



CENTRAL AND COASTAL REGION

NEWSLETTER

*Editor Mary Wallace
Dec Edition 4/2012*

Calendar of Events

AJ2013 Maryborough Queensland 1 – 13 Jan

Region Commissioner's Report

The end of the year is fast approaching with Christmas under 4 weeks away!

We have had a busy year with a few challenges along the way.

Youth membership growth has slowed a little (which it normally does at this time of the year) with only an addition of 8 youth members joining Scouts in Central and Coastal Region since the last newsletter. The total number of youth members in the region is 173 comprising of 19 Joey Scouts, 69 Cub Scouts, 67 Scouts, 7 Venturer Scouts and 10 Rover Scouts. Leader numbers have grown a little but are still a major issue in a couple of areas. At present we have 26 Leaders (section/group), 20 Support Members (ASM U/ASM NU/Adult Helpers), 20 Region Leaders and 5 Fellowship members.

During October we held a very successful JOTA-JOTI. 154 youth members attended and a great time was had by all. Unfortunately I wasn't able to attend and I would like to thank Lance and Brendan for looking after the event and especially the Rovers for assisting with the various activities across the weekend. Without these people the event would not have happened.

On Saturday 10 November we held the Annual Aquatastic Event. The event wasn't as well attended as hoped for but those that attended had a great time. Hopefully the groups further north might be available next year.

The Rowallan Park booking system is now fully operational. There are still a couple of small things to update but other than that, working well. From the beginning of the New Year, this will be the only method of booking campsites/resources at the park. The contact number is still available as well as the e-mail address. You can get to the site from the Central & Coastal website.

With the resignation of Harry from the ARC Campsites & Community Partnerships, Lance has accepted the offer to take over this role. I thank Harry for his valued work and input into the development of the park. We will continue to see Harry as he is still the Rover Scout Advisor for the Rover Scouts. If you have any questions or would like to discuss items at the park, contact myself or Lance.

In January, AJ2013 will be held at Maryborough and there are 31 Scouts and 12 Leaders/Adult Helpers attending. I held two Jamboree sessions which were well attended and there was much discussion and excitement about what was happening at the event. I hope all that are attending have an excellent time and look forward to possibly seeing you at the event. I am at the Outback campsite Frat tent so come and see me (might even have something for you).

I would like to thank all the leaders and helpers in the region for their time and effort put in to Scouting. Without your involvement there wouldn't be Scouts in the region.

I would also like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and look forward to catching up with everyone in February after AJ2013.

Yours in Scouting

Kingfisher

*Dougal McWhinney
Region Commissioner (Central and Coastal Region)*



Bowen Cub Scout at JOTA

Region Cub Scout News

14 Cub Scouts attended the Cub Scout leadership course recently, from Banksia and Mackay City Central. I was very thankful for the wonderful support of 3 leaders who attended the course. Without their support I couldn't have run courses/activites.

It was a great day, the leadership course went well, and the Cub Scouts had fun. The weather being so hot we utilized the Botanical gardens and held activities all afternoon in the shaded areas under the trees.

The afternoon ended by having a scouts own under one of the trees.

I am going to AJ2013 and am keen to be working once again on the Medical team in the hospital, I am sure all who are attending AJ2013 will have lots of photo's and stories to share with their families and scouting friends. I am also looking foward to seeing old friends again and making new. It's a wonderful experience as a nurse, to come together and work as a team with medical people from around the country.

I would encourage all Leaders & scouts, if they have the opportunity to attend a Jamboree, to do so it's the most wonderful experience!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Cub Scout leaders in the region for their support throughout the year, and I look forward to working with them all in 2013.

Happy Christmas to all, and safe travelling if you're going away. The leaders and scouts going to AJ2013 I will see you there, not at the Hospital!!

Yours in Scouting
Julie Thompson RIKKI
Region Cub Scout Leader

Region Venturer Scouts News

Another year is rapidly coming to an end and I would like to take the opportunity to thank the people that make it possible for me to do my job and have the fun we do in Venturer Scouts. I would also like to thank the section leaders who work with the youth members week in week out, the region leaders who assist in various ways and different areas and the Rover Crew which gives us the ability to offer activities that otherwise would not be available. Also I would like to thank Sandra Wright for all of her support to the Mackay Venturer Scouts.

Last weekend was our yearly 'Venture' and everyone who attended had a wonderful time. Region Leader Community Relations, Mary Wallace and Region Commissioner Dougal McWhinney attended and joined the 27 other participants for lunch on Saturday at Kinchant Dam. Unfortunately neither accepted the offer of tubing on the dam and settled for umpiring the cricket match between the two teams.

Next year's calendar is all ready filling rapidly and looks to be a full fun packed, activity orientated year, especially with Q Venture mid-year and the restart of Venturer Scouts in Bowen.

