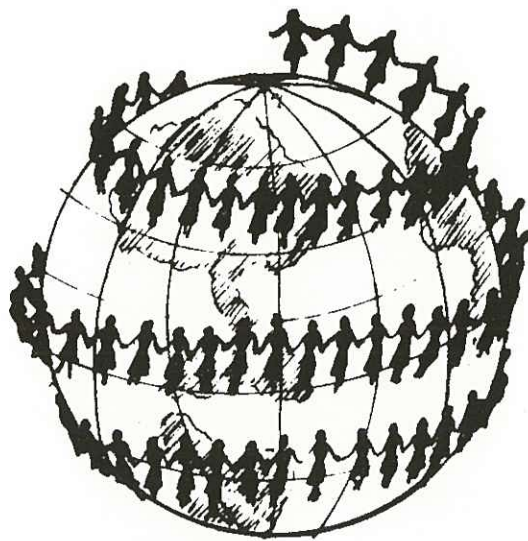

ESGAV

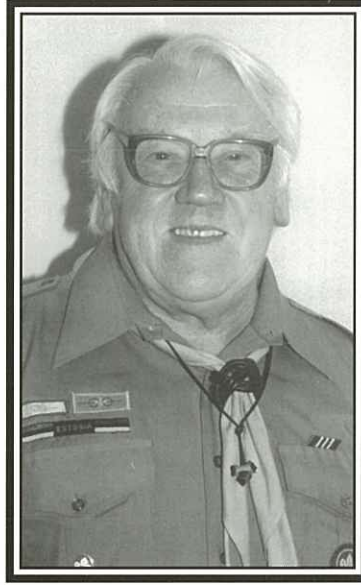
Twenty Years Together



*Scanning and layout by Aleks Terech
ESGAV 1998*

*Produced in Melbourne and distributed by ESGAV
(Ethnic Scout and Guide Association of Victoria) Executive Committee*

A word from our Chairman



We have enjoyed our ESGAV camps and other activities. The large attendances have shown that the ESGAV, and scouting as such, are not limited to a small “select” group of people, but that the ESGAV embraces seven European nations. In other words, scouting in the ESGAV is what it should be a brotherhood!

In the ESGAV, scouts and guides of different national origin work side by side like friends who have grown up together. We can still remember the hard times when we had to take up arms against a certain country, perhaps, therefore, some of the parents are not very enthusiastic about their children joining an organisation in which people from that country are also members. We could say that at one time or another, the forefathers of our present day scouts and guides were at war with each other. No one nation can claim that it has not been in conflict at all with its neighbour!

But we, scouts and guides have set aside any differences pertaining to race, colour and creed, and have let bygones be bygones, doing our best to be good friends and neighbours. This friendship and brotherhood are the most important aspects of scouting and the example we set in our small circle of nations is our most valuable contribution to scouting as a whole and to future understanding amongst our nations. While we are talking about brotherhood, let us not forget that the ESGAV is an organisation of co-operation based on the scout law and the scout promise. Our aim is furthering friendship and brotherhood among member nations.

Yours in scouting

Bruno Metsar
ESGAV Chairman



GUIDES
AUSTRALIA
VICTORIA

8 December, 1997

**A MESSAGE FROM GUIDES VICTORIA
TO MEMBERS OF ESGAV**

On behalf of the members of Guides Victoria, I send you hearty congratulations and best wishes, on this very special occasion.

It is indeed a milestone that you have reached, and it is most appropriate that this booklet should be published in recognition of the vision, the dedication and the contribution

- of those who established ESGAV,
- of those who have been part of its growth and kept the 'spirit' alive, and
- of those who have maintained its traditions.

Our warm wishes are extended to you all.

The very essence of guiding and scouting the world over has stood the test of time. We all share in the teachings of our founder, and at the same time, practice citizenship and loyalty to our country. The values as espoused in the Promise and Law are the backbone of all our organisations, and we have been privileged to be part of our programs which instil leadership, life skills and the personal qualities that enable members to become real achievers.

Members of Guides Victoria, salute your efforts, and celebrate with you, the journey of the past, and look forward to the promises of the future.

With best wishes,

Heather Barton
State Commissioner

20 Russell Street
Melbourne
Victoria 3000

Tel (03) 9654 7911
Fax (03) 9650 2436

Girl Guides Association
of Victoria



The Scout Association of Australia
Incorporated by Royal Charter

Scouts Australia
Victorian Branch
50 Barry Street
Carlton Vic. 3053

Postal Address:
PO Box 190
Carlton South Vic. 3053

Phone: 03 9349 2500
Fax: 03 9349 2499
Internet: www.scouts.asn.au

John Ravenhall
Chief Commissioner

ESGAV 1998 - 20 YEARS ON!

Congratulations and very best wishes to all ESGAV participants.

You are special members of the 35 million or so Scouts and Guides around the world today!

How much the Movements have grown and prospered since they began with Robert Baden Powell and the founders in your families' homelands.

In Victoria today there are about 45,000 Scouts and Guides. Modern Guiding and Scouting successfully strives to provide personal challenge, development learning activities and fun for young people approaching the third millennium.

The annual ESGAV camp is an important part of this.

Australians of many national origins are demonstrating true fellowship in common goals ideals and methods, in perhaps the most multi-cultural nation on earth.

This makes the "spirit" of Guiding and Scouting which inspires this 20th ESGAV camp.

Good Camping

John G Ravenhall
CHIEF COMMISSIONER

17 December 1997



Visiting ESGAV camps over the years

In the early seventies I started guiding in the Fitzroy district and soon met up with Estonian units, Brownies, Guides and Rangers. It wasn't long before my husband Lex and myself were made very welcome at Estonian functions.

Then ESGAV was founded in 1978 and the first camp at "Tervete" in 1979. What emotions must have been stirred, particularly by the leaders at this camp, the bringing together of the seven nationalities, the younger members, the scouts and guides all wondering. The first camp badge being hand made and meaning so much.

The following year the signing of the ESGAV constitution at "Gilwell Park" followed by the visitors being invited to different campsites and enjoying an evening meal. Then one of the many camp fires for which ESGAV camps are so well known.

I am sure that any visitor who attends the flag raising ceremony cannot be stirred and impressed. Two members from each country dressed in national dress, raising their flag, their members singing their national anthem. It is a wonderful sight seeing the flags waving in the wind. At the fifth camp at "Tervete" the ESGAV flag was proudly presented, so much meaning and thought going into the design. The ESGAV flag has been carried, I think, at every camp since, except one, that was so very wet. The flag which was hand embroidered on a white silk mixture material is too precious for the elements.

In the first few years each nationality cooked their own meals, I well remember a pig being roasted in one camp. The latter years the meals have been communal which freed up the leaders to help with activities. The clatter and chatter as members find their tables then silence while grace is either said or sung by one of the nationalities, the same after every meal - very impressive. The ESGAV badges, each year a different design, but always incorporating the ESGAV emblem and the colours of the seven nationalities. These camp badges should be treasured.

Memories over the years - the army truck belonging to the Hungarians, which carried all before it with so much noise. Everyone having to learn two verses of Advance Australia Fair, when as Australians we were struggling with the first verse. The obstacle courses which seemed to always have either mud or water baths, who enjoyed it most, the spectators or competitors?

When speaking to members, they enjoy being in mixed groups for the activities. If it is their first camp they wonder if there will be a night game and what time, they have heard all sorts of stories. Congratulations to the camp committees for sign posting the roads to the camp each year. The ESGAV camps have always tried not only to carry out the Scouting and Guiding traditions but also to keep and preserve the heritage of the countries for all their future Scouts and Guides.

