



# CENTRAL AND COASTAL REGION

## NEWSLETTER

Editor Mary Wallace

November Edition 4/2009

### Calendar of Events

Region Team Xmas Party – Yacht Club

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December

### Regional IT Support

Hi all, it has been fairly quiet over the last couple of months and I thought I would highlight the JOTA/JOTI event held at Rowallan Park.

#### JOTA/JOTI

The 52<sup>nd</sup> Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) and the 13<sup>th</sup> Jamboree On The Internet (JOTI) was held on the 16-18 October. The region event (held at Rowallan Park) had around 100 youth members (Scouts & Guides) and leaders attended.

JOTA had 2 radios in operation as well as Echolink. JOTA was only operating on Saturday but we had several good contacts and they were talking to one NZ contact for around 2 hours. The JOTA station also made contact with WOSM headquarters in Geneva late on Saturday night which was a great thrill.

JOTI had around 12 PCs in operation using Internet Chat Relay (IRC) to communicate to other Scouts/Guides/Leaders. It started slowly on Saturday and we were only getting a few contacts in Australia. However by Saturday afternoon, JOTI was starting to liven up and was on fire late Saturday evening early Sunday. On Sunday we also had Team Speak operating until the server crashed. During the weekend 5 of the Proserpine Cub Scouts completed their "Information Technology (Level 1)" badge and were very proud to have done so.

Overall we made around 154 contacts across 24 countries (hope to improve this number next year).

Across the weekend I also had a small competition running and if you submitted the entry you went into the draw for the prize (badge pack and a Scout USB stick). There weren't many entries from the Scouts but quite a few from the Guides. An entry was drawn and the prize pack went to Janee from Pioneer Valley Guides.

Thanks to all that assisted with the setup, running and deconstruction of the JOTA and JOTI bases. I encourage you to have a look at the photos on the region website and I look forward to JOTA/JOTI next year.

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

### Joey Scout Section Report

Hi all, well once again the year is almost at an end. What a busy year it has been. The Region's Joey Scout Mobs have been busy and our Regional Mob Holiday was a success once again!

As most of you know, Wayne and I are off on our long planned trip around Australia in 2010 in our caravan. (Our new home for 12 months) We are looking forward to it, with all its challenges and exciting scenery and places to visit. We may even decide to work occasionally. Who knows?

First, I have the Jamboree in Sydney to attend in January and then we are off.

To all the Joey Scout Leaders and their mobs, thank you for all your hard work and contributions to our annual mob holidays and Joey Scout Jaunts. I couldn't have done it without you! I am sure you will continue to help Julie in her quest to make your mob holidays and Joey Scout Jaunts a success in the future. Keep up the good work and good luck in 2010.

*I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. Enjoy the rest! You deserve it.*

*Whilst we are traveling next year, you will be able to catch up with us on Facebook or by email. Our traveling email for 2010 is:*

*[wendy\\_wayne@hotmail.com](mailto:wendy_wayne@hotmail.com)*

*We look forward to catching up with you all on our return. Until then, Keep HOPping!*

*Wendy Harm (Wallaby)  
Region Leader Joey Scouts.*

### *Cub Scout Section Report*

*The final activity on the calendar was the Cub Scout Leadership Course held on Sat 10th October at Rowallan Park. This activity had a good attendance from Sarina and Whitsunday Coast and Mackay City Central packs.*

*It was a fantastic day of learning and teaching the Cub Scouts skills in Leadership.*

*I was very pleased with the support from the leaders who attended on the day.*

*No further activities are on the calendar for the rest of the year, and I am looking forward to the Jamboree in January where I have been accepted to work on the Medical Team.*

*Julie Thompson (RIKKI)  
Region Leader Cub Scouts*

### *Banksia Den's New Kitchen*

*This year, Banksia Scout Group was successfully granted funding from the Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund for an upgrade of our electrical system and a new kitchen.*

*Our old kitchen was literally falling apart with every meal coming with a side serve of chipboard. Some of the Banksia Scouts put their hands up to participate in our Kitchen Smash and Crash. With each Scout bringing his or her own smashing equipment, there were soon hammers large and small swinging madly. The kitchen was demolished in less than an hour. Clean up took a little longer. The Scouts were rewarded with a Fish and Chip dinner.*

*The next day the new kitchen was installed, and we can't be happier. Banksia Scout Group would like to thank our hammer wielding Scouts and the Queensland Government Gambling Community Benefit Fund.*

Out with the old kitchen.



In with the new kitchen.





