



ABSEILING TOWER APPROVED



Design a new badge.

DATES TO REMEMBER

SAT 16TH JULY YEPPON 90
CELEBRATIONS

SCOUTFEST AT ROWALLAN PARK

JUL 29TH TO 31ST

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Central Coast Region Newsletter

JULY EDITION 2016

EDITOR MARY WALLACE

Region Commissioner's Report

I would like to welcome everyone to the new Scouting Region – Central Coast Region. On 01 May, the “Central and Coastal Region” and “Capricorn Region” were merged into one and became known as “Central Coast Region”. Currently there is an activity underway for the design of the new Region badge (entries close 08 July) and the new badge design will be announced sometime after the Region Commissioner's Conference. Once the design has been approved I will get pricing on getting the badge produced and will keep you updated on when it will be available.

Membership

The total number of youth members in the region as at the end of June was 620 comprising of 61 Joey Scouts, 242 Cub Scouts, 225 Scouts, 68 Venturer Scouts and 24 Rover Scouts. This count is up 10% since 01 May 2016. The overall target for this year is 577 Youth members (each group to grow by at least 1 youth member).

At present we have a total of 189 Adult Members comprising of 10 Region Leaders, 103 group/section Leaders, 59 Support Members (Adult Members & Adult Helpers), and 17 Fellowship members.

Personal Leader Advisor System

At present I am working with Peter McLeod (BC Membership Support) on reviving the PLA system.

We held a PLA course at Rowallan Park on 11 June that was delivered by Peter. All that attended thought it was a good course and I will shortly send the PLA applications to Peter for approval. I am looking at dates for a course to be run at Seeonee Park later in the year so I can have PLAs appointed from the Central and Southern Zones. If you are interested in becoming a PLA (or just in attending the course) let me know.

Rowallan Park Abseiling Tower

Over the past few months we have been working on getting drawings certified for approval by the council for the construction of an abseiling tower located at Rowallan Park. I am pleased to announce that we have now received council and Scouts Qld approval for the tower and construction is underway. You won't see much activity on site for a few weeks as the fabricator will order steel and start fabrication in the workshop prior to the foundations being poured. It is hoped that the tower will be completed around late August to mid September.

ScoutFest

As you all know ScoutFest is on at the end of July at Rowallan Park 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. 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
Dougall McWhinney
Region
Commissioner
(Central Coast
Region)



PLA Training at Rowallan Park

Bowen Scout Group News by Lesley Bullemor

Earliest records in local newspapers indicate the township of Bowen has been Scouting on and off for more than 100 years. Through all these years Bowen had never experienced the joy, pride and honour of one of its own achieving a Queens (or Kings) Scout Award – until this year, when Branch records confirm that Shaunie Higgins became the first Bowen Scout ever to achieve this honour. We all recognise the achievement of a Queens Scout however to be the only person in 100 years is indeed an even greater achievement. Shaunie's QSA was presented in April yet our BRAVO for Shaunie can still be heard! (Shaunie's QSA presentation was covered in the last Central and Coastal Region Newsletter) Later in April the Group participated in ANZAC services and two weeks later held our ARP. Justine (LIC), Sharon (Treasurer) and Mary (Secretary) put in the hard yards organising everything and it was indeed a credit to them. For our small group of less than 25 youth at the time, we managed a photo on the night with 55 faces, were entertained by all sections and were oh so well fed. Thanks RC Dougal McWhinney for making it to Bowen and giving us the opportunity to share our Group life with Region.

best night was cooking over the fire: garlic bread, corn on the cob, baked potatoes and sausages. Dessert followed with damper, lashings of butter and golden syrup. Cub Scouts extend their thanks to Scout Zac, Venturer Scout Payden and Rover Scout Shaunie for help with various programs. These youth are great role models and are welcome back whenever they want to come. Cub Scouts just love having them around. (So do Leaders!!!).



Bowen Scouts were able to camp at Rowallan Park early in May. For a number of Scouts this was their first overnight activity with the troop. Thanks must go to Mackay City Central Scout Leader Allan Salty for his willingness to be LIC for Bowen that weekend. Much was learned by both youth and Leaders and plans are already being made for the next camp. I visited the Scout section one night this term and was impressed when I saw how well they knew their knots and lashings. They had a kitchen fly up in no time with not a wobble or a loose guy rope anywhere. Scouts also visited the local Historical Society Museum only to find an ex Bowen Scouter (from the 80's and 90's) working as a Volunteer. Scouts were impressed that he was able to produce Jamboree newspapers from years gone by and had come prepared with badges to swap with them. Late in the term Scouts competed in a digital treasure hunt (the kind where they take photos of themselves with their found objects/locations).

