

Queensland Branch Inc.

Central and Coastal Region

Annual Report 2010



Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Central & Coastal Region being held on Tuesday, 6th July 2010 at the North Mackay Bowls Club commencing 7:00pm.

OPENING and WELCOME

PRAYER

APOLOGIES

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: 2

CORRESPONDENCE Inward
 Outward

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APPOINTMENT OF THE REGION EXECUTIVE

APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR

GENERAL BUSINESS

REGION COMMISSIONER

PRESENTATIONS

GUEST SPEAKER

CLOSE

PRAYER



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA QUEENSLAND BRANCH Inc.
CENTRAL & COASTAL REGION

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the Central and Coastal Region

Saturday 1st August 2009
Rowallan Park, MACKAY

OPENING AND WELCOME: Meeting called to order 7.15pm. By Executive Chairman John Taylor.

Executive Chairman John welcomed guests from Mackay Regional Council, Deputy Mayor Councilor Darryl Camilleri; The Chief Commissioner Maurice Law AM; Rotary Club representatives and Sponsors, and Region Commissioner Lance Hodda and his wife Lynn.

He then handed the meeting over to the Patron, Ray Braithwaite to Chair the AGM.

Chairman of proceeding's Patron, Ray Braithwaite called for Grace to be said and opening prayer by Rev Jan Whyte.

PRESENT:

Chief Commissioner Maurice Law AM, RC Lance Hodda, Mrs Lynn Hodda, Cr Darryl Camilleri, ARC Bob Hodda, ARC Margaret Hodda, ARC Brian Harvey, Mr Ray Braithwaite OAM (Patron), Mrs Mavis Braithwaite, Mr John Taylor, Mrs Margot Taylor, Mr Ray Cross (Secretary), Mrs Chris Cross, Mr Greg Sutherland, Mrs Blanche Sutherland, Mr Ian Hamilton, ARC Harry Roestenburg, Mrs Mindy Roestenburg, RL Tim Johnson, Mr Barry Spratt & Mrs Bonnie Spratt (Caretakers), RL Jane Mumford, Mr Peter Mumford, ASM Dennis Tuckerman, ASM Heather Tuckerman, RL Ken Whyte, Rev Jan Whyte, RL Joseph Kearns, Mr Ray Jones, Mr David Thomas OAM, Mrs Margaret Barber, BC Pieter Vanderkamp, BC Robyn Devine, Mr Dave Langham (Mackay West Rotary), Mr Mike Storkey (Airlie Beach Rotary), RL Mary Wallace, Mrs Amanda Kite, Mr Alan James Kite, Mr Ray Thorning, Mr Ken Thorning, Mr Peter Thorning, Mrs Beryl Thorning, Mr Shane Hayes, Mrs Chris Hayes, Mr Duncan Pratt, Mrs Ivy Pratt, Mrs Sam Schembri, Mrs Mary Schembri, Mrs Karen Turner (Girl Guides Region Leader), Mr Graeme Turner, Mr Ron Laffin, Mrs Lyn Laffin, Mrs Judy Jesshope, Mr Geoff Jesshope, ASM Janet Brown, Rover Stuart Wolsey, Rover Natasha Salty, RL Dougal McWhinney, Mrs Nikki McWhinney (GL Mackay City Central), Kathy Ball (GL Whitsunday Coast), Julie Thompson (RL Cub Scouts), Mr Roy Thompson, Mr Chum Corney, Mrs Shirley Corney, Mr Trevor Corney, Mrs Linda Corney, Bayden Corney, Mrs Wendy Harm (RL Joey Scouts), Mr Wayne Harm.

APOLOGIES:

Hon. Tim Mulherin (Member for Mackay), Hon. Jan Jarrott (Member for Whitsunday), Hon. Ted Malone and Mary (Member for Mirani) Cr Col Meng and Rhonda Meng Mackay Regional Council Mayor), Cr Kevin Casey and Tricia (Mackay Regional Council), Cr Dave Perkins (Mackay Regional Council), Cr Wendy Cameron (Mackay Regional Council), Mrs Val Hamilton OAM, Kylie Huth (VAE Railway Systems), Mr Peter Alden, Mr John & Mrs Carolyn Alcorn, Mr Jock Gibson, Mr Frank Fraser (Port of Mackay Rotary Club), Mr Ian Wallace, Mr Robert and Mrs Rhonda Brown, Mr Lindsay Bone, Megan Kropp (GL Moranbah), Lesley Bullemore (GL Bowen), Jo Timms (GL Banksia), Mr Charlie Timms, Mr Reg Ross (Executive Treasurer) and Mrs Pam Ross.

