



Display at Marian Shopping Centre

DATES TO

REMEMBER

24 April Anzac Display

Organized by MCC

25 April Anzac Day

21 June RTM Sarina



Working with Youth with Disabilities Course Participants

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Central & Coastal Region Newsletter

APRIL EDITION 2014

EDITOR MARY WALLACE

Region Commissioner's Report

Welcome to Scouting for 2014!

Membership

Youth membership count in the region took a dive towards the end of March and unfortunately we slipped below the 10% growth target I set in April last year. In December 2013 the region reached a peak of 189 youth members. The total number of youth members in the region as at the end of March was 171 comprising of 20 Joey Scouts, 53 Cub Scouts, 70 Scouts, 18 Venturer Scouts and 10 Rover Scouts. This count is up just over 6% since 01 April 2013. In QLD at the end of March the state had just under 9,000 members and will possibly go over the 9,000 mark by the end of April 2014.

Leader numbers have fluctuated. At present we have 29 Leaders (section/group), 23 Support Members (Adult Members & Helpers), 16 Region Leaders and 11 Fellowship members.

In February Nikki McWhinney (RL Membership Support & Development) and I assisted Whitsunday Coast Scout Group hold an open day and then again in March to hold their first meeting for quite a while. The youth response was good and may have at least one leader sign up from the evening. We will continue to support and assist Kathy to grow the group in the area again. Nikki and I will also be attending the opening of the Marian Town Centre with the aim of gauging what interest there is in the area to start a new Scout Group. We will hold an information session in Marian a few weeks after the opening to get the ball rolling.

Awards

In the last few months we have had quite a few awards from Joey Scouts through to Venturer Scouts and I have certainly had the privilege to attend some of these. I encourage all groups to send Mary an invitation so she can take some photos and write an article for the Newsletter and hopefully get it in the paper. If Mary cannot attend I strongly suggest you send through a few photos and a story for her to work with. This sort of publicity is of a great benefit for all in the region.

Region Training Meeting

On March 23 I held a Region Training Meeting to download information to the leaders from the recent RC Conference and to deliver a training session on Areas of Personal Growth and the Scout Method. There was a lot of discussion coming from the meeting and received a large amount of feedback on the meeting. The next meeting will be in June.

ScoutFest

Planning has started on ScoutFest. I requested a committee be formed and Katrina Hoare (Banksia Group Leader) has volunteered to be the Chairperson and drive the process. Please promote this in you groups as this is also another opportunity for the region to come together and celebrate Scouting. Without your support the event will struggle to get off the ground. Contact Katrina if you or someone you know is able to assist.

Dougal McWhinney

Region Commissioner (Central and Coastal Region)

Western Australia Moot - by Alex Cinelli

Wow what can I say to sum up one of the best experiences of my life. When heading off for the National Biannual Rover Scout Moot on the eve of Boxing Day with four others keen members of Mackay Rover Crew, we had no idea what to expect, with us all being Australian Moot first timers. Over the four pre-moot days we sent in WA we got to know our surrounds in the beautiful city of Perth and prepared ourselves for the twelve days of hardcore partying that we had been warned about. The true fun began on the 30th December with the opening ceremony generating an intense amount of energy and anticipation from all that took part. Day one consisted of a day of recovery, from the previous night and preparation for the quickly approaching New Years Eve celebrations followed by early morning expedition departures. I could not have dreamed up a better way of spending my New Years Eve, than at a Rover event and it was an amazing welcoming the New Year in, for all the different states and countries attending. The five day expedition period divided the 600 odd attendees into 19 different experiences. All jam packed with activities and journeys all providing a unique experience. The trip I chose was called 'rock and hole' and consisted off a fantastic program of rock climbing, abseiling and adventure caving in the Leeuwin Naturalist National Park in South West WA. It was during these awesome five days that I met some of the most amazing people, all sharing similar interests and the same passion for rovers and the outdoors. Once back at the main base camp at the beautiful and very accommodating Woodman Point Recreation Centre, we began a week of on site and offsite activities by day and incredible parties by night. There was an endless list of activities to choose from. The onsite activities included, mountain biking, swimming or relaxing by the beautiful beach or swimming pool, zorbing, water sliding, rock climbing, high roping and that's just to name a few. As for the off site day trips, paintballing, ice skating, jet boating, trips to Rottnest and Penguin islands, zoo and adventure park visit and a day of

