

500 Ideas For Venturers And Rovers

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Editor’s Note:

The reader is reminded that these texts have been written a long time ago. Consequently, they may use some terms or express sentiments which were current at the time, regardless of what we may think of them at the beginning of the 21st century. For reasons of historical accuracy they have been preserved in their original form.

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FOREWORD

Having managed to survive (so far) through years of Venturing and Roving, I have noticed a recurring problem every time we sat down to work out a few months worth of programme.

We were constantly plagued with the “been there, done that” syndrome. We always seemed to have the same activities. Of course, occasionally, someone would come up with a new and novel idea, but we’d usually forget about it before the programming night.

So, for once and for all I’ve written down every idea I could find, pinch, borrow or think of – five hundred of them. With this number you could meet nearly fifty times a year and progress right through Venturers and Rovers without repeating yourself – so now you’ve got no excuse.

I hope you enjoy them.

Ian Gunn

A WORD ON CRUNITs: The word “Crunit” was dreamt up especially for this book. It’s a less tedious way of saying “Unit and/or Crew and/or Friends and/or Guests” and it helps break down the barriers between the Venturers and Rovers.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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HELP AND WORK



Service Made Easy

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD – Put on a dinner for all the parents and District Staff. Cater for it yourself and have a guest speaker. Charge enough to break even or you may even like to shout them.

MORE FOOD – Following your successful dinner you'll get lots of invites to cater for the end-of-year Mindari, Pack Holidays etc.

SCOUT'S OWN – Plan, organise and present the Scout's Own Service at the next District Camp. What yarns and songs do you know?

CAMPSITE FIX-IT – How's your District/Area Campsite? Huts need painting? Paths overgrown? Our mob donated and erected a flagpole.

SEND IN THE HEAVIES – So the Ladies Auxilliary is putting on a fete/fashion parade/old time dance, etc ... wouldn't they love some hefty volunteers (including males) to look after security and parking?

VENTURER TRAINING – Rovers (or Venturers who have done it before) can help out at the next Initiative or Leadership Course. What unusual stunts can you think up? Obstacle courses and injured-parachutist-up-a-tree-behind-an-electric-wire-fence go down well.

G'DAY VIEWERS – Does your Crunit/Group/District/Area have a Public Relations Team? Local newspapers love to receive articles on Scouting, especially with good black and white photos. So do Scouting magazines. Does your local radio have a Scouting session.

BRUSHING UP ON HISTORY – Most communities have a local War Memorial, Pioneer Grave or historical marker. Give it a good scrub to get off the grime and graffitti. Trim the grass.

NEW CHUMS – It's a big event when someone gets naturalised as an Australian Citizen. Why not volunteer to act as caterers at the ceremony. It's great P.R.

NOW HEAR THIS – A public address system is a great idea for large Scout camps and sports events. Can your electrical wizards knock one up from scratch?

TENDERFOOTS – You probably take all this outdoors stuff for granted. Run a camp for some kinds who aren't Scouts. Be tolerant and helpful and maybe they will become Scouts! B.P. did this on Brownsea Island and look what happened to him!!

SPORTS EVENTS – You can act as impartial officials at the next sports event run for Cubs or Scouts (or Brownies? . . .). Give everyone a job; timekeeping, parking, scoring, first aid, etc.

CHRISTMAS BREAK – So Akela and Skip are having a well earned rest, and the kids are at a loose end for something to do. Of course your Crunit are organising a camp or at least some activities to occupy the little darlings. Who's qualified to help with test work?

WORTH BOTTLING – Save a couple of lives by donating a pint each at the Blood Bank. In Victoria the Motorcycle Riders' Association usually challenge any organisation to beat their donating record. The Scouts sometime win. Will you help?

HAY FEVER – Next time there is a District Cub Day, offer to build a hay bale maze. Where can you borrow the hay?

FLICKS – If the whole Crunit knew how to competently operate a movie projector they could act as qualified projectionists at training course, Senior Citizens Clubs, church meetings, etc.

STOP THIEF – Any decent electricians in your Crunit? Ever thought of installing a burglar alarm in your Scout Hall?

WRECK CREATION – Help demolish an old wooden house/shed/barn. Either donate the firewood to the needy or sell it for charity.

DIG IT – The old Widow Wilkins round the corner would love to have some weeding and mowing done. Tea and bickies guaranteed.

HELPING HANDS – The local drug rehabilitation centre, etc. is sure to need some help painting, nailing, gardening, delivering pamphlets or whatever. Get in touch with them.

OPEN DAY – The RSPCA, the Institute for the Blind, etc. often have open days to let the public see what they are doing. Ask them if they need someone to help organise parking or any other function.

RE RUNS – Is your local Historical Society putting on some sort of re-enactment in the near future? Can they use some extras? No Historical Society? Why not stage your own reenactment next Australia Day, Anzac Day, Remembrance Day, Christmas Day?

OVER THE TOP – Build a commando course for the next Scout camp, Pack Holiday, Public display, etc.

BROUGHT YOU SOME GRAPES – Easy service but worthwhile. Visit those bored lonely souls in hospital. You don't have to be previously acquainted. There's a potential Scouter out there waiting to be inspired.

MOBI LE MUNCHIES – Even if you only do it to see how the other half lives, lend a hand with your local Meals-on-Wheels Service.

JAMBOREES AND OTHERS – There are many Branch/Area/District activities on which you can lend a hand . . . After all, you are in the Movement! Cooking, putting up tents, running activities, etc.

RAGTIME – Organise an old clothes collection for charity, not everyone puts their rags in the Brotherhood bin.

PACK! PACK! PACK! – Many charities send food parcels to the poor. Now's your chance to practice your gift wrapping.

500 Ideas For Venturers And Rovers

NATIONAL PARKS – Get in touch with the Warden or Ranger and find out if you can help in any way. Mapping hike tracks, weeding!

KNOCK A NAIL IN – The Rover Chalet extension or your Scout Hall or somebody's hall or even a hiker's hut. Carpenters, electricians, bricklayers, plumbers and general helpers required.

GUARD OF HONOUR – Fred's getting married so the least you could do is act as uniformed honour guards. You can do the same at funerals. Not necessarily Fred's.

WANT A LIFT? – How do the old folks do their Christmas whopping? If you can't drive them around, at least you can cycle over to the chemist to pick up their prescriptions.

YOU SPEAKA ME – Do you live in an area where there are lots of migrants? Perhaps somebody nearby would like help with English lessons on a one-to-one basis.



FUN AND PROFIT



Fundraising

DANCETIME – But what sort? Disco, Rock, Square, Bush? Any other sort? Fancy dress makes it more interesting and cheaper. Supper provided, of course, but don't forget soft drinks to sell to thirsty stompers.

WINE AND CHEESE TASTING – Get the help of an expert. Why not a Beer and Nuts instead? There was even a Crunit that had a Whisky and Chocolate Biscuits night. Your local liquor store may help out.

TUPPERWARE PARTY – Don't knock it! It works. Mums and newlyweds welcome.

SOAPSUDS – Buy detergents in bulk at wholesale prices, then flog it to everyone's family in their own containers, and undercut the shops.

PAPERDRIVE – The old favourite. Make sure you have got plenty of room to store it all, and plenty of string to bundle it up with. Send a circular to everybody in the street to "Bring Out the Dead" at a certain time, this makes collection easier.

BOTTLEDRIVE – Same as a paper drive only much more messy. A lot of halls have recycling depots. Brown glass, white glass, aluminium cans, keep it all segregated.

HONEYPIE – You can buy honey direct from the Apiarist (that's Latin for beekeeper). Put it into clean coffee jars and sell it at the next community market or direct to Mum or Auntie Agnes.

WINE BOTTLING – Similar to honey, but much more fun. You can get wine in bulk and bottle it under your own label.

CHOOKY POO – Find a poultry farm where they will let you dig your own chicken manure at a low price. Invest in some strong polythene bags and flog it at your local garden supplier. One Crunit we know raises thousands of dollars each year from this.

TRASH 'N' TREASURE – There's sure to be a Sunday market near you, so clear out your attics and set up a stall. Some markets let you in free if you have a letter on Scout letterhead saying all profits are for Scout funds.