The Secretary, Ray Cross read out apologies (refer above list) and sought resolution from the floor that apologies be accepted. Meeting endorsed resolution unanimously.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Copies of Minutes of previous AGM of Wednesday 16th July 2008 were circulated to the meeting.

Chair sought resolution to move they be accepted. Moved by Ray Cross, Seconded by Brian Harvey, Carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE MINUTES: NIL

CORRESPONDENCE: Nil tabled.

It was noted that in respect to this AGM, only correspondence had been the dissemination of invitations.

BUSINESS FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE: Nil

REPORTS: Chair noted that various reports had been presented within the official AGM Annual Report document disseminated to those present.

Executive Committee Chairman Report: John Taylor asked the meeting to refer to his report in the document, making special comment about the considerable effort made by all involved throughout the movement and the various sponsors and supporting Rotary Clubs.

The 60th Anniversary celebrations and Scoutfest today have been enormously successful, and the grounds are in exceptional condition, thanks to our caretakers, the Rowallan Park Fellowship and other supporters.

Chairman John thanked Jane Mumford (RL Region Events) for the marvelous effort that the team had put into catering for this evening.

Region Commissioner Report: RC Lance Hodda commented that this year, we celebrate 100 years of Scouting in Mackay and 60 years of Rowallan Park. He went on to thank all those who have been involved directly and indirectly over the years and to those who have made today's Scoutfest a wonderful success. Scouts in Mackay have enjoyed the support of Rotary Clubs and hard work of the Rowallan Park Fellowship, and the executive is grateful for their efforts and support.

Scouting relies heavily on its leadership and maintaining Leaders is an ongoing issue.

RC Lance Hodda moved that his report be adopted, seconded by Greg Sutherland, Carried.

Patron – Ray Braithwaite: Told of the history of Rowallan Park and Scouting in Mackay in general, commenting on the need to commit the folklore and undocumented history as a permanent record. Ray spoke of his conversations with Bob Hodda as they moved through the park and the notes that he is taking from this.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of Treasurer Reg Ross, Secretary Ray Cross presented the audited statements drawing attention to the ongoing struggle that the Executive has to meet the Insurance premium which is based on a formula of membership liability and assets. The more assets we provide the higher the insurance, and the only way to afford this is to have greater paid use of Rowallan Park.

Secretary Ray Cross moved that the audited statements be adopted, seconded by Ian Hamilton, Carried.

APPOINTMENTS:

Region Executive:

- Chairman – Mr John Taylor
- Treasurer – Mr Reg Ross
- Secretary – Mr Ray Cross
- Members:
 - RC Lance Hodda
 - ARC Brian Harvey
 - RA Harry Roestenburg
 - ARC Bob Hodda
 - ARC Margaret Hodda

Auditor: On behalf of the Treasurer, Ray Cross advised the meeting that Mr Michael Curtin had carried out the audit for the Region for the past five years, is well qualified to do so and that he has agreed to continue that role. John moved that Mr. Michael Curtin be appointed as the Region auditor for the year 2009-2010.

Seconded Greg Sutherland, Carried

Other Reports: Chairman Ray Braithwaite advised that all other reports were included in the Annual Report and would not be spoken to individually.

Executive Chairman John Taylor moved that all other reports be adopted, seconded by Darryl Camilleri, Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Nil

The Chief Commissioner.

Chair invited Chief Commissioner Maurice Law AM to address the meeting.

Commissioner Law commented on the success of the day of Scoutfest and thanked all those involved for their efforts. He enjoyed the day taking the opportunity to meet with everyone throughout the day.

MEETING CLOSED: There being no further business for discussion, the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Executive Chairman's Report

It is with much pleasure that I report on another challenging year of the Executive Committee of the Central and Coastal Region.

This year, the use of the accommodation in the park has been limited due to the extended wet season. As a result, the financial situation of Rowallan Park is not as healthy as we would like.

On a brighter note, the scouting movement is extremely grateful for all the assistance and support offered by many people, service clubs and businesses in the Central Region.

I would like to thank the Fellowship for their continual fundraising in the form of sausage sizzles, raffles and other activities. Because of their efforts, the facilities in the park are constantly being improved in many ways.

