



CENTRAL AND COASTAL REGION

NEWSLETTER

Editor Mary Wallace
May Edition 1/2010

Calendar of Events

- 13th Nov Aquatics (Proposed date)
- Calen District State College Pool

AJ2013 Maryborough Queensland

It has been announced that the next Australian Scout Jamboree will be at Maryborough in Queensland in January 2013.

It is now time to start planning and saving if you aim to attend this event.

AJ2010 Sydney

40 members of Scouting from Central and Coastal Region attended Jamboree in Sydney in January of this year. 15,000 members of scouting were at Jamboree.

Theme of the Jamboree was "Test your Limits".

I am sure everyone who attended the Jamboree had the experience of a lifetime and enjoyed it immensely. Please read the two pages at the end of this newsletter to hear of the experiences of some scouts and leaders.

The Gilwell Woggle

It is now a requirement for participants to make the Two Strand Turks Head Knot, also known in Scouting as the Gilwell Woggle, on Leadership Training 3 Courses so that all Leaders will proudly wear the woggle as recognition on completion of their Leadership Training. I wonder how many wearers of the Gilwell Woggle know the history behind this important part of our Leader uniform.

Up to 1920/1921 the scarf was always tied with a knot.

In 1920/21 a scarf slide known as a woggle was introduced.

The name 'woggle' was invented by Francis "Skipper" Gidney, the first Camp Chief of Gilwell. In early days of Scouter training, fire lighting by friction was demonstrated on Wood Badge courses. Each Scouter used a length of leather thong which was the driving belt from a treadle Singer sewing machine.

B-P suggested they experiment and produce a special scarf slide. Using the leather thong, W (Bill) Shankley, serving at Gilwell at the time, produced a Two Strand Turks Head slide. This was adopted as the official woggle of the Wood Badge insignia and the final task before leaving the training course was to plait the leather into a Two Strand Turks Head woggle.

In 1943 the Camp Chief decided that there should be recognition of completion of various stages of the Wood Badge training. It was agreed that the woggle would now be presented at the completion of the Preliminary Course. Today it is presented with the Certificate of Adult Leadership.

In 2008 Queensland Branch determined to reintroduce that the final task before leaving the Leadership 3 Training Course was for each participant to make their own Gilwell Woggle by plaiting their piece of leather provided on course, into a Two Strand Turks Head woggle.

Margaret Hodda
Assistant Region Commissioner
Training Development

Rowallan Park Fellowship

Rowallan Park did not escape the wrath of Cyclone Ului. There were many trees in the park that literally fell out of the ground. There will be plenty of fire wood in the future when the wood dries off. Negotiations for removal of some of the timber for a suitable donation, is being undertaken

The roof of Johnstone Lodge was repaired by our SES connections, Brendan Ross, his dad Neville and other SES members. Thanks to those involved.

Damage was also sustained to the pergola at the caretakers residence and the adjacent garden shed. An insurance claim will be lodged.

Urgent repairs and relocations of the water reticulation at Rowallan Park are being investigated and when done a map will be drawn up showing the whereabouts of the water pipes.

The Annual Meeting of the Fellowship will be on the 10th May 2010.

Cub Scout Section Report

The region cub scout planning day was held to discuss the year's events, the main topic being the cub scout camp in May, to be held at Rowallan Park.

The Regional Cub Scout Leadership course was held in February, at Mackay City Central Scout Den. There were 11 cub scouts from Moranbah, Sarina and Mackay City Central who participated in the course.

It was a great day with games and activities, where the cub scouts learned by doing, and the serious side, where the cub scouts learned the skills for good leadership.

The cub scouts then take the booklet which is given to them on the day to complete the required tasks to obtain the Cub Scout Leadership badge.

Unfortunately the Joey Scout planning day was cancelled.

The main event for the Joey Scouts will be the Mob Holiday to be held later in the year.

*Julie Thompson
Region Leader Youth Program Support
Cub Scouts*

Venturer Scout Report

Since the beginning of the year the regions venturer scouts have been meeting together once a month. Firstly they toad busted in the botanical

gardens, then they debated their way to success at a debate and speech night.

Meeting together allows them to get to know each other and assists with badge work and hikes. We have also welcomed a new leader at Mackay City Central and several new venturer scouts that have progressed from scouts after enjoying Jamboree. There are several upcoming events on the calendar and I am sure that the venturer scouts will be out and about looking for challenges and overcoming obstacles. Several of the regions venturer scouts and leaders are attending the Queensland Venture in June and are fundraising to offset the costs. So if you happen to see them please give them your support.

