



# Scouts in ACTION

Australian Capital Territory Branch

May 2015



Youth Members



Scout Leaders



Group Leaders



Contact list



ScoutsIT



Register Training



Calendar website



Calendar feeds



Extranet

## Scouts ACT app – download it now!

The Scouts ACT app is a central place where you can conveniently find all the different websites, forms and things you need to help run your Section meetings and your Scout Group. Its intended use is only for Scout members and parents and not the general public. You will need an access code to gain entry to the app. The access code is the same code that you first used to gain entry into the Members Area (if you can't remember then give Tyron Ahern a call on (02) 6282 5211 or send him an email, [development.officer@act.scouts.asn.au](mailto:development.officer@act.scouts.asn.au))

The Scouts ACT app is now available for you to download on Android and Apple on both your mobile phone and your tablet. This nifty little app will let you fill in and sign forms online, register for training courses, give you access to Scouts ACT's contacts list, view the latest messages on ScoutsIT, view calendars, take part in our monthly survey and much more.

To find the app on iTunes or Google Play just search for Scouts Australia ACT Branch or follow the links below.

Android:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.kbf.app4299370>

Apple:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/scouts-australia-act-branch/id953668423?mt=8>

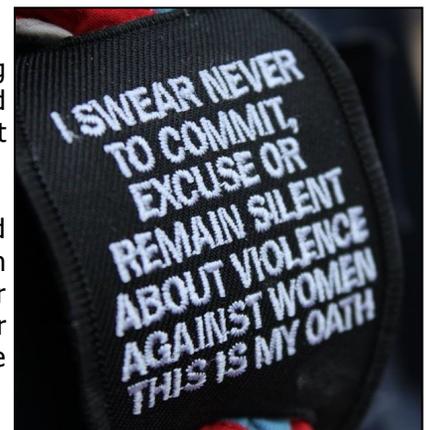
## From the Chief



On 24 November last year, the ACT Branch Venturer Council (BVC) held a BBQ in support of the White Ribbon Campaign. The White Ribbon Campaign provides an opportunity to focus discussions about violence, specifically that which is committed by men towards women. As part of the BVC initiative, Venturers, Rovers and Leaders (including members of our Branch Executive Committee) had an opportunity to take the White Ribbon oath and receive a special commemorative woggle with the words of the oath inscribed on the front. This year, the BVC, led by Vice Chair Nicholas Hall, has expressed keen interest to expand this program to all branches in Australia. In due course, further information will be advertised detailing how you might become involved should you wish to do so.

The ACT BVC feel it is important that members of Scouts Australia and young people generally, take an active role in understanding this significant issue and feel empowered to speak up against the increasing levels of violence against women in the community.

I wholeheartedly endorse the attitude and actions of the BVC in this regard and encourage you all to consider how you might support this campaign. Although the focus of this topic is largely directed towards our older youth and all our adult members, the BVC have been exploring ways in which our younger members might be involved at an age appropriate level. Again, I commend the BVC for their enthusiasm and community focus.



## ANZAC Sleepover

By Fiona (Rikki) McKinnon, Cub Leader at Well Station Scout Group and Coordinator for the ANZAC Sleepover

This year's ANZAC Sleep over event at Campbell High School Hall was awesome! With record attendance, the whole process was smooth and this is directly attributable to all who participated. The youth were responsive to leaders, and they even got some sleep, and the leaders were considerate to youth in chatting but doing so quietly! Thank you.

A special One, Two, Three, Woof to Doug (Lake Tugg) and Kathryn (Macarthur) for the activity of the Rising Suns for everyone.

A huge BRAVOOOOO to Storky and his team from Crowajingalong for feeding us so well and so efficiently, especially adding the 150 or so extras for breakfast.

Congratulations to the new Gold Boomerang recipient, and the newly invested leaders at Macarthur and to the Gold Boomerang recipient at Duntroon-Campbell.

We are privileged to be able to use the hall at Campbell High School. Everyone respected the space, and I trust we will be able to return next year.

Thank you to the Venturer team for the use of their electronic banking system. The event provided an opportunity for the team to learn how to up-skill themselves on the Xero system and matters of electronic banking.

The two Groups from Sydney came and went like ghosts in the night!