One of the most significant improvements at the park this year has been the excavation and deepening of the lower dam. This has not only enhanced the appearance of the park but enables the dam to hold water more efficiently. We have to thank Barry Spratt and his dam building experience with the use of the trusty Deutz tractor and Barry's custom made scraper for this pleasing result. Thanks also go to Bonnie and all her contributions to the efficient running of the park and improvements.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the small and dedicated group who make up the Executive Committee. These include Ray Cross, our secretary; Reg Ross, the treasurer; RC Lance Hodda, Brian Harvey, Harry Roestenburg, Margaret and Bob Hodda.

Each year, Rowallan Park takes a further step to increase its potential and it is encouraging to see the number and variety of groups using the facilities. I hope to see more and more members of the community taking advantage of these wonderful grounds in the future.

John Taylor

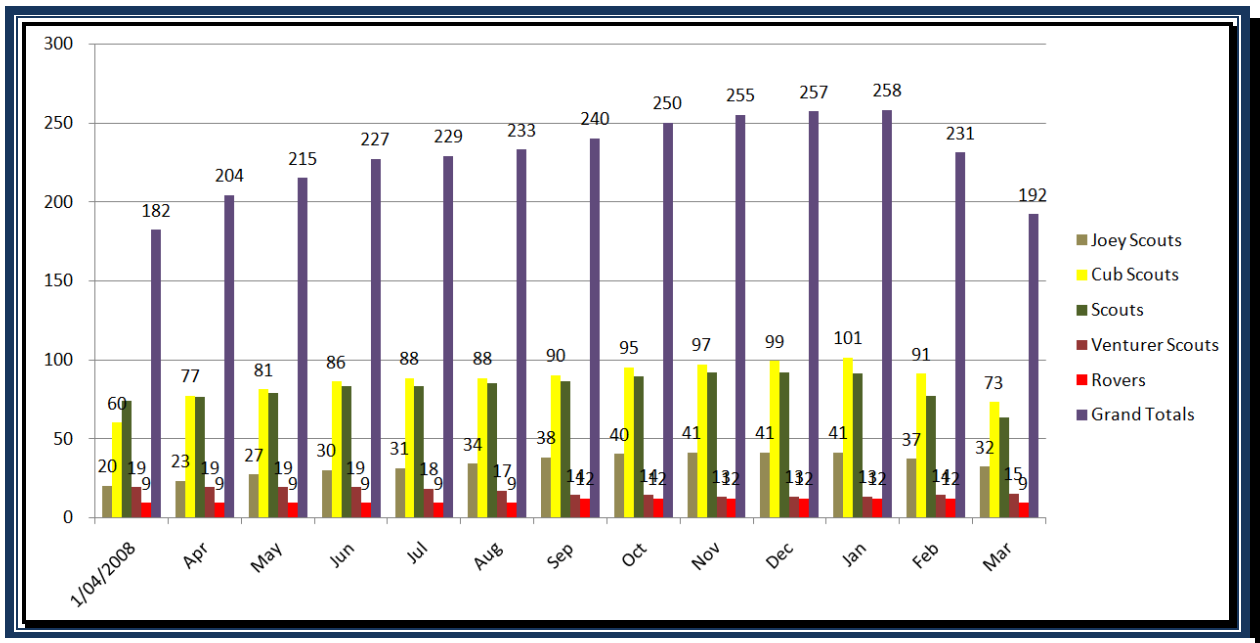
Chairman
Central and Coastal Region Executive Committee

Region Commissioner Report

In this 2009 – 2010 Scouting year we can, once again, reflect back on another busy 12 months. The Region events programmed throughout the year were all well supported by the Scout Groups within the Region. Scoutfest was, without a doubt, the major event celebrating 100 years of Scouting in Mackay. It was the culmination of a lot of planning and hard work by a dedicated few who should remain proud of their efforts. It was a magnificent weekend and a true display of what Scouting is really all about. To see the youth enjoying themselves to such an extent is its own reward to the Region and Section Leaders alike, and to see Rowallan Park used for the purpose it was intended.

The celebratory dinner and 2008-2009 Annual General Meeting on the Saturday evening remains unsurpassed. Again, it was a credit to all the Leaders and Youth members involved. It was a memorable event that is still regularly talked about to this day.