POSTIE! POSTIE! – You've seen all that special sale catalogue type junk mail in your letter box? Well, someone has to deliver it! Check the pamphlets or contact your local chemist, department store, etc., or stick an ad in the local paper.

WRONG NUMBER – And while you're at it, did you know that Telecom call for tenders every January and September to deliver 'phone books? You tender for a postcode Area (about 5000 to 10,000 books) and if you tender 10 to 15 cents per delivery you'll probably get the contract. Hard work, easy money.

CAN CAN – Aluminium cans and steel cans are all recyclable. When's the next parade, show, carols by candlelight, race meeting, footy match in your Area? Start a scavenging party,

FRESH FRUIT – Buy direct from the orchard (or pick them yourself) and bag them and sell them by the roadside, at a street-stall or to folks you know. Any fruit you can get your hands on – apples, oranges, strawberries or even spuds and carrots.

SCOUT JOB WEEK – Remember that? Why not? You've got all the publicity from H.Q. behind you. Don't fancy knocking on doors? You can do something big as a Crunit, Car wash, window cleaning, gardening.

TEN MEN WENT TO MOW – A local factory complex had a huge lawn out the front, so our Crunit rostered two people each month to go and mow it. And we got paid!

THING-A-THON – Ever heard of the Scout Walkathon? Or you could organise your own, or a Bike-a-thon, trike-a-thon, knot-a-thon, pram-a-thon, joke-a-thon, campfire-sing-along-a-thon.

CHRISTMAS TREES – Well Fred's girlfriend's cousin's uncle has a farm, see, and he's chopping down pine trees. Saw off the branches and sell them during the Festive Season.

WAVE THE FLAG – Next time there's a big event in your District (Christmas Parade, Folk Festival, Show) see if you can land the job of giving out flags or manning the barriers. You'll need a contact. We've helped barricade the parks during the Moomba Festival, some Crunits have blown up and given out balloons at football finals and other community activities. Once I spent a delightful half hour encased in a huge sweaty Incredible Hulk costume. Great fun!!!

HERE COMES THE JUDGE – This is a very similar job to the last one. Whenever anybody is invited to be a judge at a country show, mardi gras, etc., the committee love to suck up to them by having a few uniformed folk pouring drinks, serving sandwiches and running errands. Easy money, plus you get to go in the VIP tent.

SPUDS – A New Zealand Venturer Unit of my acquaintance grow their own potatoes in tubs behind the hall, and sell their produce on the roadside.

THE OLD LAMINGTON DRIVE – Or snowballs, or peanut brittle or Girl Guide Cookies. Get in touch with a few wholesalers or factories and get a good bulk price.

SPORTS EVENTS – Sell drinks at the Local Cub/Scout/Guide etc sports day. For a nominal fee to cover your costs you could also offer to make pennants and ribbons for the winners.

MEALS BETWEEN WHEELS – Progressive dinners, in case you didn't know, consist of each course being served at a different house, with the participants driving (or walking) between each locality and paying for the privilege of doing so.

CHOCKIES – A variation on Lamington drives, boxes of chocolates for sale. Great gifts for Christmas/birthdays/Easter/Mother's Day.

DINNER'S READY – Local social clubs would love to have someone come along and cater for them. It can't hurt to ask, can it?

HAY! HAY! – If you're a semi-rural Crunit why not bale some hay and sell it? Riding schools, pet shops, gardeners, square dance clubs. ...

FETE WORSE THAN DEATH – Get council permission to set up your own street stall so you can market your wares to the general public.

GLAD RAGS – Ever thought of running a fashion parade? The more sexist among you may think it's a job for the Ladies Auxiliary, but if you really want the money . . .

CAR WASH – O.K., so it's a bit old hat, but it still works. Choose a busy shopping centre, but get permission first.

ASSEMBLY LINE – Putting things together, packing them, addressing them for mail order firms. Monotonous work, but there can be money in it.

TAKING A FENCE – Start your own fence painting service – build them!

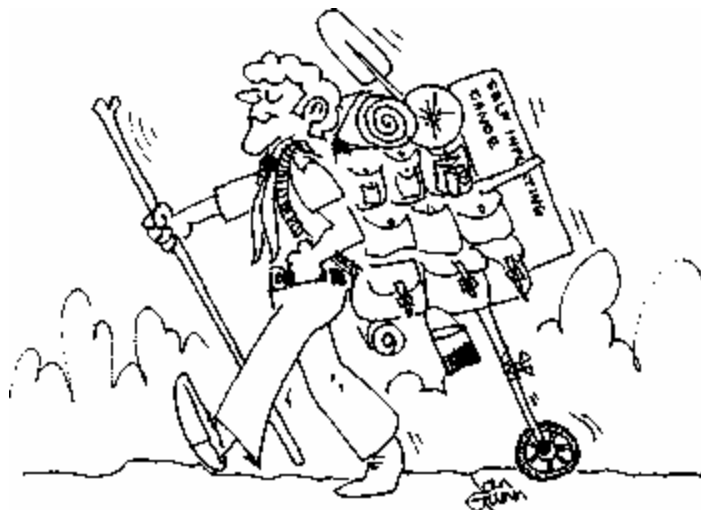
WHAT'S YOUR BEEF – Invite everyone you can get hold of to a roast-on-a-spit night, and a good time to be had by all.

FLOATING ASSETS – Run a raft regatta and fully catered bar-be-cue. Invite all the other Crunits and charge them admission. Prizes for the fastest, bestest, prettiest rafts.

SURROGATE MOTHERS – Take a St John Ambulance course in child care, then advertise yourselves as qualified baby sitters. A roster may be needed.



OUT AND ABOUT



Life in the Open Air

GONE BUSH – Plan a major expedition far from civilization. Why not in another State?

OPEN ROAD – You don't have to go off the beaten track to have a hike. A casual ramble along a country road can be fun whether you only take one day or longer. How about taking the Scouts?

SWIMMING – Beach, pool or lake? And while you're thinking about it, when was the last time you rehearsed artificial resuscitation and heart massage?

SOMETHING FISHY – On river or sea. You could hire a boat. A prize for the biggest caught – then get a taxidermist to show you how to mount it.

RAFTING – You could race or just drift with the current. Our Crunit spent an Easter paddling like crazy down the Murray, because nobody told them the current was missing due to the river being dammed for irrigation.

CANOEING – No canoes? Rent 'em or make 'em.

CAVING – Or speliology to be more precise. Get in touch with a caving club.

DOWN ON THE FARM – Lend a hand on a farm for a weekend. Or if you're a country Crunit invite some city slickers up.

PROSPECTING – Get hold of a few metal detectors and spend the weekend at a ghost town. You probably won't find any gold, but you'll soon locate the rubbish heaps behind the houses. Horseshoes, flat irons, antique bottles . . .

LIFESAVERS – Of course you know "Mouth to Mouth" ... or do you? Rehearse this and other methods. What about external heart massage?

GETTING YOUR BEARINGS – Practise your compass work, either in the hall or outside. Get one person to set out the bearings and places, and then each person tries it. See how many end up in the same place.

FOILED AGAIN – Have you experimented with foil cookery? What time does it take to cook various foods? It sure beats carting pots and pans on a hike . . . P.S. Try chocolate bananas! Yummy!!

HELP!! – Do you know the land-to-air rescue signals? How do you tell a passing aircraft that you need a doctor or other help? And what about morse and semaphore?

LET'S GO SURFING NOW – No boards? Have you considered making your own?

A SHORT DRIVE – Spend Easter or a long weekend driving or bussing or training around your state, or better still, someone else's.

BRING THE FAMILY – Take your old folks away for a weekend camp and maybe they'll learn what you get up to. Brothers and sisters too. Potential recruits?

SAILING – Victoria has its own Scout/Guide Sailing Centre. Get some expert advice so you'll know the ropes. Check out if other states have some special water activity centres. Life jackets please.

ROCKCLIMBING – Scramble your way to the top. Find an instructor – H.Q. can help.

FLYING HIGH – Many Scouty folks have obtained their pilots licence. Why haven't you. Good employment prospects.

LIFE ON WHEELS – Organise a bike hike. An old popular favourite, but make sure there's a lack of hills.

