

Group History

The Group History page provides information from

- Timeline of events, with references.
- 1st Strathmore Parent's Committee Minutes
- Exerts from the Akela's Log Book, from 1950 to 1954

The information provided in the Log Book section is from the original 1st Strathmore Web page in 1992.

To those who provided this information, a big thankyou!

The Minutes referred to are held by 1st Strathmore Scouts.

The History of 1st Strathmore Scouts



Bottle Drive leaflet, circa 1952



1st Strathmore Badge, 1964

1st Strathmore Scouts TIMELINE

Date	Event	Reference
18th April 1950	Opening of 1st Essendon 'B' Pack at St Aidan's Hall	Log Book (Web Page)
6th June 1950	Name of 1st Essendon 'B' Pack changed to 1st Strathmore Pack	Minutes of Parents Committee Meeting June 6, 1950
14th February 1951	Vicar of St Aidans 'declared the meeting and church hall closed to 1st Strathmore Scouts.' The group had lost their meeting place. No reason was given in the minutes.	Minutes of Parent Committee Meeting 14th Feb 1951
	Cub meetings moved to room at Napier Park Dog Track (present day site of Strathmore Secondary College)	
9th March 1951	First meeting of Scout Pack	Troop Report 4/4/51. Minutes of Parent Committee Meeting.
2nd May 1951	Opening of Building Fund Account to construct a hall. Land was to be sought from Broadmeadows City Council or Essendon City Council.	Minutes of Parent Committee AG Meeting
22nd Sept 1951	Scouts meeting place changed from Napier Park Dog Track to Toc H Hall at Essendon on Wednesday nights	May 1952 GSM Report
Sept 1951	<p>Cubs meeting place changed from Friday night at Napier Park Dog Track to Saturday morning at Strathmore State School</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Cub meetings at Strathmore State school</p>	May 1952 GSM Report
May 1952	Beginning of 1st Strathmore Cubs 'B' Pack	Monthly Report to Committee 7th May 1952
May 1952	Second Strathmore commissioned	Minutes of Parent Committee Meeting May 1952
April 1953	1st Strathmore becomes affiliated with Strathmore Community Association as a 'Constituent Body'. Subscription £1/- per annum.	Minutes of Parent Committee Meeting 1st April 1953
7th Oct 1953	Constitution of 1st Strathmore adopted at Parent Committee Meeting	Minutes of Parent Committee Meeting 7th Oct 1953

24 th February 1954	Cubs view Queen Elizabeth at Essendon Airport when she arrives to begin Royal Visit.	Minutes of Parent Committee Meeting February 1954
May 1956	Building Committee special meeting approved purchase of Nissan Hut	Minutes of Special Meeting of Building Committee May 1956
Oct 1956	Purchased Nissan Hut for £250/- Delivered to site in creek reserve in Glenbervie Rd Strathmore. 1st Strathmore now had its own home. The hall is still there today, now used by St John Ambulance.	Minutes of Parent Committee Meeting 3 Oct 1956



St Aidan's church today



the original Scout hall of 1st Strathmore in Glenbervie Rd, Strathmore. Now used by St John Ambulance

Minutes of Parent Committee Meetings

Click here for the [Inaugural Minutes of the Parents Committee of 1st Strathmore 12 May, 1950](#)

Cub Pack Reports	Scout Troop Reports	Group Scout Master's Report	Other Reports
June 1950 (inaugural)			
July 1950			
August 1950			
September 1950			
October 1950			
December 1950			
February 1951			
April 1951	April 1951		
May 1951	May 1951		
June 1951	June 1951	June 1951	
July 1951			
August 1951	August 1951	Aug 1951	
		Nov 1951	
			Report- Rowallan Camp Sept 1953 page1 ; page2
February 1954			
	May 1955		
July 1955		July 1955	
		August 1955	
		September 1955	
		November 1955	
		April 1956	
July 1956		July 1956	
September 1956			
March 1957		March 1957	
April 1957		April 1957	
			Easter Camp Report 1957
June 1957		June 1957	
		July 1957	
		August 1957	
		September 1957	
October 1957		October 1957	Rowallan Camp Warden Report
November 1957		November 1957	
		December 1957	

The first minutes of the Parents Committee are from May, 1950 (inaugural meeting). Accompanying the Minutes is a Cub Report that briefly describes what the Cub Pack has been doing in the previous weeks. From April 1951 the Scouts Troop began and so Troop Reports were included in the Minutes.

