



CENTRAL AND COASTAL REGION

NEWSLETTER

Editor Mary Wallace
April Edition 2-07

Calendar of Events

*4th August Centenary
Birthday Party Brisbane*

*TBA Brownsea Island Camp
Rowallan Park*



Jane Eales traversing the rope bridge on Open Day.

Report from the Regional Commissioner

Well here it is, my inaugural few words for the Central and Coastal News Letter as Regional Commissioner. There is not all that much for me to report since my appointment. There have been some significant happenings and I am sure these will be included in the appropriate Regional Team member's report.

After 23 years Bob Hodda has retired as Regional Commissioner for Central and Coastal Region. However, he hasn't retired all together. Bob has accepted the position of Assistant Regional Commissioner Campsites and Community Development.

I had the pleasure of meeting our guests from Vanuatu. It was a great opportunity, one that my family will never forget. Jane and her team did a great job in both the organising to get them here and their itinerary while they were here. These activities take a lot of planning and it was a credit to those involved. I look forward to all of us working together to ensure Central and Coastal Region continues to be one of the benchmark regions in Queensland. BP once said "The boy is not governed by the don't, but is led by do." Until next time

*Lance Hodda
Regional Commissioner*

Region News from the ARC Campsites & Community Partnerships

Congratulations to Lance on his appointment as Regional Commissioner and thank you to the Regional Management Team for your support over

the many years. I trust you will support Lance in his new

venture and, as an active taskforce, lead the Region to greater strengths and membership growth.

In the new role as ARC, the Campsite and Community Partnerships will be part of the active taskforce supporting the Region to assist in achieving the goals of Strengths and Growth to the Movement within this Region.

There is not a great deal to report at this time as the majority of the news was documented in the Annual Report delivered at the AGM on June 6th.

We received some good coverage by the media whilst the Chief Commissioner, Mr Maurice Law, AM and Assistant SEO Ryan Sodziak visited our Region. We also used the opportunity to discuss our future plans for the Region with these people as well as some detailed discussions regarding the future plans for Rowallan Park.

The next issue of this news letter will contain some details of future plans for Rowallan Park and associated formations.

The visit by the Leaders from Vanuatu was most successful with a bond of friendship confirmed beyond any doubt. We offer our thanks to Jane Mumford for her initiative and persistence to achieve the goal of having these people visit our Region. No doubt Jane will give a more in depth report in due course and I would not steal her thunder.

Until next issue!

*R W (Bob) Hodda
Assistant Regional Commissioner
Campsites and Community Partnerships*

Vanuatu Leaders Visit

The wait was over and the weeks of planning and emailing were about to reach fruition..it was Monday the 25 June and at 8.25 pm our six Vanuatu leaders arrived in Mackay John Row, Alfred Tony, Timothy, Glarinda, Mathew and Willie, all leaders with the First Tagabe Scout Group, Port Vila, Vanuatu accepted our invitation to a week of informal training in an effort to gain as much knowledge as possible to pass on to their Scout group. The Tagabe Scout Group is trying to rebuild Scouts in Vanuatu and to do this they need to become strong, well trained leaders. Once their group is strong in the knowledge of scouting and they have the relevant infrastructure in place their vision is to spread the scouting movement throughout Vanuatu...a huge task.

Mackay welcomed the group with rain, rain and rain along with cold, cold weather but that did not deter them at all. We visited The Mackay Show, had a BBQ at the harbour, visited a combined Rover/Venturer activity, visited Pindi Pindi School, visited Wallace's Cane Farm, looked over Shute Harbour, visited Bowen Scout Group, were interviewed on FM 105.9, spent the day in training with local leaders, had a counter meal with Harry, went shopping, visited the local South Sea Islander community, went to Scouts at MCC, visited the Sarina Sugar Shed, had lunch with the Sarina Scout group, viewed Hay Point and shared a couple of meals and plenty of fellowship with the local leaders.

