



CONFUSION!

#### DATES TO

#### REMEMBER

- **24 June Reg Exec Annual Meeting**
- **1 August World Scout Day**
- **31 August ARMS**
- **14-14 Sept Operation Rainbow Bird**
- **8 Sept Region Newsletter Deadline**

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# Central & Coastal Region Newsletter

JUNE EDITION 2013

EDITOR MARY WALLACE

## Region Commissioner's Report

Hello again. Blimey this year is flying – we are into June already. Youth membership in the region has flattened out over the last couple of months. The total number of youth members in the region is 160 comprising of 16 Joey Scouts, 54 Cub Scouts, 62 Scouts, 14 Venturer Scouts and 8 Rover Scouts. This count is down 4% since 01 April 2013. Unfortunately leader numbers haven't grown at all and are still a major issue in a couple of areas.

At present we have 27 Leaders (section/group), 21 Support Members (Adult Members & Helpers), 19 Region Leaders and 6 Fellowship members. In April, Rikki and I attend Train the Trainer at BP Park and we both are now qualified trainers. The aim was to have us qualify enough to then be supervised while giving training and then assessed to be invited onto the Scouts training team. Hopefully we can achieve this in the coming months and be able to better assist with the training of leaders in our region.

In May I held another Region Meeting with leaders from the region and we travelled to Bowen Scout Group this time. It was well attended and Rikki and Pera also showed the group a couple of new games. I would like to thank the Bowen Scout Group Committee for putting on lunch. The next Region Meeting will be the Annual Region Management Seminar (ARMS) on Saturday August 31. Hope to see you there.

Last weekend I visited the Region Scout Camp. Apart from a little bit of damp weather the weekend looked to be a success and congratulations to all the patrols that took part and to the patrols that took out the various awards. I would like to thank Quoll for taking on running the camp in my absence. I would also like to thank the other leaders that gave up their long weekend to assist with the camp. Looking forward to another successful camp next year – You never know the leaders might even construct a camp next year and cook a roast.....

From the middle of this month (June) till around the middle of August I will be out of the region due to work commitments. During this time Margaret Hodda (ARC Training & Development) will be Acting Region Commissioner. I wish her well in the role and trust you will all assist her as you have me in doing the role.

*Yours in Scouting*

*Kingfisher*

*Dougal McWhinney*

*Region Commissioner (Central and Coastal Region)*



# ABSEILING COURSE— by Jason Hazell



*Melanie learning the ropes*

**Comments from Allan Salty**

*.....it was great couldn't get up enough times to go over again but managed between four to five abseils.*

*Everyone who went thoroughly enjoyed themselves, even the weather was kind to us.*

*Thanks Allan and team Great Weekend!*

*The Abseiling Course started at Saturday 7am 4/5/2013 and concluded Sunday 5/5/2013.*

*There were eight Venturer Scouts, four from Bowen and others from Banksia and Mackay City Central. Also three leaders, two from Banksia and one from Mackay City Central.*

*The course was run by Allan Edmonds from Rockhampton and assisted by Brendon Ross, and Alex Cinelli from Rover Scouts.*

*Base camp was set up at Rowallan Park. We all had to self-cater and supply our own camping equipment.*

*Modules for the weekend were Abseiling Level 1 (natural) and Level 1 Common units.*

*All abseiling was at Dumbleton Weir cliffs at Mallia Road. Saturday morning was theory and paperwork. Saturday after lunch was abseiling at Dumbleton.*

*There were two ropes set up and we all did two drops, one was bottom belay, 2<sup>nd</sup> was top belay and 3<sup>rd</sup> was prussick back up the cliff face.*

*Speaking from my personal experience, I was nervous and wondering why anyone in their right mind would lay backwards off a cliff face.*

*After 1<sup>st</sup> abseil, I could see the why people would do it.*

*It was terrifying, but the adrenalin rush, WOW!*

*Saturday night was more paperwork and a*

*power point presentation.*

*Sunday morning was an early start and abseiling again. Three ropes were set up and this time we self-belayed and were shown rescue techniques and tying off. Most of us did up to seven descents with self-belay's.*

*It was a great weekend and a great experience.*

**Jason Hazell  
Banksia Scout Group**



**Venturer Scouts Abseiling**



*Photos by Alex Cinelli and Allan Salty*

**Banksia Leader—Jason Hazell  
Abseiling**

## Grey Wolf Award Presentation—Jade Tomlinson—6 April 2013

When Cub Scout Jade Tomlinson of Sarina Scout Group was presented with her Grey Wolf Award on Saturday 6th April 2013 it was truly a family affair. Jade's Grandmother Sandra Tomlinson Group Leader of Bauple Scout Group presented her with her badge, certificate and a special gift of a Grey Wolf head woggle.