Membership - I am pleased to report that Central and Coastal Region experienced a 5.2% increase in overall Youth Numbers for the 2009 – 2010 Scouting Year. This is a positive turnaround from the 12% loss previous year. The unfortunate statistic is the 114 youth members that resigned during this period. 87 of these resignations occurred in February and March of this year. The recruitment of new youth members does not seem to be an issue. The problem we face is the retention of these youth. Why are they leaving Scouting? Certainly the many other activities, such as sports, have a part of the cause. The demand on people's time through their family and work commitments and possibly their financial situation also has an impact. Unfortunately this trend is reflected throughout the State.



Central and Coastal Region Youth Membership 1 April 2009 – 31 March 2010

Looking back at the number of "C5 - Activity Advise and Approval" forms that I have seen over the past 12 months, and the varied activities they gave covered, in general, the youth are being offered a varied and active program. It is paramount that we ensure we provide a quality program for our youth. In doing this youth recruitment and retention is easier to maintain

Leaders remain our major recruitment challenge. Without qualified Leaders it is difficult to maintain the standard of programming for our youth members. "Burnout" of our existing Leaders is always a concern as they work to maintain the high standard of program and activities. It is not just the "2 hours" a week for a section meeting. Our Leaders spend many hours planning and preparing their weekly program as, as well as the weekend camp and activities. I realise that is not much of a sales pitch for Leader recruitment. Like everything, with a few more Leaders, the work load is shared and the rewards are great when you see the youth members learning and having fun.

Region Team consists of the following members:

- Assistant Region Commissioner – Group Support
Brian Harvey
- Assistant Region Commissioner Campsites and Community Development
Harry Roestenburg
- Assistant Region Commissioner
Bob Hodda
- Assistant Region Commissioner Training Development
Margaret Hodda
- Regional Leader Information Technology
Dougal McWhinney
- Region Leader Community Relations
Mary Wallace
- Region Leader Region Events
Jane Mumford
- Region Leader Water Activities
Ken Whyte
- Region Leader Joey Scout Section
Wendy Harm
- Region Leader Cub Scout Section
Julie Thompson
- Region Leader Venturer Scout Section
Judy Johnson
- Region Rover Representative
Brendan Ross
- Region Representative to the Branch Executive and Branch Council
Margaret Barber

The Region Executive Committee consists of the following members:

- Region Commissioner Lance Hodda
- John Taylor (Chairman)
- Reg Ross (Treasurer)
- Ray Cross (Secretary)
- Greg Sutherland (Resource Committee Member)
- Assistant Region Commissioner Bob Hodda
- Assistant Region Commissioner Margaret Hodda
- Assistant Region Commissioner Brian Harvey
- Assistant Region Commissioner Harry Roestenburg

Mr Ray Braithwaite – Patron of Scouting in the Central & Coastal Region and Chairman of the Annual General Meeting.

Scout Groups within the Region:

Banksia Scout Group - *Leader In Charge Brian Harvey*
Bowen Scout Group - *Group Leader Lesley Bullemor*
Mackay City Central Scout Group - *Group Leader Nikki McWhinney*
Moranbah Scout Group - *Group Leader Megan Kropp*
Proserpine Scout Group - *Group Leader Bronwyn Wren*
Sarina Scout Group - *Group Leader Brett Tomlinson*
Whitsunday Coast Scout Group - *Group Leader Kathy Ball*

Regrettably, due to unsuccessful attempts to recruit Leaders for the Bucasia Scout Group, a decision was made to close the Group. Central and Coastal Region still maintains the Scout Den and it is hoped that we will be able to reopen the Group in the near future.

In conclusion, I am privileged to work with a very dedicated team who continue to give selflessly of their time and energy to deliver excellent Scout programs to our Youth Members and to build on the legacy left by our founder Lord Baden Powell. I would like to convey my sincere thanks and appreciation to Region Executive Committee, Region Management Team, Section Leaders, parents and community organisations for their support and contribution to Scouting.

It is this passion and enthusiasm these people share for Scouting, the satisfaction that one derives from seeing our the youth achieve their goals and succeed to become the Leaders of tomorrow that realises the true reason we continue in this role

As always, the recruitment and retention of Youth Members and Leaders must continue to be our focus. It is not an easy task, but we must continue to do our best. Together we can do our bit to assert the future for Central and Coastal Region for the next 100 years.



Region Commissioner
Central and Coastal Region

Community Relations Report

The Major Activity that had great coverage in the media last scouting year was Scoutfest. At one stage we thought the media had given up on us but when the American sailors visited and helped with the set up for Scoutfest, the media then came on board. Both Channel 7 and Win TV doing reports for the sailor visit and then the camp as well. The Daily Mercury reported both activities as well. Thank you, Brian Harvey for your help. You are becoming somewhat of a TV Celebrity.