Barbara Kearney

Barbara Kearney
Australian Guide Association



Where does ESGAV come from?

In 1958 a first attempt was made in Melbourne to form an organisation of scout associations in exile. At that particular time only four associations showed interest in this undertaking. In November 1958 a constitution on the Council of Scout Associations in Exile (Victorian Branch) was formally adopted. The foundation members were the Estonian, Lithuanian, Russian and Ukrainian groups. The Council organised a successful campfire and a social evening. The first chairman was A. Krausas (*Lithuanian*), and later G. Kischkowski (*Russian*). Late in 1960 G. Kischkowski departed overseas without selecting a new chairman and the organisation stopped functioning, although a minimal degree of contact was maintained amongst the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian groups.

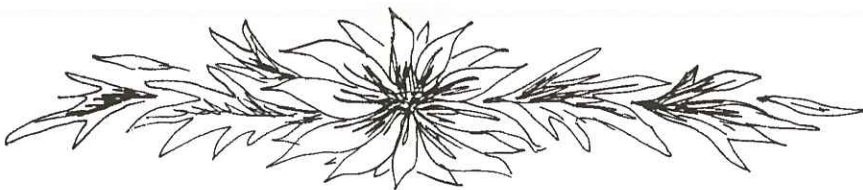
Twenty years later the Ethnic Scout and Guide Association of Victoria, ESGAV, was founded as a result of rekindled efforts of Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Russian and Ukrainian scouts and guides after visiting the 6th World Lithuanian Scout Jamboree at Gilwell Park in Victoria. Informal conversations resulted in the first meeting on October 21, 1978 by two representatives from each nationality and the first Executive Committee being elected. The office bearers were:

Chairman:	Henry Antanaitis (<i>Lithuanian</i>)
Vice Chairman:	Sergei Halafoff (<i>Russian</i>)
Hon. Treasurer:	Rasma Celms (<i>Latvian</i>)

ESGAV's aims, as defined in its constitution, have been based upon those of the world scout movement, albeit with additional stress upon the preservation of cultural heritage and upon unity between its member nations. Historically, therefore, it represents a new generation of ethnic youth organisations because its entire framework and programme has been built upon collaboration rather than competition.

After the association was begun in 1978, a year later, its first annual jamborette was held. This proved to be extremely successful and was subsequently repeated as an annual event supported by various other activities. It was becoming evident that basic principles upon which the organisation was founded were proving to be sound, and a formal constitution was signed during its annual camp in 1980 at "Gilwell Park".

This year's camp marks the organisation's 20th jubilee and will hopefully prove to be as varied and interesting as the camps of previous years. Over the years the association has been limited to Victoria, but in view of its unquestionable success, it is hoped that its example will be followed both in other states and abroad.





The Executive Committee 1998

- Back row: Henry Antanaitis (*Lithuanian*), Irina Halafoff (*Russian*),
 Jan Hopwood (*Australian*), Aleks Terech (*Polish*), Valda Jefimovs (*Latvian*),
 Anthony Buc (*Ukrainian*), Aime Metsar (*Estonian*), Sergei Halafoff (*Russian*)
- Front row: Ona Prasmutas (*Lithuanian*), Bruno Metsar (*Estonian*) - Chairman,
 Barbara Janus (*Polish*), Henry Pacers (*Latvian*)
- Absent: Steve Palos (*Hungarian*)

ESGAV Executive Committee Office Bearers

<u>Year</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Vice-Chairman</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
1978	H. Antanaitis	S. Halafoff	S. Weber	R. Celms
1979	H. Antanaitis	S. Halafoff	S. Weber	R. Celms
1980	S. Halafoff	H. Antanaitis	S. Weber	R. Celms
1981	S. Halafoff	H. Antanaitis	S. Weber	R. Celms
1982	B. Metsar	H. Antanaitis	B. Janus	R. Celms
1983	B. Metsar	H. Antanaitis	B. Janus	R. Celms
1984	B. Metsar	S. Palos	Z. Prasmutas	B. Janus
1985	B. Metsar	S. Palos	Z. Prasmutas	B. Janus
1986	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	I. Baran	B. Janus
1987	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	I. Baran	B. Janus
1988	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	D. Sadauskas	B. Janus
1989	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	T. Kocaba	B. Janus
1990	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	T. Kocaba	B. Janus
1991	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	Y. Koretsky	B. Janus
1992	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	V. Jefimovs	B. Janus
1993	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	V. Jefimovs	B. Janus
1994	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	O. Prasmutas	B. Janus
1995	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	O. Prasmutas	B. Janus
1996	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	O. Prasmutas	B. Janus
1997	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	O. Prasmutas	B. Janus
1998	B. Metsar	H. Pacers	O. Prasmutas	B. Janus

Estonian Scouting and Guiding in Australia



The first Estonian scout troop in Australia was formed on the ship that brought a large contingent of displaced persons to Australia in November 1947. On the ship "General Stuart Heinzelman" Viktor Valk and Vilibert Juul formed a scout troop with 15 boys. This troop remained active during the period which the recently arrived immigrants to Australia had to spend in government camp, but due to several practical reasons and some misunderstandings, the activities of the troop were discontinued after the families had to move to their permanent residences.

Organised groups were formed as follows:

- I-3-1949 Sydney "Põhjala" - 9th Sydney - Estonian Boy Scout Group by Samuel Eber and Herbert Särev.
- 9-10-1950 Adelaide "Kunglapojad" - 10th Adelaide - Estonian Boy Scout Group by Ants Ranne and Valdek Kangur.
- 25-10-1950 Melbourne "Vikerlased" - 16th Melbourne - Estonian Boy Scout Group by Bruno Metsar.
- 21-10-1950 Thirlmere - Belonging to the Sydney group by Voldemar Kaasik.

Soon after the Girl Guide units were formed as follows:

- 15-1-1950 Sydney "Põhjätäht" by Ilma Maidla
- 30-5-1952 Melbourne "Virmalised" - 3rd Fitzroy Estonian Guide company by Vilma Vann (Nirk) and Stella Metsar (Laul).
- 9-7-1953 Adelaide "Kunglatütred" - 11th Adelaide Estonian Guide company by Ruth Auväärt and Helgi Lomp.

ESNA (Estonian Scouting Youth in Australia) was formed in 1953 to co-ordinate the activities of the Estonian Scouts and Guides in Australia and organise our Australia wide Jamborees:

- | | | | |
|-----|---------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| I. | 1953-54 | "Thirlmere" - Sydney | Camp Leader - Samuel Eber |
| 2. | 1957-58 | "Eesti" - Melbourne | Camp Leader - Ants Ranne |
| 3. | 1960-61 | "Mäeotsa" - Adelaide | Camp Leader - Bruno Metsar |
| 4. | 1963-64 | "Ülemiste" - Sydney | Camp Leader - Herbert Särev |
| 5. | 1965-66 | "Virula" - Melbourne | Camp Leader - Ants Evarid |
| 6. | 1968-69 | "Võru" - Adelaide | Camp Leader - Evald Peljo |
| 7. | 1971-72 | "Saare" - Sydney | Camp Leader - Viktor Valk |
| 8. | 1974-75 | "Oru" - Melbourne | Camp Leader - Bruno Metsar |
| 9. | 1977-78 | "Harju" - Adelaide | Camp Leader - Valdek Kangur |
| 10. | 1980-81 | "Kungla" - Sydney | Camp Leader - Viktor Valk |
| II. | 1982-83 | "Ümera" - Melbourne | Camp Leader - Leo Adamson |
| 12. | 1985-86 | "Männisaare" - Adelaide | Camp Leader - Tarmo Rohtla |

With the Estonian 5th World Festival - ESTO '88 in Melbourne, the 10th Estonian Scout and Guide World Jamboree was held in Melbourne in January 1989. Camp Leader was Bruno Metsar and Activities Leader Leo Adamson.