Until next year

Look Wide

Judy Johnson Region Venturer Scout Leader



Rover Scouts cooling off in Kinchant Dam

ROWALLAN PARK FELLOWSHIP

Hi to everybody with Merry Christmas and Happy New Year wishes from the members of the Rowallan Park Fellowship.

Janet Brown has taken on the role of Treasurer whilst Brian Harvey is the Secretary with the writer being the Team Leader/Group Leader. We remain attached to Rowallan Park under the Leadership of Assistant Region Commissioner Campsites and Community Development, Lance Hodda who has taken over the role from Harry Roestenburg who has vacated the position due to his business pressures and workload. Harry remains the Rover Adviser and is a member of the Rowallan Park Works Committee.

The Fellowship will be involved with minor maintenance and supervisory duties at Rowallan Park, be involved in minor fund raising events for Rowallan Park and be responsible for "fellowship events"

within the Fellowship and the Region if and when appropriate.

Current discussions have indicated that we would meet bi-monthly and these meetings would possibly be held during the day over a cup of tea/coffee somewhere in town or maybe a b-b-q amongst the whispering pines at Rowallan Park on a Sunday afternoon. If it starting to sound like an old peoples outing and/or a social club, I reckon you're right on the money! We'll do our bit but not go beyond our desires or capabilities.

A number of us are going to Waverley Creek to work the Qld Transport Driver Reviver Station from Boxing Day until New Year's Eve which we enjoy each year. We meet and talk with hundreds of people from all walks of life and of many Nationalities. We see some very funny things happening and some that downright amaze you! How some people make it through their travels is possibly sheer good luck. Tim and Judy Johnson who has worked the Driver Reviver for probably about 30 years or so have seen it all and can tell stories like you have never heard before or could believe happened to unorganized and/or people who have a poor knowledge of the vast long distances and open spaces whilst travelling Australia's highways.

Some people are astounded that there is not a restaurant and a service station on every corner! These comments and people's actions are the things that keep us amused as we work our shifts to provide a friendly face, 24 hours a day, to greet the motoring public as we offer them a cuppa and a biscuit or maybe they would choose a "mystery bag and tomm" on a piece of bread as they rest up. Some stay a while and chat, others drift off and have a nap and then go again whilst others stay overnight whilst we have the ones who come in looking for fuel and spend their time worrying who is going to push their overloaded mode of transport to the nearest service station which is only open from 7.00am to 6.00pm and is 25 km north of Waverley Creek.

Contacts for the Fellowship are as follows: Brian Harvey (Secretary) Ph: 07 49525354 E-mail: bf_harvey@hotmail.com; Janet Brown (Treasurer) E-mail: mother_brown@hotmail.com; Bob Hodda (Group Leader/ Team Leader) Ph: 0427877630 E-mail: roberthodda2@bigpond.com

Rowallan Park Fellowship Members

Banksia Scout Group

Next time you are visiting Banksia Scout Group, be sure to look up and have a look at our new roof! Wow, what a difference!

The new roof along with the attitude of cooperation and support, we have seen Banksia shine this year. The membership is again climbing. Everyone is looking forward to Jamboree and the New Year. We have had some outstanding moments this year in each and every section. All of our leaders and committee members have worked hard and are really looking forward to having a well deserved break and returning refreshed and reinvigorated for next year.

Several of our scouts are off to Jamboree with Jo Hamilton and are very eagerly anticipating a camp of a lifetime! We are all waiting to hear the stories of their exploits but a word of warning, do not fall asleep on the bus. I have heard a rumour of Venturer Scouts offering ideas involving coloured Nikko's and sleeping scouts.

On a personal note, I am celebrating making it through my first year without running the group or my Leaders into the ground so.....BONUS!! I am incredibly proud of our leaders, assistant leaders and parent helpers that have made this such a fabulous year for Banksia Scout Group. I wish everyone has a very safe and relaxing Christmas period.

*Till next year
Katrina Hoare
Group Leader Banksia Scout Group*

2012 Aquatastics

On Saturday afternoon 10th November scouting members from Central and Coastal Region cooled off in the pool at Victoria Park School to compete in fun type activities for their Annual Aquatastics Carnival.

Teams from Banksia Scout Group and Mackay City Central Scout Group competed for the Golden Snorkel Award. The Award is judged on enthusiasm rather than competence.

There were freestyle events, backstroke, and any stroke you like, rescue relays, a novelty ping pong ball event, and noodle races.

All enjoyed the fun activities.

**Mary Wallace
Region Leader Community Relations**



Banksia Scout Group with the Golden Snorkel Award

Venturer Scouts Ahoy

On October 31st the Mackay Venturer Scout Unit participated in operation Yellow Submarine. This involved creating a submarine capable of being taken through the McDonalds drive thru. This all happened on Halloween Night so the customers at McDonalds Restaurant at Rural View may have been rather confused, or brushed it off as a Halloween joke.

All McDonalds required was that all service through the drive thru be a motor vehicle no foot traffic or bicycles allowed. The first hurdle was acquiring a suitable base for the submarine. One Rover Scout came to the rescue and provided the vehicle.

