



CENTRAL AND COASTAL REGION

NEWSLETTER

Editor Mary Wallace
September Edition 3/2009

Calendar of Events

JOTA JOTI Rowallan Park 16-18 October

2009 Scouting Adult Leadership Award Presentations.

The Chief Commissioner, Scouts Australia, Queensland Branch, Maurice Law, AM, was in Mackay recently for the Central and Coastal Region Management Seminar. Whilst in Mackay the Chief Commissioner, presented Awards to Adult Members in scouting, which were announced on 1st August, World Scout Day.

The list of recipients for the Central and Coastal Region is as follows.

Certificate of Merit, for Good Service to Scouting

Mr Ray Cross, Adult Support Member Non Uniform (Secretary) Central and Coastal Region
Mrs Bronwyn Wren, Group Leader Proserpine Scout Group

Outstanding Service Award, for outstanding support to Scouting

Mr Ray Braithwaite OAM Patron – Central and Coastal Region

Silver Wattle, outstanding service to scouting

Mr Tim Johnson Region Leader (Scouts) – Central and Coastal Region

Silver Emu, for sustained and exceptional service to scouting.

Mrs Judith Jesshope, General Fellowship Member - Central and Coastal Region

Maurice Law AM, Chief Commissioner, Qld Branch presenting Mrs Judith Jesshope with the Silver Emu Award.



Regional IT Support

Hi all, a lot has happened since my last article.

Region Website

The region website has finally received its long awaited revamp. You will notice it uses the same general layout as the group websites. As with all the websites it is only a "living" web site if it is continuously updated. I have updated some of the photos of the region team but there are still a few that I will hopefully have in the coming months. The Rowallan Park site is the last set of pages to be updated and this should be completed shortly.

There have been requests for a secure login on the region site to allow region and group leaders to have secure access to forms etc. This is being investigated and I will let you know more in the coming months. If we get this operational it may also be installed on the group sites to allow the GL and section leaders to access forms etc from one location.

I am also investigating a simple method of uploading photos to the region and group websites (Photobucket). I am currently using it on the region website but I need to refine the instructions a little before opening it up for all to upload.

The address for the region web page is:
<http://centralcoastal.scoutsqld.com.au>

Facebook

You will also notice that the region has a Facebook group. It is open for all past and present youth members and leaders. You are able to start discussions, view forthcoming events or post photos to the group. If you would like to join, click on the link on the home page of the region webpage and send a request through to me. If you think a Facebook page would be beneficial to your group, let me know and I can start one, link it to your page and give your GL the information on how to run it.

For example, Mackay City Central currently has a Facebook page and the group leader maintains the information on the group.

JOTA/JOTI

The 52nd Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) and the 13th Jamboree On The Internet (JOTI) occurs on the 16-18 October this year. I am currently planning the region event which will be held at Rowallan Park. Keep an eye on the region website for more information. If you are not attending the region event and would still like to promote your JOTA/JOTI event, send me the details and I will add it to your group website.

As always, if you have any Scouting IT needs please contact me as I am always willing to assist where possible. I am always available via e-mail (see "contact us" on the regional website).

Dougal McWhinney

Region Leader – YPS Information Technology
Central & Coastal Region

Regional Joey Scout Report

Our annual Regional Joey Scout Mob Holiday was held on the 18th & 19th July 2009.

Our theme was "Under the Sea Adventure". Joey Scouts mobs from Mackay City Central, Banksia, Proserpine, Moranbah and Sarina attended. We had about 30 Joey Scouts which was one of our biggest Mob Holidays. At meal times there was standing room only for adults so that we could fit all the Joey Scouts in!

Our morning started trying to swim with flippers and goggles and then the Joey Scouts were trying to get away from Charlie, over the water. Tongue Twisters were had by all whilst munching on a

SAO, and bubble blowing was a bit of a blow with a Message in a bottle.

Quiet games and activities came after lunch until Bruce's Coming so we had to try and swim away from him whilst being starfish and jellyfish with the seagulls calling "mine, mine, mine". We did have fun making Flying Octopus, they did fly well (into the trees, over the activity building etc), then we jumped over jellyfish and made Turtle Collages. Crabby Crabs came next with great big nippers! After dinner we decided it was too cold to do a campfire so we fired up the barbeque and toasted marshmallows whilst watching a movie. Sunday we had Scouts Own and tried to Return the Pearl to the Oyster and made Sea Urchins. We found we could also weave Turtles.

After lunch, we thanked our wonderful hard working cook and helpers for making it a great camp. Certificates and badges were handed out before all exhausted parties left for home.

