



Hunter & Coastal Region Bulletin

September 2004



E-mail: hc.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

The Regional Commissioner's Message



Ken Burns Passes On

Recently I attended the funeral service of Ken Burns who was an Honorary Leader (Group) at 3rd Mayfield Scout Group. Ken gave the Association 63 year of devoted service all to 3rd Mayfield Group where he was the Leader-in-Charge for over 50 years. I would suggest that is some sort of record. Grahame Pricter Regional Commissioner (Member Support/International) gave a very fine eulogy at Ken's service. Our Regional Commissioner (Scouts) Kevin Allen was Ken's son-in-law. Ken will be very sadly missed. Our sincere condolences to his wife Barbara and all his family.

Thanks to Perce & George

The word "legend" is frequently in my opinion over used when describing somebody's contribution to the community however I had the pleasure of attending our Glenrock Centre recently where two Glenrock stalwarts, Perce Smith and George Barnier were honoured by having two stools installed in a conspicuous location with their names engraved as a means of recognition for many dedicated years of service to Scouting generally and Glenrock in particular. This brief but sincere presentation was done in the company of their wives and members of the Thursday Work Group who work long and

tirelessly to ensure our camp is in top shape. Perce and George we salute you both in this case the use of the term legend is very appropriate.

Our "Out & About" Visits Continues

Myself and various members of my Team have, at the time of writing almost completed visits to all Districts in the Region. The meetings generally have been well supported and for that we thank you. It is our attempt to take the line of communication direct to the coalface and indeed it has been your opportunity to express your concerns and criticism to how we do the business of Scouting in Hunter & Coastal Region. Topics covered include: Membership Growth, Public Relations, Training, Joey Scouts, Venturers, Activities and Resources to name just a few. The Resources and presentation of Programme Material and the like on the computer has been a popular initiative. We look forward under Greg Allen's leadership to see this evolve nicely. Although I did seek feedback on the night (and this has been generally positive), please feel free to make any suggestions to improve our forums for future presentations. Marilyn Hocking and her Team have loads of work in front of them.

We have over 15 Groups that have expressed the desire to

form a Joey Mob. Marilyn and her team will be working through these Groups to assist them to meet their goals. Glenn Brown and the Adventurous Activities Team also have made themselves readily available to go out into your environment and provide assistance and resources to you. If you need help, it is as simple as just asking. The one thing that still amazes and frustrates me is we still struggle to get simple communication from Region to DC to GL to Sectional Leader sorted out properly. Even a personal invitation from me to each Sectional Leader didn't in all cases prove to be the answer. We still have Leaders who fail to pass the "Message Badge". It starts off as a chihuahua dog and ends up as an elephant in a lot of circumstances. Our numbers however are on the improve and there are currently 2837 members as I write this report which is a pleasant turnaround. The big challenge of retention over Christmas period is in front of us. Let's see if we can make this less catastrophic than last year.

Our Public Image

Keep your eyes posted on our Region Office as you're about to see some pleasant changes to our Hunter Street building façade. I hope you will be all impressed.


Steve Fernie

Regional Commissioner

It's on again!

The 2nd Annual Glenrock Great Milk Carton Boat Races

5th & 6th March 2005



For more information please contact Bill Brown – Group Leader – 1st Merewether (Organiser) on 4957-1186 (home).

Pen Friend Co-ordinator

Mrs. Jill Heath is now the NSW International Friendship Team Pen Pal Co-ordinator. All referrals for Pen Pal checks are to go through her. Jill can be contacted as follows - Email: akelajill@acay.com.au, phone: (H) 4385 1035 or (M) 0404 291182.

Grahame Prictor

Regional Commissioner (International)

Cub Scout Capers



Programs for 2005

It is that time of the year again, when we must think of events for 2005. An introduction to the NEW award Scheme is proposed for end of February, early March; The planing for Bring a Friend is well underway; An application to hold the Regional Fun Day at Mulbring Park has been lodged; The Palava "Christmas in July" has been booked. If you have any suggestion of events/ activities that the regional Cub could please discuss with your DCSL and a brief proposal and your DCSL will bring the proposal to the Regional Cub Council.

