



# NEWSLETTER

## Scouts Australia Central & Coastal Region



Editor Mary Wallace

### 📅 Dates to Remember

7th Dec 04 Regional/District Leaders Christmas Party, Blacks Beach Tavern

12th 13th Feb 2005 Regional Leaders Weekend and Cub Scout Review Implementation.

5th March 05 Joey Scout Planning Day

June 2005 Vanuatu Venture

### From the Assistant Regional Commissioner

*Hello from Wayne, trying to fit into Bob's shoes while he is off gallivanting around the countryside fishing and holidaying in his replica Winnebago.*

*Firstly, I would like to thank everybody throughout the region for all the hard work that has gone into making, what I believe to be one of the best regions, throughout the state.*

*After I attended the last Regional Commissioner's Conference I feel that QLD Branch has some great ideas, which will assist our Districts/Groups in the coming year. In particular the new computerised/internet system being fine-tuned for next year, which even, I can understand. (A lot of you know how good I am when it comes to computers!)*

*It is pleasing to see that the 'OUT' in Scouting is being portrayed. Previously I had only seen what Whitsunday District had been doing, but since Bob and Margaret have been away I have managed to receive copies of activities that groups within Mackay District have been involved in. Some have great ideas that are new to me.*

*The year has seen a number of well deserved achievements being recognised from adults through to youth members. It is very pleasing to see the increase in Scout Medallions being awarded.*

*Next year will be a great one with a number of events/activities on the regional calendar, commencing with the Regional Leaders Weekend on the 12th and 13th February combined with a presentation by Branch Commissioner for Cub Scouts John Mills, on the*

*implementation of the Cub Scout Review. (Hope to see all leaders throughout the region there)*

*Our big event for the year will be the Regional Venture to Vanuatu in June. (Bags are already packed). Having spoken to Regional Leader Jane Mumford, progress towards this activity has been progressing well.*

*Once again, thank you to all our Leaders throughout the Region for the time you put in towards making this great game of scouting a success. Without our team of dedicated Regional Leaders, Bob's and my jobs would be incredibly difficult. Thank you.*

*I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. See you all in 2005. (By then our Regional Commissioner should be back from his nomadic journey!)*

**Assistant Regional  
Commissioner  
Wayne Harm**



*P.S. Thank you all for the kind support offered to Wendy and myself during our time of bereavement during the latter part of this year.*

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### Vanuatu Venture

*I am happy to report that it looks as though the trip to Vanuatu in the June School Holidays 2005 is a goer! Since the last newsletter we have had a fundraising evening at the "Legends of Origin", resulting in \$950 being banked and an inaugural meeting with twenty-one interested Venturers, Rovers, Leaders and Parents in attendance. At the meeting Greg Sutherland spoke of the lifestyle, people and Scouts of Vanuatu as well as some of the plans for the trip. He had everyone's undivided attention for an hour or so. We decided that night to send out expression of interest forms and look at forming an organising/fundraising committee as well as an email/ mailing list. Hopefully this will be done before December.....31! No, I will try to have*

everything sorted by the third. So if you are interested don't forget to look into getting a passport (application forms available from the Post Office) and hassle your leader for information before the holidays. Have a safe and happy Christmas!

**Jane Mumford**  
**Regional Leader Major Activities**

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## **Mackay District Jota / Joti report for VK4SMK**

The Mackay district now has a permanent club call Sign VK4SMK.

The radios were operated from 11.00 am on Saturday until about 01.00 on Sunday morning.

We had 5 Amateur radio operators over that period of time supervising the radios.

While we only had 5 contacts on HF (4 on 20 Meters and 1 on 80 Meters) all of which was to other Australian Jota stations, most of these were for the duration of a minimum of 30 minutes to a maximum of about 3 hours as both stations had the youth keeping the hot seat warm.

Also used for the first time by us was a new method of talking which is a method a linking two radio repeaters together over the internet, this is called the IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project). This enables 2 radio repeaters to be tied together by "dialing" up the other repeaters address and calling to see if any one is listening. Just for information there are 28 pages of address to choose from. We had 2 contacts with the United Kingdom using this method and 3 more to other Australian Jota stations.

The equipment used was a HF transmitter and a commercial VHF high band radio with the local 2 Meter repeater channels for the IRLP.

For the Joti side of the weekend we had between 7 and 14 computers (they kept breaking as they are all fairly old klunkers) operating at the camp. They were all interconnected over a LAN which was connected to the internet courtesy of Telstra Country wide by a satellite up link /down link as there is no phone lines available yet for a land line. There were a few teething problems networking the computers and some time was wasted until this could be resolved.

Other activities that were run on the afternoon were:-  
A foxhunt - trying to find another radio by direction finding:-  
A GPS hunt - like an orienteering course except that a GPS was used:-

an Activities base run by the Venturer Scouts, incorporating 5 mini bases:- and hand held radios for the youth member to communicate with each other around the campsite.

Most groups camped for the Saturday night  
The Guides organized themselves for the weekend but participated in the activities.

65 youth member, 10 section leaders, 14 Regional Leaders, 1 Rover, 5 Radio Operators, 16 Guides, 3 Guide Leaders, and 8 helpers participated in activities at Jota and Joti.

**Ray Jones**  
**Regional Leader Special Activities**



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## **Adventurous Activities**

Well I suppose you are all wondering what is happening with the abseiling tower.

On the ground it does not look any different. In the background there is a heap going on. Within the next few weeks soil samples will be taken and analyzed by an Emerald firm R & R Construction Testing. Thanks Rob for your support in providing this service free. Once the testing has been completed, the footing design can be finalized and after certification, construction can begin.

Guess what? Then we need your help to construct the area. Working Bees here we come.

