



Scouts in ACTION

Australian Capital Territory Branch

November 2012



Congratulations to our 2012 Queens Scout and Baden Powell Awardees



In recognition of our Awardees there will be a Queen's Scout and Baden Powell Scout Awards Dinner on 19th November at Canberra Southern Cross Club. The cost of the evening is \$55 for adults and \$40 for students and pensioners. For more information visit the website, call Branch Office or contact Ben Kelly.

The Queen's Scout Award is the second highest youth award achievable in the Scouting movement, and covers four main areas - Leadership Development, Personal Growth, Outdoor Activities and Community Involvement. Congratulations to Lachlan Main (Macarthur Scout Group), Louise Blessington (Lake Burley Griffin Sea Scout Group in 2007), Jess Jago (Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scout Group), Zach Forostenko (Kama Scout Group) and Charlie Milne (Majura Mountain Scout Group).

The Baden-Powell Scout Award (BPSA), or B-P Award, is the highest youth award achievable in the Scouting movement. Members have to work on self planning and managing pre-requisite methods to achieve this award. Rovers equip themselves with a range of skills and new learnings from traditional Scouting bush craft to developing themselves spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, socially and physically. Congratulations to Evan Long (Erindale Rover Crew), Rebecca Nixon (Blue Water Rover Crew), James Tyrrell (Lake Burley Griffin Rover Crew) & Megan Donahue (Murrumbidgee Rover Crew).

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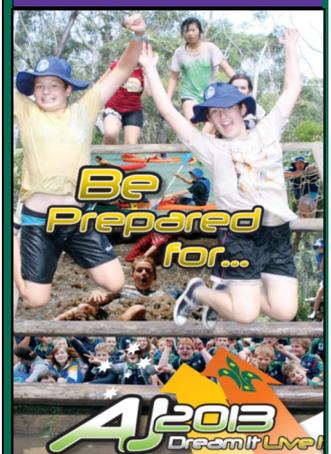
From the Chief



It's been a great month for awards! I congratulate Matthew Court, Birralee Venturer Unit Treasurer for his successful nomination for a Young Endeavour Scholarship. The Young Endeavour Youth Scheme, in partnership with the Royal Australian Navy, provides young Australians aged 16-23 with a unique, challenging and inspirational experience at sea aboard the national sail training ship STS *Young Endeavour*. Matthew, who says he has had a fascination with tall ships since he was 9, hopes to further extend his leadership and navigation skills and meet new people. Matthew is a very worthy recipient of this award having been successful in a field of very high achieving competitors.

We were successful in winning the (ACTCOSS) ACT Council of Social Services Inc. Embracing Change Award. This award recognises an organisation that has seen the need to change aspects of their service delivery and is walking the walk on the way to change. We were given this award in recognition of our implementation of the Xero financial system which has not only proved a real benefit for Groups but will make our end of year financial returns easier and cheaper! Thanks must go to our Executive Officer Castaly Lombe and Branch Treasurer Ricky Wilson for their passion and dedication. All groups are encouraged to sign on asap.

Another recognition came to Scouts ACT with the granting of the Promotions Prevention and Early Intervention Award which recognises excellence and/or innovation in programs, projects or initiatives that have focussed efforts on mental health promotion, prevention of mental ill-health or early intervention activities. This award given by the ACT Government includes a sum of \$500 which we can apply to the further provision of our mental health courses. Thanks to the energy, enthusiasm and foresight of Margaret Hancocks, we are leaders in this field in Scouting. Well done everyone!





Branch Cub Scout Camp 2012

The theme for Branch Cub Scout Camp 2012 was reading and story telling, this fits in well because it is also the National Year of Reading. The Camp was happily named "Imagine a Yarn".

One of the activities at the camp was for all of the cubs (all 260 of them from 19 packs) to write a story, each Cub contributed one sentence to the story. The story has a lot of imagination and you can download the full version from the Scouts ACT website, look on the Cubs web page.

Another activity some of the Cubs did in their spare time was to walk the tight rope and to think creatively. Each Cub attempted the challenge of getting to the other side. Some made it a few meters before succumbing to gravity. One Cub realised that there was no set rules to get across on the rope and became creative using a stick to aid her across the rope. She was the first to cross successfully. Once the cub realised that the challenge was to use their brains to get across there was a mad rush to get sticks and other items to help each across. Most walked the tight rope successfully.



Agoonoree In the Wild 2012

By Carla Howden, Assistant Commissioner for Special Needs



On the 28th of September six contingents from the ACT attended the Agoonoree in The Wild. It was a weekend filled with many activities, friends and special memories. On the Saturday we did a number of activity bases like making slim, water rockets, blind rope bush trail, tie dying, sensory activity, face painting and we even made our own masks for the fancy dress disco and a scavenger hunt later on that evening.

On Sunday we started the morning off with a Scouts Own at the bush chapel, then we headed off to the Australian Walkabout Wildlife Park near Gosford. We all had a fantastic time. The keepers brought down a number of animals for us to meet and touch. We were able to pat a koala, blue tongue lizard, dingo, diamond snake, a bilby, a turtle and we saw a bat but we couldn't touch her because she was pregnant. We had our face painted just like the aborigines and we learnt how to make bush soup by using wattle leaves. That evening we sat around the campfire, sang songs and did skits

Monday was our last day. We had Agoonoree Olympics where one of our youth members Cameron Donovan had the honour of carrying the Olympic torch. Some of the activities were gum boot throwing, discus, frog jump, limbo and a number of other bases. In total there were 50 adults and 35 youth members who attended and an additional 13 youth members and carers who came to visit on the Saturday.

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? Its so simple, contact Tyron at Branch Office on (02) 6282 5211 or email development.officer@act.scouts.asn.au and we will add your story to the next newsletter.