



CENTRAL AND COASTAL REGION

NEWSLETTER

Editor Mary Wallace

September Edition 3/2008

Calendar of Events

18-19 Oct Jota/Joti

22nd Nov Special Children's Christmas Party

14 Dec 100 metre Damper

10am Dec 26th to 2pm 29th Dec Driver

Reviver Waverely Creek

2008 Central and Coastal Region Adult Recognition Awards

Certificate of Merit, for Good Service to Scouting

Kathryn Ball, Group Leader, Whitsunday Scout Group

Lesley Bullemor, Group Leader, Bowen Scout Group

Lynn Hodda, Treasurer, Sarina Scout Group

Laurel Rollinson, Fellowship Member

Reg Ross, Treasurer, Region Executive Committee

Barry Spratt, Campsite Caretaker

Bonnie Spratt, Campsite Caretaker

John Taylor, Chairman, Region Executive Committee

Jo-Anne Timms, Group Leader, Banksia Scout Group

Kelly Tomlinson, Joey Scout Leader, Sarina Scout Group

Gary Wrench, Assistant Scout Leader, Mackay City Central Group

Silver Arrowhead, for excellent service to Scouting

Janet Brown, Group Leader, Moranbah Scout Group

Lloyd Brown, Scout Leader, Moranbah Scout Group

Bruce Lenahan, Adult Support Member, Non Uniform

Gordon Rollinson, Fellowship Member

Outstanding Service Award, for outstanding support to Scouting

Brian Shields, Public Support, Non Member

Thelma Shields, Public Support, Non Member

Gwen Weatherley, Adult Support Member, Special Duties, Moranbah Group

Silver Wattle, for outstanding service to Scouting

Joann Brzozowski, Venturer Scout Leader, Banksia Group

Walter Douglas, Adult Support Member, Non Uniform, (Posthumous Award)

Geoffrey Jesshope, Fellowship Member

Judith Johnson, Region Leader Venturer Scouts

Silver Emu, for sustained and exceptional service to Scouting.

Mary Wallace, Region Leader, Community Relations

Central and Coastal Region Commissioner Lance Hodda, presented service badges and certificates to Wendy Harm, Region Leader, Joey Scouts for 10 year service, to Julie Thompson, Region Leader, Cub Scout for 20 years service, and to Mary Wallace, Region Leader, Community Relations for 25 years service to Scouts Australia.

News from the Region Commissioner

Never was there a truer word spoken when they said "Doesn't time fly when you're having fun". It doesn't seem like three months has past since the last edition of our Region Newsletter.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate all recipients of Adult Recognition Awards for 2008. These awards are granted for good service beyond the level of service normally expected of a person in carrying out the responsibilities of their appointment, or position held, as well as carrying out those duties to a high standard.

The Central and Coastal Region AGM was held on the 16 July. John Taylor graciously agreed to continue as Region Executive Chairman for another term, as did Ray Cross as Secretary, and Reg Ross as Treasurer. These gentlemen are an essential part of Central and Coastal Region, and like the rest of us, give a lot of their time to keep the business of Scouting running for our Youth. For those interested, the Central and Coastal Region Annual Report is available to download from the Central and Coastal Region Website.

In August I held the Annual Region Management Seminar (ARMS) at Rowallan Park. Chief Commissioner Maurice Law attended, and presented the “building blocks” for our 2020 Plan. The 2020 plan will be our guide for the future of Scouting in our Region and the rest of Queensland. The significant difference to this plan, (over previous plans) is that it will be built from Group level up, and will involve input from Leaders at all levels.

We were also able to have the Branch Grants Officers visit Central and Coastal Region during ARMS. Over their six day visit, these gentlemen spent time with each Group Leader and the Region representatives to ascertain our requirements and assist in submitting funding requests. This included traveling to Proserpine and Bowen. To date there have been four grants applications completed and submitted, and more being in the “construction phase”. If successful, these grants will improve the quality and safety of Scouting we can provide for our youth and Section Leaders.

