting. These events have helped bring Victorian Scouts together so that we might plan for a future of hope and growth. Every single young person saw Scouting change in February as they realised that they too might one day stand on stage and be invested as the Chief Scout of Victoria. Scouts were buoyed by a day that saw #bigdayscout out-trend the world's most popular band on social media, a band that was playing in Melbourne as a part of their world tour. Such was the impact of Big Day Scout, relaunching Scouting in Victoria. Since then, our new Chief Scout has been promoting Scouts Victoria at every opportunity. Shane Jacobson has sent out a video message to all Victorian Scouts each month, given of his time to attend many events including Mudbash and is now sending birthday cards to all Cub Scouts turning 10, encouraging them to complete the Grey Wolf Award and later link to Scouts.

The quality of the program has engaged our youth members. One measure of the quality of the program is the awards achieved by youth members in each Section, where numbers continue to rise. In 2016, our State theme will be 'Year of the Program' where we hope to see even more young people achieving their best and enjoying Scouting.

Other highlights have included:

Education

- Scouts Victoria leads the World Organisation of the Scouting Movement in this area. Significantly we have been able to accredit the Venturer Program (14-18 years of age) as a part of the VCE so as to provide for two VCE Unit 1 credits and two VCE Unit 2 credits. The program has also been accredited to provide significant credit points for the VCAL across Foundation, Intermediate and Senior Certificate levels.
- The trial of the Fast Track to Quality Teaching Program in partnership with Monash University saw 50 young undergraduate teachers signing up for at least three years and being placed in pairs within Sections in Scout Groups. The first year has resulted in a rise in youth member numbers, credited to additional volunteer Leaders who are helping share the workload. We are now in discussions with Victoria University, LaTrobe University, RMIT and Swinburne who are all very interested to establish a partnership with Scouting. The program was written up by

Scouting is modernising to ensure that the Movement meets the needs of the community, particularly those of the young people for whom we exist. This is what movements that stand the test of time must ensure, for staying stagnant without continuous improvement can be terminal. The new Scouts Victoria State Triennial Plan released this year sets out a vision and strategy to ensure that Scouting continues to be connected with and serve local Victorian communities through five key spheres that build the capacity of young people to lead their community while engaging their families in support of these efforts. Through an age-appropriate developmental program that empowers young people to lead the organisation supported by trained volunteer adults Scouting provides an adventurous learning-in-doing educational program. Scouting continues to prepare for the future while working to ensure that every single youth member is prepared for adventure, in order to be prepared for life.

Scouts Victoria's achievements are significant. I have been fortunate enough to witness them in Scout Groups and at Scouting events each and every week as I have zigzagged across the State

CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S REPORT



a highly regarded, independent research policy advisory organisation in the UK. Providing research, analysis and best practice information to all political parties in the UK, this program was one of five case studies cited - and the only international one - in a globally released research document acclaiming the program and making recommendations for it to be adopted across the UK.

- Significantly, the Queen's Scout Award is now being more widely recognised, including by the education sector. The Aspire Program at LaTrobe University offered entry to seven Venturers in 2015 for 2016 before they sat their final Year 12 exams and the tertiary sector is now recognising the award by providing a lower ATAR of as much as 20-30 ATAR points. There is no subject that can be studied at school that can do that!
- Every time a young person is awarded the Joey Scout Promise Badge, the Grey Wolf, Australian Scout Medallion or Queen's Scout Award, their school principal receives a letter from the Chief Commissioner Scouts Victoria explaining the significance of the award and providing the school with enough information so that there can be local recognition via a newsletter or assembly.
- Work continues in this area as Scouts Victoria maps the Joey Scout and Cub Scout program against the Australian Curriculum's General Capabilities of Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, Ethical Understanding, Intercultural Understanding as well as the Cross Curriculum Priorities of Civics and Citizenship, Work Studies and Sustainability. Scouting's award scheme is a curriculum that can achieve many of the educational outcomes of the new Australian Curriculum.
- The Australian Curriculum provides an opportunity for Scouting to engage further with schools and young people. Education Adventure Centres - school excursion locations run by Scouts Victoria - are now being explored as an opportunity to provide homes for groups that double as education facilities that generate an income stream at other times.

Diversity and Inclusion

- The appointment of a new State Commissioner for Diversity and Inclusion has seen Scouts Victoria continue to review our own membership data so that as an organisation we might explore new models of reaching out to and engaging families and young people in all communities. This included highlighting Scouting's support for the GLBTI community on International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia, working on our ceremonies to include the recognition of indigenous Australians as the original custodians of the land, as well as working to ensure that

ALL FIGURES REPRESENT VICTORIAN SCOUTS

HIGH ACHIEVERS



reflections and prayers are more ecumenical and commencing a review of policies to ensure that our language continues to reflect a more inclusive movement.

- A record number of grants were approved from the EML and other funds to support the largest number of youth members to date to attend events both in Australia and internationally, providing opportunities that any would otherwise have never had.

The 2nd Victorian Agoonoree was a terrific event that saw a dedicated organising committee deliver a truly memorable camp full of adventure, personal challenges, fun and friendship. Volunteer carers and helpers together with parents and even friends of Scouting gave their time so that the youth members with a disability were able to participate in nine activities that lived up to the 'Prepare for Adventure, Prepare for Life' slogan adopted by us in February.