There was some gear left behind and is available at Branch Office for you to collect. :

Drink bottles: clear plastic, black lid AVANTI Yiocgos: blue plastic whit lid AVEX: clear plastic blue lid/handle  
KATHMANDU: white with blue/green geometric shape pattern, not plastic, name of LOWAN on the bottom

Cup white melamine with flowers on the side

1 blue cloth Scout hat size XS/S cord broken

1 singlet, grey, back writing Fish & Ships MAMBO

1 black, size 10, long sleeved top

Once again, thank you for all the fantastic leadership our leaders provided to the kids, and for taking that extra step in showing them it is easy to have a safe and a good time!



## Scouts ACT- Reach for the Stars update – more badges!

By Kate Lehane, Communications Officer, Les Explorateurs Scout Group

It was very exciting to announce the *Scouts ACT - Reach for the Stars* Scouts astronomy night at Mount Stromlo Observatory on **Saturday 15 August** during National Science Week in last month's Scouts in ACTION.

Registrations were going so well that with fantastic interest from across the ACT region, and as far as Wollongong, Melbourne and Adelaide; that we were left with a wonderful dilemma that our initial run of 500 limited edition Reach for the Stars badges wasn't going to go far enough. The over 700 registrations so far includes 30% of the total Scouts ACT membership population.

Lucky for us, the ACT National Science Week Committee was so impressed with the Scouting participation shown so far for this event that they have provided some additional funding so we will now be able to purchase more badges. We will now be able to provide badges for the first 1,000 Scouts Australia members who register and attend.



This event is free and open to all Scouts Australia (ACT Branch) members and their families. So where are you going to be on Saturday 15 August?

**Register now via: [scouts-act-reach-for-the-stars.eventbrite.com.au](https://scouts-act-reach-for-the-stars.eventbrite.com.au)**

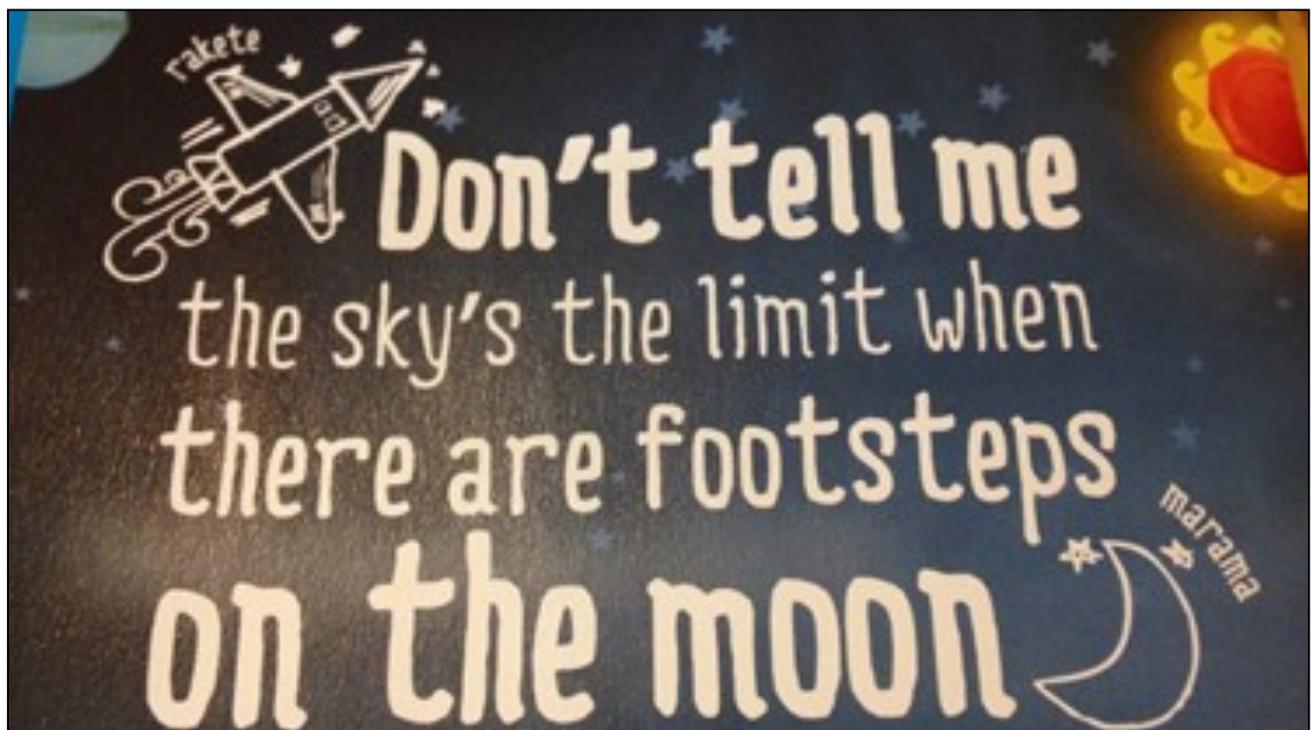
Don't forget supervising Adults and Leaders need to register too! Leaders – don't forget that supporting program materials for Joeys, Cubs and Scouts are also being developed to help you deliver supplementary sessions during regular weekly sessions in Term 3. There will also be some tips and tricks included for Venturers on how you can weave this event into the Pursuits section of your award scheme program.

