



# Hibiscus Coast District Newsletter

## Central Coast Region

### Scouts Australia



2019 Issue 3 September

Editor Mary Wallace

Dates to Remember

JOTA -JOTI

Rowallan Park

18-20 October 2019

BASIC OUTDOOR  
SKILLS TRAINING,  
Mackay  
26 - 27th October

BASIC PRACTICAL  
TRAINING, TVILLE  
1 - 3 November

CCV, Mackay

29 Nov - 1 Dec

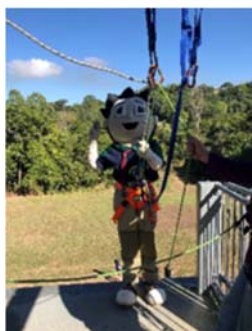
## News from the District

*It has been a very busy year and it doesn't seem to be slowing down.*

*Our big events for the year have been ScoutFest 2019, Rowallan Park 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and presentation of Baden Powell Award to Josh Brzozowski, on 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019 and the Woodbadge 100 year celebration on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019.*

*Firstly I would like to thank my hardworking ScoutFest committee of volunteers - Joanne Hamilton, Brendan Ross, Alex Cinelli, Deb Rutherford, Robyn Hazell, Louise Hutchinson and Jason Hazell who helped plan and initiate ScoutFest 2019 and Rowallan Park 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I would also like to thank their families for their ongoing support in aiding them to continue doing such a brilliant job for scouting.*

*For ScoutFest we were honoured to host Chief Commissioner Daryl Scott and Scouting Mascot Rex over the weekend and both had a wonderful time. Mr Scott was full of praise for our scouts and Rowallan Park facilities. Thank you to Mel Whitestyles for ensuring that Rex got to experience what ScoutFest had to offer.*



## SCOUTFEST

*The open day saw lower numbers than previous years however the quantity of activities on offer was much larger so Scouts had a great weekend full of mountain biking, canoeing, archery, abseiling, bouldering, crate stacking, damper & popcorn making, rope making, chariots, Treasure hunting (geocaching), giant games and raft building. Great feedback was received from youth members on where to go with ScoutFest 2021 and we look forward to their continued input with the new Youth Lead program being rolled out.*



*The weekend before ScoutFest I also had the opportunity to attend the Region Commissioner & District Commissioner Conference held at Baden Powell Park, Samford Valley. This was a great opportunity to meet other DCs who are facing the same uphill battles of*

*training, leader recruitment, declining youth & adult numbers and implementing Caremonkey & Xero to Groups. I came away from the weekend with a fresh perspective of what direction we should be moving in Hibiscus Coast District and I hope this is being translated in the adjustments being made.*



The Woodbadge 100 Year Celebration saw Leaders put on our uniforms and adorned our Gilwell scarves, awards and our significant others and gather at Lone Star Rib House Mackay. We were able to skype with the celebrations being held around the world at the same time and upload our photos to the Facebook page.



Mary, Julie, Jason, Jo, Brendan, Judy, Greg, Katrina, Rowan, Joann



Rover Crew



Jason & Robyn



Stovie & Alex



Peter & Peter



Jo & Judy



Judy & Lynne



Loretta & Bec



Linda & Rowan-Mal



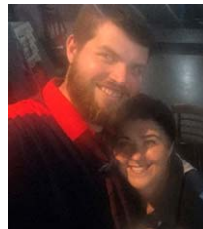
Margaret & Julie



Mary & Ian



Greg, Mike & Kelly



Josh & Katrina



Jo, Geoff & Warren



We had a very successful fundraising campaign of selling raffle tickets donated by Rotary Mackay and North Jacklin which raised \$1,600 for District to assist with Leader training. Thank you to everyone who helped sell 800 tickets, hopefully we are successful in getting another lot next year.

Our Annual Report Presentation was held at Magpies Sporting Club on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August and we introduced the District Chairperson Julie Sercombe, Treasurer Raquel Kentwell and Secretary Chelsea Cahill.