More photographs would be gratefully appreciated. If you have any information or can add to the notes provided please email us on this address - group_leader@1strathmorescouts.org

1st Strathmore Scout Group

From the Akela's Log Book

The majority of this section is transcribed from a log book that was started in 1950 by the Akela of the 1st Essendon B pack, which is what we started life as. (sic)

Opening

1st Essendon 'B' Pack was opened on Tuesday evening at St. Aidan's Hall April 18th 1950 by Mr. Carver, (Vicar of Christ Church and St Aidan's). A good number of Parents were present and Akela from 2nd Glenroy with several of her Cubs came along to help us out. After the official opening games were played and Parents joined in resulting in a very happy evening for all.

The Pack attended the service at St. Paul's Cathedral for St. Georges Day on Sunday 23rd April. Tuesday 25th April (Anzac Day) a service was held at Queen's Park and both Packs attended after which we hiked to the caves for the afternoon.

Saturday 20th May the Pack went for the day to the paddocks behind the aerodrome and played football. On the way home we went and looked at the planes.

Sunday 28th May was our first Church Parade and there was an excellent attendance. Monday 12th June both Packs combined and went for the day to Reid's Hill where we made a Council Rock. During the lunch break at the Quarries, Mr. Stafford kindly took the Packs over and showed them hoe the Quarries work, much to everyone's enjoyment. While at the Council Rock it was decided to have a Camp Time one Saturday. Saturday 25th June was the day arranged for it. The Packs met at 4 Hollyrood Ave., bringing with them wood and lanterns besides food and clothing. Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Watts arrived with a car and we were all to stack a number of the heavy packs in the car. These were left for us at Reid's Garage where we found a quantity of wood for our fire. We all had a wonderful time, the leaders doing the main of the cooking as St. Aidan's had Church Parade the following morning and we were trying to keep our uniforms clean. The time went all too quickly, and on coming to the road were met by Mr. Stafford, Mr. Sell and Mr. & Mrs. Jeffery. We were all taken home per cars or truck, thus putting a perfect finish to what we thought had been a first class outing. Our thanks to all who helped us on that day, in making things so much easier for us. Church Parade the next morning and we all managed to look spick and span.

At a Picture Sight on 30th June there was a good number of Cubs from both Packs.

B. Langley
(Akela)

A Football Match

On Tuesday night the 18th July at Cubs, we were told by our Lady Cubmaster, that we were going to have a football match. It was to take place on the following Saturday afternoon. There were four pack playing which were 1st Essendon "A" Pack, 1st Essendon "B" Pack, 2nd Glenroy and the 9th Essendon Pack. The old wolves decided that we would play four matches.

When Saturday afternoon came we met at the North Essendon station at 1.30 p.m. After obtaining our tickets and were on the station along came the train. We ran along the platform to find Kim. When we found her we all jumped in and away we went. On arriving at the Glenroy Station, we marched up to the 2nd Glenroy Cub Hall, where 2nd Glenroy and 9th Essendon were waiting for us.

It was very warm when we arrived at the schoolground where we were to play football. There we stripped off and got into our football togs. The 1st Essendon "A" and "B" pack divided into two teams and so the football match began.

Andrew Twiner's team was beating 9th Essendon easily. In the end 9th Essendon managed to get 1 goal to 1st Essendon 9 goals 17 points. On a field next to ours, Graeme Small's side didn't score to 2nd Glenroy 5 goals 3 points. At half time we all ate oranges.

When we started again Andrew Twiner's side were 5 goals 6 points to 2nd Glenroy 3 goals 1 point. The 9th Essendon Cubs who were 11 goals 3 points beat Graeme Small's side who were 9 goals 11 points. When we had finished our football match it was time to go home; we were all disappointed, but happy after such a wonderful game. We caught the train to North Essendon and then we all departed after a happy day.

John Jeffery

The Bazaar

On Tuesday night the Pack was told that there was to be a bazaar, up at Glenroy on the 29th July. Well, Saturday came we met at North Essendon Station at 1:30 PM. After getting our tickets, then the train came. Everyone got in and away we went. On arriving there we walked to the hall. We formed a guard of honour, for the official party to walk up. Soon they arrived, and at last we could go in. The official party opened the bazaar. There were lots of stalls, a hoop-la, cake-stalls, afternoon-tea, spinning-wheel, and even a fortune-teller, most of the people were at the hoop-la, one cub of 2nd Glenroy got some glass-ear-rings. Some were at the cake-stalls, and some at the spinning-wheel. Then Akela assembled 1st Essendon and told us that we had to go home. Soon we reached Glenroy Station, and walked up to the far end of the station. Then along came the train, and we hopped in and away we went. On arriving at North Essendon Station we were dismissed and went home tired but happy.