Social Impact

- Scouts Victoria made a submission to the Victorian Royal Commission on Family Violence. This is an issue that seriously impacts on the lives of many young people in every community. Scouting, as one of Victoria's leading youth organisations, provides a voice for young people and the issues they face.
- Scouts Victoria continued to support ANZAC Day in the centenary commemoration year that saw our members turn out in record numbers on a freezing cold day in service and respect for those who gave so much for our country.
- Members of the State Leadership Team and I undertook the Melbourne Vinnies CEO Sleepout to raise money for homelessness and particularly homeless children by sleeping on and under cardboard for a night in the middle of winter outside the Melbourne Exhibition Centre.
- Scouts Victoria, for the second year in a row, supported White Ribbon Day and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (November 25). Building on 2014, the White Ribbon Scout scarf was made available to our members as was a woggle. These items sold out as young men and women stood up to say NO! to violence against women, children or any person.
- The Victorian Minister for Youth Affairs, The Hon. Jenny Mikakos MLC, invited Scouts Victoria to participate in the reference group developing a new whole-of-government youth policy framework, which is intended to improve outcomes for all young people aged 12 to 24 in Victoria, particularly disadvantaged and disengaged young people. This important part of the Youth Policy Framework saw Scouting organise a series of events so that consultation with young people could be facilitated for feedback to Government.

CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Community and External Relations

- The appointment of youth members to be Chief Scout's Ambassadors in local Scout Groups has seen the Ambassadors do a wonderful job. They have been busy 'scarfing up' supporters and friends of Scouting in their local communities, recognising those that help Scouting. Municipal councilors, State and Federal politicians, school principals, shop keepers and many others were nominated and then appropriately thanked with a specially designed scarf presented by the Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers who were themselves 'scarfed up' by Chief Scout Shane Jacobson.
- I was delighted to welcome Her Excellency The Hon Linda Dessau AM, Governor of Victoria, as Patron of Scouts Victoria following Her Excellency's appointment. Her Excellency was invested and presented with the new State Scarf which she proudly wears.
- The Asia Pacific Regional Scout Workshop on Community Based Scouting was hosted by Scouts Victoria on behalf of Scouts Australia at Gilwell Park from September 3-6 2015. International participants from across the Asia Pacific as well as Poland experienced local Section, Group and District level Scouting activities using the Scout method of learning by doing thanks to Cardinia District, Scouts Victoria and the International Office and National Office of Scouts Australia.
- 77 Victorians attended the World Scout Jamboree in Japan this year.
- Prepare for the Future, the State conference for all adults in Scouting, was held on World Scout Day, August 1, in nine locations across the State with most venues in regional Victoria. Enormously successful, the day saw the launch of many new initiatives as well as a chance for members to pose questions to the Chief Commissioner Scouts Victoria in a live simulcast.

Seven more adults in Scouting were recognised in the Order of Australia;

- Peter Marriott AM, Assistant State Commissioner, Scouts
- Kingsley Davis OAM, Leader Trainer emeritus and former ABC Publications
- Liz Golec OAM, Group Leader 1st Yarrunga and former Branch Commissioner, Cub Scouts
- Julie Gunn OAM, former International Commissioner for Victoria, now Venturer Leader at CRC Sydenham
- Wayne Gunn OAM, Region Commissioner of Geelong Region
- Rod Savage OAM, founder of Whitehorse Showtime and the Victorian Scout Band (and still active in both)
- Margaret Tremewen OAM, Assistant Chief Commissioner (2000-2010), Hon. Commissioner and State Council member.



- The new hall branding signage was launched recently with a range of merchandise items for Groups to have a dynamic visual presence in their local community. A range of Scouts Victoria apparel was also launched with a new official uniform jacket and the very popular cap featuring the weedy sea dragon. The establishment of the new State Quartermaster with a significant facility established in Dandenong will see a decade of ideas come to fruition when it opens its doors in early 2016. Primarily a program centre to support all Groups, the Q Store will provide equipment for a nominal hire fee to safely and effectively run the program, for example, all the equipment for taking the Troop on a hike for four days, together with training on how to use the equipment.
 - » A Scouting Men's Shed supporting the movement by providing a repair depot for camping equipment as well as purchasable items that often require specific skills to manufacture. This will also see Scouting tap into the expertise of those who have done their bit as volunteer Leaders in Sections for many years, are now retired but still want to contribute and share in the fellowship that Scouting offers.
 - » Bulk purchasing benefits for Groups and Sections on camping equipment obtained at wholesale rates as well as providing the access to design and order Group and Section merchandise/apparel;
 - » Scout scarves at a very competitive price.
 - » Support for all contingents to ensure the cost of attending major events does not continue to escalate but rather we maximise our purchasing power to ensure Scouting is affordable for all.

CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Governance

- Every uniformed adult member of Scouts Victoria has completed the two Work Health and Safety training modules and the additional Child Protection training module ensuring we maintain a safe movement for all. I thank all for giving that little bit extra to ensure these were completed.
- The Chief Commissioner Scouts Victoria and State Leadership Team with the Region Commissioners conducted a series of consultation workshops with the membership on revisions required in the State Scout Constitution. The redrafting to include the feedback took months and has been submitted to the Branch Executive Council for review and amendments which is being worked on presently.

Scouts Victoria has had a highly successful year. That success is due to each and every volunteer, supporter, adult and helper who contribute their time so that we can deliver the program. On behalf of every young person who has benefited from the Scouting program over the past year, I thank each and every adult volunteer. Your hard work, commitment and dedication totalling more than 1.5 million hours continues to make a difference. Thank you for your generosity and for helping to make the world a better place.

Brendan J. Watson OAM
Chief Commissioner
Scouts Victoria

A new State Scarf was introduced, with the first being presented to Chief Scout Shane Jacobson, who was then presented with his belated Queen's Scout award by Dick Smith.



