

Sydney Greek Scouts attend Centenary Jamboree in Greece

During late August some lucky members of the 6th Bankstown Greek Scout Group, based at St Euphemia College, were able to attend and participate in the Greek National Jamboree celebrating the Centenary of Greek Scouting along with more than 4,000 other Scouts, Leaders and supporters from Greece and around the world.

It was a once in a lifetime experience. The atmosphere was enthusiastic and uplifting. One of those participating described it as being like a "mini Olympics".

The jamboree was held at a camping ground next to the small town of Kamena Vourla in Central Greece. The fact that it was next to a beautiful beach was an obvious advantage especially given the heat wave that was sweeping through Europe at the time.

Activities enjoyed by those participating included hiking, swimming, sailing, orienteering and singing as well as many games and competitions. There were numerous highlights including the following:

Constructing our own camp gates, enclosures, dining tables and seats out of logs on arrival at the camp site. There was a great deal of competition between the various formations to make the best looking camp enclosures;

Hiking for 3 kilometres up a mountain where we camped overnight. The cool mountain air was a welcome relief from the heat of the Greek summer;

Building rafts out of logs and sailing them on the Aegean

Sea. Needless to say many of the Scouts took the opportunity to jump in the water for a swim; and

Participating in an orientation exercise at the ancient site of Delphi.

At the conclusion of the Jamboree it was clear that our



Scouts had made many new friends as they exchanged contact details and souvenirs. The Australian boomerangs we had taken with us were in particularly strong demand amongst the local Scouts.

As we left the Jamboree for our long trip back to Australia, perhaps one of our Scouts summed it up best: "This was



one of the best experiences I have ever had. I wish we could stay for another week".

If you are interested in joining the 6th Bankstown Greek Scout Group which meets every Tuesday night at 7pm at St Euphemia College please call Stavros Kritikos on 0428 162 893 or Katherine Kevgas on 0425 272 999.

Greek Scouts are also meeting at the St Stylianos Parish at Gynea every Friday evening.

For any further information including joining the Hellenic Former Scouts Guild please

contact George Papadimitriou James, Commissioner for Greek Scouts T.95671835

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By Nick Janes Scout Leader

