



Scouts in ACTION

Australian Capital Territory Branch

April 2012

Are you Australia's most outstanding Scout?



The Asia-Pacific Region of the World Scout Bureau is searching for candidates aged 15 to 20 for the 5th APR Award for Outstanding Scouts. The main purpose of the event is to enhance the image and visibility of Scouting as an educational movement, and to emphasise its effectiveness in the development of young people at home, in school, and in communities.

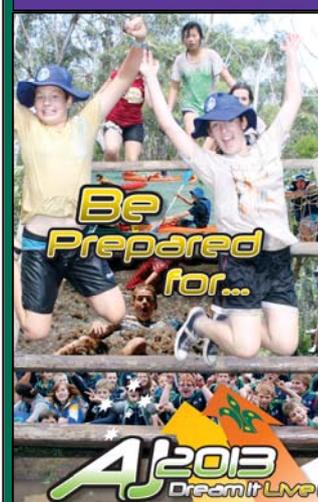
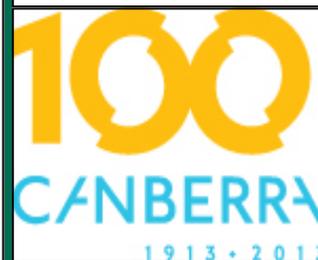
This award is granted once every 3 years to a Scout who demonstrates a sound knowledge of Scouting fundamentals and active in the development and promotion of the Scout movement within their local and wider communities.

If you are shortlisted as a finalist, Scouts Australia will provide a 100% scholarship to attend the Regional Scout Conference in Bangladesh for the final interviews and presentation of the awards.

For more information check out the national website, scouts.com.au

1800 SCOUTS

act.scouts.asn.au



From the Chief



This month is full of holidays – Easter and ANZAC day – not forgetting School holidays! During this time, Venturers and Rovers will be running activities at Dragonskin and our Branch Team will be hosting and helping with our traditional ANZAC Day sleepover, Dawn Service and the March.

In the midst of this busy time maybe we might have a thought for our fellow Scouts in neighbouring countries who are not so lucky and do not have all the things we take for granted – like hot and cold water, electricity, books, food and transport or even holidays. You might have noticed that there is a box on the counter outside the Branch Office collecting stationery (particularly pencils and exercise books) as well as beanies and belts (of any kind) to be taken across to Scouts in Timor Leste.

There are several other projects on the go to give a helping hand. People in the Solomon Islands and Lom Bok in Indonesia are just two communities being targeted by members of Scouts ACT. When more details become available I will let you know how you might help – with resources and/or encouragement for those involved.

In the meantime, have a think about how we can create a better world for those around us. Surely what we can do is only limited by our imagination.

Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scouts take to the water



After two solid years of fund raising, Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scouts launched a new fleet of sailing boats in February. The boats have replaced a dilapidated group of boats that were decades old and spent more time in repair than on the water. The six new boats are named after different awards in Scouting representing the breadth of membership. ACT Member of the Legislative Assembly, Joy Burch, christened one of the boats, the "Grey Wolf". The ACT Chief Commissioner, Peter Harris christened the "BP" in honour of the highest award youth members can achieve in Scouting, Peter Quiggin from the Arthur Shakespeare Foundation was on hand to christen the "Queen Scout" just one of the boats that they assisted in purchasing. The remaining boats were christened "Medallion", "Challenge" and "Boomerang" by the youngest and oldest youth members of LTSS, and a LTSS Leader.

The Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scouts is Canberra's largest group with some 125 members with a large number of members and families showing their support and celebrating the launch. The rain had threatened to interrupt festivities on the day, but cleared to make a great day of sailing after the formal launch. In addition to fundraising by parents, the purchase of the boats was assisted by a grant of \$12,500 from the Arthur Shakespeare Foundation. Group Leader Michelle Taylor says "the work that has gone into raising funds has been exhausting but well worth it in the end. This will give our youth members the best opportunity to challenge themselves, learn new skills and get outdoors".

The new boats are light and maneuverable, making them ideal for young Scouts to gain confidence on the water. "Seeing these young people out on the lake and handling these new boats so well, is inspiring and is encouraging other to try sailing", she said. The boats have been recently put through their paces and trialed in competitive racing, helping secure podium positions for Lake Tuggeranong already. Peter Harris, Chief Commissioner of Scouting in the ACT says "these boats will open new doors to youth members and will help them build confidence, a love for the outdoors and build character."

(Photo caption: Left to Right: ACT Scout Chief Commissioner Peter Harris; MLA Joy Burch; and Arthur Shakespeare Foundation Trustee Peter Quiggin)

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for new adventure!



Scouts Australia (ACT Branch)



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.