I still do not have a structural engineer to sign off on the tower and hope to have this before the start of the Scouting year in 2005.

If anyone has the contact details for a structural engineer who is prepared to look at and certify the designs PLEASE contact me. The engineer who offered the service previously has not completed the task and I am having difficulty in contacting him.

Have a Merry Christmas and I will see you all in the new year.

Yours in scouting  
**David Brown, Regional Leader**  
**Youth Program Support Adventurous Activities**

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## *Joey Scout Section*

*It's getting close to the end of the year and many Joey Scout Mobs will be winding down for the year. This year has been a busy one with many exciting activities being conducted.*

*Our Regional Joey Scout Mob Holiday for 2005 is in the planning stages and a planning meeting will be on the 5th March 2005 to finalize activities for the year. Please add this meeting on your 2005 calendar.*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Joey Scout Leaders for their hard work during the year and wish you and your families a safe and wonderful Christmas. I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.*

**Wendy Harm (Wallaby)**  
**Regional Leader Program Support**  
**Joey Scout Section**

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## *Proserpine Scout Group*

*Our 2 youth sections are going well with 15 Cub Scouts and 6 scouts with a leader for each section. The end of the year camp is at South Molle Island National Park site on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th December.*

*It has been a successful year with many challenges and changes. Our new scouting year will commence in early February.*

*Have a great Christmas and see you all in the New Year.*

**Greg Walker**  
**Group Leader Proserpine**

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## *Sarina Scout Group*

*Sarina group attended JOTA / JOTI. The Cub Scouts attended for the afternoon on Saturday and the Scouts camped over. There has been plenty of positive feedback from the youth members.*

*The big focus has been on getting our new shed and disabled toilet / shower finished in time for the official opening in December. The funding was from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund.*

*The Group will be having our Group Christmas break-up mid December and then all will be enjoying a short break. A Group camp is planned for mid December for a 3 or 4 day period during the school holidays. Planning for next year is already in progress.*

*A Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all from Sarina Scout Group*

**Lance Hodda**  
**GEO Sarina Group**

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## *Banksia Scout Group Report*

*Again we see the OUT in ScOUT. That's right, our youth and leaders have been visiting the community and showing that scouting is alive in Mackay. Our Joey Scout Mob's theme for October was "Communications". (Very fitting with JOTA/JOTI occurring in October) They visited 4CRM where all the Joey Scouts spoke on the radio about their favourite books.*

*The Cub Scout section has been very elusive over the term with a Spy Kids theme. I think the leaders have been sneaky, our little Spy Kids have been completing badge work just like Cub Scouts. The culmination of the Spy Kids theme was the Spy Kids Camp, sneaking around Rowallan Park for 2 days solving a major mystery in the process. Every time Baloo heard the password on the last day it rained from a great height onto the Spy Kids (a bucket of water from the balcony of Johnson Lodge) – thanks KAA.*

*The Scout section has had a varied term with everything from cooking to construction. A dunking was just what they needed. So a plunge in the local swimming pool was ordered. Although a young troop, and a little wet behind the ears, the scouts are all making progress toward their awards. Speaking of awards, our 2 most senior scouts, Glenn Lamb and Jacob Mumford are to be presented their Australian Scout Medallions on Friday the 3rd December 2004. Well done boys, you have worked hard over the last 18 months and have been an excellent example to the younger Scouts. I would hope these are the first of many. (A report on this next news letter).*

*Venturer Scouts .....hmmm ..... they live up to their name venturing here and there, doing this and that.*

*They are off to Funnel Creek for a weekend of fun and bush living. What is it with water this term?*

*A full year is about to close. The growth of the group has been wonderful to see. If we can continue the current trend we will have full sections next year. LEADERS, LEADERS, LEADERS ..... That's what we need.*

*Have a wonderful Christmas and a great new year.*

*Yours in ScOUTing*

**Jean Brown**  
**Group Leader, Banksia Group**

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## INVITATION

or gentle reminder !

to our

District and Regional Team Break-up

on Tuesday December 7, 2004

to be held at

Black's Beach Tavern

cnr Slater Ave and Blacks Beach Rd

Blacks Beach

commencing at 7pm

*Come and relax, enjoy a meal  
with your fellow leaders and celebrate  
yet another year of great scouting.  
Looking forward to enjoying your company.  
Please let us know if you can make it  
Jane...49554432*

**Merry Christmas**

## Congratulations

*Congratulations to Dennis Tuckerman who has recently been presented with the North Queensland Lions International Presidents Award Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of Distinguished Achievements in Leadership and Service to the Lions Club, Scouts, and Community Service.*

*Well Done, Dennis, I know that you are a volunteer for many organizations around town, and it is great to see that you have been recognized for your efforts.*

**Mary Wallace**  
**Regional Leader Community Relations**

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## How to Grow a Scout Leader

*First plant seven rows of P's:*

*Promptness, perseverance, preparation, participation, presence, purity, and performance.*

*Next plant three rows of squash.*

*Squash unfairness, squash criticism, squash indifference.*

*Then plant seven rows of lettuce:*

- 1. Let us delegate responsibility.*
- 2. Let us give assistance whenever necessary.*
- 3. Let us recognize the importance of pooling ideas and encourage full and free ideas and encourage full and free discussion before decisions are made.*
- 4. Let us appreciate and respect the attitudes of other people*
- 5. Let us encourage co-operation.*
- 6. Let us arrive in advance of scheduled meetings, with all materials needed.*
- 7. Let us be prepared.*

*No garden is complete without turnips:*

*Turn up for meetings*

*Turn up with enthusiasm*

*Turn up with new ideas*

*Turn up with a smile.*

*The harvest is one terrific Scout Volunteer.*

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**Happy New Year**