

Central and Coastal Region Newsletter

DECEMBER EDITION 2014

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BANKSIA LEADERS LEADERSHIP AWARDS

DATES TO

REMEMBER

SUNDAY 22nd February
Founders Day & Aquatastics
at Calen District State College
Pool



CHERECEE & LISA ASM CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

JOTA-JOTI	2
BANKSIA GROUP	3
QUEEN' S SCOUT	4
VENTURER SCOUT NEWS	5
WHITSUNDAY & BOWEN NEWS	6



Region Commissioner's Report

The end is near... Well the end of the year 2014 that is.

Youth membership in the region has levelled out over the last couple of months (which is normal for this time of the year). The total number of youth members in the region is 215 comprising of 28 Joey Scouts, 78 Cub Scouts, 74 Scouts, 25 Venturer Scouts and 10 Rover Scouts. This count is up 20% since 01 April 2014 and is above the growth target set by the Chief at the beginning of the year. At present, we have 32 Leaders (section/group), 36 Support Members (Adult Members & Supporters), 16 Region Leaders and 9 Fellowship members.

During September the AJ2016 applications opened. Below are some links for AJ2016.

Please keep in mind for those attending your application and first payment must be at the Branch Support Office by 31 March 2015. Youth member applications have to come past me for signature but adult applications go to your team leader and then directly to Branch.

AJ2016 Website: <http://www.aj2016.com.au>

QLD Contingent: <http://www.aj2016.com.au/table/applications/contingent-application-info/>

Applications: <https://applications.aj2016.com.au/Login.asp>

During October we held a very successful JOTA-JOTI. 120 youth members attended (down a little on last year) and a great time was had by all. I would like to thank Lance, Brendan, the Mackay Amateur Radio Club and especially the Rovers for assisting with the various activities across the weekend. Without these people the event would not have happened. On the Saturday evening we presented certificates for two Australian Scout Medallions (Lisa Connell & Chereece Jocusmen), two Adult Special Service Awards (Jeanette Nicol & Sonia Andrews), a Silver Wattle (Joanne Hamilton) and a Silver Koala (Joann Brzozowski).

During the weekend of 24-26 October the region held a very successful Wood Badge Course. There were 11 participants, 6 from our region and the rest from either Moranbah or Townsville. All the participants had a great time and it was also good to see our new resident trainer, Joanne Hamilton, delivering some of the content. Look forward to completing the reviews in 3 months' time for those in my region that attended.

On Saturday 22 November we were to hold the Annual Aquatastic Event at Calen but due to issues with the pool this was rescheduled to Founder's Day (Sunday 22 Feb 2015). I am hoping for good attendance as it should be a great day.

One again I would like to thank all the leaders and adult supporters 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 2015.

Yours in Scouting

Kingfisher, Dougal McWhinney

Region Commissioner (Central and Coastal Region)

JOTA—JOTI—Dougal McWhinney

JOTA/JOTI

The 57th Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) and the 18th Jamboree On The Internet (JOTI) was held on the 18-19 October. The region event (held at Rowallan Park) had around 125 youth members and leaders in attendance.

JOTA had an HF radio in operation as well as Echolink. JOTA was only operating on Saturday. We had a few Australian contacts via the HF radio and some good discussion occurred on the Echolink system as well.

JOTI had around 9 PCs in operation using Internet Chat Relay (IRC) to communicate to other Scouts/Guides/Leaders. It started slowly on Saturday and we were only getting a few contacts in Australia. However by Saturday afternoon, JOTI was starting to liven up and was on fire late Saturday evening early Sunday morning.

Overall we made around 75 contacts across 26 countries. The table below shows the top 5 countries we contacted.

Country	Con-tacts
Australia	30
Philippines	7
New Zealand	6
Denmark	3
Indonesia	3

At the electronics station this year the participants made either a small 3 LED flasher or a heads/tails (2 LED) flasher. There were some really excited youth members really looking forward to completing the kit and we didn't end up with too many singed fingers. Everyone that participated was able to take away a working flasher.

