



Scouts in ACTION

Australian Capital Territory Branch

March 2014

Youth Program Review



We want to know what YOU think about Scouting's aims, values, methods, law and promise.

The goal is to design one developmental program across the sections, with one developmental award scheme that continues across the sections. Ensuring that the Areas of Personal Growth are central to our program, and that the Scout Method is how the program is implemented, is critical to the success of the Review.

Scouts Australia's Youth Program Review is set to be one of the most important surveys done in 2014 and will guide the thinking when it comes to developing a new revolutionary Youth Program for Scouting in Australia.

All Scouts members are encouraged to get involved and take part in this survey. Which can be found here: www.surveymonkey.com/s/nypr_aim_and_principles it should take 10 – 20 minutes to complete.

From the Chief



This month Scouts ACT celebrates 33 years as an independent Branch. Anniversaries are always a good time to reflect on past achievements but, of course, we need to keep our vision for the future. How do you see Scouting in the next 30 odd years? Perhaps you might (fleetingly at least) think well that's long after I will be here! Deep down though we know our job is to put in place the structures and resources that will allow Scouting to continue to grow, offering the Scout program to more and more young people.

One way that you can immediately contribute to the future is to include your thoughts and ideas in the National Program Review mentioned on this page. How might we improve our program to make it more relevant, more useful, more challenging and importantly, more fun for our youth (and adult) members? Good question - this review survey is our chance to contribute to building an even better program by making some suggestions.

I can sense that you might also be thinking that it's not just the program – it is the delivery and resourcing that also are important- and I agree. So what can we do about these factors?

The ACT Branch is working with our National counterparts (particularly with Scouts Tasmania) in developing a new Group Leader mentoring program with special emphasis on helping Groups that do not have a Group Leader. This is in addition to our regular Leader of Adults training courses. The ACT Branch has also been working with the National Training Team to review and develop some Group Support Committee E Learning modules to assist new members in their roles. I can't wait until they are released! In the meantime I would love to hear of any ideas that you might have in these areas.

Thank you for your contribution to Scouting in the ACT – we are fortunate that we live in exciting times - and that we can make a very positive difference in the lives of young people.

Sirius Cup

By Corey Coppin, Venturer with LGSS



Sirius Cup is now in its 65th year of operation and is held at Balmoral in Sydney. It is the premier, and the largest Scout sailing regatta in NSW and is attended annually with over 900 participants.

This years event was an amazing and memorable experience (as with all the previous years). The winds in the middle bay were fairly average this season but that made it more fun for those coming for their first time. The ACT has calmer winds on our lakes and sometimes the wild winds of Sydney can be very difficult and challenging. These waves and winds of the sea put our skippers knowledge and skills to the test and made a great weekend of sailing.

One of the activities that all ACT Groups did well in was the canoe and kayak races, which we all came back with many certificates. In the sailing division the ACT had many winners which goes to show what a talented bunch of sailors we all are! Here is a list of this years winners,

Sirius Cup for division 1 handicap winner:
Blue Belle, Lake Burley Griffin

Little Sirius Cup for division 2 handicap winner:
Grey Wolf, Lake Tuggeranong

Fin for division 2 line honours on Sunday:
Grey Wolf, Lake Tuggeranong

Balmoral Trophy - for Scout Line honours in Division 2:
Grey Wolf, Lake Tuggeranong

Sirius Shield for overall group sailing in divisions 1 and 2:
Lake Burley Griffin

North Harbour Scout Sailing Trophy - Fastest Small Boat Sailed by a Scout: *Grey Wolf*, Lake Tuggeranong

Old Paddle Trophy - Slowest Boat Home:
BP, Lake Tuggeranong

Bill Leslie and Trish Pester Memorial Trophy - Venturer Sailing
The Terminator, Lake Ginninderra

Foul Propeller - Rover Sailing Activities:
Blue Belle, Lake Burley Griffin



All in all our Scouts and parents all had a great time in Sydney and Im sure we shall see more keen faces next year! Thank you to everyone who helped with transport, organising everything and for their support. It has been a great sailing season so far!

1st National Adventurous Activities School

By Ed Darke, ASL, Lake Burley Griffin Sea Scouts



Mitchell Malam and I with 126 other Venturers, Rovers and Leaders from all over Australia recently attended the 1st National Adventurous Activities School run by NSW Scouts for Scouts Australia Institute of Training (SAIT). We all had a fantastic time! The nationally recognised training on offer included modules Canoeing/ Kayaking, Sailing, Abseiling, Caving and Canyoning.