community service (which was compulsory for all) are just a selection of the activities we could chose from. Every night there has a massive party in the arena with most nights being a themed dress up and full of games and challenges. With the last few days of the moot closing in our bodies began to feel the pinch of lack of sleep and over partying and the dreaded thought of going back to reality started to niggle at us. The bittersweet closing ceremony went off with a bang on the 11th January and lasted till the not so early hours of the morning, with some partying all the way up to the door of their departing bus. Looking back on the Moot now, on all the moments and memories that will last a lifetime and all the new amazing friends I have made and friend ships I have strengthened I realise how grateful I am to have joined Rover Scouts and been able to take part in such a phenomenal event. I won't be missing the next one for the world.

Alex Cinelli
Mackay Rover Crew



Alex at the Toga Party



Cuan ready to devour a pie.

CQ Roventure—By Venturer Scout Tristan Archibald

The Mackay Venturers recently attended the Central Queensland Roventure. (Which for those who don't know is a camp held for the Venturers by the Rovers). The venue this year was Awonga Dam which is near Gladstone. To get there almost the whole venturer unit embarked on an approximately seven hour bus ride down. The trip was an interesting ride with the agreement premade with the Venturer Leader that every time we stopped we would change seats. The bus ride was our units first chance to play our new venture CD which where an interesting mix of songs chosen by the venturers... the disk had just a few songs that where a bit different on it, and one of the songs I accidentally put on there, Red Solo Cup, has kind of turned into our units song, which is a major change from our previous song "What Does The Fox Say". Anyway the trip went fairly smoothly with a lot of singing (with a mix of soft drink and food bought by the venturers).

When we finally reached the campsite, it was about 11 or so at night so we decided to declare we were here, we turned the stereo up full volume and played "What does the fox say?" as we pulled up. Let's just say the venturers at the camp called it the party bus for the rest of the weekend. After settling down and getting to know the other venturers there, we found out that we weren't the last venturers to get in, as it turned out the Rocky Venturers weren't planning on getting in till the next morning.

The next day was a day full of activities. We played polo on, well it wasn't really horseback it was more plastic horses and snails and unicorn... for some odd reason the snail played really fast. We spent a while playing dodge ball, which was great but the ball kept rolling down the incline behind the field. After a few more games we stopped for lunch and then we got ready to head down to the dam. After a short walk we were greeted by the water, we quickly unloaded the canoes and began the water activities. The first activity was a bit of a challenge, we had to canoe out to a certain point in the water and then use a bow made of PVC pipe, and use other bits of PVC pipe and try to hit a stack of hay on the shore, none of the teams where successful, a few teams actually lost their bows in the dam as the bows string snapped as they shot so the bow flew out of there and landed in the water and quickly sunk. After some other activities we headed back to

camp for afternoon tea, after which the rovers had set up a, well, I guess the best description would be a mud bath and a slide for us to use which was kind of fun. Later that night we had a challenge to collect the best hand of cards we could off the rovers. This sounds simple but some of the rovers had challenges such as dancing the nut-bush. After another couple of hours of chill time and playing around we went to bed for the night, the next morning we had to head home so we packed up and got on the "party bus" for another couple of hours of music on the drive home.



Roventure wasn't the only interesting and fun thing the Mackay Ventures have been part of, the weekend after Roventure three of the venturers went along to the level two canoeing course for a weekend of fun and canoeing, it also included a little bit of orienteering.