JON WILLIS
DEPUTY CHIEF COMMISSIONER

BRENDAN J. WATSON OAM
CHIEF COMMISSIONER



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



JOHN DE WIJN QC
CHAIRMAN
BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

This year has seen Brendan Watson's State Leadership Team continue to lead Scouts Victoria in innovative ways which reinforce Scouts Victoria as a contemporary and relevant organisation. The Branch Executive Committee (BEC) has continued to address and meet its responsibilities as directors of the corporation which is Scouts Victoria. This is becoming a very significant challenge for volunteer organisations in the current legal and regulatory environment. To this end the BEC's Governance Committee is gradually reviewing and updating State policies.

The BEC has also continued to engage with both the Royal Commission and State Government to ensure that Scouts provides a safe environment for our youth in which there is zero tolerance of child sexual abuse. Importantly we have mandated specific child protection training for all leaders to ensure that they are aware of potential child abuse issues and understand that our policy is, as it has always been, zero tolerance of abuse including immediate suspension and reporting of allegations of abuse.

This year we have welcomed two new members of the BEC, Vivienne Corcoran and Margaret Tremewen, each of whom brings considerable strategic and management experience to the BEC. We also look forward to Richard Simpson joining the BEC following the AGM. Richard has a wealth of Scouting experience and has been responsible for getting our successful hall branding project off the ground.

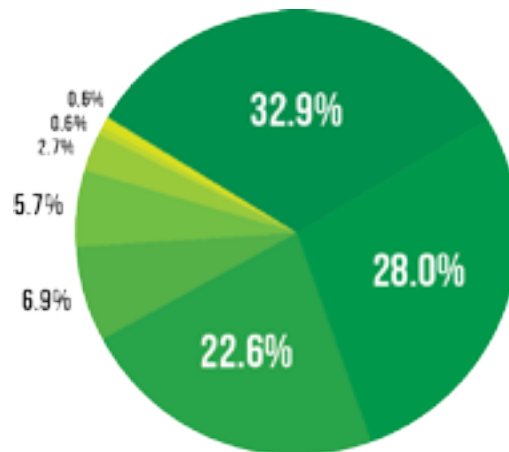
The Committee has continued to assess and realise surplus real estate with a view to ensuring that our assets are used primarily

to promote our youth program. To this end we have used funds from the realisation of assets to purchase premises in South Dandenong which will be used to store the extensive and valuable equipment we own. This facility will ensure that our equipment is stored efficiently and safely and is readily available for use in the youth program.

Building of the new Scout facility on the Hazel Glen education precinct will commence shortly at a cost of about \$1 million. This project will see the establishment of a modern Scout facility in conjunction with an education precinct. Its success will be important to the future growth and development of Scouting in Victoria and also future Government funding.

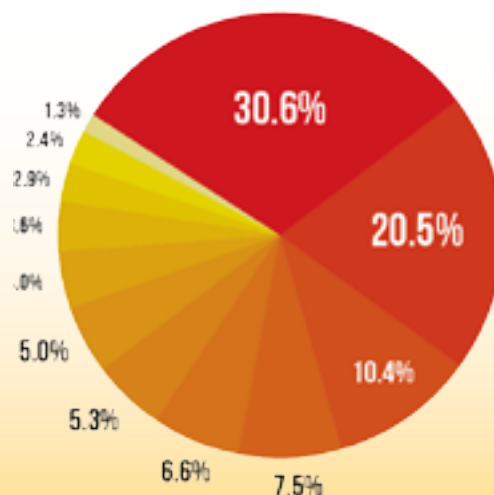
Importantly we continue to address the difficult issue of developing adequate and modern facilities in new growth areas. The BEC's Property Development Committee has identified 10 priority projects which will be the focus of our attention in the short term. Considerable progress has already been made with negotiating suitable land use agreements with councils in Caroline Springs and Narre Warren South, and acquiring freehold land in Ballan.

John de Wijn QC
Chairman
Branch Executive Committee



REVENUE 2015

- Investments, Dividends, Donations & Property Sales - \$4,711,000 (32.9%)
- Activities & Training Income - \$4,004,000 (28.0%)
- Membership Fees - \$3,242,000 (22.6%)
- Premiums Received - \$988,000 (6.9%)
- Grants Received - \$810,000 (5.7%)
- Miscellaneous Income - \$388,000 (2.7%)
- Fundraising Income - \$92,000 (0.6%)
- Contributions Received - \$81,000 (0.6%)



EXPENSES 2015

- Activities & Training Expenses - \$3,449,000 (30.6%)
- Employment Expenses - \$2,304,000 (20.5%)
- Corporate, Computer Services, Depreciation & Financing - \$1,169,000 (10.4%)
- Contribution - SGFG Program - \$844,000 (7.5%)
- Travel & Vehicle Expenses - \$738,000 (6.6%)
- Other - \$595,000 (5.3%)
- Occupancy Expenses - \$562,000 (5.0%)
- Unrealised Losses on Investment Portfolio - \$455,000 (4.0%)
- Insurance Claims Paid - \$411,000 (3.6%)
- Postage, Printing & Stationery - \$322,000 (2.9%)
- Affiliation Fees - \$271,000 (2.4%)
- Fundraising Expenses - \$144,000 (1.3%)

SUPPORTED BY ADULTS

 **4936**
ADULT MEMBERS COMPLETED
E-LEARNING MODULES

 **976**
LEADERS COMPLETED
BASIC TRAINING

 **241**
LEADERS COMPLETED
ADVANCED TRAINING

HIGHLY SKILLED



THE WOOD BADGE HAS BEEN AWARDED TO

152 LEADERS

14 JOEY SCOUT LEADERS
38 CUB SCOUT LEADERS
30 SCOUT LEADERS
15 VENTURER LEADERS

12 ROVER ADVISORS
17 GROUP LEADERS
22 DISTRICT LEADERS / COMMISSIONERS
4 ACTIVITY LEADERS

VICTORIAN ADULTS IN SCOUTING
THIS YEAR WERE AWARDED:

