



CENTRAL AND COASTAL REGION

NEWSLETTER

*Editor Mary Wallace
Nov Edition 3/2010*

Calendar of Events

*12th Dec Region Team Xmas Party The Point
Tavern, Midge Point*

Jota/Joti

*The 53rd Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) and the
14th Jamboree On The Internet (JOTI) was held on
the 16-17 October. The region event (held at
Rowallan Park) had around 60 youth members
and leaders attended.*

*JOTA had 2 radios in operation as well as
Echolink. JOTA was only operating on Saturday.
Due to very noisy conditions on the day we only
had a few contacts (mostly in Australia).*

*JOTI had around 10 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. During the
weekend a couple of Scouts exchanged e-mail
addresses to start pen pal contacts as part of the
World Scouting proficiency badge.*

*Overall we made around 133 contacts across 30
countries (not as good as last year but hope to
improve this number next year).*

*Across the weekend the world JOTA-JOTI
organisers had a bingo game running call
"JAMPUZ". You had to collect the JID codes
from the contacts and the last 2 numbers were
used as numbers for the bingo card. We had 5
pairs of numbers but not enough to make bingo
(needed 6 numbers).*

*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
Central & Coastal Region*

Aquastastics 2010

*On Saturday 13th November the Annual Central
and Coastal Region Scouting Aquastastics Carnival
was held at the Calen District State College Pool.*

*Very enthusiastic teams of Joeys Scouts, Cub
Scouts, Scouts and Venturers competed for the
Golden Snorkel Award. Mackay City Central
Group was this year's winner with a fine
performance by their Joey Scout Mob.*

*The leaders and youth members were dressed in
their team colours along with a Christmas flavour
to the event.*

*The afternoon was packed with fun activities for
all to enjoy such as: freestyle races, any other
stroke races, surf ball relays, tube relays, collect a
ping pong ball, decorate the Christmas tree relay,
and heave the lifeline relays.*

Mary Wallace



Operation Rainbow Bird

18 Central and Coastal Region Scouts from Bowen, Whitsunday Coast and Moranbah, 2 leaders and one parent braved the terrain and hiked the Whitsunday Great Walk for the Annual Operation Rainbow Bird hike camp. The hike from Brandy Creek to Airlie Beach is 30 kilometres.

The scouts were required to prepare their own menus, purchase their own food that was able to be cooked on a hexamine stove and pack and carry their own back pack which included their food, bedding and tent for an overnight camp. Two litres of water was carried by each scout however there were watering points along the way.

The scouts who participated in the hike camp fulfilled some of the challenges in the award scheme.

Compiled by Mary Wallace from information supplied by Tim Johnson, Region Leader Scouts



Grey Wolf Award Mky City Central Group

Cub Scout Ella Wright of Mackay City Central Scout Group was recently presented with her Grey Wolf Award, the highest award in the Cub Scout Section.

To achieve the Grey Wolf Award Ella gained the Gold Boomerang, and other requirements, including a Cub Scout Pack ramble through the Botanic Gardens. She used a map provided by the Botanic Garden staff to plan her walk, and obtained a questionnaire asking participants to identify local plants used by the aboriginals and complete questions about their uses. The Cub

Scouts stopped on a grassy knoll beside the lagoon and produced a landscape sketch. Ella presented an adaptation of the game 'Cat and Mouse' as her Jungle Book resource called "Mowgli and Shere Khan."

Ella attended a Cub Scout Leadership Course and was a Sixer in the Cub Scout Pack. Cub Scout Leader Debbie Rutherford said, "Her caring motherly nature and natural leadership qualities saw the welfare of the pack and the leaders taken care of."

Assistant Region Commissioner Brian Harvey presented Ella with a letter of congratulations from the Queensland Branch Commissioner of Cub Scouts, Assistant Cub Scout Leader Lyn Lean presented the Grey Wolf certificate and Cub Scout Leader Debbie Rutherford presented her with the Grey Wolf badge.

Ella has advanced to the Scout Section.

Compiled by Mary Wallace from information supplied by Cub Scout Leader Debbie Rutherford.