On Sunday morning a very significant and emotional time was shared at Rowallan Park in a very private ceremony. The Vanuatu leaders paid respect to their ancestors at the Kanaka graves, appreciative of the fact that we have respected and looked after them for many, many

years. The bond between the Vanuatu and Mackay Scouts became even stronger.

On Sunday night a farewell BBQ was held at the Bucasia Hodda's. A great night of fellowship, food and laughs was shared by all. Emotions ran strong as the Vanuatu leaders thanked us with simple yet heart felt words and actions.

Early Monday morning it was time to say our final farewells. The Vanuatu leaders turned up with their Aussie flags flying and definitely more luggage than when they arrived, photos, hugs, tears and "when are we going to Vanuatu Dad?" surrounded us ...all too soon the Vanuatu leaders were on their way back home. Although the rain caused the postponement of the Brownsea Island Camp, the leaders assured us they were returning to Vanuatu with strong memories and an increase in knowledge of the basic running of the local scout groups and the award schemes. To all who helped out in any way during the week I sincerely thank you...we could not have done what we did without the team effort. The week has left an impression in all our hearts. Thank you.

*Jane Mumford
Regional Leader Regional Events*



*Uli Siroki- A painting by Tony
A Gift to Central & Coastal Region
Scouting*

Going Green

Well that's what they say however I think that scouts have always been green. We may have an environmental charter and run activities designed to encourage being green but have you ever thought about just how green scouts really are. Leaders for years have reused recycled and invented uses for what other people refer to as junk. Have a look in any Joey Scout or Cub

Scout leaders cupboard and I am sure that you will see a huge number of items that are straight out of the “rubbish” wine corks, aluminum foil pie plates polystyrene trays, cardboard tubes of all sizes, film canisters just to mention a few. Then go out to the camp store and take a look around. There are no “one use items” here either. Equipment is mended and repaired until it just can not be repaired any more then it is usually used in a different way for a different purpose Scouts are living the reuse recycle ethos and I am very proud to say that we are very good at it.

June saw the celebration of World Environment day at Rowallan Park. Unfortunately the weather decided to give us a challenge and we were not as well supported as we would of liked but it was an extremely successful day. The people who went on the walks had the opportunity to have Irene Champion and Bob Hodda explaining the different plants and the cultural History of these unique walks to them first hand. This is a rare event. We are already planning for the next world environment day so you may like to mark it in your calendars now Sunday June 1st 2008 The fun day will also be on the same day giving all sections the opportunity to complete badge work or just have fun participating in a lot of environment based activities.

Sadly Jane Eales who is the coordinator of the Pioneer Catchment Landcare Group has decided that she is leaving that position Jane. She has been of valuable assistance to the Scouts in the past few years and her presence will be greatly missed. Hopefully she will come back and visit in the future.

Just a reminder there is Landcare project available in most areas of the region and assistance for the World Conservation badge.

Quote: By Albert Einstein
Look deep, deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.

Joann Brzozowski



Regional Joey Scout Report

Well, here we are again, I have finally recuperated after the Regional Mob Holiday. Our “Outer Space” theme at the beginning of June went very well with a great turn out. In all we had 34 Joey Scouts with their Leaders and family members. This has been the biggest in four years!

The weekend started off with a Blast Off, and then a trip through the Rings of Saturn. The Joey Scouts made Comets and did a test fly. They also built and decorated a rocket and made star sun catchers. We had plenty of Space games including, Moon & Mars, Jump the planet, Meteorites and Playacting. Night time activities included a council fire, with a Scouts Own. It became a bit wet for singing round the fire, so we retreated to the activity shed to sing our space songs with one parent playing guitar which sounded fantastic. When the rain eased we returned to the fire to toast marshmallows and make Smores. YUM!

Craft included making Pom pom creatures and Space masks. The most popular activity was the Rocket racers. These were balloons blown up, taped onto a straw and flown down a long string. The Joey Scouts kept coming back for more!

It was a great weekend and full on. The leaders worked hard to make it fun for the Joey Scouts. Thank You to all the Leaders and family members for making it such a great success.