ESGAV Camp leaders have been:

1980	Bruno Metsar
1985	Leo Adamson
1991	Arno Vann

Melbourne Scouts and Guides have participated in all ESNA camps and also many world wide Estonian Jamborees.

In Melbourne 212 youth have been members of the Estonian Scout and Guide Movement and many of them are active in the Estonian community. Our highest membership was in 1960-1962 when we had 38 scouts and 39 guides.



*Left: Bruno Metsar leading a song
Above: A happy Leo Adamson and George Markovics*



Blessing of the ESGAV flag - St. Patricks Cathedral 1983



Outside St. Patricks



A Brief History of Hungarian Scouting in Australia

Hungarian scouting in exile began in the displaced persons camps in Europe following World War II. When scouting was outlawed in 1948 by the Communist Government which had been forced on the country by Soviet Russia, scouting abroad continued under the newly named Hungarian Scouts Association.

Many of the scout leaders who were part of this Association chose Australia as their new country. They were determined to continue the Hungarian scouting traditions until such time as it could again be part of a free Hungary in the future. From such humble beginnings in 1949, eventually 15 groups came into existence in Australia and formed the 4th Region of the Association. Of these groups, 7 are still active today.

One of the 4th Region's annual events in the three day cultural heritage camp where a different region of Hungary is studied by the participants who wear the locality's national dress, eat their particular dishes, sing their songs, and dance their dances. These camps are for the above 15 age group, and are popular and well attended. For the scout groups throughout Australia to compare their practical scouting knowledge, a jamboree is held three-yearly, each time near a different capital city. It is an occasion to make friends and enjoy the diverse natural beauty Australia has to offer. Leadership training camps are organised according to necessity. As travel costs decrease, the Assistant Scoutmaster and group Scoutmaster courses tend to be centralised in the Association's Scout Park near Buffalo in the USA and only the patrol leader training remains regionalised. The 4th Region's annual Leader's Conference is held at a different city each year to equalise travel costs.

There are separate groups for girls and boys generally, unless due to the numbers it is more practical to have a mixed group. The scout groups take part in the local Hungarian communities' social and religious activities, and also, where requested, in Australian social activities. Examples are the 30th and 66th Groups based in Strathfield in Sydney, who attend the local Australia Day celebrations each year. There have been two attempts at interaction with other "ethnic" scout groups. The Australian Association of Scouts in Exile, based in Sydney, consisted of the scouts and guides of seven nations in its organisation, and was active for over 30 years. The Ethnic Scout and Guide Association of Victoria was formed in the late 70's and celebrates its 20th annual camp this year. There has also been, and continues to be, interaction with Australian groups, with invitations from regional groups to both national and international Australian camps with great success, regardless of the rigid attitude of the federal leadership.

Our groups originated in many cities.

Perth was home to the 53rd Scout Group and the 65th Girl Scout Group. The former started after the influx of Hungarian refugees in 1956 as a mixed group, the latter in 1964 when the numbers suggested a separate group should be formed. They hosted two Jamborees, a major effort for such a distance. Due to migration to the eastern states, only a handful of girls and boys are held together by the last enthusiastic scoutmaster.

Adelaide saw the formation of the 31st Scout Group in 1950 which, for lack of leaders, ceased operation in 1955. The 51st Scout Group was formed in 1966 following the enthusiastic response of parents at the sight of all the Hungarian groups travelling through to a Jamboree in Perth. This was closely followed by the formation of the 69th Girl Scout group. Currently, a mixed group remains, led by three capable ladies, due to the lack of scout leaders.

In Melbourne, Hungarian scouts were part of the local 3rd Melbourne Scout Group until 27 of them separated to form the 4th Hungarian Scout Group. Due to misunderstandings they disbanded in 1959, however, a new group, the 54th, was started in 1962 and is still active today. In 1963, the 63rd Girl Scout Group started, soon counting over 100 members. As the 54th group grew, parents travelling to

the meetings from Geelong decided to support the formation of a new group, the 52nd. For a short period there was even a group entirely of Presbyterian youth supported by the Hungarian Presbyterian Church. Today there is still a 52nd group, with a new name, working with different guidelines; all the members are above the age of 18 and, in addition to undertaking cultural and social activities, they support the other groups.

The 30th Scout Group in Sydney was originally formed in 1947 in Germany. Some of its leaders migrated to Australia in 1949 and aboard ship had organised the nucleus of the groups continuation which is still active today. They built their own scout hall on land donated by the Strathfield Council. The girls troop separated in 1963 to start the 66th Girl Scout Group.

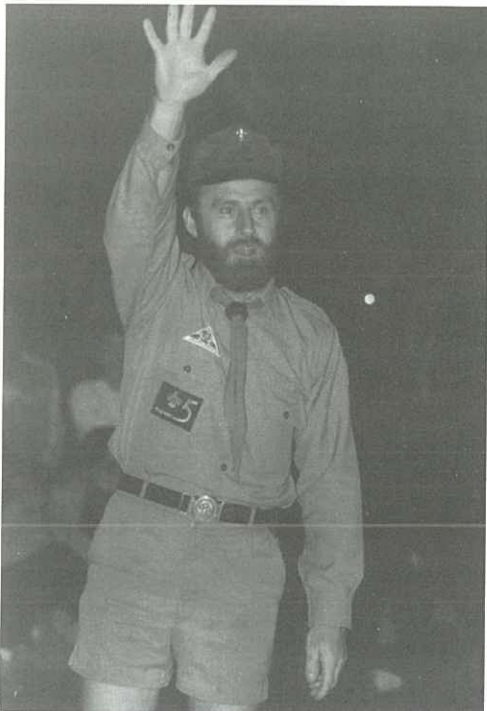
Newcastle had a troop belonging to the Sydney 30th Group, from which was formed the 75th Group. The ambitions of its young leaders unfortunately forced them to “greener pastures”, so the remainder rejoined the 30th after a few unsuccessful years of scouting in Newcastle.

Brisbane was the latest to start, and the shortest lived. A large group was formed in 1970, but due to religious differences, the majority of parents being Roman Catholics and scout leaders being Presbyterian, the group was disbanded within the year.

Last, but no least, the 104th Old Scout Group deserves mention. It was formed by the “young at heart” 50+ year old scouts with members in most capital cities, who, amongst their other valuable activities, give support to the local groups. In Adelaide, this troop is the custodian of the local Hungarian Scout Park, providing both the financial support and physical labour for its upkeep.

All Hungarian scout groups bear the name of the a great Hungarian from the country’s history. These names have not been used in this article for ease of reading, although some of them are well known outside their country of origin. The namesake of the 30th Sydney group, Alexander Csoma de Koros, for instance, was the creator of the Tibetan-English dictionary, and who, among quite a few other languages, was master of both.

The founders of Hungarian scouting in exile can proudly look back at their achievements, as they were indeed instrumental in the reformation of scouting in Hungary recently, when the “iron curtain” fell, instrumental first by providing tens of thousands of book, computers, printing equipment and financial help, then organising leadership training for the new leaders of the many hundreds of scout groups which have since formed in Hungary.

