



CAMPFIRE *Light* 營火

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SCOUT GROUP

MICA(P)NO.182/12/2012

VOL.52 DEC 2012



- HIGHLIGHTS**
- June Training Camp
 - Adiji Chief Scout
 - Combined Meeting: SNGG
 - Cubs November Camp



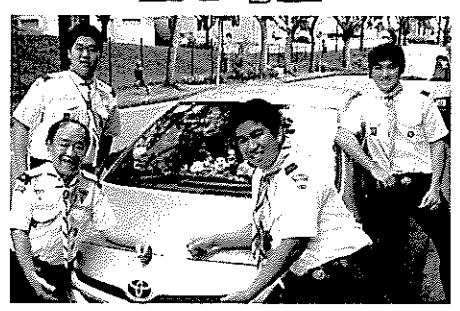
EDITORIAL



- Andrew Chua
- Lim Lik Xian
- Ng Choong Hwee
- Chan Zi Jian



2012



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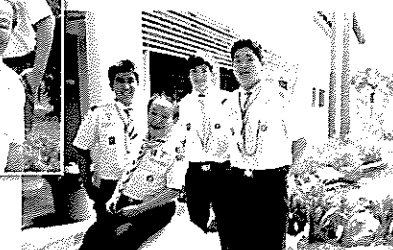
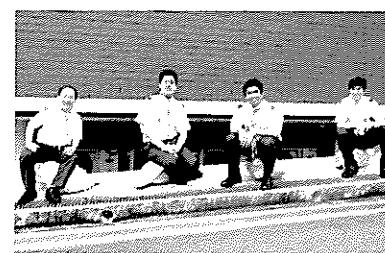
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A WORD FROM THE CO-EDITOR

As we approach our 65th anniversary, we have decided to yet again have a photo journal of our activities in this issue of our campfire light. It is meant to encapsulate the moments of joy and glory through our daily activities. As such, this 52nd issue will be to capture such moments. This will only inspire scouts to push their limits and go for awards such as the PSA and the CCA.

It is our desire that you would flip through these pages and be able to carry on your life as a scout of Catholic High Scout Group, continuing to be the best that you can be. We hope that you would enjoy looking through these pictures and remember the times you had as a scout many years later.

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[SCOUT] TROOP ANNIVERSARY /SCOUT INVESTITURE



This year's anniversary was held at Catholic High School on 28th January. The day started off with a Patrol Challenge in the morning, which was followed by the investiture itself in the Plaza. The Sec 3 scouts were promoted to different leadership positions within the troop. The Sec 2s also received their troop scarves and 6 of them were appointed as APLs of their patrols. We then celebrated our 64-year legacy with a huge 15 kg cake in the canteen.



[SCOUT] BISHAN EAST CC CNY CELEBRATION



On 28th January, Bishan East CC held a Lunar New Year celebration at the open field behind their premises. Scouts from our troop spent the previous day building our NPC gateway and putting up the various other decorations for the event. The GOH Mr Wong Kan Seng and the residents were impressed, and even commended us for our hard work and impressive structure.

[SCOUT] COMBINED MEETING WITH ST NICHOLAS GIRL GUIDES

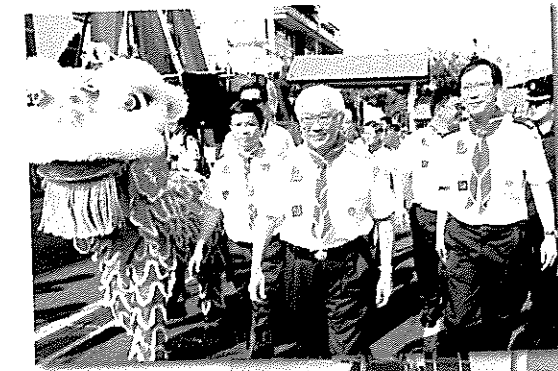


The combined meeting with St Nicholas Girl Guides this year was held on our premises on 4th February. A total of 102 guides and 5 teachers participated in the meeting. In the span of a day, many friendships were forged or renewed through activities such as Ice-breakers, Frisbee, and Captain's Ball. It was a memorable experience for all, especially since it was also the first 集合 for the Sec 1s.

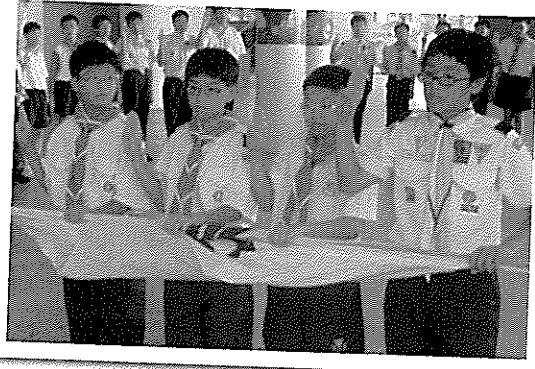


[CUB/SCOUT/VENTURE] ADJI CHIEF SCOUT

About 6500 scouts from all over Singapore gathered at St Patrick's Secondary School on 25th February to welcome our President, Dr Tony Tan, back to scouting as the 7th Chief Scout. Scouts from four different troops, including Catholic High, built their pioneering projects along the track. Cubs were also able to enjoy themselves at game booths set up by the scouts.



[SCOUT/VENTURE] INVESTITURE

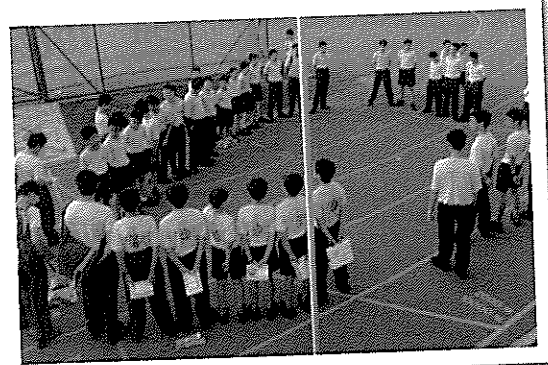


Our troop gathered in school for the Venture and Sec 1s Investiture on 3rd March. This year's investiture saw the Sec 4 scouts stepping down from their positions within the troop and moving on to venturing. The new Sec 1s were also formally invested by our GSL, Mr Andrew Chua, into the troop. With their patrol leaders, they marched out and recited the scout promise together with the entire troop, formally embarking on their own 4-year journey of scouting.