Our last venturer meeting was held at the A plus fitness centre where we spent the night doing bouldering, which is kind of like rock climbing but when you fall of you land on a mat, we had a great night of fun be it climbing the walls, taking random pictures or just being plain weird.



Where has the time gone, it seems that only yesterday we were starting the year and trying to organise, a Leadership course the first week back. Only to have a cyclone change the best laid plans. So with the course postponed they got on to the task at hand enjoying Venturers. You only had to look around to see the Venturer Scouts out and about, with Founders Day followed immediately by camping at Calen. Then they were off to Gladstone, twice in two weeks. Firstly for RoVenture and next for Canoe level 1 course. They have helped on Scout Hikes and helped with preparation for a Deb Ball, climbing on boulder walls and attending the Canoeing level 2 course. They finally got around to spending the first weekend of their School holidays at a Leadership course. Branch Commissioner Phillip McNicol flew in and ran the course with Brendan Ross, David Higgins and Jo Brzozowski all assisting with sessions, Sandra Wright and Judy Johnson assisting on Saturday. You may think that this is a full term and you would be right. However they were not finished, they have also spent time planning a hike for the Easter long weekend, and it has involved numerous meetings and training sessions, to ensure it is well planned and organised. This often involved trialling recipes and different cooking methods to see which they liked best.

All of this takes place while the Venturer Scouts attend school or university hold part time jobs and participate in numerous other sporting, musical or theatrical activities. These extremely active young people keep their leaders and Group Leaders on their toes. So until next time Look wide and watch out for the Venturer Scouts, they are out there.

Judy Johnson, Region Venturer Scout Leader



**Venturer
Scouts on
Founders Day**



We were most fortunate in having a very successful and informative Working with Youth with Disabilities Workshop on the weekend of 15th and 16th February. This was possible through the generosity of Stephen Kydd, Region Commissioner of Capricorn Region who travelled from Rockhampton to present and share his knowledge and experiences of the subject matter with the 15 Leaders who attended. We were privileged to have three members of the Australian Air Force Cadets in attendance also.

*The next Leader training courses coming to our Region at Rowallan Park are Leadership Training 3 and Skills Training 1 for all Sections including Leader of Adults, on 3rd and 4th May 2014. I encourage all new Leaders and the not so new who haven't managed to attend this training, to have their applications together with the Course Fee of \$149.00 to the Branch Support Office by the closing date of Friday, 11th April 2014. Our Chief Commissioner and Region Commissioner have previously emphasized the importance of this training being undertaken to meet current requirements. If you are not sure what this entails, please seek further advice from your Team Leader. It is important that the Basic e-Learning Common Core and Basic Section Specific online modules be completed prior to attending the course. This weekend has also been set aside for a tentative Level 2 Canoe Course. More information on this one may be obtained from Region Commissioner Dougal McWhinney. **HELP NEEDED!!** It is with some urgency that we acquire the services of a person or persons who enjoy 'cooking up a storm' to take on the responsibility of catering for meals at training courses. Duties include working to a budget, preparation of a menu, purchasing of food, preparation and serving of meals and cleaning up of kitchen facilities. We are fortunate in having well equipped kitchens at Rowallan Park for this purpose. Should you be reading this Newsletter and have an interest in filling this important role or know of someone who may, please don't hesitate to contact me. I will be pleased to discuss the matter further.*

Training News—Continued - Whitsunday Scout Group News - Sarina Group News by Kelly Tomlinson

My contact details are: Home phone 0749550072, Mobile 0448548801, email:

bmhodda@bigpond.net.au Our next training course requiring this service is 3rd and 4th May 2014.

REGION TRAINING MEETING (RTM)

You may ask what is that? Region Training Meetings are held on a periodic basis (ours are quarterly) and are generally conducted by the Region Commissioner with support from his team. The purpose of the Region Training Meeting (RTM) is for all Youth Program Leaders and Leaders of Adults across Formations to meet for ongoing training support and to receive information updates from the Region Commissioner. It is also a time for social interaction. This is for both new and experienced Leaders.

