



Hunter & Coastal Region

Bulletin

December 2005/January 2006



E-mail: hc.region@nsw.scouts.com.au
Web Site: www.scoutreach.com.au/info

The Regional Commissioner's Message



Growth! (& Support too)

The current round of our 10% Membership Growth Plan was completed on 31st October and the results are outstanding. As at 14th November we had 3202 Registered Members in the Hunter & Coastal Region. This is an increase from 1st April last of 2%. Brilliant and well done to everyone! It is also exciting to know that 27% of the Joeys in the State come from this Region and I'm sure with the plans our Regional Commissioner (Joey Scouts) Marilyn Hocking has in place this is going to only get better and better. 70% of our Groups have qualified for the Growth awards. I cannot congratulate the successful Groups enough. We have firm, achievable and sustainable infrastructure in place to help any Group that is struggling and this also is bringing some very positive results. Our Retention Strategy from 1st November 2005 to 31st March 2006 is locked in and information and promotional material is out there. Let's once again "Stop the Summer Drop" and inspire all members of your Group to participate.

Roses do not fall from the sky, to get roses you first have to plant and then nurture them. It is the same with our Groups, before we clock off this year, please make sure that your Group has some form of plan in place to grow your Group during 2006.

Region Support (ers)

I'm sure you join with me in welcoming our new Regional Chairman Mrs Jean Hattander and her husband John who will be Deputy Chairman. They come with a wealth of experience and proven ability. I'm sure our Region will continue to prosper under their leadership. Our Regional Chairman of the past four years, Euan Melville, will remain in the very important capacity of Regional Treasurer. I am

personally delighted to have Euan still very involved in the Region. He is the epitome of the Aussie saying of being "a good bloke".

New Appointments

I have made 3 significant appointments:

- * District Commissioner Lake Macquarie – Bruce Leverton (formerly Scout Leader 1st Warners Bay)
- * Regional Commissioner (Activities) – Anthony Butler (formerly District Commissioner Lake Macquarie)
- * District Commissioner Port Stephens – Natalie Prosser (formerly Cub Scout Leader 1st Tilligerry)

Year's End

It's Christmas time again and whilst we tend to all pen the appropriate words at this time of year, I from my own misfortune with my recent accident, have come to really appreciate how important our family and friends are to us. I effectively could not have survived without them and it reminded me how sometimes I take things for granted. Please, I encourage all of you to tell your family and friends how much you love them, how important they are as we rejoice in the Christmas spirit and look forward to a prosperous 2006. Let's keep the momentum going and further grow this great Region.

Best luck and wishes to all Scouts going to the Region Corroboree and to our Venturers who will be soon participating in the National Venture. Have a wonderful time and we look forward to hearing about your experiences.

Steve Fernie
Regional Commissioner

Office Recess

The Region Office will CLOSE 12.00 noon Friday 23rd December and RE-OPEN 9.00 am Tuesday 3rd January 2006.

2006 BP's BIRTHDAY BASH Attendance Form

The 2006 BP's Birthday Bash will be held in Richley Reserve Blackbutt on Sunday 19th February 2006 from 10.00 am till 2.00 pm and as always the success of the day revolves around your participation and cooperation.

This year we hope to have Participation Certificates printed and, providing we have the youth members names in advance, we would like to pre-print the names.

Also, in addition to the Drinks & Ice Creams on sale by our Westlake's BP Guild we have asked the Friends of Blackbutt to run a Sausage Sizzle and they have kindly agreed to do so at a cost of \$2 per Sausage Sandwich.

Of course those who prefer to do so can BYO Picnic Lunch but we see this as a chance to say "Thanks" to the hard working volunteers from the BP Guild and the Friends of Blackbutt so your patronage would be greatly appreciated

In order to give them some idea of numbers we would ask a representative from each Group to complete and return this form to Region Office by **Noon on Friday 23rd December**.

Group

Contact Person:.....

Phone No:.....