UP, UP AND AWAY – Wouldn't you like to fly in a beautiful balloon? Contact a hot-air balloon club and organise a trip.

GOLD PANNING – O.K., so maybe you won't find much, but at least you'll have a clean frypan.

MESSING ABOUT IN BOATS – Lots of Crunits use canoes and rafts, but what about the old fashioned rowboat? A lazy afternoon or a long expedition?

CORACLES – What?!? They originated in Wales as a light weight, circular, one-man boat made of skins stretched over wicker. Check in the library and make your own from whatever you can scrounge.

DARK WANDERINGS – Try a night hike as part of your next camp, or even a regular meeting night.

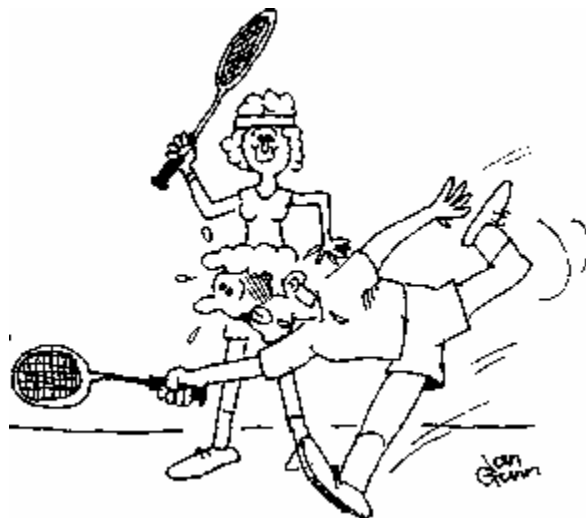
MEANWHILE, BACK ON THE MISSISSIPPI – Have you ever considered hiring a houseboat? Fishing, cruising, swimming or just lazing about.

SURVIVE OR PERISH – Study techniques of living off the bush, then run a survival camp eating freshly caught fish and rabbits, wild berries, fern tips. Make sure you know what you're doing!!! Don't eat anything poisonous will you?

GYPSIES – Don't just hike – travel around with a horsedrawn caravan. It's a great way to see the country.



HUFF AND PUFF



Let's Get Physical

ARCHERY – Pop along to your local archery club and watch out Robin Hood. Why not try making your own bow and arrows?

SLIM IN THE GYM – Get the old iron pumping with a bit of weight lifting and other exercises.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS – Can you throw a boomerang? Can you make and decorate one? They make great gifts when you go to that overseas jamboree, Venture or Moot.

ICE SCREAMS – Get your skates on and go to the local rink. If you don't like the cold try it on rollers. A good social activity too.

SNOW BUSINESS – Soesn't everyone? There are two Rover Chalets in Victoria, an Alpine Centre in N.S.W., plus a lot of high-altitude Scout halls where you can stay. If you don't want to ski, you can toboggan on a plastic sheet.

WATER SKIING – Either get hold of a boat or a lake with a slope. Some instruction may be necessary if you don't want to kill yourself.

ABSEILING – Jumping off cliffs with ropes. A bit of instruction and you can put on your own displays. Sliding down skyscrapers is always impressive, so long as you get permission.

BURNING PAPER – Ever built a go-kart? Get your mechanical skills to work. Great fun.

MUD SLINGING – Advanced go-karting – old bomb cars done up to do strange things under rigorous conditions. Victorian Rovers started it with Mudbash, followed by the Cobra 500, while in Western Australia they have the Bush Baja. What about your state? It's worth going, even if it is only to watch.

TEE TIME – Well, you've never played golf with the Crunit before, so give it a go. Challenge the parents.

IN THE SWIM – At your local pool, the beach or a dam or anywhere! A great way to relax, to socialise or you could get competitive.

WRESTLING – Arm wrestling? Leg wrestling? or the best of three lifts of the ground wins. Chuck in a game of British Bulldog for good measure.

MAKING A RAQUET – Try tennis for a change and bring a friend, or perhaps challenge another Crunit to a game of Ping Pong or maybe Badminton.

GOING TO COURT – If you're really feeling energetic why not try a nice quiet game of squash. There's bound to be a squash court somewhere near you.

BASKET MAKING – Give basketball a go. Challenge another Crunit, after weeks of practice of course. Real teamwork is needed. One Crunit in our District play regularly in the amateur league.

GEE GEES – Can you ride a horse without falling off too often? Give it a go. Maybe you live on a farm and do it all the time. O.K., why not invite some city slickers up for the weekend. It's worth a chuckle.

VOLLEYBALL – A bit of skill and teamwork goes a long way but you should easily be able to scrounge the sports equipment.

CUNNING RUNNING – Try orienteering. Here you can combine your Scoutcraft skills with your wonderful physique.

BASEBALL – Never played it? Try it on your next barbecue or lazy weekend.

TRAIL BIKES – Beg, borrow or hire a few machines and try it out. Don't hurt the environment too much, please.

B.M.X. – Pinch your little brother's bike and hit the track. Can you stay on?

GERONIMO – Ever jumped out of a plane? Make sure you're wearing a parachute and not a pack. You'll need lessons, of course.

NIGHT DROP – A great activity with the Scouts too! Get yourself driven out into the middle of nowhere, then hike back in the dark. Hot coffee all round.

S.C.U.B.A. – Self contained Breathing Apparatus. Do you know how to use it? A good weekend, perhaps coupled with a bit of underwater photography.

ON TOW – What's parasailing? Find out about it and give it a go.

MISSILES – Caber tossing and javeline throwing and shot putting and discus throwing and . . . How about a Highland Games contest.

BECAUSE IT'S THERE – Mountaineering has its ups and downs. Don't attempt Everest until you've had some practice.

DINGHY RACING – Or even lilo racing if the stream isn't too rough.

ON GUARD – The ancient art of fencing. That's with foils and sabres, not barbed wire, stupid.

NO SNOW – Then go grass skiing. It's becoming quite popular.

SELF DEFENCE – Learn the basics on judo, ju-jitsu, karate, kung-fu, etc. You'll never know when you'll need it.

SHARP AND KEEN – Run a woodchopping event, before you have a campfire.

MONKEY SHINES – Try tree-climbing, with spikes, or a Marlin hitch. Any ideas for a competition?

HANG GLIDING – It's really something to get up in the air. There are many clubs who would be glad to help.

COME AND DO – In teams of two, build one obstacle for a commando course. Then everybody gets a go at the whole course.

SKURFING – Like water-skiing but using a surfboard. Very popular on the Gold Coast, I'm told.

THAT'S THE SHOT – Try clay target shooting or visit your local rifle range.

STUMPED – Challenge another Crunit to a cricket match or just play it yourselves for fun. Indoor cricket?

FOOTY – There's more than one sort you know; Aussie Rules, Soccer, Rugby, Gridiron, Gaelic . . . Try them all!

WHEEEE! – Build a flying fox. Let the Cubs and Scouts have a go at it too.

DUNE BUGGIES – And why not? Choose a place where you won't do too much damage.

HOCKEY ONE! HOCKEY TWO! – On ice or on grass, or in the Scout hall with rolled-up newspapers. Give it a go.

SPORT OF PRINCES – Try a few chukkas of polo, or if you can't get the horses, do it on piggy back. Why not play water-polo.

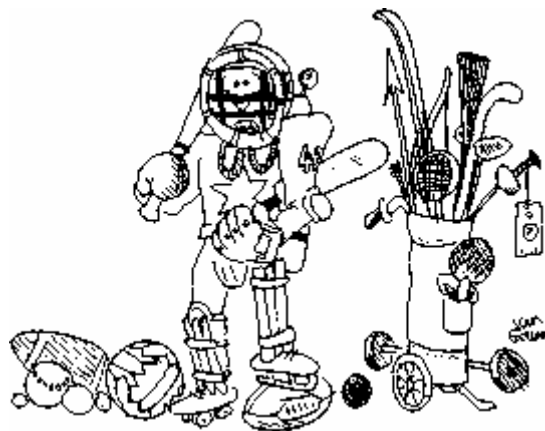
SPORT OF PRINCESSES – Advanced Gee Gees – pop along to a show jumping club and find out what's involved. A team for the next Gymkhana?