Unfortunately, as of 31 March 2019, youth membership in Hibiscus Coast District finished 8.1% down compared with the beginning of the Scouting year (01 April 2018). Adult leadership numbers are also declining with training of leaders locally in a timely manner causing issues.



The youth and adult membership in the region as at 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019 are as follows:

Joey Scouts	17
Cub Scouts	71
Scouts	52
Venturer Scouts	19
Rover Scouts	11
Fellowship	26
Adult Support	22
Leaders	21
District	11

The District Leaders currently consists of the following members:

Assistant District Commissioner.....	Jason Hazell
District Leader Adventurous Activities.....	Brendan Ross
District Leader Adventurous Activities.....	Alex Cinelli
District Leader Adventurous Activities.....	Louise Hutchinson
District Leader Adventurous Activities.....	Josh Brzozowski
District Leader – Venturer Scouts .....	Judy Johnson
District Leader – Scouts .....	Rowan Cahill
District Leader – Cub Scouts.....	Vacant
District Leader – Joey Scouts .....	Julie Thompson
District Leader – Media Liaison.....	Mary Wallace



I am hoping with the implementation of new program called LeaderBuild, it will assist us in recruiting and keeping new leaders across the District. Proserpine and Bowen Scout Groups are still in the process of getting leaders and completing training so that they can start up early next year so fingers crossed we can get them over the line.

Let's hope Term 4 doesn't fly as quickly as the last 9 months. Have a safe holidays and we will see you back in time for Jota/Joti at Rowallan Park on 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

**Yours in Scouting**

**Jacala**

**Katrina Hoare, District Commissioner**

## SCOUTFEST PHOTOS





## *#Joey Scout Section by District Joey Scout Leader, Julie Thompson*

*Recently Hibiscus Coast District Joey Scout had a combined activity at Mackay City Central Scout Den. The theme was "Ooey, Gooey, Sticky." The photos show what fun and enjoyment the Joey Scouts were treated to.*



*Mackay  
City Central  
Joey Scouts  
visited  
Maccas for  
a feed.*



*Kind regards*

*Julie Thompson,  
Hibiscus Coast District Joey Scout Leader.*



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## # *QUEENS SCOUT AWARD TO JOSH CRAWLEY*



*Josh Crawley joined scouting at the Pioneer Valley Scout Group in 2014 as a very shy scout. He transferred to Banksia Scout Group to link with the Venturer Scout Section. Josh is now a confident mature young man who has worked tirelessly to achieve the highest award in the Venturer Scout Section which is the Queen's Scout Award.*

*Firstly, you must be a Venturer Scout, and then gain the Venturer Skills Award. You must then complete the 4 Awards areas which requires not less than 30 hours each, Community Involvement, Outdoor activities, Personal Growth and Leadership Development. Once completed the processes of approving the award from Group Level, District Level with a personal interview with the District Commissioner, and then to Queensland Branch for final approval.*

*As a part of his community service Josh volunteered at the Driver Revivor rest area at Waverly Creek. Josh enjoyed the outdoors and took part in numerous camps and expeditions. Josh said, he really enjoyed the expedition to Mt Garnet and the Atherton Tablelands, and another expedition to Blackdown Tablelands.*

*The ceremony at Banksia Scout Den, Fernleigh Avenue, Andergrove was attended by Josh's family, fellow scouting members and leaders along with Region Commissioner Mr Dougal McWhinney and District Commissioner Ms Katrina Hoare.*

*Venturer Scout Leader Mrs Joann Brzozowski said that Josh was very reliable and was willing to help others and was often first to arrive and last to leave activities. He put lots of hard work and effort into his achievements and added a good supply of fun mixed in.*

*Region Commissioner Dougal McWhinney presented the Queen's Scout Badge to Josh's parents Scott and Jenny Crawley for them to pin on his uniform.*

