



Scouts in ACTION

Australian Capital Territory Branch

August 2014

Lombok Project 2014

By Emily Ackroyd, Venturer with Lake Ginninderra Sea Scouts



We are Venturers from the Lake Ginninderra Sea Scouts (LGSS) and we are doing a community age task called, the Lombok Project. It is a really worthwhile project and consists of only a small number of youth members.

We will be travelling to a island called Lombok (based in Indonesia) where we will participate in improving the facilities and wellbeing of the community. LGSS have successfully run this project for three years and every time it has been a great success for the people of Lombok and a great experience for our youth members.

The projects that we plan to complete during this trip include, the *Coral Project*- we will work with the local communities and repair the coral reef. This will be completed by us putting together coral cages to help encourage coral growth in the area. The *Turtle Project*- we plan to help release the baby turtles out into the ocean by protecting them from predators while they make their ways out to sea. The *Orphan Project*- in the past we have provided money and supplies to assist the orphans in getting to school and having an education for their future. We plan to do this again as it is also a great way to interact with the kids.



We will be commencing the Lombok project in September, our youth members have been working very hard to make this expedition possible and we hope that you can join in by seeing our regular updates. You can visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LombokProject> and our website at <http://www.lombokproject.com/> to follow our progress.

From the Chief



National Youth Program Review: Nationally, we are well into the Youth Program Review of the Joey, Cub, Scout and Venturer Sections. Teams all over Australia are researching important issues connected with the redesigning of our youth program. You might ask, "Why redesign our program? What is wrong with it? Some of you might remember the "Design for Tomorrow" review that happened in the 70's – that was the last time we had a multi-section review. Tinkering has been done with most section programs (apart from the major Rover review recently).

The review that is being undertaken now is long overdue. It is focussing on developing one seamless program that young people can opt into at any time – and hopefully stay longer. I have recently attended an exciting National meeting at which representatives from Ireland and Canada shared their recent youth program review work. Both countries have developed a youth focussed approach – even to the extent of calling youth the Leaders and the leaders Scouters! Scouts Ireland are now in their 4th year of their review and Canada is almost ready to start their implementation.

For us, this review provides the opportunity to re-examine the relevance of Scouting in our society and to raise its priority in the lives of our members – and to have so much more fun and youth involvement.

Have a look at the YPR website at <http://ypr.scouts.com.au/> and you will see the big questions being asked and the interest and involvement that the YPR teams across Australia are generating. It is truly exciting!

Scouts in Action month - August 2014

Each year Scouts are asked to adopt an issue during August for 'Scouts in Action Week'. For 2014 we have taken on a bigger and gutsier topic that has a significant impact across our communities – bullying – and created 'Scouts in Action Month, Breaking the Cycle'. Bullying is not a part of Scouting'. We need to do our bit to educate, build awareness and establish systems that minimise bullying in Scouting.

Every Mob, Pack, Troop, Unit, Crew and Group is asked to engage in some of the prepared materials on the Scouts in Action Month website during the month of August. (<http://www.scoutsinactionmonth.com/Programs-and-Activities.html>)

This is the first step for Scouts in Australia is to say, 'we are making a difference to the lives of our youth members by minimising the impact of bullying'. Imagine the difference we can make to our communities if all of our 65,000 members were skilled in dealing with the behaviours that lead to bullying. That's why 'Scouts in Action Month' is just the beginning of a whole new anti bullying program for Scouts Australia.

"Trust should be the basis for all our moral training. The most worth-while thing is to try to put happiness into the lives of others." Robert Baden-Powel

Register Today at www.scoutsinactionmonth.com; for further information visit www.breakingthecycle.scouts.com.au. Participation badges can be ordered on the website and worn as an event badge on uniforms.