LACROSSE – Find out what the rules are and give it a go.

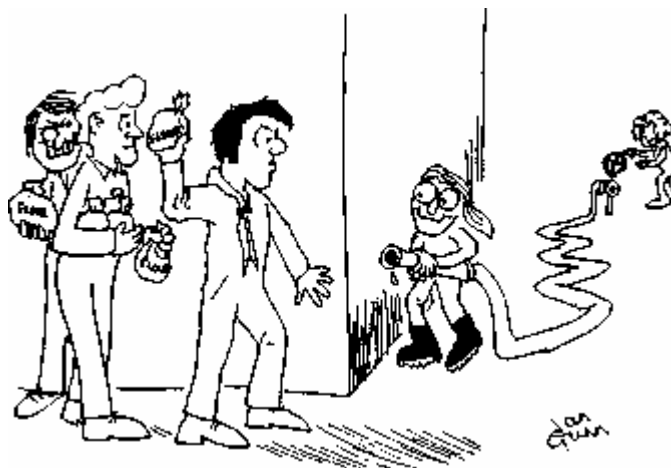
TRAMP TRAMP TRAMP – It takes a bouncy personality to take up trampolining, but it's lots of fun.

OLD FAVOURITES – Try something Mediaeval for old times sake; quarterstaff, jousting, horseshoes, real tennis or even dwyle-flonking(!).

HAMMER AND HOOPS – Try croquet, why? Because you haven't done it before!



THEM AND US



Inter-sectional Rivalry

WHAT'S COOKING – Challenge another Crunit to prepare a three course meal. Invite a couple of professional caterers to act as judges. Set a theme like “French”, “Chinese”, “Vegetarian”, “Brown”. Make it an annual event with a perpetual trophy.

SPY NIGHT – The Scouts are told there is a spy carrying secret documents in a brown paper bag somewhere in the shopping centre. They are told to discreetly follow him. They are not told that the Crunit are all in disguise and are passing the bag to each other at planned rendezvous points. Any more ideas?

CAR TRIAL – O.K., so Venturers can't drive, but they can navigate! Plan it well with cryptic clues, an emergency panic envelope and a barbecue afterwards.

JUST POPPED IN – Know a Crunit in another state? Write and ask if they'll put you up and show you the sights, if you promise to do the same thing for them next year. Know a Crunit in another country?

SNEAK WEEK – Requires heaps of organising, bushcraft, stealth, compass work and skill in camouflage. The idea is that teams spend the week or weekend on some huge bush campsite, discreetly observing each other without being observed themselves. No contact allowed between teams, all the enemies movements must be noted. Perhaps extra points for stolen trophies?

FLOUR POWER – Have a flour bomb raid on the next Scout camp. But make sure you've talked it over with the Scout Leader first so that he's got lots of ammunition for the boys.

OLYMPICS – Challenge another Crunit or more to a games night. Volleyball, tunnelball, centre-line poison ball, leapfrog, tug-of-war, basketball, stilt races, tag, etc.

SOCIALIZING – Don't keep it to yourselves! Invite the entire District or even the Area. A barbecue pool party?

HUCKLEBERRY FINN – How about a District/Area raft regatta involving the girls in blue too. Or a canoe regatta? Or both?

STROLLING – Take the Troop or the Pack out for some exercise. A not-so-hard day hike is a great way to make yourselves know.

500 Ideas For Venturers And Rovers

LOOK WIDE – The old-fashioned wide game always goes down well with the Troop. Be inventive, or do something simple like making the Scouts sneak up a hill undetected and put out a lamp.

FIGHTING MACHINES – Challenge them others to a no-holds-barred, all-in, blood-and-guts game of tiddly winks, or chess for the faint hearted.



COME AND TALK



Guest Speakers

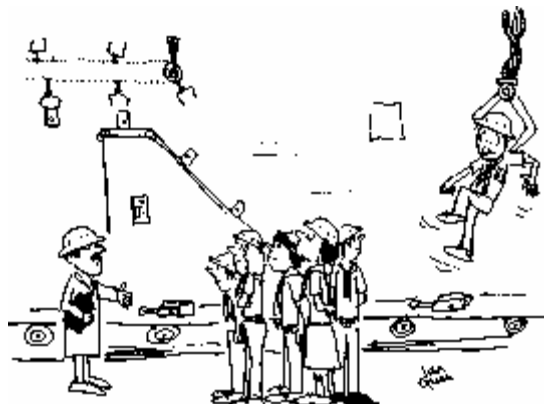
The easiest type of meeting to organise is a guest speaker night, because the guest organises most of it himself. Make sure you introduce him properly. Supply everything he needs for his talk – projector, blackboard etc. Have plenty of questions and some supper on hand. Don't forget a thank-you note. Here's some people you might like to invite:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A Catholic Priest | A Member of Parliament |
| An Anglican Minister | An Army Officer |
| A Jewish Rabbi | A Naval Officer |
| A Buddhist | An Air Force Officer |
| A Moslem | A Local Policeman |
| A Christian Scientist | A Member of the Drug Squad; |
| A Salvationist | A Member of the Dog Squad |
| A Hare Krishnan | A Quaker |
| A Local Councillor | An Ambulance Driver |
| A Fireman | A Communist |
| A Member of the Guides | An Anarchist |
| A Sporting Personality | An Archaeologist |
| A Vet | A Lifesaver |
| A Ski Instructor | A Horse Trainer |
| A Child Psychologist | A National Commissioner |
| An Immigrant | An Agriculturist |
| An Horticulturist | A Television Star |
| A Forest Ranger | A Doctor |
| A Chemist | A Blind Person |
| A Farmer | An Aboriginal Activist |

500 Ideas For Venturers And Rovers

| | |
|---|--|
| A Diplomat | An Advertising Agent |
| An Ornithologist | A God Squad Bikie |
| A Member of the Liberal Party | A Member of the Labor Party |
| A Member of the National Party | A Member of the Democrat Party |
| A Scouting Person from Overseas | An Airline Pilot |
| A Newspaper Reporter | A Naturalist or Conservationist |
| A S.C.U.B.A. Instructor | A Traffic Safety Expert |
| A Busker | A U.F.O. Investigator |
| A Hunter | A Disc Jockey |
| A Bomb Disposal Expert | A Nun |
| A Member of the A.C.T.U. or Trades Half-Council | An Expert on Sex Education, Contraception and V.D. |
| A Founding Member of your Crunit | A Founding Member of Scouting |
| A Monk | A Member of Alcoholics Anonymous |
| A Member of Cambers Anonymous | A Veteran.Car Enthusiast |
| A St. John's Ambulance Instructor | A Professional Photographer |
| A Customs and Excise Officer | A Restauranter |
| An Insurance Salesman | A Professional Musician |
| An Author | A Disabled Person |
| An Army Reserve Member | An Ex-convict |
| A Marriage Guidance Counseller | A Cartoonist |
| A Taxidermist | A Nutrition Expert |

GO AND SEE



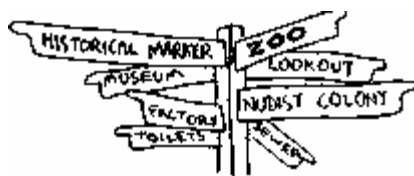
Places You've Never Been

There are lots of interesting places where you can have guided tours. It helps if you know someone who works there, otherwise consult your phone book. Here's a few ideas to get you started:

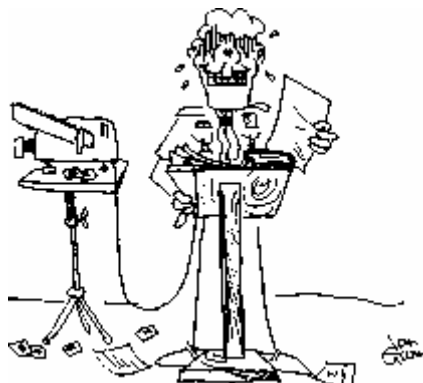
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| An Airport Control Tower | An Airforce Base |
| The Docks | The Law Courts |
| The Morgue | A Funeral Parlour |
| A Greeting Card Factory | A Car Factory |
| A Flower Farm | A Computer Complex |
| A Fire Station | A Police Station |
| An Ambulance Station | A Newspaper Office |
| A Biscuit Factory | A Steel Foundry |
| A Glass Factory | A Fish Hatchery |
| A Winery | A Brewery |
| A Museum – behind the scenes too. | A Panel-beaters Shop |
| An Electric Generation Plant | The Theatre – get someone to take you round backstage after the show |
| A Television Station | The Local Welfare Agency |
| A Radio Station | The Citizen's Advice Bureau |
| A Sewer under construction – we had a great ride in the little train | A Chocolate Factory |
| A Poultry Farm | A Bakery |
| A Lost Dog's Home | The State Emergency Service |