*Judy Johnson
Region Leader Youth Program Support
Venturer Scouts*

Bowen Scout Group

Hi all! Hope you have been able to recover from the cyclones effects and are all back on your feet. We made it through ok with just lots of tree branches and debris to tidy and cupboards blown over. Nothing major happened that can't be fixed.

Bowen has had a shaky start to the year with loss of leaders causing the imminent closure of the Cub Scout pack. A last minute offer to wear uniform from a parent has helped keep it open. As you all would realise, the lack of sufficient numbers of Leaders and the subsequent lack of succession planning means continual upheaval for the Cub Scouts – not much stays the same through such a handover and the pack returns to "Square 1" and starts over again all to the detriment of the youth. How can we stop it from being like this?

We had a very successful 'sleepover' early March with both Cub Scouts and Scouts attending. Scouts were able to undertake service to the group (an Explorer level Citizenship requirement) by mowing, loading rubbish on to trailers, cleaning floors and tidying cupboards between swimming, eating, games and sleeping. The weekend was not without event as a water pipe burst above our undercover area before lunch Saturday – we all got wet whilst a dad fixed it for us. About 9.30pm that night the water main burst inside our fence line but fortunately on the council side of the meter. Scouts were witness to someone who was willing to come out late at night to fix it to allow

us to stay on site (and the phone number we rang was taken from a poster the Scouts had made including all emergency numbers!) It was a miserable muddy job but was done with a smile and kind words. Tent poles snapped later that night which ripped through a tent fly and we worked out why we were finding small dead fish in the grounds when we discovered a fly covered with bird droppings in the morning.

Our Scout section is going OK. This year we are trying to implement greater use of the patrol system getting the youth more involved in the running of meetings, planning of programs and taking more responsibility for the delivery and assessment of award scheme tasks. All patrols underwent a reshuffle where the scouts chose their own patrols and appointed PL's and APL's without Leader involvement (well only a little bit to make sure no one was left out). We have three new patrol names and at the moment most are quite excited by the arrangement. The disadvantages of this self-selected system will need to be worked through but I have faith it will work given time and guidance. Our troop is young with most around the 12yo/Pioneer level. I find it impossible to step completely back to let things work out unassisted and sensing when to do so is a skill I am still learning.

Our Rovers have gone further a field this year scattered across Townsville, Charleville and Brisbane. They are choosing to continue their membership even though we only see them on the occasional holiday back in Bowen. The Charleville connection is becoming involved in the Group there – I understand getting involved with Cub Scouts and am told their situation is similar to ours with the group suffering from lack of Leaders though they are fairly asset rich with physical resources.

Bowen does not own a den – we rent from the hibernating Bowen Guides. We are concerned for our future as we have a two-storey townhouse complex being built right up to our fence line. I suspect we will no longer be lighting fires 'out the back' as we used to as we will have neighbours looking down on us soon – something we will have to get used to. I hope they support Scouting and don't mind a bit of noise twice a week when we meet!

Brolga, Group Leader, Bowen Scout Group

Whitsunday Scout Group

The scouts have dropped down to two so not much to report on that section, we are waiting to hold a Jamboree night for the parents to come and look at photos and view the DVD but unfortunately I am still waiting for both to arrive in the mail. They have some camps coming up next term, one is joining the Bowen group on the May long weekend. They have participated in Shave for a cure, shaving their leader's head and colouring their hair, changed car tyres and going to a bike repair shop to learn how to look after their bikes.

The cub scouts are busy trying to work through their silver boomerangs as they are all hoping to participate in the Cuboree at the end of the year. They were very fortunate to be able to go out on an eco barge for clean up Australia day and learn about the environment and recycling as well as doing a good turn.

I would like to thank Margaret for finding alternative venue for training so it could go ahead as planned in the aftermath of the cyclone, I had two leaders attend this training and now with it going ahead will be able to participate in the next training in May. Thanks also to Jo Brzozowski for putting up one of my leaders at her home on the Friday & Saturday night and taking her to the training each day this saved her a very early start on Saturday morning.

Thanks Kathy
Group Leader, Whitsunday Scout Group

The Rover / Venturer Easter Weekend



What a way to spend the Easter weekend, camping at Cathu. Early on Good Friday a group of energetic Rovers and Venturers jumped into cars and headed up to Cathu for the Annual Opposite Lock Charity 4WD Comp. However a relaxing weekend camp was not what was on the

agenda. Instead there was the important role of catering for the SES, Comp Marshals and General Public to be attended to. From the moment we arrived there was work to be done. The first day was filled with the task of setting up the kitchen, who knew you needed so much stuff to make a simple burger! The following two days were filled with the preparation of around 600 burgers and the like to be made, complete with 5am starts and 9pm finishes. The final day was one that was both met with pleasure and misery as it meant packing up then heading home to unpack again. There was some fun and games to be had along the way though, with one of the rovers choosing an icy cold esky as a place to cool off after a long day in front of the BBQ. It was a very successful weekend with a nice reward of well earned fundraising money. With the help of many people and a few businesses this weekend was made a little easier, but the big thank you going to Pera from Banksia without whom this weekend would not have happen. Although I have heard a rumour that next Easter she intends to spend her Easter by the beach, cool drink in hand.