82 SPECIAL SERVICE AWARDS

68 MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

13 OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS

39 SILVER WATTLES

9 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

16 SILVER KOALAS

7 SILVER EMUS

4 NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

5 SILVER KANGAROOS

National President's Award list

Reginald Parsons, Australia Scout Fellowship - Whitehorse

Lynette Stephenson, Australia Scout Fellowship - Cardinia

Bruce Venville, Australia Scout Fellowship - Whitehorse

William Wright, Australia Scout Fellowship - Treetops Campsite

Silver Kangaroo list

Joan Bradd, District Commissioner, Kingston District

Garry Breadon, State Commissioner - Adult Training & Development, Victorian Branch

Peter Datson, District Leader - Venturers, Banyule District

Ian Hobson, Activity Leader - Patrol Activity Camps, Mt Dandenong Region

Donald Lang, Scout Leader, 1st Glengarry

HIGHLY RESPECTED



LED BY YOUTH



MORRIS ORCHARD
ASSISTANT CHIEF COMMISSIONER - YOUTH

Scouts Victoria is becoming increasingly led by young people, with support from experienced adults. Youth involvement is a key element of World and National strategies and forms a major component of Scouts Victoria's triennial plan.

To help achieve this, the adult membership offered their wisdom on how to involve young people in the management of Scouting at the all-adults conference, Prepare for the Future, in August 2015. Young people then helped shape this into tangible structures at the Create the Future youth summits in October, where they also contributed to the Youth Program Review and told the Victorian Government how they want the government to support their aspirations.

Young people and adult volunteers are now involved in developing a common language and support model so that all young people in Scouting can have a voice on issues that affect them, and a number of young people can apply themselves to sharing in the leadership of Scouting in their community, with adults, whose immense contribution will continue to be needed and valued.

Young people leading Scouting

Meanwhile, a number of young people have applied successfully to take on important roles at State and other levels with the valued support of older people, leading International Scouting, Diversity & Inclusion, the Kangaree and supporting a number of major event contingents, among other roles at all levels. Nearly a third of the State Leadership Team are young people, including representation from the Victorian Rover Council. In addition, the organising committee

working hard towards the 20th Australian Rover Moot to be held in Victoria will, significantly, all be Rovers at the time of the Moot.

For the second year, the State Scout Council has welcomed two Scouts to join the team, elected by their peers and bringing a wealth of intelligence from the youth perspective to the Scout section program. Also, the State Youth Council supports the work of the section teams, and a range of other bodies.

Representing young people in the community

Scouts Victoria has further engaged with the community and government on behalf of young people. It made a submission to the Inquiry into Self Harm and Suicidal Behaviour, and later the Victorian Government's strategy on mental health. In both cases we provided the experiences of young people and adult volunteers in helping our community and organisations like Scouting do better respond to these issues. Scouts Victoria made a contribution to the Victorian Government's education policy, conducting a consultation to collect Scouting educational expertise, and also the experiences of our partners in further and tertiary education.

Most recently, Scouts Victoria has been asked to contribute a representative to the Sector Reference Group advising the Victorian Government on their youth policy framework and over a hundred young people in Scouting contributed to youth policy at the Create the Future youth summits organised by Scouting in Sydenham and Trafalgar in October 2015.

Scouting continues to value all of its members including through recognition of LGBTIQ members as part of celebrations for the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia.

Young people are the face of Scouting

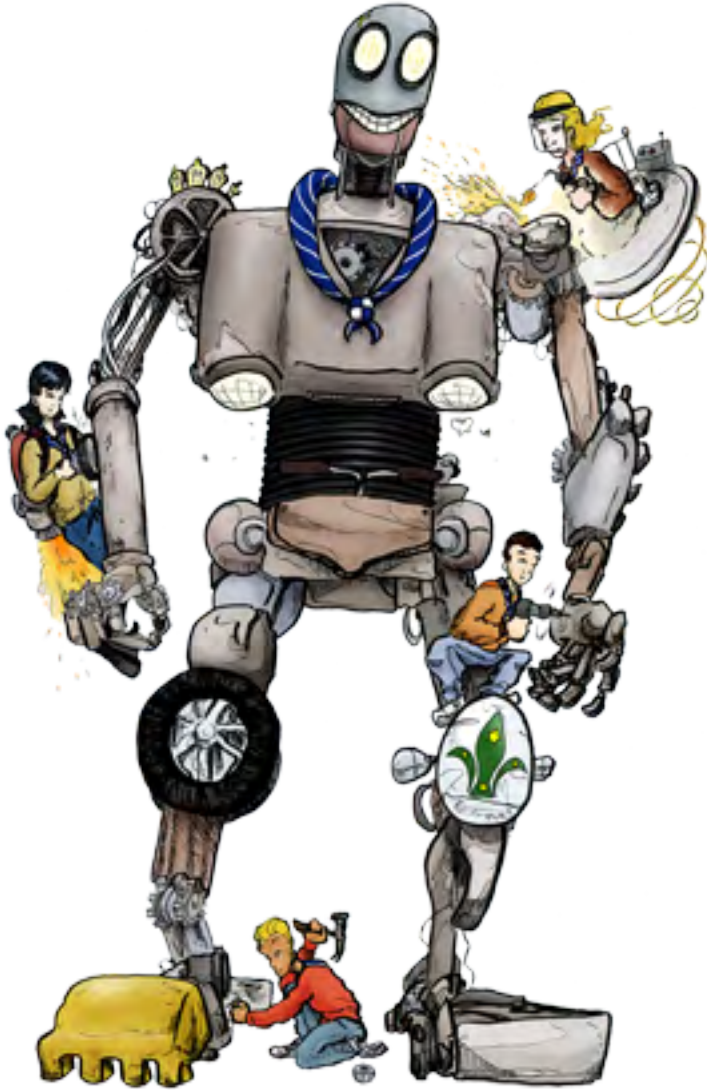
Big Day Scout saw the appointment of a young person in nearly every Scout Group as an Ambassador for Scouting in the community. Chief Scout's Ambassadors have been working in the community, 'scarfing up' prominent local people as community ambassadors for Scouting. This local engagement has resulted in hundreds of scarf presentations across Victoria, bringing community members into the Scouting family, but has also had a contribution



to the community's overall appreciation of our work through extensive local media coverage of the program.

