

July 2018

Editor

Mary Wallace



Hibiscus Coast District Newsletter

Central Coast Region

Scouts Australia

Region Commissioner's Report

Dates to Remember

Operation Rainbow Bird
25th 26th August 2018

JOTA JOTI

ROWALLAN PARK

19th 21st OCTOBER 2018

Hi everyone, the year is now half way through and hasn't it flown!

We implemented Districts into the Region at the beginning of the Scouting year (01 April) and the changeover was relatively painless. The Districts are all named (Hibiscus Coast, Capricorn, Port Curtis) and the DCs are working on a new badge. I look forward to working further with the three District Commissioners in growing their Districts and the Region.

Membership

The total number of youth members in the region as at the end of June was 620 comprising of 56 Joey Scouts, 242 Cub Scouts, 235 Scouts, 65 Venturer Scouts and 22 Rover Scouts. This count is up 7.3% since 01 April 2018. The region youth count target set by the Chief Commissioner of Queensland for this year is 773 Youth members. This target is updated each to ensure we achieve the goal of 22,000 youth members in QLD in 2022.

Below is a new "Region Dashboard" I am using to give me an indication on how each of the Districts are progressing in regards growing youth numbers. I am more than happy to share the District Dashboards, just send me an email.

Central Coast Region - YTD

	Joey Scouts	Cub Scouts	Scouts	Venturers	Rovers	Total YTD	Total Prev Year	Recruitment	Linked	Resignations	Churn
Hibiscus Coast	12	82	90	29	11	224	205	20 ↓ 10%	6 ↓ 3%	5 ● 2%	25%
Capricorn	21	65	55	15	7	163	156	8 ↓ 5%	5 ↓ 3%	3 ● 2%	38%
Port Curtis	23	95	90	21	4	233	217	19 ↓ 9%	7 ↓ 3%	3 ● 1%	16%
	56	242	235	65	22	620	578	47 ↓ 8%	18 ↓ 3%	11 ↓ 2%	23%
							7.3%				

Percentages based on performance since 01 April, colours are relative to Region average

Trend indicators based on performance since 01 April

Churn - resignations with respect to recruitment

At present, we have a total of 199 Adult Members comprising of 1 Region Leader, 16 District Commissioners/District Leaders, 104 group/section Leaders, 51 Support Members (Adult Members & Adult Helpers), 26 Fellowship members and 1 campsite member.

AJ2019

Well all those going to AJ2019 will have received the 2nd contingent newsletter and the Jamboree looks like it will be another great event. Make sure you take note of the various articles in the newsletter as there are a few items in there you need to be aware of.

Yours in Scouting

Kingfisher

Dougal McWhinney

LEVEL 1 ABSEILING

ARTIFICIAL AT
ROWALLAN PARK

NATURAL AT
DUMBLETON ROCKS



District Commissioner's Report

Well we have survived my first 6 months in the new role.

I cannot express my gratitude enough to all the leaders, adult members and parents across the Region who continue to support, mentor and guide me on my journey.

To be truthful, I have struggled to write a Newsletter report as I, at times, have felt overwhelmed by it all. However, today, I abseiled over a cliff.....and then went back and did it again and again and again lol. Through the panic attack and being terrified of heights, that first step over the edge of the cliff was stomach turning. But I had Josh (Rover) beside me, District Leaders Brendan & Alex above me and Rowan below me. They were all there to catch me if I lost my footing. In that moment I remembered why I love Scouting. The friends you make will be with you always. No matter how far you travel, Scouting is everywhere.

It also reminded me that through the highs and lows of life, if you put one foot in front of the other, you can achieve anything you set your mind to. I hope our Scouts learn this lesson early in life.

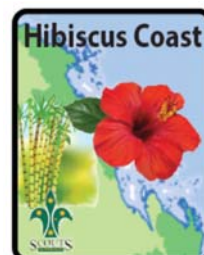
In the whirlwind that has been the first part of the year I have been nearly everywhere. From our Fellowship ARP to Sarina Group Committee meetings and then over to Mackay City Central ARP, an Open Day at Banksia and finally a Queen Scout Presentation in Bowen.

