



# SCOUTS IN ACTION

Australian Capital Territory

## ACT TRAINING TEAM CONFERENCE

By Peter Stevenson, ACC Adult Training & Development



The ACT Training Team Conference was held over the last weekend in February. The conference is for Training Team members and a range of others who influence, assist, or provide training to related activities and services within the ACT. This includes those responsible for the youth program, the YPR implementation, youth development, and Rovers. We were joined by the National Commissioner for Adult Training and Development, Elston Hynd, who also presented on a range of items. There were a variety of presenters and activities, including related to the WOSM development goals, YPR and its relationship to future training requirements, Adventurous Activities and related YPR and training, Basic Outdoors Skills packaging and training, SAIT and VET information, and a workshop on developing the curriculum for future Leader of Adults training as one part of a national exercise. A big thank you to all participants for your presence, engagement, and contribution through the weekend.

# FROM THE CHIEF

By Rick Goode



February has been another exciting Scouting month. The Branch Executive Committee (BEC) elected Mark Holmes as our President until the next AGCM in May. Mark brings extensive experience and an undivided commitment to supporting Scouting in the ACT. He has been the Deputy of BEC for some time now.

It has also been a month of sadness and reflection following the passing of our great Scouting colleague Ross McConnell. He will be missed and the ACT Branch passes on our condolences to his family.

It was great to see those members of Scouting (Les Explorateurs, Macarthur Cubs and ACT Rovers) who were heavily involved in fundraising for the Nara Peace Bell involved in the unveiling ceremony. A most moving event and hopefully it will have a lasting impact nationally. There is a link between the unveiling of the Peace Bell and the small gathering at Camp Cottermouth to celebrate Founder's Day. This link is the pursuit of peace and understanding – something that both events brought into focus for those that attended.

I was privileged to be asked to speak briefly at the Training Team Conference about the opportunities that Scouting faces going forward – issues such as the implementation of the outcomes of the Youth Program Review, sustainability of Scouting and facing the community in the face of the report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Abuse and participation in the National Redress Scheme. These are the issues that keep me awake at night, however I know that we have members in our Branch with the needed experience and dedication to help us face these.

Some of you will have reached the 3 year period of your online modules in Child Protection and WHS and I encourage you to complete them as soon as you can and not to wait until the last day. I have noted some great nominations for Scouting Adult Recognition Awards and look forward to getting the recommendations for support from the Human Endeavour Recognition Committee and handing out Awards in August.

Enjoy your Scouting!

# BRANCH OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 1.1 Scout Email accounts

By now your Scout Group or team would have received their Scout email account details. Email accounts have been set up in a standard format as "section.scoutgroup@scoutsact.com.au" i.e. "cubs.duntrooncampbell@scoutsact.com.au". Activities and teams have their activity as their email address i.e. "archery@scoutsact.com.au" and is managed by the Commissioner or Scouting Manager. Commissioners sometimes have very long titles, so to keep it simple some of their email accounts are abbreviations of their titles i.e. Assistant Chief Commissioner for Adult Training and Development is "accatd@scoutsact.com.au"

## 1.2 Shared email accounts vs single user email accounts

Section leaders share an email account i.e. Cub Leaders at Duntroon Campbell will share "cubs.duntrooncampbell@scoutsact.com.au". This enables all of that Scout Groups section Leaders to see incoming emails from parents and all will have access to important information like consent forms etc. This also gives full transparency of emails coming in and out of that section and makes it easier to search for past information. There are however times when information needs to be kept private like financial matters and disputes. These are managed by someone with a single user email account like the Treasurer or Group Leader.

## 1.3 Benefits for Scout Groups using a Branch email account

One of the biggest benefits is information retention! Over the years we have encountered many Scout Groups that have relied on someone to manage their email lists, document storage, spreadsheets etc and when they change roles or leave the movement, so does the information that they were managing. By using a Branch email account, information stays with the Scout Group or role and does not move on. This makes it easier for new leaders to access information like past term programs and search for past information. Another great (and related) reason is back up of information. The Branch Office has its GSuite backed up on an external server so we can restore files or emails if they are accidentally deleted. Branch email accounts also look more professional than a free email account i.e. "@hotmail.com" VS. "@scoutsact.com.au" and there are internal distribution lists that Leaders and Commissioners can access and use

## 1.4 Last but not least

The Branch email accounts are not mandatory for Scout Groups to use and was created as a resource for your Scout Group. If you have any questions or suggestions on how it can be improved, then please contact our Development Officer on [do@scoutsact.com.au](mailto:do@scoutsact.com.au) or call 6282 5211.