- 1: Names of Youth Members (please attach on a separate sheet)
- 2: Approximate number of people who intend to purchase Sausage Sandwiches:.....

Send to: Scouts Australia – H&C Region
P.O. Box 854
THE JUNCTION 2291
or e-mail it to: hc.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

Any questions please contact the BP Bash Committee through Jean Hattander on jhattand@bigpond.net.au or by telephone 4956-6788 or mobile (0417) 439-928.

Jean Hattander
Co-ordinator

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

3rd Annual Glenrock Great Milk Carton Boat Races 18th & 19th March 2006 Ancient Roman Theme



It's on again and I am pleased to announce, our great race has been sanctioned for the weekend of the 18th & 19th March. Newcastle & Lake Macquarie Scouts are challenging all Hunter & Coastal Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers to put on their best Roman toga's and sandals for this grand maritime event. So start collecting your milk cartons, plastic milk bottles and other milk carrying receptacles to build a ROMAN Theme milk carton/ bottle boat. As per previous events, there will be a large camp fire on Saturday night, with awards for the best skit and songs.

For boat building and construction information go to the following web site: <http://milkcartonboat.com/howto.htm>

For entry forms, please email: bill@hcmelectrical.com.au, or limited hard copies of rules will be available at the Region Office. Further information such as times and costs will be sent on receipt of your application.

Bill Brown
Co-ordinator
Phone: 4957-1186 (Home)

RAMBO6

As I go around the various presentations and meetings within the Region many leaders take the opportunity to talk to me about RAMBO-6 and how much their members enjoyed RAMBO-5. Now is the time to be really promoting it among your youth and parents. Get them enthused before the Christmas break so that when you come back after the break you only have to add a few stragglers to your list to be sent to Region. Remember it is the first 1,000 or the closing date. This is the cut-off point for full time CAMPERS over the week-end. Day visitors are welcome to attend on either or both days as they did last year. When your form is processed you will be sent relevant information regarding transport, parking, camping, activities etc. How are the badge designs going? Get the young people working on them as well as anyone else that might like to have a go? If you have any enquiries please contact me on 4943-5849 or Email: g.pricter@hotmail.com

Grahame Pricter
Co-ordinator

Happy Hopping



As we come to the end of the year keep in mind some Scouting events will be early in the year. Some of these events you will need to mention to parents, keep in mind parents and Joey Scouts who have not been to one of these events do not know, what a fantastic day out they can have, it is your job to let them know what available.

Upcoming Events:

19th February – BP's Birthday Bash at Richley Picnic Area in Blackbutt Reserve.

6th-7th May - Rambo, will be held at Glenrock Scout Centre. Preliminary details are out now.

And for Our Joey Scout Leaders

18th -19th March -Regional Joey Scout Konara – “Back to the Future Konara”

If you are a new Leader our Konara is a gathering of all Joey Scout Leaders in our Region. The day will have plenty of hands on activities, fun and interest ideas to assist you with running your Mob. This is an experience not to be missed.

Regional Web Site

Again this month I would like to mention the Joey Scout Page at the Regions web site. I have over the past month added some new ideas in crafts, including some Christmas cards for the Joey Scout to colour and give out and some Christmas cooking. Take a look! <http://www.scoutreach.com.au/info> . If you do not have access to a computer, ask at your Wandarrah if anyone will share with you or ask your District Leaders to help.

Joey Scout Growth

The Section has been busy this year, since starting the grow promotion, in this Region have started twenty three Mobs and have a further six Mobs commencing this term, early next year, in total 29 Mobs. I thank all the Groups who have worked hard to help us achieve this result, congratulations on starting your Joey Scout Mobs; I know the benefits will make all that hard work worth while. Thanks to a wonderful Regional Team, whose support has been stronger than ever before!

District Programming Days

Just a reminder about Programming days as mentioned last Bulletin. Leaders wishing to hold a Programming day over the Christmas break and need assistance, Dianne Norman has offered to help.