Present at the celebration were, her mother Kelly Tomlinson, Joey Scout Leader, Sarina Scout Group, father Mark Tomlinson who is relieving as the Scout Leader, Uncle Brett Tomlinson, Group Leader Sarina Scout Group, former Leader Graham Tomlinson, along with siblings, fellow Cub Scouts, as well as Region Commissioner Dougal McWhinney, some Region Leaders, and Cub Scout parents.

To achieve the Grey Wolf Award the highest award in the Cub Scout section Jade, using her compass skills, participated in a hike at Rowallan Park, she achieved the heritage special interest badge after visiting the Sarina Museum and achieved numerous interest badges. She also took part in a Cub Scout Leadership Course. Jade achieved all three boomerang levels in her Cub Scout journey towards her Grey Wolf Award.

The highlights for Jade in scouting has been, attending Future Scout Day at AJ2013 at Maryborough in January, and attending Cuboree 2012 at Seeonee Park, Rockhampton.

**Tomlinson Family**



Jade's Grey Wolf presentation was held at the Apex Park in Sarina after a feast of sausages washed down with billy tea. A special celebratory cake was cut for the occasion.

Jade joined the Sarina Scout Group as a six year old Joey Scout in 2008 and has now progressed to the Scout Section.

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

## Cub Scout—Joey Scout Activity Day—20 April 2013

Cub Scouts and Joey Scouts from Mackay City Central and Banksia Scout Group gathered at the Banksia Scout Den, Fernleigh Avenue, to hold a Fun Activity Day with the Theme "Fun at the Fair."

There were clowns and fairies conducting the activities at bases.

Face Painting, colouring activities, peg throwing, bocce, wet sponge throwing, balloon bursting, bubble blowing, catapults, match stick puzzles, soc-a-pop, rockets and jousting were all on offer for the youth members to try.

There was plenty of fun for everyone.



**FUN AT THE FAIR**



## Region Scout Camp—7-10 June 2013

*Scouts assembled at Rowallan Park on the Queen's Birthday weekend for the Central and Coastal Region Competition Scout Camp.*

*Around 50 scouts attended, coming from Bowen 3 patrols, Banksia*

*3 patrols, Mackay City Central 1 patrol and Sarina 1 patrol.*

*Activities were, orienteering, construction, firelighting, making shelters, mock parades. Camping skills and cooking were judged to compete for the Annual Shield. A campfire was held on Sunday evening.*

*Scorpion Patrol from Banksia Group won the shield and Tassie Tigers from Banksia Group was runner up.*



*These scouts were asked what they enjoyed most at the Region Scout Camp.*

*Meeting people.  
Fire lighting.*



*Angus, Banksia Group*

*Talking to other scouts.  
Fire lighting.*



*Aiden, Bowen Group*

*Talking to other scouts.  
Looking forward to Campfire.*



*Paige, Mackay City Central*

### Vox Pops

*By M Wallace*

## Region Venturer Scout Activity at Bowen—Story and Photos by Alex Cinelli

Saturday the 18th of May marked the beginning of yet another amazing and fun filled weekend for the Mackay Region Venturer Scout Group, along with the Bowen Venturer Scouts. The Bowen Scout den was the base for the camp with the main activity for the weekend consisting of a tent pitching challenge, where participants took to the streets of Bowen to rack up the most number of pitches of their teams dome tent. Bonus points were awarded for the most random, confined space and creative sites. Some of the top pitches included, inside a telephone booth, on a pedestrian crossing, inside a furniture store

and at a laundromat. Not only was the competition awesome fun but it also provided great publicity for the movement, with the stunts catching the eyes and the interest of many of the locals.

On Sunday the camp took a change in pace when two very successful and knowledgeable members of the Calen Canefields Toastmasters Club presented a lesson in Public Speaking which was extremely informative and beneficial to all who took part. All in all the camp was terrific and it provided a great opportunity for the Venturer Scouts from Mackay and Bowen to catch up with one another. Definitely a worthwhile experience.



