



CENTRAL AND COASTAL REGION NEWSLETTER

*Editor Mary Wallace
July Edition 2|2011*

Calendar of Events

- 30-31 July Region Cub Scout Camp Sarina Den
- 1 Aug World Scout Day Banksia Den 6to7.45pm
- 20 Aug ARMS 9am to 730pm
- 3 Sep Region Enviromental Fun Day 10am-4pm
Banksia Scout Den
- 10-11 Sep Operation Rainbow Bird
- 14-16 Oct JOTA/JOTI Rowallan Park
- 12 Nov Aquatastics
- 25-27 Nov Central and Coastal Venture
Kinchant Dam

Announcement

Congratulations to Mr Brian Harvey as he has been appointed as Region Commissioner of Central and Coastal Region on retirement of the former Region Commissioner Mr Lance Hodda.

Thank you Lance for all you have done for the Region over the past few years.



Congratulations to Mr Dougal McWhinney, he has been appointed as Assistant Region Commissioner Central and Coastal Region.



Report from the Region Commissioner

Keeping of Records

We have received advice from the Branch solicitor in relation to the period of retainment for the following forms:

- 1) C3 – Mob Pack Holiday Notice (Parent's Consent Form)
- 2) C4 - Notification of Camp Outdoor Activity (Parent's Consent Form)
- 3) C5 - Activity Advice and Approval
- 4) F6 – Non-Member Activity Advice

The advice was as follows:

“With respect to the storage of Forms C3, C4, C5 and F6’s the difficulty that the Association faces is that it is dealing with Youth Members and, if a claim is to be brought, a claim could be brought at any time up to the expiration of the limited period, which would be when the child is 21. Therefore that information may be necessary if such claim is brought.”

The policy of the Branch is therefore that the above documentation is to be retained until such time as the youngest members attending the activity has reached 21 years of age. This documentation may be retained electronically if such a facility is available.

Country Metro Scout Group Linking

Brisbane metropolitan and country Scouts enjoy completely different environments in which the

same basic scouting program is delivered. Metropolitan scouts operate in a very urban environment, generally with little open space immediately available, excellent public facilities including public transport, museums, fun parks, good technical scouting support and can easily participate in activities involving many other scouts of the same section. Country scouts by contrast, have good access to open space but limited public facilities, limited technical scouting support, and little opportunity for interaction with other scouts of the same section.

I guess we, in Mackay are somewhere in the middle of this, but I can see no reason why we couldn't be involved..

Immediately following the January 2011 floods, there was communication between Country and Metropolitan formations looking for ways to offer assistance, and the concept of this Linking was developed.

There is a general willingness to increase the interaction between metropolitan and country scouts to enjoy the other's environment. This interaction can be virtual (e.g. through email) or physical interaction through visits.

It could involve Cub Scout Leaders from both metropolitan and country Groups being on an email listing to enable them to receive regular updates from the District or Region Cub Scout Leader.

Inviting the Scout Section of the Linked country Scout group to join the metropolitan District or Region camp or canoe adventure.

Inviting the metropolitan Venturers to camp with the Venturers of the country Group, in their home town.

A Group inviting a Linked Group to attend their annual Group camp.

If any Group in our Region is interested in linking with another Group or Region, please talk to me, and I will register your interest and arrange for the allocation. The Linkage will be on a register which is copied to Branch.

Brian Harvey
Region Commissioner

Cub Scout Section

The Cub Scouts in the Central and Coastal Region have been quite productive in doing badge work, with Cub Scouts from Banksia achieving the Grey Wolf Award which is great to see.

The Region Cub Scout Leadership Course was held earlier in the year with good attendance, and it was a successful day with support from other leaders in the Region. The cub scouts enjoyed the course.

The Region Cub Scout camp is being held on Saturday 30th July and Sunday 31st July, at Sarina, Scout Den and the theme is Trek Around Australia.

The cub scouts will be camping in tents and self catering which is going to be exciting and we are expecting to have a fun filled time.

Julie Thompson
Region Cub Scout Leader

Grey Wolf Award



Banksia Cub Scout Conrad Lamb was recently presented with his Grey Wolf Award at a special ceremony to mark the occasion. It was attended by family, friends, Cub Scouts, and Leaders.

Cub Scout Leader Joanne Hamilton presented Conrad with his certificate and his eldest brother Glen Lamb pinned the badge on his uniform.

To achieve the Grey Wolf Award which is the highest achievement in the Cub Scout Section, Conrad had to work at a high standard to fulfil the requirements.

