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ANNUAL REPORT TO THE NATION 2013

SCOUTS AUSTRALIA

Member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement

# CONTENTS

*This report covers the period 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013.*



Message from the Chief Commissioner	1
National Chairman's Report	5
Highlights 2012-2013	7
What is Scouting?	26
Mission	26
Aim	26
Principles	26
Methods	26
The Scouting Sections	26
Scout Promise	27
Scout Law	27
Scouts Australia Management	28
National Council	29
National Executive Committee	29
Officer of the Committee	29
Awards	30
Thank you	32



In this, the 53rd National Annual Report, it is pleasing to advise that our Leader numbers continue to grow, and at 14 113 are at the highest level since 2005. What's exciting is the 9% increase in Line Leaders over the past 12 months. Some of this growth may have been due to the lead up to the Australian Scout Jamboree (AJ2013) held at Maryborough, Queensland in January 2013; but in any case, it positions us well for further growth.

As expected in a Jamboree year, our Scout numbers increased significantly to 19 250, the highest since 2003. Also as expected, our Cub Scout numbers dropped by a similar amount, due to the focus on the Jamboree and the early going up of Cubs to Scouts, so they could attend the Jamboree. Overall, our total youth numbers grew slightly to 51 768.

It's pleasing to note that we are holding at around 52 000 youth members, without significant expenditure on advertising, as we direct our available funds to strengthen our Leader skills through improved training and better program resources. The National Operations Committee has a clear focus on improving retention, which in turn will not only grow the Movement, but provide more opportunity to achieve our mission.

delivery of the Youth Program. Accreditation documentation was also integrated and embedded in the all of the applicable modules. The former action was to align training to conform with the World Scout Bureau's latest education policy; while the latter, was to enable Leaders undertaking Basic or Advanced Training to download and print appropriate pages from their e-Learning modules, presenting them as evidence for the award of their Certificate III or Certificate IV qualifications in leadership and/or business. Although many of our older Leaders don't appreciate the value of obtaining these VET qualifications, in addition to their Woggle or Wood Badge, an increasing number of our younger Leaders are realising its significance. The nine South Australian Rover Scouts I observed at Woodhouse undertaking their Wood Badge Training in late 2012

# Message from the Chief Commissioner



Reg Williams RFD

It was great to see our Rover Scout numbers steady at around 2600 for the second year in a row. While not yet a trend, it's significantly above the Sectional low point of five years ago. This is a strong indicator that the recent Rover Scout Sectional Review and the work to increase pathways for Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts, is having a positive impact.

## Adults In Scouting

I'm delighted to report that our e-Learning based Leader Training program continues to grow in both quality and quantity and has become the cornerstone for our improvement in the delivery of the Youth Program. A total of \$137 000 was invested in developing 16 new training modules in 2012/13 with a further \$112 000 committed next year.

Our Leaders have been impressed by the design and ease of operation of the e-Learning program with one Leader making the following comment to her Training team:

*Just thought I would make a comment on how excellent the training modules are. I wasn't looking forward to completing all of this but I find the e-Learning to be highly effective, well targeted and useful. The technology and user interface are great and all the PDF downloads are really good. As a Leader I have often turned things into electronic forms for ease of use and having access to many of these in a pre-made electronic format is like finding treasure. I have taken part in a number of e-Learning systems including Blackboard and find myself admiring the design of the Scouts Australia modules. Well done guys.*

During the past year many of the existing e-Learning modules were updated to reflect recent changes to the manner in which we use Areas of Personal Growth (AoPG) in the

certainly did. They were very aware of the value of the Certificate IV in leadership and were very appreciative of the opportunity to undertake it in a Scouting environment, at practically no cost.

Significant process has also been achieved in developing and mapping units of the nationally accredited Outdoor Recreation package (SIS10) to meet our Adventurous Activity requirements for canoeing, kayaking, caving, bushwalking and abseiling. As a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) we are authorised to deliver this package; and by adopting the Outdoor Recreation Package as our standard, we not only meet community expectations, but our Adventurous Activities Leaders will have qualifications which are transportable across State borders and apply both within Scouting and externally.

Many of our Senior Activity Leaders have already been upgraded with Assessor qualifications in Outdoor Recreation, in preparation for the drive to double the number of Activity Leaders supporting the Youth Program over the next two years. Phil Harrison, Deputy Principal – Adventurous Activity, SAIT, took the initiative during AJ2013 to provide on-the-job training and assessment for Leaders involved in the conduct of abseiling and flying fox activities, to qualify them in the

practical components of their respective activities. Phil had already been involved in a similar exercise in the boating/yachting area and is actively supporting Branch Activity Leaders in seeking out opportunities to qualify/requalify Leaders during the delivery of Youth Program or Leader Training activities and hence reduce the requirement for special training/courses.

Planning is well underway for the conduct of a National Adventurous Activity School for over 200 youth and Leaders at Cataract Park and the Blue Mountains in January 2014. The focus will be on canoeing/kayaking and bushwalking/abseiling with the aim to qualify Leaders and Rover Scouts as Activity Guides in those disciplines. The secondary aim is to qualify participating Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts in Certificate II in Outdoor Recreation. This will provide them with a sound base, from which to build to Guide or higher Certificate level during the following year or two.

