

# TE PUKAPUKA

ISSUE NO 270 July 2025



Welcome to the B- P Guild: Issue #270 of Te Pukapuka



The Registered Office of National Headquarters of the Baden-Powell Guild of NZ Inc is: Villa 135/52 Condor Drive, Pyes Pa, Tauranga 3112.

The Baden-Powell Guild of NZ Inc, the Trefoil Guild and Local Scout and Guide Fellowships are affiliated through the New Zealand Scout and Guide Fellowship to the **INTERNATIONAL SCOUT AND GUIDE FELLOWSHIP**, and all members are also members of the International Fellowship.

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Copy for Te Pukapuka should be sent before the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month of publication. E.g. for the September issue that would be by 1<sup>st</sup> September.

## **Greetings from the Editor**

### **Hi Everyone**

I hope that you studied the Q & A stuff on the proposed shift of B-P Guild to NZSGF and replied to the questionnaire.

If you were not at the meeting then it will be harder to understand and no doubt leave a lot of confused members. There are also questions which come up after you have gone home and thought about it.

e.g what is the whole point of the exercise now that Trefoil Guild is not part of it.

will LSGF become part of NZSGF when it changes from B-P Guild

will we end up with 2 organisations called NZSGF and what will the Charities Commission think of that.

Will it increase membership by having a new name.

On a more or less positive note you will be inflicted with more of our family involvement in Scouts and sometimes Guides. There are now 3 generations of Queen's and /or King's Scout in the family. You will note that Guides still have Queen's Guides.

The Baden-Powell Facebook site is worth a visit so is the Scouts NZ site.

Peter (Editor)

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*The cover photo is at the Westshore Sea Scout Hall at the Waiapu Zone Awards ceremony.*

## **National Guildmaster's Comments**

Life became rather busy since the National B-P Guild AGM in April.

There has been quite a bit going on behind the scenes over the last few months.

Name changes for Branches can be completed any time and also names of bank accounts can also be finalised. If you need help with changing bank account details, please contact me and I can go through the process with you.

The survey for changing from Baden-Powell Guild to New Zealand Scout and Guide Fellowship has been completed and sent out and, with the closing date 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025, there has been a steady stream of responses coming back in over the last 2 months. The survey has been sent out again to those who hadn't responded by mid-July and that has reminded members to have their say in our future.

One of the survey questions related to becoming a Life Member of the Scout Youth Foundation. I can confirm that the Baden-Powell Guild has never contributed to this and to become a Life Member it will be \$6,000.

The Auckland Branch of the Baden-Powell Guild have recently become SYF Life Members and the New Zealand Scout and Guide Fellowship have been SYF Life Members for many years.

The 2026 AGM plans are coming to fruition, and I am pleased to announce that this will be held 27<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>th</sup> March 2026, in Invercargill, hosted by Murihiku Branch. Thank you for the offer for us to visit your great city.

Mark the dates on your calendar and get your flights booked. Note: Please don't book flights on the Sunday to leave Invercargill before 2pm, because the morning activities are not being held in the city.

**Lesley Bowers, National Guildmaster**

We now have over 60% of members reply to the questionnaire.

### **AsPac Meetings and Gatherings 2025**

The next AsPac Gathering will be held 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025 in Bandung, Indonesia. Registrations close on 31<sup>st</sup> July, so costs will be more expensive for late registration. Cost was US\$300 for Twin share room, or US\$400 for single occupancy room. This cost includes: meals, airport transfers, Gathering kit (T-shirt, scarf, ID card, bag, badge, block note) and several souvenirs, programme and tours during the gathering. The venue is Sari Ater Komboti Hotel.



1<sup>st</sup> August – International Scout Scarf Day. Wear your scarf or membership pin on this day and remember when Scouting began and the reason for us being a part of this Fellowship. There will be a zoom meeting, hosted by India, on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, no link received as yet.