Cub Scouts have been busy this term: early on they made their own wreath for the ANZAC service and following that explored Australian symbols and flags. They learnt how to use a compass so they could practice being pirates for the week following - full pirate dress required. Fires and fire safety came next but maybe the



On Saturday 25th & 26 h June, Bowen Scout Zac Hart-Eggers, attended Operation Nighthawk at Bluewater in Townsville.

Bowen Scout Group - Whitsunday Scout Group

Operation Nighthawk is one of several challenge activities available to Scouts and until recently, has only been available in Southern

Queensland. A night hike covering a course of over 10 kms, Patrols navigated their way through the course in the dark, using just their compass and a map, searching for a series of checkpoints. Challenges awaited Patrols at each checkpoint and they were scored on their performance at these activities. One activity required Scouts to 'face paint' one another, provide photographic evidence before they were awarded pancakes in a bush style café!

Venturer teams had additional checkpoints and activities including a Submarine Rescue Operation, in a creek on the course.

Zac joined forces with five Scouts from Pimlico-Mundingburra (Townsville) to form team 'As Cool As Drake'. They were the first team back to home base in just over four hours and achieved 3rd place overall. Well done Zac – the troop will enjoy hearing the story when meetings resume after holidays.

As Central Coast Region was being drenched with rain on Sunday 19th June, Bowen Venturer Scouts were taking a stroll through the Conway Circuit on a Venturer Skills Hike. Circumstances had meant the hike had already been postponed previously so when the weather was looking like they may well get very wet, they had to make a decision "will we or won't we"? A little rain can't hurt! Like all keen adventurers, they decided they would have a go. Venturer Scouts can't call themselves competent hikers if they dissolve in the rain now can they? As Conway Circuit is a well-marked and clear track they just needed to focus on perseverance, cheerfulness and having fun. They had fun at the end when they went to Maccas and that they made it through with more stories to tell than complaints shows that these youth are worthy Venturer Scouts. The



Unit now numbers nine, having received three new members from Scouts this term plus the added bonus of Payden, who had not been a part of Scouting previously.

On the Leader front faces have been changing. We were fortunate to be able to welcome Jenny as a Parent Helper with Cub Scouts but had to say goodbye to Kay and Adam Knight (GL and CSL) when they transferred to Bundaberg. Justine Hart stepped in again as LIC until mid June when I took on the GL role to allow Justine time to finish her Wood Badge in Cub Scout section. Craig Durnsford has completed Scout section basic training including bushwalking, so we are pleased to have another CoAL in the Group – congratulations Craig.

*Lesley Bullemor
(Brolga).*

WHITSUNDAY SCOUT GROUP

Whitsunday Scout Den has had a makeover and now is much more appealing to its users. A number of community members are to be thanked for volunteering their time and resources to make this happen.

Thank You to Peter King who not only does handyman jobs around the den on a regular basis, he has made the storage area larger, and has installed a motor, free of charge on the roller door that he installed a couple of years ago. Peter not only has tidied and cleaned up the den he has also organised others to come on board and donate their time and resources. Kent Woodham from Whitsunday Flooring has sanded the wooden floors and repolished them. The floors now look amazing. Kendall Nash from KNP has fixed the sink and taps.

Greg Yuskin organised the SES do some training at heights by cleaning the guttering.

Group Leader Kathy Ball and members of the Whitsunday Scout Group recently expressed their thanks at a gathering at the den where Appreciation Certificates were presented to the volunteers. The den is now a much safer and appealing to the youth members and others who use the scout hall on a regular basis.



BANKSIA SCOUT GROUP By GL Katrina Hoare

What have Banksia Scout Group Youth Members been up to this last term?

The Joey scouts finished their explore Australia programs that looked at each state, while also doing some exploring of ANZAC and Indigenous Australian for national reconciliation week and earning their environmental badges.

The end of term saw Joey Scouts starting our personal safety unit working toward our care and share badges. One of the programs is called "I am Special" and the kids had to draw and write all the good things about Joey Scouts. We also welcomed Echidna to our Joey section this term from Yeppoon.