Wendy Harm (Wallaby)
RL Joey Scouts.

CQ Rovers June Moot 2007

The June long weekend once again saw the annual CQ Rovers June Moot take place in sunny Mackay. The weekend was, by many accounts, a great success and provided all those who attended with a wide variety of activities in line with the theme “Pirates Vs Ninjas.” Saturday was “Pirate Day” which saw everyone involved in many different Pirate activities. Firstly crews were taught how to “sing” sea shanty’s like a pirate, and was followed with every crew designing their very own pirate flag. There were also offsite activities that took place at a local beach. Cardboard “boat races” were up first, this ended up in more of a “boat

massacre” with only one of the four participating boats making it across the finish line in one piece! There was also a catapult making competition, where every crew had to build their own catapult out of bush poles and fire wet sponges at one another, so what we were left with was a lot of wet Rovers on a rather cold and breezy day at the beach!

Sunday, of course, seen “Ninja day” and involved an obstacle course designed to test the Ninja within. Some Rovers proved to have a slightly more developed inner Ninja than others, especially when it came to the ropes course and cargo net activities. Millbank Rovers seemed to be especially skilled when it came to the darts challenge in the obstacle course and won by an astounding 1300 points! We were also fortunate enough to have a Tai Chi instructor come to us, and show us this ancient art which provided everyone a relaxing morning exercise. A car rally was held in the afternoon which allowed many of our visiting Rovers from Brisbane and NQ to see many of Mackay’s sights.

June Moot has always been a CQ Rover competition and all the activities were marked on a variety of criteria and the winners of this year’s June Moot Cup were the Fitzroy Rover Crew! However the efforts of all participating Crews and the individual Rovers themselves made for a weekend that was challenging, rewarding and fun!

Scott Marshall
Crew Leader



Rovers doing their Ninja moves

Bowen Scout Group Report.

Another term has finished and group life is starting to settle down. Not yet so for Bowen town. We had fireworks last Wednesday to celebrate Nicole’s 40th. Hugh reckons he is going to buy a house here and settle down. Baz reckons Bowen is paradise on earth. I reckon I’ll be pleased when someone removes the “BOWENWOOD” sign from the town reservoir. All too much for me! I’ll just pull my head in and

let movie mania run its course! (Though I did enjoy seeing hundreds of head of cattle moving around the main streets of town – a sight to behold!)



We have had our big event with the Chief and Honoured Guests. Red scarves are the go! Thank you to the Region Team members that have been supporting Bowen this year. Your efforts are appreciated. Particularly, thank you Bob for the time and effort you have personally given to our group in your role as RC.

The task that faces the Bowen Group now is to ensure that everything put in place through the course of gaining chartered status continues and becomes self sustaining. This is quite a challenge. Putting things on paper is one thing – making it real is altogether different. Further, doing it in ways that others can easily “pick up and run with” is different again. If you have any tips please let us know!

Section programmes have been full. Combined/family activities have included Jamboree of the Trail (JOTT), our Charter Presentation night, ANZAC Day activity and Environment Day in Proserpine. Cub Scouts have been busy with treasure hunts and orienteering, blowing up Milo tins, making a billy and cooking popcorn on a fire accompanied by sausages and potato in foil, making slime and then the fun of seeing who they can hit with it! Scouts have now all gained their Scoutcraft badges and in the process tried cooking pancakes on hex stoves, learnt that something with three legs is called a tripod (still working out what all those other poles and ropes are for) and more recently were honoured to have the Vanuatu leaders spend an evening with them. They played a mean game of duster hockey!

We have many kilometers planned on our calendar in the coming term so hopefully we will see you soon, but in the meantime, you are always welcome to come and say hello if you are passing through town!

Brolga
GL Bowen

PS. The Regional Centenary Tea Towel fundraiser idea has gone nowhere. With

responses from only Seaforth and Whitsunday Coast we decided that a Tea Towel claiming to represent the region, with just the two abovementioned Groups and Bowen would not have gone over well (though I was tempted!!). For now, lack of response has put the idea to bed.