### Tent pitching in Bowen

*These Cub Scouts and Joey Scouts were asked at the CS JS Activity Day—What activity did they enjoy most.*

Balloon Bursting.



Face Painting



Matchstick Puzzles



Flinging the Pegs



Luke, Mackay City Central

Alexia, Mackay City Central

Jude, Banksia

Lachlan, Banksia

## TRAINING—by Margaret Hodda

*Application has been made to Branch Headquarters to have the Scout and Venture Scout Skills Training 3 Courses which were originally scheduled for August, to be transferred to the same weekend as the Skills Training 2 weekend in July. The following dates would then apply.*

*July 19 – 21     Skills Training 2 & 3 (e-Learning Practical Weekend) for Scout and Venturer Scout Leaders.*

*July 20 – 21     Skills Training 2 & 3 (e-Learning Practical Weekend) for Joey Scout, Cub Scout and Leader of Adults.*

*Closing date for applications to reach BHQ is 28<sup>th</sup> June 2013.*

*In addition to formal training I would like to touch on certain protocols within Scouting. It is that time of year when Formations are required, according to Scout Association Policy, to hold their Annual General Meetings. The Annual General Meeting is a report to the public on the operations of, and in our case, the Groups and Region for the past Scouting year. That is the period 1<sup>st</sup> April of the previous year to 31<sup>st</sup> March of the current year.*

*Proper prior planning is necessary to achieve the outcome of a well presented and successful meeting. People gain impressions from what they see and hear and it is the responsibility of the Team Leader to ensure that all boxes are ticked in the expectation that the meeting will proceed smoothly in accordance with the written agenda for a Scout AGM.*

*Invitations are not only confined to members and parents of the Formation and may be extended to other members of the Association, in particular Region Leaders, along with specific individuals or representatives of organizations in the community who have provided support to, or show an interest in the Formation. It is common courtesy to acknowledge the presence of such people in attendance at the meeting and it is important that they be addressed as is appropriate to their current standing in the community. Here are some examples.*

*Chief Commissioner of Queensland, Kirsty Brown OAM  
 Region Commissioner Central & Coastal Region, Dougal McWhinney  
 Honourable Tim Mulherin, Member for Mackay  
 Councillor Deirdre Comerford, Mackay Regional Council Mayor  
 Mr Bert Smith, Manager, Local Hardware Store*

*The appropriate public introduction of people applies at all Scout functions and may necessitate a little bit of homework being done on the part of organizers to ensure they get it right, but saves embarrassment at the time of the event. It is courteous to invite VIP's, who are mostly busy people giving of their time, while expressing an interest in our organization through their attendance, to say a few words on such occasions. The Region Commissioner is our local Scouts Queensland representative and should always be acknowledged and invited to speak.*

*This is also important in the training of our young people when they are taking a leading role in presentations of the Australian Scout Medallion and Venturer Scout Queen's Scout Awards. It is the responsibility of Leaders to ensure the young people have the correct information and everyone has the satisfaction of a job well done.*

*Until next time “Good Scouting”*

***Margaret Hodda, Assistant Region Commissioner – Training and Development***

## MACKAY CITY CENTRAL— Their Service—Our Heritage— by Debbie Rutherford

On Thursday 2 May, Mackay City Central Cub Scout Pack visited the military display installation, provided from Mr. Phil Rutherford's personal collection, at Mackay West State School for the school's annual ANZAC Day commemorations.

Items in the display spanned 150 years of military history from an original 1860 Queensland mounted infantry badge, WWI Lighthorse uniform, photos and personal letters home, communication devices – morse code tappers, heliograph and field phone, WWII Japanese battle flag and NCO's (Non-Commissioned Officer ie Corporal/Sergeant) sword, first aid tin, Sake cups, pay books and personal stamp through to current (2011) US Army uniform worn in Afghanistan complete with webbing, and night vision monocle (All items in the display are original genuine pieces).

Everyone found the evening very interesting and informative with the highlight of the experience being able to walk through a mock up of a WWI trench, complete with personal items including great coats and helmets to



try on, webbing and eating utensils; assorted wooden boxes (ammunition etc) and jerry cans and a dug out in the wall of the trench where a soldier would have slept. The trench also contained a genuine WWI (1916 dated) trench periscope through which recorded battlefield vision could be viewed – just to add to the atmosphere.