**BANKSIA SCOUT GROUP**

The Banksia Scout Group Kitchen and Updated Electrical System was made possible through funding from the Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund and was completed on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2009



**Gambling  
Community Benefit Fund**  
Queensland Government

*Jo Timms  
Group Leader, Banksia Scout Group*

## *Whitsunday Scout Group*

*The Whitsunday Coast Scout Group has had another busy term and we are all looking forward to the break. I have had quite a few enquiries for Joey Scouts but no one putting their hands up for leadership of the section. Hopefully in the New Year we will be able to start that section up again. The Cub Scouts have been working on boomerang work and we have invested 3 new Cub Scouts with another just signed up so hopefully in the new year this will continue to increase. Three Cub Scouts Emma, Josh and Hamish all attended the Cub Scout Leadership Course.*

*My Leaders have done a first aid course and are all looking forward to training in the New Year.*

*The Cub Scouts are having their breakup at the Lagoon with Pizza and maybe work on their swimming achievement badges.*

*The scouts have worked so hard in preparation for the Jamboree and two have successfully received their pioneer cords and two more are nearly there. This term as a congratulations for the hard work they are just having fun, going to the Gym with personal trainer, playing squash and having one last camp with tennis and swimming on the agenda. Ryan went to the Sunshine Coast to meet our troop from Kawana for the Jamboree and had a weekend of fun meeting the leaders and the other 30 youth going. While he was there Lachlan and Raul attended the scout leadership course at Rowallan Park for the whole weekend.*

*Mary Bicanic (committee secretary) organized almost single handedly one of our biggest fundraisers that I know of in October to finish off the fundraising for the year for the Scout Jamboree. Mary is also coming on the Jamboree as a Service Leader.*

*We held a boys verses men bachelor auction at an outdoor restaurant in a caravan park so it had the scouting feel. The scouts were carried in by the bachelors on chariots that scouts built to start the entertainment. We had the Porters truck as our stage and we had challenges between the scouts and the Bachelors- including physical challenges of pushups, tying reef knots with snakes, construction with kinder surprise toys, singing the national anthem, erecting tents, asked questions like which prominent Australians have*

*been Scouts. There were two teams of bachelors and the four scouts the bachelors had to perform some challenges and select a scout to assist them. The questions were based on the Scout Law i.e.*

*1. Trustworthy- what is formal handshake of a scout?*

*2. Loyal- How old is the scouting movement?*

*4. Friendly- What is Harmony day?*

*Then there were some fun ones like what ingredients are in Anzac Biscuits, match up the Australian State flags. At 9.00pm after the entertainment the Scouts went home and then the Bachelor bidding began. Each bachelor was auctioned with a dinner voucher. The bidding on all bachelors started at \$45, some went for up to \$100. In amongst the bachelor bidding we also had prices for the couples and ones not interested in Bachelors like Helicopter and reef trips, meals and accommodation vouchers and massage and beauty treatments. The night was a great success; it cost \$35 per person and included spit roast dinner. We sold approx 60 tickets with some walk in's on the night. Combined dinner profit and auction profit the group made approximately \$3,000. It was a great success and everyone is still talking about it. I would like to acknowledge Mary's months of organizing and the parents assistance for the night also a big thank you to everyone that donated things for the night- truck, lights, sound equipment, tables & chairs, prizes, bachelors and the MC. The scouts had a ball showing off their skills being with the big boys on stage competing. It was a great way to finish off our huge fundraising year. To date the Scouts have raised approx \$9,000 to go towards the Jamboree fees.*



*Scouts verses Bachelors*

*The group has one more fundraiser of the Carols on the Beach, selling hotdogs, drinks and glow sticks. Last weekend we held a trash & treasure*

*with stalls available for public and goods could be donated for scouts to sell, what was not sold we then did a good turn and donated to the neighbourhood centre just in time for Christmas.*

*I would like to finish my article with a thank you to the Region team for their support this year, Brian for assisting me while Lance was unavailable and being available to come to us if needed, Tim and Ken for coming to our open day and setting up rope bridge, THE SCOUTFEST-Jane for your hard work, Margaret for making the training happen this year for us, Mary for printing the newsletter articles, Wendy for her local support and to the other groups in the Region for their advice, program ideas, donation of goods, joining us for activities and including us in your camps and programs. Thanks Lance for your support. I hope we can all continue this scouting friendship and support in the New Year. I hope you have a great Christmas breakup and a well deserved break, those going to the Jamboree I will see you there.*