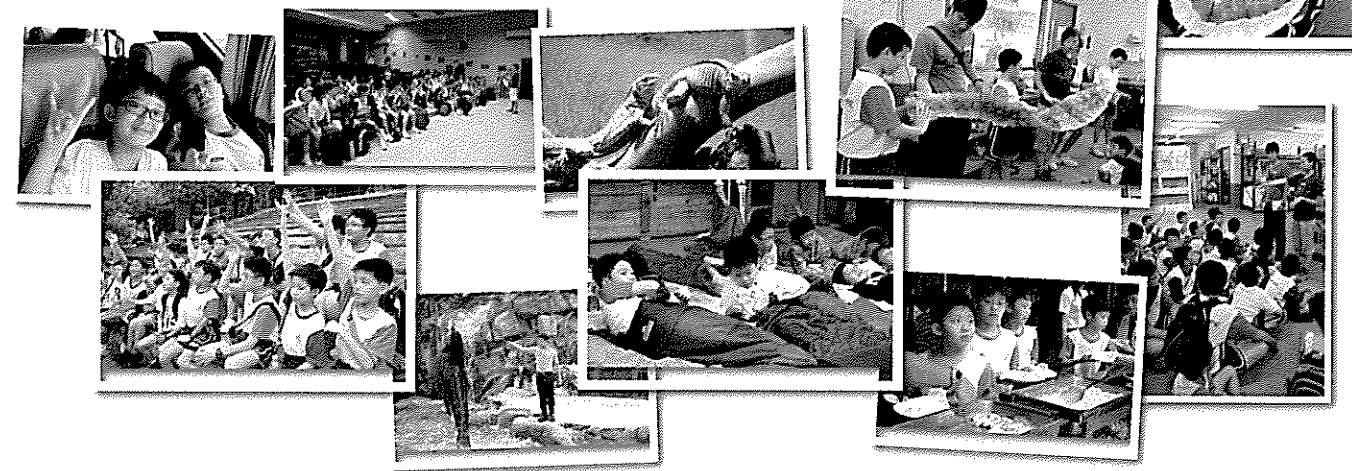
[SCOUT] PATROL CUM JOB WEEK CAMP

From 9th to 11th March, the troop had a Patrol and Job Week Camp organized by the Sec 3s. It comprised of both activities in school and the annual Job Week around Singapore. Wolf Patrol emerged as the best patrol for the camp. The Best Sec 1 awards went to Ang Chun Teck (Rhino) and Lee Kee Hon (Wolf) while the Best Sec 2 award went to Kenneth Koh (Rhino).



[CUB] ZOO CAMP

Forty-seven cub scouts attended the zoo camp from 10th to 11th March. The cubs all had an eventful and fruitful time. Some of the highlights of the camp included the 'Splash Safari Show', 'Creatures of the Night Show', 'Elephants at Work and Play Show' and the 'Baboon and Leopard Trails'. The cubs also had the unique opportunity to learn and discover about what goes on behind the scenes at the Zoo.



[CUB] INVESTITURE



A total of 28 cub scouts were invested during the investiture ceremony in school on 13th April. Parents of the newly invested cubs were invited to witness the ceremony which was officiated by our Group Scout Leader, Mr Andrew Chua. The day concluded with a pot luck session.



FRANK COOPER SANDS AWARD CEREMONY

The Frank Cooper Sands Award ceremony was held at Scout HQ on 19th May. This year, our troop has once again attained the Gold Awards for the Cub, Scout and Venture Sections. The Scout Troop has won the Gold Award every year, since the inception of the award in 1996.



The outing to Kids Kampong on 27th July was indeed a fun and memorable experience for the cubs. Our cubs enjoyed the 'longkang' fishing activity as well as feeding the farm animals. The best part of the entire event was undoubtedly the part where they were told they could keep the fish they had caught.



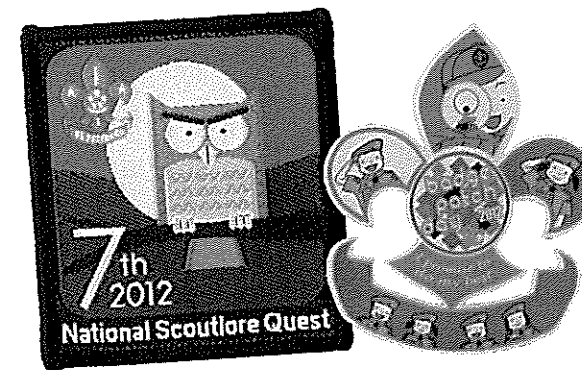
[CUB] ANDERSON CAMP

In line with our Scout Promise, Catholic High Primary participated in a combined camp with Anderson Primary Cub Scouts from the 25th to 27th May. A total of 39 cubs attended the camp at the Anderson School premises, which provided an excellent opportunity for our boys to mingle and associate with cub scouts from the other units in our cluster.

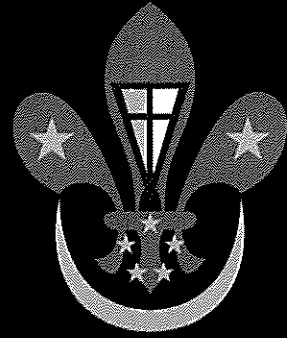


[SCOUT] BADGE PATCH DAY

The Badge Patch Day 2012 was held at the National Library on 28th July. In the Scout Lore Quest, the team comprising of Tan Ze Xuan, Tan Jingsheng, Kenneth Koh and Rayson Song came in 3rd. The Static Display competition, themed 'World Scouting', was held concurrently and our team comprising of Mark Wong, Lee Zheng Yi; Brandon Koh and Kagen Lim came in second with their totem.