Regional Cuboree

The Cuboree will be in full swing, with the organizing the final details, by our Cub Leaders and Cubs. Costumes to be readied and pack-to-pack, all to participate in their largest camp in their Scouting lives. We as leaders and parent helpers will strive to make the camp a success for the Cubs. Order form for t-shirts will be available for a second order at the site. Please advise parents of this offer in case they missed out last time.

During the Cuboree we should remember that we have Scout leaders, DCs, RCs and Fellowship Members, working to make your Cuboree a success. As you meet these Leaders, remember to thank them for their time and help.

State Cuboree

By now the Regional Cub Council Team will have re-discussed the State Cuboree with their Leaders and asked some simple questions of you. Did you promote the event in your Pack, what was the response from the Cub and their parents? If you did not inform the Cubs / parents of the event, what was the reasoning behind that decision? Did you receive enough information on the State Cuboree? Have you any suggestion for next time?? If you missed your DCSL with you responses, please inform them ASAP.

David Main

Regional Commissioner (Cub Scouts)

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Email: maind@netcentral.com.au

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The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily the policies of the Region.

Scouting Around



State Rally

Congratulations to Charlestown Scouts for coming 2nd in the NSW State Rally. The Scouts come 2nd in the State with 5 Scouts (Charlestown Bombers) Patrol Leader Adam Butler. Well done and to the other 26 of our Scout Troops that also attended. Well done! I would also like to thank all the Leaders and Venturers for helping make it a great weekend.

Regional Scout Water Activities Weekend

This activity will take place at Camp Kanangra, Nords Wharf on the weekend 13/14 November. Planning for this activity is well underway. Camp fee is \$16 (bring your own gear and food). Applications have been posted out to all Troops. If you have not received them as yet, please check with all your Leaders and then contact the Regional Office.

Regional Corroboree 2005

The 2005 Corroboree will be held at Lstock Scout Camp from Wednesday 19th to Sunday 23rd January. The cost for this activity will be \$100 per person (bring your own gear but it is fully catered). Please let your youth members know now of the cost so they can start saving. Forms will be out in the next month or so.

Kevin Allen

Regional Commissioner (Scouts)

Email: kevinallen@koee.com.au

WHERE DO YOU GET IT?



Badges

Books

Uniforms



Phil's Trophies

3 Teak Street

Gateshead 2290

Phone: **4943-0631**

E-mail: **philst@bigpond.net.au**

Web Address: **www.users.bigpond.net.au/philstrophies**

Venturing



Early last month I attended the Annual Awards Night for the 1st Cooks Hill Scout Group and saw two very special people in Tony McInnes and Ashley Reece receiving their Awards. It would be lovely to give each and every one of them and their Leaders an Award for the outstanding work that they do. If you are ever looking of an Inter-Unit Night consider going and having a night with these lovely people.

Region Venture - 3rd - 5th December

Come to the Camp and have **FUN** with fellow your Venturer Scouts. Take part in Activities, competitions and have **FUN**. More information in the next Bulletin and through your Zone Council in the coming months

Robyne Plant

Regional Commissioner (Venturer Scouts)

Email: robyneplant@hotmail.com

Rovers



Hunter and Coastal Rovers would like to invite all Venturers with their Venturer Skill Badge to

The Revenge of the Comics Ro-Venture!

Kariong Scout Camp

11th - 13th February 2005

More details to come in the following months

Also we are still collecting cans of food for the Hike for Hunger which will be happening soon any donation can be given to your local friendly Rover Crew.

Simon Blatchford would like to thank all the Rovers, Scouts, Scout leaders and parents that assisted in the BRAF Caving that he recently ran at Timor. He would like to thank the scouts for their good behaviour and teamwork when working together in such large numbers.

Again I offer the opportunity to all Venturer Units that would like to be visited by a Rover Crew, please let me know so we can show you how much fun their is to be had in Rovers.

Jannett Brown

PR Officer - Region Rover Council

Email: jannett1981@yahoo.com.au

Drivetime



Attention Joey Section Leaders!