A special thanks to the Rovers who assisted with the set-up, running and deconstruction of the JOTI and electronic bases. The Rovers also organised the activity on Saturday night (wide game) which everyone enjoyed. Without them I am sure I would have struggled to get everything completed on time.

Also thanks to the other leaders and parent helpers that provided assistance when their group was in attendance. I encourage you to have a look at the photos on the region website and I look forward to JOTA/JOTI next year.

Dougal McWhinney
JOTA-JOTI Coordinator
Central & Coastal Region

Bowen Cub Scout at Electronics



Banksia Scouts at JOTA



Mackay City Central Cub Scouts at JOTI



BANKSIA—MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

GREY WOLF AWARD PRESENTATION

Cub Scouts Isaac Russell and Eliza West from Banksia Scout Group, Andergrove were successful in achieving the highest award in the Cub Scout Section the Grey Wolf Award which was presented to them at a Special meeting on Thursday 13th November 2014.

To achieve the award the Cub Scouts are required to display leadership skills and both attended a leadership skills course and were Sixers. They also require enthusiasm and dedication and many hours of hard work and effort to fulfil the requirements of the challenges. Both Cub Scouts joined Banksia Cub Scout Pack in 2013 so have achieved their Silver and Gold Boomerang awards. They attended a number of outdoor activities and camps and a hike to St Andrews Point at Cape Hillsborough. Isaac Russell achieved his Level 2 Bushcraft, First Aider, Fishing and Musician Achievement Badges, and the Waterwise and Their Service, Our Heritage Badge. He made a game for the Cub Scout Pack with the Jungle Book theme "Pin the tail on Shere Khan." Isaac said the highlights of his time in Cub Scout has been attending Scoutfest, and Cuborree which is a state camp that was held this year at Maryborough Qld, with a Time of Legends theme. Eliza achieved her Level 2 Citizenship, Gardener and Literature & Sports, achievement badges and the Waterwise Badge. She made a Snap Card Game on the Jungle Theme. Eliza said her highlights in Cub Scout was attending JOTA JOTI and attending Cuborree.

Isaac invited his grandfather to present him his Grey Wolf Award Badge, and Eliza invited her brother Connor to present hers. Connor congratulated both Eliza and Isaac on achieving their awards and wished them well when they advance to the Scout section.

A special cake was cut at the celebration and the Cub Scouts, Scouts, Leaders, family and friends enjoyed the cake and nibbles that followed the presentation. Both Cub Scouts will progress to the Scout Section.



AUSTRALIAN SCOUT MEDALLION PRESENTATIONS

Banksia Scout Group in Fernleigh Avenue, Andergrove is certainly providing plenty of activities for the scouts to achieve the requirements of the award scheme. This is evident as six scouts, Daniel Andrews, Daniel Dale, Rianne Boyce, Conrad Lamb, Georgia Duggan and Christian Trinder were presented with their Australian Scout Medallions. The scouts need to be enthusiastic and committed to achieve the award and support, patience and guidance from the parents and leaders is also required.

The scouts participated in a two night 30 kilometre hike at Eungella where they had to carry everything they needed for the weekend. They also had to achieve the Adventurer Level in scouts, with activities from campcraft, citizenship and emergencies, six proficiency badges, a Patrol Activity, attend a Leadership Course and complete a leadership activity, where they had to lead their patrol in the activity.

Daniel Andrews asked his Cub Scout Leader Joanne Hamilton to present him with his badge. Daniel is a scout with endless energy and is an early riser when at camp. For his leadership activity he organised a scout activity night with fitness activities. Daniel's highlight in scouting was attending 23rd Australian Jamboree 2013 at Maryborough Queensland.