### For more information:

W: [explorateurs.org.au/special-programs/reach-for-the-stars](https://explorateurs.org.au/special-programs/reach-for-the-stars)

FB: [facebook.com.au/LesExplorateursScouts](https://facebook.com.au/LesExplorateursScouts)

M: 0413 482 123



## Diving Weekends

By John Pring, SASACT Team Leader, Adventurous Activities Team

Have you ever reached Monday and thought, what did I do with the weekend and felt that the answer was not much? This perhaps doesn't happen as much with Scouting people but here is an idea that you might like to throw into the mix.

It is a hard life for those of us involved with Scouts ACT scuba diving. The last month or so has seen Sub Aqua Scouts (ACT) (SASACT) undertake a number of diving activities. This has included diving with Australian/New Zealand Fur Seals off Montague Island and doing a live aboard weekend on MV Oceantrek.

The advice we had from the locals was when diving with seals was "play with them, act crazy, and they will respond". They certainly did.

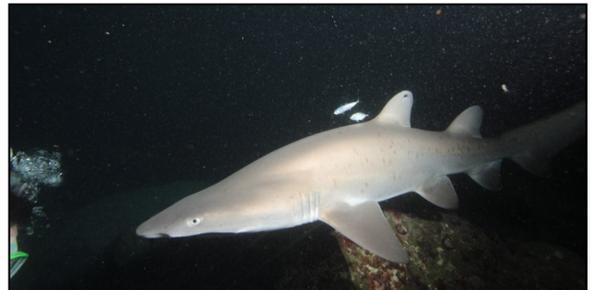
Diving with the seals was like enjoying the company of playful large dogs only under water. They would come cavorting up to the divers and idle past, often upside down, before zooming off only to come back for another look. They seemed to be enjoying our company as much as the divers did theirs.

We have also been and stayed on a "live aboard" boat on Jervis Bay. Fourteen of us journeyed down from Canberra to Huskisson to join the boat for the weekend. While the sea conditions stopped us from venturing too far out of the bay there was still plenty to see and do.

We met a couple of the local inhabitants, pictured below (photos by Jon Billett) , and had some great dives. It was a new experience for most of us not having to travel to the dive site in cars but just rolling off the boat after breakfast.

As well as these guys we saw lots of different type of fish, a pod of dolphins, and a number of octopus.

If anyone is interested in learning to dive or, if you are already qualified, joining us for the next activity please let me know. Our next Open Water course (basic) is 15-17 May, please email us on [scuba@act.scouts.asn.au](mailto:scuba@act.scouts.asn.au)



## Bush Walk with Joeys and Cubs

By Elizabeth Gillon (7 years), Echo Mob - Birralee Scout Group



As I walked out of my dad's truck I saw the Joey Leaders, Cub Leaders and the Joeys and Cubs. My equipment was my head lamp, first aid, gloves they were all in my day pack. We were going on a night hike at Mulligan's flat. I got teamed up with Chiara. She was my Cub buddy.

As the hike started I could all ready see some kangaroos, because it was a bit dark the kangaroos eyes looked creepy, so Chiara and I ran ahead. At that time I had wondered about how far we had walked.

Then Jemalong stopped because she saw a frog. Then there were Joeys with their buddies looking at the frog. On the way to the top of the hill we saw spiders and beetles. When we got to the top of the hill we read facts about the Golden Sun Moth. It is an endangered animal.

I had a lot of fun on the bush walk with the Cubs Scouts and the Joeys. Thank you for organising the hike!

## A very special investiture

By Martine Pekarsky, Cub Leader, Air Scouts Canberra

After discovering this iconic Canberra event last year, we wouldn't have missed this year's Balloon Spectacular for the world! The Yoda balloon from Belgium was the star attraction, and with 5 new Cubs to invest, we approached the ACT Scouts Balloon Team to ask if they could help us out by setting the scene for a very unique investiture - in the basket of their hot air balloon. With the burners going off during the ceremony it was super exciting! The pictures below tell the wonderful story of our unforgettable morning.