Have you thought about gaining additional skills? If so, have you completed a Joey Scout Advanced Outdoor Skills Course? You may recall we postponed course 330 04 004 scheduled for September. We have now rescheduled this Course to **15th – 17th October**. Same course number, same venue (Glenrock), new closing date 24 September. Course prerequisites are that you hold a Certificate of Adult Leadership (CoAL) within the Joey Scout Section, or have completed the following: - your Preliminary Core Module (PCM) Basic Core Module (BCM), Bridging Activities, In-Service training for the Joey Scout Section and a Joey Basic Sectional Techniques (JBST).

Catering at Glenrock.

I am still having difficulty finding Catering Teams for Glenrock, at the moment Training Team Members (with help from the Region Joey Team and the Region Venturer Team) are covering the Courses where cooking teams cannot be found or cancel out. Whilst some of us love it, myself included it is not an ideal situation. As an indication of the complexity of the task I generally cater solo. This situation as I have written before is neither fair nor sustainable and we run the risk of course cancellations. Your District Commissioner has been sent a list of next year's courses. Perhaps your District Sectional Team, your Group or Family might like to consider covering one of our courses next year? The task is not hard and can be a bit of Fun. The Rover Commissioner has already volunteered a team for next year. So please consider getting a group together to spend a weekend at one of the most scenic campsites in the State.

Training Changes

As I wrote last month, next year we are planning a total revamp of the NSW Training Package. The following is the proposed overview as written (with some modification) by the State Commissioner for Adult Training & Development, Carol Cope. We now have Courses abbreviated to BL1, BL2 and BL3 (with sectional name prior to BL3 – eg JSBL3) & AL1, AL2 & AL3. Not confused already are you?

BL1 (Basic Leadership 1) was BCM – Residential weekend starting on Saturday morning and finishing Sunday afternoon.

BL2 (Basic Leadership 2) was Day 1 of Basic Sectional Techniques – Will now be a Residential weekend starting on Friday night and finishing Sunday Afternoon. This component will no longer be sectional and will be common to all.

BL3 (Basic Sectional Leadership 3) was BST – prefixed by sectional identification (sectional name in front for

example Scout Section was SBST would now be SBL3). This is a Residential weekend starting on Friday night and finishing Sunday Afternoon

AL1 (Advanced Leadership 1) was ACM – Residential weekend starting on Friday evening finishing Sunday afternoon

AL2 (Advanced Leadership 2) (with sectional name in front eg JSAL2) was Sectional Outdoor Courses – Residential weekend starting on Friday evening finishing Sunday afternoon

AL3 (Advanced Leadership 3) – (with sectional name in front eg CSAL3) was ASL – Residential weekend starting on Friday night finishing Sunday afternoon.

My advice to all that are currently undertaking Basic Training is to finish it this year if possible.

Why Change?

One of the things we are generally good at is taking far too long to finish Basic Training. To speed things up we will be incorporating Bridging Activities and In Service Activities within the BL1 & BL2 courses. In theory apart from sectional visits it might be possible to complete Basic Training within 6 weeks. Another bonus is that in most cases a Leader transferring from one section to another would only need to complete the appropriate BL3 for the section they are transferring to. Whilst change can be uncomfortable for some it is a necessary part of life. Don't fight it, embrace it and your stress levels will be less (I need to constantly remind myself of this one.)

Till next month happy travels along the training track.

David Downie

Regional Commissioner (Adult Training & Development)

Email: doona@tsn.cc

Bushfire Danger Period

Formal advice from the Fire Commissioner is that this year the period has been extended. It is:

1st August 2004 to 31st March 2005.

During this period: "A person must not light a fire in the open to cook, heat or prepare meals or to boil water or any like purpose UNLESS the fire is lit at a site surrounded by ground that is clear of all combustible matter for a distance of at least 2 metres." (Rural Fires Regulation no 26)

During Total Fire Bans no fire of any kind is allowed.

IT'S THE LAW!

As Scouts we should exercise all due care during this period.