Rianne Boyce asked her scouting friend Georgia Duggan to present her badge. Rianne is always there to help when needed. She organised a Circus activity night for her leadership activity. Rianne said the highlight in scouting for her is the number of friends that she has made at scouting activities. Conrad Lamb asked his brother Trent Lamb to present him with his badge. Conrad is the fourth member of the Lamb family to earn the Australian Scout Medallion, as his older brothers, Glenn, Trent and Ryan have paved the way for him to follow in their footsteps. Conrad is a cheerful scout who enjoyed all the major events in scouting that he attended including AJ2013. He organised an activity at the Mackay Golf Driving Range for his Leadership Activity.

Georgia Duggan transferred from Baddow Group at Maryborough to Banksia Group in 2013 so was on her way to achieving her award before she came to Mackay. Before she left she asked her

Banksia Scout Group—MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

leader if he would come to Mackay to present her badge if she earned it. He kept his word and was a special guest for the night. Georgia organised an orienteering activity at Broomdykes Park for her patrol to take part in for her Leadership activity. Christian Trinder had his father Assistant Scout Leader Ken Trinder present his badge. Christian liked to cheer his leaders with a joke or two. Christian organised an activity at Artspace for his Leadership Activity. He thoroughly enjoyed the "Try Venture Camp" recently at Kinchant Dam. Daniel Dale had his Scout Leader Sonia Andrews present him with his badge. Daniel is great at delegating which allows him plenty of time to socialise with other scouts. Daniel organised a roller skating activity for his leadership activity. Scout Leader Sonia Andrews congratulated all recipients and thanked the parents for their encouragement with their scouts so that they were motivated to achieve their goal. All six recipients responded by thanking their leaders, parents and fellow scouts. Region Commissioner Dougal McWhinney congratulated the recipients and Banksia Scout Group Leaders and parents who have worked as a team in order for the scouts to achieve their goal. A celebratory cake was cut to mark the special occasion.

Most recipient will advance to the Venturer Scout Section which is also a very motivated unit.



QUEEN'S SCOUT AWARD

Venturer Scout Daniel O'Neill was presented with his Queen's Scout Award at a special ceremony held at Banksia Scout Den, Fernleigh Avenue, Andergrove on Wednesday 26th November 2014.



The Queens Scout Award is the Highest Award in the Venturer Scout Section and to achieve it one must be very dedicated at it requires many hours of service, and learning of new skills.

Some of the activities that Daniel participated in were, many hours of practising for his Trinity College Grade 8 Exam, his drama items for Eisteddfod and his part as Prince John in the play "Lion in Winter" which was performed over five nights. He also participated in many debates. Daniel is also a very community minded young man who volunteered at the Community Radio Station in Mackay from a very young age. He also organised the Relay for Life Teams from Calen District State College for two years and participated in the Pioneer Valley and Mackay Relay for Life on these occasions. He also enjoyed the outdoors and loved to share his stories of his adventures on the Whitsunday Great Walk, and his experiences of learning to abseil at the Dumbleton Rocks on the Pioneer River.

At the Queen's Scout Award presentation, Rover Scout Joshua Brzozowski addressed the audience on what was required to achieve the Queens Scout Award. Venturer Scout Mrs Joann Brzozowski was a Joey Scout Leader when Daniel first started in the Joey Scout Section, Mrs Lynne O'Neill was his Cub Scout Leader and she was invited to present Daniel with his Queen's Scout Badge for his uniform. Daniel's sister Mrs Felicity Lydon congratulated Daniel on his achievement, and his father and Principal of Calen District State College spoke on what scouting has done for Daniel, and thanked all those involved in his Journey to the Queen's Scout Award. Region Commissioner Mr Dougal McWhinney presented Daniel with his Record Book, Group Leader Katrina Hoare presented him his Shield, Region Venturer Scout Leader Mrs Judy Johnson presented him with a gift from herself and the Venturer Scout Unit.

The evening concluded with the cutting of the celebration cake, and plenty of food for all.

