



A well set up outdoor cooking fire place

# Central & Coastal Region Newsletter

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EDITOR MARY WALLACE

## DATES TO

### REMEMBER

- **19-20 Oct JOTA JOTI**
- **2 Nov Special Childrens Xmas Party**
- **16 Nov End of Year Party—6pm at Rowallan Park**
- **17 Nov Region Newsletter Deadline**

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## *Region Commissioner's Report*

*Youth membership in the region has started to climb over the last couple of months. The total number of youth members in the region is 165 comprising of 21 Joey Scouts, 55 Cub Scouts, 62 Scouts, 19 Venturer Scouts and 8 Rover Scouts. This count is up 3% since 01 April 2013. At present, we have 26 Leaders (section/group), 21 Support Members (Adult Members & Helpers), 19 Region Leaders and 8 Fellowship members. Last week the total youth count for the state passed 10,000, which is quite an achievement. It has been many years since the state has had that many youth members.*

*During June, I was out of the region due to work commitments and during this time, Margaret Hodda (ARC Training & Development) was Acting Region Commissioner. She did a great job and I thank her for stepping in and doing the role.*

*In July, I attended the Region Commissioners conference and there was a lot of discussion on the Region Review that had been completed and tabled at the RC conference at the beginning of the year. There are some changes across QLD to some regions as noted in the recent memo from the Chief but at present we remain unchanged. I am however required to continue to grow the youth numbers in the region and where possible start at least one new group somewhere in the region.*

*The other item that appeared on the RC conference agenda was the issue of leader training. During recent investigations and audits of various QLD Scouts policies, the auditor noted that some leaders had not completed their final training. A few leaders had been in the movement for a long time and had not even started their training. We are currently working with the training team to ensure that all leaders receive full training in the required time.*

*In August, we held our Annual Region Management Seminar (ARMS), which was attended by the QLD Chief Commissioner. The seminar was well attended by the leaders from the region and good discussion was held on many topics. Risk Assessment was one of the big ones and I am endeavouring to get an area available on our website where we can store risk assessment templates for various activities.*

*Next month is JOTA/JOTI is on and we look like having a large roll up for the region activity at Rowallan Park. Do not forget to order your badges from the Scout Supply Centre.*

*Yours in Scouting  
Kingfisher*

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

# SILVER KANGAROO—HARRY ROESTENBURG

*In 2005 I was in the audience with a group of scouting members from Mackay at the Scout and Guide Gang Show at the Schonell Theatre at Queensland University and was surprised to hear Harry's name being mentioned by one of the cast paying out on people in the audience. Of course, Harry being the good sport that he is, took it in his stride, as it was coming from one of his former Rover Scouts who was studying at university in Brisbane.*

*By M Wallace*

*Harry Roestenburg signed up as an eight year old Cub Scout in Geelong, Victoria and has been a member of scouting since then. On Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013 the Scouting Chief Commissioner of Queensland Mrs Kristy Brown OAM, presented Harry with his 35 year long service badge for his service as a leader and The Silver Kangaroo, the highest adult recognition award in Scouting, for Eminent Achievement and Meritorious Service to Scouting.*

*Harry signed up as the Assistant Scout Leader in Geelong in 1974, and later became the Assistant Venturer Scout Leader in Geelong. He moved to Queensland and became the ASL for the Bundamba Scout Group, at Ipswich, and then transferred to Milbank Scout Group in Bundaberg. Harry became a Rover Advisor in 1984 and he transferred to Mackay in 1990 and has been the Rover Advisor here for the past 23 years.*

*As a youth member Harry achieved the Queens Scout Award.*

*The Rover Advisor is there to guide the*

*young people to review all choices before they make decisions. Harry said that being a Rover Advisor has been very rewarding and now many of the young people he has guided through their journey in scouting are personal friends, which now includes their partners and children. A highlight of scouting over the years for him has been the comraderie of the Rovers in Central Queensland. The Rovers from Central and Coastal Region, Central Western Region, and Capricornia Region have had many combined activities and are quick to come and help out at Region events. Harry said the major changes that he has seen over the years, is the female contribution to scouting in the Rover Scout Section and their willingness to get things done.*

