

Issue 1 2006
April Edition



NEWSLETTER
Scouts Australia
Central & Coastal Region



Editor Mary Wallace

i Dates to Remember

22nd April Enviro Fund working bee Rowallan Park
25th April Anzac Day
2006 Megativities Camp May Day Weekend
21st July Central and Coastal Region AGM
22nd July Sarina Group 75th Anniversary Celebrations

Attention Error In Scout About

Hello everyone, in the April edition of Scout About I have in my article a section on Ages of Scout and Venturer Scouts. In the Article it mentions "to attend a Jamboree between the ages of 11 and 15 and a half". This of course is meant to be 11 and a half to 15, this is what I had in the Article when it was sent in. I have mentioned this typo in the May edition. If you get quizzed on this say sorry this was a typo.

PS Numbers for the Jamboree are around 1300

Pieter Van Der Kamp
Old Contingent Leader

Regional Commissioners Newsletter Notes

Formation of Central & Coastal Regional Fellowship

We now have a Central & Coastal Fellowship Section. It will comprise of two "Patrols", the Rowallan Park Patrol and the Whitsunday Patrol. The Rowallan Park Patrol has held its inaugural meeting with the Chairperson being Mr Ron Laffin, the Treasurer Mr Gordon Rollinson, the Secretary Mrs Bonnie Spratt and Mrs Laurel Rollinson as a committee member. The role of the Rowallan Park Patrol is includes a combination of social / recreational and Rowallan Park support / development. They will operate as an individual formation having their own constitution and rules, operate their own bank account whilst observing all the QBSI and Policy & Rules etc. They have set some goals and objectives based on the State Twenty Fifteen Scoutplan, the Regional Scout Plan and the

Rowallan Park Scout (Development) Plan. Any person interested in becoming a member should contact the Secretary, Mrs Bonnie Spratt on 49498174 or write to her at Rowallan Park, 280 Glendaragh Rd, Farleigh, Qld 4740. Whilst active leaders cannot hold an executive position or become committee members they are welcome to join the Fellowship. As time permits we will endeavour to have the Whitsunday Patrol formed with them supporting Proserpine, Bowen and Whitsunday Coast Groups.

Charter

We congratulate Proserpine Group, Sarina Group and Mackay City Central Group on the renewal of their Charter for 2006. This is a great effort by the Groups as well as being of valued benefit to all members, leaders and supporters. I believe that whilst some Groups are finding the going heavy they have greatly improved the delivery of the program within their ranks and are fairly close to becoming Chartered. I believe that every Group will eventually reap the rewards of following the Charter concept with support being forthcoming much easier to fill leader and support member positions. It has always been a fact that "the trained person wins" and that "success follows and supports success". Another useful term learned at a weekend we held at Action Challenge with the Regional Team was "PASEO" – Praise and support each other. Keep up the good work!

Regional Scout Plans

After many days and late nights of labouring over this computer and with the help of the ARC Information Technology, Lance Hodda to set out the Rowallan Park Plan, we now have them completed. They are to be read in conjunction with the Queensland Twenty Fifteen Scout Plan to form our Regional Scout Plan and subsequently the Rowallan Park Scout Plan. The Rowallan Park Scout Plan is what is generally referred to as a "living document" meaning as time rolls on and the projects are completed new ones are added to meet the challenges of change and requirements. These documents are available for reading and I trust they will be added to our website as Lance has time.

The Regional Executive Committee

The Regional Executive Committee has the task of raising the funds and managing the financial affairs of the Region. At this time of year all Groups are getting their financial returns and property returns completed (should have been at BHQ last Saturday I understand). The Regional Executive Committee also have this chore to complete and they have an even bigger one to raise over \$10000.00 to pay the insurance premiums for the region without any mention of other budgetary items such as maintenance and capital works at Rowallan Park. Our committee, for those who may not be aware comprises of Chairman, Mr John Taylor, Secretary Mr Barry Lee, Treasurer Mr John Alcorn, Resources Committee Mr Reg Ross as well as sub-committee support members. Mr Barry Stewart has recently retired from his work establishment as well as the Secretary for the Regional Executive. Barry is replaced by Mr Lee. We take this opportunity to thank Barry Stewart for his work with us, it was greatly appreciated. We wish him well in his retirement. If he should get bored we can always find him a job to keep him occupied.