The theme for this year's edition of the vaunted camp was 'Base Camp', which was held at Pulau Ubin from 8th to 11th June. During the camp, the scouts went through various gruelling experiences and fostered new bonds. Pigeon Patrol was crowned the 'Best Patrol' for this year's camp. Tan Jingsheng (Pigeon) was named the Outstanding Sec 3 of the camp, while Matthew Ong (Rhino) and Tan Hong Yu (Pigeon) were named the Outstanding Sec 2 and Sec 1 of the camp respectively.

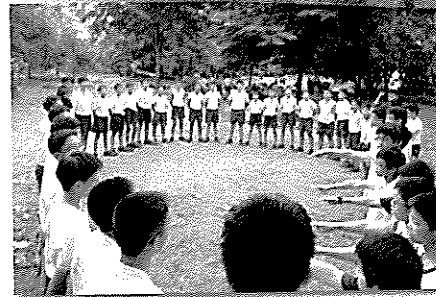


We made our mark

- with our knees above the ground -

June Training Camp 2012

Memories and bonds formed from what we have experienced together...



To Our Dearest Group Scout Leader (GSL)

Mr Andrew Chua, for His 50 Years of Service to Scouting and 20 Years of Service to Catholic High Scout Group



Chen Yikun (ex-leader):

"Congratulations! He is one of the most passionate scouts I have come across and has passed this passion to many others including me. I am very thankful for his guidance and support during my time in Catholic High Scout Group as a scout and then a leader. We often joked that he is our GSL - Greatest Scout Leader - and I believe that in many ways, he really is! I am sure he will continue to be a great influence and lead our scout group to greater heights."

Cheng Weixin (ex-leader):

"Thank you Mr Chua for the last 20 years of guidance, mentoring, friendship and care. You have been the pillar of our scout group. Thanks for the dedication and may the scouting spirit continue to glow."

Russell Lin (ex-leader):

"One of the more important tenets of scouting is the respect given to older scouts/ seniors. We give them respect not just because it is doctrinally correct but more so because respect is evidence of our acknowledgement of the wealth of experience the other party has. Mr Chua has under his belt, years and even decades of experience that has ensured that despite the passing of years, he still remains a valuable member of the scout group. Whether as an active participant or in an advisory role, Catholic High Scout Group owes a great deal of thanks for all the advice, time and efforts that he has invested in making us the scouting powerhouse we are today."

Eugene Lee (ex-leader):

"I remember Mr Chua as one of the most notable people in my scouting life. And in life, we all follow laws to guide us and mould us. For us scouts, would it not then be the Scout Laws? Taking the Scout Laws as reference for what it means to be a scout, if one was to look for the epitome, Mr Chua will fit the description to a T!"



Hoo Kuan Lian (ex-leader):

"50 years is a long time. To devote 50 years to pursue a lifelong passion is even more remarkable. Mr Chua has done so and given his service to scouting as a scout, a venture, a leader and a commissioner. I assure you that it would be hard to find such a package of wisdom and experience in any scout. When you find them, hold on to them and treasure them. We hope that our GSL will continue to spread his scouting light to our scout group, and we hope that these 50 years of service for Mr Chua is merely a milestone in many more years of scouting to come!"

Denise Tay (ex-venture):

"Like the mission of scouting, Mr Andrew Chua has played an important role in the development of Catholic High Scout Group and to develop our scouts for a purposeful and responsible adulthood - always prepared to serve God, the country and humanity. Everything that I have learned under the strong leadership and guidance of Mr Chua and his team of leaders, from my service projects to my recitations of the Scout Promise and Scout Laws; they have become a part of me, and I will carry those lessons with me through the rest of my life. I will always strive to be the best I can in all I do. Thank you, Mr Chua."



Sharon Chong (teacher-in-charge):

"Mr Chua is a dedicated, energetic, enthusiastic and passionate GSL. He has put in tremendous time and effort in serving the scout group. He has a good sense of humour and his presence always brings joy to the scouting activities. I am inspired by his adventurous spirit as he is always game to participate in 'high risk' activities. May he stay healthy and happy always!"



Sonia How (teacher-in-charge):

"Dear Mr Chua, the most admiring thing about you is the length of service and how much you have served in scouts. 50 years is a very long time and I am highly encouraged by you to experience the legacy you have groomed. Quoted from Dwight D. Eisenhower, 'Leadership: The art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it'. I believe you have groomed many of such 'someone' and you will still do the same. Thank you for the 50 years and many more years to come!"

Joshua Goh (ex-venture, 2010 President's Scholar):

"Once a Scout, Always a Scout. Or as we say in Chinese: 一世童军...", from his speech delivered to the school on 16th July, to honour Mr Chua.

Louis Chong (leader):

"Thank you for being the 'Papa' of the scout group all these years. You were there to nurture and guide me since the day I was a cub scout until the day I achieved the President's Scout Award when I was a venture. You continue to inspire me with your commitment, passion for scouting and love for leading us. Thank you for being a part of my scouting life!"

Steven Quay (teacher-in-charge):

"I am amazed by his drive and commitment to scouting despite his age. Mr Chua is like a grandfather to me, so much so that I always shamelessly throw tantrums at him. He and his team of leaders' remarkable devotion keep me going!"