*Over the years in scouting for Central and Coastal Region Harry has also done his fair share of work at Rowallan Park, at working bees and making improvements to the facilities.*

*Well done Harry!!!*



## Training—by Margaret Hodda

*How pleasing it was to see such enthusiastic Leaders attend the Skills 2 and 3 Training Courses held in August. We now have a number of people powering on to Wood Badge level training. We are fortunate in having had David Thomas and Christine Long make the journey to Mackay in the "Nailsmobile" twice this year to run courses at Rowallan Park. Their assistance is greatly appreciated.*

*The many presentations made at the Annual Region Management Seminar (ARMS) by the Chief Commissioner and Region Commissioner were most impressive. Congratulations to Nikki on the*

*awarding of her Wood Beads, Gilwell Scarf and Certificate and to membership of the 1<sup>st</sup> Gilwell Scout Troop. Certificates representing a total of 155 years service to Scouting were presented to Jane, Lance, Mary, Harry and Dennis. Wow! What a great example of dedication and commitment to one organization. A Certificate of Adult Membership, Certificates of Adult Leadership and PLA Certificates were also presented. Well done to all! Last but not least, Harry's Silver Kangaroo. Good on you Harry! The award is well deserved.*



## The Scout Leaders Reward

*A man dared to tell me once that he was the happiest man in the world! I had to tell him of one who was still happier: myself. You need not suppose that either of us in attaining this happiness had never any difficulties to contend with. Just the opposite. It is the satisfaction of having successfully faced difficulties and borne pinpricks that gives completeness to the pleasure of having overcome them.*

*Don't expect your life to be a bed of roses; there would be no fun in it if it were.*

*So, in dealing with the Scouts, you are bound to meet with disappointments and setbacks. Be patient: more people ruin their work or career through want of patience than do so through drink or other vices. You will have to bear patiently with irritating criticisms and red tape bonds to some extent but your reward will come.*

*The satisfaction which comes of having tried to do one's duty at the cost of self-denial, and of having developed characters in the youth which will give them a different status for life, brings such a reward as cannot well be set down in writing. The fact of having worked to prevent the recurrence of those evils which, if allowed to run on, would soon be rotting our youth, gives a man the solid comfort that he has done something, at any rate, for his country, however humble may be his position.*

*This is the spirit with which Scout Leaders and Commissioners work in the Scout Movement.*

*The credit for the organization and the spread of the Scout Movement is due to this army of voluntary workers. Here we have remarkable – if silent – evidence of the fine patriotic spirit that lies beneath the surface of most nations. These men give up their time and energies, and in many cases their money as well, to the work of organizing the training of boys, without any idea of reward or praise for what they are doing. They do it for the love of their country and their kind.*

***It is said that you can tell a man's character from the way he wears his hat.***

*Does that story still ring true of the men and women in Scouting today?*

## Region—Venturer Scout Section—by Judy Johnson

The Venturer Scouts again showed that initiative is alive and well with the annual Echidna camp producing some memorable moments with some of the participants showing a little more than others. The venturer scouts in the region are growing with the influx of several Scouts and a few new to scouting. The Region hosted Branch Advisor Chris Dunne for a Unit Management course which was very well attended by 13 Venturer Scouts. With these young people learning how to manage their units it makes the Venturer Scout Leaders job a lot easier. There were also a Few Wizards and Witches present at Rowallan Park running a Weekend at Hogwarts for the Banksia, Mt Archer and Gracemere Joey Scouts Photos of Bowen Group Leader David Higgins dressed as Dumbledore have been spied as well as Banksia Group Leader Katrina Hoare dressed very Prettily in pink as Minister Deloris Umbridge . The Venturer Scouts were all in costumed roles for the entire camp and did a



magnificent job with both the characters and working with the Joey Scouts. Tyla Fleay earned the Venturer Award.

