



Scouts in ACTION

Australian Capital Territory Branch

February 2016



100 Years of Cub Scouts and We Are Celebrating!

Australia was one of the very first countries to start 'Wolf Cubs' as they were then known 100 years ago. While Australia has Packs recorded from as early as 1914, the worldwide centenary will be officially celebrated in 2016 as The Wolf Cub's Handbook was first published by Lord Baden-Powell in December 1916. (continue on page 2)

From the Chief



Welcome back to another year of great Scouting in the ACT and beyond. I wonder what you have planned this year? Of course you have lots of activities in mind at Group, Region and Branch level – but for what purpose? I can hear murmurs of, "to deliver the Scout program of course" and "to join in the big activities that we can't run in our Group".

Some time ago our Branch set out 6 strategic objectives which are, I think, overdue for review. Here they are:

- Program delivery improvement
- Well trained and supported adults in Scouting
- Optimised ACT Branch organisation and administration
- Improved Communication
- Safe and respected youth and adults in Scouting
- Community-connected Scouting

Our strategy teams worked hard to share these and to get everyone to aim to work towards their completion. My challenge to you is threefold: have we made any progress, is there any evidence that supports this and should this list be changed in any way? Please send your replies to Tyron at development.officer@act.scouts.asn.au In the meantime let's think big about what we want to achieve for our young people. May 2016 bring you and your team enjoyment, fun and excitement!

(continuation from page 1)

All Australian Scout Groups are being encouraged to hold a campfire on the 30th of July as part of the celebrations. Be sure to keep an eye out for the ACT Branch event in the middle of the year. (more details will be released shortly).

The Cub Centenary website (www.cubs100.com) will be the focus for information and events happening around Australia. It will also have photos and information from Cub Scouts from the past 100 years. If you have a photo you can add to our online collection contact nat.commpublishing@scouts.com.au.

Tell Your Story

We want Cubs and former Cubs to tell us your Cub Scout story. What was the best time you've ever had at Cubs? What can you remember? Share your story today.

Join the Party

If you are having a Cub Scout party, an open day, a bring-a-friend day or are holding a display, why not advertise it on cub100.com. We'll be promoting cub100.com as a place where people can find out about their local Cub Scout Groups.

Australia Zoo Competition



Australia Zoo are helping us celebrate by giving away a family Platinum Zoo Adventure Package! This prize also includes return flights from within Australia, transfers and two nights accommodation at Oaks Oasis on the Sunshine Coast. This amazing holiday includes a full day of extreme VIP treatment! You will experience exclusive behind the scenes animal encounters, your own personal Australia Zoo guide, your own personal photographer and an awesome VIP gift pack. Enjoy morning tea, afternoon tea and lunch overlooking crocodiles and koalas set amongst lush green surroundings. Visit the Cub100 website for more details.

Celebrating 100 years of Cub Scouts

#CUB100



Get involved and share your CUB 100 pictures #CUB100

Click with Cubs

Show the world how your local community supports Cub Scouts. Take a pic of you / your Cub Scouts celebrating the Centenary (any Section can take part but please make sure you have their parent's permission), upload it on Facebook and tag it #Cub100. If you know someone famous who was a Cub Scout, maybe they will click with you too!

Scouts Reunited

Scouts Reunited was set up for the Scout Centenary in 2007, so they have had nearly 10 years of former Australian Scouts registering their details to connect with former Scouting friends. Check it out, and see if you can find someone from your Scouting past at Scouts Reunited.



CHIEF COMMISSIONER SCOUTS AUSTRALIA ACT BRANCH

The Scout Association of Australia is seeking applications for the position of Chief Commissioner of the Scouts Australia ACT Branch.

A commitment to the Aim and Principles of Scouting is essential and some familiarity with the organisation is seen as highly desirable, but is not essential. The ability to develop the ACT Branch as an exemplar of the Scouting Movement in the 21st century is seen as critically important.

This position will be an exciting challenge for a person with proven leadership and management skills, and with enthusiasm for and commitment to the development of young people. Younger people are encouraged to apply.

The successful applicant for this voluntary position will commence their term of office in July 2016. The initial appointment is a three-year term. The key reward for this position will be personal satisfaction and enjoyment, though a contribution towards certain expenses may be paid where necessary to assist a suitable applicant to undertake the role. The role will require a significant commitment of time but is consistent with full time employment. The position is based in the ACT.