The State Youth Council is always willing to support any Section or formation as a source of advice or assistance.

Morris Orchard
Assistant Chief Commissioner - Youth
Scouts Victoria



ARTWORK BY DAVID MAHLER

State Youth Council

The State Youth Council represents the youth of Scouts Victoria and influences outcomes to keep Scouting relevant to the young people of today.

In the last year, the State Youth Council has had a direct input in areas such as Big Day Scout, the Youth Program Review and was instrumental in the establishment of the State Youth Venturer Council, as well as working alongside both the Prepare for the Future and Create the Future teams, impacting decisions made that will affect the direction of Scouting. The State Youth Council has also worked alongside the State Scout Council receiving a number of new members with fresh ideas from the State Scout Youth Forum.

Finally the State Youth Council has been working on a number of self-initiated projects including a badge work handbook and potential merchandising ideas.



THE FIVE SECTIONS



Joey Scouts

Our most youthful section, our Joey Scouts had another year of new adventures and lots of learning.

This included the biennial Hop Outdoors in the City which saw Mobs descend on the CBD to learn about iconic city sights including Federation Square and the Shrine of Remembrance. Meanwhile during their travels Joeys were tasked with tracking down strategically placed and dressed-up historical characters along the way.

There were also lots of festivities and fun had as part of the 25th Birthday of Joey Scouts celebrations. Throughout the year parties were held by Mobs, Groups, Districts and Regions to celebrate the special anniversary milestone.

Meanwhile Joey Scout Leaders attended the Abilities Conference 2014 with a special involvement from AMAZE to explore the opportunities and challenges of young people affected with Autism in Scouting.

This year the top achievement for Joey Scouts, the Promise Challenge award, was attained by an impressive 321 members. There were countless family and friends in attendance and photos taken at the very many regional recognition days.

Another highlight for 2015 for Joey Scouts and their Leaders around the state was the Zoo Day with a challenge to help Save the Bandicoots and then in March 2016 of course Kangaree 4 – Earthtastic.



Cub Scouts

As for our Cub Scouts section this year, adventure based events and activities continued in Regions and Districts including many Kub Kar Rallies, where Cubs design and make a car out of wood then race them plus lots of Pack holidays across the state.

In an impressive feat this year, a record 506 Cub Scouts received the Grey Wolf award with regions recognising the worthy recipients with numerous celebration presentations and afternoon teas.

As 2016 approaches, preparations have been underway and continue for the Cub Scout section's centenary year. With the appointment of Karl Herring as our Centenary Project Leader, significant progress is being made on the planning of our centenary events for next year including some synchronised events across Australia.

Also in preparation for the Cub Scout Centenary, a national badge design competition was run with Chloe McFarlane of 1st Ballam Park being our Victorian winner and Peter Dixon from Tasmania taking out the title of national winner for his design.

In the background throughout the year we have focussed on our ongoing aim to improve membership retention amongst Cubs including a new milestone program. One initiative, as part of the program, is some surprise material being mailed to



current Cubs, including a birthday card from Chief Scout Shane Jacobson.

Cub Leaders regularly meet together for Seenees to plan and share program. Initiatives this year included Seenees on the road, at Mildura, Morwell, Bairnsdale, Leongatha, Kaniva, Kerang, Horsham, Echuca, Rutherglen, Bendigo and Melbourne – and a special Seenee workshop for 100 Leaders at Scienceworks.

Scout Section

Yet again this year Scout Troops across the state planned and participated in a vast array of adventure and educational activities at a local level.

On a state-wide scale Bay Jam, a camp in January 2015 held at Bay Park Scout Camp in Mt Martha, was attended by 700 Scouts and 150 Leaders.

Meanwhile on the back-of-house camp agenda, in our ongoing commitment to quality improvements, a revised Camping Standards was issued by the State Scout Council that was used with great success by many camps including the Stradbroke Cup.

A new initiative this year within the Scout Section was the TC6 program which encouraged every Scout Troop in Victoria to pledge to run six youth-led council meetings during 2015. The aim of the program is to engage with youth leaders on an ongoing basis while helping them to build leadership skills.

Also in relation to youth leadership, two new Scout members, Savannah Roberts and Ella Routson, were elected by their peers to join the State Scout Council. Thank you to Zeke Madeley and Brent Chalmers for their previous tenure.

A total of 201 Scouts were this year awarded the top Australian Scout Medallions. Various recognition and presentation events took place with proud family, friends, Leaders and fellow members in attendance.

Meanwhile great effort and much activity has been on planning forward for Jamboree 2016 in NSW with more than 2800 Scouts in 81 Troops with 600 Leaders in support expected to attend in January. And it's shaping up to be the biggest and best Jamboree yet!

Venturers

An increase in event participation was a significant highlight in the Venturers section this year.