Compiled by Mr. Steven Quay

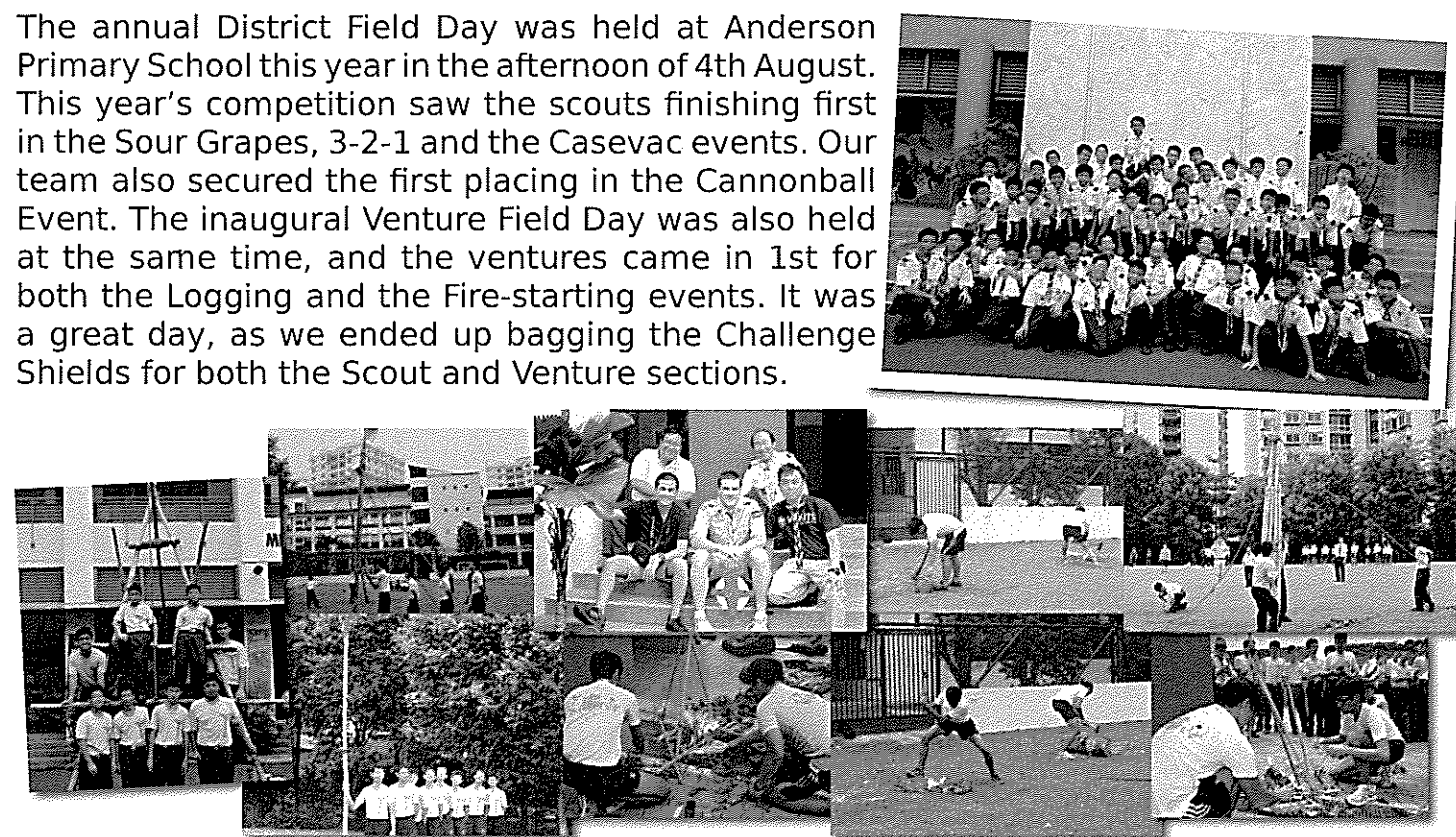
[CUB] DISTRICT FIELD DAY

This year's District Field Day was held at Anderson Primary School in the morning of 4th August. The events which our cub scouts participated in were: Knot Tying, Egg Cooking/Fire Building, Flagstaff and Basha. We managed to attain the Gold Standard for the main events. Our cubs also did us proud by coming in 2nd for the Paper Glider and 3rd in the F1 Car Racing competitions.