Lesley Bowers  
AsPac Region Committee Member

### **World conference will be held in Kuwait, October 2027**

**XX**

Lighter moments to dwell on

Q What did the left eye say to the right eye.  
A *Between you and me something smells*

Q What sort of shoes do spies wear  
A *Sneakers*

Money will buy a fine dog  
But only love will cause it to wag its tail

Its impossible to save money when your neighbours keep on buying things you cannot afford.

Kindness is the oil that takes the friction out of life. Better to be oil than grit.

## National Secretary Report

Here we are over halfway through winter. It has been a bit of a shock to the system waking up to frosts the last few mornings. The bonus has been the lovely clear blue skies and sun shining for the rest of the day.

The survey results are still coming in. Thank you to those that posted them to me. These were forwarded to Lesley and Steve. Census returns are well on track. Again thank you for those Branches and Town and Country members who have paid and also to Branches who have contacted me about possible delays.

In May Little John Branch invited me to attend a lunch at the Rose and Shamrock Havelock North. It was lovely catching up with the members. In June I was invited to the Waiapu Zone Awards as a guest representing the National Team to present a certificate to Rosina for the help she gave us in getting Leaders and Scouts involved with our AGM and also Ian Paterson from the Weka team, for meeting up with our members on their bus trip to Rissington.. I was introduced and welcomed alongside two of the Lower North Island National Scout Association members. It was lovely seeing Peter and Joan McInnes there who had come to present their grandson with his Kings Scout. All up there were 6 members representing the Guild, 7 counting Rosina who wears two hats.

A big thank you to Murihiku for putting their hand up to run the next AGM. I am looking forward to heading back south again and hopefully doing the trip to Stewart Island.

Glenys



Pictures from the Waiapu Award evening.

## MURIHIKU

Announcing the 2026 AGM in Invercargill 27 – 29 March 2026.

An Exciting Programme Awaits!

We're delighted to announce that, after thorough research and discussion with Lesley, we have reached an agreement to host the 2026 AGM in Invercargill. Margaret's ongoing enthusiasm and dedication have truly kept us moving forward—no wonder she is our National Patron!

Our team has developed an exciting programme, designed to make this AGM a memorable experience for all members. We're also pleased to suggest several additional tour options. You might consider adding a few days to your trip to take an excursion to Stewart Island, a breathtaking trip to Doubtful Sound, or a local tour exploring the unique highlights of our region. There's something for everyone, whether you're seeking adventure or a more relaxed exploration.

We warmly invite all members to consider joining us and to take advantage of these fantastic opportunities. For those travelling from Auckland, there are direct return flights to Invercargill—just be sure to book early to secure the best fares.

If you're interested in extending your stay or trying out some of our famous walking tracks, please let us know. Some of our members are enthusiastic walkers and would be delighted to share their favourite routes with you.

Stay tuned for more updates on the AGM and programme details—we look forward to welcoming you to Invercargill 27-29 March 2026!

What else have we been doing? An afternoon experiencing "The Chase"

A couple of weeks ago. We had a quiz afternoon tea. at Nichols Garden Cafe, in Invercargill. A great attendance for a mid-winter afternoon. Feedback, it was an enjoyable experience but they felt our Quiz Master was a bit tough, too tough for the "Chasers". However it was a good catch up for the midwinter. Next meeting we are back to a night meeting.

John MacManus - Kotare

Guildmaster

*The last AGM held in Invercargill was a blast. The Bluff Oysters were to die for, we even got to stroke the feathers on a Tuatara, who at 100years old, had just started to father 100's of new Tuatara. – You shouldn't miss this event ! - Ed*

## Auckland Branch

The Auckland B-P Guild had their mid winter Christmas lunch at the Riverhead Tavern on Sunday the 20th July the food was amazing with a great menu to choose from.

We had 23 members attend which made it a great event.

We also had a raffle which raised \$117.50 for a charity we agreed on at our AGM.