The Rowallan Park Envirofund Project

Under the guidance of Mrs Jo Brzozowski many people have banded together in a magic partnership to produce a biodiversity walk and other benefits around some very sensitive areas of Rowallan Park for the community at large and the Scout Movement in particular. The project has taken some sixteen months to complete and with further grants available we hope to continue this work for the betterment of the Park, the Scout Movement Members and the wider community. Miss Jane Eales of PICMA, Mrs Patricia Julien, Ms Maureen Cooper, Barry & Bonnie Spratt, The Mackay City Central Rover Crew is only to mention a few who have assisted Jo to complete this very worthwhile task. A past member of the Third Mackay Venturers, Mr Peter Alden also contributed to this project as the Environmental Officer with the Whitsunday Shire Council. Our thanks go to all of these people and others involved in the project set to conclude at a press release meeting planned for the 3rd May 2006.

Regional Council

We have a Regional Council which comprises of a number of business people who meet periodically and are informed about Scouting in the Region and the State on a regular basis. They are people who we ask to support the Movement. This group of people has not

received the attention deserving over the past couple of years and one of my goals is to rectify this shortcoming this year. I will continue the details of the Regional Council in the next edition of the Regional Newsletter – bit like the Phantom in the Daily Mercury – a little bit each edition.

R W Hodda Regional Commissioner

From the pen of the Assistant Regional Commissioner

The Region has experienced some major changes over the last couple of months, with many changes in roles in particular, Regional Roles.

At present we have a number of vacancies as we have had Regional leaders relocating etc. If you are interested in perhaps taking on the challenge of one of these Regional Roles please feel free to contact myself or R.C. Bob.

Megativities is only a week away. There are a number of activities that many will not have encountered before.

On the Saturday night I propose to have a Regional Meeting with all Regional team & Group Leaders to discuss the outcomes of the last Regional Commissioners Conference held 10th/12th March.

Anyway I hope to see you all at Megativities.

Wayne Harm Assistant Regional Commissioner

Joey Scout Section Report

Well, we are over Christmas and now Easter has been and gone. Where did the time go!

March for the Joey Scout Section was also Bring a Friend Month where all the Joey Scout Mobs were busily encouraging friends to come along and join.

Some Mobs ran a circus theme which is always a fun program and should give potential Joey Scouts a good idea as to what we are all about.

In February the Joey Scout Leaders met for our annual Planning meeting to organise our Regional Mob Holiday to be held in June. Our theme this year will be

Pirates, one of my favourites, and we have plenty in store for the Joey Scouts to enjoy.

Banksia Joey Scouts were to hold a Mob Holiday in March at Rowallan Park. They also invited Rockhampton Joey Scouts to come up and enjoy the weekend with plenty of sharing and caring. Unfortunately, the weekend was cancelled due to Cyclone Larry heading our way. There is no point taking any risks when a cyclone is looming, so it has been postponed until May.

April brings Anzac Day. A very important day to all, and some Joey Scout Mobs will have sleepovers in anticipation of the big march the next day. This is a great idea especially when groups have a combined sleepover as some of the older Scouts go to Dawn Service as well.

I hope you all had a great Easter and come back from your break ready go again!

I trust there were no tummy-aches from too much chocolate and I hope to catch up with you all soon, Keep HOPping

Wendy Harm RL
Joey Scouts

Envirofund Working Bee

Well we have almost concluded our current envirofund project with some, on ground work' yet to be finished. The final working bee for the project is Saturday 22nd April 2006 from 8.30am. Food/ drinks will be provided. If you have some time available please come along and help complete the project.