With the retirement of Paul Parkinson, after two terms as National Commissioner, Adult Training and Development (NCATD), in November 2012; and recognising the huge and growing workload in the Adult Development area, I took the opportunity to strengthen the SAIT team by adding two Deputy Principals: one to support e-Learning and RTO

## Youth Program

The highlight of the Youth Program portfolio was undoubtedly the resounding success of the 2013 Australian Jamboree held in Maryborough, Queensland. The people of Maryborough watched in amazement as this Jamboree city of 11 360 participants, including 335 personnel, grew from a concept to reality in four years. Scouts were impressed by the support from the local community; and the community was just as impressed by the model behaviour of the visiting Scouts and their Leaders. Chief Director, Pieter Van Der Kamp and his organising team deserve special mention: they not only delivered an outstanding program for the 8387 Scouts attending but they delivered within budget, on a community owned site some 300 kilometres from home base. Thank you to the AJ2013 Organising Committee,



accreditation; and the other, to support the Adventurous Activity area. I was pleased that Paul Parkinson was able to continue on the e-Learning journey by accepting the post of Deputy Principal (Academic) responsible for e-Learning, and was further pleased when Phil Harrison, a very experienced Scout and professional Outdoor Recreation Trainer, accepted the Adventurous Activity role.

Paul has done an outstanding job as NCATD over his six year tenure, not only as our Senior Trainer but also as an active member of both the National and International teams, frequently visiting Branches and nearby National Scout Organisations, as a Consultant or Training Specialist. His recent election as a member of the Asia-Pacific Region (APR) Scout Committee is testimony to the high regard in which he is held within the Region. My special thanks go to him and his very capable assistant Robyn Teufel, for the manner in which they have managed the Training and Development portfolio for the past six years.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Elston Hynd from the New South Wales (NSW) Branch as our new NCATD. Elston has been a Leader in Scouting for over 30 years and a member of the National Training Team for over 25 years. Prior to taking up his new appointment, Elston was the Deputy Chief Commissioner for Strategy & Human Resources in Scouts NSW. This role saw him play a key role in the development of NSW Branch Strategic Plan and he was the driving force behind a number of support portfolios at a Branch Level. I have no doubt Elston will add tremendous value as our new NCATD and we look forward to seeing him implement the National Strategic vision of Scouts Australia, for 'Scouting to be seen as the pre-eminent youth organisation in Australia,' even further.

Queensland Branch Executive and Jamboree teams. They have clearly demonstrated how to plan and execute a major event, setting the bar very high for Branches conducting future events.

In parallel with AJ2013, we had 534 Venturer Scouts and their Leaders on expedition in quite different climatic conditions, in the South Island of New Zealand. After pre-tour excursions in the North Island, the Australian Venturer Scouts headed to Queenstown in the South Island. There, they entertained themselves in activities like white water rafting, paragliding, parasailing, jet boating and luge, before being transported to the campsite at Riverton Racecourse to marry up with the New Zealanders for the 12th New Zealand Venture. Participants then spent the next nine days rotating through a series of expeditions ranging from hiking, scuba diving, survival, through to paint ball, live DJ's and cinema. This was the largest Contingent that Scouts Australia has ever raised to attend an overseas event. Special mention needs to go to Gary Steinhardt, the Contingent Leader, whose preparatory work and outstanding marketing efforts gained this record number.

Three years ago John Parr (a Queensland Group Leader) suggested that we run a National activity to promote Emergency First Aid training for youth members. From this initial idea, Scouts in Action Week was born. Last

year we covered Disability Awareness and this year, International Scouting. The programs were developed by John's small specialist team and placed on a website for access via the internet. Participants were rewarded by the issue of a special badge.

During the 2012 Scouts in Action Week program, 30 419 members of Scouting participated in a variety of International activities. This included 700 overseas participants from ten other National Scout Organisations and more than 1000 members from Guides Australia. Over the three years of operation, the Scouts in Action Week program has involved 100 000 members, demonstrating that well designed youth activities can be successfully delivered via the internet.

Congratulations to John Parr and his supporters at the Gumdale Scout Group. They should be proud of their contribution to National Scouting.

The Rover Review Implementation under the Guidance of National Rover Adviser, Leah Bach, is progressing well, with completion of most of the recommendations emanating from the Review. The team has redesigned the Baden-Powell Scout Award and presented a proposal to the National Operations Committee for approval. The new



Award is more aligned to normal Rover Scout operations and only provides one pathway with the addition of an intermediate St George Award. Its logical Award achievement process, with activities well within the scope of the average Rover Scout, has already received positive feedback from Rover Scouts and Advisers, who have been briefed on the proposal. Implementation is expected to commence in January 2014 with a launch at the Western Australia Moot (WAM).

John Clarke, National Commissioner, Youth Program, has been working steadily on building the capability of Scout Central to provide a useful program source for Leaders and to find a better way of linking the various Sectional Programs, particularly with regard to leadership development and Areas of Personal Growth, appropriate to the age range. He has created a National Program Committee, mainly consisting of Deputy or Assistant Chief Commissioners responsible for the Youth Program within their respective Branches. This single point of contact per Branch, with authority to make decisions regarding program issues, has been very successful. It has significantly improved our capability to implement changes and improvements to the Youth Program. John is also the sponsor of our youth development programs and deserves a special mention for his work in supporting the Mawson Leadership Course for Venturer Scouts and operation of the National Youth Council.

The National Youth Council (NYC), under the leadership of Chair, Christina (Chris) Neilsen and supported by National Youth Council Adviser, Steve Tyas, has successfully completed the restructure which commenced three years ago. The Council is now meeting face to face, twice a year and each Branch now has one appointed representative on the Council. The additional face to face meeting has enabled the NYC to engage in a lot more personal skills development while the Branch nominated representatives have fitted in well, creating practical links with the Branch Youth Forums, where they exist.

