



# SCOUTS IN ACTION

Australian Capital Territory

## SCIScouts: ENGINEERING HERE WE COME!

By Kate Lehane, Branch Commissioner - STEM

*Scouts ACT presents*

### **SciScouts 2018: Engineering**



Australian  
National  
University



ENGINEERS  
AUSTRALIA



Inspiring  
AUSTRALIA

SciScouts is an innovative Scouting program that has been running in the ACT since 2015. So far we have run several Astronomy programs in partnership with Mount Stromlo Observatory, a Chemistry program in collaboration with the ANU School of Chemistry; a SciScouts: Environment program; and have just received another major grant to run SciScouts: Engineering over 12 month period from May 2018-May 2019.

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# FROM THE CHIEF

By Rick Goode



Welcome back to what has already been a full year of Scouting. This year's theme across all Scout Branches in Australia is 'the Adventure Begins'. The aim is to reinforce the reasons why we know Scouting to be so valuable in the development of our youth. It aims at supporting the 'Youth lead, Adult supported' ethos that Scouting internationally has taken up. Each Scout Group will shortly receive both information and resources that help them focus on the way forward.

It was particularly pleasing for everybody who knows David Cossart to see his invaluable and long-time contribution to Scouting recognised in the Australia Day honours list with an AOM. Congratulations David, very well deserved!

The year started with a large contingent of 89 Venturers, Leaders and Activity Leader travelling to SE Queensland to participate in the fun of AV2018. The participation of the Contingent was unique among all other contingents as it was organised solely by the Venturers themselves. Several other Branches commented favourably on this and have sought details about how they can do the same at future events. Even though the weather was hot and steamy they all enjoyed themselves and returned with stories that they will never forget. I was particularly taken with the expedition to Herron Island led by our own John Pring. He is now planning a trip to Vanuatu as their next diving expedition.

One of the lead-up activities to AJ2019 is the annual Summer Camp for Scouts. As usual, this year the event was held in January at Camp Cottermouth and attracted a full complement of Scouts and Leaders with a varying degree of camping skills. By the end of the camp all were confident of their abilities in both camping and getting along with each other. I look forward to seeing another large contingent of ACT Scouts making their way to South Australia for AJ2019 and hope to join them, at least for a part of the adventure. Congratulations to Michael Still and his team of helpers in running another memorable Summer Camp.

I was privileged to be asked to sit in on the first read through of this year's Gang Show script. The Gang have surpassed themselves in both a theme and the links between it and the songs and storyline. The rest will remain a secret until opening night but I know it will be a great show – as usual!

It has been a great start to the year and the prospects of Scouting continuing along that line are excellent. Enjoy the rest of summer Scouting – whether you be sailing, kayaking, diving, ballooning, canyoning, abseiling, bushwalking etc

A reminder that the ACT Branch will be holding a gathering of Scouter's on the anniversary of his birthday, Thursday, 22 February starting at 5.30 pm at Camp Cottermouth. Feel free to come along, bring your supper and catch up with your Scouting friends.

# BRANCH OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome back to another exciting year of Scouting! Now is the best time to start preparing for the year ahead and booking in some essential dates like training, section meetings, events etc. All of these can be found on our Branch Calendar on this link,

<https://www.scoutsact.com.au/bhq-calendar-2.html>

## **New process for WWVP cards:**

Access Canberra has now moved to an online application system for all new and renewal applications. More information is available at: <https://form.act.gov.au/smartforms/landing.htm?formCode=1318>. If any members have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the Branch Office.

## **Scout email accounts:**

All Scout Groups have been sent their generic Scout Group email accounts through their Group Leader. If you have any questions regarding your Scout email then please contact your Group Leader or the Branch Office on [do@scoutsact.com.au](mailto:do@scoutsact.com.au)

## **New process for in house emails to pending members:**

We will now be emailing our adult supporters directly (and copying in their Scouting manager) in regards to their outstanding requirements i.e. WWVP card, e-learning etc. With regards to new Leaders, the emails will go directly to their Scouting manager only.

# NEW YOUTH PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

By Brent Juratowitch, Assistant Chief Commissioner, Business Change



The implementation of the new Program is continuing apace. The Pioneer Group trainers attended a training weekend in Bacchus Marsh, Victoria just prior to Christmas and we have now received digital copies of the draft Program handbooks, record books, Program Essentials, Outdoor Adventure Skills and Special Interest Area guides.

The other major development since the last newsletter is that the Chief Commissioners have asked for better data on how the current trial of the Program in Victoria is progressing. They would like this data before moving to the Pioneers Stage. As with all major change management projects it is essential that you not only 'plan' and 'do' but you also need to 'review' progress and identify and agree on what changes need to be made. This is the purpose of having a 'Groundbreakers' trial before we implement with our 'Pioneer Groups'.