In the first instance a record 381 Venturers and 52 Leaders from Victoria attended the Australian Venture in January. To follow was another record setting attendance at the 2015 Anything Goes camp with 918 Venturers and 281 Leaders and Rovers in tow.

The records are expected to be broken once more with a confirmed 227 Venturers and 48 Leaders attending the New Zealand Venture 'Inferno' in January 2016 which means Victoria will account for 41% of the overall Australian Contingent. Very impressive participation indeed!

In other Venturer news, the top achievement for the Section, the Queen's Scout award, was received by 70 Venturers with the formal award presentation taking place at Government House.

Meanwhile our educational focus continued with strong links being formed with Universities through offering our high achieving Venturers preferred placement opportunities.

Rovers

Rovers had a year of many highlights, including membership growth to 1132 Rovers, almost 40% of the Rovers in Australia.

Rovers coordinated and led Big Day Scout, which was a huge success as an event and a strong demonstration of youth leadership.

Through the We Can Do Better recycling program Rovers recycled more than 14,000 cans, saving the equivalent energy of 42,000 hours of TV use.

Ten Victorian Rovers received the Baden Powell Scout Award at Government House in October. Rovers past and present came together to celebrate 75 years of the Bogong Rover Chalet.

Coming up in late 2016-2017, Victoria is hosting the The Moot at Mafeking Rover Park, with more than 600 participants expected for 10 days of adventure.



ACTIVITIES



For yet another year committed teams of trained volunteer Leaders have delivered a vast array of Adventurous Activities and Specialised Activities to complement local programs and to enhance the experience of thousands of youth members in Scouting.

Adventurous Activities teams challenged thousands to go outside their comfort zone, from canoeing for Joey Scouts to caving for Venturers. The Air Activities Team taught basic aviation to hundreds of Cub Scouts and Scouts, who enjoyed a flight over Melbourne. In 2015 they also took this activity to regional Victoria visiting 1st Mansfield when 16 Scouts obtained their Pioneer level Air Activities badge.

Another significant highlight for the year was the 40th Gilweroo, an annual activity camp for 2000 Scouts and hundreds of Leaders.

The State Abseiling Team also had an exciting year of change with a new logo and new focus going forward on real rock abseiling.

Meanwhile Rovers embraced Caving activities as a result of the appointed Rover Adventurous Activities Officer who is charged with promoting participation in activities throughout the Section.

On and in the water, 30 Scouts from Geelong experienced a learn to canoe weekend and on the annual Scout Scuba Victoria dive camp the team were lucky enough to see some Weedy Sea Dragons up close.

Sailing activities are set to expand in the coming year to encourage more sailing experiences for youth members across the State. Similarly the newly set up Cycling Team are ready to provide more activities for Groups.

Weekends away to country region with multiple activities on offer will also be a feature of the year ahead.

Our Specialised Activities team had another year full of action right across all areas from Environment to International and everything in between.

As part of Diversity and Inclusion we welcomed a new State Commissioner, Tim Druce, and for the second consecutive year we supported White Ribbon Day whereby Scout members were asked to swear the White Ribbon Oath in front of their Group or Section to be presented with the special White Ribbon scarf (with a yellow strip to honour the memory of 1st Tyabb Scout Luke Batty).

The 2nd Victoria Agoonoree bought together more than 20 youth members with a disability. The weekend camp was a huge success, providing these youth members with fun, educational and adventurous activities designed for each individual's abilities.

In performing arts, the seven Victorian Scout-Guide shows enjoyed great success and happy audiences. A highlight was the 50th season of our 'border show', Albury Gang Show.

Internationally, Victorians have played a large role in National Contingents to major overseas events. More than 75 attended the World Jamboree in Japan in August. And we had participants and observers at the 25th Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Conference and the 8th Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Youth Forum in Korea in November, as well as international gatherings in Singapore and Oman.

Other Groups have travelled to Fiji and Timor Leste for service projects, or for adventure in New Zealand and South East Asia.

In January 2016 more than 250 Victorian Venturers will attend the Venture in New Zealand, while later in the year about 130 Victorian Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Leaders will head off to the International Scout Centre at Kandersteg in the Swiss Alps.

Our Heritage Team continued to work tirelessly on consolidating the magnificent and meaningful collection of memorabilia from separate sites to the new central home at Bentleigh. This space is set to become the one stop shop and educational hub for members to visit and learn about the extensive history of Scouting in a fun and informative setting.



MAJOR EVENTS

HIGH PARTICIPATION



AUSTRALIAN VENTURE
JAN 2015



BAY JAM
JAN 2015



BIG DAY SCOUT
FEB 2015



COMING UP



NEW ZEALAND VENTURE
DEC 2015



AUSTRALIAN JAMBOREE
JAN 2016



KANGAREE
MAR 2016



THE MOOT
DEC 2016

ALL FIGURES REPRESENT VICTORIAN SCOUTS

AV **HEAPS GOOD** 2015

16TH AUSTRALIAN VENTURE
ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA - JANUARY 2015



JANUARY 2-13
2015



FOR VENTURERS
AGED 15-17



ADELAIDE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



381 VICTORIAN VENTURERS
52 LEADERS



JANUARY
2015



700 SCOUTS
150 LEADERS



FEBRUARY 15
2015



8000 YOUTH MEMBERS
& SUPPORTERS



FROM FEDERATION SQUARE



35,000 SMS CLUES SENT TO FIND
15 SCOUT STREET ART INSTALLATIONS



#BIGDAYSCOUT TOP TRENDING
FOR MELBOURNE



RUN BY
ROVERS



VICTORIAN SCOUT FOUNDATION



DAVID JONES AM. FCA.
PRESIDENT & CHAIRMAN

Once again the Victorian Scout Foundation has had a successful year recording an operating profit of \$911,862, from which grants of \$480,406 were made to the Victorian Branch for various projects (see chart).