These modules counted towards a formal, nationally recognised, qualification! A SIS10 Certificate in Adventurous Activities at levels II, III or IV depending on experience and competency.

For me highlights of the School were, Abseiling and Canyoning in the Blue Mountains, staying at the fantastic Girl Guide owned property 'Random Lodge' at Mount Victoria, the Hawaiian waterslide party, the Hypnotist, Catching up with friends from Tassie who were also on the course, and, making new Scout friends from all over Australia!

If you think you missed out? Hold onto your hats! You haven't, the next National School is being held in Victoria 5th to 11th April, see <http://www.scouts.com.au/main.asp?iMenuID=27914014> The ACT Branch is also hosting a National Alpine Winter School this year with dates TBA.

If you're keen to participate in a National School or undertake SAIT SIS10 training then keep an eye on the ACT Branch website, www.scoutsact.com.au . Also check other State Branch websites (you'll have to find these yourselves) and the SAIT section of the National website, see <http://www.scouts.com.au/main.asp?iMenuID=16464226>.

I strongly recommend that all Venturers, Rovers and Leaders participate in future Schools because, not only are they fantastic fun, the Schools will strengthen the Scouting Movement in Australia by providing our members with excellent training experiences and another pathway for building leadership depth in the organisation.



Joey Scouts Share and Care

by Red Gum Mob Stromlo Forest

From August to November 2013 Red Gum Mob were busy collecting things that our Scouting friends in Timor-Leste could use at school. Each week we brought along something that could go into our 'Share and Care' box. We bought exercise books, pencils, coloured pencils, erasers, sharpeners, rulers and a lot more.

During our "Christmas in November" Sleepover where we had Christmas Dinner, a member of the Scout International Team (Wendy Freeman) came along to accept the things we had collected. Wendy explained to us all about Scouting in Timor Leste and how our gift would go to support Scouting families.



Round the World Adventure with Petit Lutins Joey Mob

by Petits Lutins leader Lynx



Les Explorateurs' Petit Lutins recently went on a very exciting round the world adventure as part of our cultures theme. We travelled from Australia, to Italy, to France and then to Egypt. The objectives were to use imagination and creative based play, and to learn a bit about each country. Next, each child was given a custom made passport with their photo, and we first boarded a plane in Australia (chairs in the middle of the hall). Everyone was carefully checked to see if their picture matched their passport.

On our arrival in Italy, we had our passports stamped by customs, and walked towards the Italian flags and then we then played a quick game of soccer outside. After the match, we enjoyed Italian music and ate some pizza while watching a slide show of Italian scenery and architecture. The kids were encouraged to share French vocabulary based on the images shown. After the pizza, the children boarded a train and we travelled to France. Again our passports were stamped, and this time by a French national. The children were then encouraged to draw a portrait in pencil, while we again listened to French music, and watched some slides from France. From France, we took a boat to Egypt, rowing our paper rolls, until we arrived. Again our passports were checked and stamped. In Egypt we were encouraged to build our own pyramid.

Check out more exciting Les Explorateurs adventures: Website: www.explorateurs.org.au

'Like us' on Facebook: www.facebook.com/LesExplorateursScouts

Anzac Day Dawn Service & Sleepover 2014

On-line applications are now open for those wishing to sleep over on ANZAC Eve at Campbell High School Hall. Go to www.explorateurs.org.au then to ANZAC Day Sleepover 2014 and follow the prompts – all self explanatory (if not contact groupleader@explorateurs.org.au). Places are limited to 300, so get in fast!

Place and time: Campbell High School Hall at 7.30pm (after you have had your dinner)

Cost: \$14.00 per person (sleep over, supper, breakfast, badge)

Extra badges \$2.50 each

Breakfast only \$6.00 per person. Please indicate any dietary requirements when booking.

RSVP: Booking to be made through the Les Explorateurs webpage by **Friday 13 April** with payment required at the time of booking, into Les Explorateurs bank account. Joeys are permitted providing they are with an adult directly responsible for them.



**DO NOT SEND APPLICATION OR MONEY TO BRANCH – NO CASH TO BE TAKEN ON THE DAY
NO individual personal receipts will be made; must be done on Pack/Troop/Unit basis**

Your Group or event in the next "Scouts in ACTION"

Would you like your Group or event to be in the next issue of Scouts in ACTION? Send 10 - 15 lines and a picture to Tyron at development.officer@act.scouts.asn.au and we will add your story to the next newsletter.