Encompass is now available to download from the Scouts Queensland website. Encompass is the new format newsletter which replaces the Branch newsletter “Scout About” and the monthly hard copy/electronic copy communication Group mail, to formations. It includes a combination of the various mail outs, newsletters and website news into a single streamlined communication tool to Adult Members. Encompass is for everyone.

AJ2010 Queensland Contingent website is now available for viewing. Information regarding transport arrangements, fees and payments are available. There are Groups that have already started fundraising activities to assist those who are planning to attend AJ2010. It's not really that far away. Visit <http://jamboree.scoutsqld.com.au> for the latest info.

Until next time, Good Scouting

Lance Hodda
Region Commissioner

Training Development

Training based activity during the first half of the year continued at a steady pace, but not so the second half. We are truly up and running, with much happening along the way.

We were fortunate to have ScoutOut come to our Region in July, with Branch Commissioner Scouts, Pieter Van Der Kamp, ‘Smokey,’ as Camp Chief. Scouts and Leaders, 28 in all, enjoyed a wonderful weekend in the outdoors, working in Patrols, sharing the team spirit, making new friends and learning new skills. It is a shame more Leaders did not take advantage of this first time event for our Region. Well done to the Dysart Scouts and Leaders who braved a very early and cold morning departure to travel to Rowallan Park to participate. All Leaders who attended can use this activity for their Adult Development Plan (ADP), Step2 – Progress and Achievement, item three, should they choose to do so.

A Venturer Scout Unit Management Course was held on August 16th with six Venturer Scouts from the Banksia Unit attending. All were successful candidates and received a Certificate of Attendance which recognises an important part of the Award Scheme requirements. Judy Johnson and Jo Brzozowski assisted on the day and Merline Wilson joined us to gain knowledge of the management of the Section.

Seven Leaders attended an Assessor Course on August 30th and enjoyed themselves so much that they all came back the next day to attend a Training of Trainers Part 4 (PLA) Course. As a result, Central & Coastal Region now has an additional six Leaders appointed to the role of Personal Leader Advisor. I welcome Janet Brown, Brett Tomlinson, Jane Mumford, Lance Hodda, Lesley Bullemor and Julie Thompson to the PLA Team. Acceptance of this role is in addition to their Primary Appointment, and places us in a better position to mentor our Leaders in training. Allocation of PLA's to Leaders will be actioned in the near future and the relative advice made known. Leader Trainer David Thomas came from Brisbane to lead the courses. We were privileged to have a Leader travel from Charters Towers to join us for the weekend. The Assessor Course is a first for our Region and it is many years since a PLA Course was held here.

The Skills Training 1 Course being held on 20th and 21st September 2008 has six applicants across five Sections. I appreciate the fact that these people are honouring their training

commitment. The positive outcome will be that the Joey Scout, Cub Scout, Scout, Venturer Scout and Leader of Adult Sections will have at least one more Leader with additional experience to take back to their Groups and the young people in their care.

A number of Leaders have been concentrating on their Workbooks with some reaching a stage of completion. The final assessment has been carried out and the appropriate documents forwarded to BHQ for recording purposes. Progress in this area is encouraging and congratulations to those who have accomplished success.

Do you know who's who in Scouting? Here is a quick quiz for you.

Who is the National Chief Commissioner ?

Who is the Chief Scout of Australia ?

Who is the Chief Commissioner of Queensland ?

Who is the State Chief Scout of Queensland ?

Until next time Good Scouting!

Margaret Hodda
Assistant Region Commissioner
Training Development

Rowallan Park News

The first of September ushered spring into the year of 2008 and with it comes a multitude of opportunities to invite you to Rowallan Park to witness, firsthand, the wonderful surrounds of nature at its best. Just to sit around or stroll about in the early morning or evening and listen to the birdsong while you observe the animals leisurely going about their way is an experience that can be relaxing and rewarding.