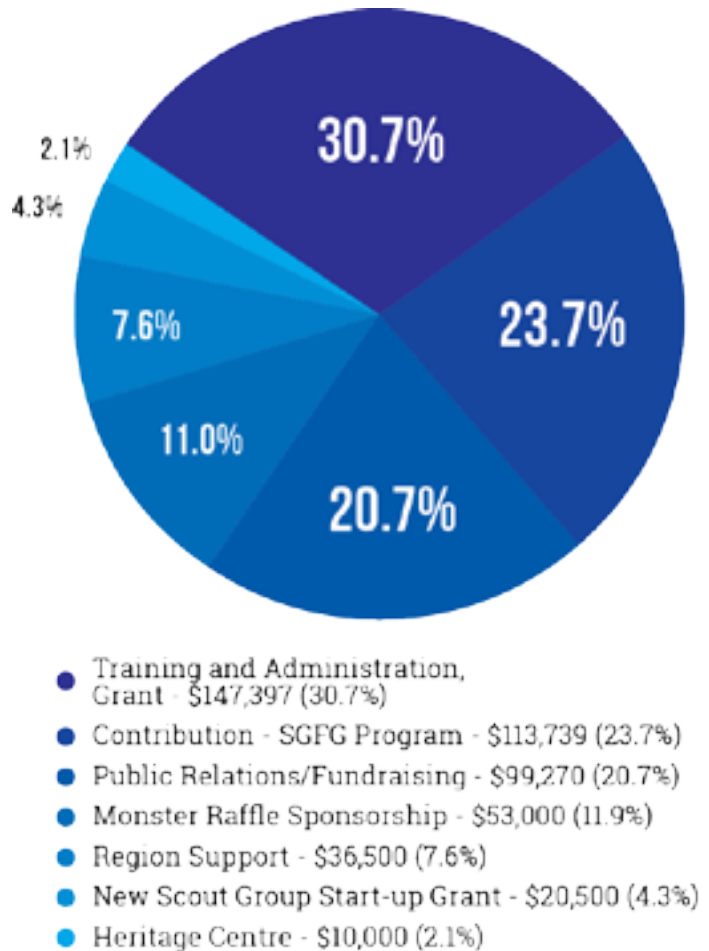
Since the start of the Foundation, grants totalling \$5,581,415 have been made to various projects and included in this amount has been property restoration grants to Groups totalling \$2,153,226.

The Foundation needs to continually recruit new members in order to grow and if you would like to help Scouting in Victoria, why not contact us at the Victoria Scout Centre on 8543 9800 about becoming a member.

Remember contributions can be made over five years and of course are tax deductible.

David W. Jones AM. FCA.
President & Chairman
The Victorian Scout Foundation Ltd.

GRANTS 2015



CELEBRATING A CENTENARY

We congratulate the following Scout Groups on their recent or upcoming 100 year anniversary:

- | | | | | | |
|------|---|------|--|------|---|
| 2008 | 1st/14th Brighton
Carlton
1st City of Camberwell
1st Ivanhoe Sea Scouts
1st Sandringham | 2010 | 1st Alphington
1st Bunyip
Bundoora
1st Diamond Creek
1st Kyabram | 2014 | 1st Lilydale
1st Tyabb |
| 2009 | 1st Eastern Park (Try Boys)
1st Kew
1st Fitzroy | 2011 | 1st Myrtleford
1st Queenscliff
1st Trafalgar | 2015 | 1st Canterbury
Lynden Park
1st Seymour
1st Werribee Plains |
| | | 2013 | 1st/3rd Cheltenham
1st Castlemaine
1st Hurstbridge
Warragul | 2016 | 1st Alexandra
1st Drouin
2nd Horsham
4th Horsham
Maffra
1st Somerville |



OFFICE BEARERS

VICTORIAN BRANCH PERSONNEL

Patron of Scouts Victoria – Her Excellency, The Hon. Linda Dessau AM, Governor of Victoria
Chief Scout – Shane Jacobson
Chief Commissioner of Victoria – Brendan Watson OAM
President – Neil Comrie AO APM
Vice President – Neil Westaway AM
Vice President – Tom Hartley
Honorary Treasurer – Kevin Moss

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Elected members
John de Wijn QC (Chairman)
Brad Miles (Deputy Chairman)
Dion Ellis, Alex Forrest, Rob Mills
Ex-officio members
Kevin Moss (Honorary Treasurer)
Brendan Watson OAM (Chief Commissioner)
Jon Willis (Deputy Chief Commissioner)
Greg McDougall, Morris Orchard (Assistant Chief Commissioners)
Neil Comrie AO APM (President)
Tom Hartley (Vice President)
Neil Westaway AM (Vice President)

VICTORIAN COMMISSIONER TEAM

Chief Commissioner – Brendan Watson OAM
Deputy Chief Commissioner – Jon Willis
Immediate Past Chief Commissioner – Robert Taylor AM
Secretary General – Greg McDougall

ASSISTANT CHIEF COMMISSIONERS

Claire Edmanson
Jan Kerr
Greg McDougall
Simon Marks
Adrian Ohlsen
Morris Orchard
Lachlan Preston
Andrew Taylor

REGION COMMISSIONERS

Bays – Frank Moore
Gippsland – Bob Taylor AM (Acting)
Geelong – Wayne Gunn OAM
Lerderderg – Simon Marks (Acting)
Loddon Mallee – Craig Whan
Melbourne – Michelle Grierson
Mt Dandenong – Gary Park
Northern – Simon Marks (Acting)
Plenty Valley – Simon Marks (Acting)
West Coast – Peter Newell
Western – Ian Lock