*Kathy Ball*

*Group Leader Whitsunday Coast Group*



*Whitsunday Scout Group Youth Members and Leaders*

## *Bowen Scout Group*

*As the year in Bowen draws to a close and our youth look forward to Christmas (as are our Leaders!), we can look back at the year that was and marvel at what we have achieved.*

*Whilst our numbers have grown to 10 Cub Scouts and 16 Scouts under 13yo, our Leader numbers continued to shrink. Our Leaders this year (Alison, Brendan and Joe) are deserving of a very big*

*thank you from the youth as the programs they have delivered have been good enough to keep the youth coming back for more. We have already said goodbye to Brendan and Alison will be leaving us at year's end.*

*Our Cub Scouts will have had 4 nights away and our Scouts 10 nights. The youth will have performed service in many ways – particularly they have participated in the Australia Day, Anzac Day, Million Paws, Clean Up Australia and Landcare tree planting activities as well as monitored our sea grass beds regularly throughout the year in tandem with the community.*

*They have earned a broad range of Boomerangs, Targets and proficiency badges as well as Red Cords, and PA's.*

*Without doubt, Scoutfest has been voted best 'away' camp of the year – thank you to all who made it possible. The highlight for me was watching our older scouts dancing at the bush dance and yes, that arm was fractured – a caste was required for 6 weeks following.*

*We have noticed the grounds of our Scout Den worn bare this winter – never happened before. We put it down to 2 large groups of youth twice a week playing games and wearing it thin. This is a good sign!*

*I have been fortunate this year by being able to step into the SL role and have found great pleasure in watching our Scouts have fun as a troop. It is becoming quite a challenge for me to keep that 'fun' coming week after week and I will admit, I am really looking forward to the holidays. I have learned firsthand though, the crucial factor in Scouting is the 'fun' - for Leaders and youth alike. Without it, there is no point being there.*

*To all those throughout the region who have contributed to making it fun for the Bowen youth – our thanks. You make our task so much simpler by giving us more choices and by bringing the youth from widespread groups together. I am well aware of how much work you willingly put in for what at times seems little return. Please know your efforts are appreciated.*

*To those within Bowen who have helped make it fun also our thanks - with a particularly large thank you to our Rovers without whom we would have really struggled.*

*And Mary, thanks for keeping on my back about newsletters – I enjoy reading what others have been doing and the only way I get to do that is by you taking the time to put this newsletter together. This also is appreciated.*

*Now the only other thing I need to make Scouting even more fun is somehow, to find a way to eliminate all that other paperwork...*

*Have a safe and happy Christmas.*

*Brolga  
Bowen Scout Group*

### *Heritage and Memorabilia*

*Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, a Fashion Parade at Mackay City Central Den “Uniforms through the Ages” was held to celebrate 100 years of Scouting and Guiding in Mackay.*

*Models donned uniforms through the years, from Gumnut Guides and Joey Scouts also Brownie, Cub Scouts, Scouts and Guides, Venturer Scouts, Rovers and Leaders of yesteryear to present day. There was even a Scottish Guide uniform modeled and a Sea Scout Uniform. Baden Powell even made an appearance at the function.*

*Afternoon Tea, Raffles, lucky spots, and a Lucky door prize topped of an afternoon of fun filled activities.*

*Thank you to all who helped in anyway to make the day the success it was.*

*Heather Tuckerman  
Heritage and Memorabilia*



*Below is the Invitation to Christmas Lunch for Region Team and Rowallan Park Fellowship, Please reply to Nikki as soon as possible.*

**2009 Central & Coastal Region  
Christmas Lunch**

**Sunday, 6th December  
Mackay Yacht Club  
Breakwater Access Road Mackay Marina  
12 noon**

Partners and children welcome to attend  
Please advise numbers for seating purposes.

**RSVP: Thursday, 26th November  
Nikki McWhinney  
4959 3717 or 0409 632 191**

*It was great to see some members of Scouting doing their good turn at the Special Children's Christmas Party on Saturday afternoon at the Mackay Show Grounds. Well done.*

*Thank you to the Leaders who have contributed to the newsletters during the 2009 year and hoping that they will be bigger and better next year.*

*For all the Leaders and Youth Members who are attending Jamboree in Sydney 2010, have a great time and I want to hear some good stories for the newsletter on your return.*

*Merry Christmas to all in Scouting throughout the Central and Coastal Region, Happy Holidays, and a Happy and Healthy New Year.*

*Wendy and Wayne, have a great time touring Australia and keep in touch.*

*Mary Wallace, Region Leader, Community Relations*