Whitsunday Coast Group

The Whitsunday Coast Group has had a very busy time. We were involved in the Environmental Day held in Proserpine where we had our Cub Scouts & Joey Scouts join in for the day which finished off the Joey Scout mob buddy badge and their environment badge.

The Joey Scouts had their mob holiday in June which was an outer space theme. Thanks to all of the hard work Wendy Harm put into this weekend. It was a fun filled and successful weekend. I had 4 Joey Scouts attend and all went to great efforts with their costumes, as did my cooks.

Our group has been very busy with fundraising. We had a soup stall at the Relay for life. In May we had a stand at the school fete and ran a poo lotto (\$50 board) and held a mothers day raffle. On mothers day we had a pamper day at the den where we had volunteers from beauticians, masseurs, hairdressers, nutrimetics to tarot readings. We had prizes galore donated and food and champagne which all helped make the day a huge success. We raised \$1200 which will be going towards getting the youth members to Brisbane in August for the 100 year centenary weekend. On the 17th June we held a sunset cruise for a couple of hours as well as Auctions and raffles to finish off a great night of entertainment. The youth members are really looking forward to Brisbane and we are really pushing the fundraising each month to keep costs way down as it is a once in a life time experience. We have a new Joey Scout leader and I have just signed up a new Cub Scout Leader so at last I can step back and try and get this group chartered. We have really been struggling with only two leaders and no committee etc, hopefully by the end of the year we will have caught up to the rest of you in the region. I would personally like to thank Wendy Harm for stepping in and helping keep the Cub Scouts going while I trained the Joey Scout Leader. I think she now remembers why she is a

Regional Leader and not a youth leader any more.

Kathy Ball,
LIC Whitsunday Coast Group

Proserpine Scout Group

Our Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts and Scouts are all going well with good numbers and great leader involvement in all sections.

A Sunday hike was held recently to Mount Rooper at Shute Harbour. This was well planned to beat the showers and everyone slept well that night.

This week had the QV 2007 Venturer Scouts stay overnight at our Den, while they took part in local activities.

The Proserpine Show was very wet and muddy especially underfoot, but this did not dampen the community's participation. The Scout car park fundraiser still took place, even though numbers were down this year.

We are all looking forward to some more of this fine sunny weather and some warm Scouting activities.

REMEMBER:- "If you want the rainbow,
you gotta put up
with the rain"!!!

Greg Walker
Group Leader Proserpine Group

Mackay City Central Scout Group

Leaders Rod and Lyn have been working hard with a small but growing Joey Scout Mob. A range of activities, including a very wet Mob holiday, cooking and scouting stories have kept the Joey Scouts busy.

The Cub Scouts, too, have been busy with a similarly-varied range of activities. Leader Debbie has seen quite a number of the Cub Scouts earn badges.

Recently 12 scouts attended a weekend camp at Cape Hillsborough. This was right in the middle of the recent long rain period. Miraculously the rain stopped on Saturday morning and stayed away until the scouts were driving back to Mackay on Sunday afternoon. I think scout leader Quoll needs a new name, something more

unearthly. Leaders Sandra, Bruce, Gary and Allan and the scouts hiked around the headland towards Smalley's Beach, walked up to Turtle Point, and completed some navigation activities.

The Venturer Scouts are raising money for a trip to Carnarvon Gorge later this year. The latest fundraiser has been a chocolate drive. I think some members may need a trip to Carnarvon Gorge to work off the chocolate! Walkerston Eagle Boy pizzeria showed the Venturer Scouts and leaders Don and Sylvia how to make pizzas. They then had a go of their own.

On the term's last scout troop gathering we were lucky enough to welcome the six Vanuatu leaders to our den. They watched and took part in a round robin of activities in Mackay's breezy drizzle. The scouts each received a Vanuatu Scouting badge.

Brian Harvey and Bob Hodda worked hard and finished the group's 2007 recharter.