The Joey Scouts had a wonderful time and I was so proud of them for all being so well behaved. Thank you also to the Joey Scout Leaders for all their hard work, it was well worth it to see the Joey Scouts have so much fun.

Since I won't be there in 2010 for the next Mob Holiday, I hope all goes well with your next adventure.

Just remember, keep HOPping!

Wendy Harm (Wallaby)

RL Joey Scouts

Region Venturer Scout Report

Central and Coastal Venturer Scouts have been putting their motto of LOOK Wide into practice in the last few months. 7 hiked the Whitsunday Great Walk using the Whitsunday Coast scout den as a base. The leaders agree that it is a great spot to spend the weekend. The hike was followed by Scoutfest where they tried all of the activities on offer as well as assisted with the cooking of the Dinner. Capture the flag was again successful with Mackay City Central winning bragging rights from Banksia. Mackay City Central Venturer Scouts have been assisting Barry at Rowallan Park for Service well above the requirements for any badge work well done. Banksia Group had a Queen's Scout Award presentation for Zac Girvan and Zoe Roberts which was well supported by the Region team. Just to top off the term several venturer scouts travelled to CQ Venture in Rocky. There were also several joint activities and a number of badge proposals approved. We had a

successful Unit Management Course and new Venturer Scout Award implementation by Branch Commissioner Phil McNicol. The next region venturer scout activity is at the end of November and will be a water activities weekend at Kinchant Dam. This should be fun for all involved.

Till next time
Judy Johnson
RL Venturer Scouts

Mackay City Central Scout Group

After a slow and slightly bumpy beginning to the year the group has certainly begun soaring to new heights in the past few months.

Membership has grown by over 70% since April 1 this year with the re-opening of the Joey Scout section and a surge of membership in the Cub Scout and Scout sections.

Not to be left out we've also recorded some growth in the Venturer Scout and Rover sections!

But it's not just our youth member numbers that are taking off. We also are preparing to welcome two new leaders to the group in the next couple of weeks.

(A job for Brian when he returns next week.)
Ray Sargent, formerly of Buderim/Gatton is returning to the movement after a short absence and will be slotting into the Cub Scout section. Just in the nick of time too as we had reached critical mass with leader/youth ratios and were introducing a waiting list.

Michael Francis has decided to rejoin the movement as an adult and pull on a uniform as our new Venturer Scout leader.

Our Venturer Scouts are eagerly awaiting his arrival after the holidays.

We've had a real surge in activity at the Den too. Those of you who attend the Region Team Meeting on Thursday 17th should be prepared for a bit of a change in the den.

I won't say too much but I will tell you that last weekend (Saturday September 5) a dedicated band of Leaders and parents removed everything from the Den then sorted, cleaned and put it all back. There was a lot of noise with hammers, saws and even nail guns shattering the serenity of our "quiet" end of Lagoon Street.

And there is a lot more to come – so watch this space – or better yet, visit the Den!

Section Round up:

Joey Scouts have been busy with a trip around the world this term.

They have been to France, China, Japan, Africa, USA so far and have enjoyed their experiences. Well, all except for the "frogs legs". Even when Kanga came clean about the fact that they were really chicken legs some of the Joeys refused to eat them!!

Cub Scouts should be prepared for any eventuation with a term of emergencies, first aid and survival. So if you're shipwrecked then make sure you have one of our Cub Scouts with you.

Scouts are focused on their bike hike this weekend (September 12 & 13). An approximate 100km ride from Mirani to Finch Hatton Gorge and back again. There will be some very tired scouts about on Sunday afternoon.

Here's what the Venturer Scouts have been doing...

MCC Venturer Scouts "Capture the Flag"

Four fearless Venturer Scouts from Mackay City Central marched into Rowallan Park and wrested the "Capture the Flag" title from the Banksia Venturer Scout Unit on the weekend of the 8th/9th August.

Alexander Sorensen, Craig Schurmann, Christopher McWhinney and Mikaela Stevens fought bravely in the face of relentless attack. They ranged the entirety of the park in search of the enemy flag and whilst they did not actually "capture" the flag they took enough points over the course of the night to become the winners on points.

Bravo to the MCC Venturer Scouts!



That's all for now from MCC – make sure you come to the Region meetings to see what's happening at the Den!