What is a Programming Day? - The idea behind the day is to offer to Joey Scout Leaders in a District greater strength in programming and to unite the Mobs from that district. It offers to Leaders support in programming as well as a huge amount of resources and combined activities. The Joey Scout Leaders from the District to come together and pool

resources and ideas. The sessions normally run for three hours by the end of the session Leaders walk away with their year planned out and at least one to two terms of full programs. So get a few of the Joey Scout Leaders in your District together or just ring Dianne to find out where she will be that is closest to you and give it a try! Contact Dianne Ph: 4389-7363.

Seasons Greetings

To all our Joey Scout Leaders, Joey Scouts and Fellow Scouters the Joey Scout Team wish to say thank you for a wonderful year, your ongoing support and friendship. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Hoppy New Year!

Marilyn Hocking

Regional Commissioner (Joey Scouts)

Phone: 4981-1828

Email: moani@bigpond.com

Cub Scout Capers



Is it the end of the year or mid year? It depends on your view on how you approach programming in your Pack. Do you close up shop at the end of December and restart in February or do you use this time to fine tune the pack programs for the next terms? The first weeks back are a mad house; the break gives us an opportunity to put ideas in place to help relieve some of the pressure.

2006 will be a big year with lots of activities being organized for the youth members in our Region. The first is BP's Birthday Bash in February, then Rambo in May, WSD in August and finally CUBOREE. These are good days mostly all you have to do is bring your Pack and have Fun at the various Activities run by the sections.

90th Anniversary Badges: Your forms are now overdue. Please send it to the office ASAP because the Region will only place an order for the number nominated by Packs. Don't forget to ask others in your Group if they would like badges as well (swaps for the Jamboree).

Cub Youth Leadership Course: The first Course will be on 26th February and the forms will be sent out soon by your DCSL. Positions in the Course will be allocated by when the forms arrive at the Regional Office.

Cubs on the Move: By now all the Cub Leaders would have received a survey sheet from your DCSL. The survey is to find out how the Regional Cub Team can assist you so your feedback is important to us (either good or bad). “A cog can turn for so long but a cog that receives tender care will run forever”. If you consider that any of the questions are too limited then please attach extra pages and send it along. I have stressed this to other leaders already, all responses will be regarded as confidential

This time I have remembered this is the last Bulletin for the year: To all the Leaders / Parents and those who have contributed to making this another wonderful year for our Region's Cubs, I take this opportunity to thank you for your time, efforts and have a good and safe Christmas. See you all next year all charged and ready to go.

David Main

Regional Commissioner (Cub Scouts)

Phone: 4990-5580

Email: maind@westnet.com.au

Scouting Around



Region Corroboree 2006

The Corroboree Theme will be "PIONEERS". Please remind all attending that we will be supplying everyone with a "bucket" style hat so "Base Ball" style hats are not permitted. Once again I remind you that if you as a Leader or you have Scouts thinking about attending the 2007 Australian Jamboree then it is a must that they attend the Corroboree. If you or the Scouts have problems with camping for 5 days then they will certainly have problems with 10 to 12 days at the Jamboree. You should have by now received Application form for this event. If you have not received them please contact the Region Office.

21st Australian Jamboree:

Jamboree Applications will be posted to the Scout Leader of each Group and they should arrive no later than the middle of December. If you require more application forms then you can obtain them from the Regional Office. NOTE:

- 1: Please check that all information on the Application form is in full and correct.
- 2: As the person endorsing the Application you are agreeing that the Applicant is a fit and proper person to attend the Jamboree. This relates not only to behaviour but all aspects.
- 3: ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A GROUP CHEQUE.
- 4: Leaders of other sections and Venturers should get their application forms from their Group's Scout Leader.

2006 Calendar:

Please do not forget to make sure you have marked you 2006 calendar with all the Regional Activities starting with the Corroboree and BP's Birthday Bash.

Last but not least I would like to wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year and I hope to see you at the Corroboree.