Barry Fraser

Kite Flying

On Saturday the 19th August Packs A and B met at St Aidans Hall at 10.30 am for a kite flying outing. We hiked to the back of the aerodrome where we left our bags and lunches under a tree. When we began to fly our kites there was hardly a breeze blowing and most of the kites wouldn't fly, others ducked and dived, and some flew quite good. Then we had our lunch. My kite string got tangled up and Akela and I untangled it. Karr took Keith Pyke home on Akela's bike and some cubs flew Karr's kite. The wind was much stronger now and most of the kites flew much better. When some of the cubs flew Akela's kite it got caught in a tree and she had to leave it there. Some of the cubs whose kites were broken threw stones at it to try and knock it down. Akela judged my kite the best flyer on the day. At about 4.15 pm we assembled on Grand Howl and left our spot for home after a grand day.

Graeme Small

Mr Lourdes Visit

On Tuesday the 5th of September, we had a visit from Mr Lourdes Group Scout Master 2nd Jesselton Troop from British North Borneo. John Jeffery welcomed him on behalf of the Pack

He showed us some interesting pictures of the Sacred Mountain and the Orchid. Also the huts they live I on the water, sometimes they fish there too.

Then he showed us a game they play over in Borneo.

He gave the sixers a stamp each, and he gave his autograph to another cub too. During the evening we found out that it was his Birthday, we all wished him many happy returns of the day. Akela said he could be the Baloo of the pack.

Before the meeting ended Barry Fraser told him how much we had liked having him with us, and we went home after having an enjoyable and most interesting time.

Owen Judd

Sports Practice

On Saturday morning 16th September we attended sports practice at Woodlands Park for sports to be held at Moonee Valley Racecourse on Saturday. We had running high jump and long jump practice. Akela Rikki and Kaa were there and also our Borneo friend Baloo. He gave us some very important and useful advice on the long jump and high jump and I think that I the cubs take notice of has been told to them we should win some events at the sports meeting. After going through our practice we finished a most interesting morning and broke up at 12 noon.

Ron Stafford

Moonee Valley Cub Sports.

On the 7th of October cubs of various packs challenged each other in sports at the Moonee Valley Race Course.

They events were very interesting. Our pack did very ell although we didn't have a scout troop with us.

These are some of the cubs who helped to make our success. Neil Stripling who won the under 12 75 yard race and the under 12 high jump. Barry Mathews and Robert Ellis won the under 11 Siamese race which was 50 yards and I was lucky enough to come second in the under 11 50 yard race and second in the under 11 broad jump.

Then our disappointment came, yes it was the rain. It poured down, people ran here and there looking for shelter.

Luckily a few of the mothers had been kind enough to come with a car and we didn't get very wet.

We had a bit of a tussle getting our clothes but we were soon dismissed.

The following Tuesday we were told that we had gained the place of third.

Ray Matheson

A trip to the Maribyrnong Caves (confluence of Steele's Ck & Maribyrnong River)

On the 7th November which was Melbourne Cup day the cubs of 1st Strathmore Pack went to the caves, we were to meet at Akela's home at 10.30 am. It was wet and miserable when we started off. However when we eventually came, much to our surprise we saw three boys of about 14 years of age who we think had guns and were firing about twenty yards from us. In a few minutes time we saw two of them carrying the third out of a cave.

After that excitement we then put our belongings in a cave, when we started our lunch, John Gloster and Ray Matheson began going around mixing different kinds of soft drinks with their's. They had about ten drinks when they finally finished. After lunch it began to fine up so we had a game of hide and seek. As soon as we had had about three goes each we decided it was time to be making tracks for home. On the way home Baloo said he would buy a bottle of soft drink at the shop because it was very hot, but before we got there we had reached a tap and filled our bottles and we were satisfied with that. However, when we came to the shop the Pack bought some sweets instead. Then we caught the bus to Essendon station, from there we caught the tram home. We had had an enjoyable day but were tired out after it.