All of our work is being supported by a new partnership with the Alannah & Madeline Foundation whose mission is simply keeping children safe from violence. Check out their work and resources at www.amf.org.au

McHappy Day 2014 - Saturday 18th of October

Last year McHappy Day raised over \$3 million for Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC), and Scouts Australia also had a record number of Scouts take part in raising funds. In 2013 a total of 196 Scout Groups and 5398 members participated in McHappy Day. This year we are once again asking Scout Groups to assist young McDonald's staff in collecting money for RMHC at McDonald's in Canberra on McHappy Day. 100% of the money raised on McHappy Day goes to RMHC, so our members can feel good about helping seriously ill kids... and it's also a great way for your Group to talk about Scouting with families in your local community.

The programs of Ronald McDonald House Charities touch one in eight people in Australia. Each family has a different story but with one important thing in common – they all have seriously ill children and face traumatic times. Most of the Scout Groups who participated in McHappy Day last year found it a highly 'worthwhile' event. The Groups also highlighted that the advantage of their participation in McHappy Day was that the event allowed them to:

- Demonstrate the Scout Promise and Law of Helping Other People
- Help Youth Members appreciate the importance of giving service to the community, especially helping other kids
- Contribute back to RMHC, an organisation which had helped many of the Youth Members and their friends when they were sick
- Work towards Award Scheme badges
- Create awareness of Scouting in the community with possible recruitment opportunities
- Develop bonds between the Scout Group and the local McDonald's store
- Create a fun and positive experience for those members involved.
- Encourage quieter members of the Scout Group to become more confident and sociable.



If you would like to get your Group involved in this years McHappy Day their please contact Tyron Ahern the McHappy Day Branch Coordinator on development.officer@act.scouts.asn.au and register your interest in taking part before the 7th of September 2014. Please let him know: Your Scout Group, the name, phone number and email address of your Group's nominated contact person, nominate three McDonald's restaurants your Group would like to attend OR the date and nature of the independent fundraising event you wish to conduct and estimate the total numbers of leaders and youth that will participate.



We Helped Other People: 2009 - 2014

By Timothy Kirsopp, Cub Leader at LGSS and Draco Scout Fellowship

I am sure many of you are aware of the Draco Scout Fellowship already, many of you have experienced our nightly programs and taken part in our annual events (such as the Badge-o-Rama and The Great Carpathalon). But for those who don't know us we are the Draco Scout Fellowship, a group of ex-Rovers (mostly leaders) who get together in Canberra and strive to provide service to the Scouting community locally, nationally and internationally above and beyond that of 'normal' Section Leaders. One of the biggest programs we run is the "I Helped Other People" program. This has now been running for 6 years.



In 2009 some of the worst bushfires in history hit Victoria. 173 people died and a massive amount of property was destroyed. Draco decided that we had to help. It was time for us to stand up and live up to our promise to "help other people". So we launched our first "I Helped Other People" badge to raise money to help Scout Groups regroup and rebuild. The sale of this badge raised around \$3,000.

In 2011, Queensland suffered a terrible series of floods and it was time for the "I Helped Other People" badge to come out again. With a new design and a bit of experience under our belts we sold the badges across Australia and achieved our first international sales to Scout Groups in England and Saudi Arabia. This time we raised over \$6,000 which was passed to Queensland branch through the ACT Chief Commissioner's Disaster Relief Fund.



Then early last year we became involved in the Dollars for Dilli campaign and decided that it was time to once again bring out the "I Helped Other People" badge, but this time we had a slightly different focus. Rather than just raise money to send to a cause, we realised that more could be done by making people aware of Scouting in Timor Leste and how important it is to their developing communities. With this in mind we came up with the idea of a travelling program. One that could go to as many different groups as we could fit in, sell the badge and do a series of activities (at appropriate age levels) to make our Scouters aware. So we trialled our first program with the French speaking Cub pack, Les Explorateurs and it was a hit. The Cubs responded really well to it, we had great reviews from the leaders, we sold a bunch of badges and the kids really enjoyed bringing along school supplies for us to donate to the cause. So, with some minor adjustments we took the program on the road.