Conrad joined the Banksia Scout Group as a Joey Scout in 2006. He advanced to Cub Scouts in June 2008. He was a sixer in his Cub Scout Pack. He was required to plan a hike and have other cub

scouts join him on the hike. Their hike was held at Cape Hillsborough.

Another requirement was to make a resource and present it to the pack. He made a shoe box diorama of the Jungle Book. It featured coloured cut-outs of the characters from the story with a jungle background. It also featured the first jungle story which cub scouts could read.

Conrad achieved a variety of achievements badges: water wise, naturalist, arts & crafts, collectors, swimming and traveller. His favourite was a collection of glass crystals with images inside them.

Conrad has since advanced to the Scout Section at Banksia Scout Group.

Mary Wallace
Region Leader
Community Relations.

Region Scout Camp 2011

The Region Scout Camp for 2011 was held at Rowallan Park on 11, 12 & 13 June.

In the days leading up to the camp the weather forecast was not looking good (rain forecast for most of the weekend).

There were 30 Scouts (5 Patrols) in attendance this year. Mackay City Central had 3 Patrols and Moranbah 2 Patrols. Sarina were originally going to attend and camped out on Friday night but the 4 Scouts elected to go home as they had a couple of tents that were leaking and felt the weather was not going to get better. There were also 5 Scout leaders and 1 parent attending the camp.

The weather wasn't too kind to us on Saturday as it was very cold and wet. All the patrols were very keen and excited to proceed with the camp and the weather was supposed to get better as the day went on (which it did although it was still cold!).

Most of Saturday consisted of construction of their camps, gadgets, etc. Moranbah were very quick to get their tents up closely followed by MCC. The leaders also setup their camp and planned for the activities on Sunday.

At this point the Moranbah Patrols believed they hadn't forgotten to pack anything this year (forgot their dome tent poles last year) but the Kangaroo Patrol (MCC) PL gingerly approached the leader's tent Saturday morning and informed us they didn't appear to have their food box (a little

had to eat without it!). It was very lucky that the MCC leaders discovered their food box on Friday night after the truck was packed. After a discussion about checking things are packed the leaders handed over the food box to the very surprised and relieved PL!

In the afternoon all the patrols prepared for the evening meal (which was being judged). This was a challenge as the wood in the area was very wet (it had rained most of Friday night). Moranbah planned ahead and brought wood which was excellent thinking!

All the patrols had to present a 3 course meal with a roast for the main meal. The mains on offer were roast chicken, roast pork and roast beef. There were certainly some interesting stories from the leaders that judged the meals.

On Sunday morning we woke to cold but clearing skies and the sun was actually poking through in some areas. All the patrols prepared breakfast and when it was time to eat, they chased up the leader they had invited to judge their meal. Some of the patrols had problems with cooking as they didn't have dry firewood and one patrol forgot the gas hose for their stove (same one that forgot the food box....). Eventually everyone was fed and all patrols headed for the leader's area to see what was in store at the various bases.

The 30 Scouts were separated into 4 Patrols and sent off to the 4 bases (Construction, Challenge, Fire Building and Obstacle Course).

At the "Construction" base the patrols learnt how to build a table and for some this was the first time doing such construction (first Scout camp).

The "Challenge" base had the scouts work as a team and attempt to move "Nuclear Rods" (tent pegs) from one reactor (billy) to another reactor with the use of a rope. The people holding the rope were blind folded and the remaining members had to give instructions on what to do. It was certainly interesting watching the results.

The "Fire Building" base was a back to basics base and good training on how to start and build a fire with wet wood. Some scouts did well and others were keen to see how it was done. For the ones that were quick to get fire going they were given the challenge of boiling a billy (the leader even got a cup of tea out of one group!).

At the "Obstacle Course" each patrol member took turns in going around the course. This course was different as the scout had to wear an abseil harness that was clipped onto a rope that went around the area. Once clipped on the scout was not allowed to unclip until they reached the end. The rope went around poles, under a cargo net and there was a knot in the rope which they had to

traverse. To get passed the knot they had to go back along the rope and gather some excess slack to allow the knot to be loosened and the scout could then pass through.

All the scouts rotated through the bases and then returned to their camps in the afternoon to practice their skits and have dinner.

After dinner we all went across to the campfire area (the weather was clear now but it was still cold). All patrols had carried wood across to the area earlier in the afternoon and the camp leader built the fire. Again this was going to be interesting to light as the wood was very wet! A little Scout Spirit helped it along.