500 Ideas For Venturers And Rovers

| | |
|--|---|
| An Orchestra Rehearsal | A Slum Area |
| An Oil Refinery | The Waterworks |
| The Gasworks | The Stock Exchange |
| A Large Bank | A Steelworks |
| The Racetrack | A Forest or Tree Farm |
| A Space Tracking Station | A University – fascinating for non-students |
| Consumer Research Laboratory | A Commercial Laundry |
| A Printing Shop | An Art Gallery |
| A Clothes Factory | A Sewerage Farm |
| A Mini | A Timber Mill |
| A Fruit Cannery | A Mail Sorting Exchange |
| A Telecom Exchange | The Weather Bureau |
| An Historical Park – Sovereign Hill, Old Sydney Town | A Railway Shunting Yard and Signalbox |
| A Sheltered Workshop | An Embassy or Consulate |
| An Abattoir | An Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting |
| Weight watchers | A Geriatric Centre |
| The Environment Protection Authority | McDonald's Hamburger Factory |
| The Zoo – behind the scenes | A National Trust Building |
| A Circus – behind the scenes | An Observatory or Planetarium |
| A Monastery or Convent | A Prison |
| A Science Laboratory | A Subsistence Farm |
| An Archaeological Dig | An Artist's Colony |



SHOW AND TELL



Making a Fool of Yourself in Public

UNACCUSTOMED AS I AM – Each person is given a set subject the week before the meeting and they have to give a five minute talk using any props and equipment he/she needs.

CAMPFIRE – Prepare now! Make up a few skits and learn some songs.

THE SMELL OF GREASE PAINT – Write, produce and perform your own play or concert before an invited audience. Doesn't have to be lavish.

MOVIE STARS – Get hold of a movie or video camera and make your own film. It could be a major project.

WALTZING MATILDA – Form a bush band and build your own instruments, then practice like crazy. Great public relations in the local shopping centre.

HYMN AND ERR – Ever tried to run a Scouts Own? What hymns do you all know? Could you write a modern hymn to a popular tune?

RADIO ACTIVITY – Hamming it up on the air waves is a lot of fun, especially during Jamboree-On-The Air. How many International Scouts can you contact? Your local ham radio operator will be pleased to help.

CREST OF A WAVEBAND – Does your local T.V. or radio station have a Scout show? Talk it over with other groups, the Scout P.R. Committee and the station and see what happens.

GUDDAY, BROTHERS!!!! – Remember those mates from overseas you met at the last Jamboree/Venture/Moot? Put together a message cassette explaining all about Scouting in Australia, so they can pass it on to others.

RHYME TIME – What!? Poetry!?!? Well, why not. You can recite a piece from Keats, Byron or Elliot. How do they compare with each other? Or try some Aussie poets like Lawson, Patterson and ... or even Pam Ayers.

ROAM POEM – And while you're at it, why not write your next hike report in verse?

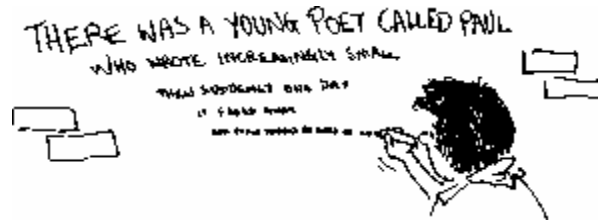
TICKLE THE IVORIES – Can anyone play a musical instrument? Hold a recital, and perhaps get some lessons in the basics.

GOING ABROAD – Learn a language, even if it's only the basics. How about Esperanto? You can qualify for your Interpreter's badge, too.

500 Ideas For Venturers And Rovers

AUTHOR! AUTHOR! – Try writing a short story, perhaps from personal experience. How about each person in the Crunit writing one chapter each of a novel?

PUBLIC SPEAKING MADE EASY – Each person gives a short talk on their favourite book or film. Quick to organise as an emergency activity.



SING AND DANCE



How to Enjoy Yourself Whether You Like it or Not

OFF TO THE MOVIES – Easy to organise. But if there's nothing interesting on, why not hire a projector, a projectionist and a film of your own choice. Scouting films are available from Branch H.Q. and other short films from your State Film Centre.

STRIKE – Take the Rangers bowling. A nice relaxed way to get to know your opposite numbers.

CREST OF A WAVE – There is at least one Gang Show in your capital city, isn't there? Or perhaps a local Scout Showtime? And if you like it, why not join? If there isn't one, start one.

MERRY-GO-ROUND – Spend the day at Luna Park or the show and stuff yourselves silly on fairy floss.

DRESS UPS – For no other reason than it might be fun, have a fancy dress party. Set a theme; Bad Taste, Star Wars, Mad Hatter's Tea Party, etc. Invite another Crunit, Rangers, etc. and get everyone to bring a plate of food in keeping with the theme,

IN FOR YOUR CHOP – The old favourite: a barby, either in the bush, at the beach or in your backyard. Make it a family affair?

ROVER BALL – A must for all Rovers! There is usually a fancy dress theme, so get your imagination working.

SPOOKY – Next Halloween (October 31st) or Friday the Thirteenth have a horror movie and fancy dress party. Decorate the hall including a ladder for everyone to walk under as they enter.

ZAP! ROW! – Conduct an in-depth comparison study of various pin-ball and space-invader machines. How about a pin-ball crawl?

DRIVE-INS – A great place to see a film, especially if you've got a Crunit bus or truck!!

DISCO – Well, maybe it is dead now, but there's still a few around. Don't be afraid to arrive in uniform; you may start a trend.

PUB CRAWL – Choose some historical hotels in your Area. No under-agers please and keep the drivers (at least) sober.

FERRY GOOD NIGHT – All large cities seem to have river cruises or harbour ferries. Hire one, and have a shipboard party.

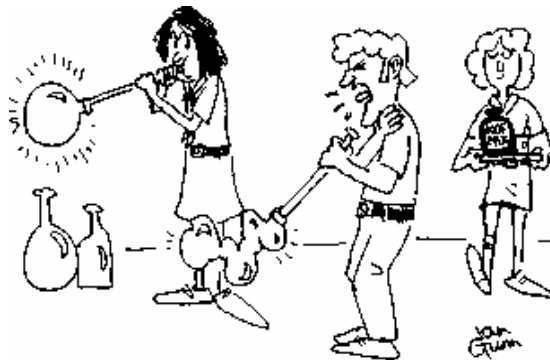
500 Ideas For Venturers And Rovers

DIN DINS – For this year’s annual break-up, book a table at a local restaurant. Maybe, with other Crunits, you could work out a Restaurant Guide for your local Scouting magazine.

LIVE ON STAGE – Go and see a play or a concert or an orchestral recital. What’s an Eisteddford?



MAKE AND DO



Culture for Beginners

GONE POTTY – Get a local potter to teach you how to throw. Not as easy as you think. Ashtrays, trophies or a set of coffee mugs for the den?

CARVE OUT A NIQUE – Start with soap and then try wood, stone, bone – woggles, trophies, chessmen, etc.

STICK WHITTLING – B.P. had a fine collection of carved walking sticks in the days when Scout staves were mandatory. How ornate can you get? Special attachments, secret compartments, built-in watch or compass . . .

WEAPONRY – Use your imagination and your pioneering skills to construct ancient warfare machines. Battering rams, catapults, swinging targets, or how about an automatic bell-ringing burglar alarm.

TAKE UP THY TENT – So you reckon your tents are pretty poorly designed? Could you do better? Verandahs, shelves, pockets, rain water gutters.

