



Scouts in ACTION

Australian Capital Territory Branch

December 2013

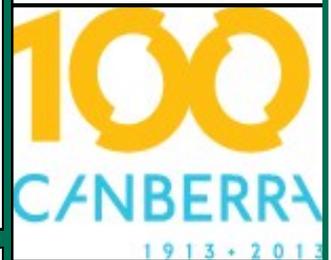
YOUTH PROGRAM REVIEW (YPR)

To remain attractive in a rapidly changing and evolving world, Scouts Australia is regularly reviewing the program provided to its youth members. For many years they have cycled through a review of each section of Scouting to ensure its relevance but it has been 40 years since we have reflected on our whole program from 6 – 25 years of age.



This is a challenging and exciting adventure that must engage the opinions of both Scouting and the wider community. Scouts Australia would like YOU to get involved! Surveys and other communication systems are being set up so you can make a contribution and stay informed. For more information visit www.ypr.scouts.com.au or email yp.review@scouts.com.au

1800 SCOUTS
scoutsact.com.au



From the Chief



At the National level much has been done to respond and contribute to the work of the Royal Commission into the Sexual Abuse of Children. Territory and State Branches have worked together to align Scouting Child Protection policies with those of Scouts Australia. We now require all members of Scouts ACT to hold or have applied for a current Working With Vulnerable People card. We reinforce in our Leader training the importance of respecting and caring for young people.

As 2013 draws to a close the number of Scouting activities seems to be increasing – December is the time of our Grand Queen Scout and Baden Powell Awards presentation and a Scout Medallion presentation. We have seen stage 1 of the Office refurbishments completed and very soon we hope the completion of the Joe Coppin Climbing Tower. What have been your Scouting highlights this year? Why not let Tyron know and send him a picture or two if you have it (development.officer@act.scouts.asn.au)

My wish for you this Christmas is that it is a time of refreshment and peace – you will need it to be prepared for the new and exciting adventures planned for 2014. The WA Moot, the NZ Jamboree and of course our Under Construction ACT Cuboree – and that is not all of January taken up. Thank you for the difference you make in Scouting generally and in the lives of our youth members in particular.



Air Scouts 50th birthday

By Keith Jobson, Leader in Charge, Air Scouts Canberra

Under a sky that luckily threatened more rain than it delivered, Air Scouts Canberra celebrated two key events in Latrobe Park in Deakin on Sunday 24th November 2013.

Former and current members of the Group and their families celebrated the 50th anniversary of the opening of their hall by the Governor General, Lord De Lisle in November 1963. It was also the 10th anniversary of the re-naming of the Group from Latrobe Park Scout Group. The park was buzzing with food and drink stalls, displays, music, water rockets, paper aircraft, pet rock painting, campfire cooking and adventure activities. Air Scouts Canberra was well-supported with a fly past by the Canberra Aero Club, aviation displays by Canberra Model Aircraft Club and Rotary, both running the bbq and show-casing its active support to "ShelterBox" who provide instant relief to those in need after natural and manmade disasters delivering boxes of aid. Each box supplies an extended family of up to 10 people with a tent and essential equipment to use while they are displaced or homeless. It costs \$1,000 to sponsor a box. See www.shelterboxaustralia.com.au

Another key feature of the day was a pictorial slide show showing the Group's Scouting heritage, projected in the hall throughout the afternoon. The Group was first formed as 2nd Canberra in 1925 and originally met in a hut in Braddon. It was privileged to be visited by Lord Baden Powell on a visit to Canberra in 1931. The connection with Baden Powell continued when his cousin's son, Dacre Smyth became a leader with the Group. Dacre's father had been given a walking stick previously presented to Baden Powell by Scouts from the Solomon Islands. The Group remains custodians of the Baden Powell walking stick which was on display.