Grey Wolf Award Banksia Group

Four Cub Scouts from Banksia Scout Group were recently presented with their Grey Wolf Awards, the highest award in the Cub Scout Section.

To complete the tasks to achieve the award, Yasmin Bishop, Rianne Boyce, Natalie Bryiell and Daniel Andrews all participated in a hike at Cape Hillsborough and all made different games, based on the Jungle Book theme, to present to their cub scout pack. They also achieved the Gold Boomerang, and a variety of interest badges.

As a sixer or second in their cub scout pack these youth members have been a positive influence to

the other cub scouts and were willing to help the leaders in any way they could. They have now all linked to the scout section at Banksia Group.



Whitsunday Scout Group

The Whitsunday Coast Cub Scouts & Scouts recently went on a camp to Hook Island (Treasure Island)- The cub scouts caught a barge over to the island in which we flew the jolly roger and the pirates took over. On arrival at 8am we headed for the camp site and pitched the tents. The scouts sailed over and arrived at about 1pm. The first activity was snorkeling with the fish and looking at the beautiful coral, followed by morning tea and then off on a bush trek to go and do some fishing. Lunch was ready on their return. While they were eating the scouts set a compass trail for a treasure hunt. The cub scouts made shelters and played lots of games. The scouts helped entertaining the cub scouts and also had fun.

The return boat was 8am again the next morning so up bright and early to cart all the gear back to the beach and have a quick breakfast. That's the only problem with islands you have to rely on the tides. It would have been great to have another full day there.

I recommend Hook Island to those that want to do something a bit different-Contact me for more information regarding prices etc.

Two cub scouts and one scout attended Jota Joti and then the scout headed off with us and did some geocaching in Mackay, there was only one that we couldn't find. I am not sure if the Mackay groups are aware but there are heaps of geocaching locations in Mackay we only covered about a third of them. We wanted to go to movies and do activities we don't have in Airlie.

Last Saturday night we ran the car park for the boxing and made \$300 and next week we have to volunteer at the 000 ball as waiters etc. We will be getting a portion of the takings on the night. We haven't done much fundraising this year I think we exhausted it last year for the Jamboree and as I have so few numbers I don't have adults etc to run my usual successful fundraisers.

One scout and his mum joined the other groups in the Rainbow bird hike and loved it. They said the group of youth were fun and friendly and it was great that we could join in - with only two scouts left it is great when they join other groups for a change in company etc.

I would like to thank Lesley (Bowen group) and Lloyd (Proserpine group) for allowing our scouts to join in on some of their activities during the year. They really wanted to continue this year after the Jamboree and it is so hard trying to find activities for two youth to do.

That's it for another year almost hope everyone has a merry Christmas and Great New Year.

Kathy Ball Whitsunday Coast Scout Group

PS November Edition of Encompass has an excellent report on Cuborree written by Kathy Ball.

Banksia Venturer Scouts

Wow what a busy couple of months starting with Q Venture in the June School holidays at the Gold Coast where we visited three worlds went fishing or became Country Bumpkins or escaped to a Island. We all had a ball. It was well worth the cost and travel. If you ever get the opportunity you should definitely attend.

Later we had an initiative course at Kinchant Dam where five venturer scouts took part in several different activities showing their initiative. The rafts were a sight and I am amazed at the different ways to achieve the same outcomes.

Josh Brzozowski travelled to Brisbane to receive his Certificate at Government House.

We went caving at the caves just north of Rockhampton with Peter Wilson and his daughter

Tina, who is a Rockhampton Venturer Scout. We stayed at Seonee Park and had a great time mastering one of Docs Card games.

October flashed past and Jota – Joti was ready for us to attend the Venturer Scouts challenged themselves to add to the tradition of Pizza for dinner and added a chill out zone complete with lounges and they also put up gadgets and gateways. They tried to put up a Queenslander but it needed some more practice to be successful.

Next on the venturer scout horizon is Aquatastic then the CC Venture at Kinchant Dam. The venturer scouts have invited the older scouts to attend and join in the annual event.

There have been numerous tapes earned and several venturer scouts are receiving their Venturer Scout Awards, and looking to the next challenge presented to them.

We are finishing the year with a Camp at the Whitsunday Coast Den.