Make a booking with the caretaker to take the family out for a Sunday afternoon bar-b-que. We have the fireplace, the wood and the wonderful bush atmosphere just 13 km from the Mackay City Centre. All we need is you, your family, friends, food and drinks to come and visit. You don't have to be in the Scout Movement to be welcome. Just come along and support the Park so that we can continue to maintain it for the community's enjoyment.

Rowallan Park will have its 60th anniversary next year and we are already looking at plans to celebrate this memorable occasion. More information will be made available to everyone

within the next few weeks so that your diaries can be noted accordingly.

There are a number of memorable occasions next year that coincide with the Rowallan Park 60th of which I am aware. They include the 150th anniversary celebrations of the State of Queensland and there will be 100 years of Scouting in Mackay and District. How are we going to celebrate these memorable occasions? Watch for the bulletins on the subject and make sure you make time to help and join in the festivities!

There have been some generous people come forward with donations to Rowallan Park since the last newsletter, and some generous people who have continued to help the Park over a greater period of time.

Mr Bruce Devlin from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in McGinn St has donated 132 stacker chairs and a Dell computer to the Park whilst the Bucasia Group received a photocopier. The chairs were distributed to the various buildings at the Park and the computer is placed in the compliment of computers to be used for JOTA and JOTI. Our thanks are recorded to Bruce and his Church for this generous donation.

The old chairs were distributed to the various Groups in the Region who were in need of them, and it was our pleasure to be able to donate these chairs to them.

Mrs Leslie Ewart of McKenny St has kindly donated a relatively new fridge / freezer and a new clothes dryer to compliment our white goods. This came just at the right time as our old freezer decided to throw in the towel. It is now a contribution to the pile of scrap metal bound for Smorgon's Scrap Steel who pays us generously for the collection.

Another generous donation is the individual time and effort contributed by Mr Mike Wright of the Rotary Club of Mackay. Mike has toiled away, with some assistance from other Club members, like Ross Hyland and our Caretaker, Barry Spratt, to complete the new "Mike Wright – Mackay Rotary Water Activity Centre" adjacent the Barry Spratt Dam. Our sincere thanks go to Mike and his supporters for this really magnificent asset toward the needs of the Park.

If you have been to the Park within the last couple of months you will have noticed that the old Activity Shed has taken on a new look. The new colourbond "Activity Building" – surely we can't refer to this new asset as just a shed – is much bigger and is weather proof. It will, hopefully, if our grant application is successful, sport a kitchenette to add to the benefits offered by the facilities at the Park. This building is erected with thanks to the Region Executive Committee, and their successful response to a Gambling Community Benefit Grant application. Our thanks go to the Region Executive Committee and those who helped and supported them and the project.

Barry Spratt is busy with ground works development, and at present is improving the access and site surrounds to the Rovers Den. This is a job being done to help the Rover Crew with the refurbishment of the old "Railway Station" to make it "home" for them and to also recognize the work that the Rover Crew contributes to the Park. "Thank You" Rovers and keep up the good work!

As I remarked in the opening sentence, everybody is invited to come out and become acquainted with the development and usage of our wonderful asset. Again I say, bring out your family and friends and enjoy the fabulous sunrises and spectacular sunsets, have a bar-b-que evening, camp overnight, bring your caravan or just use "The Starlight Motel". It's all good fun for the individual and family alike!

The Fellowship are also doing a great job at the Park with the installation of the rain water tanks and support water reticulation compliments of the successful Government Water Grant application submitted by them last year. Again, if you have been to visit the Park you could not miss the two 25000 litre water tanks now installed adjacent to the kitchen. We convey many thanks to the Fellowship for their initiative and hard work to provide this addition to the necessities of the Park. Anyone wanting to help with the finishing off of the job, or would like information about joining the Fellowship to support the Park, can contact Chairman, Ron Laffin on 49546985 or Secretary, Bonnie Spratt on 49578174.