Brendan
Ross
Crew
Leader
Mackay
Rover Crew



Splinter Cooling off in the Esky

Roventure 2010

On Friday March 5th four Banksia and five Mackay City Central Venturer Scouts met with leaders and Rovers from the Mackay Crew to travel to the C Q roventure in Blackwater.

We travelled via the beef road and had a quiet and uneventful trip except for a couple of detours looking for the fuel which ended up being bought at Dingo where several of the venturers and rovers topped up their sugar levels just to make sure they survived the remainder of the trip. Arriving in Blackwater we proceeded to the Blackwater scout den and checked in the other venturer scouts and rovers who arrived at different times over the next several hours. Some from as far away as Brisbane

one of their leaders flew into Rockhampton. After a full morning of activities based on the theme "The Ancient Greek Olympiad." we again piled into a number of vehicles and headed to the tablelands. After stopping to admire the view at the lookout we proceeded to the next activity area but after all the rain the road was a little underwater at the causeways so the normal cars could not continue this meant reshuffling of seating to the 4x4s and we continued to our destination. Upon arrival Mackay City Central's new venturer scout leader injured himself requiring transport to the Blackwater hospital and several stitches.

Everyone dressed up for dinner and activities in togas and the HI Five Toga was a definite hit every one had a wonderful time and after parade and awarding of the winning laurels we departed for home tired but happy.

By Josh Banksia Venturer Unit

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Josh Brzozowski was presented with his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award by



James Bidgood at a ceremony at the Mackay Regional Council Offices. On receiving his award Josh gave a brief speech recounting his activities from a speech course to playing hockey and service to the community, he hiked the Eungella Great walk for his adventurous journey he thanked all of the people that assisted him to achieve his award.

Aquatastics

Two years in a row Aquatastics had to be postponed due to cyclones. Cyclone Hamish threatened us in 2009 and Cyclone Ului headed for the coast on the day we had planned for Aquatastics this year. By nightfall we certainly knew it was here.

The proposed new date for Aquatastics is 13th November.

M Wallace
Region Leader, Community Relations.

1. *How did you feel when you arrived at Jamboree and there were 12 000 people there?*

(BT) It was certainly a first for me to see 12 000 people in one place. WOW!

(MW) Amazed, overwhelmed.

(DW) Wow – too many people

(KH) It was like, Wow, because there were so many people

(AW) Excited

(MB) OMG, all these kids Jay-walking on the roads not even aware there was a huge 10ton bus behind them?? Swapping badges, high fiving, free hugs – like a kid’s version of Woodstock.

(RD) I didn’t think about it but I was excited when I got there.

(D&HT) Very Tired but overjoyed to see scouts greet each coach with smiles and many Badges to swap

(LB) It didn’t really feel like there were that many people until we went the opening ceremony, the site was so big and spread out you just saw big groups of people. We traveled independently so weren’t there when the bus loads all arrived.

2. *Did it take long to orienteer yourself and get to know the layout of the Jamboree site?*

(BT) No. My sense of direction is pretty good. By the end of the first day it was all good.

(MW) Started to remember every place by the 10th day.

(DW) No, not really. I took about a day to find everything.

(KH) About 2 days.

(AW) A little while.

(MB) YES!!! I had no idea what sub-camp I was in for the first 6 days and was cheering for the wrong one.

(RD) No it took me about two days to know the full lay out.

(D&HT) 24 hours to settle in and work out where all bases and campsites were located.

(LB) The maps were a bit hard to follow but we found everything okay after a couple of days.

3. *What was your favourite activity or highlight at the Jamboree and tell me something about it?*

(BT) I found that the Scouts really enjoyed Skills Village because it was so varied with lots of activities. Stunt bikes and Jamboroo Water Park were also a big highlight.

(MW) Skills Village – the beauty care base, where we made bath salts for the girls and tent deodorizers for the boys; and the theatre makeup where everyone looked liked they had been in a bad accident.

(DW) It was the motor bikes and push bikes.

(KH) Skills Village – we made kennels.

(KH) Endurance – we had a great time.

(AW) Jamboroo and Skills Village.

(MB) Challenge Valley. It was great to get video footage and watch a small group of young strangers bonding and encouraging each other to new challenges.

(RD) Water activities, kayaking, and free swim. We missed out on snorkeling.