Envirofund Project

The envirofund project is only weeks away from completion. There are 2 trails that can be combined into 1 walk we now have the Noel Weder KIMBA Trail and The Bob Hodda OTTER trail the last one is thanks to Margaret who risked life and limb to get approval for us to use the name. The maps and trail guides are on their way to the printers and a final on ground working bee organised. Signs will be popping up at various locations in the park in the next few weeks.

Jo Brzozowski

Banksia Scout Group

Joey Scouts

Joey Scouts have begun 2006 by hopping to it. Three of our oldest Joey's are working on their Promise Challenge with the rest of the mob working on their Hop Badges. The Mob Buddy Badge was completed last year with our trip to Rockhampton. We had an exciting term with our program taking us around the world.

Cub Scouts

Term 1 saw Banksia Cub Scouts participating in a "Wish it was Winter" Olympics. The Cub Scouts did some preparation work for the Olympics, from shaker and flag making to working well in their sixes to win some hard fought sessions where medal presentations were made. The Bronze, Silver and Gold Boomerang Fitness Tests were passed in fun and energetic activities.

The Cub Scouts have finished the term with a "Did You Get The Message" program in which we concentrated on the importance of messages and how they are sent and received. Much fun was had with secret code treasure hunts, walks to the local public phone box and trail signs.

Early in the term Cub Scouts helped celebrate with our past Cub Scouts who had achieved their Grey Wolf Award in 2005. We had a very special Grey Wolf cake and munchies which all the Cub Scouts really enjoyed. Congratulations, Matthew Timms, Ryan Lamb, Tyson Morgan and Daniel Kurkowski.

Scouts

Our Scout Section has started the year head on. They have been concentrating on their individual scouting levels and developing leadership skills. The newest members have completed their red cord journey and are now working through their red cord level requirements. It hasn't been all work and no play though. The Scouts strutting their stuff at the Paddy's Day Disco and found out that the leaders have a few moves of their own. A couple of weeks later they enjoyed themselves at the Pink Panther movie. With the Regional Scout Camp, just around the corner, Banksia Scouts will be working hard on their camping skills next term.

Jo Timms Banksia Scout Group

Mackay City Central Scout Group

On 1st and 2nd April, Mackay City Central Scout Group held its annual Group camp at Kinchant Waters Leisure Resort. All sections from Joey Scouts through to Rovers attended. Luckily, the rain stayed away for the week-end allowing the Rovers and Venturer Scouts to try water ski-ing, while the Scouts, Cub Scouts and Joey Scouts took to the canoes.

On Saturday night, everyone contributed skits and songs around the campfire, that the Scouts had built. This was followed by a wide game organized by the Rovers. All the happy campers then rolled into bed for a well-deserved sleep.

Sunday morning's breakfast was followed by a Scout's Own organized and presented by the Venturer Scouts, who shared some of their experiences in Vanuatu with the rest of the group. More water activities, packing up and lunch filled in the rest of the morning, until we broke camp and headed for home.

With fifty-four people attending, the Group camp is a chance for all the sections at Mackay City Central to mix in a fairly relaxed atmosphere. The younger Youth members in particular have a chance to meet the older members of the Group and find out a little of what the older sections do. With its laid-back pace, it is also a great introduction for many of our newer members.

Allan Salty
Scout Leader

Sarina Scout Group

Sarina Scout Group started 2006 in the usual way with our Billy Tea and Damper at the Sarina Australia Day Awards. This year there was nothing left but crumbs of the 12 Dampers and a few drops from the 25 litres of Billy Tea. This year's Australia Day was a little more special as Group Leader Tim Johnson, Cub Scout Leader Brett Tomlinson and Venturer Scout Leader Judy Johnson were presented with a "Certificate of Achievement - Community Involvement".

The Group celebrated Founders Day and participated in the Service at St. Luke's Church in Sarina.