The group applied for a VSEG grant to buy a range of items including two way radios, kitchen gear, folding tables and a tarp. These should make outdoor activities more comfortable or safer for the leaders.

*Paul Becker
Group Leader Mackay City Central Group*

Sarina Scout Group

Hello all! The Sarina Scout Group has been very active over the last couple of months. We had a very good showing of members at our local ANZAC Day Parade, from all sections, and their leaders. Our members also had a great day at the Environmental activity day held at Rowallan Park. Many of those attended earned badges or parts of them. I'm sure all who attended had a great time. Thanks Jo. We held a working bee at our den to help with not only cleaning up but also arranging to do an inventory of our equipment, so as we can arrange to upgrade it. Our Joey Scout section has been very busy during that last few months, with a lot of activities and exciting things done both at the den and away. The Cub Scout section has continued on their trip around the world visiting two more countries. Both Japan

and South Korea proved to be very exciting. We did activities like origami from Japan, and we had a Cheah Tae Kwon Do demonstration for South Korea. The scout section has also been very busy working towards their various badges. Unfortunately for all sections the weather has not been kind, causing the cancellation of a few activities. All of the members are hoping that these events can be rescheduled later on in the year. We also had a surprise visit from the Leaders from Vanuatu. A BBQ lunch and some sweets to follow made for a good day for all. All of our members that were there thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

*Brett Tomlinson
Group Leader*

Banksia Scout Group

Venturer Scout Section

This term a new journey begins with the investiture of 4 Venturers and they have been working towards their Venturer Skills Award, which starts them along the path to the Queen's Scout Award.

Banksia took the initiative and raided Mackay City Central Venturers with flour and water bombs it was a good start to some inter-unit rivalry. July will see them vying for the annual Capture the Flag trophy and bragging rites for the next year.

Liam and Cuan attended the Back to Basics Camp in May and lent their support to the scouts who were learning some new skills. The raft they constructed was an interesting configuration and I am not sure that it would pass the scrutiny of our water activities people but the fun factor was definitely there. Let's issue the challenge for the Venturers to build a raft stable and big enough to camp and sleep the entire unit in the middle of the dam overnight. Perhaps the Scouts may like to take up the challenge as well, stay tuned for the results.

Banksia Joey Scouts

We have had a huge term - learning about each others pets, sharing and caring about our environment, going to the Mackay SPCA, having the WEAR's carers come to us with a special guest - a baby joey called 'Lucy', traveling to exciting places on safari, visiting the farm and

the zoo and finally going to outer space on our Regional Joey Scout Mob Holiday.

I think we have earned our two weeks holiday.

I would like to thank all the parents who have journeyed with us on our travels; I hope you have had just as good of time as we have had. I would also like to thank my wonderful youth helpers Bilby and Platypus (aka Kea and Chloe). The Joey Scouts love them as much as I do.

Banksia Scouts

Last term was plagued by the unusual weather. Rain, rain and more rain. The Regional Scout Camp, the Spies about Town Wide Game and the Brownsea Island Camp were all cancelled. The weather, however, did not prevent us from attending the Environmental Activity Day and the Anzac March.

Our Back to Basics Camp was held in May. This was a learning camp for the upcoming Regional Scout Camp. Our Scout divided into two Patrols and put into practice their ideas for the competition. Cooking and construction were the activities of the week-end. Pot Roast has become a fast favourite of the Banksia Scout Troop.

We held a Scavenger Hunt by car, mid term. The Scouts were given a list of items to find. Some of the findings were quite imaginative. A Cowboy hat was on the list with two teams bringing back NRL Cowboy hats. An Uncle Toby's Muesli Packet came back for the listed Uncle. Red Back was victorious.

Tom Hallam, Michael Timms and Josh Brozowski planned their Adventurer Cord Journey and competed in the second week of the June holidays. They were joined by Tyson Morgan, Ryan Lamb and Matthew Timms. The Scouts hiked from Funnel Creek to the Braeside Stockyards via Dennison Creek. They carried all tents, equipment and food on their backs. Congratulations on your achievement boys.