## International

It appeared that 2012/13 might be a relatively quiet year for International activities until, Neville Tomkins OAM JP, John Ravenhall AM and I attended the Council for South Pacific Scout Associations at Nouméa in June 2012. While learning about the great support for Scouting in Noumea and to some extent French Polynesia, by the French Government, we discovered that nearly all of the other South Pacific National Scout Organisations (NSOs) are struggling, with the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Scout Association in urgent need of assistance. As a consequence, Neville, Kirsty Brown OAM Chief Commissioner Queensland Branch and I visited Port Moresby in October 2012, to get a clearer picture of the assistance needed in PNG – one of our Constituent Branches at the formation of Scouts Australia in 1958. As a consequence, National and Queensland Branch, in partnership, have agreed to review the PNG Youth Program, train the Leader Trainers necessary to implement the new Program and assist in the refurbishment of the Training Centre.

While it was pleasing to see Government support for the growing Scout Movement in Fiji, this Association needed practical support to operate a National Headquarters (HQ) and set up a National Training Centre which could serve as a hub for training South Pacific Scout Leaders. Neville Tomkins was successful in developing and submitting a proposal for an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development (AYAD) to assist the Fiji Scout Association to develop its National HQ. It's a delight to announce that Libby Davison, recent Chair of the National Rover Council, was successful in winning the AYAD position.

Libby commenced in Fiji in early May 2013. Because of our focus on Timor-Leste and more recently PNG, I asked the South Australia (SA) Branch to review the situation in Fiji and to determine what they could do to assist. I am pleased to advise that the SA Branch has undertaken to assist in the refurbishment of facilities at the Training Centre and to partner with National in reviewing the Youth Program.

**The highlight of the Youth Program portfolio was undoubtedly the resounding success of the 2013 Australian Jamboree held in Maryborough, Queensland. The people of Maryborough watched in amazement as this Jamboree city of 11 360 participants, including 335 personnel, grew from a concept to reality in four years.**

Meanwhile, in Timor-Leste, development of the operational and administrative functions necessary for a functional National Scout Association have slowed to 'island pace' despite the positioning of a second AYAD and a full time Project Officer, Chris Doidge, in their National Office in late 2012. I invited Abdullah Rasheed, Asia-Pacific Regional Director of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) to join me and Richard Miller on a delegation to Dili, in May 2013, to confirm the commitment of the elected UNE-TL Executive Committee to becoming a member of WOSM. However, the Leader training has run to plan with two successful programs conducted in Dili during 2012 with the first attempt to run their own basic training course in late April 2013.

Our International Commissioner, Neville Tomkins is to be commended for his fundraising efforts in the 'Dollars for Dili' partnership between the ACT Government, Rotary and Scouts Australia. Neville has raised the 'lion's share' of over \$30 000 currently sitting in the account, waiting for a parcel of land to be allocated for the UNE-TL National Training/Activity Centre. Despite personal intervention by Mrs. Kirsty Sword-Gusmão, wife of the Prime Minister of Timor-Leste, the process of obtaining a

## Acknowledgments

Unfortunately I don't have the space to thank all those who have supported me during the year but I would like to acknowledge the intimate and expert support of NEC Chair, David Jones AM and National Chief Executive, Richard Miller. Shaun Sandilands, National Rover Council Chair for much of this period, served at the National level with distinction, enthusing and driving his Council, supporting the Rover Review Implementation Team and actively undertaking his duties as a member of the National Team. Likewise, Chris Neilsen, NYC Chair, also served with distinction, proving a dynamic and capable young Leader, whether leading her Council, or representing Australia at National and International Events.



suitable piece of land has been prolonged and frustrating. Neville has personally inspected a number of prospective sites over the last couple of years and has doggedly driven this initiative, conscious that we could lose some of the promised donations should it drag on too long. However, I'm pleased to advise that there is 'light at the end of the tunnel', and we anticipate completing this project in 2013/14.

We were unable to undertake the building of the second sanitary facility in Dili during 2012/13 because of insufficient funds on hand at the time. However with the Centenary of Canberra in 2013 and a resurgence in donations through the 'Dollars for Dili' campaign, we are now on target to complete the upgrade and refurbishment of the Fatuhada Primary School, including providing an additional eight toilets, in May 2013.

Perhaps the highlight of the year was the visit to Bangladesh in November 2012 to attend the 24th Asia-Pacific Region Scout Conference. Steve Tyas, NYC Adviser; Chris Neilsen, NYC Chair; and Shaun Sandilands, NRC Chair; featured in the organisation and/or conduct of the preceding Youth Forum. In addition, Graham Coates and his wife Jill, representing MindVision Interactive, showcased our e-Learning program. Graham's presentation to the Conference resulted in 19 NSOs seeking further information about the program. SA Rover and Branch Commissioner SA Youth Council, Nick Banks attended the Conference as Australia's Top Scout and during the Conference was interviewed and selected as one of the three successful nominees for the APR Top Scout Award – congratulations to Nick. The Conference of over 800 delegates and observers was well organised and a great deal of interest was shown by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and her Cabinet members.

I have already mentioned a number of my National Commissioners and Advisers; and while I haven't the space to mention them all by name, I would like to acknowledge my hardworking National team – they have all done a magnificent job. The extended National team includes my colleagues, the Branch Chief Commissioners and I would like to extend my personal thanks to this great group of people, all of whom are dedicated to delivering the best Scouting experience they can to our youth members. Last but not least, I must thank the National Office staff, especially Norma Cooper, who has had to pick up the role of Office Manager very quickly, and Natasha Omar, our National Marketing Communications Manager. Natasha also attended AJ2013 and with this experience learnt so much about Scouting. Every member of the office team is a pleasure to work with and is always prepared to go the 'extra mile'.