Next was how to create a suitable submarine able to be driven and what materials could be used.

After some design consultation the Venturer Scouts decided on cardboard so large packing boxes were sourced. Obviously the next task was to paint it yellow. Venturer Scouts painting cardboard yellow that is another story in itself. There were some youth members with paint on their clothes in their hair on their arms and legs, it looked as if they had bathed in it.

After all the painting came the construction and the logistics of attaching the cardboard to the base. This was done with the use of heaps of zip ties. Assembly took place in McDonald's car park. So the final hurdle was getting the submarine through the drive thru and successfully ordering and being served.

Success was achieved and 6 happy meals were ordered and collected. There were lots of smiles and some jubilation inside the submarine, much to the amusement of the other customers.

Mackay Venturer Scouts are reissuing the challenge to other Venturer Scouts throughout Queensland to get their entire unit through McDonalds Drive Thru and successfully served.

Compiled by Mary Wallace

From information supplied by Venturer Scout Leader Joann Brzozowski.

Mary Wallace

**Region Leader Community Relations
Central and Coastal Region.**



Central and Coastal Region Venture

Central and Coastal Region Venturer Scouts along with some older scouts from Bowen and Mackay City Central Scout Group and six Rover Scouts from Mackay and four from Rockhampton had a camp at Kinchant Dam from Friday evening 30th November to Sunday 2nd December 2012.

Region Commissioner Mr Dougal McWhinney visited the camp on Saturday to mingle with the youth members and leaders at lunchtime.

Friday evening was spent setting up and meet and greet. Saturday morning the fun and frivolity started in earnest. They painted t-shirts using spray bottles however the shirts were still on their bodies therefore there were painted body parts and hair as well.

Water Activities specialist Tamara Ham an ex Rover Scout from Mackay returned for the weekend to be a part of the fun. The youth members enjoyed canoeing, biscuiting and swimming in Kinchant Dam.

Saturday afternoon there was a Venturer Scout versus Rover Scout Cup challenge. They had inflatable Rafts, Dragons, Dolphins and Crocodiles which they mounted and paddled around two buoys in relay formation. The Rover Scouts won the challenge which entitles them to the luxury or

relaxing on a banana lounge at all Rover Scout and Venturer Scout activities.

Saturday night following dinner they took part in a Scouts Own Ceremony (Thanks Giving Service) and a disco.

Sunday the members enjoyed more water activities and rides in the power boat.

All returned home exhausted and with many happy memories from the weekend camp

Mary Wallace
Region Leader Community Relations



Matthew and Madeline at CCV



Rover Scouts Alex, Sarah and Andrew

Where has 2012 gone?

Having spent five months travelling with 4WD and caravan in Queensland and the Northern Territory, a fair chunk of 2012 was written off having a fantastic time visiting interesting and amazing places and sharing experiences with like minded people. As the saying goes, "All good things must come to an end". Bob's philosophy is that you have to come home to be able to plan the next trip away. There is so much to see and do in Oz. Now it is back to the 'big house' and the reality of the lifestyle we left behind at the end of May. Well at least until the next opportunity arises to hook up and turn some wheels again.

Having arrived home in time to jump on the merry-go-round of events that seem to appear on the calendar prior to Christmas, time hasn't stood still. And of course there is Driver Reviver at Waverley Creek between Christmas and New Year. Assistance from anyone who has some time to spare would be greatly appreciated. Just give Tim or Judy Johnson a call.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jane, Peter, Allan and others who were responsible for the fantastic make over of the kitchen at Johnstone Lodge. What an amazing transformation! Well done!!

THANKYOU Jane (and Peter always close at hand) for a most enjoyable Christmas Party at Rowallan Park on Saturday night. The food and drinks were great. The company was great. The venue was great. What more could you ask for. A fitting wind up to the Scouting year.

To the contingent from Central & Coastal Region attending the Jamboree, have a wonderful time and enjoy the experience.

To all members and friends of Scouting, we wish you a safe and happy Christmas as you relax with friends and loved ones and may you be blessed with good health, fun times and satisfaction through your contributions to Scouting in 2013.

Bob and Margaret Hadda

Special Children's Christmas Party

A number of Scouts from Mackay City Central Group helped out at the Special Children's Christmas Party along with three Region Leaders. The scout used the time towards their community service and I believe they also volunteered their time at the Open Day at the Mackay Base Hospital.



Alex and Brendan instructing Cub Scout with the Electronics at JOTA JOTI



Trust Blake and Brendan to find a solution to their problem.



Madison in fine style, lifesaver relay race at Aquatastics.



The Purple People Eater Painting the Yellow Sub
Did he forget to bring his shirt to paint? CCV



Toasting the christening of the refurbished kitchen at Rowallan Park.



Thank you Bob, Jane the Chef and Allan the builder.

Merry Christmas
Happy New Year 2013