



# CENTRAL AND COASTAL REGION

## NEWSLETTER

*Editor Mary Wallace  
Nov Edition 1/2012*

### ***Calendar of Events***

*2 June Enviro Day at Rowallan Park  
3-5 August Scoutfest*

### ***Region Commissioner's Report***

#### **Where have All the Young Leaders Gone?**

*Over the last 30 years Scouting numbers in Australia have depreciated by over 75%. This means that the pool from which we draw young dynamic Line Leaders has shrunk to about a quarter of what it was.*

*The 2011 census indicated that 14.9% of Rovers were young Leaders. Only 3% of our total leadership base is under 26 years of age (assuming all young Leaders are also Rovers).*

*The recent Rover Review indicated that most Rovers don't want to be Leaders, although a number would consider roles as Activity Leaders. The review also found that the vast majority of young Leaders decided to become Leaders before becoming Rovers. They had decided to become Leaders whilst in Venturers, and then became both a Leader and a Rover. Most had been youth helpers whilst in Venturer Scouts. A Rover's first priority should in fact be to the Rover section, if there is a conflict of interest.*

*The 2011 Census indicated that only about 6% of the Venturer Scout pool linked to Rovers, including approximately 45 of them also becoming Leaders. We obviously have much to do to improve the linking rate from Venturer Scouts to both Leaders and Rovers.*

*There is now considerable evidence suggesting that the recruitment and training of young Leaders should commence as early as practical in the Venturer Scout age range, before they are heavily committed to tertiary training, and are involved in significant life style changes. It is believed that*

*there is a demand for both leadership and development training in the Venturer Scout section. The National Youth Council undertook some research recently, and reported a high degree of interest in both leadership/development training and adventurous activity training within the Venturer Section. This was also supported by the Youth Forum at the 15<sup>th</sup> Australian Venture.*

*We therefore need to provide a number of options for Venturer Scouts, not only to increase the numbers of young Leaders and Rovers, but to fulfil our mission of preparing this age group for adult life.*

*A pilot Young Leader Program is to be conducted next year by the WA Branch, and the details look very exciting. I hope it is a resounding success, because we would then surely follow in their footsteps.*

*Compiled by Brian Harvey after discussions at Region Commissioner's conference.*

**Brian Harvey**  
**Region Commissioner.**

### ***Region Venturer Scout Report***

*The year started early for the venturer scouts with a trip to Townsville to obtain open water dive certification. It was a great experience for the venturer scouts involved. They have also been busy playing Monopoly in town and attending the Region Founders Day Campfire. They were also offered the opportunity to attend CQ Roventure in Gladstone. They are all taking the opportunities to Look Wide and explore their surroundings. The coming year will offer the venturer scouts challenges which I am sure they will meet with enthusiasm. They have the opportunity to hike, canoe, abseil and use their initiative to exceed expectations, so keep an eye out you may see them out and about.*

*Till next time Look Wide*

**Judy Johnson**  
**Region Venturer Scout Leader**

## *Mackay Rover Crew Leaders Report*

The Rovers got off a slow start this year however now it is full steam ahead for the year to come. We have a number of new faces in the crew which is excellent to see. Most of which have come from within the movement by some way or another. With the increased attendance it allows us to plan bigger and better nights. This in turn will hopefully attract more young adults to the Rover Scout section.

We have also said goodbye to two prominent faces within the crew. Brendan Ross and Tamara Ham have both been booted. I am sure that we will still be seeing them around for some time yet. Before being booted Tamara completed all the necessary requirements for her BP Award. It is now in the hands of the assessors. I am positive that Tamara is more than deserving of this award, having witnessed her amazing attention to detail on all the parts of the award. The crew wishes her the best of luck for the final stages of the award. Another of our crew members Sarah Blakey had made the move to Townsville where she is chasing her passion for diving. From all reports she is doing quite well for herself, scoring a few great opportunities to further her current skills. This year looks to be a promising and productive one for the Mackay Crew. Several members are looking at attending the upcoming Jamboree. This will put fundraising as a big focus for those hoping to attend. A few of the Squires are putting plans in place for their training to become knights in the near future which will be good to see them progress and set an example for the newer crew members. That is all I have for now. Hopefully I will see you all at the next meeting.