Kevin Allen

Regional Commissioner (Scouts)

Email: kevinallen@koee.com.au



Please put these dates in your Diary for 2006

2nd to 14th January - 13th Australian Venture

19th February - BP's Birthday Bash

2nd April - Unit Management Course (Gosford)

14th to 17th April (Easter) - Dragon Skin

6th & 7th May - RAMBO6

22nd/23rd July - Venture Scout Leadership Course

6th August - Region World Scout Day Celebration

7th September - Unit Management Course (Fennell Bay)

2nd & 3rd December - Region Venture

By the time this goes to print we hope to have successfully held a Youth Helper Course and run sailing canoeing, swimming and lots more at Oasis Venture at Hawks Nest with all those attending having a great time. THANK YOU to all for your help over the time of the weekend.

2005 Review

What happened this year (in a nutshell)?

- * We have had a very successful year with Venturer numbers being steady and New Units opening.
- * The introduction of the Certificate II in Leadership Support for Venturer Scouts
- * "Try Venturing" Badge starting to be introduced to Scout Troops
- * And a number of Venturer Scouts and Leaders (will be) attending the AV 2006 in January for 10 days

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Steve, Tiffany and Craig for their support of the Venturer Scout Section.

Thank You also to our Region Team comprising:

Glen Metcalf, Des George, Hugh Mooney, Trevor Pickett, Michael Furchert, John Blishen, Lyn Dennis and their partners for a wonderful year of Venturing.

Have a Happy and safe Christmas Break. Looking forward to another wonderful year of Venturing in 2006.

Robyne Plant

Regional Commissioner (Venturer Scouts)

Email: robyneplant@hotmail.com

Phone: 4392-7812

Thanks

The Region Office Staff wish you all a safe and happy holiday break. Thank you to the Commissioner's, Bulletin Collating Teams, Debra Lowe, Jackie Bycroft and other part-time helpers for their constant work throughout the year.

Rovers



Another month has passed, and again our Rovers have been very busy. Over the past month we have held both of the Ro-Venture preliminary events. The first event was held at Terrigal, and was well attended. Going by reports from Venturers on the night, they enjoyed the activity. The second preliminary activity was held at Newcastle and it proved to be a raging success. We had over 30 teams turn up to King Edward Park; this equates to well over 100 Venturers. This was great to see. Having seen such encouraging results at the preliminary events we are even more inspired now to make the up and coming Ro-Venture, Survivor Ro-Venture, bigger than ever. Please keep the 11th and 12th of February available for this event. It will be huge.

The push has started for all interested Rovers who wish to attend the 64th National Rover Moot in New Zealand to get their forms together and send them to the contingent leader in Victoria. The Moot will be held over the Easter long weekend in 2006 in Whangarei. There is a cap on the number of international participants who can go, so if you are keen, get the forms in ASAP. There is a link to the New Zealand Rover Moot site from the NSW Rovers website. At the moment we have a total of 6 from our Region that are confirmed as going to the Moot, and a further 4 that will be travelling to New Zealand and meeting up with us after the event. It should prove to be a great time.

Those of us who are involved in the activities team are also gearing up for a big summer. We are hoping to see a large amount of Venturers participating in this years canyoning courses. There are also plans in the pipeline from some Crews for plenty of different rock trips over the summer months, so if you are an older Venturer and are interested in participating in rock related activities outside of a Region course and want to get a feel for what Rovers is about, feel free to contact your local Rover Crew and enquire.