*Josh said the highlights of his scouting have been attending the many expeditions and Central Coast Venture Camps as well as the Australian Scout Jamboree in 2016. Josh said that he has learned many new skills and he has gained much more confidence by taking part in the many scouting activities over the years.*

*After the speeches and presentations an assortment of finger foods were devoured and a special cake was cut to celebrate the occasion.*

**Mary Wallace**

**District Leader Community Relations**

**Hibiscus Coast District**







*Mackay Rovers are proud to announce that we have knighted two more of our crew. We are very proud of Tristan Gardner and Conrad Lamb for completing the required training and completing their vigil's with a smile on their faces.*

*Tristan Gardner*

*Chelsea Cahill Crew Leader*

*Conrad Lamb*

*Our crew attended the annual Service Moot out at Seonee Park ran by the Fitzroy Rover Crew where we repaired a Chapel that's used by all the Scout Groups in the District.*

*We spent the weekend making benches, turning to flatten the ground, create flowering beds, using different tools, creating pathways and more.*



*Mel Whitestyles*

*Social Media, Mackay Rover Crew*



## Baden Powell Award



Rover Scout Joshua Brzozowski was presented with the Baden Powell Award which is the highest Youth Member Award in Scouting. Achieving this award is no easy feat and was done over the eight years as a Rover Scout. There has only ever been one other scouting member to be presented with a Baden Powell Award in Mackay and that recipient had nearly finished the requirements of the Award before being transferred to Mackay. Josh achieved all his requirements as a member of the Mackay Rover Crew.

On Saturday evening 27<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at Scoutfest a special parade was held to mark this momentous occasion. Adventurous Activities Leader Miss Alex Cinelli and Rowallan Park Warden Mr Bob Hodda escorted Josh from his Rover Crew to the presentation area at the front of the parade. Adventurous Activities Leader Brendan Ross was the MC for the proceedings. Fellow Rover Tristian Archibald read an extract from Baden Powell's book "Rovering to Success." Region Commissioner Mr Dougal McWhinney outlined Josh's history in Scouting.

Special mention goes to leaders who guided Josh through his journey for Scouting. Joshua Brzozowski joined Joey Scouts on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 1999 at Edmonton, in Cairns his leader was John

Marhin, he went up to Cub Scouts and his leader was Mrs Carolyn Greaves. In February 2004 Josh along with his mum and dad came to live at Andergrove and he joined the Banksia Cub Scout Pack under the leadership of Darryl Befays, and Mrs Jo Timms, he was presented with the highest award in the Cub Scout Section at that time which was the Yellow Cord Award. He then linked to the Scout Section under the leadership of Scout Leader Tony McNeill and Joanne Timms where he once again achieved the highest award in this Section which is the Australian Scout Medallion. He then linked to the Venturer Scout Section under the leadership of his mother Venturer Scout Leader Mrs Joann Brzozowski and Mr Scott Marshall, where he achieved the Queens Scout Award. He then linked to Rover Scouts to continue his journey under the guidance of Rover Advisor Mr Harry Roestenburg and this year Rover Advisor Mr Stuart Wolsey.

At the presentation Mackay Rover Crew Leader Miss Chelsea Cahill outlined what Josh had done to achieve the Baden Powell Award.

Squire training badge led to his investiture as a Full Knight (Rover)

Rover Skills badge requires that the Rover Scout holds a position of responsibility for at least 6 months. Camp out for at least 6 nights on 4 occasions; Organise and participate at least 4 activities within the 4 different areas of personal growth.

Service Badge service to Rowallan park (6 years) 25.9.13 to 15.3.19

Physical Obtain Level 1 abseil for both natural and artificial and continuing participation in abseiling this gave him his St Georges Award.

Community Development work towards the Rover Crew having their own space where they were able to meet as their Den was condemned.

Personal Growth Volley Ball improve skill level and grading at Volleyball going from a C grade player to B grade progressing towards A grade.