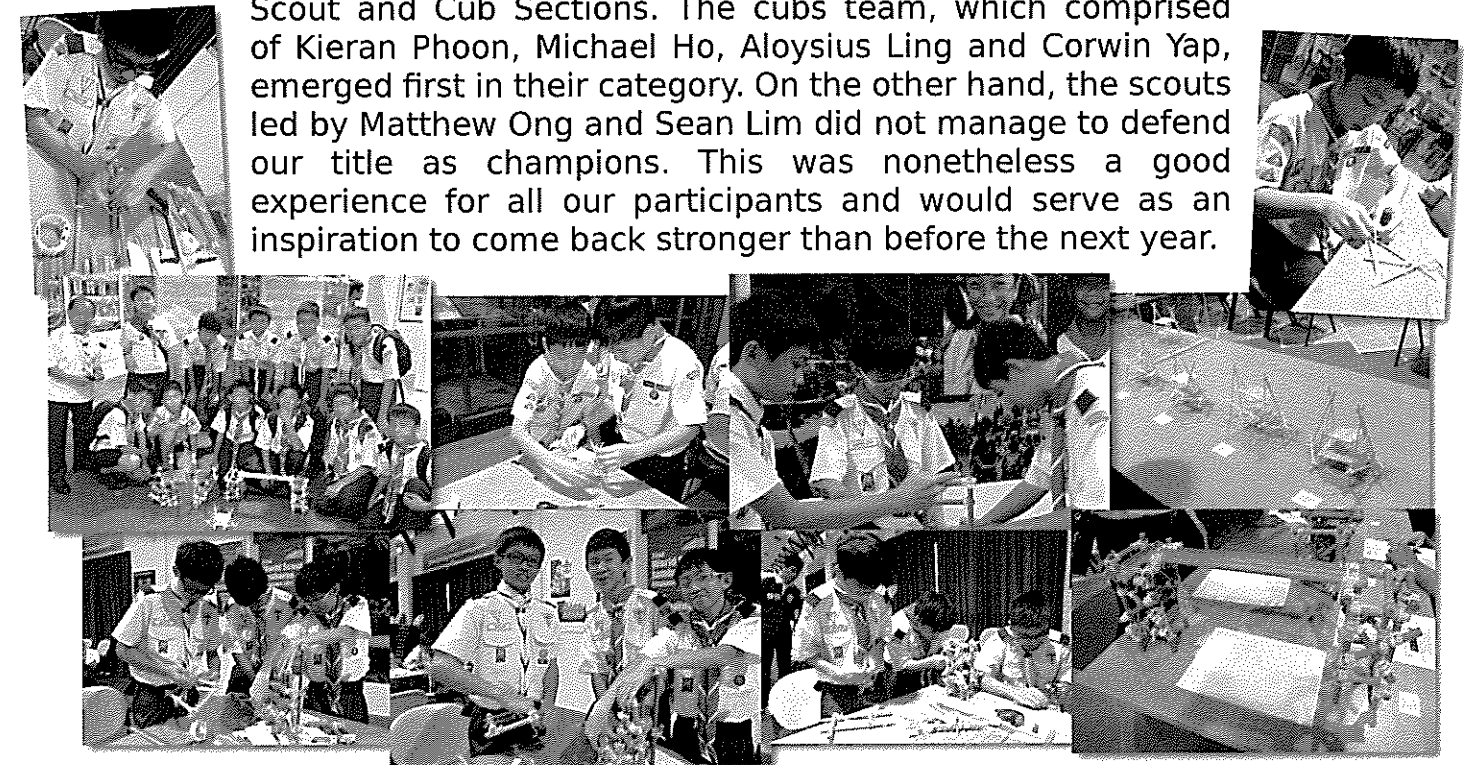
[SCOUT/VENTURE] DISTRICT FIELD DAY

The annual District Field Day was held at Anderson Primary School this year in the afternoon of 4th August. This year's competition saw the scouts finishing first in the Sour Grapes, 3-2-1 and the Casevac events. Our team also secured the first placing in the Cannonball Event. The inaugural Venture Field Day was also held at the same time, and the ventures came in 1st for both the Logging and the Fire-starting events. It was a great day, as we ended up bagging the Challenge Shields for both the Scout and Venture sections.



[CUB/SCOUT] MINI PIONEERING COMPETITION

The AMK District Mini Pioneering Competition was held on 8th September at the Scout HQ. The competition consisted of both Scout and Cub Sections. The cubs team, which comprised of Kieran Phoon, Michael Ho, Aloysius Ling and Corwin Yap, emerged first in their category. On the other hand, the scouts led by Matthew Ong and Sean Lim did not manage to defend our title as champions. This was nonetheless a good experience for all our participants and would serve as an inspiration to come back stronger than before the next year.



[CUB] AKELA AWARD CEREMONY

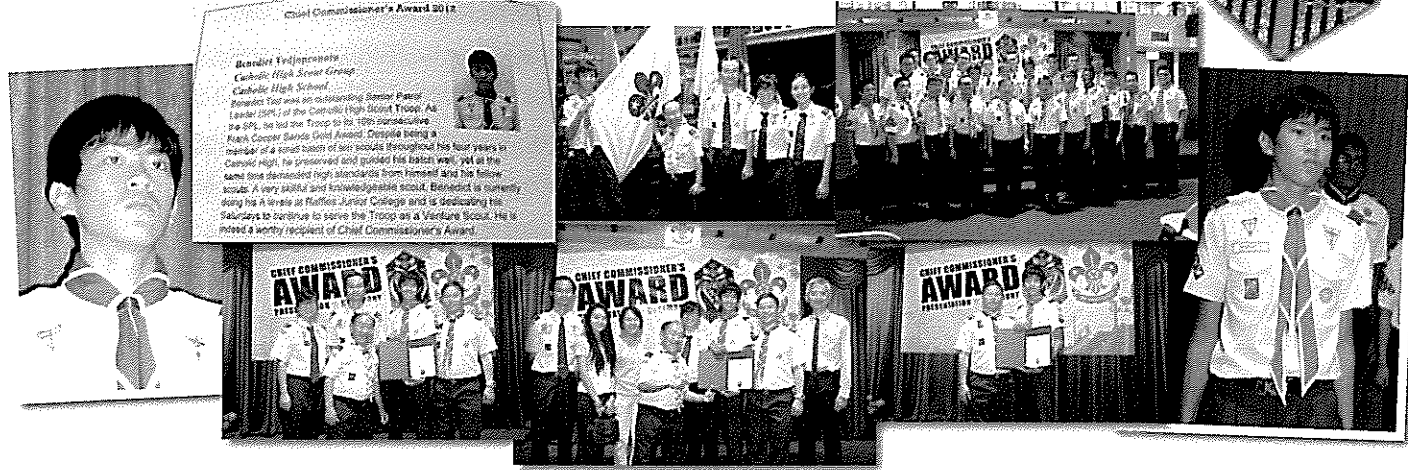
The Akela Award Ceremony was held at the Raffles Institution Auditorium on 20th October. This year, 150 cub scouts in Singapore attained this award. Six of our cubs, John Christopher Phang, Tan De-Reng, Joshua Nee, Ian Chien, Corwin Yap and Stanley Saleh, received this prestigious award from the GOH Dr Willam Wan. Our boys beamed with pride and honour as they received their awards on stage.