Ian Cosgrove
PR Officer - Region Rover Council
Email: cozy_1@yahoo.com

Members Support

This has proved to be a busy part of my scouting activity over recent months. "Why, what do you do?" I have been asked. "What does a Member's Support Person do?" Within every Region in the State there are Member Support Persons who work under the direction of their Regional Commissioner and are part of a State wide team headed by Warwick Bateman, the State Commissioner for Members Support. Our responsibilities cover many aspects of Scouting Support that at times is not well known or made public. Recently I have been called upon to hold a closure for a Cub Pack that lost one of its members through tragic

circumstances. I am still working with some of the Cub Scouts. Calls to offer support to people injured on Scouting activities. Support for leaders who are going through stressful times. Problems that arise at camps when people don't do the right thing. Leaders who just want someone to talk to or to listen to. There are many other incidents that have occurred. One of the important things that leaders of activities have to remember and that is to get a report to Region ASAP so that we can take the appropriate action. Urgent reports should be made IMMEDIATELY to the Regional Commissioner or to me if he is unable to be contacted over a week-end. ALL reports are investigated and the appropriate action taken. There is information available for all leaders that can help with incident reporting etc. These are on the Region web site and are under Leader Support Guides. Every Leader must read them as part of their duty of care and to know what to do. Next year as part of the Regional Commissioner's visits to Districts there will be a session on "Member Support." This will give all leaders the opportunity to discuss and ask questions in Members Support and to understand the importance of my responsibilities as the Region Member's Support Person. Again I am contactable on the above Phone number and Email address. Have a good holiday and may the Spirit of Christmas be your experience this Advent Season.

Grahame Pricter
Regional Commissioner (Member Support)
Phone: 4943-5849

Photograph removed to reduce file size

Central Coast Gang Show Cast Members "in action" - painting mural on Gosford District Scout Hall - September 2005. Photo taken by Bill Fortier

Drivetime



G' day to all my friends in Scouting...

Catering in 2006

There are a few dates still left without a cooking team for next year. We are still looking for teams to cover the catering at Glenrock for the following courses. February 18-19 Basic Leadership 1, March 17-19 Basic Leadership 2, March 31 to April 2 Scout Basic Leadership 3, April 8-9 Basic Leadership 1, May 19-21 Basic Leadership 2, September 16-17 Basic Leadership 1. If you can assist please contact me either through the Region Office or e-mail me at therealdoona@westnet.com.au please include Glenrock Catering in the subject area.

Congratulations

A number of existing leaders took up the challenge of completing their Certificate IV in Leadership and Certificate IV in Business (Frontline Management) short course and the Region congratulates them on their successful completion and awarding of certificates.

Unfortunately the short course is no longer available to people who already have a Wood Badge however it is still possible to receive the Certificate IV by completing the current advanced training package assessment tasks (cost will be \$20). For more info please contact me either through the Regional Office or e-mail me at therealdoona@westnet.com.au please include "Cert IV Wood Badge Package" in the subject area.

For those of you who completed the Certificate IV in Business (Frontline Management) and did not supply a certified copy of a current Basic First Aid Certificate (or equivalent). When you supply this certified copy of your Basic First Aid Certificate (or equivalent) the Certificate IV in Leadership will be issued.

Wood Badge Training

During the last weekend of October we successfully ran Advanced Level 3 courses for Cub & Scout Leaders and we all had a great weekend. Good luck to all participants as they complete their projects. One of the things that came out of the weekend was that some had done a mix of Advanced Training under the old scheme of training and some under the new scheme of training. Whilst this would not stop them successfully obtaining a Wood Badge to achieve Certificate IV in Business (Frontline) Management the additional assessments from the current training program would need to be completed. There would be no charge for the required workbooks at this point of time. Please e-mail me at therealdoona@westnet.com.au please include Cert IV Workbooks in the subject area.

Training Rebate Scheme

From 1st January 2006 the State will return 50% of course fees for Trainee Leaders who complete Basic Training to Groups. But wait there's more The Branch Executive Council recognise the strength that can be added to Scouting

by having Leaders who have achieved a Wood Badge. To support this also from January 1 2006 all Groups will receive 75% of course fees back for each Leader of the Group who complete Wood Badge training. This program is scheduled to operate for a trial from 1st January 2006 to 31st December 2007.

