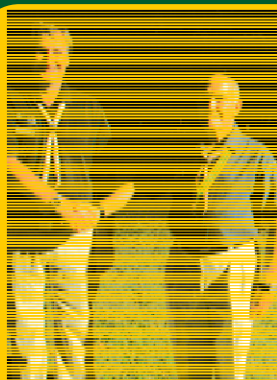


Central and Coastal Region Newsletter

JULY EDITION 2015

EDITOR MARY WALLACE



Only some Scout Leaders have their former Scout Leader at their Wood Badge Presentation

DATES TO REMEMBER

1st August All Abilities Camp at Rowallan Park

22nd August ARMS



Anzac Day Parade in Mackay

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Region Commissioner's Report

Hi everyone, once again the year is moving fast and we are already into the middle of the calendar year.

Membership

The total number of youth members in the region as at the end of June was 200 comprising of 12 Joey Scouts, 74 Cub Scouts, 74 Scouts, 28 Venturer Scouts and 12 Rover Scouts. This count is up 6.4% since 01 April 2015. The overall target for this year is 207 Youth members (10% growth on last year).

Leader Training

Unfortunately leader training appears to have stalled due to lack of information from Branch on what is required on the new training system. I intend to address this issue at the Region Commissioners Conference in July. I encourage all leaders new or old to continue looking at the e-Learning system and to complete modules in your area as well as electives. I am also lead to believe that Scouts Australia are looking at re-introducing Pioneering into Scout Leader training as well as various standalone courses (similar to bushwalking etc.). I know doubt we will hear more about this in the coming months.

Region Training Meeting

Unfortunately due to work and family commitments I was unable to hold the RTM in June as scheduled. I do apologise for this but look forward to everyone attending ARMS (August 22).

ScoutCare

As you all know ScoutCare is on at the beginning of August and the event is in its final stages of preparation. The committee have been very busy getting the activities organised and it looks like it will be a great event. Please promote this in your groups as this is a great opportunity for the region to come together to celebrate Scouting as well as assisting others to see what Scouting does. I look forward to your support and suggest you contact Katrina Hoare if you or someone you know is able to assist with anything.

Yours in Scouting

Kingfisher

Dougal McWhinney Region Commissioner (Central and Coastal Region)



Look wide is the Motto for the Venturer Scout Section, and it seems that the Central and Coastal Region Venturers certainly live up to it. This term has seen the presentation of a Queens Scout Award and two Venturer awards as well as numerous other tapes for the award scheme, but the Award scheme is not what is, the be all and end all for Venturers. It's about fun, and I have to say they seem to be having that. There has been formal dinners, hikes and camps. A trip to Townsville for Night Hawk and participating in kayaking training courses. They are active and adventurous, and being well supported by their Leaders, the regions Rovers and Adventurous Activity Leader Brendan Ross. The coming months see several region activities for the Venturer Scouts including Echidna, Scout Care, Jota-Joti and Central and Coastal Venture, So watch out for the Venturer Scouts they are definitely looking Wide.

Judy Johnson
Region VSL

Kayaking at Teemburra Dam

Four Venturer Scouts and three adults came out to go kayaking. We gathered at the MCC scout den at nine to leave to get the kayaks. After loading the them we departed for Teemburra Dam but stopping at the Pinnacle Pub to organise our dinner if you ever wondered the crumbed steak is enormous and only order a full one if you are starving. We reach the dam around eleven and went through the progress of checking equipment and where we would go. We explored several small creeks that feed into the dam that would not be available to larger water craft . After some time we returned to the ramp, which was acting as our launch point , to have a break and some food as well as to refill our water containers. After a short break we went back in to practise our rescues. The sun soon started to set and we kayaked into the distance towards the sun set. It was really good to sit on the water and watch the sun slip behind the mountains. Paddling back to shore was different in the twilight and it is a really enjoyable experience. Sitting beside the Dam and

*eating dinner is a fantastic way the finish a day. We packed away the kayaks and headed of home. A great day of using our newly acquired skills. **By Lisa***

Formal Dinner

*The day started off with cleaning out the Activity Shed, if you weren't cleaning you were helping cooking the meals. It took some of the day to clean out the Shed and most of the day to cook the three course meal. The venturer scouts that showed helped set the tables up and did what had to be done. The meal didn't get served till seven, yet the Venturer Scouts were all so keen by six. As the food was served by volunteer scouts we all had discussion around the table. The entree was pumpkin soup followed by the main of, chicken or beef stroganoff. This was followed by an interesting Speech by our Guest Mr Brian O'Neill, the Venturer Scouts also Hosted Dr Mulholland. Mr and Mrs Robert Hodda, Ms Katrina Hoare and Mr and Mrs Brendan Ross as well as several Rovers. After the entertaining speech we all enjoyed the chocolate mousse for dessert. The Venturer Scouts really enjoyed the challenge of preparing the Formal Dinner and are looking forward to hosting one again next year. **By Lisa***