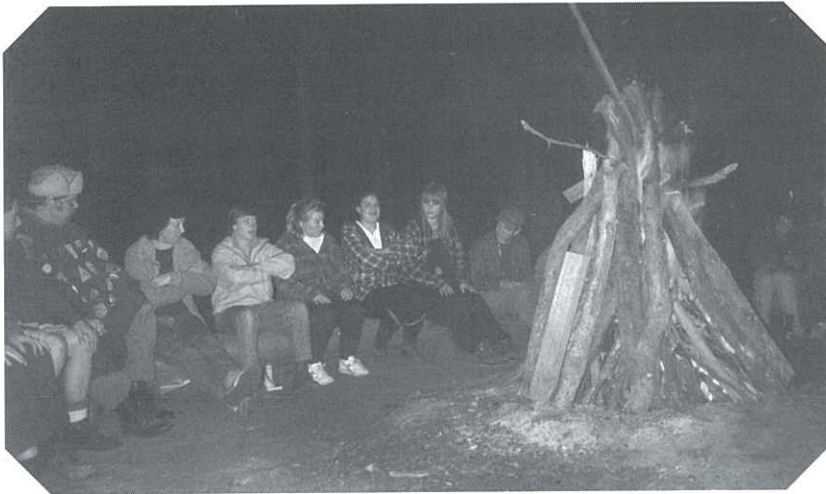


*Left: Who's a Hungarian, Me! Steve Palos
Above: Marching to flag raising*



*The 1997 Camp
Committee*

*ESGAV has
touched many
people over the
years*



*Campfire at
ESGAV*

*I wish they
brought more
chairs!*





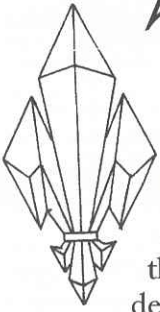
The ESGAV flag

An early group photo



Testing a home made hut

A Short History of Latvian Guides and Scouts in Australia



The first Latvian scouts and guides arrived in Australia in 1947. By 1948, in the immigration transition camps, Latvian scout and guide troops were flourishing. This was in part due to the strategy implemented in Germany, where immigration liaison officers were designated to register all migrating guide and scout movement members. Upon arrival at their destination, it was simply necessary to forward their card. In Australia the role of the liaison officer was held by a Melbourne University Professor - Mr. E. Dunsdorfs, also a scout leader.

He organised a representational patrol consisting of five scouts to attend the first Pan Pacific jamboree, which was held near Melbourne from 28-12-1948 to 9-1-1949. This patrol gained wide acknowledgment with their construction work skills - particularly the innovative Easter swing. The first Latvian guide and scout leaders conference in Australia was held in 1951. At this point 15 scout and 11 guide groups with 322 scouts and 107 guides were functioning throughout the country. Here the first chief scouter Mr. E. Dunsdorfs was elected, and the first chief guider Mrs. A. Kliesmete. A national newsletter originated from the conference. This has grown to a regular quarterly publication "Zile" with an international distribution.

The Latvian scouts in Melbourne registered with the Australian Scout Organisation and became the 5th Collingwood - 1st Latvian Group. Today it is known as the 5th Melbourne - 1st Latvian Group.

With the closure of the migrant transition camps many groups folded. In 1954 only five guides and scout groups remained active. At the 3rd Pan Pacific Jamboree from 30-12-1955 to 7-1-1956 a composite Latvian scout troop participated under Mr. J. Mednieks' leadership.

In spite of the poor weather conditions, this troop gained recognition for their camping skills. The same year in March the first guide and scout leaders training course was held in Melbourne. During the course, a club for leaders "Klabatkalns" was formed. This club was based in Melbourne and is still active today.

The first Australia wide jamboree near Melbourne, for both guides and scouts, was held from 3-1-1957 to 7-1-1958 with 200 participants. This evolved into an annual event until 1960, then it continued as a bi-annual event organised alternatively between Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney. The jamboree "Radu Cilts" in 1974 near Sydney became an international event. Quite a sizeable contingent of Latvian scouts and guides participated from the USA and Canada. In 1997 (27-9 to 1-10) we had our 24th camp "Spriditis" held at "Tervete", our camp site near Kilmore, Victoria. The camp site "Tervete" was purchased by a small group of well-wishers in 1973. The facilities were built by leaders and parents over a number of years. In 1985 the whole camp was completely destroyed by bushfires. Again the leaders and parents went to work and rebuilt it to what it is today. The 1st ESGAV camp was held at this campsite in 1978. The 5th, 10th, 15th and now the 20th ESGAV camps were held at "Tervete".

Currently there are Latvian guide and scout groups in Adelaide and Melbourne and a cub pack in Sydney. 1997 allowed the Latvians to reflect upon 80 years of scouting and 75 years of guiding. The Latvian scout and guide movements in Australia are supportive in a variety of ways to the renewed movement in Latvia.



*A mudpack should help me
.....shouldn't it?*

*Unveiling the ESGAV Flag
at the 5th camp*



Learning new dances....try this!

The ESGAV mummies





Activities are just part of the fun



Challenges to be had!