Every event was enjoyable and educational. Thank you to our volunteers – leaders, adult members, committee members, fellowship and works team. Your hard work is appreciated.

My visits have also highlighted our ongoing need for leaders and leader training. This was one of the subjects raised at the District Commissioner & Region Commissioner conference in Brisbane recently. As we all know, there is no immediate solution. However, what I was made aware of is that RC Dougal McWhinney has been fighting the good fight for quite some time. Hopefully by dividing the Region into Districts, he will now have more support from us to push our needs and agenda to Branch.

Out of this conference there was also exciting updates on the YPIR that is being rolled out to all groups. The Adventure Begins with us so we need to be ready so watch this space.

Our new District badge is currently with the graphic designer being finalised and tweaked and I hope to have it available soon for production. The winning design was submitted by the Mackay Venturer Scout Unit.



DRAFT

Congratulations! And thank you to everyone who voted.

I am going to sign off now and I hope the second part of the year is a fun filled as the first.

Yours in Scouting

Katrina Hoare "Jacala" District Commissioner

Bowen Scout Group

Bowen Group has had a busy second term 2018. For our Venturer Scouts, Kiana's Queens Scout presentation was a highlight. The presentation was held at Bowen's Front Beach and a BBQ lunch provided. An open area was chosen so as not to disturb other beach users. The site choice meant a Council permit with "conditions" was required – we are grateful Whitsunday Regional Council waived fees. A



removals truck could have been useful - we took our own BBQ, Gazebos, tables and chairs, flags, podium... It turned out to be a memorable, happy ceremony for the Higgins family. Thank you everyone who travelled in from Mackay – your presence made it so special for Kiana.

Kiana, Shaunie, David and Sharon Higgins at Kiana's Queens Scout presentation, Front Beach Bowen.

(The blue scarves worn by both Kiana and Shaunie Higgins, indicate they are members of a Sea Scout Group. Both are Tennyson-Pamphlett Rovers.)

Early in the term we held a Group event to conduct multiple investitures, Promise renewals and appointments to PL positions for our new Scout Troop and existing members. Venturer Scouts assisted with running whole of Group parade. We followed this with a supper, catered by the families attending. Our Group family has grown significantly through Term 1 & 2 and it was wonderful to have many new families in attendance, learning what Scouting is about.

Our Scouts have been working on their patrol camp planning after 4 participated in the District Scout Leadership Course and returned full of enthusiasm to get stuck into Scouting – thank you Rowan for what you gave them. This will be the first time our Scouts camp in this style as the troop of 12 is new, with most having only a one-night camp-over at the den for experience. Every Scout in the troop has now gained their Scoutcraft badge and looking forward to more adventurous activities. The Patrol Camps should deliver everything they are hoping for!

Photos from The Leadership Course already mentioned have been uploaded to a Dropbox folder –Rowan has the link. One of the photos (now in use on our public Group Facebook banner for a short while) tells a story in itself – every Scout present was a credit to their home troop – you can be proud of all of them!





Cub Scouts have been working on Traditions, Symbols and Outdoor scouting – showing particular enjoyment for fires, damper twists and everything “outside”. While numbers are small, it has been possible to give lots of attention to individuals and Boomerang tasks. Both our Cub Scout Leaders are new to Cub Scouts and it is great to see they enjoy Cub Scouting as much as the Cub Scouts - and what a windfall for Bowen – a new Leader (CSL) who can tie a bowline and teach the rest of us how to do it!

Bowen Group’s ARP was held in May. This event is something we have been struggling with enjoying for some years. In recent times we tried having reports delivered by youth, having youth provide entertainment items and also a campfire ARP they never worked for us, the way we hoped. We again looked for alternatives this year and settled on a quiz night where the youth could be as much a part of the audience as the parents. “Are you as Clever as a Cub Scout” was attended by all but 3 of 24 families – a great outcome for us, and more to the point, was enjoyed by everyone there (including the Executive and GL). Without prompting many said they look forward to next year’s event. We included small door prizes, table prizes for each quiz round and a grand prize for the winning table. Tables of youth and families grouped by section, self-catered (each family ‘brought a plate’ to share at their table). We provided tea/coffee/cordial/water. Five rounds of questions, all within the ability of a Cub Scout proved that Cub Scouts Rule! Venturer Scouts thought the quiz too hard and want to set the questions next year! Reports were delivered between Quiz rounds however all reports had been circulated to all families prior to the event (no printing required) so only highlights were discussed. It feels good to know we finally found an ARP formula that works for us.