The Fellowship have also made a major contribution to the equipment at the Park by procuring a motorised pressure water cleaner

and a vacuum / blower machine, to assist with the housekeeping and maintenance, as well as making the work easier on the essential but continuous maintenance program. Again we convey our thanks to the Fellowship for taking the time, and expending the effort to raise the funds, and then to contribute these essential labour saving devices to the Park.

For the information to all, the Charter of the Fellowship has been completed, signed off by the Region Commissioner and submitted to the Chief Commissioner for his consideration. I have no doubt that it will meet his close scrutiny.

In conclusion I would like to thank another volunteer in Mr Harry Roestenburg who has accepted the invitation to come onto the Rowallan Park Team. As a normal succession plan included in the recent upgrading of the Rowallan Scout Plan and our application for the Fellowship Charter we must have a successor, and an assistant in our leader roles. With the approval of the Chief Commissioner and the Region Commissioner, I have much pleasure in welcoming Harry to this position and look forward to working strongly with him into the future of Rowallan Park. Harry will continue in his primary role of Rover Adviser and will take on the additional role of Assistant to the ARC Campsites and Community Partnerships, to further develop and maintain our most valuable asset – Rowallan Park Campsite and Activity Centre.

Bob Hodda & Harry Roestenburg

Regional Joey Scout Report

June was a busy month, when we held our annual Regional Mob Holiday. Our theme was Mad Mob Olympics, to coincide with the Olympics held in August.

We had approximately 25 Joey Scouts attend. This was a good number.

Activities included decorating a banner for each team colour, making torches to light the cauldron, an Opening Ceremony, track races, relays, javelin, discus, weightlifting, and shot put.

By the Saturday afternoon, the Joey Scouts were making Olympic gold medals (these were for closing ceremony).

After dinner we enjoyed a campfire and night entertainment with each mob singing a different song and stories, with jokes also included. Sunday included a marathon walk around Rowallan Park, and we also made several Friendship Flags so that one could be taken by each group back to their den. A game of tug O war and an Olympic Ring relay, a skipping race, Hurdles and track races as well as a Shape Challenge were included in the morning's programme.

A Closing Ceremony came after lunch, when the Olympic Flame was extinguished.

During the weekend one Joey Scout had his 8th birthday, and also the Toothfairy had to make a special visit to one lucky Joey Scout.

August 16th was our annual Joey Scout Jaunt, held at Airlie Beach Lagoon. This year it was a little cooler than previous years. Our numbers were a lot smaller and it was a close call as to whether to cancel. But in the end we reached the magic number of 15, and so went ahead. Our theme was Beach Olympics, and activities included: sand castles, sack races, 3 legged races, a spade and sand relay, Tug O War, and a game of gladiator, with pool noodles. The Joey Scouts also got to swim, which surprised me, as it was pretty cool.

Thank you to the leaders and parents who travelled far and wide to make it a successful day.

Wendy Harm (Wallaby)

RL Joey Scouts.

Environment

Queensland Rovers conducted a working bee at Blacks Beach 13th September.

Starting at 10 am, 23 Rovers planted 450 Casuarina seedlings along the coastal zone (towards the back of the second and third dune, starting from Anglers Parade beach access and heading north).

The Rovers then watered these seedlings in and conducted on going maintenance on a further 1150 seedlings that have been previously planted by school and community groups at this site. In total 2200 L of water was carted out to the re-vegetation plots.

Tuesday 16th September, Council Bush Crew helped maintain the Rovers re-vegetation plot

conducting the first weekly watering. The seedlings planted on the weekend will be watered once a week for the next 2 months by school groups and Council's Bush Crew.

A big thanks to Queensland Rovers for their huge effort on the weekend, and to Council Staff members Ben and Sue, for helping run the working bee.

Whitsunday Coast Scout Group

Whitsunday Group has been extremely busy and out and about in the community for this term.

Joey Scouts

A small group went to the Smart Train, they attended the Regional Mob Holiday "Olympic Theme," at Rowallan Park, and the Regional Joey Scout Jaunt at Airlie Lagoon.