The signing of the ESGAV constitution



The eight National Flags

ESGAV CAMPS



1st ESGAV Camp

30 March - 1 April 1979

Place: "Tervete" Kilmore

Camp Leader: Z. Leitis

Commandant: Y. Koretsky

Participants: 125

Camp Badge Design: Z. Leitis

2nd ESGAV Camp

7-10 March 1980

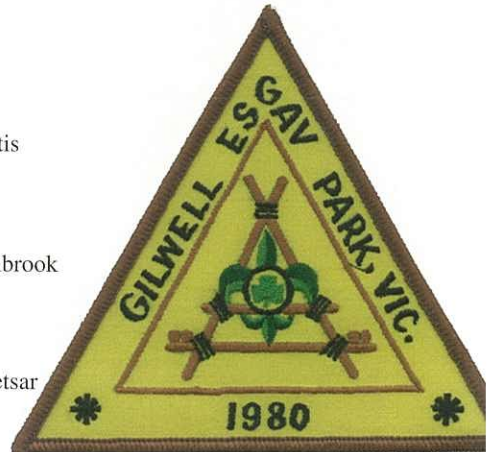
Place: "Gilwell Park" Gembrook

Camp Leader: B. Metsar

Commandant: Y. Koretsky

Participants: 135

Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar



3rd ESGAV Camp

7-10 March 1981

Place: "Gilwell Park" Gembrook

Camp Leader: M. Paszkiewicz

Commandant: T. Zagon

Participants: 154

Camp Badge Design: M. Paszkiewicz



4th ESGAV Camp

26-28 March 1982

Place: "Tervete" Kilmore

Camp Leader: S. Palos

Commandant: A. Gizycki

Participants: 151

Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar



5th ESGAV Camp

22-25 April 1983

Place: "Tervete" Kilmore

Camp Leader: H. Pacers

Commandant: A. Gizycki

Participants: 241

Camp Badge Design: Y. Koretsky



6th ESGAV Camp

6-8 April 1984

Place: "Elliot Lodge" Healesville

Camp Leader: Y. Koretsky

Commandant: A. Vann

Participants: 141

Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar



7th ESGAV Camp

29-31 March 1985

Place: "Sokil" Aireys Inlet

Camp Leader: L. Adamson

Commandant: R. Platacis

Participants: 170

Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar





8th ESGAV Camp

11-13 April 1986

Place: "Nioka Park" South Morang

Camp Leader: M. Pavlyshyn

Commandant: P. Toronyi

Participants: 168

Camp Badge Design: Y. Koretsky

9th ESGAV Camp

27-29 March 1987

Place: "Clifford Park" Wonga Park

Camp Leader: R. Celms

Commandant: M. Goldyn

Participants: 136

Camp Badge Design: L. Upite



10th ESGAV Camp

22-25 April 1988

Place: "Tervete" Kilmore

Camp Leader: Y. Koretsky

Commandant: R. Druva

Participants: 149

Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar

11th ESGAV Camp

7-9 April 1989

Place: "Bell Park" Lang Lang

Camp Leader: S. Janus

Commandant: A. Vann

Participants: 96

Camp Badge Design: L. Upite



12th ESGAV Camp

30 March - 1 April 1990

Place: "Sokil" Aireys Inlet

Camp Leader: A. Weber

Commandant: A. Abramoff

Participants: 112

Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar

13th ESGAV Camp

26-28 April 1991

Place: "Gilwell Park" Gembrook

Camp Leader: A. Vann

Commandant: S. Berzins

Participants: 102

Camp Badge Design: A. Antanaitis



14th ESGAV Camp

3-5 April 1992

Place: "Bell Park" Lang Lang

Camp Leader: R. Bielski

Commandant: T. Kocaba

Participants: 90

Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar



15th ESGAV Camp

26-28 March 1993
 Place: "Tervete" Kilmore
 Camp Leader: G. Markovics
 Commandant: A. Antanaitis
 Participants: 133
 Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar

16th ESGAV Camp

22-25 April 1994
 Place: "Yabbamac" Wandong
 Camp Leader: T. Lefleur/S.Szegi
 Commandant: K. Viksne
 Participants: 70
 Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar



17th ESGAV Camp

31 March - 2 April 1995
 Place: "Rowallan" Riddells Creek
 Camp Leader: J. Respini/H.Pacers
 Commandant: P. Mankin
 Participants: 65
 Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar



18th ESGAV Camp

22-24 March 1996
 Place: "Bell Park" Lang Lang
 Camp Leader: M. Goldyn
 Commandant: J. Hopwood
 Participants: 80
 Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar



19th ESGAV Camp

11-13 April 1997
 Place: "Gilwell Park" Gembrook
 Camp Leader: J. Hopwood
 Commandant: C. Peszek
 Participants: 100
 Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar



20th ESGAV Camp

27-29 March
 Place: "Tervete" Kilmore
 Camp Leader: M. Kovassy
 Commandant: C. Bojczuk
 Participants: Lots and Lots
 Camp Badge Design: B. Metsar





The ESGAV Emblem

The ESGAV emblem is an ingenious and simple combination of the basic Fleur de Lis and the Clover, both in green, with a golden yellow central circle.

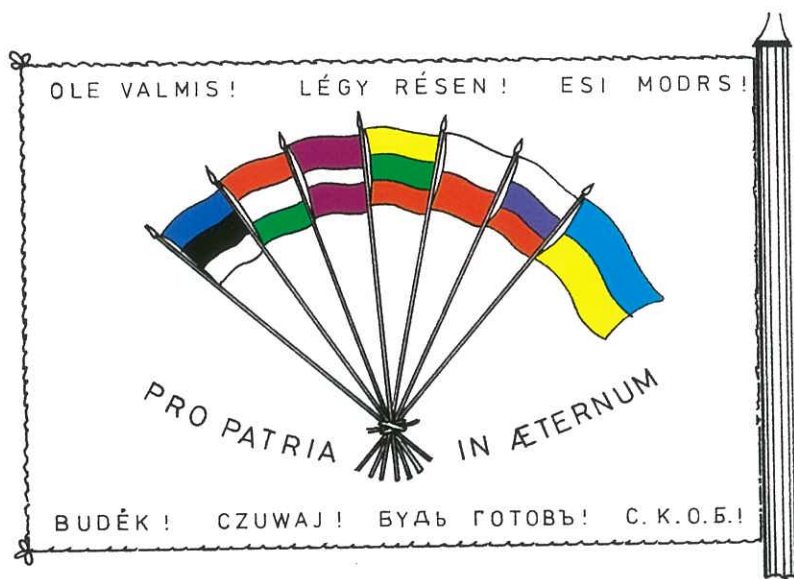
The ESGAV Flag

In the early planning stage of the 5th Jubilee camp, an idea was put forward to design and make a ceremonial flag for ESGAV. So, at that camp, we proudly presented our new possession, the ESGAV flag, the physical symbol of our Ethnic Scout Movement.

On one side of the flag, the adopted ESGAV emblem dominates, with the words "Ethnic Scout and Guide Association of Victoria" written around in a circle. On the top left corner, the foundation year of ESGAV - 1978 - can be seen.

The other side of the flag features the national colours of our seven member nations, displayed as actual flying flags, to symbolise brotherhood. The flagstuffs are tied together with a clover hitch, the best known knot to secure them. These flags, as also flown at each ESGAV camp, became the fundamental symbol of the Ethnic Scout Movement - something to always remember. The motto in Latin - Pro Patria In Aeternum - For the Fatherland in Eternity - shows our deep love for our countries of origin. The Scout motto "Be Prepared" is also displayed in the seven languages of the ESGAV member nations. There is a black and grey bordering cord, the colours of the first camp badge. Black is for the martyrs of our scouting movements. Grey for the captivity of our homelands, which are now no longer captive, a state of being we could never have imagined at the time the flag design was conceived in 1983.

The flag is hand embroidered on a white silk blend fabric, and the work was done, as a gift, by Mrs. Maria Kern, Hungarian Cub Leader.





The Australians



The Estonians



The Hungarians



The Latvians



The Lithuanians



The Poles



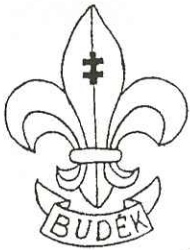
The Russians



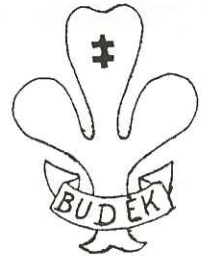
The Ukrainians

Lithuanian Scouts in Australia

1947 - 1997



Scouting in Lithuania was founded in the city of Vilnius in November 1918 and flourished in the years before World War II. With the occupation of Lithuania by Soviet forces many fled to Germany where scouting was revived in 1945.



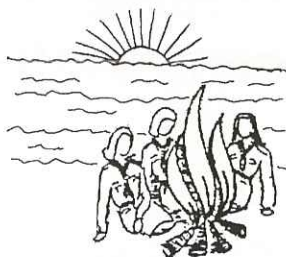
In November 1947, the first post war ship "General Heinzelman", with Baltic immigrants arrived in Australia with 439 Lithuanians, among whom were 53 scouts and guides. On the ship they had held scout meetings, "camp fires" and other scouting programmes. In Fremantle, they were met by Australian guide leaders and took part in their first Australian camp fire and then participated on the Perth scouts radio programme. In this early period in Australia it was difficult to organise a Lithuanian scouting movement on a more permanent basis in any single location as most migrants were required to undertake a two year work contract which took them to all corners of the Australian continent.

By 1950/1954 most Lithuanians had settled in and around the larger cities where scout units were established - Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Geelong, Melbourne and Sydney. The Lithuanian scouts organised themselves not only nationally, but also internationally, with their Headquarters in the USA, where it is to this day.

Lithuanian Scouts in Australia have participated in various international events such as the 1948/49, 1952/53 and 1955/56 Pan Pacific Jamborees; World Scout Jamboree (Philippines) 1959, 7th World Rover Moot (1961/62).