INVITATION
THE AKELA AWARD CEREMONY

[SCOUT] CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S AWARD CEREMONY

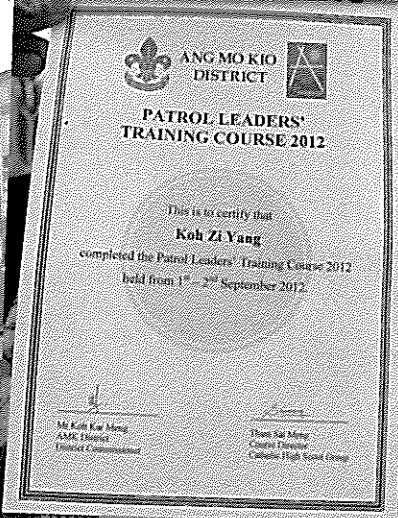
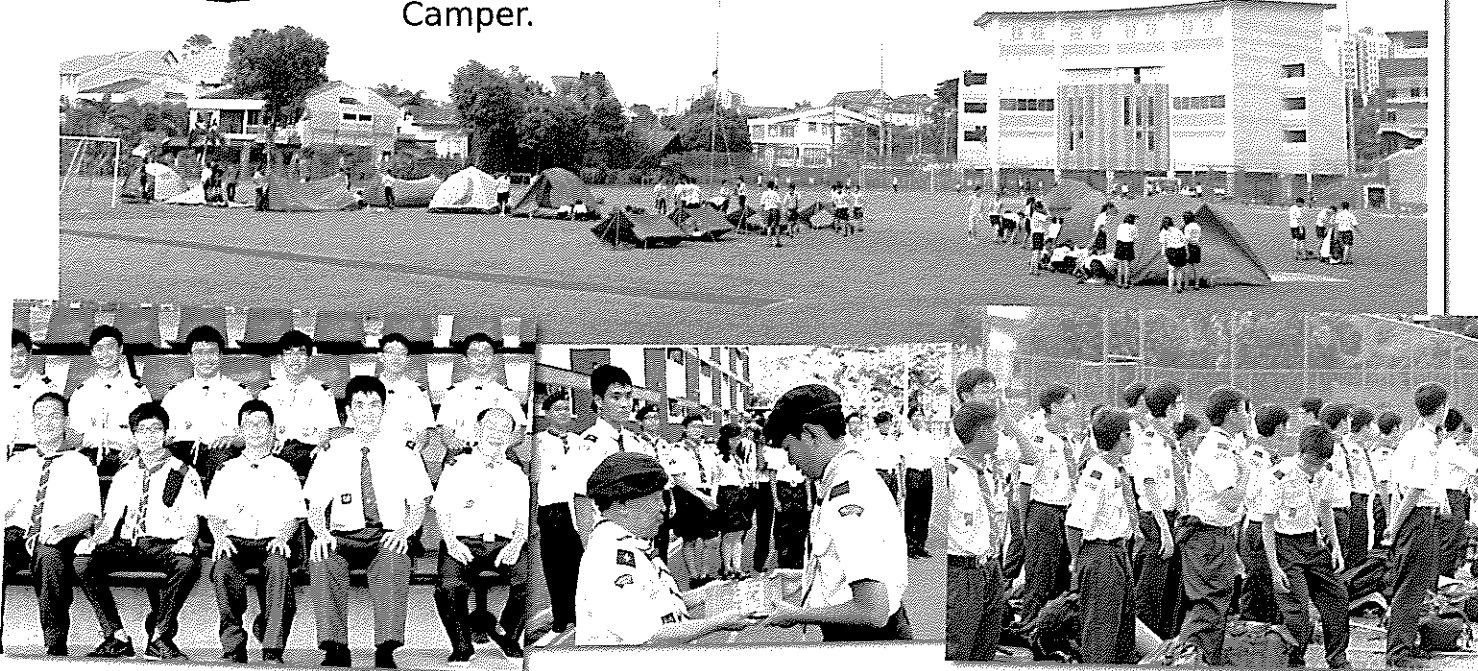
On 1st September, the Chief Commissioner's Award Presentation Ceremony was held at the Scout HQ. Benedict Tedjopranoto was awarded the prestigious CCA award by the Chief Commissioner himself and brought glory to the troop. Benedict, the Senior Patrol Leader in 2010, would definitely be an inspiring role model for the juniors to strive towards this award in the future.



[SCOUT] DISTRICT PATROL LEADERS' TRAINING CAMP



From 1st to 2nd September, the annual District Patrol Leaders' Training Camp was held in Catholic High School. Participants from the schools in Ang Mo Kio District attended the camp organized by our troop. The camp equipped the campers with both leadership and scouting skills to aid them in becoming effective leaders. New friendships were also forged during the camp. Ng Jin Jie (Pigeon) from our troop was named the Best Camper.



39 cubs from our school participated in the November Camp held from 3rd to 4th November. This camp was organised and conducted by our very own scouts. The focus of the camp was on team building and the honing of the various scouting skills. The rock climbing and the hike to the landmark Henderson Waves were the camp highlights.



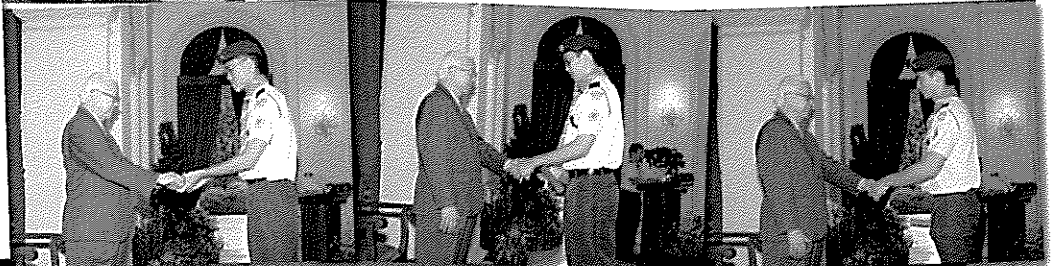
VENTURE PRESIDENT'S SCOUT AWARD CEREMONY



The prestigious President's Scout Award Presentation Ceremony was held at the Istana on 21st December. This year, we have a bumper crop of six ventures. They are Jerome Lim, Clement Chung, Lee Xue Ying, Leonard Lim, Jeremy Thng and Fang Yi Shen who received their certificates from the Chief Scout. The Vice-Principal and scout teachers of CHS along with the awardees' parents and GSL were invited to witness the ceremony. The above awardees have certainly brought honour to the troop.