Yours in Scouting
Nikki McWhinney (Jabiru)

C Q Venture

Wow! what a trip leaving from Mackay at 5.30pm we travelled to Rockhampton to take part in CQ Venture Rock Stars. We arrived a little after 10pm having stopped for dinner on the way after sorting out our sleeping arrangements we hit the hay. Does anyone know how to stop the ringing in my ears from the wake up bell one of the Banksia Leaders relished the opportunity to wake up the poor unsuspecting venturer scouts with the ringing of the fire extinguisher bell you know the one used to call everyone in from outside activities inside the dorm. This started a day of activities ranging from orienteering to sponge base ball and paper tent construction we had to see who could get the frozen t-shirt on first and various other challenges. These were followed by a great meal cooked by Cameron (can we kidnap him for the next camp) we then took each other on in a sing star challenge with both venturer scouts and leaders dressing the part and having a ball. There are some very talented venturer scouts in C.Q. Jacob took up the challenge of dressing up with several shots being taken of makeup being applied. Josh challenged Doc and the honours stand even after several rounds. It was well into the early hours before the singing stopped and we went to bed the venturer scouts returned the favour to the leaders on waking them with the clanging of the bell on Sunday. Tegan played some beautiful music on the flute during scouts own and we packed to leave for home we made some friends renewed old acquaintances and started the ball rolling for some inter region activities. Oh and had a BALL doing it we are looking forward to the next CQ venture

Banksia Venturer Scout Unit



Alexander and Craig competing in the Iron Guts which CRAIG won

Whitsunday Coast Scout Group

SCOUT SECTION

The scouts have successfully completed their Pioneer badge work- all achieved in 7 months. They have also had 3 consecutive nights under canvas. The only three day long weekend we had available for the year that didn't clash with fundraising and social events was the show day weekend. The youth met the Thursday afternoon after school at property in Flame Tree and set their fire for the night's meal. The youth prepared the chop stew and apple cobbler and baked some cakes in the reflector oven for their leader's birthday. We had my parents up from Melbourne so they joined us around the fire for our dinner. The following morning we packed up the campsite and headed to Swamp Bay. The youth & Leader hiked in with their packs and food for two days, I met them at Swamp bay on our trailer sailor with the tents and containers of water and cooking equipment. They went beach combing and found a dingy, fished, learnt knot skills and all individually cooked their meals using Hex stoves, Butane gas stoves, LPG gas burner and portable stove that attaches to bottle. They all had a turn at the different methods. The following day they went sailing over to Daydream Island and explored over there. In July the scouts, Stefan(leader) and Greg(parent) were to join the Venturer Scouts from Mackay on the Brandy Creek Hike, however they couldn't quite keep up with the experienced Venturer Scouts so went solo and even though they were all determined they would make 2nd base camp (I booked into 1st base camp as I had a feeling that they had no idea what they were in for) they headed off at about 7.30am and made first base camp at approx 10am- they were not taking another step with their packs on so set up camp and went orienteering and creek bashing instead. They made it back the following afternoon at around 2pm. A few lessons learnt on what to take, how to pack, what not take and how not to pack and carry their belongings. They have now decided that will do the walk again from the other end and just do a day hike with day packs. We were looking forward to the Rainbow bird in September but unfortunately now unable to attend, thanks to Tim & Brett again for organizing and we apologise that we will be missing out. Over the school holidays the scouts held a sausage sizzle/drink stall at the Neighbourhood centre open day for another Jamboree fundraiser and they worked very hard as it was only three scouts

and I and lots and lots of people. A donation was given towards the Jamboree if we delivered some flyers for a new business. The Scouts gave up days of their school holidays to deliver as many flyers as they could. I drove them around for three days. The rest of the flyers each youth had their home areas to do with their parents. Our next main fundraiser is MAN v's BOY, bachelor auction. This is on the 24th October at the Cook House in Jubilee Pocket and the tickets are \$35 each includes a drink on arrival, spit roast dinner and entertainment. The Scouts are challenging some Bachelors to some skills, knot tying, sewing on buttons, pitching tents as well as some trivia questions. After the challenges have been completed the scouts will go home and then the fun begins for the ladies in the audience as we auction off the bachelors to the highest bidders, we have dinner vouchers for the bachelors to take the ladies out for a meal or they can offer their trade as a prize. The boy's are really looking forward to this night.

Cubs Scouts- have had a guest speaker to assist with their bike activity badge, learnt some new knots and made some compasses, fathers were treated with homemade treats, they are also working through the Boomerangs each week. We are slowly building up the cub scout numbers, each week there is a new interested parent. Debbie one of the leaders has a baby girl so she now really has her hands full.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

As a group we have participated in the Scoutfest, Friday evening through to Sunday Afternoon.