The Daily Mercury covered the Australian Jamboree 2010 Publicity.

There wasn't as many activities reported in the media last year as I was unable to attend some activities and even though promises were made that reports would be sent to me it didn't happen.

Notable achievements that were reported on were the Queen's Scout Awards presented to Zac Girvan and Zoe Roberts of Banksia Group, Australian Scout Medallion to Ryan Lamb of Banksia Group also the Adult Leadership Awards.

Encompass published reports from Scoutfest and the Queen's Scout Awards and Australian Scout Medallion.

Four Central and Coastal Region Newsletters were also published for the scouting year.

Thank you to those who regularly contribute to the newsletters and for the invitations to activities to do publicity for presentations or activities in the Group or Region.

I would like to move the adoption of my Community Relations report.

Mary Wallace

Region Leader

Community Relations

Rowallan Park Campsite and Activity Centre

When you think briefly about the park not a lot seems to have changed – but there are always changes. The small dam was drained, enlarged and then with mother nature's influence was promptly refilled. There has been ongoing work to assist the natural flow of water to the dam so that water can be harvested to water the sports field when constructed.

The Mackay Mountain Bike club has constructed tracks all around the park to provide an enjoyable venue for their sport. These members have also contributed much needed service which has improved some aspects of the park.

Camp Eagle continues its development. Two environmentally friendly toilet and shower blocks have been constructed and this asset can be shared by other park users. Their camps appear to be growing in participants and it is pleasing to see youth enjoy the surroundings at Rowallan Park.

Mother Nature has also had her influence on the camp. Firstly the summer rains forced cancellations and then the cyclone tried to damage property and our trees. Thankfully the damage to property was reasonably minimal. Unfortunately usage of the camp in the first half of this calendar year has been adversely affected by the ongoing wet conditions and this has a direct impact on income.

The Rowallan Park Fellowship has continued fundraising and their support of improvements to the camp and equipment is appreciated and valued.

Thank you to Bonnie and Barry Spratt for their continued involvement and work as caretakers of Rowallan park – your efforts do not go unnoticed and all scout members in Mackay would certainly like to offer their thanks.

I am sure I may have missed out some information but the best ways to find out is come to our park and enjoy all that it has to offer.

Harry Roestenburg

The Rowallan Park Fellowship

Joey Scout Report

This year I took over the position as Regional Joey Scout Leader for the central and coastal region.

The Joey scout mobs around the Region have been active in their own mobs which gives the Joey scouts a fun filled exciting time.

I do hear from Leaders that they have been doing badge work and having activities work within their mobs,

As the regional leader it has not been possible to have any Regional events to date this year.

Julie Thompson

Acting Regional Leader Joey Scouts

Cub Scout Section Report

The past year has been a successful year in the Cub Scout Section throughout the Region, and it has been great to work with the Leaders within the region, on the activities which have been held over the past year.

The support and enthusiasm that comes from the Leaders is fantastic, these Leaders want the Cub Scouts to experience scouting at its best.

I do receive information from Leaders that their Cub Scouts are achieving well in there badge work, and have been recipients of the Grey Wolf Award.

I have been invited to presentations within the Region, of the Grey Wolf award this is the highest award a Cub Scout can achieve in the Pack and it's a pleasure to be present and see the child receive the award.

In the Central and Coastal Region there have been 2 Cub Scout Leadership Courses held, the attendance from Packs within the Region was of a high number.

The Leader participation was excellent, which enabled the program to run smoothly, and the Cub Scouts were able to enjoy the activities being held on the day.

These courses are designed to develop leadership skills in the Cub Scout which enables them to assist the leader in the pack.

The role of a sixer or second in the pack is of great importance and by attending a Leadership course, it then helps develops a child more fully in there role.

The Cub Scouts use the new skills in the pack, and it is mandatory to complete a series of activities to receive their Promise and Law Challenge, and the Cub Scout Leadership Badge, this is then worn on there uniform.

Unfortunately, last year the 9-10yr old camps were cancelled due to poor response. This year it was decided to have a Region Camp for the Cub Scouts which was to be held in May, due to the weather conditions this camp has had to be postponed to a later date.

A big event on the 2010 calendar for Cub Scouts is the Cuboree to be held in Stanthorpe, in September this is going to be a fantastic experience for any Cub scout who attends.