Cub Scouts

The Cub Scouts have participated in a hike which one of the Cub Scouts organized and lead for the Grey Wolf Award requirements. The Cub Scouts, along with the Joey Scouts, visited the library to help with their Literature Badge, and they borrowed many books while they were there. 5 Cub Scouts visited the Sailing School.

Scouts

I had one linking Scout attend the Rainbow Bird weekend, which he thoroughly enjoyed, and learnt heaps, thanks to Tim.

We participated as whole group in 10,000 steps treasure hunt, put on by council. The youth members were so excited when we set off, we had a few that the distance wore out, but out of three groups we received a 5th & 6th place.

One of my leaders participated in ScoutOut, and said he enjoyed the weekend and learnt heaps.

Eight members turned up for the Landcare project, Plant a Tree Day.

I attended ARMS seminar in August. We had some great advice from the grants team. There are a few filled in blanks now, and we know we have the support to help us apply for these very much needed grants. We were successful in the Macrossan and Amiet charitable fund. I was presented with a cheque of \$695 at a special morning tea. This money will be going towards

folding tables and benches for camps and fundraisers.

Fundraisers- the Annual Pamper Day, the Bowen Fest Drink Stand, and the Sunset Cruise have once again been our major successful fundraising events.

Kathy Ball
Group Leader
Whitsunday Group

Bowen Scout Group

Hello to everyone from all in Bowen. The wind is blowing, the sky is blue and the temperature has warmed up much to all our delight.

We are finding that the larger our Group gets, the more effort is required to keep it all together – on everyone's part. Growing pains are natural they say... Our approach was to try that line we have heard from elsewhere "once you have lots of youth participating, Leaders are easy to find" – if only it were true!

Possum still manages to keep Joey Scouts hopping. There should be a special award for Joey Scout Leaders for courage in the face of danger. They have been to the Region Mob Holiday and Joey Jaunt and returned from both, smiling.

Due to Leader shortages, our Cub Scouts and Scouts are meeting twice a month only. This has many problems with it, mostly to do with parents and youth remembering whether it is on this week or not. It is helping with reducing burn out on the part of Leaders, but making it doubly hard to cover Award Scheme work in a timely manner.

In partnership with Proserpine, Whitsunday Coast and help from Region, we are planning a Pack Holiday that will help us catch up with Boomerang tasks. It will be a good way to bring the year to a close if our youth can finish off one level and progress to the next by year end.

Similarly with Scouts: Proserpine, Whitsunday Coast and Bowen (with lots of help from Region) are planning a series of camps in 08/09 that will focus on those very basic Scoutcraft skills which comprise the Pioneer Scoutcraft Badge. Our oldest Scout is only 12 ½ yo – most of them are only 11yo. These camps will include older Cub

Scouts commencing their linking into Scouts. With Jamboree just around the corner we need to 'Be Prepared' and we believe we will struggle to give the youngest Scouts six nights under canvas between February and September 09, in order to complete their Pioneer Target.

Although the year is coming to a close, activity is not diminishing. Our Committee has two major fundraising events ahead of it, including the clean up after the Bowen Family Fishing Classic/Wet Weekend. We have JOTA/JOTI at Rowallan Park, which the whole Group will attend, a Pack Holiday at Proserpine Den and a Scout camp, most likely at Proserpine Dam. Then of course we have the break-up events at year end.

Would you believe me if I said I was looking forward to the Christmas holidays?

Brolga (Lesley B)
Bowen Scout
Group

Banksia Venturer ***Scouts***



Imagination, Music, Luck, Why I Like Mountain Bike Riding, Anzac Day, Adolf Hitler, My Dad's Work at the Mines, Stage 3 Soccer Referee, My Life as a Venturer Scout, and Why I like to Ride My Bike were the titles of the speeches presented by Banksia Venturer Scouts, at a special meeting held on Wednesday evening 11th June 2008.

Ten Venturer Scouts from Banksia Scout Group, Andergrove graduated from a speechcraft course which was conducted by Mr Brian O'Neill, a member of Toastmasters, and Principal of Calen District State College.