Thank you all. It is indeed a pleasure to serve as your Chief Commissioner.

**Reg Williams RFD**  
Chief Commissioner

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the Annual Report for the year ending 31 March 2013 on National Scouting from the layside perspective.

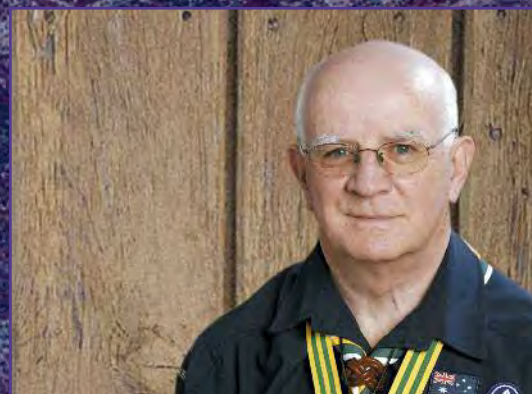
This year, the Executive, National Team and Branch Chairmen have had quite a few items of concern such as the new Harmonised Work Health and Safety (WH&S) rules; and of course the recently announced Federal Government Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

A Risk Management Committee consisting of members from each Branch has been formed to look at how they can deal with the requirements of the WH&S laws and their effect, particularly on our Scout Groups and properties.

In the case of the Royal Commission, a National Advisory Committee has been formed. The Committee includes three legal people and other Scouting personnel to look at how to deal with the Commission's requirements regarding the reporting procedures that various Scout Branches have in place and the provision of any files within their possession.

- Identify best practice program delivery framework and promote Nationally.
- Every Branch to fully implement the adult development plan (Adults in Scouting policy).
- Identify and promulgate specialist Activity Leaders and promote significant Adventurous Activity events within Branches and Nationally.
- Secure Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with critical partners, eg. Government, Red Cross, Duke of Edinburgh and Rotary, to fund/support key programs.
- Develop a National information management and business process collaboration strategy.
- Develop a National digital media strategy and commence implementation in 2012/13.

# National Chairman's Report



David W. Jones AM FCA

As you may know, Scouts Australia has a zero tolerance and a mandatory reporting policy in relation to these situations. The Association has made a public commitment to cooperating fully with the Royal Commission in the production of any requested files or information.

With regard to the finances of the National Association, the Finance Committee and National Executive are responsible for the overall finances. Last year I reported that due to changing our investment policy, our budgeted deficit resulted in a surplus.

This year I am very happy to report that we have actually done better than last year with the budgeted surplus of \$2819 resulting in an actual surplus of \$208 066 – a great result I am sure you will agree.

Furthermore, across our various fund accounts, the return has averaged 22.45% for the year. This compares with the ASX 200 Accumulation Index return of 19.98% – an outstanding performance!

Based on the value of our portfolio as at 31 March 2013, our value has increased by well over \$1.5 million since the start of the year. This has meant that we have been able to replace the funds used previously for our various projects such as e-Learning, the Timor-Leste project and support for our other Youth Programs.

The Executive continued with the National Strategic Plan and the following (objectives for 2012/13 year) were agreed by the National Executive Committee, with most Branches subsequently integrating the National objectives with their own:

- Improve brand strategy (Scout Brand) consistency across Australia.
- Nationally implement e-Learning Training courses for both Basic and Advanced levels for all Sections and Leaders of adults.

I'm pleased to report that good progress has been made on most of the 2012/13 milestones, with the first two providing the biggest challenges and significant carry over into 2013/14.

It can be seen that most of our strategic objectives are based on either improving the skill set of our Leaders, or improving the delivery of the Youth Program.

A highlight in the partnership objective was the recent agreement forged with Canoeing Australia for the Scouts Australia Institute of Training (SAIT) to be their Registered Training Organisation (RTO) for the issue of VET qualifications associated with canoeing activities.

While Canoeing Australia trains people in canoeing activities and issues their own qualifications, they require an RTO to assess the training achievement and issue a statement of attainment for those clients



who also want to obtain a VET qualification in Outdoor Recreation. Canoeing Australia is the peak body in Australia for canoeing activities and our partnership with them will be extremely beneficial to both parties.

As a result of the financial loss incurred by the New South Wales Branch in hosting the 2010 Jamboree, a Committee represented by most Branches was established to compile a manual which would set out the recommended procedures for all future major events including Jamborees, Ventures and Rover Moots.

This Committee has been meeting over the past year or so and has just finalised the Jamboree Section of the manual. Queensland Branch largely followed the manual procedures along with some of its own improvements and ran a highly successful Jamboree at Maryborough in January 2013. Our congratulations go to the Pieter Van Der Kamp, his team and the Queensland Branch for running such a great event.

E-Learning has continued to be refined and improved to the stage that it is now fully operational; and I am told by most Branches that they are now saving training costs by the implementation of the e-Learning training modules.



This year I am very happy to report that we have actually done better than last year with the budgeted surplus of \$2819 resulting in an actual surplus of \$208 066 – a great result I am sure you will agree.

Our thanks go to Paul Parkinson, former National Commissioner for Adult Training and Development, and Graham Coates of Mindvision Interactive for all the hard work they have put into developing the program.

The Lord Baden-Powell Society also continued to grow during the year with the introduction of an Honours Circle at various levels to promote the Society. This was due to the wonderful effort of Maggie Burke, Manager of the Society.