**Craig Schurmann**  
**Mackay Rover Crew Leader**



*Brendan Ross's Boot at Eungella with fellow Rovers*

## *Environmental Fun Day*

On Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be a Environmental Fun Day at Rowallan Park. There will be lots of activities in the environmental area with water wise activities, Joey Scout environment activities as well as Scout and Venturer Scout section activities. Please let me know if you are coming so I can ensure that we have enough of everything.

Please advise numbers to Jo Brzozowski by May 25<sup>th</sup> 2012. Cost for the day is \$5 per person attending to cover the Rowallan Park fees and Activity requirements.

Come along and have a great day

**Jo Brzozowski, Environmental Activities Leader**

## *Banksia Scout Group*

Banksia Scout Group is well on its way to being back to its best. There are now four sections all with leaders and a new enthusiastic committee anxious to rebuild the group.

Next on the agenda is repairing the building and increasing the membership not necessarily in that order.

We have already started our recruiting drive with an open day on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Although the weather was against us it was a very successful day with the rope bridge being well used and the damper going down as a treat. Everyone enjoyed the rockets and craft activities and we picked up several new members.

The scout section has been very busy with several camps already this year the Joey Scouts are growing weekly and the Cub Scouts are as always very active. The Venturer Scouts are assisting the group where ever they are needed. It's all go from here.

**Jacarla**  
**Katrina Hoare, Group Leader Banksia Scout Group**

## *Founders Day*

The founder of scouting Lord Robert Baden-Powell was born on 22 February 1857, so the scouting movement throughout the world, celebrate this day as Founders Day. On this day scouting members take the opportunity to learn more about BP's life and work.

Central and Coastal Region Scouting celebrated Founders Day with a campfire at Banksia Scout Den, Fernleigh Avenue, Andergrove on Friday evening 24 February. In true scouting fashion the leaders lived up to their motto "Be Prepared" they took into account the inclement weather and had a mock campfire indoors. Youth members from all five sections of scouting were represented, along with their leaders, region team members and parents. Songs, skits, yells and a yarn were enjoyed by all present. Damper and milo was served for supper afterwards.

**Mary Wallace**  
**Region Leader, Community Relations**



Mackay City Central Joey Scouts doing a skit at Founders Day campfire.



Region Commissioner Brian Harvey presenting Margaret Hodda with her 50 year service badge.

### ***Farewell to Lyn Lean***

Cub Scout Leader Lyn Lean was farewelled at the last Cub Scout meeting for 2011 at Mackay City

Central Group in December. Lyn was a leader for approximately 15 years joining up with the East Mackay Group and when it closed moved to Mackay City Central. Even though she was a leader for 15 years she has been a supporter of scouting for over 30 years as her husband was a leader and her sons were members of scouting as well. Thank you Lyn for all that you have done for scouting. You would have made a difference to some young person's life.

**Mary Wallace**  
**Region Leader Community Relations**

### **Region Cub Scouts**

Our planning day was held in February. Cub Scouts in the region are back into full swing, and the first lot of school holidays is approaching fast. There will be a Cub Scout leadership course on Saturday 5th May for all eligible Cub Scouts in the region.

The most exciting event on the calendar is Cuboree in Rockhampton, being held June school holidays. This is a wonderful experience for all Cub Scouts and I encourage Leaders to have your Cub Scouts attend.

I attended the last Cuboree in Stanthorpe, where I had a wonderful time and could see how much fun the Cub Scouts were having. Many hours are spent planning an exciting Program which is a major highlight for the youth members in the Cub Scout Section. I am looking forward to attending the Cuboree, and have a position working there in the medical area. The region has a small group of Cub Scouts attending the Cuboree, which is great to see. Future activities will be the Cub Scout camp later in the year.

**Julie Thompson, Rikki**  
**Regional Cub Scout leader**



A new secondhand tractor arriving at Rowallan Park