Sarina Group is once again manned the Driver Reviver Stop at Waverly Creek. With Easter being the end of

the School Holidays this year we had Easter weekend off. However, with the help of Committee, Leaders, some parents and youth members the Group made cups of tea and coffee for travelers looking for a break in their journey from 10.00am Friday 7th to 6:00pm Monday 10th April. It is very interesting talking with some of the many people who stop for a break. Many overseas travelers are amazed at the distances one has to travel. One gentleman from England who was traveling from Brisbane to Port Douglas commented that in Europe he would have driven across 3 countries in the distance he had already traveled from Brisbane to Waverly Creek. He was cheered up no end when he was told he was about halfway to his destination. Also the few Scout and Guide Leaders stopped in for a chat.



Lance Hodda for Sarina Scout Group

Proserpine Scout Group

The group has been active so far this year, with two new leaders attending Leadership Training, scouts participation in the Canoe Charge Certificate Course and the Megactivities and Jamboree high on the agenda.

The Group Council, Group Committee and Adult Resource Committee are all working well with our AGM to be held on Tuesday 9th May, 2006.

The Scout and Cub Scouts are holding their numbers with involvement in some community activities, including Australia Day Celebrations and Clean Up Australia Day and were fortunate enough to receive some publicity in the local newspaper.

Greg Walker
Group Leader Proserpine Group

Farewell to Leaders

With much regret, in December 2005, the Regional Team and some sectional leaders farewelled Margaret Barber, Regional Leader Scout Section, and Ray Jones, Regional Leader, Special Activities, at a function at Magpies.

Regional Leader Dave Brown resigned from his position as Adventurous Activities Leader.

It doesn't end there. Mackay City Central Group farewelled Venturer Scout Leader, Chris Sanzaro at barbecue at the Harbour on the 20th January. At the same function the new Venturer Scout leader Donald Neville was welcomed to the Group. Thank you to these leaders for the contribution they made while they were a part of scouting in the Central and Coastal Region

Badge Swapping

Last year a School Teacher from Minnesota visited some of the Small Schools in the North Coast cluster group to do research for his Thesis. It was mentioned that I was involved with scouting, and I just happened to have some scout badges in my handbag. Since his return to America I have received some very impressive badges. He is a Cub Scout Leader and would like his Cub Scout pack to do badge swapping with a group in Australia. Please let me know if your group is interested in taking up this challenge, and I will give you his contact details.

He was another visitor to Australia who hired a car in Brisbane and thought it would only take a few hours to get to Mackay. Didn't he get a shock. One of his comments was that he hadn't seen a live kangaroo but saw plenty of dead ones along the highway.

Mary Wallace Regional Leader Community Relations

Mothers Day is nearly here, so this is a tribute to our Mums



The World's Meanest Mother

As child I had the meanest mother in the whole world. She was really mean, when other kids had lollies for breakfast, she made me eat cornflakes, eggs and toast. When others had soft drinks and lollies for lunch, I had to eat a sandwich.

My mother insisted on knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were on a chain gang! She had to know who our friends were, and what we were doing. She insisted that if we said we'd be gone an hour, that we'd be gone, one hour or less. She was really mean.

I'm ashamed to admit it, but she actually had the nerve to break the child labour law, she made us work! We

had to wash all the dishes... make all the beds.... Learn to cook, and all sorts of cruel things. I reckon she used to lie awake each night, thinking up mean things for us to do.

She always insisted on telling the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. By the time we were teenagers, she was much worse and our life became even more unbearable.

None of this tooting the horn of the car for us to go to meet friends. She embarrassed us immensely by making our dates and friends come to the door to get us. I forgot to tell you... while my friends were dating at the mature age of twelve and thirteen, my old-fashioned mother refused to let me date until I was sixteen!

My mother was a complete failure as a mother. None of us have ever been arrested, fired from a job or had our character questioned ... and who do we have to blame for this terrible way we've turned out?

You're right ... our mean mother!

Look at all the things we missed. We didn't even take part in a riotous demonstration, get chased by the police, or do the million and one things that our friends did. She made us grow into God fearing, educated, honest adults!

Using this as a yardstick, I am trying to raise my children so I stand a little taller and I am filled with pride when my children call me "MEAN". You see, I thank God He gave me the meanest mother in the whole world.

(Author unknown)