Cub Scouts have been very busy this term with an explosion of youth and leader numbers. Banksia Cub Scouts are now bursting at the seams with 35 Cub Scouts, 1 leader, 2 Assistant Leaders and 2 Adult Members.

Some of the activities enjoyed by Cubs include - Learning about the sacrifices made by soldiers and then the ANZAC Day march, two Grey Wolf awards this term - Will Banks & Caitlyn Kitchin, continuing



Scouts have had 4 movie nights, 2x 120km bike hikes in Cape Hillsborough/Calen area and a two night caving camp down in Rockhampton. A very nice evening was had by all at Madi Hamilton's ASM presentation recently and a very busy term was rounded up with very successful Scout Skills Day at Rowallan Park with "Bring a Friend" theme.

Venturer Scouts had an action packed term with attendance to Dawn Service, Brain strains, City Wide Logo hunt, Relay for Life, Driver revival, Debates, Canoe course, hike planning & Eungella hike and preparation for QV.

As a Group we have been putting the "Out in Scout" throughout the region and I am very proud of the positive feedback I have been receiving from the public. We are very proud of our members with their small and large accomplishments. Enjoy your holidays and we are on the downward slope to SCOUTFEST 2016!!!

Katrina Hoare GL Banksia Scout Group.



to work on Waterwise badge and boomerang work and Focus on first aid - 2 weeks of first aid + visit to Ambulance - thanks to Stuart.

Bushcraft Camp was cancelled due to the weather, however they did a sleepover at the den instead, complete with Pizza and Ice-cream. According to Rikki it was a bigger hit than the camp would have been. All attending achieved their Masks & Sculptures badge Level 1.



Banksia Grey Wolf Award & Australian Scout Medallion

Two Banksia Cub Scouts, William Banks and Caitlyn Kitchin, were presented with their Grey Wolf Awards at a special presentation at the scout den, at Fernleigh Avenue, Andergrove.



To earn the Grey Wolf Award the highest award in the Cub Scout Section requires enthusiasm and dedication to complete the requirements, which is no simple task, as it requires many hours of effort to achieve the badges that are required to be completed to earn this award. It also requires a great deal of commitment,

encouragement and support from parents and leaders.

William Banks joined Banksia Cub Scouts in 2014 and has earned his Silver and Gold Boomerangs and the required number of special interest badges, and took part in camps and outdoor activities. He went on a Hike at Slade Point, and presented the Pack with a painting of Akela from the Jungle Book Story. William invited his grandfather to present him with his Grey Wolf Award Badge.

Caitlin Kitchen joined the pack in 2013 and completed the three levels of the Boomerang Award Scheme, she also completed the number of required special interest badges, and attended the required number of camps and outdoor activities. She went on a hike at Cape Hillsborough to St Andrews Point and presented the pack with a game based on the Jungle Book Story. Caitlin invited her dad, Assistant Cub Scout Leader Geoff Kitchin to present her with the Grey Wolf Award Badge. Group Leader Katrina Hoare spoke about what was required to achieve the award and presented the recipients with their completed Cub Scout Passports. Central Coast Region Commissioner, Mr Dougal McWhinney presented them with a congratulatory letter from the Queensland Branch Commissioner of Cub Scouts, and Cub Scout Leader Joanne Hamilton presented them with their Certificate of Achievement and personal a gift to each of them.

Banksia Scout Madison Hamilton was presented with her Australian Scout Medallion the highest award in the scout section.

Scout Leader Sonia Andrews commented that, over the four years while Madi was in Scouts she strived to do her best. For her leadership activity Madi organised a caving activity near Rockhampton which not only did she grow in confidence, but so did all the scouts who attended. She also organised a canoe trip for her journey for the Adventurer Level Cord. They started at the bridge at Mia Mia on the Pioneer River and finished at Balnagowan, however at the time of year that it was held they had more carrying of canoes than was expected and less paddling. Even though it was a little more challenging than they thought they did enjoy the challenge.

Cub Scout Leader Joanne Hamilton, Madi's mother presented her with the Australian Scout Medallion and Scout Leader Sonia Andrews presented the ASM Badge.

Madi has advanced to the Venturer Scout Section. Her celebration was attended by relatives, friends, youth members and Leaders from Banksia Scout Group.

Madi said the highlight of her years in scouting was definitely the Caving experience she had near Rockhampton.