Both Cub Scouts and Scouts had a fantastic time and we all would like to thank Region very much for their months of hard work to pull off such a successful weekend. I would also like to thank Jane for accepting my four scouts to assist with the AGM dinner preparation and serving, I felt it was a great opportunity for them to learn to work as a team and help prepare them for the Jamboree. As an invited guest to the AGM I was most impressed by all the scouts and how hard they worked and their wonderful manners. The cub scouts from our group prepared the dinner for the parents and themselves cooking on a fire and using a reflector oven. The parents assisted with the other meals over the weekend and a big thank you also to them for their help.

We are also trying to do Scout job month as a group activity but unfortunately even with advertising in the Newspaper and on the Radio, posters everywhere and door knocking we haven't been so successful. I am still hoping over the

school holidays we may get some more jobs for the cub scouts and scouts to partake in.

On the 29th August we held an open day at the scout den after our AGM, I would like to say a big BRAVO to Tim Johnson and Ken Whyte for attending on the day and setting up the rope bridge for one of our activities. Also to Mary Wallace, Wendy Harm and the two Rovers Brendan Ross and Natasha Salty for coming to assist us on the day and help with our numbers for the AGM. Unfortunately it wasn't as successful in numbers as I had hoped but there were some other clashing events- triathlon, health expo and sport finals etc. Again I had paid for advertising, was on the community announcements on TV and interviewed on ABC radio as well as ads on SEA FM and posters at all youth venues and school newsletters, people now at least are aware that we do exist in the Whitsundays and If they couldn't make it on the day they can still come along and see what we do. Our youth had a fun day and lots of cars going past saw us having fun which again is another form of advertising. I would also like to thank the leaders for giving up their time to assist on the day and talk to prospective new members. On the day we had about 6 enquiries for cub scouts, 4 for Joey Scouts and a lady interested in becoming Joey Scout Leader. Over next couple of weeks we will be able to see just how successful the day was. I would also like to thank the Committee and parents for all of their assistance with the working bee the week before and their long hours on the Saturday .

Two of my leaders attended training in August for Skills 1 so they are now feeling that they can put their knowledge to good use in their up coming programs, the books are helpful but we all agree that speaking to others, learning from others and seeing different techniques all helps us to understand better. Helen will also be attending a first aid course next weekend.

Yours in Scouting Kathy Ball
Group Leader



Cub Scouts challenging the Scouts at tent erecting.

Whitsunday Coast Open Day photos



Proserpine Scout Group

Cubs Make Their Own Paper

The Proserpine Cub Scouts recently attended a Papermaking Workshop at Strathdickie. Keith and Lysbeth Gould from Kenaf Australia showed the local Cub



Scouts the steps necessary in the preparation of the pulp and the knack of successfully making quality hand made paper.

The Cub Scouts produced their own sheets of chemical-free paper from sugar cane and cotton pulp and learned that paper can be made from virtually anything growing in the garden.

They also learned that because of deforestation concerns and global warming issues, the papermaking industry has been prompted to look at alternatives for paper pulp feedstock. One such alternative is Kenaf, a jute-like annual fibre crop native to central Africa.

Each of the Cub Scouts thoroughly enjoyed the hands on workshop and now has the task of creating something useful with their unique paper.

Bronwyn Wren, Group Leader Proserpine Scout Group

Australian Scout Medallion Presentation

Scout Ryan Lamb of Banksia Scout Group was presented with his Australian Scout Medallion and cloth badge at a special ceremony to mark the occasion at Banksia Scout Den, Fernleigh Avenue, Andergrove, on Friday 14th August 2009. Banksia Scout Group Leaders and fellow scouts, Region Leaders, family and friends were in attendance to help celebrate the worthy achievement.

Mrs Jo Timms Banksia Scout Group Leader spoke to the audience about Ryan's scouting history and she presented him with the Cloth Badge and the Australian Scout Medallion.

Banksia Joey Scout Leader Mrs Toni McNeill congratulated Ryan on his achievement and his family for the dedication to Scouting. Ryan's older brothers, Glenn and Trent were both recipients of the Australian Scout Medallion. Mr Brian Harvey Assistant Region Commissioner congratulated Ryan on behalf of the Region Commissioner and Region Team.

After the presentation all present enjoyed pizza and chicken, and nibbles as well as a celebration cake made for the occasion.