The above is a condensed version of what can be found in Queensland Branch Scouting Instructions (QBSI) 3.7.6.4. District and Region Training Meetings (DTM/RTM). As we don't have any Scout Districts in our Region, reference to Region terminology applies to us as members of Central and Coastal Region.

Until next time – GOOD SCOUTING!

Margaret Hodda

Assistant Region Commissioner – Training and Development

Whitsunday Scout Group News—Kathy Ball

Whitsunday Coast is back in the swing of scouting. We have a new leader signed up and at that Stage 2 Joey scouts, we have had 8 youth attending of all mixed age groups, at this stage we will be running a multi age section until we get new leader.

We have celebrated Harmony Day, St Patricks day and introduction night. After the holidays we will be do Anzac activities and marching in the Anzac Day ceremony.

Not much other news at this stage until we get firing.

Kathy Ball, Group Leader

Sarina Scout Group takes part in Relay for Life

Sarina Scout Group decided at short notice to participate in Relay for Life as Scout Jayde Tomlinson who is a cancer survivor is once again having health issues.

From 2pm to 8am on Sat 8 to Sun 9 April we had to have at least 1 person from our team on the field at all times carrying our mascot. We used an elephant wearing the scarf and woggle. We also had a homemade flag with some different scout badges displayed on it. Our Team name was the Sarina Scouters 1 and Sarina Scouters 2. This was the first year that we have participated and a great time was had by everyone, even our pre-joeys Jennifer and Ty participated in doing a couple of laps. It was only decided 2 weeks before the event that we would enter a team. It was sponsored by Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal. They supplied us with caps and water bottles and our team registration. Our teams were made up of a mixture of Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Leaders, parents, pre joeys, and a few friends wanting to participate. We had a boy Jai turn up from Mackay on the Saturday asking to join our team.

Much to our surprise Sarina Scouters was awarded the Best On the night Fundraiser. We were selling glowsticks, and we had set up the rope bridge and were charging 50c to raise for the cancer council. Our Rope bridge was huge success, always with a long line of kids waiting for a turn or two.

By Kelly Tomlinson



Banksia Scout Group News—GL Katrina Hoare

First term over and out.....I miss Christmas.....it was a good excuse for a social & relaxing time.

Our members have been incredibly active this term with camps, fun days, presentations, courses and that's just the leaders!!

Great news!! We welcomed a new Assistant Leader this term. Loree (Bagheera) has joined our Cub Scout section and we are trying not to scare her too much.....ssshhhh I'll tell her about the small print later.

We have had a steady increase in Joey Scout numbers with section nights full of fun and games. Cub Scouts have been busy with their achievement badges. The highlight of the badge work is, of course, the 5 Grey Wolf Awards handed to deserving Cub Scouts - Gabe Harland, Markus Ackerman, John Dimond, Isaac Galea & Louis Lamb. Congratulations once again to these Cub Scouts and their hardworking Cub Leader, Rikki. This equals the number awarded in 2011 as the highest number awarded in one year.

Scouts have been busy with two green level journeys and six more working towards this goal. With no

camps all activities have been held at the den this term and Jaycee Park has been inundated with nerf guns and remote controls.

Venturers have been travelling far and wide with Level 1 Canoeing in Gladstone, Roventure in Gladstone on the "Party Bus," Drama games at the MEC, had a go at the Boulder Wall, participated in leadership course in Calen and elected a new unit council. In the ranks is an actor who performed in the "Sentimental Bloke" at the CQU Conservatory. Bravo Daniel!!

We proudly hosted another Queens Scout presentation for Tyla Fleay and thank everyone who helped Tyla achieve her goals.

Banksia Scout Group wants to thank the organisers of Founder's Day; a great day was had by all.

Little birdies in the community have whispered in my ear how good our members looked and that it was great to see.

