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Scouts in ACTION

Australian Capital Territory Branch

June 2011

New Scout Group in Canberra - Les Explorateurs



Above: Fiona Mckinnon, Gerade Lalande, Carolyn Minchin, Peter Harris and Darren Kriticos. The first ever French speaking Scout Group in the ACT, the Les Explorateurs Scouts opened its doors on Thursday the 5th of May with lots of interest from the local French speaking communities. The group will be doing an Australian Scout program in French so they can utilise their language and cultures. The group meets at the Turner Scout Hall on Thursdays from 18h30 to 20h00.

From the Chief



Lots of international news this month from Salute to Les Explorateurs to G'Day to the World Secretary General of Scouting. Not forgetting the chance we have to help our Scouting friends in Dili.

Back on the home front recently 45 of our Venturers returned from Dragon-skin in the Bendora State Forest over the Easter long weekend. Max McDonnell and I visited the camp on the Saturday and discovered some tired but happy Venturers completing some very interesting activities – quite a few of which were run by our own Rovers! A fantastic effort all round.

I invite each Group to start collecting information about their meeting place street – or even the street that they live in. All the information will be placed on a data base and added to over the next 12 months as part of the preparations for Canberra's centenary in 2013. There is talk of a series of street parties and other celebrations that sound like lots of fun. Of course, some of your efforts could be counted towards our award scheme and maybe even another special badge. More details to come.

Speaking of special badges, the National rules allow us to wear one special event badge at a time on our uniform. For some of us it will be the special 30 Year Anniversary badge (\$2 from the Branch Office profits going to Scouts Japan). Others have chosen to wear their 2011 Gang Show badge. All special event badges are current for 3 months after the activity.

You might have also heard that Gang Show this year is a mystery. It's true but you will have to see it to find out more. I think it will be so spectacular that you won't take it in straight away and will need to go at least twice to appreciate the ins and outs twists and turns (and jokes) that make up this entirely home written very talented show. Tickets are being sold on their website, www.canberragangshow.com.au so please book early.

Visit by World Secretary General

We are very excited that the Secretary General of World Scouting, Luc Panissod, will be coming to Canberra in late June. Luc heads the World Organisation for Scouting, the largest youth development organisation in the world with some 32 million members across 128 countries.



ACT Scouts and The Arthur Shakespeare Foundation for Scouting, will be hosting a gala Dinner for our World Secretary General on Monday night 20 June. The event will start at 7.15pm for 7.30pm Monday 20 June, at the Canberra Southern Cross Club, Woden.

It will be a night of top entertainment, including an interstate military Band and the ACT Scouts Youth Band, as well as other very special surprises which will not be revealed until the night! Already there is considerable interest from Leaders and youth members from Sydney and Melbourne who want to join us for the event.

Venturers and Rovers are especially invited to attend this event. Scouts accompanied by their parent(s) are also most welcome. We are offering a subsidised price of \$40 per head for youth members not in full time employment. This is incredibly good value for a 3 course meal and a night of top entertainment. This concessional price is also offered to Leaders with a Centrelink concession card. The normal price for adults is \$85 per head which includes the 3 course meal, quality wines throughout the evening and top entertainment.

A table of 10 is available at the concessional rate of \$765 - that is 10 tickets available for the price of 9 - so talk with your friends and form a table to qualify for this 10% discount. Family and friends are most welcome to join. For more information please call Wendy on (02) 6282 5211 or email functions@act.scouts.asn.au

'It is better to give, than to receive'

Dollars
for
Dili



Timor Leste is the world's newest sovereign nation and Australia's nearest neighbour. As a developing country and with over 50% of the population being under 15 years of age, Timor Leste has significant challenges.

Scouts Australia has taken on the task of re-establishing Scouting in Timor Leste as part of the wider community efforts to assist young people, male and female to gain a basic education, including life skills, enhancing their self-esteem, confidence and resilience. Scouting in Australia is very pleased to have the support and partnership of the ACT Government through the Centenary of Canberra "Dollars for Dili" program as well as Rotary International.

Your support in donating to this project will greatly benefit the young people of Timor Leste. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible - receipt for tax purposes will be provided.

Donations may be made as follows:

By Phone: Scouts Australia, National Office on 02 9413 1133 or going on to the national website, www.scouts.com.au/dili_donate.asp