Course Closing Dates / Course Numbers

Effectively immediately course numbers will be limited to a maximum of 30. Participants will be accepted on a "first in" basis till we reach 30 when the course will close. There will be no exceptions to this rule. Closing dates are 3 weeks prior to the course running. It may be possible to run an additional Course if numbers are sufficient. Trying to source an additional team in 3 weeks before a Course is extremely difficult however if I knew 6 weeks from the published Course date that numbers were sufficient to run a second Course, then it would be easier to source a team. When participants apply right on closing then this is almost impossible to manage. Successful Courses don't just happen they rely on highly effective Course Management and planning. I strongly advise Group Leaders to facilitate submission of forms as soon as possible and not wait to avoid the frustration of Leaders missing out on Courses.

'Till next month happy driving along the Training Track.

Hope you all have a happy and safe Christmas Break.

David Downie

Regional Commissioner (Adult Training & Development)

Email: therealdoona@westnet.com.au

World Scout Day 2006

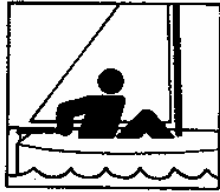
To all Leaders Hunter and Coastal Region please include this event in your calendar for next year as the success of this event depends on your attendance.

World Scout Day 6th August 2006 will be held at Camp Kanangra Nords Wharf. Planning is well under way for this event with representatives from each section being involved. Each section will be running several activities on the day with a short service properly just after lunch. The nature of these activities will be advised at a later date as each section decides on what to run.

Ken Bayliss

Region WSD Event Co-ordinator

Adventurous Activities



In my new role as the Regional Commissioner (Activities), I think the learning curve will be steep. Since I started in this role there have been several things brought to my attention.

Firstly there are many people who think they have qualifications and according to the information held at the Office they don't. The solution to this issue is simple – you will need to apply again and I will have the relevant people confirm this qualification. If I cannot confirm that you should have this qualification I will talk directly with you.

The cost of activities – There has been some pressure to increase the cost of Activities Courses for 2006. This has caused a lot of discussion. I have decided to hold the Course cost for this year at \$10 for a single day course and \$20 for a two day course. Sailing is the only exception. The concept of District Courses at a lower cost was considered and at this stage all Courses will be Regionally based and at the standard cost.

A copy of the 2006 Activity Calendar is attached to this Bulletin and is now on the Region website too. There are no District BRAF Courses listed. If a District requires a BRAF Course to be run then they should have the District Commissioner request this with some preferred dates. Generally this will be Rock based and for Scouts as part of their Award Scheme. To this end the Activity Team will assist and run a three yearly cycle for Abseiling, Caving and Rockclimbing.

The Activities Team is here for all Sections of Scouting so if there is anything we can do to help please ask. It is worth noting the Water based activities are available for all sections. Look at the Calendar for Course dates.

I would like to encourage all Leaders to think about attending Activity Courses and gain the skills. Once you as Leaders have the skills you can encourage your youth members to have a go and you can help in the running of the activity.

Remember there are some special dates for you all to remember – BP's Birthday Bash 19th Feb, RAMBO 06 6th – 7th May and World Scout Day 6th August – these are events not to be missed. Get these dates into your Group's calendar.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and prosperous new year looking forward to seeing you on an activities course in 2006.

Anthony Butler
Regional Commissioner (Activities)
Home: 4943-5371
Mobile: (0419) 280-222
E-mail: anthony.butler@pwcs.com.au

Hall Hire & Property Matters

A number of P3 hall hire forms have been received without the Interim Risk Control Evaluation Form attached. This is a one off requirement and does not need to be attached to future applications.

It is important to remember to attach the cheque covering the lease legal costs \$90 to all P3 forms. This cheque should come from the tenant and NOT FROM THE GROUP.

A number of Groups do not know who "owns" their hall. This information should be obtained from Region and kept on record.

Be aware that P3 forms which are incomplete will be sent back for completion. Please make sure you have checked that all questions have been answered properly. No blanks or dashes nor question marks.