During the year, the Society also assisted a record number of youth members to attend the Jamboree in Queensland.

Finally in closing, I would like to thank all members of the National Executive Committee, the Branch CEO's and of course the Chief Commissioner, Mr Reg William RFD and his team, together with Richard Miller, Luke O'Brien, Ross Waldron and all the staff members in the National Office.

Thank you for your help and support during 2012-13.

**David W. Jones AM FCA**  
Chairman, National Executive Committee





## AJ2013 – The 23rd Australian Jamboree

The year drew to a close with a resounding success as 11 360 participants from Australia and overseas converged on the highly anticipated 23rd AJ2013 to *Dream It! Live It!* in Maryborough, Queensland. This triennial Jamboree, the largest Scouting event in Australia, ran for ten days from 2-12 January 2013. Scouts, Venturers, Rovers, Leaders and other personnel congregated in 255 Troop sites spread over six camping grounds – four for Scouts, one for Venturer Scouts and one for Leaders and others.

In addition to the Australian Scouts and Leaders, the Jamboree was attended by 225 Scouting members from 13 countries – New Zealand, Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Japan, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, New Caledonia, United Kingdom, United States of America, Canada, Netherlands, Switzerland and Hong Kong.

AJ2013 is a prime example of what Scouting is truly about, with youth not only proving their Scouting skills by earning a Badge, but also learning life skills and growing through adventure. Participants cooked for themselves, kept their sleeping area and campsite clean, participated in

# Highlights 2012-2013



**Dream It! Live It!**  
2013 Australian Scout Jamboree

assigned activities and coped with the experience of being away from home. The massive ten day camp offered members the opportunity to experience a multitude of adventures, ranging from water activities to laser tag, circus training to rock climbing; highlighting what Scouts do best – have fun, lead by example and get muddy. It was also a great place to meet new people, catch up with old friends, create lifetime experiences, push their limits and learn things about themselves, they never previously knew.

In addition to the mixture of adventurous on-site and off-site activities under the themes of *Splash it!*, *Explore it!*, *Endure it!*, *Love it!*, *Climb it!*, *Clown it!*, *Make it!*, *Smash it!*, *Tag it!*, *Do it!* and *Challenge it!*, there was an endless stream of entertainment at the main arena stage every night, featuring some of Australia's biggest performers. From pop sensations to magicians, acrobatics to comedians, there was always something exciting happening at AJ2013.

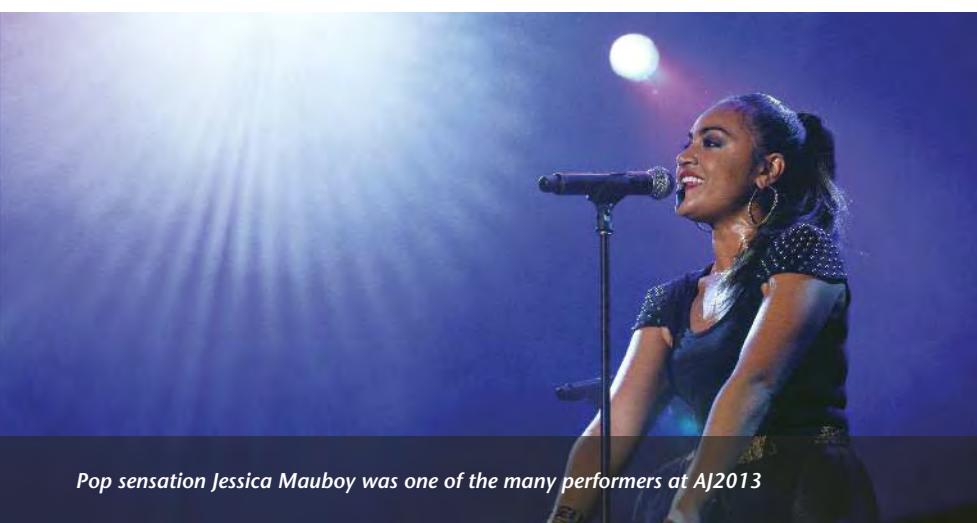
There were three Visitor Days, giving family, friends and locals the opportunity to visit the massive site of the Maryborough Showground and Equestrian Park and see what Scouts were getting up to during this fun-filled event. There was also a Market Day,

chilled in the warm weather. Taking all of this into perspective, one can see how immense an event like AJ2013 was – lots of people, lots of food, and lots of fun.

As young Scouts curled up in their beds back at home, one thing was certain – they all grew through adventure from their experiences at AJ2013 – an event which has created plenty of fulfilling lifetime memories.

## Scouts Australia's Youngest Leader

The Jamboree did not just consist of Scout members achieving and learning new things, AJ2013 also proved to be a platform for many achievements. It was here that Scouts Australia's youngest Leader, 18 year old Megan Hayes from Canberra, had her first opportunity to not only lead but become a Line Leader.



Pop sensation Jessica Mauboy was one of the many performers at AJ2013



Megan Hayes (centre), with her mother Rosemary, as she is congratulated by Reg Williams for being Australia's youngest Leader

allowing Scouts to develop entrepreneurial skills and creativity as they sold products for 'Spendlts' – the Jamboree currency – in an attempt to win a prize. In addition, there was a Jamboree Street party, allowing Scouts to socialise with their new friends.

AJ2013 gained international recognition. On Saturday, 5 January, the Jamboree was visited by His Excellency Mr. Nadjib Riphath Kesoema, Indonesian Ambassador to Australia, and Mr Junzo Fujita, the Japanese Consul-General to Queensland. They were able to visit Scouts from their respective countries in their Troop lines. That evening, an International Reception included cultural displays by Scouts from New Zealand, Japan, Timor-Leste, Indonesia and Tonga.