After a few songs the fire was starting to catch nicely and the patrols did their skits. These were certainly interesting and very entertaining. Once all the skits were complete and all the songs sung, we all headed back to camp for supper and bed.

Monday morning brought a bright sunny day.

The patrols had their breakfast and tidied up before meeting at the leader's area in preparation for the grand event, "Go-Karting! The scouts were all excited and keen to race down the hill.

We pulled the 4 karts up the hill and the scouts lined up with their helmets ready to go down the hill. The first few went a short distance before falling off or crashing into the ditch at the side of the hill. One of the Moranbah girls was going to need a pillow for the trip home (landed hard on her bottom when she came off). The scouts eventually figured out the karts and the track and a few started setting long distance records. One of Moranbah Tassie Tigers eventually set the largest distance (not certain of the value but it was a long way down the hill). We broke one of the karts (lost the split pin holding the wheel on) and there were some cuts and scratches on the various riders but all the scouts would have continued all day if we let them.

We headed back down the hill, had lunch, packed up and prepared for final parade.

Final parade was held and certificates of participation were handed out to all the patrols that attended.

One patrol took out all the sections of the camp:
Campsite: Redback Patrol (Moranbah Scout Group)

Cooking: Redback Patrol (Moranbah Scout Group)

Gadgets: Redback Patrol (Moranbah Scout Group)

The overall runners up were Tassie Tiger Patrol (Moranbah Scout Group) with Redback Patrol (Moranbah Scout Group) being the overall winners.



Overall Winning Patrol

L-R: Connor, Hayden, Mitchell, Jack, Katie, Linnea

Well done to Redback Patrol and all those that attended. Hope to see you all next year.

Camp Leader Kingfisher

Venturer Scouts

Friday the 24th June saw the Venturer Scouts from Mackay driving up the Eungella Range and camping at Crediton Hall for the evening, in preparation for the next day's hiking as part of their achieving badge-work and for a Queen Scout, a Duke of Edinburgh requirement. Waking and breaking camp early Saturday morning, we 5 venturer scouts set out, trailed half an hour behind by a trio of adults that later "intentionally" missed a turnoff as to head towards a local at Eungella Dam, only to be redirected. Early afternoon, kilometres later everyone arrived at the creek bordering the campsite on the opposite bank exhausted yet proclaiming our love for vertical trails. We hikers crossed over mossy river rocks, set up camp for the evening and rested into sleep over many hours. The combination of a cool breeze and condensation saved us from overheating Sunday morning as we emerged from the trails and began the drive home down into the valley, making a pit-stop on the way to devour some delicious Pinnacle Pies. Overall those who tagged along enjoyed each other's company and had a blast in the great outdoors.

*Sam Girvan
Venturer Scout*

Queens Scout Award



Jacob Wrench, James Mogg and Sam Girvan were recently presented with their Queens Scout Award.

As many of you are aware, a Queen's Scout Award is a massive undertaking, which is designed to challenge and expand the horizons of today's young adults and provide a well grounded and wide education in a real-world environment. Every person who decides to undertake this award has a very personal and varied approach, which in all honesty, is another way of saying that no two awards are ever really the same

The following report is actually extracts from the speeches made at the presentation of the awards

Jacob Wrench

Jacob is a young man who has met some of life's most difficult challenges, but has proven himself more than capable of meeting them head on.

We all contributed in our own way however it has been Jacob's hard work that has seen his goals finally realised. His efforts have been encouraged and recognised by many different leaders at all levels of scouting.

I have seen him grow from a cub at Cub Scout Rally crossing a rope bridge, to an experienced and knowledgeable Scout on a Scout Leadership course learning to improve the burning capacity of fires (not one of the smartest activities I've seen him undertake!).... But as he has matured his decisions have become more seasoned and he has evolved into a resourceful, intelligent and thoughtful young man.

He is reserved, yet confident, and fiercely loyal to his family and friends. As coincidence would have

it a very good cook! If you ever have the opportunity to camp with Jacob make sure he's rostered to cook the breakfast!

James Mogg

James began this venture a number of years ago and I'm sure has provided its fair share of challenges and experiences which he would have been hard pressed to find elsewhere in his life. From hiking to community service, James has been there through it all, and as said before I'm sure he has taken away his own individual lessons from each of these events.

James has shown a drive to achieve his goals and dreams throughout all areas of his life. Whether it is academically, in sports or in scouting, James has always shown a determination that is rarely found in society today. His dedication to his family and friends is also something that sets James apart from the crowd and is an attribute that is commendable.