**The following report was written by Sixer Ryan Cox:**

*The Thursday after ANZAC Day the Cub Scouts went to see Mr. Rutherford's military collection. First he introduced himself to the cub scouts he didn't know. Then we watched a DVD about the ANZACs at Gallipoli. We got to look at special army things, letters, medals, photos and weapons. I didn't know what some of the things were for. We got to try on army uniforms and hats which was great fun. I especially liked my time in the trench. I'm looking forward to doing it again next year.*

Thank you Mr. Rutherford.

### Banksia Scout Group

The sun is setting on another term and it has certainly been event filled.

As a group we have successfully survived another AGM with all committee positions filled. Our fundraisers are raising funds and taking names.

Each section has been busy with camps and badge work. Our Scouts did very well at the Region Camp where we placed 1<sup>st</sup> Scorpions, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tassie Tigers and 4<sup>th</sup> Red Backs. The feedback from the leaders and youth members was that it was "great" and they really enjoyed getting to know Scouts from other Troops.

Prior to the Region Camp (too recently for some leaders) the Cubs Scouts and Scouts attended Action Challenge with its dizzying heights and activities.

Venturer Scouts have also been busy with attending Roventure, Abseiling and Adventure Hikes.

And finally Leader Training.....what can I say? It was interesting. The trainers and co-leaders were

in great spirits and it was a very educational weekend. I was going fine until someone said "Tie a knot, it's easy". In theory this is true unless you are right-handed with a left-handed Mother. Let's just say my mum was in a heap of trouble by the end of it and she owes my dad an apology for all the times I couldn't tie a fishing line.

I am going to keep this one short and sweet. The term has been full of achievements and personal development by our youth members and leaders that I could go on and on. So here's to Term 3, bring it on!!

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



Action Challenge—Cody - Photo by Jo Hamilton

## Rowallan Park Report—by Lance Hodda



Rowallan Park is looking a quite picture at present. After the continued rains and a few runs over with the mower I would have to say it has never looked as good as it does. Both dams are full and the part of Glendaragh Creek to the left of the causeway crossing is holding water as well. There are also a few areas around the back of the park that are still too wet to mow with the tractor. There are a couple of holes that will require some fill where it has been bogged recently. It has been many years since Rowallan Park has been this water logged this late in the year.

The Mackay and District Mountain Bike Club have had many working bees this year maintaining the bike and walking tracks that are around the park.

The refurbishment to the Johnstone lodge is now complete. The roof has been replaced, the "Motel Rooms" have been refreshed and the bunk beds in the dormitory area have all been rebuilt to meet the new legislation. It is important to note, that to be compliant with this legislation, the maximum sleeping capacity for Johnstone Lodge has been reduced from 45 to 30 persons. Also, only a maximum of 15 Joey Scouts and or Cub Scouts can be accommodated at anytime. The reason for the reduction in the accommodation numbers is that the legislation stipulates that we can only have a 2 tier bunk beds and you must be 9 years or older to sleep on the top bunk. There are, of course, many other requirements that we have had to comply with

as part of this legislation.

The Rowallan Park Fellowship continues to grow in numbers. They enjoyed an afternoon bar-b-que at Rowallan Park recently and some of the members have been helping with a couple of tasks around the park as well.

Rowallan Park is a very relaxing setting to sit, of an afternoon, and watch and listen to the ever present wildlife. Please use it and make the most of it. The majority of the walking trails (There's only one that still requires some attention) are open and accessible for a stroll around the park.

I took a photo a couple of weeks ago of this Kookaburra sitting on the Noel Weder Trail marker. He kept a vigilant eye on me for while as I was doing a few chores around the lodge.



**Lance Hodda**

**Assistant Region Commissioner  
Campsites and Community Development**

### **COMPETITION for Youth Members**

**WIN WIN WIN !!! A badge or two, is for you. Open to all youth members.**

**How did Rowallan Park get it's name?  
Can you tell me something about that person?**

*Results will be published in the September Edition.*

*Email your answer to [editornewsletterccr@gmail.com](mailto:editornewsletterccr@gmail.com) by 24 August 2013*