(D&HT) Heritage and Memorabilia display, tent & museum. History of Scouting and Changi Prisoner of War camp stories.

(LB) Collecting very rare badges, meeting so many people. Squirmish was fun

4. *What offsite activity did you participate in, and tell me something about it?*

(BT) Water Activities – They had canoeing, kayaks, snorkeling and swimming to do.

(BT) Jamboroo – Water Park full of slides and other rides.

(BT) City Tour – Good activities (was amazing seeing how the country scouts were just overwhelmed).

(MW) City Tour – Very interesting as I had never been to Sydney.

(DW) Jamboroo – because there was lots of fun stuff.

(DW) City Tour – because of the shopping and food.

(KH) Jamboroo – There were many rides and they were enjoyed by many.

(AW) Jamboroo – It was really cold.

(MB) I was Bus Captain for the City Tour. OMG!!! Chaos!! Lost, tired, confused – AND THAT WAS ME!!!!

(RD) Endurance. It was a long hike that tired many people

(D&HT) Australiana village – going before the judge and being sentenced to fifty lashes of the cat-nine tails and then put into the stocks for 20 minutes for forgetting to have name ID on me to attend lunch one day.

(LB) Jamboree was awesome- it was the water park we had so much fun, toboggans, python water slide and the wave pool.

We went to Sydney for a day and played a game where we had to use computers to find our way around, quite a few patrols got lost. We got to have Mc Donalds

Water Activities- we were first group ready so we got to have a ride on the water ferry to the activity site

5. *Each night there was entertainment – what did you enjoy most?*

(BT) The opening ceremony was excellent, but I really liked the extreme stunt motorbikes and BMX riders.

(MW) Opening ceremony.

(DW) Motor bikes and BMX riders.

(KH) Watching the people do Jamboree Idol.

(AW) Jamboree Idol.

(MB) I only watched opening/closing ceremonies. I was in the Leaders Lounge most nights because I was a little stressed

(RD) I enjoyed Extreme Sports night.

(D&HT) Talking to scouts and leaders of overseas contingents and joining in for the opening night of 13,000 voices.

(LB) The entertainment wasn't all that great after hearing what they had in Melbourne, we didn't know the bands, the queues were way too big at the carnival night and we all lined up for hours to miss out on rides, the comedy night was funny and we saw 1 crusty demon

6. *If you were asked to tell a Cub Scout who was eligible to go to the next Jamboree, what would you tell them to encourage them to go?*

(BT) I would tell them that all the Scouts and Leaders had a fantastic time and did not want to go home. IT WAS FANTASTIC!

(MW) Of all the scouts I asked about the thing they enjoyed the most, the answer was Endurance and Skills Village, and everything was awesome.

(DW) I would say that all the scouts and even leaders said that it was awesome and they didn't want to leave.

(KH) It is so much fun, you learn heaps and you make new friends.

(AW) That it is fun and that you learn a lot.

(MB) It's the time of your life!!! You get treated like a mini grown up and do stuff with your friends without adults always worried and nagging.

(RD) It is the best fun that you will ever have in scouting, and you will only get to go once or maybe twice.

(D&HT) To see scouting in its full element as to the Scout Law & Promise and to do the skills that scouting has to offer each scout.

(LB) It was awesome, 14 days went so quickly we didn't even miss home, and I am hoping to go to another one.

7. *For Leaders – What was your role at the Jamboree and tell me what you have gained by attending?*

(BT) I worked in Skills Village, and camped in troop lines. It was great to meet such a wide variety of scouts from all over. Great new friends made.

(MW) Troop Leader – Welfare. Met some great Scouts. Great experience meeting so many new people.

(MB) N/A – parent helper/Service Leader – but, in saying that, I honestly learnt so much from the kids. They are so amazing!! The way they cared for each other and laughed and view the world...for the first 5 days I thought I was in heaven, because that's how the world should be. (Day 6 onward was maybe a little too long for me

(D&HT) Working in the Memorabilia and Heritage Display and teaching all that came through Scouting History and how scouting really started.

(LB) My Mum went as Service leader, she says to say that she enjoyed seeing the youth have a great time but it was very very exhausting for her. Days started at 5.30am and she didn't get back till 6pm and only had 1 day off (2nd day there). She was grateful however that her activity was Jamboroo where she could play and have fun also there were a few incidents, broken arms, near drowning and dehydration but luckily there were two nurses in her team. She was disappointed with only one day off because she didn't get to see any of the activities that were happening on site and didn't realize that there was so much happening until she saw photos, she thought she had walked the whole site on day off but she only covered half of it and that was mainly the sub camps and main area. She said she has never walked so much in her whole life and she slept for three days when she got home.