John Morgan

A trip to the Maribyrnong Caves

On Wednesday the 25th of April which is Anzac Day the cubs of Strathmore met on the corner of Glass St an Mt Alexander Rd at 9.15. Then we got a lend o Mr Sells truck and he drove us straight down to Moonee Ponds Memorial Hall. Many other cubs were there and we all marched down to Queens Park for a Memorial Service. After that Riki left us and went home. Then we caught the tram to Essendon station and from there we took a bus to Ogilvie St and walked to the caves. As soon as we arrived we had lunch. After that Geoffrey McBean showed us Kaa's hide out. Akela then called pack pack pack and told us we were going to have a game of hide and seek. We had about three goes each when we finally finished. Later on Denis Sell and some other cubs went down to the river, on the way back some silly boys threw stones at them. One came up to the cave and pushed some stone down. Akela spoke to them very severely.

After that excitement Akela read us a thrilling story. A little while after we went over the hill to be taught a new game called tunnel rounders. One of the cubs didn't want to play but Akela told him he must join in. After that we played tigge. Then we decided to make tracks or home. Aftere an enjoyable day.

Keith Pike

Another Football Match

We were told by Akela to meet at Napier Park on the 29th of April to have a football match. Time passed on, then came the day of the match, and we all met at Napier Park to play. First Rikki got two teams worked out and told them which end to kick to. Then the match started. At first the other team was winning easily, but when our team disagreed against having all the poor players against all the good players and got two more decent players we were satisfied, the game then continued and we were winning easily when the first quarter finished. When the second quarter started one of the players went back to his own side. They caught and got the lead rapidly then, by the end o the second quarter they were winning again. The next quarter we got the player back again and we increased our total, I think we were very close to them, but not winning, meanwhile Black Plume came along and helped us out. The last quarter was the final. Rooker came along and umpired the game. The results were very close one side was 39 goals to 37 goals. Rikki stopped the game and told us when to come next, then she dismissed us. We then went home after as enjoyable and tiring day.

Terry Johnson

Lord Baden-Powell Service

On Friday night 27th of April, the Scoutmaster told us that there was a service of Baden-Powell at Queens Park. Our Scout troop met at the corner of Napier Park.

We had to walk there, so when we arrived we sat down for a rest, then we went over to the other Scouts.

The cubs marched in first, the scouts, the girl Guides were there too. An older Scout came around giving out hymn books to sing with.

There was a band there, and it was the same band that was at the Anzac day service. Then the service began.

We all sang the hymns, and some older Scouts and Guides spoke through the microphone. When it was ended the cubs and a few scouts went around to where the swans were. A kind man gave us some bread crumbs to give to the swans. When we finished giving the swans the crumbs, Denis Sell threw some brown paper into the swans and thought that they would think it was brown bread.

Then we had to walk up to the Essendon Station. Skipper and us were just in time for the bus. Then we arrived home after an enjoyable afternoon.

Robert Fraser

Our First meeting at Strathmore State School

We met up at Strathmore State Scholl in the playground at 9 O'clock on May 5th.

It was not a very nice day, but we had a very good meeting. We started with the Grand Howl, then had scarf inspection and after some other work we played several games. Having so much space we were able to play, Rounders, Wack `em, Breaking through the walls, and then went back to do some star work before Akela dismissed us.

We all thought the morning meeting was very much nicer than the night meeting especially during the winter.

Malcolm Burgess

A trip to the Council Rock

On the 7th of May 1952 "A" Pack went to their Council Rock, after meeting at the Strathmore School, we hiked all the way with Akela, singing most of the time.

When we got there we took our places on our own rocks, Akela also took her place on her rock at one end.

Akela asked if we were hungry and we all said "Yes" so then we decided to have our lunch.

After lunch we all went for a run around, then Akela called Barry Young and myself to do some star work, and while we were doing it Keith Pike and Geoffrey McBean fell in the creek.

Akela then took us mushrooming, we collected two bags of mushrooms and gave them to Akela.

Then we had a game of Cowboys and Indians, one of the boys fell down the cliff, just like you see in the pictures.

After the game we all got our things together then we started home, we did come home as fast as we went, but we did have a very good day.

Dennis Sell

Our District Sports

The Combined Essendon District Sports for Cubs was held at Woodlands Park on Oct. 17th 1953 at 1.30 p.m. I think this function must have been one of the first of its kind held on the newly-planted grass reserve of Woodlands Park.

It was a most happy after noon; ideal weather, a good entry from the packs and very good organization by the leaders.

Akela must have had a "headache" choosing her starters for each race, as she had so many to choose from, but the fact that we won the shield for the second time in succession shows that Akela made a good selection. This shield will be placed on the totem pole.

Our attendance on the day was excellent (90%) and Akela said that the behaviour was good.