Pioneer Valley Scout Group— By GL Sue Jensen

Pioneer Valley Scout Group had more than one reason to celebrate on a Friday evening in May.

Two new Cub Scouts Matthew Else and Zac Long made their promise and were invested into Cub Scouts, Hamish McWhinney advanced from Cub Scouts to Scouts, and new scout Jayden Richards was invested as a scout.

The second reason to celebrate was Mothers Day. The cub scouts and scouts served their mothers the beverage of choice for supper. A celebratory cake was served along with other treats which were enjoyed by those in attendance.

The youth members challenged the adults to a fire lighting relay to test the Cub Scouts on their skills.



They have also had a visit to the Poppy's Pizza Place in Walkerston where the Cub Scouts and Scout got to make their own Pizzas.



Pioneer Valley Cub Scouts have been learning about Codes and Signals.



Scouts doing community service at the Pioneer River Bank at Marian.

Gracemere Scout Group—by Scott Neill

Region Commissioner Mr Dougal McWhinney presented two Gracemere Cub Scouts with their Grey Wolf Award at a barbeque celebration on Saturday 18th June 2016.

Gracemere Scout Group Leader Scott Neill said the two 10-year-olds were the first ever from Gracemere Cub Scout Pack to achieve the award.

Both Cub Scouts achieved all what was required of them in a positive manner.



Section.

Landon Murray despite being faced with more than his fair share of challenges, is very enthusiastic and determined, and is very willing to participate in all activities in a positive manner. It has even been joked about that he walked lopsided and would need a larger shirt just to accommodate the ever growing collection of achievement badges. He tackled everything with the tune of 'There's a Hole in the Bucket dear Liza.'

Scott Neill, Gracemere Scout Group

Calliope Scout Group—Leaders Wood Badge Presentation

RC Dougal McWhinney had a busy day, Gracemere in the morning for Grey Wolf Award Presentations and Calliope in the afternoon for Wood Badge Presentations. Well done to all involved and may your commitment to scouting be a happy and rewarding one.

If sunshine could be bottled and squeezed into a cub scout uniform that would describe Phoebe Norman. She is distinguished by her positive outlook, fierce determination, and a desire to help, that earned her a sixer badge and a place in my regular go to list for when I need things done.

Phoebe lives up to her Motto of Do Your Best. She tackled each challenge with enthusiasm and if the bar was raised she proved that she was able to tackle each challenge successfully. She is a great ambassador for the Cub Scout



Rowallan Park Abseil Tower

On Friday 8th July 2016, Region Commissioner Central Coast Region, Mr Dougal McWhinney and Mackay Regional Council Mayor Greg Williamson were at Rowallan Park to turn the first sod for the construction phase of the Abseil Tower. The Tower will be 12m tall with a platform at 5m and 10m levels. Site work will commence at the beginning of August with the estimated finish date at Mid October. Keep an eye open on the Facebook page for updates and photos in coming months.

The building of the Abseil Tower has been on the agenda at Rowallan Park for around 20 years however the cost has always been prohibitive. Last year at the Annual Meeting of the Region Executive Committee the then Mayor Mrs Deidre Commerford said that we could apply for a grant through the Better Community Building Fund. After much effort by some members of scouting, in particular Dougal, and I believe his father had a quite a bit of input as well, the plans have been approved by scouting as well as the Mackay Regional Council.

Congratulations to all concerned, as I believe that the tower will not only be an asset to scouting, other community organisations have expressed their interest in using it for training of their members.

Mary Wallace, Region Leader Community Relations.



Mayor Mr Greg Williamson and RC Mr Dougal McWhinney



Adventurous Activity Leader Brendan Ross, Rowan Cahill, SES Jim Kennedy, Mr Bill McWhinney, Bob Hodda, Margaret Hodda, John Zimmerman Army Cadets, Mayor Greg Williamson and RC Dougal McWhinney.

YEPPOON SCOUT GROUP 90th Celebrations

Our Scout Group cordially invite you to attend a celebration of **90 years of Scouting in our local area. Members of the community, past and present Leaders, Committee members, Youth and Families are welcomed to share in a BBQ lunch followed by dessert.**

DATE: Saturday 16th July 2016

TIME: 11am

Address: Yeppoon Scout Den, Rose Street, Cooee Bay

RSVP: 2nd July email: yeppoonscouts@gmail.com Kaylene 0427 493 935 Trish 0439 711 663