Venturer Scout Hike in Whitsundays

Three car loads of Venturer Scouts started a Friday night by traveling up to the Whitsunday Coast Scout Den to go hiking the next day. After discussing how we were going to complete the hike and essential items to take on the Friday night, we all went to bed. The next morning was a wake up around five, to have breakfast and leave for the newly renamed Conway Circuit. We started hiking around 7am from the Airlie Beach exit. The

Venturer Scout News

hike really was a challenge for some of us. The terrain and the weight of our packs was a learning experience. We enjoyed the sights along the way and this takes time, we had lunch at 1pm near the Bloodwood Campsite. After lunch we headed out to reach our campsite for the night. This was a long, long walk and we didn't get to the Repulse Creek Campsite till late. We were tired and hungry and set about making dinner and doing some stretches before settling down with a game of cards before going to sleep. The next morning was a "sleep in" and we didn't get up till 6:30ish. We were all still tired from the previous day's hike we left the campsite knowing that we didn't have too far to go. It wasn't till lunch when happy faces emerged from the Venturer Scout faces again. This was due to fact that we reached the exit at Brandy Creek where our rides were waiting to take us back to the Scout den. Now one of the advantages that the Whitsunday Coast Scout den has is its proximity to the Airlie beach Lagoon and I can say that the we took full advantage of the facilities including the showers which was appreciated by everyone. Dinner was a fun group effort with spaghetti garlic bread and lots and lots of Ice cream. We left the next morning headed home with some stories to tell and another hike to add to our logs and a little more knowledge to store away.

Night Hawk X

Night Hawk X, a camp awaited for by the many Venturer Scouts in the Mackay Venturer Scout Unit. However, we all soon learned that it was a far greater event than we thought it would be. At the official starting time of the camp, over 100 people had arrived which included Scouts, Venturer Scouts, Rover Scouts and Leaders. Parade was held at 5:30 pm where the leaders were introduced, and the activity was explained in more depth. Afterwards, the Mackay Venturer Scouts retired to the dining fly to eat the works burgers. All burgers were given the thumbs up of approval. During the time that we ate our delicious meal, the two team leaders, Brett

*(Leader of Midnight Riders) and Lisa (Leader of Lexicon), departed to receive the orders for the challenges that would take place during the night. The two leaders returned half an hour later and explained the situation to their teams. Brett's team would depart the camp at 8pm and Lisa's team would depart near 7pm. This all went smoothly. In the presence of the Midnight Riders, one could easily tell that the boys who included Brett, Angus, Tristan and myself were intent on reaching camp. We passed several challenges which included a simple crossword, construction courses, questionnaires, compass readings and first aid courses. These we took in our stride and completed with vigour. Around three in the morning, the Midnight Riders returned from their hike and proceeded to their campsite to either rest or talk. A select few stayed up till morning. Around 8 am, the venturer scouts performed skits to complete the Night Hawk X Challenge. These skits were received with a round of applause. Around 9 in the morning, parade was held and the winners of Night Hawk X were announced and presented with their prizes. The winners were congratulated and parade ended signalling the end of Night Hawk X for another year. **By Riley.***

The more
responsibility the
Scoutmaster gives
his patrol leaders,
the more they will
respond.

Robert Baden-Powell

Central and Coastal Region Scout Camp

Region Scout Camp 2015

The Region Scout Camp for 2015 was held at Rowallan Park from 06 to 08 June.

There were 36 Scouts (6 Patrols) in attendance this year. Banksia Scout Group had 2 Patrols; Mackay City Central had 2 Patrols and Pioneer 1 Patrol and Sarina 1 Patrol. There were also 5 Scout leaders attending the camp. All those attending arrived on Friday night so as to clock up 3 nights under canvas in preparation for Jamboree.

Most of Saturday consisted of construction of the patrol camps, gadgets, etc. Saturday afternoon also saw the patrols prepared for the evening meal (which was being judged). All the patrols had to prepare a 3 course meal. Entree was of their choice, roast (beef/pork/lamb) for the main course and self-saucing pudding for dessert. After some difficulties the patrols all succeeded in producing excellent meals and all the leaders were well fed.