The Lithuanian Scout organisation is based on the structure in pre war Lithuania of three separate entities under one Federal Executive: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Academic Scouts. In Australia to this day there are active units of joey's (4-6 years of age), cubs/brownies, scouts/girl guides, venturer, rovers/rangers, sea rovers, academic scouts (graduates and undergraduates of tertiary institutions). Scouters Guilds and guilds of former scouts/girl guides scouts and parents and friends committees. Males and females are not mixed in various units except for Academic Scouts and the two guilds mentioned above, where both sexes may belong to the same unit. Annual camps are attended by both males and females of all units. This has been a very successful practice in current Lithuania and in all countries where Lithuanian scouts operate. Lithuanian Camps are well known for the "tables" dug out of the ground and appropriately decorated.

In 1997, the 50th jubilee of Lithuanian Scouting was celebrated in Adelaide, Geelong, Melbourne and Sydney. During the 50 years a number of scouting publications were published. This year (1998), a large contingent of Lithuanian scouts will attend the 8th World Lithuanian Scout Jamboree in Lithuania, to commemorate 80 years of scouting. Scouting in Lithuania was revived in 1987. In the future the continuity of Lithuanian Scouting in Australia will be contingent of the influx of Lithuanians from the homeland. We are optimistic that this will happen.





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History of Polish Scouting



In 1910, after translating Lord Baden Powell's book "Scouting for Boys" into Polish, Andrzej Małkowski organised the first troops of Polish Scouts (Harcerze) in the cities of Lwów and Warsaw, shortly followed by his future wife Olga Drahonowska, who formed the first troops of Guides (Harcerki). The Polish nation did not exist at that point in history, having been subsumed by Russia, Prussia and Austria, so the work of these pioneers of the Polish Scouting Movement was performed in somewhat clandestine conditions. In 1918, Poland regained its independence and the Scouting Movement took on the name "Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego" (ZHP).

The movement grew rapidly in strength and numbers, but had to move underground in Nazi occupied Poland during World War II. Particular heroism was exhibited by Scouts and Guides during the Warsaw uprising against the occupying German forces in 1944, when many lives were lost, and many others irreparably changed by deportation to concentration and other camps in Germany.

The outcome of World War II left communist forces leading the country, and so the true Polish Government stayed in exile in London, and, along with it, the Headquarters of Polish Scouting. The mass migration of Poles after the war saw Polish Scouting emerge in many countries, among them Australia.

The first troops of Polish Scouts and Guides in Australia were formed in the migrant hostels in Melbourne in 1950. These were followed by groups of cubs and brownies (Zuchy). From Melbourne, Polish Scouting spread to Adelaide, Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart and Canberra.

Numerous nationwide Jamborees have been held since the inception of Polish Scouting in Australia. In 1960, the Jamboree in Lorne (Vic) marked the 50th anniversary of the formation of Polish Scouting. The 1966 Jamboree in Picton (NSW) celebrated a Millennium of Christianity in Poland. Hindmarsh Island (SA) hosted the 1970 Jamboree, and Mt. Crosby (Qld) was the site of a Jamboree in 1972. In 1979, separate Jamborees were held for Scouts at "Gilwell Park", Gembrook (Vic) and for Guides at "Iluka", Shoreham (Vic). "Bielany" (NSW) was the venue for the 1983 Jamboree, followed by the 1986 Jamboree at Gilwell Park, which marked the 75th anniversary of Polish Scouting. We were privileged to be visited by the World Chief Polish Scout during that Jamboree. In 1991, we were back at "Bielany" in NSW. Britannia Park, near Yarra Junction (Vic), hosted the Guides National Jamboree in 1994, while the Scouts camped at Hindmarsh Island (SA) in 1995. Scouts and Guides were back together again for the 1996 Jamboree at "Zakopane", Rathdowney (Qld). The next major Jamboree, which will celebrate 50 years of Polish Scouting in Australia is planned for the year 2000.

The Australian movement has been represented at all worldwide Jamborees of Polish Scouting - 1966 at Monte Cassino, Italy; 1976 at "Kaszuby", Ontario, Canada; 1982 at Comblain La Tour, Belgium; 1988 at "Rising Sun", Maryland, USA; 1994 at "Clumber Park", England; the next Jamboree is to be held in Canada in the year 2000.

There are regular training courses for leaders. Conferences of the Executive of Polish Scouting are held every two years, with the venue alternating between capital cities. The ties to our headquarters in London are very strong, with representatives of the Chief Scout visiting us every few years. In this, the jet age, Australia is not so far away any more.

Jamborees form only a small part of our overall programme of activities. Annual camps are held during those summers that do not see a jamboree. During each year, the program of

activities include regular troop meetings, campfires, weekend camps, patrol leader training courses, day trips, bushwalking and other outdoor adventure activities. All activities, be they indoor or outdoor, incorporate the Polish culture, be it in use of the language, or learning about the history, geography and traditions of our fatherland. Polish Scouts and Guides form an integral part of the Polish Community and take part in many events of national and religious significance. Polish Scouting is steeped in tradition and culture with religion playing a major part of our movement. Poland is a fiercely Roman Catholic nation and this is reflected in the beliefs and values of Polish Scouts and Guides. We aim to uphold these values and are proud to be able to reinforce them in those children born in Australia of Polish parentage.

For many years, we lamented the plight of our peers in Poland, where freedom of expression and association was thwarted by the communist regime. Officially, Polish Scouting (ZHP) (scouting of the communist variety) operated under that regime, but did not reflect the true essence of the movement. In the latter years of the regime, many underground scouting movements, which operated in the true spirit of scouting, formed. These merged to become ZHR. Both ZHP and ZHR operate in a free and democratic Poland today, so, with ZHP changing its scout promise and scout law to include God, and moving away from its communist origins, it has been accepted into WOSM and WAGGGS. The Headquarters of Polish Scouting outside Poland keep close contact with these two Scouting Movements in Poland, with all taking part in each other's Jamborees and other major activities, however, it is recognised that further unification will be very difficult to achieve.

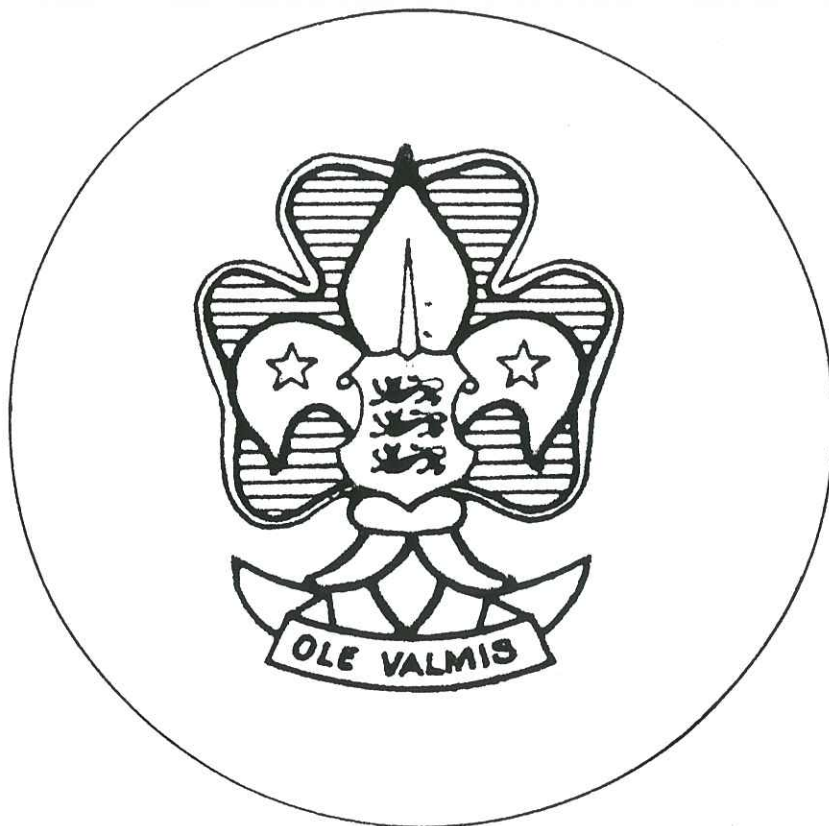
Today, Polish Scouting outside Poland is alive and well, operating in England, France, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, South Africa, Belgium, Canada, the USA, Argentina, Australia as well as some of the former Soviet republics.