I will be attending the Cuboree, and I have been asked to assist in the setting up of the Medical facility at the Cuboree.

This is a big challenge to get it right, and I look forward to working at the Cuboree and meeting other leaders, and seeing the Cubscouts having an exciting fun filled time.

The coming events on the calendar for Cubscouts are the Region camp, and the Cub Scout Leadership course being held at Rowallan Park.

I look forward to the next 12 months and the friendship, fun enjoyment and challenges which I shall experience along the way.

Julie Thompson
Central and Coastal
Region Cubscout Leader

Region Scout Report

The scouts Numbers varied for the start of the year, and gradually increase to the end of the year as always.

A good number of scouts marched in Anzac day march through out the region along with all sections of the movement.

The regional scout camp was held at Rowallan Park where all groups in the region took part the over all winner was Moranbah there is a lot to be desired in the cooking department also more hands on training with camping skills and compass work is needed.

Rainbow Bird hiking and camp was held over two days there were 14 scouts and 2 leaders hiked over the rugged hills from Cape Hillsborough to Smalleys Beach it was a very challenge hike.

I was very disappointed as only 2 groups had attended this hike after a lots work went into the planning and approval for the national parks.

I helped Sarina at Easter at Waverley creek Driver Reviver like we have for about the past 20 years as Judy, Nathan and I open it up on the Thursday morning at 10am we all so manned it over New Year with the other couples from regional team and fellowship we managed to raised about \$2040 thank you.

I have taken the rope bridge to the Whitsunday scout open day and the thanks giving day in the park at town hall this was a way to help get new members to join the movement .

For the second year we did Billy Tea and Damper for Australia day in Mackay, I have attended AGM for some Groups and spent a lot of time with Barry Spratt at Rowallan Park.

Yours in scouting

C.R. Johnson (Tim)
Taipan

Venturer Scout Report

The past year has seen Venturers in the Central and Coastal Region progress at a lively pace. Branch Commissioner Venturer Scouts Phillip McNicol brought everyone up to date on the Venturer Review and ran a Unit Management Course in Mackay. A Leadership Course was also conducted by AAC George Rowlinson with several eager Venturers making the most of the opportunity to attend training in their own Region.

Venturers assisted at ScoutFest with the abseiling and canoeing as well as the official dinner. The Mackay City Central and Banksia Venturers travelled to Rockhampton for the CQ Venture. Several Venturers from Rockhampton travelled to Kinchant Dam for the CC Venture in November. Australia Day saw Venturers assist Region Scout Leader Tim Johnson hand out tea and damper at the Entertainment Centre. In March we were on the move travelling to Blackwater with the Rovers for CQ Roventure. Cyclone Iliu played havoc with the cancellation of some activities. That is not to say they stayed home. Most of the Venturers were out assisting the Banksia Group clean up the park so that they could hold meetings again. Venturers continue to assist other sections as youth helpers in section meetings or attending camps to run games and activities or assist with training of younger youth members in scouting activities like hiking and compass work. All of this is above the requirements for any badges, showing a real commitment by the Venturers to provide service to the community and to Scouting.

This year we have introduced Region meetings once a month when all of the Region Venturers get together and have fun or work on badges as a larger Unit. It is running quite well with the combined nights having offered ten pin bowling, inter Unit debating, speeches and games nights. Each Unit takes turns at organizing the night.

We have celebrated three Queen's Scout presentations, a Major Interest Award, 11 Area Awards, presented 80 tapes for everything from Citizenship to Service, Environment to Canoeing. Four Venturers have progressed to Rovers and eight have advanced from Scouts. There are currently two active Units with Bowen and Sarina trying to establish themselves. My thanks go to all the Venture Scout Leaders for their assistance and support throughout the year.

Judy Johnson

Region Leader - Venturer Scouts

Rover Report

The Mackay Rover Crew has been kept busy over the last year, with a range of activities and challenges. We have also travelled far and wide while participating in CQ Events.

We have had some membership loss due to members getting booted to moving town for university but at the same time we have gained some members from the Venturer Section and we got some members from the public, but a few more members would not go astray, but everyone is looking for members.

We have assisted the region with some of the regional activities including:- Scoutfest and the associated working bees, JOTI/JOTA.

With all our CQ, Regional and Crew Activities we have been kept busy and doing some service when required.

One of our most recent projects was the running of June Moot that hosted 36 Rovers from around the state ranging from as far south as Brisbane West to Emerald and to as far north as Townsville. The event went off really well and all the rovers stepped up to the plate to make this event a success that we should all be proud of.