Appointments List & Awards

BEC – 9th August 2004

APPOINTMENTS

CHENSEE, Pei Ling – JSL – 1st Belmont
SMITH, Rebecca – JSL – 1st Valentine
DENNIS, Leesa – CSL – Maryland/Shortland
ROBERTSON, Sue Ann – ACSL – Maryland/Shortland

TRANSFERS

CANNON, Margaret

From AL 1st Valentine
To ASL 1st Valentine

JENKINS, David

From ASL 1st Budgewoi
To SL 1st Budgewoi

PAULSON, Colin

From RC (Dev) Region
To DRC Region

SMITH, Peter

From DRC Region
To RC (SD) Region

SULLIVAN, Julie

From AL 1st Valentine
To VSL 1st Valentine

THOMAS, Peter

From ASL 1st Valentine
To SL 1st Valentine

RESIGNATIONS

PARSONS, Bradley – SL – 1st Valentine

TRAINEE LEADERS NOT PROCEEDING

PLUMRIDGE, Donna – TL (JS) – 1st Telarah

CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE – 08/08/2004

BURNS, Kenneth – Hon Leader (G) – 3rd Mayfield

Baden Powell Award

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Russell Murphy – 1st Wyoming
on being awarded his Baden Powell Award

Yellow Cords



CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Joshua Clements-Earl Cessnock City
on your award of the Yellow Cord

1st Valentine Group is turning 50

The 1st Valentine Group would like to **invite you to the Scout Groups 50th Anniversary Celebrations**, which are to take place on the Sunday 12th September at our hall.

The Anniversary Celebrations will commence at 2.00pm with a formal parade and will follow with all of the Group's Sections there to showcase their talents. The Group currently consists of a Joey Scout Mob, Cub Scout Pack, Scout Troop and Venturer Scout Unit, so there will be plenty of Scouting on show to keep everyone entertained.

On the day, the inside of the hall will be decorated with the Group's memorabilia, photos and other Valentine mementos, with activities outside for the youth and local community to participate in.

If you know of anyone who was a supporter, Leader or youth member of the Group, could you please pass this information on as we would love them to be here as well. Unfortunately, one thing in Scouting that hasn't changed is our ability to keep records of past members.

Nigel Reece, our Akela, is arranging a Group function on the night before the main activities at 6pm at the Valentine Bowling Club. This event is open to anyone who wishes to catch up with past friends and meet new ones. The cost is \$10 per person and includes light food and nibbles. Raffles and games will be organised for the more adventurous among us and the bar will be available.

If you would like to attend the activities at the Valentine Bowling Club, could you please RSVP to me by the 3rd September so Nigel can advise the venue of numbers. If you wish to attend the Sunday celebrations then just turn up!

We look forward to seeing you all on the day.

Grahame Krisenthal "Piriwal"
Group Leader - 1st Valentine
4942-8601 (Home) or 0408 428-601 (Mobile)
1stValentineScouts@exemail.com.au



Scouts Australia - New South Wales
MEMBERS SUPPORT NEWSLETTER

"The Bunyas"
Rogers Ave
HABERFIELD

SPECIAL LEADERS EDITION

Some Leaders people fail their 'Pass the Message' badge

A number of Scouting people obviously have served in the British Army. That's if you believe the story that during the war a British Army Captain sent a message to HQ which arrived as "*Send three and four pence we are going to a dance*" on checking they found he had actually said "*Send reinforcements we are going to advance.*"

Well that's the way it seems to the Members Support Team and many of the Branch Commissioners. Especially when information goes out and Leaders, and some Commissioners, act as though it meant the complete opposite.

Physical Contact with Youth Members'

We have had leaders stating that Scouts have a policy of not touching youth members even if they are injured. This is completely wrong and we have NEVER had such a policy.

The Education Dept had such a policy but recently they changed their policy to one that mimics ours, as outlined in last months 'Scouting in NSW' and in our special Leaders Guidelines 'Guidelines for Physical Contact in Scouting' available on www.nsw.scouts.com.au in the leaders resources / policy area.

Youth Members signing PEDs

Youth members from another section DON'T have to sign a PED if they attend another meeting or are helping.

Whilst there is a requirement for any child ten and over to sign a PED if in an **UNSUPERVISED LEADERSHIP ROLE**, the Association has a policy of NOT allowing helpers to be unsupervised or in a leadership position. The Scout system is such that the Children's Commissioner has indicated sixers, P/Ls etc don't have to sign when working in their own Section.

If staying overnight, with a younger section, Rovers, Venturers and Scouts are asked to sign a PED.

PLs and members of the same scout sections don't have to sign PEDs when they go on hikes or overnight stays with fellow section members. (eg. Queen's Scout Hikes – Patrol Camps - etc.)