VENTURER SCOUT NEWS -Central and Coastal Venture 2014

The weekend that always surprises and has the ability to reduce exam stressed students into exhausted paint covered sore sun kissed teens who willingly get up at 5 am. Held the last weekend of November and with the generous cooperation of some dedicated hard working leaders, family and friends, it gives the opportunity to relax unwind and have fun on the Dam. Scouts, Venturers Scouts and Rovers all started arriving at the Kinchant Outdoor Education Centre at North Eton for the planned activities some travelling from Townsville and Gladstone the rest from Bowen and Mackay. After getting their team allocation and setting up tents it was time to get to know the rest of the team members and design a Mascot and choose a name. CCV Challenge has been running for several years with the winning team claiming bragging rights for the next year.

This year there were extra activities added into the challenge including twister, volleyball, cricket and team building. With the usual tubing, swimming, knee boarding, and canoeing. The inflatable creature water relay always provides the spectators with a few giggles watching dragons, crocodiles and dolphins race around the markers to see which team earns the points.

Saturday night has our own disco, complete with lights, smoke machines and some very loud music supplied by the ever entertaining Blake from Mackay Rovers. When they eventually fell into their beds to get some sleep they know that it will be a very early start to do it all over again the next morning.

Every teenager runs on their stomach and this is certainly no different with the small team of talented people supplying huge amounts of food at regular intervals with everyone fuelled the fun continues not stop. This year Robyn, Sandra and Judy did a fantastic job assisted by Dee from Townsville. Jason fought the winds on the Dam to canoe with some intrepid youth members and Crystal and Gary assisted where needed with the ever smiling Nev and Harry piloting the boats. I don't think Cam knew what he got himself into standing waist deep directing venturer scouts and scouts onto different boats for their time on the tubes. There are a small team of Leaders, Rovers and Venturers that form the nucleus of the CCV

team and they play a huge part of it being such a success. They start meeting early in the year to plan and organise. So thank you Alex, Brendan, Josh and Beth for another wonderful CCV. Cannot wait for next year.

Joann Brzozowski.

Banksia Venturer Scout Leader.



Before

After



Relaxing before the thrills



Enjoying the thrills before the spills

Special Children's Christmas Party-Whitsunday & Bowen News

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Each for the past 20 years some scouting leaders and older scouts have volunteered to help at the Special Children's Christmas Party. This was initially classed as a Good Turn.

I would like to make special mention of a Group of Mackay City Central Scouts who volunteered at the 2014 Party. As there was no leader supervising them (I did see a parent there) I made sure that they were doing the right thing. The lady from Brisbane who was supervising the activity had to leave early on a plane. When it was time for the toys to be distributed she told them that they could do that as she had to pack up. These scouts were very courteous and in no time had everything packed up for her and the area tidied before they started on the toy line. She expressed her appreciation and told me their leaders should be proud of them.

Thanks to Dennis and Heather Tuckerman who each year man the sign in desk. A job well done to all.

For those who haven't volunteered in the last two years the Mackay Showground undercover area is a wonderful venue for the event.

Mary Wallace

Volunteer for the Special Children's Christmas Party.

WHITSUNDAY SCOUT GROUP

Bicycle Maintenance Education

Outdoor activities and keeping fit, is what we encourage young people to do, so Chris from Ride Whitsundays visited the Whitsunday Scout Group to teach the youth members how to maintain and care for their bicycles.

She showed them how to change a tyre and repair the chains. All the youth members had a bicycle to practise on and they really enjoyed the hands on experience.

Kathy Ball

Group Leader, Whitsunday Scout Group

BOWEN SCOUT GROUP

Bowen Cub Scouts have been out and about celebrating Halloween with a special Pack Meeting and another activity the Cub Scouts and Scouts spent two hours cleaning up the front beach in Bowen that ended with a family BBQ. The Scouts also used a GPS and found a geocache that was located at the front beach.