President's Scout Award	
Jerome Lim	Wolf Patrol 1993-1994
Clement Chung	Wolf Patrol 1993-1994
Lee Xue Ying	Wolf Patrol 1993-1994
Leonard Lim	Wolf Patrol 1993-1994
Jeremy Thng	Wolf Patrol 1993-1994
Fang Yi Shen	Wolf Patrol 1993-1994



These were the three life lessons that my scouting experience had taught me. Today, 17 long years later, these three values still resonate strongly within me.

Friendship. This is probably the one that stands out the most. Many years may have passed, but my fellow scoutmates and I are still a closely knit bunch. We attend each other's weddings, and often gather to catch up. Our scouting days may be over, but our friendship grows stronger. Like how a blacksmith forges the strongest steel, the bonds between

us were forged under the heat of countless afternoon suns spent in the wilderness, and strengthened in the cold of the many nights we spent in the open. Fun, laughter and suffering. These emotions cultivated a contagious sense of camaraderie amongst us. Be it during weekly scout meetings, training camps or any other of the myriad of activities we participated in, we often depended on this sense of brotherly camaraderie to get us through the toughest times. Perhaps then, it is no surprise that our evergreen friendships have weathered the strain of time.

Integrity. As scouts, we were taught to strive to be "Men of Honour". Honesty, an unwavering moral code and a clear conscience, these are the goals we strove towards. Looking back, the sense of personal integrity I developed as a scout remains just as important and dear to me now as it did back then. When one is able to demonstrate these values at the workplace, he gains the respect of others. Working in the banking industry, I cannot further emphasise the importance of this sense of personal integrity and responsibility.

Trust. By trust, I meant the ability to trust others just as much as the ability to trust yourself. As scouts, I believe that we have all participated in the "Trust-Fall" activity at one point in time. By relying on others to catch us in free fall, we develop this sense of helplessness and are truly out of our comfort zone. It is only through depending on others, by trusting them explicitly, that we can claim that we have successfully completed this activity. Trusting in oneself is unequivocally important in building self-confidence and achieving your desired goals.

Scouting has taught and given me much more than anything I could have expected. I have been so blessed and grateful for the experience I have enjoyed, the friends I have made and the lessons I have learnt during my time in scouts. It has truly been an adventure of a lifetime!

Wong Hur Ming,
Wolf Patrol 1993-1994
Dolphin Patrol 1995-1996



“集合！”近百个穿着黄衣蓝裤的中一生不约而同，以最快的步伐往集合地点跑去。我就是在1994年参加了公教童军团的其中一名中一生。那年可说是团史历来最多中一生的一年吧。在童军团的日子虽已隔15年之久，但当接过GSL Andrew Chua的来电，当年的一幕一幕依然断断续续地浮现在我脑海里。

为了应付这突如其来的人数巨增，团部从已有的Pigeon, Eagle, Cobra, Rhino, Wolf, Tiger 小队，增加了另两个新的小队，分别为Dolphin 与 Shark小队。我和另几名中一生就被派到鲨鱼小队，成鲨鱼小队的第一批队员，开始了我四年的童军旅程。

那些年的活动多姿多彩，年幼的我并没想得太多，只是呆呆地听从上头的指示。现在回想起来，其实各个活动都隐藏着它的目标与意义。例如，每星期的建立五层旗杆的过程就让我们学会与同伴合作与配合以达到一个看似难以达成的目标，稍微的闪失可让整个旗杆歪曲甚至断裂。它让我们得知与团友沟通的重要性。升旗礼更是让我们学会了尊重与自律，让整个团队有了属于自己的特性。

当年的三月March Camp，六月Ubin Camp 和九月Sarimbun Camp可是我们中一生的“恶梦”。这些“恶梦”将我们的中一人数减半，其中辛苦可想而知。每天清早，每个小队都得将携衣服与各项配备一一摆出，等待ventures吹毛求疵的检阅礼。当然，小队就会跟着为不完美之处而受罚。小队可为此而做上近百个掌上压。在营地中，我们学会了赤手杀鸡，野外生活的技能，中一那年我们还有机会亲眼目睹杀蛇的过程。随着紧凑的训练与游戏，我们也学会在同伴们的鼓励与支持下度过那即考体力与耐力的训练营。舍己为人的精神，深厚的友谊和团友的信任也在这煎熬的日子里建立起来。

另一个刻骨铭心的经验就是那每两年主办一次的Campcraft and Pioneering Competition。我们这一代相信谁也忘不了我们砍伐，搬运，削清绿竹的日子。大家废寝忘食，日以继夜地筹备及排练，就为了赢取冠亚，为团增光。皇天不负有心人，我们在1994及1996年都取得佳音。在1998年，我们更因为连续三届夺冠而把挑战杯赢回。在1998年，我们也扛起了主办第50周年的营火会。难以忘怀的当然是我们悬空营火盘和那庞大的Gateway。筹备营火会及比赛的日子见证了我们的团队的精神与魄力。

在当时的SL Pang Siu San 和VSL Seow Wei Long 的带领下，我们经历了无数的考验，学到了宝贵的人生经验。我愿公教童军团继续秉承着“智，仁，勇”的理念，与时俱进，让更多的下一代童军受益，建立真挚的友谊。

陈浩凯
Tan Hao Kai
Shark Patrol 1994-1997

When I was approached to write an article for the Campfire Light magazine, I agreed to it without much hesitation. Ironically, it took me a really long time to pen all these thoughts. This is mainly because much of these memories and emotions are very personal and I believe that every single member of the CHS Scout Group would agree with me. However, let me share some of my experiences with you.