Lesley Bullemor
GL Bowen



Mackay City Central Scout Group

CUB SCOUTS

Well, we've had an amazing past term filled with lots of exciting activities continuing on with our "Rainbow Connection" theme.

We started the term with a campfire cooking night and the Cub Scouts loved making their own damper twists and chocolate cake in orange halves. These activities never get old and I'm sure our Cub Scouts would be happy to do this every week. This completed the orange part of our rainbow.

The next four weeks were dedicated to our favourite colour – yellow. We concentrated on all things Cub Scout and incorporated a celebration of 100 years of Cub Scouts in Queensland.

"It ain't easy being green" had the Cubs learning basic first aid and investigating aspects of our environment. We discussed the Australian Scout Environment Charter, played a sensory game and made green jumping frogs. In our recycling program, the Cubs learned many different ways to re-use and recycle household waste (everything from water bottle bowling, recycle relay and using old wire coat hangers to fashion giant bubble blowers) any why it's important to our environment. Finally, we did an environmental-flavoured (with a hint of Jungle Book) selfie scavenger hunt at the Botanic Gardens.

Some of the list items we had to take photos of/with were:

- Take a selfie with Kaa; take a photo with Baloo
- Take a photo at the recycle wall near the café
- When Mowgli was learning the ways of the jungle, he had to climb a tree to escape Shere Khan. Take a selfie with an interesting tree.
- There are many wonderful things about nature. Find a pretty plant and take a selfie with it.
- When Mowgli was having a hard time, he counted on his friends to be his rock. Take a selfie with a big rock.

A night out in the park running about and having fun, makes for a very hungry Pack, so we concluded our term with a sausage sizzle.

We've had a good participation in other activities this term with a good turn out for the ANZAC Day Parade and full attendance to the stage production, 78 Storey Treehouse. We've also had two members advance to the Scout Troop with three more to move up next term. Cubs gained some valuable experiences at our Pack Holiday. The theme for this event was "Outta this World" and we had a visit by two members from Mackay Stargazers on the Saturday evening who were happy to share their knowledge of the stars. Early in the evening, Cubs, Leaders and parent helpers were able to see Venus and Mars and later we were able to view Jupiter.... Wow!

Next term is proving to be just as exciting, with Cubs looking forward to the District Cub Scout Leadership course and continue with our rainbow theme with 'blue'.

Deb Rutherford, Cub Scout Leader



Mackay City Central Scout Group

SCOUT SECTION

Apart from the normal Friday activities of last term the Scouts had a hike from Brandy Creek to Airlie Beach on the Great Whitsunday Trail. The Hike consisted of nine scouts and two dads. They started Friday night 04th May. We Left the den at 6:30pm and arrived at Brandy Creek at 8:30pm to start the hike. They arrived at the first campsite at Repulsive Creek approx 11pm and set up camp. The second day they traveled the tough section which is mostly up hill and arrived at the second campsite at 3:30pm. On the last day they traveled mainly down hill into Airlie Beach arriving at 1:00pm. The Scouts were then treated to a swim at the Airlie Beach Lagoon before traveling home.



On 8th June MCC had a Canoe camp at Kinchant Dam, camping in the front of Kinchant Waters. We had two patrols consisting of five members in each. We packed up at the den on Friday night and travelled out and set up the personal tents. This was a good test as all members were new. The next morning the patrols went about setting up campsite and making meals in between the setting up. The afternoon activity was canoeing and they were happy to be out on the water with much fun had by all. The evening activities were making dinner and a night hike to the dam wall and back. The Sunday challenge was making breakfast having Scouts Own and packing up camp. The two new patrols did well considering it was their first time. Well done.