The den is getting a bit of a facelift over the next few weeks with the successful application of a grant for new doors from Mackay Regional Council. After two break-ins before Christmas this is going to be a relief to all of us and will give our den a nice cosmetic boost.

Well I better get started on Scoutfest 2014 plans so please remember, if you can spare some time to join our committee, your youth member and their friends will all benefit.

Jacala

Katrina Hoare, Group Leader



Banksia Scout Group on Founders Day

Hands of Friendship Stretches Across the Miles

The Canning Sea Scout Group was on a leadership course in Freemantle and one of the bases was to get some information at the Freemantle Round House. This is a tourist attraction which was once a convict centre and storage for ammunition. Now each day at 1pm they fire a cannon.

Dennis and Heather Tuckerman were on a well earned holiday. Their trip on the "Voyagers of the Sea" took them to the North and South Island of New Zealand to Melbourne, Adelaide and Freemantle, then they returned to the east coast via the Indian Pacific Rail. One of the attractions they visited was the Round House in Freemantle. Dennis recognised a patrol leader who had participated in activities at the Disabilities Base at AJ2013 in Maryborough. When Dennis spoke to him he instantly recognised him. The Troop had offered their hand of Friendship at AJ2013 by inviting Dennis and Heather to tea at their campsite at Jamboree.

By Mary Wallace

From information supplied by Dennis Tuckerman



**AGM on Monday 28th April
@ 6.30pm Banksia Scout Den,
Jaycee Park, Fernleigh Ave**

All parents, leaders and committee members are requested to attend to discuss the future direction of our group and financial matters. Look forward to seeing you there. Jacala

Mackay City Central News— Bike Hike by Allan Salty— Tyla Fleay QS Award

On Saturday 14 March and Sunday 15 March six scouts from Mackay City Central and two support crew embarked on a Bike Hike which was held as an adventure level hike. The Course took them from Scout den via Maraju-Yakapari-Balnagowan on Seaforth Rd. Howells Rd. Cape Hillsborough Resort- Seaforth-Mt Ossa-Mt Charlton to Mirani.

On the Saturday they rode 56 kilometres from their scout den at West Mackay to Balnagowan to the Seaforth Road and down to Cape Hillsborough Resort to camp for the night. The next day they rode from Cape Hillsborough to Mt Charlton and on to Mirani a further 70 kilometres.



Riders ready to set out



Mackay City Central Group on Founders Day

**Queen's Scout Award
Presentation to
Tyla Fleay**



On Saturday 1st March Mackay Venturer Scout Tyla Fleay was presented with her Queen's Scout Award at Banksia Scout Den. Region Commissioner Dougal McWhinney, Region Leaders, Leaders, Venturer Scouts, teachers, family and friends were at the presentation to help Tyla celebrate her major achievement.

At the ceremony, chaired by Venturer Scouts Bethany Pinkard and Daniel O'Neill, former Queen's Scout recipient Brendan Ross outlined the requirement in achieving the Queen's Scout Award, Acting GL Brian Harvey spoke on behalf of Mackay City Central Group, RC Dougal McWhinney presented Tyla with her Venturer Scout Passport, VL Jo Brzozowski outlined some of Tyla's achievements and commented on her character, MCC VL Sandra Wright presented Tyla with the Queen's Scout Award cloth badge and Region Venturer Scout Leader Judy Johnson presented her with a gift. All speakers commented on Tyla's cheerfulness, happy go lucky attitude and her willingness to help leaders. She attended all camps, she is respectful to leaders and adults, and is a credit to the scouting movement.

Tyla first joined scouting as a nine year old with the 1st Nowra Cub Scout Pack, when she came to live in Mackay she joined the Bucasia Scout Group, and then moved to Mackay City Central Group. She is now a member of the Mackay Rover Crew.

Earning the Queen's Scout Award is very challenging and to achieve it you must aim high and have high personal goals to achieve the award. There are five compulsory challenges, and two others of your own choice.