To achieve the requirements of the award, Ryan achieved the Pioneer, Explorer and Adventurer Cords. For the journey he hiked with his patrol near Waitara Station, South West of Sarina. They hiked 20kms on the first day and camped at Three Mile Creek, they went passed Wandoo Station and continued 5 kilometres passed there to their destination point, a total of 30 kilometres.

Ryan attended a Leadership Course and for his leadership activity he held an Amazing Race Challenge at Rowallan Park. The scouts had to unjumble Braille messages and take part in a number of the activities.

As a Good Turn Ryan worked as a helper at the Central and Coastal Region 8 year old Cub Scout Camp at Rowallan Park earlier this year.

Ryan's special interest badge he earned was the Senior First Aid Badge.

Ryan began his scouting life as a six year old Joey Scout at Banksia Scout Group, he linked to the Cub Scout Section where he achieved the highest award in that section which is the Grey Wolf Award. He then advanced to the Scout Section and

has now achieved the highest award in this section the Australian Scout Medallion.

The highlight he has had in scouting is "Scout Out" which was held at Rowallan Park last year. It was a camp held especially for the Scout Section to enthuse leaders and older scout in training and new fun ideas to try in their troops. At that camp the Branch Team Members informed the participants of the Australian Jamboree which will be held at Cataract Park, near Sydney in January 2010. Ryan became a Jambassador for the jamboree. He is now looking forward to attend AJ2010.



Mary Wallace
Region Leader
Community Relations

Queen's Scout Award Presentations

Two members of the Banksia Venturer Scout Unit were worthy recipients of the Queen's Scout Award which is the highest award in this section. Zoe Roberts and Zachary Girvan were presented with their Queen's Scout Badge by their Leader Mrs Joann Brzozowski at a special ceremony to mark the occasion at the Banksia Scout Den on Saturday 22nd August 2009. Member for Dawson Mr James Bidgood, Central and Coastal Region Commissioner Mr Lance Hodda, Region Leaders, family friends and fellow Venturer Scouts and Rovers were present to witness the presentation of the awards.



The Queen's Scout Award requires more than 200 hours of effort, completed over several years. It is comprised of sixteen individual components in four Award Areas: Community Involvement, Adventurous Activities, Personal Growth and Leadership Development.

Assistant Venturer Scout Leader Scott Marshall outlined Zoe's Venturer Scout achievements and commented that she was a very caring, loyal and

dependable Venturer Scout who would stop at nothing to lend a hand to those who required it. Zoe put a lot of effort into her work and achieved the requirements at the highest level. She studied Greek Mythology, and presented her examiner with a beautifully handmade booklet, well presented and fully referenced. Another one of her pursuits was quilt making. She was required to commit at least 30 hours to the activities. She presented the examiner with two quilts and a book detailing how she had done every step.

Zoe and Zachary took part in hiking expeditions to the Whitsunday Great Walk overlooking the Whitsunday Islands and Shute Harbour, a hike in the Eungella Ranges with a wonderful view from Denham Range across the highlands. Camps have taken them to Rockhampton Roventure and also to Cape Hillsborough. They had to become involved with different community groups and get to know them as a part of the Community Involvement. They visited the SES Depot, helped with tree planting at the Botanic Gardens and they did environmental studies at Rowallan Park Scout Campsite, the walking trails and creek, identifying weeds. They also designed a waste management system for the park to help with the recycling to reduce waste collections. Zoe and Zachary completed training in St John's first aid, and a Toastmaster Speechcraft Course. Another activity, they corresponded with scouts from the UK, which really puts into perspective the huge community that the scouting movement encompasses.

Mrs Brzozowski spoke about Zachary's achievements. He undertook service to Junior Surf Life Saving. She said she witnessed Zac's drive and determination towards not only scouting but his education, and earning a scholarship prize towards his college tuition. He took part in his school production of Godspell, and he showed leadership ability as Unit Chairman and set a good example to the Venturer Scout Unit. Zachary took part in a defensive driving course which he said was very useful.

Both recipients responded and agreed that it was an excellent experience and the life lessons that they have learned is something that they will always remember. They are both looking forward to going to Brisbane in September to be presented with their Queens Scout Certificate at Government House.

Mary Wallace
Region Leader Community Relations

Library Display



Scout Fest 2009

100 years of Scouting in Mackay and 60 years of Scouting at Rowallan Park

A fun weekend

A Pictorial overview

Discovery Zone



Abseiling



Water Activities



Roast dinner

60 years of Rowallan Park. A presentation of a painting of Johnstone Lodge was made to Bob Hodda by Jane Mumford. The painting was done by a scout leader from Vanuatu who visited in 2007.