We have also been working on a crew camping trailer that will make going on camps a lot easier, and we have recently received a grant to purchase a solar panel and 12 volt fridge for the trailer. We have also got the Rover Den out at the scout park but due to weather and time restrictions we have not been able to finalise it.

Our plan for the next year in the Rover section is to finalise our crew projects while doing some fundraising as some of the Rovers are planning to attend OzMoot in Adelaide at the start of next year.

Yours in Scouting

Brendan Ross
Mackay City Central Crew Leader
Central and Coastal Regional Rep

Region Events Report

This past year has seemed a quiet one after the last two years of centenary celebrations, our only major event was Scoutfest held in August 2009. Scoutfest came about from an idea from Bob Hodda in late 2008, some big anniversaries were coming up; a hundred years since the first scout group opened in Mackay and it was to be Rowallan Park's sixtieth birthday. He wanted to celebrate, so celebrate we did.

We decided this particular celebration needed to be a little different from things we had done in the past. We wanted something that reflected what Scouting was all about..... after all; we all had seen that ad on T.V.....something that involved past and present members and above all, something that would leave great memories.

Scoutfest slowly evolved over the next few months, a planning committee, with a representative from each of the local groups included, was formed and the work begun. Many, many, many ideas were discussed, the format outlined, long discussions over what to call the event continued, resources were sourced from near and far, Branch Headquarters was consulted, favours and contacts were called in, working bees at the Park organised, even the weather bureau was phoned. Eventually we had it all sorted!

On July 31 and August 1, 2 2009, Scoutfest in the form of a family region camp was held at a splendid looking Rowallan Park with 225 members in attendance. The weekend was spent exploring three zones...Aqua, Adventure and Discovery....which included activities such as canoeing, waterslides, falling off a greasy pole, abseiling off shipping containers, mountain bikes, sherbet making, craft, playing mind games and experiments...just to name a few. Rowallan Park was open to past members and the public on Saturday afternoon and Saturday night's activity was a bush dance. A combined Celebration Dinner and AGM for 90 invited guests was also held on Saturday night. Prepared on site and served by our Rovers, Venturers and Scouts. This three course, sit down dinner served under the stars was certainly a unique experience. A Scout's Own held in the chapel on Sunday morning added

a little tranquillity to an active weekend. The youth were loud, boisterous, happy and eventually a little tired. The parents and leaders looked relatively happy and not too stressed. The organising team were exhausted. It was a great weekend.

The support and help given to Scoutfest was overwhelming....so, so many people helped out in many ways ; the Fellowship worked hard to prepare the Park, tirelessly worked throughout the event and sponsored our bush dance; the MAD mountain bike club prepared trails and worked all weekend with the youth and gave us so much support via their associated business'; each of the local Groups took on the task of organising and supervising a zone; Branch sent representatives, the abseiling team (thanks David, Ray and Brendan)and access to the abseiling gear; Rotary and the Executive sponsored the celebration dinner and even the US Marines gave us a hand. Thank you.

The only other event on the year's calendar was our annual swimming carnival, Aquatastic. Scheduled to be held at Calen College on Saturday March 20, for the second year in a row this event was cancelled due to the region being under a cyclone watch. This time it was Elui and it was a lot closer to home. We have planned to reschedule Aquatastic for an end of year Christmas breakup.

As with every annual report I believe it is so important to express my gratitude to my fellow region team, their endless support and help throughout the year is vital to the success of our events .Thank-you Judy and the team. Thanks also to Peter, Jacob, Louis and Anita who help me out regardless of what I ask...what other 18 year old would delay picking up his new ute so he could finish putting up scaffolding around a shipping container or a 16 year old staying up all hours to help out his computer challenged Mum; a son's girlfriend making sandwiches for a fashion parade just because Jane was double booked and a husband who works out a solution to any weird idea his wife has AND arranges for 110 kg of abseiling gear to be freighted free of charge! Just like most scouting families we get one we get them all.

Jane Mumford

Region Leader Region Events

Assistant Region Commissioner – Group Support

I have pleasure in presenting an overview of Scouting in the Central and Coastal region for the period 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010.

Other Leaders have presented detailed reports in their areas of responsibility, so I will not duplicate their reports.

Scouting in our Region has continued to move with the times, and have issued many challenges to our Leaders, in ensuring quality programming and challenging activities for our Youth members.