He then did a self reflection interview, and the crew then approved and passed to Central Queensland Rover Crew then Branch Rover Council and the final approval was signed off by the Chief Commissioner of Queensland Branch Scouting Mr Darryl Scott. The Chief came to Mackay for the weekend of activities at Rowallan Park and presented the Baden Powell Award badge to Joshua's parents Peter and Joann

Brozowski for them to pin it on Joshua's uniform. He also had all Scouting members reaffirm their scout promise. Family friend and supporter of scouting Mr Peter Ronque presented Joshua with the BP Certificate, and Mr Peter Brzozowski presented Joshua with his signed off BP Record Book. Joshua responded acknowledging the help and support that he received along the way especially from his parents and leaders. The proceedings were then open for others to speak and Mrs Julieanne Gilbert the Member for Mackay and Patron of Scouting, said she is always amazed when attending award presentations the commitment, dedication and the achievements and efforts put in to achieve such an award. She congratulated Josh for achieving this prestigious award. Mr Bob Hodda congratulated Josh and said how much Josh had matured over the years and thanked him for his many hours of service to the maintenance and upkeep of Rowallan Park.

Joshua will soon reach the age that he will be booted from Rover Scouts but he will definitely not be lost to scouting and he has already been asked to be an Activities Leader.

Congratulations Joshua Brzozowski for achieving the Baden Powell Award, an inspiration to other youth members to follow in your footsteps.

**Mary Wallace**

**District Leader Hibiscus Coast District**





## *#Proserpine Scout Group*

*Well, the year is going by so quickly and I am working hard to get some new leaders so that we can begin to take Youth members at the start of the new year.*

*We had our public meeting on the 7th August to gain some public interest in being leaders. I also had my committee attend and the District Commissioner attended also. Thank you to Karl Lingard who ran the meeting, it was very interesting. My committee commented that they got a lot out of it.*

*I had a couple of parents that also attended and from that we gained a new Scout Leader who is very keen. Another parent that was interested couldn't attend the meeting but has also signed up as a Cub Scout Leader. Unfortunately, we have lost our Joey Scout Leader due to work commitments.*

*So I am very excited that now we have begun to get this Group together and in full swing.*

*We also had a fundraising event on the 31st August. Our Retro Disco. It was a great night but a little too soon for organising such a major event. Things were organised that cost money that probably didn't need to be. Because of that, we didn't make any money from the night. We probably had about 70 people. They had a fabulous time and wanted to know when the next one is. With better planning and getting a few costs down it will be great.*

*In saying that we had a few local businesses that donated the venue and the Party Bus. So a big Thank you to all for your time and effort.*

**Wendy Harm 'Killara'**

**Group Leader Proserpine Scout Group.**

## *2019 World Jamboree at West Virginia, USA*



*Two Venturer Scouts Alexander McWhinney and Isaac Russell from Banksia Scout Group have recently arrived home from an adventure of a lifetime. They were two of 119 members of scouting from Queensland from the contingent of 692 Australian scouting members that travelled to 2019 World Scout Jamboree that was held at The Summit Bechtel Reserve (SBR) located in West Virginia, USA. It is comprised of more than 14,000 acres of beautiful forested mountains adjacent to more than 70,000 acres of national park in the scenic New River Gorge area of West Virginia. Between the local timber used to build the structure, the rainwater recovery system, or the wind- and solar-generated energy, the Sustainability Treehouse is not just a museum. The Treehouse standing 126 feet tall and featuring 4,000 square feet of interactive exhibits, along with the McAllister Family Sustainability Challenge Trail and other exhibits, served as the centerpiece of Scouting's commitment to leave the world a better place. Sustainable practices are evident everywhere you look, as they are at the core of SBR's infrastructure, and sustainability was the core part of the 2019 World Scout Jamboree program.*

*The theme was "Unlock a New World" which was so fitting because the youth members had the opportunity to literally unlock a world of possibilities.*