The evening was very enlightening, and the audience was enthralled with a variety of different subjects. There were quotes from Thomas Jefferson, references to Steven Spielberg's films, humour and acting, insight into the working lifestyle of a miner, varied pastimes and history lessons. The vocal variety and the imagination and confidence of the Venturer Scouts 14 to 18 year olds were appreciated by the audience.

Mr O'Neill presented the Venturer Scouts a Speechcraft Certificate, Group Leader Jo Timms

presented the Expressions 1 Tape and Region Venturer Scout Leader Judy Johnson presented the Certificate for the Expressions 1 Tape. Venturer Scout Leader Jo Brzozowski is extremely proud of the progress of the Banksia Venturer Scouts and the enthusiasm displayed in working towards their Queens Scout Award.

*Mary Wallace
Region Leader
Community Relations*

Mavis Larkin 1st October 1926 – 27th August 2008

Mavis (maiden name Knight) was born in Mackay on 1st October 1926 spending her youth living at home with her parents whilst being an above average student at the Mackay Central State School and followed with Mackay State High School where she attained the Junior Certificate (Commercial) and the Advanced Booking Certificate.

Mavis attended the Anglican Church which led her into the Scout Movement by joining the 2nd Mackay Scout Group in Penn St Mackay (the Group was sponsored by the Anglican Church) as an Assistant Cub Master on 14th December 1945. This appointment was changed to Cub Master in August 1947, and she retained this position until she moved to Mount Isa in 1960.

Her transfer was actioned to see her appointed as an Assistant Cub Master in Mount Isa from 1960 and to the Cub Master in 1962. She worked tirelessly with this role until 1965, when she again moved location and accepted the Cub Leaders appointment with the North Mackay Group. One can note the change to appointment terminologies from Cub Master to Cub Leader.

Mavis held various appointments in the Scout Movement including District Cub Scout Leader for many years. Her expertise was also used extensively in the Leader Training area of the Movement whereby Mavis would assist with the training requirements of all the new adult leaders within the Cub Scout Section. She was affectionately known to the majority of the older members of the Movement as “Boss”. Her favourite statement to the new recruits at the commencement of her training courses was to ask, “Why are you here? If it is not for the kids you can leave now!”

Her last appointment before retiring was that of Service Auxiliary. Mavis along with Mrs Emma

Nielsen (deceased) and Mrs Shirley Corney formed the OGC Committee for Rowallan Park (OGC – Old Girls Catering) preparing and serving meals for the various training courses and other functions at Rowallan Park. She also conducted the Badge and Scout Shop for many years which entailed some valuable chatting to all and sundry whilst promoting the Scout Movement and its benefits to the youth within our community.

Mavis was the recipient of Adult Recognition Awards which is the Scouting method of thanking volunteers for their contribution to the Movement and the community at large. She was awarded the Medal of Merit in 1971, a Bar to the Medal of Merit in 1983, and the Silver Acorn in 1989. Mavis contributed her services to the youth of the community in excess of 35 years. Her Long Service Decorations were awarded in 1967 for 10 years of outstanding service, in 1981 for 20 years of outstanding service, 1991 for 30 years and the 35 year decoration was awarded in 1995.

Mavis retired from the Movement in 1996 to give more attention to her family and husband, Tom who was not enjoying good health.

Tom and Mavis Larkin’s work is visible at Rowallan Park, with the line of silky oaks standing proudly along the main entrance into the Park planted by them in the early 1950’s. Such items as the locking device on the cupboard in the main kitchen and a well used swing set amongst the pine trees will retain the memory of the outstanding contribution to the Movement and the Community by Mavis and Tom Larkin.

Mavis was “Called to Higher Service” on 27th August 2008 and was laid to rest on September 1st 2008 beside her life partner, Tom in the family plot at Mount Bassett Cemetery with the traditional “BRAVO” from the Scouting fraternity in recognition of a job well done. God Bless, and Rest in Peace.