NO youth member should be required to sign a PED without his parent's/guardian's permission. (Even 17year 11-month-old married Rovers must get their wife's permission.)

As long as your charges are under direct supervision no PEDs are required (e.g. Group bar-b-q or fireworks night where members are supervised by leaders and parents.)

Two Deep Leadership

It is true that two deep leadership does provide one with a witness in case of allegations of impropriety BUT there is a far more serious reason that goes to the very safety of our members.

What do the Cubs do if Akela (the only leader there) has a stroke? What do the Joeys do if the Leader has to rush a seriously ill asthmatic child to hospital? Strokes of 30 and 40 year olds are becoming quite common.

8 days after the person had his pilot's medical, one minute he was fighting fit the next minute he was on the floor paralysed down one side and there was concern he might not survive the next 48 hours. A rarity but we have Leaders who have had a stroke; those with a heart attack at 27yrs; miscarriage; ectopic pregnancy; severe gastric attack (hard to run a meeting through a toilet door); kidney stones or even a plain old faint - you name it. It DOES happen, too often.

GET AN ASSISTANT OR THREE OR AT LEAST GET A PARENT ROSTER GOING

Regional Calendar

September

(Apply to Region Office unless otherwise shown)

Activities

BRAF Abseil (Port Stephens District) – 0448
25th-26th September
Closes 3rd September
Costs \$20

Region Regatta (Catalina Cup) - 0449
25th-26th September
Closes 17th September
Costs \$10

October

Training

Scout Advanced Sectional Techniques Module
15th-17th October
Closes 24th September
Costs \$120

APPLY TO STATE OFFICE

Joey Scout Advanced Outdoor Skills
15th-17th October
Closes 24th September
Costs \$70
APPLY TO STATE OFFICE

Basic Core Module
30th & 31st October
Closes 8th October
Costs \$70

Activities

Caving Advanced – 0450
2nd-3rd-4th October
Closes 10th September
Costs \$20

White Water Grade 1 – 0451
9th-10th October
Closes 17th September
Costs \$20

Topic 9 Bushwalking (Theory) – 0452
10th October
Closes 17th September
Costs \$5

Abseiling Basic (Introductory & Intermediate) – 0453
16th-17th October
Closes 24th September
Costs \$20

Rockclimbing Advanced – 0454
16th-17th October
Closes 24th September
Costs \$20

Level 2 Senior First Aid – 0455
23rd October
Closes 1st October
Costs \$30

BRAF Abseil (Lake Macquarie & Watagan Districts) – 0456
23rd-24th October
Closes 1st October
Costs \$10

November

Activities

Abseiling Advanced (Part 1) – 0457
30th-31st October
Closes 8th October
Costs \$20

Topic 9 Bushwalking (Practical) – 0458
6th-7th November
Closes 15th October
Costs \$20

Flat Water 2 – 0459
13th-14th November
Closes 22nd October
Costs \$20

Rockclimbing Advanced Leading (Weekend 1) – 0460
13th-14th November
Closes 22nd October
Costs \$20

Canyoning Basic - 0461
13th-14th November
Closes 22nd October
Costs \$20

BRAF Abseil (Manning & Upper Hunter Districts) – 0462
20th-21st November
Closes 29th October
Costs \$10

Changed

Catalina Cup Regatta

25th & 26th September 2004

Rathmines Scout Hall


Sailing, Canoeing, Camping, Land based Activities FUN & MORE FUN!

Hunter and Coastal Region invite all members to join in the fun and participate in the Water Activities Event – the 3rd Catalina Cup.

- Entertainment Saturday Night
- Shops close by
- Come and enjoy beautiful Lake Macquarie
- Registrations and Boat Inspections 9.00 am – 11.00 am Saturday 25th.

For further information please contact: Karen Allen
(0416) 223-654 or karenla@kooee.com.au

Application forms to the Region Office (PO Box 41 Adamstown 2289) together with \$10 camping & sailing fee before Friday 17th September.

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Scouts Australia - New South Wales
HUNTER & COASTAL REGION BULLETIN
PRINT POST APPROVED PP, 241146/00037

Surface
Mail

Postage
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Return Address
P O Box 41
ADAMSTOWN 2289