Since we started in mid 2013 we have completed over 29 programs at every level of Scouting. Our junior program (Joeys and Cubs) starts with a quick game of north, south, east, west to develop a common language (and tire the kids out). Then the Cubs/Joeys were broken into small groups (usually 3 or 4) given a world map (and in the case of Joeys, an Adult Helper) and asked to identify the location of Canberra and Timor Leste. It is always interesting to see where they put Timor Leste. Usually it ends up somewhere near Norway (it's actually slightly north of Darwin.) Then we create Scout airways. With Scouts being so short of funds we don't have the money for a runway, wings, engines, cabin or cabin service. The Cubs or Joeys pack in closely together and create the plane from their bodies. The lights go out and our 'virtual' plane takes us there. From there we show them a powerpoint with a bit of history of Timor Leste, some photos of people and places over there (thank you Neville Tomkins and Wendy Freeman) and some general information and stories about Scouting in Timor Leste, all ages love the story about the patrol of Timor Leste Scouts that came to Australia for the Queensland Jamboree. The senior program (Scouts, Venturers and Rovers) is slightly different and gets them to work out the cost of living in Canberra and then to work on a budget of \$5 a day (the average daily budget for a well-off Timor Leste family) to see how they would go budgeting living expenses in Timor Leste.

So far we have managed to send to Timor Leste, through our International Commissioner, 1229 lead pencils, 165 beanies, 1026 exercise books, 58 glue sticks, 108 erasers, 66 pencil sharpeners, 38 highlighters, 37 rulers, 13 pencil cases, 1300 coloured pencils, 530 pens, 30 scissors, 8 baby suits, 3 calculators and 22 World Scout Flags. We have also sold nearly 1,000 badges. It is a terrific program and we are planning on continuing it as long as people want us to come and deliver it to their groups. We even have a banner, which you may or may not have seen growing on Facebook, which records (through group tapes) the groups which have participated. One day we hope that the banner will be full and we will have a record of every group who stood up and lived up to their promise to "help other people".

If you would like to find out more about the program or purchase a badge please do not hesitate to email us at dracofellowship@yahoo.com.au or 'like' Draco Scout Fellowship on [Facebook](#).

Canberra Gang Show 2014

By Phil Oldfield, Gangshow Producer

Did you see Gang Show this year? Well if you didn't you missed a great show. The show called 'Bean & Gone' played to near capacity audience for its last three performances and received four encores. There were many compliments and praise about how great the show was. The show played host to several local politician and local business people as guests of the Chief Commissioner and amongst them was Gai Brodtmann MP, Federal Member for Canberra. Of course the Bendigo Bank Piggy made appearances during the two matinees and was very popular with our young audience members. We are grateful to Bendigo Community Bank for their support over the last three years and hope that their support for the Show will continue into the future as we head towards our 50th Show.

The Director for Gang Show 2015/2016 was announced by the Chief Commissioner at the recent Gang After Show Party and congratulation goes to Katrina Nash (a Guide Leader) on her appointment. We all look forward to working with Katrina over the next two years and seeing what magic she brings to the show. She will of course be supported by a vibrant and energetic Production Team. More details of the team will be announced shortly.

Evan Long, the Director for the last three years has agreed to accept the role of Assistant Producer. This will allow Evan to round off his Gang Show experience and to pass on the knowledge he has gained over many years in the show to the up and coming production team.

The Gang runs on similar lines to a Scout Troop and we run a competition for the best patrols. This year the 'Cast Rehearsal Patrol Shield' was won by Brutus Patrol and the overall best gang patrol, the 'Premier Patrol Shield' was awarded to Prospero Patrol (Welfare/Security and Front of House). Congratulation to both Patrols. A big thank you from the Management Team to everyone for their involvement and dedication this year. It was a great year and we hope that everyone comes back next year to make 2015 the best year for Canberra Gang Show yet.

Floriade Gang Show 2014! - You may have heard the whispers around the theatre... Floriade Gang Show is back for 2014! We'll be putting on a 30 minute performance at Stage 88 for the community and all our family and friends to enjoy. Applications will be opening soon. We will be performing between 10am – 10:30am on Saturday 13 September 2014. Stay tuned for further details on how you can register to be part of Floriade Gang Show 2014.