In Melbourne, we have Guide troops, Scout troops and Cub/Brownie groups based in Richmond, Essendon and Rowville. Until the 1980's the movement was run by the post war migrants and then their children. The Polish born population in Australia increased in the 1980s with the wave of Poles fleeing the crackdown against freedom of expression that occurred with the imposition of martial law in 1981, after the rise of the powerful "Solidarity" trade union. This wave of immigrants brought with it a boost to the ranks of our scouting troops. Today's scout/guide leaders are a mixture of the migrants of the 1940's and 1950's, the children of those migrants, mostly born in Australia, and the migrants of the 1980s.



A happy camp is a well fed camp

**CONGRATULATIONS
ON 20 YEARS!**



**MELBOURNE
ESTONIAN SCOUTS,
GUIDES & GROUP
COMMITTEE**

GREETINGS

We have great pleasure announcing that greetings have been received from:

Karin & Leo Adamson
Janis Baumanis
Rasma Celms
Helene Harris
Barbara, Stefan, Ewa, Laura & Marek Janus
Sirje, Endel, Janette & Johanna Jõgi
Zigfrids Leitis
Stella & Enn Laul
Anne, Markus & Kristopher Laul
Aime & Bruno Metsar
Viktor Metsar
Hilja & Gunnar Neeme
Henry Pacers
Linus K. & Ona Prasmutas
Brenda & Thomas Rossmann
Carmen & Endel Saarelaht
Edvardas & Maryte Sidlavskas
Toomas Steinberg
Hania, Aleks & Justyn Terech
Inara Upite
Arnis Vejins
Skaidrite Viksne-Zakis
Veronika Zabukas
Maria & Mieczysław Życiński

The Lithuanian Scouts of Australia congratulate ESGAV on its Anniversary and wishes it a further 20 years of successful scouting.



Russian Scouting in Australia

In 1909 scouting in Russia was sanctioned by the Tsar and quickly spread throughout the Empire.

After the Russian Civil War Russian Scouting in the USSR was brutally repressed and replaced by the Pioneers. The remnants of the White Armies and their families escaped to Europe and China after the Revolution, and renewed Russian Scouting abroad. These scouts formed a loose federation within the framework of the World Movement under the guidance of their founder Colonel Oleg I. Pantuhoff. This organisation was called NORS (National Organisation of Russian Scouts).

In the twenties and thirties the scouts played an important part in the life of the Russian communities abroad.

After the Second World War the scouts quickly formed a framework of scouting troops in the Displaced Persons Camps in Germany and Austria to deal with the various youth problems.

As these camps, like the rest of post War Germany, were isolated from the world outside, a new provisional organisation recognising Colonel Pantuhoff as the main leader, was formed to coordinate the DP activities. Since anything "National" was unacceptable because of its NAZI connotations, to the victorious Allies, this organisation returned to the original title of Tsarist times and called itself ORUR (Organisation of Russian Young Pathfinders ie - scouts).

In China where NORS remained unchanged the scouts played an important role in constructing camps for the Russian refugees evacuated by the Americans to the island of Tobabao in the Philippines.

The post war era, therefore, saw the Russian Scouts divided into two groups - ORUR in post war Germany and Austria and NORS elsewhere including China. This division unfortunately remained in force and has not been completely eradicated to this day.

Members of both organizations began to arrive in Australia in the late forties and in the early fifties. By that time, however, their international status had undergone a substantial change as their membership of the World Movement was revoked, in keeping with the Yalta agreement, they were advised to join the Scout Organisations in their country of residence.

NORS arrived first with migrants from China via the Philippines and began Russian scouting in NSW. ORUR followed shortly thereafter with migrants from Europe, and, by the middle fifties organised branches in most of the States of Australia. During the late fifties a new wave of Russian migrants began to arrive from China swelling the ranks of NORS and ORUR alike.

Two further aspects were especially noteworthy about this period. One was an attempt by ORUR to join the Australian Scouts in Melbourne which, after a few years trial was abandoned due to the anti-ethnic attitudes of the Australian Headquarters of that time. The other was collaboration between both Russian organisations which eventually led to a number of units of NORS joining the ranks of ORUR.

The late fifties and the early sixties saw a period of rapid growth of ORUR including the movement of its World Headquarters from Europe to Victoria. Large annual camps, mini jamborees, leaders courses etc. became the order of the day.

The late sixties and the early seventies, for a variety of reasons, saw a period of decline. ORUR

Headquarters moved to the USA, and its field of activities was reduced to South Australia, Victoria and NSW, while NORS remained centred in Sydney.

The late seventies saw a new revival of ORUR, this time centred around Victoria, with the influx of Russian refugees from the more remote parts of China.

Victoria now became the favoured site of large annual camps, leaders courses, and jamborees.

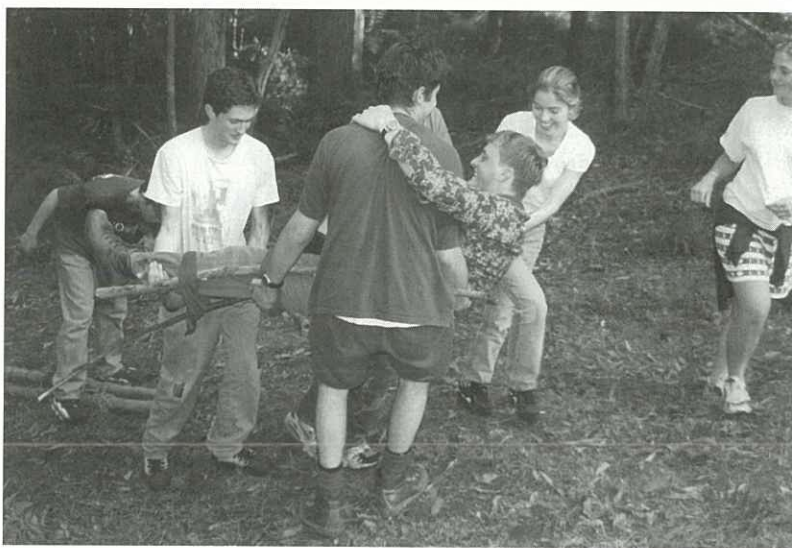
Two further important events marked this period of revival. Firstly, NORS in the USA and a group of the Australian NORS joined forces with ORUR. Secondly, the Victorian branch of ORUR became one of the co-founders of ESGAV providing a new interest for its senior scouts and guides. These factors accelerated the growth and enthusiasm of Russian Scouting in Australia, and annual camps of 100-150 participants were held by ORUR in the eighties.

The “high” as often is the case was succeeded by a “low” in the early nineties.

At present, however, the numbers are increasing once again. The main factors in this new revival are the return to scouting of our former scouts and guides with their children in tow and the arrival of new migrants from Russia which are beginning to join our ranks.