The next couple of months we will see the Venturer Scouts at JOTA JOTI. They will be camping in their usual spot . You will be most welcome to drop by for a visit. There is a strong rumour that there is coffee available for Leaders and cordial for youth members who visit. Then the Region Venture at Kinchant Dam if you have older Scouts they are able to attend the Venture and work on their Try Venturing Badge it is a fun filled weekend at Kinchant Dam. Application Forms have been sent to your Group Leaders.

**Till next time Look Wide**

Judy Johnson.

## Bowen Scout Group



**Bowen Scout Group participating in Relay for Life**

*Note from the Editor—Last Newsletter I included a competition for youth members unfortunately no one entered. I thought it might be something that would encourage them to find out more about scouting.*

**Banksia Scout Group—by Group Leader Katrina Hoare—Jacala**

*I swear I blinked and the Term is over..... and if one more person reminds me how close Christmas is I think I am going to start rocking in a corner. We have had a very busy Term 3 with more camps and badge work. Our Joey Scouts joined the other groups for a very successful Hogwarts Camp. Well done to the leaders and older scouts involved, I have had excellent feedback from parents of our newest members.*

*Cub Scouts have been out and about with an exciting program this term. They attended Skillorama - a joint camp with MCC and the much postponed April camp which was a blast! Youth members made and used their own raft and did some kayaking.*

*Cub Scouts celebrated "Scouts in Action" week with a visit to the CQ Rescue helicopter and watched the North Mackay Fire Station conduct a bus and car accident training. From these two visits our cub scouts learnt what other community groups are out there and safety instructions. A very valuable lesson was learned – don't ring 000 for your stolen bike.*

*In our Scouts Troop it is has been very busy on section nights. 6 youth members are working towards Adventurer level, 15 are progressing through Explorer and 8 have nearly completed Pioneer level. One of the visits this term was SES and we have had great reviews from the youth members – even the leaders found it interesting and fun.*

*"Scouts in Action" week had our scouts making blankets which were donated to Homefield Nursing*

*Home. Patrick Andrews will be visiting from Venturer Scouts in Term 4 to receive his Australian Scout Medallion – congratulations Patrick. Our Venturer Scouts have been achieving both in and out of Scouts. Recent achievements include Daniel performing in the pantomime "Aladdin" and Bethany grading at Tae Kwon Do. Congratulations on all your hard work. Section nights have not been boring with candy making, making a spirit stove from soft drink can and a very active Monopoly game running through Mackay CBD. During "Scouts in Action" week we also held our Annual Garage Sale and Red Cross Bake Sale with great success and very yummy contributions. This term has seen some great fundraising by the committee, parents and leaders and please know your hard work is greatly appreciated. At the recent ARMS conference nearly all of our leaders were in attendance and we had the opportunity to get a photo with the Chief Commissioner; I think her comment was that it's "Banksia Invasion".*



**Rover Scout Alex operating the Ride on Mower at Rowallan Park**



**Banksia Leaders - Rikki, Wantibirri, Bunda, Chief Commissioner, Pera, Jacala, Taipan & Koala**



**Leaders having fun at ARMS**

## Q VENTURE—by ALEX—TRISTIAN & SHAUNIE

### ***QVenture by Rover Scout Alex Cinelli***

*I could not have thought of a better way to spend my holiday than to travel up to the beautiful Atherton Tablelands and assist at the 2013 Qld Venture. Eight members from the Central and Coastal Region attended the seven day adventure from the 29th of July - 6th June . The Camp was broken into two parts the expedition and the base camp. For the expedition part which was the first four days of the camp the Venturer Scouts had to choose one activity from a fantastic line up of activities such as abseiling, caving, hiking, touring, mountain biking and sailing. The last three days of the camp were spent at Camp Bararabadeen on the Atherton Tablelands relaxing in the wonderful surrounds and participating in a huge range of offsite and on site activities. Possibly the most rewarding part of my experience as a Rover Scout at QVenture was getting to know the wonderful, crazy kids that make up our region's venturer scouts on another level. Memories to last a life time.*