Tyla has completed many hours of voluntary service to the Mackay City Central Scout Troop. Her expedition hike was a two day hike at Crediton. She also achieved a Senior First Aid Certificate as a part of the Award. Tyla said she thoroughly enjoyed the Echidna Camp, which was an initiative camp, which was held near the back of Kinchant Dam. They started at tea time with breakfast and worked through the night in darkness doing challenges that you would normal do during the day. They had lunch at midnight and tea at 6am.

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

SCOUTFEST 2014 2-3 AUGUST

Scoutfest is the overnight Region Camp that runs every 2 years with our youth members having a fabulous time in a carnival/mini jamboree environment.

Due to unforeseen circumstances this year we need your help. We need committee members to join representatives from Scouts, Venturers & Rovers help us organise and set up the events. You will be attending monthly planning meetings and working as a team to help us make this the best camp for your youth member and our region!!

Leaders & committee members will be assisting however due to section meetings, camps and other group responsibilities their time is limited.

Previously this has been a Region organised/run event and if we don't get supporters the camp will have to be cancelled so please register your availability and interest with Katrina by email bsg4740@hotmail.com or phone 0410 455 615 by 24th April 2014.

Short term commitment for our kids education & enjoyment

GREY WOLF AWARD

Two Banksia Cub Scouts, Louis Lamb and Isaac Galea were presented with their Grey Wolf Awards on Thursday 20 March 2014 at a special ceremony held at the scout den at Fernleigh Avenue, Andergrove. The Grey Wolf Award is the highest award in the Cub Scout Section. The presentation was attended by family members, fellow cub scouts, scouts and the Cub Scout and Scout Leaders from Banksia Scout Group.

Louis Lamb joined the Cub Scout Pack in 2011 and has completed the three Boomerang Award Levels and has completed a number of Level 2 interest badges, along with Local History, Their Service and Our Heritage, special interest badges. Louis said he enjoyed going to camps.

Isaac joined the Pack in 2012 and completed two of the Boomerang Award levels and he also completed a number of Level 2 interest badges, along with a Waterwise and Their Service, Our Heritage badge. Cub Scout Leader Jo Hamilton said in all the years she has been a Cub Scout Leader it was the first time she has ever presented at Level 2 World Friendship Badge to a Cub Scout. Isaac said he enjoyed the company of the other Cub Scouts and he especially enjoyed the camp at Action Challenge.

Both Cub Scouts went with their pack on a hike at Cape Hillsborough. They also painted a picture of

Baloo the bear from the Jungle Book to display at the den as a part of the requirements of the Grey Wolf Award.

At the award presentation, Banksia Scout Group Leader Katrina Hoare spoke on the requirements of the Grey Wolf Award and presented the two recipients with their completed record books.

Louis and Isaac chose to invite their mothers to present them with their Grey Wolf Award cloth badge.

Cub Scout Leader Jo Hamilton presented them with their certificates and a present from herself and the Pack.

After the presentation and party food a special cake was cut to mark the occasion.

The two Cub Scouts have advanced to the Scout Section.



FOUNDERS DAY 2014

Central and Coastal Region Scouting was out in force to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of their Founder Sir Robert Baden Powell with activities at Canelands Park.

Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts and Venturer Scouts and Rovers divided into three groups to complete the challenges set for them. They chose a team name, designed a flag, wrote a prayer, which they said on closing parade, built a free standing flagpole, and put up a dome tent suspended above the ground, all within a time limit. All three groups were successful and teamwork and talents were evident in completing the tasks.

After parade the leaders and youth members moved to the lagoon for a cool down and birthday cake.

Region Team members were very pleased with the number of youth members and leaders in attendance for the first Central and Coastal Region event for 2014



Founders Day Photos



*Whitsunday Scout Group Leader Kathy Ball
10 Service Award*



Mascot Sarina Relay for Life