We had scheduled starting the Pioneer groups at the beginning of second term. This meant conducting our training of leaders and youth during February/March. Realistically the review will add a minimum of about six weeks to the process which means we will not be getting our 'Pioneer' resources until April at the earliest. Not wanting to rush the implementation or switch Sections over mid-term, this means that we are now looking at the beginning of third term to start Pioneer trials here in the ACT.

However this doesn't mean that we should stop our preparations. 2018 will see the introduction of the Adventure Begins Program across every Group in the ACT. The Program has six elements:

1. Plan>Do>Review;
2. SPICES;
3. The Scout Method;
4. Community Involvement;
5. Promise and Law; and
6. Youth Leading, Adults Supporting

These are all essential for a successful implementation of the new Program. So make sure that your Unit councils are aware of them and they get online to access the resources. In the meantime your Pioneer Trainers will be visiting soon to introduce themselves and starting to help your preparations.

If you have any questions about the new Program drop me an email at [accbc@scoutsact.com.au](mailto:accbc@scoutsact.com.au) and I will respond as soon as I can.

# SUMMER CAMP 2018

By Rob Fredericksen, Assistant Chief Commissioner, Regions



## A Great Disappointment

Well, only for me, as it is the first one I have missed. From all the reports I have seen it was a great success, Michael Still and the organising committee are to be congratulated on putting together a wonderful event. The facebook posts of Archery and Water activities, Camping and Pioneering showed the enjoyment of the event.

## Lessons to be learned

Every event we run as Scouts and Leaders presents us opportunities to learn and get better. "Plan-Do-Review". This one is no different and across Scouting in the ACT from individual Troops through Groups and at Branch level, if it has not been done already, I would encourage you to put your reviews in place, it will mean a better outcome for your next event.

## WWVP

I'm told we were again visited by the people from the Office of Regulatory Service, they seem to come to all our major events, but they could come to minor ones as well. So we need to be prepared.

All members of scouting in the ACT over the age of 16 are required to have a WWVP card and to have it available at all times and I stress AVAILABLE. That does not mean having it on a lanyard around your neck or gaffa taped to your arm, but it means having it on site with you and reasonably accessible should the Inspectors call.

## AJ2019

Although Summer Camp is not a prerequisite for attendance at Jamboree ( which is less than 12 months away now) it does give our Scouts a taste of what is to come and an opportunity get their camping nights in. It also give the Jamboree Contingent team a gauge of what we might expect in terms of numbers attending and we are hoping for a large contingent..

## Wrap SC2018

So at the end of the Summer Camp 2018, it is not only Michael and his team that need to be congratulated, but everyone who put in so much to make this a success, Troop and Line leaders, Activity Leaders, Parents, Rovers and Venturers and especially the Scouts who enjoyed it.



# BETHUNGRA ROVER CREW REUNION

By Bethungra Rover Crew

To celebrate 100 Years of Roving, the current Bethungra Rover Crew would like to invite past Bethungra Rover Crew members to a dinner at the Birrale Scout Hall on :

14th April 2018

From 6:00pm

The cost is \$30 pp

BYO drinks

Dress: current uniform or scarf if no longer in Scouting

Birrale Scout Troops - Gungaharra & Girriwah will be cooking and serving a 2 course dinner. (this will be a fundraiser for their Jamboree).

Please RSVP and pay by going to: <https://www.trybooking.com/UAKG>

If you have any photos of the past activities from the crew it would be great if you could get them to us so that we can have a slide show of them on the night.

Any correspondence please contact: [bethungrarovers.reunion@gmail.com](mailto:bethungrarovers.reunion@gmail.com)

Feel free to distribute to other past members that may be interested in the event.



# SCISCOUTS: ENGINEERING HERE WE COME!

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SciScouts: Engineering will be brought to you by Scouts ACT's SciScouts team, supported by the ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science and Engineers Australia! We are fortunate to have received funding support via an Australian Government Inspiring Australia Maker Project (Stream B) grant.

Some upcoming fun for 2018:

Joey Scout Imagineering Challenge  
Term 2: Sunday 20 May 2018  
Melrose High School - Hall and Science Centre  
Engineering fun for Joey Scouts

Engineering Extravaganza  
Term 3: Sunday 19 August 2018  
Melrose High School - Hall and Science Centre  
Engineering games for Cubs, Scouts and Venturers

Series of ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science outreach workshops  
Camp Cottermouth, ACT  
Dates TBC

Purchase of Solar Buddy solar kits  
Various  
Dates TBC

For further information visit <http://www.scoutsact.com.au/sciscouts.html>