Pictured is Gai and some of the cast in the 'Green Room' after the show

Congratulations to this years Adult Recognition Awardees!

Special Service Award	JUSTIN	BILLING	Group President	Lake Ginninderra Sea Scout Group
	JENNY	CONNOR	Parent Helper	Badimara Scout Group
	THOMAS	DOWSLEY	Scout Leader	Lake Ginninderra Sea Scout Group
	STEPHEN	EVANS	Committee Member	Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scout Group
	ISABELLE	FAVRE	Group Registrar and Alpine Leader	Lake Burley Griffin Sea Scout Group
	MARK	GODDARD	Cub Scout Leader	Duntroon-Campbell Scout Group
	IAIN	GOULD	Communications Officer	Lake Ginninderra Sea Scout Group
	IAN	HARRIS	Supporter	ACT Branch
	MEGAN	HAYES	Assistant Scout Leader	Erindale Scout Group
	ALISON	INGLIS	Scout Leader	Majura Mountain Scouts
	CATHERINE	KENNEDY	Parent Helper	Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scout Group
	IAN	KENNEDY	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scout Group
	DARREN	KRITICOS	Group Leader	Les Explorateurs Scout Group
	TANIA	KRITICOS	Parent Helper	Les Explorateurs Scout Group
	MELISSA	LANGERMAN	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scout Group
	PETER	LEZAICH	Joey Scout Leader	Badimara Scout Group
	ROGER	MACONACHIE	Parent Helper	Badimara Scout Group
	YVETTE	MACONACHIE	Committee Member	Badimara Scout Group
	PAULINE	MOULE	Committee Member	Erindale Scout Group
	KATHRYN	SHEAN	Committee Member	Macarthur Scout Group
MARCUS	STOKES	Treasurer	Badimara Scout Group	
JEREMY	WILSON	Scout Leader	Mulga Scout Group	
Meritorious Service Award	CHRIS	BACCHUS	Joey Scout Leader	Majura Mountain Scouts
	JEREMY	CASHMAN	Assistant Venturer Scout Leader	Kama Scout Group
	MATTHEW	CONNOR	Parent Helper	Badimara Scout Group
	ANTHONY	COURT	Quartermaster	Birrilee Scout Group
	ANDREW	COWARD	Parent Helper	Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scout Group
	LYNN	HART	Group Treasurer and Parent Helper	Lanyon Valley Scout Group
	DOUGLAS	JACKSON	Cub Scout Leader	Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scout Group
	PAUL	O'GRADY	Assistant Scout Leader	Lake Ginninderra Sea Scout Group
	GRAEME	PIKE	ACT Branch	Amaroo and Well Station Scout Group
	IVAN	SANDERS	Scout Leader	Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scout Group
	RICHARD	SURKUS	Assistant Crew Leader	Murrumbidgee Rover Crew
	PETER	THOMPSON	Assistant Scout Leader	Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scout Group
	CATHY	WATSON	Committee Member	13th Canberra Scout Group
	GREGORY	HEALY	Scout Leader	Wanniassa Scout Group
Silver Wattle	LUKE	LOWES	Group Leader	Mulga Scout Group
	SHARON	SOBEY	Joey Scout Leader	Lake Ginninderra Sea Scout Group
	OLGA	SWEENEY	Assistant Scout Leader	Wanniassa Scout Group
	JILLIAN	TARRANT	Assistant Scout Leader	Oaks Estate Scout Group
	SAMANTHA	WANGANEEN	Cub Scout Leader	ACT Branch
	ROSEMARY	HAYES	Group Leader	Erindale Scout Group
	RODNEY	ROBERTS	Activity Leader Alpine	ACT Branch
	WILLIAM	SANDERS	Activity Leader Alpine	ACT Branch
Silver Koala	PETER	BROWN	Scout Leader	13th Canberra Scout Group
	ALAN	MURRAY	Scout Leader	Erindale Scout Group
	LEO	FARRELLY	President	ACT Branch
Silver Emu				