From

Cheryl Davey

## Christchurch Branch

Christchurch Branch continues to meet on the 4th Monday each month, with business discussion and a topic of interest, then sharing our lunch. This year we have Quizzed, been reminded of ACC Tips for Safety at home and Brain Gym exercises... example Foid arms naturally- then try changing so your other arm is on top ! Good for a laugh as arms go this way and that!

We continue occasional "Coffee Meets" and have been to Paris for the Weekend for lunch (an easy trip to Kaiapoi!).

We remain in touch with members who have left the Guild and recently visited Tony Inglis. He was comfortable needing Respite Care following a fall, and still full of his interesting stories. Sadly Heather Cartmell has Gone Home, she was farewelled with a beautiful Requiem Mass.

Be in contact when you visit Christchurch.. warm wishes as we look forward to Spring.

In Fellowship. Jean Bell



**This years Venture is being held at Brookfield.**

Note fundraising under way courtesy of Warehouse Gisborne ( guess whose Grandkids)

## Some early Brookfield recollections by Ray and Joy Johnston

Quite a number of those reading this issue will have experienced camping or visiting Brookfield – The Scout Outdoor Education Centre in Moores Valley Road, Wainuiomata.

I was appointed the first Resident Warden at Brookfield in 1962, and together with my wife Joy, and our 2 children (when they arrived), spent 12 very happy years there, at a time the campsite was starting to undergo some real development. The Warden's House was due to be completed early in 1965, but when we married in February, we had to live in a caravan hastily borrowed from a friend. We lived in the caravan for several months – no electricity – no flushing toilet – and got our drinking water from the stream. Happy Days!

Over the years we enjoyed some very happy times, and experienced some challenging moments. Like the time that a goat which had been tethered along the roadside broke free and decided to visit. As I went to



investigate the noise, it rushed past me and into the house! The chase that ensued rather stretched my ability to “*smile and whistle under all difficulties!*” as the old Scout Law put it so inaptly.

In a similar vein, while I was away doing Territorial Army training, and Joy and the children had stayed with her parents for a few days, she returned home and was met by the sight of lounge and dining room curtains that had been covered in soot, and various ornaments and items knocked over. The culprit was identified as an opossum that had come down the chimney. The soot on the carpet gave us the clue.

A box of apples in the laundry had obviously sustained it, as was evident from the numerous “droppings” all around.. We never did find the culprit so it must have gone out the same way it came in! Another occasion well remembered

was the day it snowed. It was a cold day and we were taking delivery of several truckloads of a dismantled building, destined to become the Bunkrooms. To see the trucks moving slowly up through the orchard with a light dusting of snow was a great sight.

The camp had an old Massey Ferguson tractor, which was fitted with a rotary mower mounted behind it. I enjoyed using it to cut the grass around the camp, until I was up on the ‘plateau’, in front of what was the Cub Hut – since burned down. I had the misfortune to cut off the top of a large wasp nest, and they didn't like it one little bit. I leapt off the tractor, knocking the gear lever into neutral, and took

off down the track back to the house. I broke the record for the 200 metre downhill dash. No stings so very



lucky. That night I went back to the scene with a bottle of petrol to deal with the remains of the nest to find the tractor still chugging away!

When the Rover Scouts built the Chapel altar, the pouring of the concrete to make the large Scout Badge was quite a challenge, and I well remember having a motorbike propped up so that it's headlight lit up the area as the last of the concrete was poured in the early evening.

The Wahine Storm also caused us some inconvenience. Moores Valley Road was blocked by a fall of large macrocarpa trees just down from the camp entrance. It happened during the day when we were both away at work, so I had to break my way through the fallen trees and walk up to the camp to get the camp van – and an axe! We managed to cut an access through the fallen trees, and were then able to go home to check what other damage had been done. There were a number of large trees blown down, and the woolshed on the property alongside the camp had been almost totally destroyed. Only the floor was left. It was to be 4 days before the road was cleared and power restored.

These are just a few of the memories that come to mind.

*Ray and Joy Johnston (Pukekohe NZ)*



**B-P Guild could consider sponsoring someone**