The logistics of hosting an event as large as AJ2013 were mind boggling, with numbers extending far beyond the people involved. For instance, the 11 360 Scouts, Leaders and other personnel did not have to worry about getting hungry, with the vast amounts of food being supplied. With 114 000 eggs sent to the site, they enjoyed a lovely breakfast while toasting some of the 22 500 loaves of bread – for a traditional baker's dozen, that's 292 500 slices! Wash that down with a portion of the 48 900 litres of fruit juice and you're ready for the day. During the day, Scouting members did not have a chance to get peckish, with approximately 340 000 snack bars and 340 000 juice poppers. Come dinner time, to refuel the participants for the night's events, they had the option of 1400 kilograms of spiral pasta or over 6510 kilograms of baked beans. That involved a lot of gas – 9000 kilograms in 1000 gas bottles to be precise.

There was no opportunity to fear germs and infections with 10 000 bottles of hand sanitiser on-site. As the night wound down and everyone returned to their campsites, they could even mix up a batch of hot Milo using some of the 700 tins available. For all this food, there needed to be a place to store it. There were 550 x 73 litre eskies and 550 x 70 litre plastic food crates on hand with over 16 000 bags of ice to ensure things stayed

While most 18 year olds celebrate adulthood by buying their first beer and partying late into the night, Megan commemorated turning 18, by becoming Scouts Australia's youngest Leader. She is currently the Group Leader of Erindale Scout Group (ACT). During the Jamboree, she again stepped up, choosing to take on the added responsibility of being a Line Leader for 36 young Scouts, rather than just being an Activity Leader, which is what many of the younger Leaders chose to do.

When asked how she embarked upon this pathway of Leadership in Scouting, Megan said it was the Mawson Scholarship which inspired her to lead:

*I learnt through the Mawson Scholarship that to be a Leader you did not have to just direct and order people but lead by being a role model...my maturity grew – that's what my mum says anyway! It allowed me to believe I could actually go out and do something to make a difference within kids.*

Rosemary Hayes, Megan's mother said their family had been in Scouting for 22 years and all her five children had achieved their Queen's Scout Award. Rosemary agreed it was the Mawson Leadership Course which really changed her daughter:

*After the Mawson Scholarship she had more confidence in herself and her leadership abilities and told me she wanted*

to be a Leader...Scouting has helped Megan...It's made her grow in other areas where a lot of other children don't.

They just go to school, do school work and come home – but now she knows there is a wider world out there. Scouting shows people that there is more to life and if you put your mind to something, you can do it. And that's what's happened to her. She puts her mind to it and off she goes and fulfils her dreams!

Megan was amazed, that at 18 years, she was the first person to become a Leader in many years:

*It's really unbelievable to think that I'm one of the first people in Australia to do that.*

## Scouts Australia Awards its first Adventurous Activity Instructor Certificate

During AJ2013 Scouts Australia also awarded its first Certificate as a Training Institution to an Adventurous Activity Instructor. Peter Digweed was presented with his Certificate III in Outdoor Recreation.



Peter Digweed (right) Scouts Australia's first Adventurous Activity Instructor in Outdoor Recreation with Phil Harrison, Deputy Principal of SAIT

## Scouts Have Their Say!

The Yakkery tent was also a hive of activity during AJ2013, exploding with opinion and a wealth of great ideas and strategies to grow Scouting. Collectively, our youth members are a talented bunch who are both passionate about Scouting and want to make a difference.

A Jamboree provides an opportunity to canvas the thoughts of a large number of Scouts at one time. Topics discussed at AJ2013 were generated by Scouts, linked to our National Strategic Plan, suggested by National team members or were current National Youth Council topics. During the day, all Scouts had the opportunity to contribute their opinions with their Patrol in The Yakkery tent; while at night, every Jamboree



Steve Tyas, National Youth Adviser, managed the Yakkery Tent and Scout Senate at AJ2013 excellently

Phil Harrison, Deputy Principal of the Scouts Australia Institute of Training (SAIT), Adventurous Activities, said this was a significant event:

*SAIT has had qualifications in Certificate II, Certificate III and Certificate IV in scope since July 2011 and Peter was presented with the first Certificate issued by SAIT. It's pretty significant because this is an area we are trying to focus on at the moment and develop our capacity and skills of our Leaders to provide a better Youth Program. Peter is the first of what will be many Certificates issued to Venturer Scouts, Rover Scouts and Leaders in Outdoor Recreation Leadership Skills.*

Peter was really proud to be the first person to receive an award in Outdoor Recreation from Scouts Australia:

*It's been a lot of work and it's all finally paid off. I'm glad I've done it. It took me two to three years of hard work to achieve this Certificate.*

Peter, who is a Regional Commissioner in the far north region of Queensland, said his qualifications would really help him to involve more Scouts, Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts in outdoor recreation.

Scouts Australia will also be opening its first National School in Adventurous Activities at Cataract Scout Park in January 2014. According to Phil Harrison, the first National Adventurous Activity School would see up to 150 Venturer Scouts working towards their Certificate II in Outdoor Recreation over the two weeks. There would also be an opportunity for Rover Scouts and Leaders to work towards their Certificate III in Outdoor Recreation; or if they had some skills and experience, the option to work towards their Certificate IV in Outdoor Recreation.