### ***QVenture Report by Tristian Archibald, Mackay Venturer Scouts***

*Our base was a scout den in Cairns. Our abseiling site, Aeroglen, a beautiful piece of natural rock just near the airport, it was perfect for abseiling and rock climbing. The next day we started with our rock climbing which was interesting and hard work.*

*The next day we went for a drive out to split rock which is near Barron Gorge and abseiled there. We also did a tiny bit of rock climbing but the facia wasn't as high as the one from the day before.*

*The final day of expedition, we headed out for our hardest and most fun abseil yet, PETE'S FALL.*

*This beautiful waterfall we all got to abseil after a short walk. The water at the water fall was pretty cold and to make matters worse the bottom of the abseil was a fairly deep pocket of water which you had to swim out of, but I think everyone agreed that it was definitely worth it for that abseil.*

*We headed up to the hinterlands for the last two days of QV, sadly the expedition stage had ended but there was still cable ski-ing and go karting awaiting us off site, and lots of other fun stuff onsite.*

*We didn't go hungry at QV with the pizza eating challenge and another night the formal dinner.*

### ***By Shaunie Higgins, Bowen Venturer Scouts***

*QV, well the first thing I'll say is experience of a life time. I'm so glad I got to go because now that I have been and experienced it all I know that I wouldn't have missed it for the world. The expedition I went on was the Caving in Chillagoe. Time in the actual caves was amazing and you could tell no one wanted it to end. There were a lot of tight squeezes and difficult climbs but everyone enjoyed the experience. There were so many places where people looked and said "I can't do that", but once they got in and gave it a go they realized they could do a lot more than first expected. The packs we had to carry made it a little bit more of a challenge but with all of the extraordinary team work we made it through fine. Our leaders were terrific and encourage us to test ourselves but were always there to catch us if we fell and help us if we needed it. There were so many beautiful sites inside and out of the caves and I want to go back there one day and enjoy it all again. When we were leaving the caving club, our home for the past four days, everyone was sad to leave but we were all looking forward to the great time ahead at Barrabadeen, and a great time it was. A few of my friends and I went go karting as our offsite activity. Leaving on Saturday was sad and a few of us cried, but we all vowed to see each other again one day. All up, QV was an amazing experience that all of us will remember forever.*



## Scout Fellowship—Leader Awards



*Janet Brown has recently been presented with her 10 years service badge as Group Leader of Moranbah Scout Group. For many years she assisted with training and was a PLA. She is currently a member and secretary of the Rowallan Park Committee.*

*Lloyd Brown was presented with his Silver Arrowhead award.*

*Lloyd commenced his Scouting Adult Service as a Scout Leader with Moranbah Scout Group in 1999. He achieved his Woodbadge in this Section and was an impressive inspiration to the Scout Section of the Group. He organized interesting programs and their*

*outdoor activities were well received as well as being presented on a regular basis. Lloyd's Father was one of the original leaders in the Moranbah Group who had purchased an old bus, equipped it with a trailer and went on many exciting expeditions at every chance. Lloyd had been a chip off the "old block" and gave the youth members his all when the opportunities arose. The Scouts of Moranbah progressed and had an exciting time under the leadership of Lloyd Brown. Lloyd's work situation and family interests saw him join the Region Fellowship of which he is an active member.*



*Monawee and Hathi from Rowallan Park Fellowship and Memorabilia Section attended the Brisbane Gang Variety Show which was held from 29 June to 6 July. The theme this year was "Transport Down through the Years."*

*They have also received some memorabilia items from Ex Scouter Rod Poole and a photo with a question regarding a Radio in the 1970 interview from Guider Bev Houley.*

## 150 YEARS COMMEMORATION OF MACKAY SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS

*Some Scouting members in Central and Coastal Region were honoured to serve Billy Tea and Damper for morning tea to bus load of members of the South Sea Islander Community and other interested people who went on a tour of the Mackay area visiting 10 significant sites on the tour organised by the Mackay Festival of Arts.*

*Rowallan Park was one of the historical sites on the tour as there a number of Kanaka graves where there were multiple burials in the days of their indentured labour in the establishment of sugarcane farms in the area. Scouting members have been responsible for maintaining and preserving these graves for many years.*