STATE COMMISSIONERS

Joey Scouts – Sue Humber
Cub Scouts – John Kerr
Scouts – Michael Thomas
Venturer Scouts – Rod Byrnes
Rover Scouts – Jody Freeman
Adventurous Activities – Alan Richmond
Campsites – Peter Rutley OAM
Development – Chris Young
Gillwell Park – Russell Bradd
Gang Show – Rob Motton
International – Lisa Picking
Research & Planning – Lachlan Shield
Risk & Safety – Andrew Hanley
Scout Heritage – Aline Thompson
Special Duties –
The Hon. Michael Baden Powell
Adult Training & Development – Garry Breadon
Diversity & Inclusion – Tim Druce
Personnel Support – Mathew McKernan
Quartermaster – Trevor Howlett

ASSISTANT STATE COMMISSIONERS

Joey Scouts – Vicki Sykes
Cub Scouts – Elizabeth Thomson
Scouts – Joan Dillon OAM,
Mark Enger, Peter Marriott AM
Venturer Scouts – Gary Steinhardt
Rover Scouts – Greg Davies,
Peter Wotherspoon, Christopher Eagle
Adult Training & Development – Alistair Horne

STAFF

Executive Manager –
Dougal Mayor DipMgt, DipHRM, CertIVLead,
CertIVFinServ, CertIVTrainAssess
PA & Secretariat – Kathleen Solomons
HR & Membership Manager –
Mark Chaffers DipHRM, DipOHS, CAHRI
Membership Support Team –
Mary Stanek, Barbara Allford,
Youth Program Support –
Denise Bates B.App.Sc (Computing)
Finance Team –
Leanne Sheehan CA, Russell Payne OAM FCPA,
Anne Do BCom (Acc), Edwin Tang BCom (Acc),
Maria Koutelas,
Corporate Projects – Greg Andrews
WSF Event Coordinator – Claire Mouser M Sc (EnvMgt)
Property
Carole Richards – BJ LLB, Doug Dixon Dip CE,
Municipal CE, Building Surveyor (unlimited),
Rachel McDonald BSc
Development –
Robert Charlesworth GradDip Outdoor Studies
Marketing & Fundraising Manager –
Leah Kemp BBus
Marketing & Communications Team –
Nick Greber BMm, Dussy Kuttner BJourn,
Bee Vincent
Training Manager – Rosemary Redgrave CertIV
Training & Assessment; DipAppSc CHN, RN,
GradCert Bus Mgt,
Education Curriculum Coordinator – Shona
Janky MEI, GDipEd(Sec), GDipMgt, BSc,
Training Administrator –
Deborah Allen Campsites, Stephen Hopkins,
Katrina Carmody, Fiona Hocking, Greg Wiener
IT Manager – Nicolas Tao MACS
IT Team – Phung Tran MBIS,
Gohilahdhevi Murugan B.E.,
Steven Chiu MIT, BCompSc., Matthew Lau MIT,
Tien Nguyen M.Sw.E,
Barathkumar Vellingiri B.E.,MEM.,MES.,
Sujai Selvaraj B.E., MCTE

BRANCH COUNCIL

By-Law 4A - Chief Scout (The Chief Scout) –
Shane Jacobson

By-Law 4b - Branch Council Member holding Designated Offices (The persons for the time being respectively holding the following offices, namely President of the Branch, two Vice Presidents of the Branch, Honorary Treasurer, Chief Commissioner, Deputy Chief Commissioner, Assistant Chief Commissioners and all other Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners with the exception of Honorary Commissioners and Assistant District Commissioners)
President – Neil Comrie AO, APM
Vice Presidents – Neil Westaway AM,
Tom Hartley
Treasurer – Kevin Moss
Chief Commissioner – Brendan Watson OAM
Deputy Chief Commissioner – Jon Willis

Assistant Chief Commissioners

Claire Edmanson
Jan Kerr
Lachlan Preston
Greg McDougall
Simon Marks
Adrian Ohlsen
Morris Orchard
Andrew Taylor

State Commissioners - 19

Assistant State Commissioners - 10
Region Commissioners - 7
Section Commissioners - Regions - 43
District Commissioners – 34

By-Law 4c - Region President/Chairman (Region President and or Chairman)

Robert Doyle – Melbourne Region
David Jones AM – Bays Region
Ken Kinloch – Geelong Region

By-Law 4d - General Secretary

Dougal Mayor

By-Law 4e - Elected Lay Member (Such other persons, not exceeding thirty-six in number, as may be elected by the Council from time to time as lay members)

Arthur Andronas
David Armstrong
Wayne Aspland
Shirley Bean OAM
Geoff Clarke MBE
Graeme Cumbrae-Stewart OAM
John de Wijn QC
Ross Elliott
Dion Ellis
Alex Forrest
Phil Gude
Richard Hamer
David Jefferson OAM
Clive Keeble OAM
Neville Lee OAM
Rob Mills
Brad Miles
Alston Park AM, JP
David Paroissien OAM
John Peck
Kelvin Thomson MP
Douglas Thompson
Peter Washusen
Kim Wells MP
Dr William Wells AM

By-Law 4f - (Two additional members from each Area Council approved by the Committee, one only of whom may be a Scouter. These additional members shall be respectively elected by the Area Council which they are to represent)

Nicole Green – Melbourne Region
Kelly O'Dwyer – Melbourne Region
Noel Hall OAM – Bays Region
Ian Sandell – Bays Region
Ian Murray – Plenty Valley Region
William Oakley – Plenty Valley Region
Bryce Hutton – Geelong Region
Jacqueline Sawyer – Geelong Region
John Ravenhall AM – Lerderderg Region



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