On Sunday morning all the patrols prepared breakfast and chased up the leader they had invited to judge their meal. Once breakfast was complete all patrols headed for the leader's area to see what was in store at the various bases.

The Scouts were separated into 4 Patrols and sent off to the 4 bases (Construction, Initiative, Fire and Splice).

At the Construction'base the patrols were required to build a bridge using the equipment provided (staves and lashing ropes).

The Initiative'base required the scouts complete a couple of initiative challenges that required the entire Patrol to work as one.

The Fire'base had the patrol learning how to light a fire without matches. They were given various items (steel wool, magnifying glass, paper, and sticks) and shown the different ways a fire can be lit.

At the Splice'base each patrol member was given a short piece of rope and shown how to make a back splice. Some of the Scout had learnt the knot previously and were able to complete the knot and then assist showing others. Other Scouts took a little longer to complete the knot but in the end everyone had a good try and learnt the beginning of the knot. All the scouts rotated through the bases and then returned to their camps in the afternoon to practice their skits and have dinner.

Unfortunately the weather started to turn a little wet

as the afternoon went on. It had been reasonably cool/cold most of the weekend so far but now we were getting waves of short sharp showers coming through. The rain thankfully held off for dinner but it was now too wet to have the campfire. As the Scouts still wanted to have their Skits one of the leaders suggested it was held at one of the campsites. We all went up to Pineapple Patrol's campsite and watched the skits. There was certainly a variety of skits (some good, some not quite so good) and a great time was had by all.

Monday morning brought a bright sunny day. The patrols had their breakfast and tidied up before meeting at the leader's area in preparation for the grand event, "Go-Karting"! The scouts were all excited and keen to race down the hill.

We pulled the karts up the hill and the scouts lined up with their helmets ready to go down the hill. The first few went a short distance before falling off or crashing into the ditch at the side of the hill. The scouts eventually figured out the karts and track and a few started setting long distance records. There were some cuts and scratches on the various riders and the scouts would have continued all day if we let them.

Final parade was held and certificates of participation were handed out to all the patrols that attended.

The following were the winners of the various sections of the camp:

Campsite – Pineapple Patrol (Banksia Scout Group)

Cooking – Kangaroo Patrol (Mackay City Central Scout Group)

Gadgets – PAWK Patrol (Mackay City Central Scout Group)

The overall runners up were Dino Patrol (Sarina Scout Group) with PAWK Patrol (Mackay City Central Scout Group) being the overall winners.

Well done to all those that attended. Hope to see you all next year.

Camp Leader

Kingfisher

Banksia Scout Group News—By Katrina Hoare GL



Term 2 has been full of celebrations and memorable events for our youth members especially our Venturer Scout Unit.

During a meet and greet with Prime Minister Tony Abbott, our Venturer Scouts got some one-on-one time and represented Banksia Scout Group proudly.

Venturer Scouts were also front and centre for the presentation of Tristan's Queen Scout Award



Scouts have been active with bike hikes, patrol nights and Region camp.



Finishing 120km Bike Hike at Cape Hillsborough.

Finishing Bike Hike at Calen



Region Scout Camp



Getting ready for ANZAC Day march



Pioneer Valley Scout Group—By Suzanne Jensen— GL

The Pioneer Valley Cub Scouts have been continuing with their badge work, with Collectors Level 1 and First Aider Level 1 being worked upon and tested. The Cub Scout's mothers came along for the night on the Friday before Mother's Day and were treated to lovely hand massages and supper with their children. The Cub Scouts also participated in a 4.5 kilometre hike in Marian, taking in Melba House and the Marian Town Centre. The children definitely slept well that night! The Scouts attended their first Regional Camp and had a very enjoyable time.

The majority of the group have all attended Anzac Day Services and have completed the "Their Service Our Heritage" Badge in this centennial year of the landing at Gallipoli. Thank you to Baloo for her presentation about her recent trip to Gallipoli and the European Battlefields.



Photos: Scouts at Region Scout Camp

Far Left: Cub Scouts near Melba House

Centre: First Aid Activities

Below: Dawn Parade at Marian Anzac Day



Banksia Scout Group News Cont.

Congratulations on our five Leaders and one Region Leader that were awarded their WoodBadge at a presentation night held at Banksia Scout Den.