It is also important to make sure you have complied with question 6 on the P3 form. Applications are still being received without the insurance being appropriately endorsed.

Where ever possible, have somebody within your group (uniformed or layside) appointed as hall hirer officer. If a new person is appointed at your AGM for this role, then the retiring hall hire officer maybe able to school the incoming person.

Please be aware that you may have the nominated rental payment rejected if it is considered to be too low. So make sure you are charging a respectable fee for your hall use. There is no point in finding the wear and tear and overheads is leaving you without a reasonable income.

If you are not sure of anything please don't guess a quick phone call can save everybody a lot of time.

Finally, and this is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, Groups must not approach any Government entity with any matters relating to their halls without Region's formal consent.

Please cut this out of your Bulletin and keep it available for future reference. If there is anything need to know or are not sure of please don't hesitate to ring the Region Office or the undersigned.

Merry Christmas to you all!

Tony Venn.
Region Property
4390-9993 (leave a message)

Smoke Signals



I wish all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year

Look out - a new Scouting year is here already! You now really need to be working on some long term planning. Lots of experienced leaders are doing what they do best - setting out on paper a great year of fun activities that will attract and retain youth and meet our objectives for Scouting. For you new leaders, there is hope at hand. You too can plan like a pro! Organising a year of Scouting activities is easy just use the resources readily available to you.

First of all, sit down with a calendar and look at all your meeting nights. Start with the obvious – when did you start, and when will you finish?

School holidays and sport activities will affect your attendance, so plan accordingly. Are there any nights when you may not want to meet because of statutory holidays etc.? Enjoy the break, and use them to recharge your batteries.

Getting out is what Scouting is about. Plan a suitable activity - a hike, a local visit, or some outdoor games. Remember, there's nothing wrong with having your opening ceremony outdoors!

Use your Sixers/Seconds, PLs/APLs, and Unit Councils. They are part of your leadership team. Meet with them and the youth in your section. With their experience (and familiarity with the age group) they'll come up with some great, and totally unexpected, ideas.

Plan some time with your other leaders. Mark out some evenings or days so that you can all sit down together and fine-tune your schedule by coming up with the minute-by-minute timetable that will be your and the other leader guide each week. Make some time for training, and have social activities with your leaders. Let the other leaders lead. Spread the work out among many. Let others be responsible for program nights/activities. You are a team, and everyone can work towards a great program.

The web is a wonderful tool. Watch your sources of course, but Scouting related sites provide a wealth of ideas and information.

Make sure you add in some linking activities. You want to encourage the Joeys to become Cubs, and you want your Cubs to see how much fun they'll have as a Scout. Invite some Venturers or Rovers to an event.

Keep your eyes and ears open. The newspaper regularly promotes activities that may be suitable for your group. A conversation at work may lead to a great evening activity.

Check out community newsletters, and advertising by museums, galleries, parks, etc. What skills do your parents offer that you can make use of?

Still need help? Ask. You are not alone. We are all in this to have fun, make friends, and learn things.

Just a reminder that B.P.'s Birthday Bash will be on 19th February, make sure your Group knows about it. Both it and Rambo 06 can be seen on our web site, go to <http://www.scoutreach.com.au> and then press resources button in the bottom right hand corner.

The First Scout Campers

The 22 boys who attended the Brownsea Island camp ranged in age from 9 to 17.

Thirteen were from upper-class families and attended such exclusive boarding schools as Eton, Harrow, and Baden-Powell's alma mater, Charterhouse.

The other nine were working-class boys from Poole and Bournemouth, across Poole Harbour from Brownsea Island. They were selected by leaders of the Boys' Brigade, a youth organization that featured marching, drill, and military lore.

Despite the sharp class divisions of Edwardian England, the boys got along well. Years later, Arthur Primmer, who was one of the working-class boys, remembered: "Here's something that will give you an idea of the atmosphere there. One of the upper-class boys in my patrol put up his hand one day and said, 'Please, sir, can I leave the room?' and one of the town fellows said, 'Silly fool, doesn't he know he's in a tent?'"