Red Back Patrol

Red Back started the Term with an Hawaiian Night, carving replicas of Hawaiian sculptures and tasting some traditional food. They took off to the movies to see Shrek 3 and along with Scorpion worked on a Fitness Programme

covering the requirements of the Scout Award. Congratulations Joseph Hill on your Investiture.

Scorpion Patrol

Scorpion worked hard during the Easter Break visiting the Volunteer Marine Rescue along with Red Back and the Daily Mercury. Their first night back was spent on Construction and knotting. Camp gadgets such as a chair, a wash basin and a towel rack were constructed. An International Dinner of Nachos, Spaghetti and Crème Brulee was held at Fitzzy's house. Delish! I heard the cooking was pretty good. Scorpion completed a Backwoodsman Patrol Activity involving many facets from cooking to construction, with each member earning their Patrol Activity Badge. Congratulations Tom Hill on your Investiture and Michael Timms on earning your Try Venturing Badge and Adventurer Citizenship Badge.

Tassie Tigers Patrol

The Tigers were up to their elbows in flour making dampers and learning fire safety. The use and care of axes, saws and knives was next on their agenda. They started their Cooking Patrol Activity with a two course international meal cooked on a gas stove. (A meal of Beef Fajitas and Crepe Suzette.) Very tasty! I was lucky enough to get a taste. Congratulations to Cuan Fotheringham for earning his Explorer Citizenship Badge, Explorer Shield and Explorer Cord, to Matthew Timms for earning his Explorer Citizenship Badge and Pioneer Water Safety Badge, to Fiona Fotheringham for earning her Pioneer Water Safety Badge and to Tom Hallam for earning his Adventurer Citizenship Badge.

I would also like to congratulate Trent Lamb, Jake Watson, Cuan Fotheringham and Liam McNeill on advancing to Venturers.

I wish all boys every success in future endeavours and hope your Venturer experience is a happy one.

Jo Timms Group Leader

Environmental Fun Day

72 youth members of scouting from Mackay, Sarina and Moranbah enjoyed a Fun Learning day at Rowallan Park on Saturday 21st April where they took part in activities for the Joey Scout Conservation Challenge, the Cub Scout Waterwise Badge, and the World Conservation Badge components for the Scout Section.

The basic program was repeated on Saturday 28th April at Proserpine Scout Den where 48 youth members from Proserpine, Whitsunday Coast and Bowen attended.

The Joey Scouts took part in a number of environmental games, water pollution activities, caring for the environment, leaf rubbings, and crafts using natural materials.

The Cub Scouts learned about water pollution, and water saving activities, studying the water creatures in the dam, and craft activities.

The Scouts took part in Water Pollution activities and its effects on Marine creatures, water testing, observation of birds and animals, and craft activities.

Jane Eales, Co-ordinator of Pioneer Catchment and Landcare Group Incorporated, had groups of youth members doing water quality activities, studying the creatures in the water, and learning about pollution.

Hikes along the Enviro Trails were on the program for all members to participate in. The Group at Proserpine had to be content with exploring the local environment around the den and the showgrounds.

A fun time was held by all. I believe Joann is preparing next year's program already. Well done, Joann!!

Mary Wallace, RL Community Relations



Wiggle visits Rowallan Park

A visiting celebrity “Wiggle” the Southern Hairy Nosed Wombat was on a fact finding Mission and decided to visit Rowallan Park for a brief tour. Wiggle is an Ambassador for her endangered cousin the Northern Hairy Nosed Wombat. Currently it is believed that there are only 116 northern Hairy Nosed wombats in the wild. Wiggle spends her days educating people about wombats and encouraging us all to help protect our native species.

July 3rd 2007 was a landmark day for Rowallan Park. The Land for Wildlife Registration was finally completed and now we are listed on the Greening Australia register.

It wasn't long after receiving the registration Rowallan Park played host to Wiggle.

Joann Brozozowski