Selection Criteria will be forwarded upon request and any enquiries regarding the position should be made to the ACT Branch President, Mr Leo Farrelly, 0430 581 672 or by email: president@act.scouts.asn.au

Detailed written applications addressing the selection criteria should be sent, by Monday 29th February 2016, to:

Mr Leo Farrelly
Scouts Australia ACT Branch President
89 Kitchener Street
GARRAN ACT 2605

Or by email: president@act.scouts.asn.au

A Parent's View of Cub Scouting

by Julian Thompson

The Mt Mugga Cubs are a loud lot, the pack meetings certainly aren't quiet studious affairs! The kids seem to have boundless energy and Cubs is a great way for them to express themselves, loudly, and learn about the world and people around them. The leaders Raksha, Rama and Kaa ensure each meeting is filled with fun games, great stories and jokes. I'd always thought Scouts were a pretty dour lot – I found out how wrong I was when I volunteered as a parent helper a couple of years ago.

The kids love the camps the most, with activities like abseiling, kayaking and roasting marshmallows predictably high on their list of favourites. Unusually, some of them have told me they love helping cooking the meals on camp, and a few even offer to help with 'parent' duties like cleaning up and washing. I suppose the Scouts message of helping out and doing your best actually rubs off on some more than others!

Our recent Saddle Camp at Braidwood (hosted by the ever-cheerful and helpful Rob and Helen) was a great example of the Cubs enjoying a camp out, fun & games, horse riding and some cultural and environment related activities and of course, some marshmallow roasting. Watching them all making spears and throwing boomerangs during the indigenous cultural program was really interesting. They were learning persistence, patience and craftsmanship. They also absorbed information about aboriginal cultural practices, and learnt some history – all in a really fun environment with great indigenous program leaders Noel and Trish. The kids really enjoyed it, and it was great to see them away from the distractions of screens and technology. Instead they created things with their hands and minds.



As a parent helper, I love watching the kids have fun whilst learning and developing a sense of responsibility through Cubs. I also develop my skills, particularly learning more patience and forbearance, and cooking/catering skills for 30 hungry kids! I am constantly amazed at the energy and ideas that the leaders bring to the pack and their unwavering calmness and kindness. The effort they put into Cubs is amazing, and as a parent helper I get to put a little bit back by way of thanks. I also enjoy Rama's campfire stories as much as the kids – so I'll be packing my tent for the next Cub camp for that reason alone!

Harmony Day 2016 Badge



Is your Scout Group or Section is interested in earning this years Harmony Day badge?

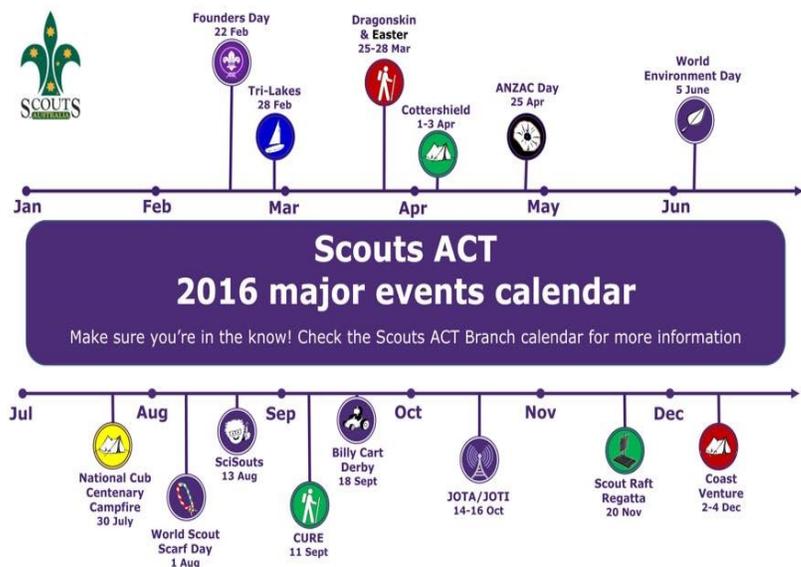
Harmony Day is on 21 March and celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. It is a day for all Australians to embrace cultural diversity and to share what we have in common. The central message for Harmony Day is that 'everyone belongs', reinforcing the importance of inclusiveness to all Australians.

Please visit their [website](#) for more information and put your order for badges in to [Branch office](#) by the 17th of February. Badges cost \$2 each.

2016 Events

Stay up to date with the latest events by visiting the [Branch Calendar](#) or the Section calendars in the [Members Area](#). You can also download the Scouts ACT app and have all the events, forms and contacts at your finger tips. Here are only a handful of events that you should put in your diaries now.

On 22 February from 5.30pm-7.30pm we are having a Founders Day picnic underneath the big tree at Camp Cottermouth. Bring your picnic meal, drinks and stories of Scouting as we celebrate BP's birthday. All welcome.



Scouts in ACTION and the Australian Scout Magazine deadlines

Would you like your Scout Group or event to be in the next issue of Scouts in ACTION or the Australian Scout Magazine? If so, please send your write up to development.officer@act.scouts.asn.au by the 15th of each month for the Australian Scout Magazine (minimum 1 page and high quality photos) and the 25th of each month for Scouts in ACTION (maximum 1 page with photos).