The dramatic changes in Russia itself, however, although of crucial interest to the older leaders have had little local impact. Thus, while ORUR now has a sister branch in Russia and NORS is participating in the Russian revival with other groups, the day to day work in Australia remains largely unaffected. If anything, now that the myth of an unattainable motherland is no more, the reality for the younger members seems to be that, however much they value their Russian heritage, culture and traditions, Australia is their place of birth and their country.

ORUR is now centred in Victoria with branches in South Australia and NSW and one of its groups in Victoria has registered with the Australian Scouts. The remaining independent part of NORS is centred in Sydney. For the last two years the annual camps of ORUR had close to 100 participants with around 30% in the cubs and brownies age group. In short another promising stage which will hopefully carry us into the new millennium.



First Aid Activities



History of Plast Ukrainian Scouts Association in Victoria

In the Ukrainian community in Victoria today, the Plast Scouting Association is an integral part in the lives of its members. Dating from humble beginnings in the western forests of Ukraine, this great association, along with all its spirit and tradition found its way from the homeland in the northern hemisphere, down to the island of Australia.

The founding fathers of Plast in Australia were once young active members of Plast in Ukraine. Upon coming to their new home, they realised that something needed to be done in order to keep Ukrainians here united, and their culture not forgotten. Plast seemed like the perfect opportunity for uniting migrants and carrying on a grand and honourable tradition. Plast first began with a few meetings being held to inform and reassure community members that by joining Plast they would be joining an association which had a great deal to offer its participants. And so on the 20th of December in 1949 the first ever in Australia, general meeting of Plast was held with 30 registered members. In 1950, the first ever camp was held in Rosebud, Victoria. Over the next few years, a number of annual camps were held interstate so as to further unite Ukrainians in Australia as a whole. These early interstate camps have set down a tradition, whereby even now many annual camps are being held with our interstate counterparts. This has proved a great way to bring together our youth as the promises of an adventurous interstate camp and potential romances heightened their eagerness.

In 1957, an Australia wide camp was held in Seville, Victoria with 205 participants, an impressive number in those days. On the 14th of March in 1959, a multicultural campfire was held in Belgrave, which Plast representatives attended. December 1960 saw Plast become a member of the Youth Council of Victoria, and later in that month an exciting event occurred - the end of year camp was held at our new campsite, "Sokil", near Aireys Inlet. To date, this remains the favourite Plast gathering ground and the consistent working bees have paid off, producing a wonderful campsite. Ukrainians were very eager to have their own site and the early hardships of our founding fathers has paid off as we now have a site which we can proudly say is "ours together", and is here for future generations to enjoy.

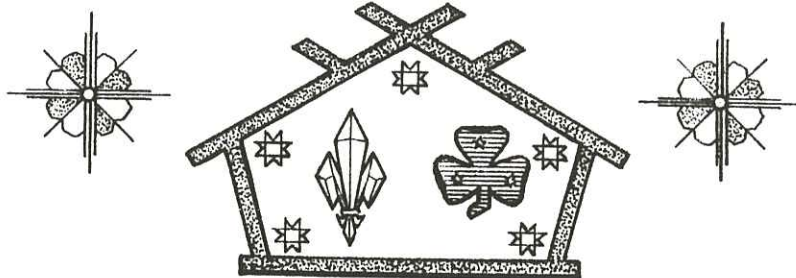
The 1960's and 1970's saw the further expansion and strengthening of Plast in Victoria and this was reflected in the huge turnouts at the end of year camps. The 24th of December, 1977 marked a 25 year anniversary of annual camps in Victoria. December 1981 saw the official opening and blessing of the newly built lodges at "Sokil". This was thanks to the hard labour put in by our members. The community as a whole was shattered when the Ash Wednesday bushfires ripped through "Sokil" and burnt down many cherished landmarks, however, together, once again, we rebuilt the grounds, making them bigger and better.

Today Plast incorporates most of the original aims and functions of the association, along with some innovative concepts. Plast activities include self-sufficient hikes in the national ranges, rock climbing, surfing, canoeing, bike camps and many others. We hold walkathons in aid of worthy causes, such as the Chernobyl Relief Fund and the Red Shield Appeal. We continue to recognise Ukrainian cultural days and remember our fallen heroes. Plast has also always been eager to participate in multicultural events, and will continue its involvement. Overall, the Plast community in Victoria might now be smaller in numbers, but in many ways we are stronger in spirit as the challenge for us now is to keep Plast going into the next century and beyond.



RĪGAS (102.) SKAUTU
VIENĪBAS

RĪGAS (1.) GAIDU
VIENĪBAS



The Latvian Girl Guide and Scout Groups in Melbourne congratulate the ESGAV organisation on 20 years of successful scouting. Over the years ESGAV has brought together our youth and given them opportunities to develop new friendships and learn about the different customs of our nationalities. We wish all ESGAV participants the very best in the future.

Melbourne
Lithuanian Older
Scouts Group

“SKAUTININKŲ
RAMOVĖ”

Congratulates
ESGAV on its 20th
Anniversary

p.s. Birute Prasmutas
(Leader)

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**Congratulations
on 20 years of
Ethnic Scouting.**

Polish Scouting Association ZHP in
Australia, Victorian Branch



Group photo from the 13th camp



*Hosing down
after an activity*

*Preparing to
feed the masses*



*Early mobile phones or
possibly making a trunk call*



With a song in my heart.....

Flagraising in national costume



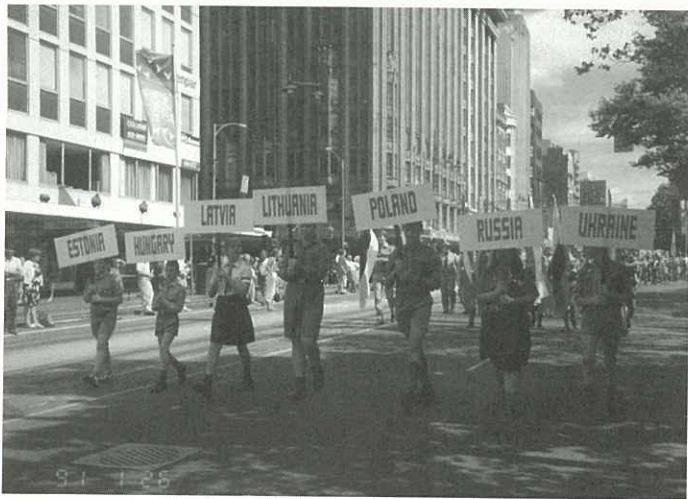
Marchpast



A visiting friend

A racing machine.....if it moves?





*Marching down
Swanston Street
for the Australia
Day Parade*



*Executive
Committee at
the 10th camp*



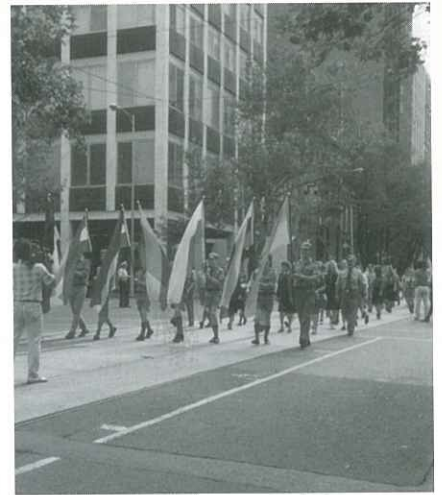
Obstacle course at Gilwell Park

*Executive
Committee with
visitors during
the 10th camp*





Friends from various nationalities



Australia Day March



Fence sitters



Executive Committee with guests