SANTA'S ELVES – All the carpenters in your Crunit will, of course, be experts. Make your own push-along duckies and hobby horses, or repair broken toys. Donate them to the local orphanage, kindergarten or Christmas toy fund.

SCREEN PRINTING – So you'd all like a Crunit T-shirt or windcheater? Get someone to come along and show you how to make your own printer and stencils.

JINGLE BELLS – Does your Crunit make its own Christmas cards? Lino printing, screen printing or even off-set if you want to do it for a profit.

COP THIS – Copper enamelling isn't as hard as you think it is and it's a great way to make Crunit badges, brooches, key rings, pendants or even plaques.

SNAP HAPPY – What is the best sort of camera to buy? Which is most suited to your needs? Your photography expert would be glad to show you. How about a photo competition? There are regular competitions for the best Scouting photo run by the World Bureau.

PROJECT YOURSELF – O.K., so you've taken the photos? What about a projector to show your slides? Have a look at all the types of projector available.

PICK UP STICKS – The Venturer Leader just walked in with a huge bag of icy-pole sticks and some pots of glue and said "Right, make something". Some of us still have our little jewellery boxes and pot-plant mats today.

GLAZED EXPRESSION – Ever tried glass blowing? Mum would love a terrarium for Christmas. Odd shapes can be made, especially if you've got a cough.

WHAT MAN HATH WROUGHT – Ever tried wrought iron art? Can you use a welder? What are the pros and cons of black-smithing?

BRONZED AUSSIES – Bronzing can be fun. Not just your baby boots, you could make a nice trophy or two.

DIM WICKS – Candlemaking can shed a bit of light on your imagination. Paraffin or Beeswax? Scented? Tapers? Shapes? Colours?

KNIT WITS – Only girls knit. Rubbish!!! A man invented it. Try it with thick twine and broomsticks, or knit Crunit jumpers. I started a scarf in 1973 and it's now 20 feet because I can't cast off.

WOT KNOT – So you're an expert knot tyer, eh? Could you make a macrame wall hanging or vest?

HIDE AND SEEK – A few hours of practice at leather craft and you'll be making your own belts, wallets and woggles.

SLUDGE HOPPING – Try your hand – and feet – at mudbrick making. Experiment with straw and gravel. If you make enough they might let you build something at the District campsite.

ROPE MAKING – In our consumer society it's so easy to buy things – but why not do it yourself?

ALL AMONG THE WOOL – You can spin, dye, weave and do all sorts of things with wool. And the lanolin is good for your hands.

TIE DYING – Quite the in thing ten years ago and still lots of fun today. Be the first kid on your block with a tie-dyed tent.

KITE MAKING – Hold a competition. Use natural materials or scraps. Can you get it off the ground?

MUSIC APPRECIATION – Listen to a wide range of music, from Beethoven to the Bee Gees, Blues to Punk, jazz to Greek Folk Dance. Get your Crunit experts to explain the significance behind each one. Do they influence each other?

MOVE OVER PICASSO – Try portrait painting or landscapes. Pen and ink, pencil, oils, charcoal, fingerpainting, and water colours are all worth thinking about. You may like to have your own exhibition, with all the trimmings of course.

BALLET AND OPERA – What!?! Well, why not? Find out what the plot's about and it may make it more interesting and easier to understand.

HOW'S TRICKS – Conjuring is a legitimate art form. Each member learn to devise a few simple tricks and then put on a show for the Cubs?

BOUQUETS AND PALATES – Try winemaking or beer brewing. Get the results assessed by an independent expert.

FURNISHINGS – Design and construct those things which you have always needed for the den, but never got around to making them: bookshelves, cupboards, waste paper baskets, etcetera.

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE



Citizenship – Whatever that is.

LOCAL COUNCIL – Pop along to the next meeting to see what goes on from the Public Gallery. After wards, have a discussion with a counsellor or two.

OTHER BROTHERS – Is there a special Troop for Handicapped Scouts near you? Give ‘em a hand. We took a blind Troop ice-skating, but they’d had more practice than us.

SERVICE CLUBS – Find out about Apex, Lions, Rotary, etc. etc. Who are they? What do they do? Are they different from Scouting? If so, why?

PATRIOTS ALL – Do you have a flag break at every meeting? Can you recite the National Anthem (or is it the National Song)? Do you know the other verses? Can you recall the names of the people on our money without looking? What did they do?

SEX EDUCATION – So you think you know all about it, do you? Get the local doctor to give a hand, perhaps with a film or two? And don’t laugh – this could be one of the most important things you’ll ever learn.

ROAD HOGS – Citizenship means courtesy on the roads too. How many in your Crunit are going for their driving licence? Wouldn’t it be nice to help them by organising a quiz on the Highway Code plus a bit of basic motor maintenance. The oldies might learn something too.

HOT STUFF – Of course, your Crunit knows all about fire-fighting, but that won’t stop them signing up for a refresher course.

GOO GOO GA GA – If you intend raising a family or baby-sitting little brother, a talk on children could open your eyes. Can you change a nappy?

TOUR GUIDES – Hypothetically or otherwise, your Crunit is acting as host to a visitor from interstate or overseas. Plan the places of interest he might want to see. Draw up a tourist map and work out an itinery. How well do you know your town?

BANDAIDS – When was the last time you had a first-aid refresher course? Stage a mock emergency, but don’t tell them you’re not really hurt until they’ve finished.

THE BIG PLACE WITH THE CLOCK – Visit your town hall, folks! Be amazed by the Council Chambers! Thrill to the many services they have to offer your community! Roll up! Roll up!

RUNNING THE COUNTRY – Some of you are old enough to vote but do you know how a government works? What is meant by Upper House, Whip, Bill, Portfolio, etc.?

QUARANTINE – What sort of things can't be brought into the country? Why? Are we too isolated? How do we keep us being the Lucky Country? Study rabbies, foot-and-mouth and drug smuggling.

MATERNAL INSTINCTS – For one week each member of the Crunit has to look after a “baby” – an ordinary egg. The egg needs warmth, protection, attention and care. Take it everywhere, or organise a “babysitter”. If it breaks or gets cold it will die. A lesson in responsibility.

THINGS HAVE CHANGED – Get hold of an old, old map of your local area. Have a look at all the changes that have taken place. Your local library probably has old photos and newspapers too.

EARTH AND SKY



Surviving Your Environment

FALLOUT – What do you do in case of a Nuclear attack? Is one likely where you live? Have you got the shelter, food and water necessary to avoid contamination? “Be prepared”.

NATURE TRAIL – How many types of tree, plant, insect, etc. can you identify?

WATCH THE BIRDIE – Get up early and listen for the dawn chorus. We spent a service activity counting Lyrebirds in Sherbrooke Forest. Why not use taperecorders?

BITES AND NASTIES – You should know the first aid, but can you identify poisonous spiders, snakes, octocats, fish, etc.? Why do more people die of beestings than shark attacks, snake bites and spider bites put together?

WHALE WAIL – Should whales be harvested? Is it murder? Can't we obtain the products synthetically? Are dolphins intelligent? Should baby seals be culled?

WOMBLES – How is pollution affecting our environment? Look around you. What is being done about it? What is your Crunit doing about it?

BABES IN THE WOOD – What do you do when you're lost in the bush? How do you keep warm? What do you eat? How do you signal for help?

THAT-A-WAY – What do you know about celestial navigation? Can you use a sextant? How many constellations can you name and recognise?

SPACED OUT – It may sound a bit Buck Rorerish, but orbiting space stations holding whole colonies complete with farm lands have already been designed. What does the future hold? Study and discuss it.

DIG DEEP – Find out about archaeology. Get a guest speaker or visit the museum. Perhaps a good service project would be helping at an archaeological dig.

FUMING – Should lead petrol be banned? Should the internal combustion engine be banned? Are we too dependent on it? What alternatives are there?

IN A FLAP – Make a study of bird migrations. Where do flies go in the Winter?

PESKY PETS – What introduced animals and plants have caused problems in Australia? Think about rabbits, blackberries, prickly pear, cane toads, foxes, cats, sparrows, etc. Should sheep farmers shoot dingoes and kangaroos?