Heard of this?
“All you need is 20 seconds of insane courage and I promise you something great will come out of it” - Matt Damon, We Bought A Zoo.

Well I can say you do not need 20 seconds, 5 seconds will do. Don't think, just do it!

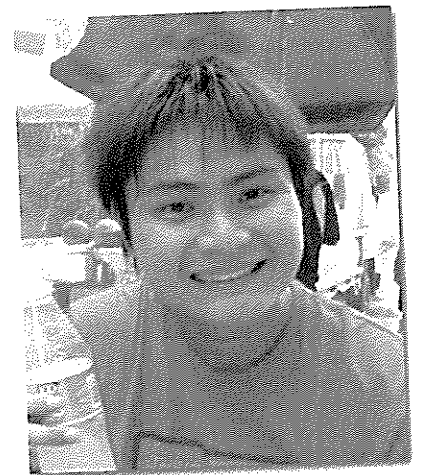
Anyone who knows me would tell you that I'm definitely someone on the heavier side especially during my scouting days. With this in mind, you can imagine the challenges I had to deal with; due to the physical nature of this CCA. I'm sure all of us would remember the days when “insane” ventures would constantly breathe down our necks to push harder. “Scale that wall! Run faster! Get yourself dirty in the mud! Don't give up! The finishing line is just upfront (when we all know it is not true)” How did I deal with this? Yes! 5 seconds of insane courage and of course with my ever-reliable buddies around to encourage and cheer me on. In the end, I emerged mentally and physically stronger. The saying of challenges creates strength is 100% true.

Believe it or not, I apply a lot of the lessons learnt through scouting on leadership at work. It is always easier said than done right? Best way to polish your skills? Use it! Honestly CHS Scouts have provided such a great platform for us to develop ourselves. To me, a leader does not need to be the best but more importantly he is to bring out the best in his team. So, what kind of leader do you want to be? Think about it.

For all the fellow juniors out there, make full use of this great scouting experience! Use it to forge strong friendship, and more importantly have fun! Discover the scouting spirit in you and let it guide you to new heights. With that, I'll leave you with the following quote from Lord Baden-Powell:

“There's nothing like 'Being Prepared' is there, for what might seem possible, even if it may not seem probable.”

Ngoh Shu Yi
Tiger Patrol 1998 - 2001



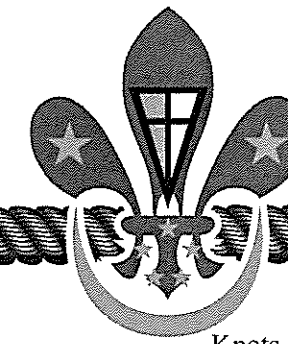
to MR STEVEN QUAY KOK KHIANG

on tying the knot
with Miss Joy Yeo
on 2 January 2012



to MISS SHARON CHONG HUIZHEN

on her marriage
to Mr Alvin Tan Chin Poh
on 17 November 2012



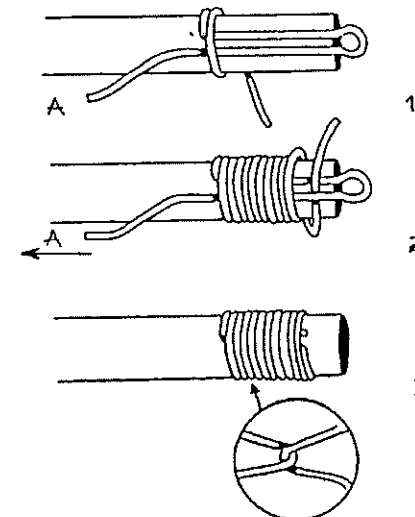
WHIPPING

The ends of a freshly-cut rope will rapidly fray and unlay if nothing is done to prevent it. Before using a rope, whip the two ends to keep them from unravelling.

There are various methods of whipping a rope, and here we will describe three methods.

Simple or American Whipping

To whip a knotting rope, use a thin twine about 30 cm long. Make one end into a loop and place it at the end of the rope. End A should be fairly short. Wind the longer end of the twine around the rope and the loop, spiralling away and drawing each turn tight. When the whipping is as wide as the diameter of the rope, thread the twine through the end of the loop. Pull end A hard until the loop has disappeared under the whipping. Trim off the two ends.

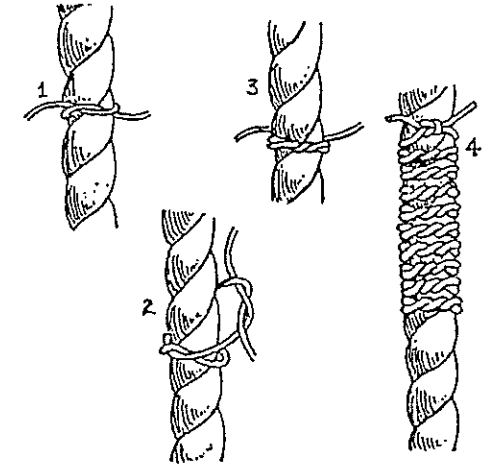


Then whip the other end of the ropes. For a more permanent type of whipping see the Sailmaker's whipping below.

West Country Whipping

This is the easiest form of whipping. Tie a Thumb Knot a few centimeters from the end of the rope using thin, strong twine. Then tie another Thumb Knot at the back of the rope, and continue tying Thumb

Knots on each side of the rope to within about a centimeter from the end. Finish off with a Reef Knot, and trim with a sharp knife.



Sailmaker's Whipping

1. Open the lay of the rope and place a loop of twine around one strand. Re-lay the rope.
2. Hold the loop down with one hand, leaving the short end free. With the long end of the twine make tight turns around the rope, close together, towards the end of the rope.
3. Raise the loop and slip it over the end of the strand it is around. Pull the short end to tighten. Join the ends of the twine with a Reef Knot.
4. Trim the end of the sharp knife and rub with wax.