The Group moved to its new hall in Latrobe Park in 1963. It had been built with funds raised by bottle drives in the days before recycling. Bill Andrews was a bottle collector who in 1987 returned as a Cub Scout Leader. He was present at the Park Party sizzling sausages on the half of the Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin. In 1978 the Group merged with 1st Yarralumla to form Latrobe Park Scout Group, a name which it held until 2003 when the theme of Air Scouts was adopted under the leadership of George Wilson. Today Air Scouts Canberra is still going strong with good numbers in Venturers, Scouts, Cubs and Joeys. More details of the Party and the Group's other activities can be found at www.airscouts.com.au



Our Shelterbox

By Orla Gray, Oxley Troop, Lake Tuggeranong SS

Jamboree was fantastic and mentioning it still brings a smile to lots of faces. And through ShelterBox, we hope to continue to bring smiles to many more. While we were having mega fun at Jamboree in January we came across the Rotary tent. We had to investigate everything including their big green box.

The guys from Rotary had a big tent set up (we thought it would be great for scouts) and the contents of a green box displayed. We asked about what these were and this was our first introduction to ShelterBox.

The ShelterBoxes contain everything that a family would need to be able to survive if everything they owned has been destroyed or taken away by some terrible disaster such as tsunami, fire, flood, earthquake, conflict or volcano. ShelterBoxes can be sent anywhere in the world a where a disaster occurs. We'd seen pictures of people homeless after the tsunami, we'd heard so much about Queenslanders losing everything in the floods and all the destruction in Haiti and Japan. Here was an opportunity for us as a small scout group to make a difference for a family.



The box includes a tent that can fit up to 10 people and is designed to withstand extreme temperatures, high winds and heavy rainfall, a children's activity pack, blankets, thermals and insulated ground sheets, a basic tool kit for every situation, cooking equipment, utensils and a stove. These boxes are specially made to be adaptable to any situation. We thought that these were a great idea and we wanted to contribute.

Fortunately we have a pretty fantastic Troop and they were pretty keen to help out. It cost \$1000 to buy a box, and we knew that we couldn't afford to pay for a ShelterBox through our Scout Group and decided to do some fundraising (as Scouts we are professionals at sausage sizzles). We organised to set up a BBQ at Pickles car auctions every month. We have 4 patrols and each patrol contributed as a group. We held three BBQ's at Pickles, which started us on our way to getting the \$1000 that we needed to buy the box. Fortunately for us the whole country had to come out to vote in the national election and we had our last BBQ outside Old Parliament House which was a very popular polling place. We had a constant queue of people all day and we raised the last of the money!

The 25 of October 2013, was an especially exciting day for Oxley Troop, as we proudly handed over a cheque of \$1000. We had a representative from ShelterBox and several local Rotary members, plus the ACT Scout Commissioner and LTSS Group leader present for the occasion. Oxley Troop are well on their way to being the most amazing people in the universe... oh wait, they already are!!!!!!!!!!!!

Each big green box has its own tracking number. ShelterBox will send us the number of our box and we will be able to track our box and know where it ends up. We do not wish for disasters to happen, but when it does we look forward to knowing that we will bring a smile to a family's face somewhere in the world.



Branch Camp 2013

By Adrian L, Louveteau – Les Explorateurs Scout Group

From the 18th of October to the 20th of October, we went to Camp Cottermouth for the Canberra 100 Branch Camp 2013. There were over 700 people there.

There were Joeys, Cubs and Scouts from the LX Group. We camped and shared our food with the Wells Station Scout Group. I made some new friends with some of their Cubs. Some of the activities I tried at the Branch Camp were flying fox, high-rope, going up in a hot air balloon and a few other things. It was awesome and my favourite activity was high-rope.

I can't wait until Cuboree!!!

Helicopter flight night

Air Scouts Canberra

The cubs and joey scouts recently went to see a helicopter to find out how it worked and get a closer look at one of these amazing machines. Imagine their surprise when the pilot kindly offered to take each of the for a short joy flight. Their excitement and smile were impossible to quell. Each group of three cubs made their way to the helicopter and were seated, buckled and then with a roar and blast of dust and wind they were gone only to return a few minutes later ready to swap with the next group.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Scouts ACT!

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

Would you like your Group / event to be in the next issue of Scouts in ACTION? It's so simple! Contact Tyron at Branch Office on (02) 6282 5211 or email development.officer@act.scouts.asn.au and we will add your