All Groups have enjoyed a great year of Scouting, with many fun and enjoyable activities. I have really enjoyed visiting these Groups and observing the smiles on member's faces.

Membership has fluctuated in some Groups, but overall the Region has maintained a level of consistency. We always need more Leaders, and it is very unfortunate that fewer people are prepared to commit to a Leadership role. Because of this, I feel that some young people are being denied the experience of Scouting. We have an empty Scout den at Bucasia, and I regularly receive enquiries from parents in that area, with children wanting to join the movement. Some go to Banksia Group whilst others do not join. I am always happy to talk to anyone who may be interested in finding out more about a Leadership role.

It is always a pleasure to attend Award presentations. I have been present at Grey Wolf, Scout Medallion, Queen's Scout and Leader Award presentations, and sincerely congratulate all those who received well earned recognition for their efforts in Scouting.

We still have some Groups in the Region without Charter status. I have been working closely with those Groups, and I live in hope that all Groups will be chartered this year.

Thank you to all the dedicated Group Leaders and their teams, who are constantly challenged to meet the needs of the Youth members, through the successful, exciting, enjoyable and safe programs they present. Because of those efforts and commitment,

We see many happy smiling children at Scouting. Well done!!

I wish you all happy Scouting in the year ahead.

Brian Harvey

Assistant Region Commissioner – Group Support.

Training Development Report

Training has continued at a steady pace throughout the Region. It has become more difficult during the past year to attract applicants for courses. Employment situations and family commitments have been identified as two reasons for this trend which is not confined to Central and Coastal Region alone.

Statistics show that fewer Leaders are attending scheduled training courses. It is a concern that there are several Leaders who have been in the Movement for a considerable period of time and have not yet completed basic training. Queensland Branch has policy in place which indicates what Adult Leaders, Adult Support Members, Rovers and Scout Fellowship members are entitled to do in accordance with current training qualifications. Some Leaders find themselves limited to what they are permitted to do due to their limited training status.

Trained Leaders provide interesting and challenging youth programs. Interesting programs create enthusiasm among youth members. Enthusiastic Leaders and youth members result in membership increase and retention. These are some of the goals included in the Association's Charter requirements which equate to well managed and successful Formations striving to achieve the Aims and Principles of the Scout Movement.

Training Course attendance records provide the following results for the year under review.

Leadership Training 3:	1 Joey Scout Leader, 2 Cub Scout Leaders, 4 Scout Leaders, 1 Venturer Scout Leader
Skills Training 1:	1 Joey Scout Leader, 1 Cub Scout Leader, 2 Scout Leaders
Skills Training 2:	1 Group Leader
Skills Training 3:	1 Group Leader
Wood Badge Training 1:	2 Group Leaders

3 Leaders completed Leadership Training 2 Workbooks.

Region Leader Jane Mumford was successful in completing requirements for TAA40104 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment and is now a registered Scout Assessor.

Group Leader Lesley Bullemor received recognition for her efforts in completing the five stages of the formal training program and was presented with her Wood Badge Scarf, Wood Beads and Parchment by Region Commissioner Lance Hodda at a Group camp held at Kamp Kanga. Congratulations Jane and Lesley.

A number of Leaders have attended First Aid training and either gained their Senior First Aid Certificate or re-certification of their Certificate, to ensure their First Aid qualifications are current.

ScoutFest held on the first weekend in August 2009 at Rowallan Park was a fantastic informal training experience for youth and adults alike. The program provided opportunity to participate in many diverse and challenging activities, some of which are not always readily available to us. I am sure our Region Leader Region Events will report in more detail on this event. Well done to Jane and her organizing team on a highly successful weekend.

Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) and Jamboree On The Internet (JOTI) held in October each year is another informal training event for our youth and adult members. Participants are able to communicate with Scouts and Guides within Australia as well as overseas countries via amateur radio and the internet. The JOTI team were able to source additional computers this year which catered for

more participants at any given time. Thanks go to Mr Bruce Lenahan and his team of radio operators for making JOTA possible.

I wish to thank those of you who have lent your support by allowing me to utilize your individual skills to staff the various elements of training. Your assistance is greatly appreciated not only by myself, but also by the Leaders who attend the training courses.

I encourage all members to remain focused on your training commitments and to make every effort to take advantage of training opportunities. I wish you fun, success and satisfaction in your Scouting roles throughout the year ahead.

Margaret Hodda

Assistant Region Commissioner - Training Development