LOST SOULS – Train yourselves in bush survival skills – crossing rivers, exposure treatment, snow shelters, signalling for help etc.

ON THE HOME FRONT – Make sure everyone can cook forty or fifty basic foods – eggs, potatoes, porridge, meat, etc.



TOTE AND TOIL



Jobs – and Where to Find Them

WE DONT NEED NO EJUKAYSHUN – What does the local T.A.F.E. offer at night-school courses? Why not enrol the Crunit?

DOLE OR GOAL – Visit the local employment service. Is it hard to get a job? What's available? How should you dress for an interview?

ON YOUR OWN – How do you set up your own business? Talk to someone who has. Is it risky? Is it easy?

MILLIONAIRES – Invite a fairly well-known businessman along, and get him to tell you his secret of success.

FROM ANOTHER VIEWPOINT – Can't handle the ratrace? Find out about self-sufficiency. Could you grow your own food, make your own clothes, etc.? Could you handle the shock of changing from a consumer lifestyle.

CAREERING DOWNHILL – What do you know about your chosen profession? What do the rest of the Crunit know? Give a talk, or better still organise a visit or guest speaker. (See "Go and See" and "Come and Talk" in 500 ideas for Crunits).

UNITED WE STAND – Who's in a union? What are they? What are the benefits and disadvantages of unionism? What have unions achieved recently? In the last One Hundred years? Do you have a right to strike? Discuss some of these questions.

IN THE NAVY, OR ARMY OR AIRFORCE – What's it really like? Find out. Visit a military base. Could you stand the discipline?



STOP AND THINK



Ideals for All

PROLES AND POLLS – Democracy is government by the masses for the masses. Communism is government by the masses for the masses. Are they different? How? Why? Do either of them work in theory or practice?

EAT YOUR GREENS – What's animal liberation? Why be a vegetarian? What's the difference between a fruitarian, a lacto-vegetarian and a vegan? How do you get your protein?

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT SECTS – You are planning a weekend camp for a Crunit consisting of one Muslim, one Jew, one Roman Catholic, one Seventh Day Adventist, one Protestant, etc. Plan an appropriate menu and programme, allowing time for individual services.

COUGH! COUGH! – Is smoking smart? Why do young people smoke? How do you stop? Should it be banned in public?

BOOZE AND DRUGS – Get someone to come along and talk about drug abuse. You'll be unpleasantly surprised.

CENSORSHIP – What should be censored? Should young people decide? Are they qualified? Who is? Does T.V. violence make kids violent?

CONSCRIPTION – Is it fair? What about the rights of the individual, the good of the nation, religious beliefs, etc.

HANG 'EM HIGH – Is capital punishment fair and just? Does it depend on the individual case or can you generalise? Is your legal system too soft? What about Islamic law? Should rapists be sterilized?

DUTY TO GOD – How do different people in your community express their faith in God? Catholic, Protestant, Hare Krishna, Salvation????

LET ME IN – Here's a thought provoking discussion topic – suppose they dropped a bomb and you had a fallout shelter big enough to house all the Crunit except three. Who do you leave out? Which individuals can contribute the most to your survival? You would only have ten minutes to decide before the fallout started ... a hard one!!!

ELECTIONEERING – Just before the election we invited delegates from the three major parties in our seat and got them to tell us about their ideas on youth affairs, employment, transport, etc.

WORLD PEACE – Hitler only wanted peace – a piece of Poland, a piece of France and a piece of whatever. Yeah!! Great!! Why not? O.K., how do you bring it about? What is the United Nations doing? Discuss it.

POOR COUSINS – What programmes are there in your state/country/world to help the poor? Find out.

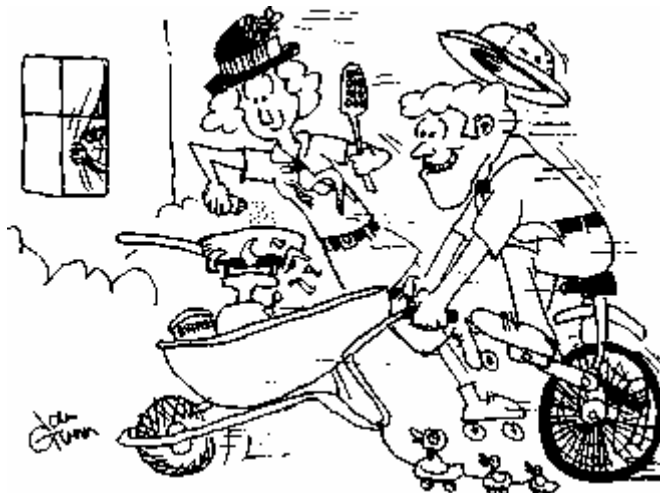
PERMISSIVE SOCIETY – What are your opinions on contraception, abortion, sex before marriage, etc.? Maybe a bit touchy, but it could open your eyes.

WHEEL BE RIGHT – Take a wheelchair along and make a study of local public buildings. Is access easy? What about steps, narrow doors and high kerbs? Submit a report to the local council.

SEEN BUT NOT HEARD – What changes have taken place in relationships between kids and their parents and teachers over the last few generations? Are they for the better.

WAR AND PEACE – Have a discussion with a representative from the Armed Forces on the ethics of maintaining a military “deterrent”.

WEIRD AND WHACKY



Crazy Things for No Reason at All

MEALS ON WHEELS – Cook an omelette or pancakes in a wheelbarrow while pushing around the block.

RECORD BREAKERS – Get your Crunit's name in the Guinness Book of Records; knot tying, tent pitching, egg throwing, bath racing, pole squatting . . .

KIDS NIGHT – Have a children's party for adults; party hats, jelly, ice-cream, 100's and 1000's sandwiches, pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey, blind man's bluff . . .

APPLIED LUNACY – Try erecting a tent on sand. Try lighting a fire underwater. Try cooking an egg in a paper bag. It can be done – think about it.

COME INTO MY PARLOUR – Get a library book on parlour games. Charades, twenty questions, sardines, is that your Moriarty?, Guggenheim, consequences, . . .

SKYSCRAPERS – The business part of the meeting will be conducted up in the rafters of the hall. You'll need seating and a writing table. A good test of initiative and pioneering skills.

DING A LINGS – Can your Crunit fit comfortably in a phone box? We always eat our pizzas in one if it's raining.

MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR – Hire a tram or bus for your next meeting. Throw a mobile party. Pick up hitch hikers?

JUST TRY IT – Design a mouse trap to catch only white mice. Slam a revolving door. Walk on water. Have a fight in slow motion. Try not to think about polar bears.

BREKKY – A formal breakfast, in full uniform. Table, chairs, tablecloth, candelabra. In the park, the mall or the town square. Or on pancake Tuesday, free pancakes for passers-by.

PLEASE DROP A LINE – Send a message in a plastic bottle attached to a bunch of gas-filled balloons and eagerly await a reply.

CHAMELEONS – Could you camouflage yourself? Your campsite? I once fooled my Scoutleader by pretending to be a pile of packs and raincoats.

LILLIPUT COOKS – What’s the quickest time you can boil six teaspoons of water in an eggshell using a fire built of matches on three two-cent pieces? Can you cook sausages on a coat-hanger over a candle?

SAND CASTLES – Victorian Rovers run a sand sculpture competition at Surfmoor every year. Why don’t you try?

GANG SLANG – Does your Crunit have its own words for different things? Devise an Esoteric Encyclopedia and keep adding entries and illustrations. Ours includes yuckarama, Glippy-gloppy, poofteenth, crunit, mootesque, ..

WILD WEST – A quick draw gunfight using water pistols. A lassoing contest. Bronco riding (but how do you build a horse?),

COME-AS-YOU-ARE – Best done if you’ve got some form of transport. Visit everybody’s house and get them in the car before they’ve got time to change, whether they’re wearing pyjamas or bath towels. Then have a party. Do it on a non regular meeting night so the element of surprised is preserved.

SWINGS AND SLIDES – You’ve heard of a pub crawl? How about a kiddie’s playground crawl. Try every seesaw you can find, and compare them.