*Bear Grylls, Chief Ambassador of World Scouting, got the biggest cheer as he rappelled into the Opening Ceremony from the roof of the main stage. While on stage, Bear delivered an inspirational address urging Scouts to make the most of their time at the Jamboree and learn as many skills as they can to take them back to their home countries. Closing out the energising ceremony was an upbeat performance using recycled instruments, followed by a unique drone show. Taking everyone's breath away, the drones manoeuvred into different patterns to form shapes, words and logos.*

*At a world Scout jamboree, participants experienced "wild and wonderful" adventures such as whitewater rafting, rock climbing, and mountain biking. Adventure Valley offered world-class climbing, mountain biking, and zip lining. The Rocks, one of the largest man-made climbing facilities in the world, and The Ropes, balance beams, cargo nets, and other challenges, were guaranteed to raise your pulse. SBR's zip lines cover 8 kilometres and rank as one of the top sites in the world. The Low Gear and High Gear*



#mountain bike courses provided approximately 58 kilometres of cross country and downhill mountain bike trails. Add The Park, one of the largest outdoor skateboard facilities in the world, and The Trax, one of the largest BMX facilities, designed and constructed by the designer for ESPN's X Games, and you start to get an idea of how unique this jamboree was.

Can you imagine camping with 47,000 scouting members from 170 different countries?

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**Isaac Russell** described his experience

*There were 47,000 people from all over the world.*

*It felt more like a town than a campsite, but a town where everyone's got your back, are your friends and are into the same sorts of things as you. There were trading posts where you could buy souvenirs, there were stages with music and shows each night, and heaps of activities like zip-lining, archery, mountain biking, rock climbing, canoeing, abseiling, hiking, stand-up paddle boards, everything you ever do in scouts all in the one place. There was a BMX and skate park which were things that you don't get to do in scouts. Everyone was really friendly, it was cool to see people from all the other cultures and how they lived differently.*

*Isaac also went of a Post Tour to Canada and he said that,*

*"Canada was a really cool, it's a very beautiful place. We visited Calgary Winter Olympic park, and Banff, where there were lots of things to do like try the luge track, zip line and white-water rafting."*

**Alexander McWhinney** enjoyed stand up paddle boarding, the climbing walls, pistol shooting. Alex socialised with scouts from other countries at night after the activities were over by playing cards. One day they experienced a lightning storm and had to shelter for over an hour so the cards came out again to fill in the time. There was a day when they shared foods from other countries, so the Aussies shared fairy bread, vegemite and Tim Tams. He enjoyed tasting the foods from other countries.

*For the Post Jamboree activity Alex went to Disney Land and other activities in LA.*

*A Pre-Jamboree tour was held in Washington and they enjoyed sites like the Capitol and the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum.*

*The two Venturer Scouts from the Hibiscus Coast District worked hard to earn the funds to attend World Jamboree and to experience a range of age-appropriate challenges which they had to work together to solve, develop real leadership and teamwork skills in the process while having a great time with friends new and old. An experience that they will remember for the rest of their lives.*

***This news item was prepared by Mary Wallace, District Leader Community Relations, Hibiscus District, from the World Jamboree Website, and quotes from Isaac Russell and Alexander McWhinney.***





## #70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations at Rowallan Park



*Clifford Weder, Graham Welsh, Michael Whereat, Diane Cheetham, Ken Alden (front seated), Marilyn Whereat, Owen Cheetham, Shirley Corney (seated), Sue Corney, Bob Hodda, Gary Corney, Peter Alden, Margaret Hodda, Lyall Ford, Frank Patterson, John Hayward.*

*On Saturday afternoon of 27th July 2019, a group of former scouts, their partners and supporters gathered at Rowallan Park along with relatives of the late Noel Weder to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the purchase of 42.5 hectares of virgin rough bush land which was a section of the former Glendaragh Station near Farleigh. The name Glendaragh was used until its official naming of "Rowallan Park" after Lord Rowallan, when he visited Mackay in 1950 when he was the Chief Scout of the British Commonwealth and Governor of Tasmania.*