Peter's comment on this Scouts Australia's initiative:

*This is very cool. I'm actually going to book up myself and go and do more training as well as have three to four Leaders from my Region attending.*

troop had the opportunity to send a delegate to participate in deeper conversations and planning, at the Scout Youth Forums. Finally, at the Scout Senate (held on the final day of the Jamboree), a dynamic Group of Scouts poured over all the information generated, to develop a number of recommendations including:

- **The Australian Scout Medallion** – Relevance of the Award, directions for the future of the Award and how it relates to the rest of the Scout Award scheme.
- **Bullying in Scouts** – A series of recommendations were developed to ensure bullying does not exist within Scouting.
- **Interstate activities** – Interstate activities are an important part of Scouting because of the new friendships made and ease in maintaining communication after events. A number of strategies were suggested to increase interstate activities, from developing Buddy Troops to Special Interest Camps and Mini Jamborees.
- **Leadership development** – The implications of leadership were developed and how the Scout Section can provide even better opportunities for youth members through the development of Patrol Leader training, National guidelines and appropriate Leader training.

All the recommendations have been disseminated to the appropriate Teams, ensuring they are 'acted upon' as soon as possible. Youth Forums are a key component of all major Scouting events in Australia, to facilitate the largest possible youth voice.

Congratulations to Steve Tyas, our retiring National Youth Forums Adviser, for his dynamic approach to empowering our youth members and ensuring their engagement at all National events.

## 12th New Zealand Venture

January 2013 was also the month for another exciting adventure, *Venture South*, the 12th New Zealand Venture, held from 5-14 January in Invercargill, Lower South Island. Scouts Australia sent 534 participants to the Venture, making this the largest Scouting Group to ever leave Australian shores (even exceeding Australia's 2012 Olympic Contingent).

*Venture South*, designed around the motto 'XCITE, XTREME, XPAND, XPERIENCE', far exceeded the expectations of all, according to Contingent Leader, Gary Steinhardt, who had nothing but praise for the exciting event:



*The monster trip included a nine night pre-tour, which left on 27 December and covered both the North and South Islands. The North Island activities included a traditional Maori Cultural experience, Hell's Gate Thermal Pools and Baths and even private use of an entire adventure theme park for two nights! We finished in Auckland with a massive New Year's Eve party led by New Zealand's premier DJ, before flying to Queenstown for five days of non-stop adrenaline paced activities in the adventure capital of the world. Participants had the chance to go jet boating, white water rafting, mountain biking, parasailing and even experience the world's biggest swing (over 350 metres)! The pre-tour was a fantastic chance to make new friends and challenge oneself with some of the most unique activities and scenery in the world.*

*It was then onto the Venture itself – the main event and centrepiece of the trip. The Contingent met with the Kiwis, and quickly formed into Expedition Groups.*

*The next five days were spent in units of nine youth and a Leader, all spending time on a whole host of journeys, challenges and experiences.*

*The range of expeditions included Scuba Diving, Sailing, Hiking, Mountain Biking, Adventure Tours, Rural Living, Survivor, Kayaking, Photography and an Amazing Race. All Expedition Groups experienced a range of different activities and plenty of chances to try new things and push personal boundaries.*

*The excitement of Phase One expeditions flowed into Phase Two, with everyone arriving back at the Venture site brimming with stories, memories and photos to share. Friendship groups merged and so the network of mates grew, often stretching between nations. A host of on and off-site activities was available, some relaxing and some more intense. There were themed nights and dress-up parties, a Region vs. Region Tournament and even an on-site radio station broadcasting around New Zealand and Australia online! The City Tour was a*



welcome chance to check out the local town of Invercargill and to restock on essentials, as well as pick up some souvenirs.

Credit must go to all involved in organising and executing such an incredible trip. Pulling together a Contingent so large from all corners of Australia is a remarkable feat and required many long days and late nights that were, without question, totally worthwhile. Thanks must also go to our Kiwi counterparts, the Australian Leaders who accompanied us and of course the Venturer Scouts themselves – the reason this is all put together. Without exception, all the youth and Leaders alike have raved about the whole trip, with different people picking different parts as their highlight. Set in a country renowned for its rich Maori culture, extreme adrenaline stunts, incredible adventure activities and unique and breathtaking scenery, the New Zealand Venture 2013 – Venture South – was exactly what it was promised to be: the absolute trip of a lifetime for all those involved.

Australian Venturer Scout, Mel Varco, found *Venture South*, a trip he will never forget. The highlight of his pre-tour activity adventure was getting muddy at the famous Rotorua Mud Baths:



## Scouts Australia Goes Digital

The year has been a great one for Leaders and youth around Australia, with Scouts Australia releasing exciting new digital products like Scout Central, new Digital Media Guidelines, the Scouts Oz App and e-Books, to make Scouting easier, more accessible and fun.

### Scout Central for Leaders

To kick things off, in 2012 Scouts Australia launched Scout Central, Scouts Australia's new digital portal for Leaders, created to provide them with the best possible resources by helping them to save time, become more efficient, effective and better informed in delivering great Scouting!



The constant smell of Sulphur Dioxide (rotten egg gas) made the mud baths so much more inviting. What we didn't know though, was that as soon as you step out of the baths you smell disgusting and ALL of your clothing would smell and it would last a lifetime. This terrible smell would seep into all of your clean clothing and render them dirty. Even washing them with other Sulphur smelling clothing could cause a never ending cycle.