Joann Brzozowski
Venturer Scout Leader, Banksia Group



Q Venture Campsite

Bowen Scout Group

I have just returned home from our den where our Cub Scouts have been playing host to Lower Burdekin Joey Scouts and Cub Scouts for a two-night sleepover. Eleven youth and six adults drove into Bowen on Friday night from Home Hill and Ayr and have now returned home with smiles on their faces. I am very proud of our two Cub Scout Leaders – Raksha (Sarah) & Chil (Kitt), for all their effort programming, planning and purchasing. Many of us know how stressful it can be when planning combined activities when so much is unknown about the other group. I am very

pleased to report they did a magnificent job while I stood back and watched – best camp I've been to in years!!! (Though Scoutfest still rates very highly). They even managed camp-oven Apricot Chicken and Rice on Friday night as the rain came down. Yes- cooked to perfection outside in the rain. (Not sure our Scouts would have managed that!) Also great was that the Cub Scouts and Joey Scouts from both groups mixed and mingled with ease from the moment they came through the gate. Thanks must go to Lower Burdekin Group for being such easy to please guests.

Having visitors in our midst reminds us of the things for which we should be grateful. We don't always see that we have a great den but our visitors constantly pointed out good things about it and now we can look at it with fresh eyes and until next week, will be content with our lot. Likewise our hometown becomes commonplace to us but to visitors, it is a town offering things that others envy. Our Cub Scouts are looking forward to going north next July as they have been promised the chance to camp at the "drive-in" movies where movies are still shown – that will be something very different for Bowen Cub Scouts.

Our Scout troop has been steadily growing in numbers all year and now has up to twenty regularly attending. Whilst the numbers are good, the down side is the extra energy it takes to plan and run meetings to cater to the larger group. Kaa (Joe) has been a top ASL but sadly has given notice he will not be with us next year. That will leave Broлга on her own again but maybe not with twenty as we are expecting to lose a few as they move into high school – something we have to deal with each year.

By year's end, our Scouts will have had eleven nights under canvas and our Cub Scouts nine nights out. I have no doubt this is what is keeping the numbers growing but by this time of the year, Leader energy levels are dropping as the humidity is rising. I think we need to circulate a list of creative ways to keep our packs and troops having fun with minimal Leader effort as we run down these last few weeks to end of year. Do you have any great ideas to share that don't need transport arranged, permission slips or money?

We have been trying "Theme nights" where each patrol plans the programme for a night around a theme, with mixed success. All patrols want to choose free dress, shop bought party food and music that we oldies think is bordering on

inappropriate. The books tell me that at first you have to take baby steps...

Brolga
Group Leader, Bowen Scout Group

Photos from Aquatastics



The History of the Gilwell Scarf and Wood Beads

THE WOOD BADGE: In itself the badge is valueless; two pieces of wood hung on the ends of a bootlace; but, treasured by the aged, coveted by the young and worn with just pride by those of middle years! Each piece of the Wood Badge insignia, the Beads, Bootlace, Scarf and Woggle has its own story.

THE BEADS: In 1887, B-P was posted to Cape Town and seconded as Aide-de-Camp to his uncle, General H A Smythe, General Officer commanding South Africa.

Shortly after his arrival at the Cape, trouble broke out with the Zulu warriors led by their chief Dinizulu. On state occasions, Dinizulu wore a necklace some 10 to 12 feet in length consisting of over a thousand beads, ranging in size from tiny emblems to others four inches in length. It was considered sacred by the warriors and there was a belief that if it was ever captured all resistance by the natives would cease. The necklace was kept in a cave high on a mountain and guarded night and day.

B-P heard of this and hoped that he would capture Dinizulu and acquire the necklace. It did come to pass and his wish was fulfilled and B-P took the necklace home to England where it was kept with his other military souvenirs. It was over 30 years before he made further use of it.