Every boy who took part did his very best; some were successful and some were not but all were triers and Akela looked very pleased as she accepted the shield and received the congratulations of the District Commissioner.

Ronald C Eddy.

A visit to Rowallen

On Sunday the 15th November the Essendon Boy Scouts Girl Guides held a Field Day at Rowallen Camp. It was a warm sunny day and we enjoyed the ride up there as we passed through some very beautiful country. The camp is situated near Riddle at Katherine Valley and was presented by the Rotary Club of Essendon. Buildings have been erected such as Dining room and Dormitories also part of the creek has been made into a Swimming Pool.

Guest for the afternoon was Lieut-Col L. K. Farquhar who, after taking the salute at the march past in which all the Guides Scouts and Cubs joined, presented a Flag to the Skipper. After the Ceremony we were able to explore the beautiful surroundings and we helped by collecting firewood.

We are very grateful to the Essendon Rotary Club for making available such a wonderful Camp.

Peter R. Groves

Service For Lord Baden Powell

On the afternoon of Sunday 21st February 1954 at St John's Presbyterian Church, we attended a service in remembrance of the birthday of Lord Baden Powell- founder of the Scout Movement.

The pack met at the corner of Bulla and Keilor Roads at 2pm.

Akela had timed our meeting nicely and we did not have long to wait for the tram.

When we arrived at the church, we went and sat down under a tree, as the service did not commence until 3.30pm.

Doug Small was chosen to carry our banner into the church, where it was placed in the Sanctuary during the service.

We were very interested to hear about Lord Baden Powell's lie from one of his friends. When the service ended, the banners were returned to the different packs.

There were about twenty of our pack present- it was a most enjoyable afternoon.

Brian Shields.

Going up Ceremony

On Saturday the 22nd of March Akela told us to meet the next Saturday at Woodlands Park for a Going up Ceremony.

The 27th of March was a nice day for the Ceremony. The pack formed a circle and Akela inspected us, then we played several games "Treasure Hunt," "Whack `em," "Fish Stew."

Then Akela told us to assemble near the bridge where the ceremony was held.

The Grand Howl was done by the cubs after which Tom Dowling, Robert Mincke, Alan Matheson, Daryl Johns, Ronald Eddy, John Beck and Kevin Benefield shook hands with the Cubs and passed over the bridge to be accepted into the Scouts.

The pack meeting finished with a prayer and after shaking hands with Akela we were dismissed.

Colin O. Jones

Our Camp at Rowallen

Saturday

On Saturday the 1st of May 1954, we met in front of Mr Sells opposite the school to catch the bus which was taking us to our camp at Rowallen. Before leaving we went over to the school ground to have some games.

As we took our seat in the bus, Rikki gave us song books so we could sing songs on our trip.

Singing songs and looking at the scenery it seemed no time before we reached the railway crossing, just over the crossing we stopped at the general store where Rikki bought lollies for us all. From then on the road was very rough to the camp.

On arriving we put our things in the dormitories where we were to sleep that night.

We had a look around the grounds, then Bagheera showed us the pipeline and told us not to play near it, and after playing a game of "challenge" we visited the Scout Camp further down the road.

On returning to our camp we had our lunch which we all enjoyed. After lunch we changed into our old clothes and went for a hike with "Bagheera" and "Rikki", during our hike we crossed a stream and gathered wild flowers for the dining room, on our return we had tea and "Bagheera" lit a fire in our dormitory.

The "Sixers" had arranged plays for their "Six," which we acted in the dining room. Skipper played the piano accordion and sang two songs.

We then went to bed which ended a very enjoyable day.

Brenton Ross

Our Sunday at Rowallen

We were up bright and early on Sunday morning, our first job on rising was to fold our beddings and blankets, we then went to the bathroom to wash and comb our hair ready for breakfast.

We had a very nice breakfast consisting of "Weeties," egg, bread and butter, and cup of milk, which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

Rikki gave each "Six" a task to perform, and "Blue Six" had to clear and clean the tables after breakfast.

We then played games before leaving for Church Parade which lasted about half an hour.

After Church Parade we visited the Scouts Camp and played games until it was time to return to our camp for lunch, which we all enjoy very much.

When lunch was over we went down the pipeline to the Girl Guides Camp, where we played games until it was time for us to hike back to our Camp, have afternoon tea, and prepare for the trip home.

We left Rowallen at about four o'clock and regretfully climbed into the bus for our journey home, which finished a very enjoyable and happy week end.

Dieter J. Retz "