Two visits this term one to the Mackay new Fire Station on 18/05/18 and Mackay Heritage Walk around the town 29/06/18.

Allan Salty, Scout Leader.

Banksia Scout Group

Banyula Cub Scouts joined the rest of the District in participating in the ANZAC march & ceremony at the start of the term with one of our Cub Scouts proudly carrying the flag.

This was followed by a walk along the Sandfly Creek Walkway from the River Street boat ramp to Illuka Park. A great night was had by all.

Some of the members of the pack joined the Venturer Scouts to participate in the World Record attempt for the most people participating in Stargazing at the same time.



We focused a lot on getting through our Boomerang awards this term having fun with Science, First Aid and Safety followed up with a visit to the Fire Station.

We also joined the Cooinda Cub Park for a camp where all of the Cub Scouts achieved their flight badge, thanks to Kingfisher we even got to launch the parachutes & gliders from the top of the abseiling tower.



Finally to finish off the term, we had a campfire cooking night planned, however the weather played havoc, so we ended up having a sausage sizzle followed by chocolate crackles for dessert.

Aquilonia Scout Troop

It has been a busy term this term for outdoors activities, Aquilonia got a start on the journeys for this year with a total of 6 journeys completed this term:

Isaac & Connor 27-29 April (Adventurer & Explorer) Cody 28-29 April (Explorer)



Caitlyn & Sarah 28 – 29 April (2 x Explorer)

Louis 1-3 June (Adventurer)



We also held a combined troop camp with Milpera Troop over the May long weekend complete with Abseiling & Canoeing along with each patrol needing to complete a minimum of 1 hour service at Rowallan Park. For some this was the first time they were completely responsible for themselves for the weekend so it was an interesting experience.



This was followed by a Caving camp again combined with Milpera troop. Thanks to Bat for his awesome knowledge.



Finally we had 7 Scouts attend the Hibiscus Coast Leadership Course to learn all about leadership. Great weekend with MCC, Milpera & Bowen scouts also attending.

Jo Hamilton, Scout Leader.

Queen's Scout Award Presentations

Three Venturer Scouts have been presented with their Queen's Scout Award in the last two months.



Conrad Lamb joined scouting as a 6 year old Joey Scout at Banksia Scout Group and has progressed through all levels gaining the highest award in each level. He expressed that the highlight of his Scouting has been, "Inferno" the New Zealand Venture in 2016 . There were times that he had to step out of his comfort zone to achieve what he has. Caving has been the favourite of his new experiences. Conrad did his service to Meals on Wheels, by helping in the kitchen. He also went out on deliveries so he could interact with the recipients of the meals.

Photo- QSA Conrad Lamb pictured with the Mackay Regional Council Mayor MR Greg Williamson and RC Dougal McWhinney

Lloyd Anderson also started his journey as a Joey Scout at Sarina Scout Group. For Venturer Scouts he transferred to Banksia to the Mackay Venturer Scout Unit. Lloyd was so keen at Caving and the leader in Rockhampton asked to help with the mapping of the caves in the area. Lloyd did lots of service at the Driver Revivor Rest Stop at Waverley Creek, between Mackay and Rockhampton.

Photo - Lloyd Anderson with his family.



Kiana Higgins was presented with her Queen's Scout Award when she returned home to Bowen for the mid-year University holiday break. She began her scouting journey as a 10 1/2 year old scout. Relay for Life in 2015 was the chosen service that Kiana participated in as well a planning and running a Pirate Themed Joey Scout Mob Holiday, which two mobs too part in. For her personal growth she took part in Debating, and Expression she assisted with the painting of the back drop for the school musical "Wizard of Oz."

Photo - Kiana Higgins



JOEY SCOUTS INFORMATION DAY

AGE: 5 ½ YEARS – 7 YEARS

DATE: 31ST JULY

TIME: 5 - 6:30PM

COMMENCING DATE: 7TH AUGUST

PLACE: MACKAY CITY SCOUT DEN

ADDRESS: CNR LAGOON ST. & HUME ST.

CONTACT: JULIE THOMPSON (DISTRICT JOEY SCOUT
LEADER)

PHONE: 0419653047- (H) 49593781