*In 1949 Noel Weder was the Assistant District Commissioner and a Training Team Member with the scouting movement, he was a very resourceful person and soon raised the 600 pounds to purchase the suitable property close to the township of Mackay. Thanks for the generous donations from some individuals, business houses, sugar mills and the Rotary Club of Mackay. Notable contributions to Rowallan Park over the years has been from the Rotary Club of Mackay and Don Johnstone Builder who erected Mervyn Johnston Memorial Lodge around 1954 in memory of their son. Dave Pratt Builders for the many alterations and addition of a kitchen and dining area. The late Barry Spratt built the dam and the Lions Club of Mackay Hosts was responsible to the water reticulation. The Pioneer Shire Council over the years were generous with their support and since the amalgamation the Mackay Regional Council has been a tower of strength with their contributions to the development of Rowallan Park.*

*At the 70<sup>th</sup> celebrations Mr Bob Hodda, Rowallan Park, Camp Warden, spoke to the visitors at Rowallan Park telling them about the early days and how the land was cleared manual with hand tools, cane knives and reaping hooks and later on with borrowed equipment and generosity of friends and neighbours until such times as they were able to purchase their own equipment.*

*Many a Venturer Scout or Rover Scout have learned to drive tractors at the park to slash the grass or operate a dozer to clear the land. At different times they have had old vehicles at the park that the older youth members got to practice their driving skills around the roadways of the park.*

*In 1956 Bob Hodda as a young apprentice motor mechanic and a young electrician Robert Brown along*



With Noel Weder formed a team and followed a three year plan that Noel had devised. Bob is the only original member of that works team but the visions to the park live on as today there is a very enthusiastic and progressive team of volunteers as well as Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts carrying out maintenance and improvements to the park.

Complimenting the original trails are approximately 14 kilometres of mountain bike trails that we have allowed the Mackay and District Mountain Bike Club to build to world class standard. Bikers, runners and walkers whether amateur or professional are enjoying the park, and at the same time assisting to secure its financial future, which is a major step in the right direction. Since the erection of the abseil tower financed by a Community Development Grant and the replacement of storage and training sheds Rowallan Park is certainly is an inviting place to be for Scouting members and the wider community.

The animals, birds and other wildlife can still enjoy the sanctuary of the flora and fauna reserve in the sub-tropical rainforest. Scouts, Guides and visitors to the park can enjoy a relaxing stroll along the maintained trails in the park.

**Relatives of Noel Weder at his gravesite: L to R: Graham Welsh, Diane Cheetham & Clifford Weder.**



Noel Weder “Kimba’s” gravesite is on the terrace at Rowallan and it is marked by a large rock which is denotes Akela’s Council Rock from the Jungle Book Story. Later, Noel’s family placed the Memorial of their mother on the headstone and his sister’s ashes were placed in the grave at her request.

Mrs Shirley Corney was present at the celebrations along with two of her sons, Gary and Trevor who were both Queens’ Scouts. Shirley was a long term member as Secretary of the Mackay District Scout Association and a member of the OGC Committee “Old Girls Catering Committee.” If anyone went hungry at Rowallan Park, it was their own fault as Shirley along with the late Mavis Larkin and the late Emma Neilsen served up nutritious and delicious meals. Rodney and Trevor were Venturer Scouts who frequented the park and did many hours of maintenance work. Mr Michael Whereat, also a Queens’ Scout also reminisced about his time volunteering at the park in his younger days.

Bob Hodda’s concluding words at the celebration were, “Things change, people change, wants and needs of people change. An old saying that progress and development only comes with change. Rowallan Park has changed. People used to tell us it was God’s own country it was so beautiful. Our comment was always the same, “You should have seen it when God had it on his own.” Yes, it has changed dramatically from a broken piece of wild, rugged bushland full of monkey vine and noxious bushes, long uncontrolled grasses to a beautiful area of country being almost fully used by people from all walks of like loving life at Rowallan Park, at Glendaragh Road at Farleigh.”



**Shirley Corney**