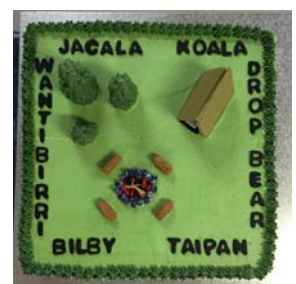


In May our fundraising committee had the amazing opportunity to assist with catering at Palmyra Dragway Nitro Meet. It was a fabulous high octane day that was full of people and hungry bellies.

I hope everyone has a nice relaxing break over the school holidays and I look forward to seeing you all prepped and raring to go for Term 3.

Yours in scouting

Jacala
Katrina Hoare
 Group Leader



Queen's Scout Award Tristan Archibald / Grey Wolf Award Regan Edwards



Hard work and dedication has paid off for Banksia Venturer Scout Tristan Archibald as he was recently presented with his Queen's Scout Award which was

presented to him at a special presentation at the Scout Den at Fernleigh Avenue, Andergrove.

To achieve such an award Tristan was required to fulfil many hours of hard work to learn new skills to which he capably achieved qualifications for abseiling and canoeing. The major activities that he enjoyed whilst achieving the Queen's Scout Award was a multiple day hike camp at Eungella Range, a four day hike on Hinchinbrook Island, multiple days of abseiling at the Atherton Tablelands. He also participated in leadership and initiative activities to gain his award.

Tristan began his scouting life as an eight year old Cub Scout at Merimbula, in New South Wales, and moved to Mackay in 2007 and joined Banksia Scout Group. He has grown from that shy young Cub Scout and matured into an intelligent thoughtful young man. His thoughtful leadership skills made hard work seem like fun. He said, that being a member of the worldwide scouting movement, has allowed him to meet people from around Australia, and the world, do many outdoor activities that he honestly wouldn't have done. He said he can honestly say that scouting has affected how he is today, it has made him more outgoing, taught him many skills, helped him face the fear of heights and allowed him to meet a diverse range of people at many different events. The two most memorable experiences that he has participated in scouting was attending the Australian Jamboree in 2013 at Maryborough, Queensland and the Hinchinbrook Hike Camp.

Mr George Christensen, Member for Dawson, Mr Kevin Casey, Deputy Mayor, Region Commissioner Central and Coastal Region Scout, Mr Dougal McWhinney, Scouting Leaders, and youth members, family and friends were present at Tristan's Queen's Scout Award presentation to celebrate his notable achievement.

Leadership, enthusiasm to learn new skills, coupled with willingness to teach, guide and encourage others, are skills that Regan Edwards, a Cub Scout from Mackay City Central Group has displayed during the time he has been in Cub Scouts.

Regan was presented with his Grey Wolf Award the highest Award in the Cub Scout Section at a special meeting on Thursday 18th June 2015. His family along with grandparents, fellow Cub Scouts and Leaders helped him celebrate the occasion. A special cake was cut for the occasion to share at the presentation.

Regan has a wonderful talent in the art of paper folding, which he likes to share with others when possible. To earn the Grey Wolf Award, he made a diorama of the Council Rock from the Jungle Book as a resource for the Cub Scout Pack. He also participated in the Cub Scout Leadership Course, Pack Council as a Sixer, went for a pack ramble starting at the Mackay City Central Scout Den, through the Botanical Gardens to the Islander Hut and back. Some of the Achievement badges that he earned were the Masks & Sculpture, Swimmer, Flight and First Aider, also the Their Service, Our Heritage, Special Interest Badge.

Regan said the camp he liked best while in scouting was Central and Coastal Region Scoutfest Camp in 2014. He is advancing to Scouts and recently visited the Region Scout Camp at Rowallan Park.

Mrs Debbie Rutherford, Regan's Cub Scout leader said, "Regan was a very shy boy, when he first started in the Cub Scout Section and it was heartening to watch him grow in confidence with each success along the way, and it was an honour for her to present him with his Grey Wolf Award.

By M Wallace

Region Leader Community Relations



ScoutCare 2015 – All Abilities Mackay Event Day

Date: 1st August 2015

Location: Rowallan Park



Activities

- Obstacle courses
- Photo booth
- Canoeing
- Abseiling
- Rope bridge & course
- Sensor buckets
- Rope tying
- Ballistas
- Archery by slingshot
- Science experiments
- Coffee cafe for parents
- Joey songs & activities
- Tye-Dyeing – calico bags
- Bunnings craft
- Bake less cooking
- Campfire at 5-5.30pm

Lunch on the Saturday will be catered for by Special Olympians as a fundraising event sausage sizzle.



To ask further questions, please feel free to contact Katrina Hoare
0410 455 615.



