



## **1<sup>st</sup> Magill Scout Group**

**Annual Report 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017**  
**Group and Section Leader's Reports**

## **Group Leader Report for 2017**

Magill Scout Group received a 4 star rating for 2016 which was an improvement from the previous year. A well-deserved improvement.

Numbers have remained constant. Youth numbers could grow and Magill have set about designing a poster which could be placed in schools and school newsletters. Catholic schools have been happy to advertise the group but State schools have been reluctant to advertise. The Group has struggled with finding parents to become adult helpers and help on a regular basis, no new leaders have come forward. David has had to take a step back from his Cub Leader role due to illness. Rod has taken charge of the group with help from Colleen who is a retired leader from Ridgehaven group, who has stepped into an assistant role for a short time. Joeys also has had help from James an assistant Joey leader also from Ridgehaven. However this can't continue in the long term and more leaders are required. Scouts struggle on with Martin the only leader and a few parents helping, at present no one has come forward to take on the Scout Leader role.

The Group was successful in finding a Group Leader late last year; Heather Michie is currently undergoing training. However Heather's current work has her always on call and it is difficult for her to maintain a regular commitment. I have stepped in to support Heather once again this year, but my role as District Commissioner prevents me from embracing the role effectively.

The group once again was involved in the ANZAC celebrations this year at the Gums. Joeys and Cubs were involved in the National tree day planting on 30<sup>th</sup> July. Scouts attended a fishing weekend at Deep Creek. Lots of outdoor excursions have occurred for all three sections. Oscar Hill was a proud recipient of the Joey Promise badge, the highest award in the Joey section.

Congratulations to Martin Gregory and David McNamara who were awarded Meritorious Service Awards in the 2017 Adult Scouting Recognition Awards.

The future of Magill Group is dependent on the parents of the group supporting their children in Scouting in a variety positions. We all know how much the children gain from Scouting and if you believe that then please raise your hand and come along and join us.

*Kay R Ealing*

**Kay Ealing**  
**District Commissioner of Adelaide Foothills District**

## **Scout Troop Report for 2017**

2016-2017 was a successful year for Magill Scouts, with exciting activities and ongoing transformation of the group.

During the second half of 2016, Graham “Hawkeye” and I had the pleasure of taking the comparatively young troop on a range of scouting adventures, including a reprise of the Bush Camp and participation in Branch Hike.

2016 culminated with a relaxing Beach Camp, and we bid farewell to Hawkeye as he stepped down as ASL after over 40 years in scouting.

In 2017 a number of parents stepped up to help with the scouting leadership load in various ways, and this has re-invigorated the troop. The weather this year so far has made up for wiping us out of Snorkelling last year – our Air Activities and Deep Creek Bush Camp were particularly blessed. At Air Activities we had wonderful warm still weather for the flights, then a healthy breeze for the land yachting. At our recent mid-winter Deep Creek Bush Camp, miraculously the sun shone and the wind did not blow! The scouts enjoyed fishing, beach activities and a couple of strenuous hill-climbing hikes.

The amount of behind the scenes work is wonderful and very much appreciated – both the official functions like Treasurer, Quartermaster, Chairperson, Fundraising Officer etc and the “other jobs” – handyman work, event organisation etc. It makes a world of difference to running a good program to have a well organised Q-store, the ability to purchase good stuff to go in it, and all the other things that go to supporting scouting.

From an organisational perspective, the scouting leadership “crisis” is somewhat averted, with parent help making all the difference. There are also district plans afoot to find a qualified leader to replace me. We need to continue to encourage other parents to help in the way that Sharon, Cathy, Margaret and Johan have done.

**Martin Gregory**  
**Scout Leader**  
**20<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

## **Cub Leader Report for 2017**

The Cubs section is in dire need of new leaders. Akela (David) and Dingo (Rod) have been the leaders for the last ~10 years. Akela is recovering from a serious medical condition, and his son John will be leaving cubs this year, and Rod no longer has any children in scouting at all.

If we cannot find new leaders, there is a very grave danger of the Magill Cubs section no longer being viable. Many thanks to the parents who have stepped in to help with running the program during this challenging period.

Even with these setbacks, Magill cubs has continued to consistently have 14+ cubs on a Tuesday night at the hall, with Joeys moving up to Cubs regularly and new Cubs coming into the group as well.

The Centenary Cuboree was a great event, and many of our cubs attended and had a great time at all the varied activities. The rain didn't dampen their spirits one bit!

Our external activities (ambulance station visit, father's day hike, bike riding, Latitude, Aspire TaeKwon-Do, night hikes, etc) continue to be attended well both by cubs and by parents. A couple of our cubs also joined the scouts for a night hike as part of preparing for moving up later this year.

The Pinewood Derby is on in August, and we handed out the raw materials to make the cars a couple of weeks ago. This is a great opportunity for practically-minded parents to create something with their children (but please make sure that the cubs do most of the work). We plan to run our night next week to pick our racers for the district finals, so there's not much time to make those cars! We will be doing the BBQ for the District.