THE LEATHER LACE: The next stage of our story goes to Mafeking where, in the book 'The Wolf That Never Sleeps', B-P relates the incident where, after many months of siege, one day he was feeling very despondent, when an old native Zulu 'boy' of high caste gave him a leather thong. This thong, as was the custom, had been placed around the old man's neck at birth to ward off evil spirits and so bring the wearer good luck. The story further relates that Mafeking was relieved soon after and the leather thong joined B-P's souvenirs. In 1919 the first Scouters' training course was held at Gilwell, at the completion of which B-P wondered what to give the Scouters to signify passing the course. He went home and while rummaging through his bags came across Dinizulu's necklace.

A few days later he invited all those who had attended the course to come to dinner at the Scout Restaurant in Buckingham Palace Road. He presented each of the members with two beads from the necklace and instructed each to go out, buy a bootlace, tie a bead at each end and hang it around his neck. (B-P's writings clearly indicate

that his original intention was to wear the thong and beads around the hat, but he changed his mind and finally decided it was to be worn around the neck.) Thus the **Wood Badge** came into being. Some hundreds of the beads of reasonable size were used for presentation to those who completed the early Wood Badge courses. However, it became evident by 1920 that the supply of original beads wouldn't last, so replica beads were manufactured at Gilwell and have been ever since. In the early days and in theory today, Leader Trainers who wear four beads on their necklaces were presented with one original bead but now this only happens if a former Leader Trainer returns his/her beads to Gilwell. An Assistant Leader Trainer wears three beads on his/her necklace.

The Camp Chief of Gilwell Park in England wears a necklace of six original beads which B-P first presented to Sir Percy Everett as a tribute for his help in launching Scouting and help at the first Scout Camp at Brownsea Island in 1907.

Sir Percy presented the necklace to John Thurman and suggested that it be worn as the badge of office of the Camp Chief of Gilwell Park. It is a matter of history that the first time it was worn by John Thurman was when he visited Pennant Hills Training Camp, New South Wales in 1949.

When Wood Badge training was instituted for Cub Masters in 1921 the Wood Badge as such was not used. Instead, the Cub Leader was presented with a Wolf's Fang on a leather thong. It was pretty revolting looking and went out of practice in 1924. From 1923 to 1925 a small coloured bead was worn above the knot on the bootlace. These beads, yellow, green and red indicated for which section of the Movement the Wood Badge was awarded, i.e. Cub, Scout or Rover.

THE SCARF: The scarf is officially coloured dove grey (the colour of humility) on the outside and it is a warm red on the inside to signify warmth of feeling. On the peak of the Gilwell Scarf is a small piece of Maclaren tartan to remind us of the fine gesture by Mr deBois Maclaren in providing the original Gilwell Park in England.

The material is a registered cloth, which means it cannot be used to any other purpose, nor may it be modified or additions made to it.

THE WOGGLE: In 1920 or 1921 the scarf, which had always been tied with a knot, was held together with a scarf slide. So far as is known the name 'woggle' was invented by Gidney, the first Camp Chief of Gilwell.

In the early days of Scouter Training, fire lighting by friction was very much a novelty and for years

was demonstrated on Wood Badge courses. A main piece of equipment was a length of leather thong and it was found that a driving belt from a treadle Singer sewing machine supplied the best required object.

B-P suggested to the Gilwell Staff that they experiment and produce a special scarf slide to go with the Gilwell Scarf and Wood Badge. So, using one of the fire lighting thongs, W (Bill) Shankley, who was serving at Gilwell at the time (and later was Group Leader of 8th Hobart, Tasmania for many years) produced a two-stranded Turk's Head slide which was adopted as the 'official woggle'.

In 1943 the Camp Chief was anxious that there should be some badge to denote completion of various parts of the Wood Badge training. It seemed logical to present some part of the Wood Badge insignia on completion of the Preliminary Course, now replaced by Basic Level Training. So in 1943 the Gilwell Woggle was awarded. The scarf and beads are presented on completion of the Wood Badge training.

Congratulations to Group Leader Kathy Ball on the successful completion of her Wood Badge training. Kathy will be presented with her Wood Badge Scarf, Beads and Parchment in due course. I take this opportunity on behalf of Bob and myself, to wish you all a safe and enjoyable Festive Season and may peace, good health and happiness be with you in the New Year. Until next time, Good Scouting,

Margaret Hodda
Assistant Region Commissioner
Training Development

*Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*