JOLLY BOATING – Organise a dry race for bottomless boats like Alice Spring’ Henley-on-Todd. Teams of four to each home-made boat. Flippers will slow them down.

TRANSVESTITES – Organise a change-of-sex night (without warning). Girls help the boys with make-up, then bring out the camera!!!!

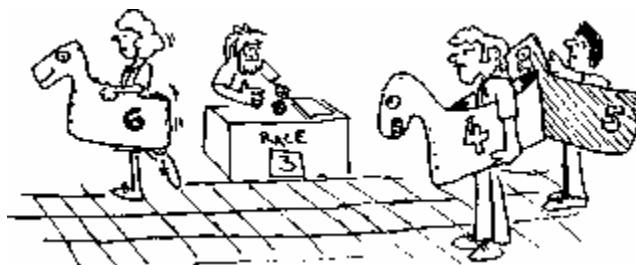
TRUTH OR DARE – On the draw of a card, the throw of a dice, or the spin of a bottle, the victim is asked a probing question and has to reply truthfully. If he refuses he must do a dare . . . nothing dangerous or illegal please.

THEME NIGHT – Pick a theme, i.e. circus, Romans, time travel, etc. Everybody dresses appropriately, plays appropriate games and finishes off with a thematic meal.

CRASH AND BASH – Next time there is a fete. Scout Display, etc. get hold of an old car destined for the tip. Hire out sledgehammers at ten cents a minute. Make sure you clean up afterwards . . . by the way, do you know the world record for piano smashing?

OH, I’LL EAT THAT – A foul game. Two players take it in turns to throw a slice of bread into a campfire. The other player must say “Oh, I’ll eat that!” and retrieve the bread and eat at least one square centimetre of it. The first person to refuse to eat it, or is unable to find it, loses. Yuk!!

HORSE RACE – Six lanes are marked out with space lines every half metre. Six cardboard horses with jockeys inside. Two dice are thrown; if “two” and “six” come up, horse No. 2 and horse No. 6 move forward one space. Place bets with money. This is popular in New Zealand with large crowds for fund raising – racebooks are sold with the play money and each horse nicknamed after the people involved.



THIS AND THAT



Everything Else I Couldn't be Bothered to Classify

CHARCOAL COOKING – Experiment a little. Spend an evening at it, then use it at the next weekend away.

SCOUT LAWS – Of course you know them. O.K., then, what's the Fifth one? Or the Seventh? Discuss them.

WE'D BE HONOURED – Is there an Honour Roll in your hall for Queen's Scout and B-P Awards? Make one! Preserve a bit of history.

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY – Sure, you all know chess. Monopoly and Scrabble, but who's got a Backgammon game at home? Bring it along, as well as your sets of Twixt, Ploy, Risk, Life, Chinese Checkers, Dungeons and Dragons, etc. Everybody can learn something new.

HISTORY NEVER REPEATS – Has your Crunit got a history log? Dig up the old facts before it's too late; founding members can prove a goldmine of information and memorabilia.

NIGHTBEAT – Start at dusk, finish at dawn. Organise visits to places open at night. Hospital, police, docks, airport, etc. (See "Do and See" in "500 ideas for Crunits") Finish with breakfast at the wholesale fruit or fish market. Needs a lot of organising and coffee.

WHIRLYGIGS – Hire a helicopter and see your city from the air. Fantastic!

BANG! BANG! – Do you know the correct way to handle a Gun? Go to a rifle range, then maybe, try hunting?

MONEY MONEY MONEY – Get expert advice on budgeting, borrowing money, bankcard, taxation, hire purchase . . . What are the pitfalls and advantages?

ANTIQUES – No, not the D.C. Have you got some valuable item in the shed? Find out about valuation, restoration and history.

PERSUASIAN – Is advertising ethical? What are the tricks of the trade? How can the Crunit use them for recruiting or selling lamingtons?

CATS AND DOGS – Have a pets night. Find out about care and grooming. Any unusual pets? Bring 'em along!

BATCHING – Be prepared for the outside world. Can you cook a decent meal? Have a shirt ironing competition.

OBSERVATION – Without warning the Crunit, one person organises a simple stunt – e.g. Falling over a chair, being “arrested” by strangers to the Crunit, suddenly throwing a pie in someone’s face. Then, when the excitement had died down get each person to write down a detailed report of what actually happened. Compare the answers.

ESQUIMAUX – Next time you’re in the snow build yourself an igloo.

OVERSEAS – Wouldn’t you love to travel abroad? Get someone who’s been to tell you the joys and pitfalls.

TRANSPORTS OF DELIGHT – Does your Crunit have/need/intend getting a Crunit bus or truck. Look into the possibilities, expenses, requirements, parking space, etc.

HOW DO YOU TICK? – Transactional analysis? Group dynamics? Personality clashes? Peer group pressure? What!?!

SWAPS – Do you have a Crunit member who collects badges or woggles or scarves? Get him to bring them along and tell you all about them. There are a number of Badge Clubs you can join.

POW! WOW! – Tired of the old auto tent? Pop along to the library and find out how to build a genuine Indian tee-pee. It would look great on your next big camp.

HYDE PARK CORNERED – Everybody gets on a soapbox and tries to shout each other down. Then try it one at a time so you can hear what they’re trying to say.

MY HONOUR? MY OATH! – Your job is to promote the Scout Promise and say how good it is, or give each person a Scout Law and tell them to sell! sell! sell! it to the rest of the Crunit.

THEM’S THE BRAKES – What do you really know about motor mechanics? Get an old car engine or two and reassemble them.

LOOK AT US – Do you have a Crunit logo? Design one, then print your own T-shirts and windcheaters. Know anybody willing to make a Crunit flag? Crunit letterhead?

SHIELDS – A tradition in many Rover Crews is that each new Squire must construct a small coat-of-arms to decorate the den wall. It should depict something to do with the Squire’s name, occupation or hobbies.

LET’S SPLIT – You’re a mixed Crunit and the guys want to do this and the girls want to do that. O.K., go your separate ways just for the night. Compare notes afterwards or maybe swap activities.

FOREIGN FOOD – Either on a competitive basis or just between yourselves for the fun of it, hold an International cookery night. Explore the delights of Xenophilic cuisine.

SEARCH AND RESCUE – Something like hunt-the-thimble on a larger scale. An object is hidden in a largish expanse of bushland and everyone combs the area looking for it.

TIMES A-CHANGING – My grandmother was born before they invented aeroplanes, but she lived to see them land on the Moon. What will happen in our lifetimes? What will our grandchildren have that we don’t?

THE OLD GUY – What do you really know about the life of Lord Baden-Powell? Prepare an informative lecture, with illustrations.

HOOKED ON FLIES – So you like fly fishing? Have someone demonstrate how to tie your own flies. What types of “bug” attract which fish?

ITTY BITTY CRITTER – Get hold of a microscope and check your campsite drinking water or anything else you can get hold of. What does yesterday’s scrambled eggs look like close up?

ON MY HONOUR – Rewrite the Scout Law and Promise in your own words. Discuss these “Translations” among yourselves.

SMELL! SMELL! – Flowers look pretty, which is no good if you can’t see them. Plant a scented garden for a blind person.

PALAENTOLOGY – That’s fossils folks. Make a study, and next time you’re caving or hiking . . .

DIFFERENT FOLKS – Visit other organisations in your district and discuss the differences in programmes, aims, facilities, etc. Compare it to your Crunit.

TRENDY GARB – Make an in-depth study of clothing fashions past and present. Discuss possible future trends. How will Scout uniforms be in a hundred years?

ALL IN THE FAMILY – Discuss among yourselves, the difference in your homes lives – family “rules”, chores, discipline, parents’ attitudes, brothers, sisters, etc.

ALL TIED UP – How many knots do you really know? “The Ashley Book of Knots” has 3,800 examples. How about a Knotathon?

POP GOES THE WALLET – Popular music is big business. Are the best groups the wealthiest? What part do filmclips and image play in selling a hit? Discuss it.

NEO-CUBIST SURREALISM – Take a long look at the pictures in the art gallery. What is art? Can you do better?

NUMBER 500 – O.K., so you made it this far. Now it’s your turn; all you have to do is to write a sequel to this book . . . Well, get on with it!!!!