Sam Girvan

Sam transferred into Banksia Venturers early in 2009. Unlike our other Venturers, Sam had the benefit of having an older brother already there who was the Chairman at the time!

I find it extremely refreshing to find someone taking the options of extra work rather than the possible 'easier path'. Sam has achieved not one but two Tapes and an Endeavour Award. You may also be unaware that same has studied the art of Tae Kwon Do for a number of years. His level of self discipline has no doubt contributing to his great many achievements as a member of our community.

Sam has shown determination, selflessness and great maturity, along with a willingness to undertake added responsibilities. He has organised service activities for the Unit to enable fellow Venturer Scouts to complete the requirements for their own awards.

Sam has continuously displayed strong character and leadership characteristics, and has shown himself to be a great asset to the Banksia Unit.

Both Leaders Joann Brzozowski and Scott Marshall thanked the parents for their support, encouragement and guidance to help their sons with the achievement of their Queens Scout Awards.

Compiled by M Wallace from information supplied by Leaders, Joann Brzozowski and Scott Marshall.

Bowen Scout Group

Hello again from the north!

In the last few months Bowen has experienced a number of ups and downs. Amongst the downs, the saddest is the passing of the Proserpine Group. I understand lack of adult assistance in key positions contributed. I am very aware of the ramifications this has on a group – our closed Scout section since 31 March a case in point.

Fortunately, we have had four parents raise their hands and volunteer for Scout Leadership roles commencing Term 3. Whilst none is in a position to commit to every week, between them they are confident that if they can maintain communications with each and make a plan in advance for the terms that follow, meetings will have purpose and contribute to the outcomes we want for our youth. When the doors re-open in Term 3, we will have 10 of our former Scouts returning - their future looks good for the time being.

Our Cub Scouts continue under the leadership of Chil and Raksha. Both Leaders have undertaken their Leadership 3 and Skills 1&2 through Kennedy Region in Townsville. For us this is a similar distance to travelling to Mackay. The submission of LT2 workbooks in the coming weeks should see their Basic training completed.

Our Cub Scouts are keen to participate in the coming Regional Camp. In June they travelled to Lower Burdekin for a combined Pack holiday during which they pursued Flight related activities. Their numbers are holding strong and we are hopeful that another of our Cub Scouts will be eligible for a Grey Wolf within a month or two.

Perhaps of interest to you will be a change in Group Leadership as I leave Bowen and move to Nhulunbuy (Gove) NT sometime during August. I currently have no takers for the position of GL. Our small Committee is also undergoing a changing of the guard with our Treasurer of 10 years retiring from service and a Chairperson who expects to retire in the coming months. I am hopeful the energy of new faces in our committee will have positive outcomes for the Group.

Bowen youth however, will not have any qualified leaders able to take the youth on overnight activities, or experienced in the skills relevant to the sections. For this I turn to Region staff and

other Section Leaders, to lend a hand. I would very much appreciate region staff or other Groups considering running activities for Bowen youth which will enable them to stay 'out' on occasion. Kathy, I think they plan camping at yours often – under your supervision!!!

I have promised my new Scout Leaders that attending Jota for example, will be a good way to take the youth camping – I am hopeful there will be enough qualified Leaders in attendance that someone can lend a hand or watch over Bowen whilst they are there. Similarly, activities like the Regional Cub Scout Camp are opportunities to make the most of.

There is a significant role for region staff to play in Bowen's future. With the abolition of the District level of our Line Management system, the tasks of District were absorbed by our regional management. The organisation chart in QBSI offers the following roles:

- *Branch Level – Develop Youth Program Delivery*
- *Region Level – Design sectional Skills Delivery*
- *District Level – Implement Sectional Skills Support*

That sectional skills support – specifically to our Leaders, will need increased emphasis in Bowen's case as there will be no Leaders within the Group with Wood Badges or significant experience for some years to come. Region activities provided for youth participation usually require all the attention of a Leader during the course of the activity – there is not time for a Leader to focus on learning something new. I would ask region to consider devising ways and means to deliver direct support to sectional leaders to help them through this time of need. Help them plan the camp and be available to attend, offer to run a program to deliver skills to youth so leaders are exposed to those skills or provide resources not available within the Group – just help make it happen for our leaders so that in turn our youth are the ones who benefit!

On that note, I would like to thank you all for the support given to me over my years as GL in Bowen. I also wish you all well and hope Scouting in Central Coastal flourishes. I look forward to seeing you all in a couple of years when I return.

*Regards, best wishes and thank you,
Lesley Bullemor, GL, Bowen Scout Group*