**Rod Whitby**  
**Assistant Cub Leader**  
**20th June 2017**

## **Joey Leader Report for 2017**

The Joey Scouts started term 3 last year with some practical challenges, and then did some activities to celebrate the Olympics. In Term 4, we had a buddy theme, with Gilberton Scouts, with a very interesting and exciting visit to a grave yard.

In term 1 this year, Joeys had an Adventure theme. Joeys went to Largs Bay with the rest of the district, made an obstacle course, did a mini-hike and then went to Latitude for the end of term.

This term, the theme is Care and Share. Joeys have done a range of different activities under this theme, with a focus on cooking. Joeys made lollipops earlier in the term and made pasta today.

Joeys, like all other sections, does not have enough leaders. James Love from Ridgehaven is helping out in the short term, but this is only a temporary measure. Joeys should ideally have three leaders, to ensure a reasonable workload and provide some flexibility in attendance to the leaders.

The numbers in the Joey mob are currently quite good, with 12 to 15 Joeys attending regularly.

Joey Scouts is running well and has very good attendance rates, indicating that the Joeys themselves are happy. Leadership in the section is currently the biggest area of concern for the section.

Yours in Scouting,

**Rhys Hill**  
**Joey Scout Leader**  
**20<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

## **Chairperson's Report for 2017**

After the AGM last year we started Term 3 of 2016 with an almost entirely new committee. As the sole remaining member from prior years, I took on the role of chairperson (replacing Annabel Holliss), in addition to being Quartermaster, and have been ably supported by Keith Lowman and Diana Hill as treasurer and secretary respectively, and also by our Adelaide Foothills District Commissioner, Kay Ealing.

A number of new committee members also eagerly attended meetings during the latter half of 2016, but several of these have dropped away this year so there's definitely room for more. Tracey Billingsley recently agreed to help in the grants and fundraising role so that is one less thing I need to focus on.

Over the past 12 months the leaders of each section have all supplied terrific programs that have benefitted and encouraged our youth members to grow and be challenged. These leaders are in desperate need of extra assistance however and try as we might to advertise, convince and cajole new leaders to the group, numbers are still well below where we'd like them to be. I doubt our group is the only one in scouts facing this challenge.

I would like to thank the leaders for all the time they spend to offer the youth of our group the amazing experience of scouting. I would like to thank the parents that help out; you are extremely important and greatly appreciated. Finally I would like to thank everyone on the committee for their support over the last 12 months. It would be wonderful to see some more parents being involved either on the committee, as registered parent helpers, as trainee assistant leaders or at fundraising events.

If you have any questions regarding the parent committee please do not hesitate to contact me personally. My details are below.

Yours in Scouting

**John Frith**  
**Chairperson**  
**20<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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## **Treasurer's Report at June 2017**

The Group's accounts and financial records for the calendar/scouting financial year of 2016 have been finalised and submitted to Scouts SA headquarters. The audit report and records have been accepted. A brief breakdown of income and expenses for 2016 are detailed below.

January 2016 Opening Balance	\$15,133.57
Income (fees, fundraising)	\$17,723.32
General Expenses	\$14,108.87 (see breakdown below)
Jamboree Costs	\$15,165.00
December 2016 closing balance	\$3,583.02

Below is a breakdown of general expenses;

Leader Training	\$530.00
Scout HQ Insurance	\$1,808.00
Scout HQ affiliation	\$2,624.00
Books/ Badges	\$527.30
Electricity/ Water	\$2230.17
Joey Activities	\$53.77
Cub Activities	\$1665.39
Scout Activities	\$511.21
Fund raising	\$766.75
Cleaning	\$550.55
Hall Maintenance	\$1,169.27
Equipment Purchases	\$256.44
Vehicle Expense	\$402.00
Group Activity	\$204.17
Scout Outdoor Centre	\$340.25
Maintenance of Equipment	\$469.60

The large difference in the starting balance and closing balance is due the fundraising for AJ2016 held in January at Cataract Park, Sydney.

Current bank balances as of 19/06/2017:

Cheque account	\$3,530.11
Business Access Saver account	\$1,150.92
<u>Total balance:</u>	<u>\$4,681.03</u>

**Keith Lowman**  
**Treasurer**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Jun 2017**

## **Grants and Fundraising Report for 2017**

I only took on this position a couple months ago.

I have applied for one small grant that was lodged on the 31st May 2017, which we haven't had any feedback on as on yet. This grant was for repairs to the leader's den door, Q-store doors and installation of a new (second-hand) kitchen.

I have also looked at applying for a larger grant for some insulation and maybe a new roof for the hall, and maybe some heating and cooling but need to seek the appropriate people to see if this is something we would be allowed to proceed with, ie. committee leaders and council approval.

The Bunnings and Mitre 10 fundraising BBQ where a good success for the group this year. Thanks to all for all support from the committee and parents and 1st Magill Scouts group for a great effort.

Many thanks to everyone who helped out and supported the group over the past financial year.

**Tracey Billingsley**

**20<sup>th</sup> June 2017**