Game

Murder

Equipment: None

Description: The players sit in a circle facing inwards. One player, the detective is taken away where they can not see or hear the others. One of the players in the circle is designated as the murderer. The players are told a secret signal (e.g. a hand signal). The detective is then returned to the circle where they must guess the identity of the murderer before they kills everyone. If any of the players notes the signal coming from the murderer they must 'die' in some dramatic fashion. The detective only has a limited number of guesses in which to guess the identity of the murderer (by pointing at them). If the detective fails to guess in time, the murderer takes their place and play continues anew. (Notes: 3 Guesses is a sensible number for most groups.)

Greg Allen

Regional Commissioner (Resources)

E-mail: resources@scoutreach.com.au

Office Hours to Change

Very soon Tiffany will be on Maternity Leave for the next few months. We wish her well. We thus ask you to be aware that the Region Office operating hours will vary during this time. Further details will be advised as they come to hand.

Regional Calendar & Awards

February

(Apply to Region Office unless otherwise shown)

Activities

Sailing Beginners – 0601
4/5 & 25/26 February
Closes 13 January
Costs \$30 (with own Craft) - \$75 (without Craft)

Sailing Advanced - 0602
4/5 & 25/26 February
Closes 13 January
Costs \$30 (with own Craft) - \$75 (without Craft)

Flat Water (includes Level 3) - 0603
11/12 February
Closes 20 January
Costs \$25

Canyoning Intermediate - 0604
18/19 February
Closes 27 January
Costs \$25

Navigation Day - 0605
26 February
Closes 6 February
Costs \$15

Training

Basic Leadership 1
18/19 February
Closes 27 January
Costs \$95

March

Activities

Abseil Basic/Intermediate - 0606
4/5 March
Closes 10 February
Costs \$25

Bushwalking Preparation - 0607
11/12 March
Closes 17 February
Costs \$15

Canyoning Advanced - 0608
18/19 March
Closes 24 February
Costs \$25

White Water Grade 1 - 0609
25/26 March
Closes 6 March
Costs \$25

Bushwalking Practical (Manning) - 0610
25/26 March
Closes 6 March
Costs \$25

Training

Advanced Leadership 1
10/12 March
Closes 17 February
Costs \$95
APPLY TO STATE OFFICE

Basic Leadership 2
17/19 March
Closes 24 February
Costs \$95

Joey Scout Basic Leadership 3
24/26 March
Closes 6 March
Costs \$95

Venturer Scout Basic Leadership 3
24/26 March
Closes 6 March
Costs \$95

Cub Scout Basic Leadership 3
31 March/2 April
Closes 10 March
Costs \$95

Scout Basic Leadership 3
31 March/2 April
Closes 10 March
Costs \$95

Yellow Cords



Congratulation to the following on their Yellow Cord Award:

Luke Jarman
Tayla Watson

1st Point Clare
1st Wangi

Appointments List

BEC – 14th November 2005

APPOINTMENTS

THOMAS, Lucy GL 1st Valentine
THOMPSON, Allan CSL Dungog

TRANSFERS

Brown, Geoffrey
From CSL 1st Ourimbah
To ASL 1st Ourimbah

COOK, Glenn
From Group Adviser Cardiff
To ASL Cardiff

IRELAND, Narelle

From ASL 1st Murrurundi
To DL (Admin) Upper Hunter

MARSHALL, Drew

From CSL 1st Medowie
To GL 1st Medowie

RICHARDS, Mathew

From ACSL 1st Wyong
To ACSL 1st Tuggerah Lakes

TRAINEE LEADERS NOT PROCEEDING

EDWARDS, Trent – TL (S) – 1st Avoca Beach



Hunter & Coastal Region

Bulletin

December 2005/January 2006



Scouts Australia - New South Wales
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