After the pre-tour activities, Mel greatly enjoyed meeting new people and bonding with other Venturer Scouts from Australia and New Zealand during all the exciting Expeditions, which included Southland Adventure tours, Sea Kayaking tours, Rock climbing Tours, Rural Living and Photography. He said:

*Expedition is a time on Venture where you have the opportunity to form friendships that will last a lifetime, along with having the chance to participate in some wonderful and challenging activities.*

On returning to the Venture site, Mel continued to be entertained by the huge variety of on-site activities like Challenge Valley, Car Wreckers, The Jelly Pit, Arts and Crafts and nightly parties, which included fun themes like Under the Sea, Onesies and even a Beach Party. Mel added:

*With the close of the Venture it was with great sadness and tears that we all left the site, saying our final goodbyes to all of our lovely new New Zealand friends. This trip was really the trip of a lifetime and something that I will never ever forget. However, it would not be possible without the help of the very dedicated team of people, all of whom organised the entire Aussie Pre-tour and Aussie Contingent.*

*On the behalf of all of the members of the 2013 Australian Contingent, I would like to thank Gary and Phillip, Fiona, Sharon, Rob and Kusi and the rest of the entire team of Leaders for all of their hard work and dedication over the past few years. Their hard work paid off and a great time was had by all!*

Leaders around Australia can now use a single system log-in to access Scout Central. Using their e-Learning credentials, Leaders can access Scout Central and catch up with the latest news from National and their Branch, read Facebook and Twitter Feeds, update their knowledge about the Areas of Personal Growth, find out everything they need to know about the Award Scheme from Joey Scouts to Rover Scouts, and much more.

Using the brand new Program Finder, Leaders also have access to hundreds of activities, games and complete programs for their Section, for nights and camps. To make things even better, each program is linked with the Areas of Personal Growth and Award Scheme. Leaders can now rate and provide feedback on programs listed and even share new, exciting programs they might have with other Leaders around Australia.

With the Online Library, Leaders can download numerous free publications; and through the Advertising and Promotions page, find resources helping them to promote better Scouting. Leaders are also able to access e-Learning via Scout Central.

Scout Central is just the first stage of Scouts Australia's Digital Revolution in the online and mobile sphere, aimed to make Scouting better, more efficient and more effective for Leaders and youth around Australia.

Scout Central has become the ultimate online destination for Leaders, giving them the latest Scouting resources and information at their finger tips. In 2013, Scout Central will also have a Program Builder to assist Leaders with putting together complete programs of their Section, be accessible via Smart phones and much more.

## National Digital Guidelines

In addition to Scout Central, Scouts Australia also developed Nationally ratified Digital Media Guidelines to protect its youth and adult members; and ensure they play the game of Scouting safely online and via their mobile phones.

## Scouts Australia Launches Scouts Oz at AJ2013

During AJ2013, Scout Australia launched its second digital product, an app called Scouts Oz. This App, developed for both Android and iOS devices, has been created for its youth and Adult members to revolutionise Scouting, helping members to *Be Prepared for New Adventure* in the digital age. It not only has features like a National Scouting news feed, Award Scheme Section and some highly entertaining videos, but



## Timor-Leste Scouting

Support for the growth and development of Scouting in Timor-Leste remains Scouts Australia's highest priority International development project. Scouts Australia now has a multi-faceted program in place to assist the Timor-Leste Scout Association (União Nacional dos Escuteiros de Timor-Leste – UNE-TL) to enhance its capacity. This is in response to a request from the Asia-Pacific office of World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) to help UNE-TL seek WOSM membership.

Over the past 12 months, Scouts Australia has continued to support Leader training. Funded by the Messengers of Peace (MoP) initiative, work to date has seen 30 Leaders complete their Advanced Leader Training, and ten



Chris Doidge, Reg Williams and Neville Tomkins (L-R) work with UNE-TL to enhance its capacity

for the first time also has a National Scout Venue Locator, which lists Scout Halls, Activity Centres and Campsites across the country.

Scouts Australia held a Competition to promote the launch of the App. Five iPad Minis were won by five winners who best described what they most liked about the Scouts Oz App and how it would help them. The competition proved to be highly successful, with almost 1000 responses from across Australia and over 3000 downloads of the Scouts Oz App on Android and iOS phones during this time. Judged by Scouts Australia's Ambassador and Australia's most accomplished mountaineer, Andrew Lock OAM, the five winners were announced on 22 February 2013, Founders Day.

## More Digital Products to Come

Scouts Australia is currently developing a National e-Store and has already started releasing some of its exciting e-Publications and e-Song Books along with other resources and tools for Leaders, youth and parents. It is also developing an interactive Record Book App, another digital portal for youth similar to Scout Central and an array of other exciting digital products.

So *Be Prepared for New Adventure* as Scouts Australia revolutionises Scouting for Leaders and youth around Australia.

## International Scouting

Maintaining the new approach adopted to International Scouting in 2010, the past 12 months have seen new opportunities actively pursued, and existing programs expanded. All efforts have been aligned with Scouts Australia's vision that 'every youth member of Scouts Australia has an International Scouting experience' regardless of its shape or form.

Leaders complete the 'Training of Trainers' Program. The remaining two activities will see about 60 Leaders complete their Basic Level Training, positioning UNE-TL to deliver their own training in the future.

Scouts Australia has also been successful in obtaining a second Australian Youth Ambassador for Development (AYAD) for UNE-TL. Michela Renders started in July 2012. Her assignment has been to develop and implement a National Youth Program, and help to develop the National organisation (incorporating Regional structures).

Through financial support from Scouts Australia, the 1st Haberfield Scout Group and external sources, seven youth members and one Leader attended AJ2013.

Chris Doidge (former Chief Commissioner, Northern Territory Branch) has been filling the role of Project Officer for UNE-TL since November 2012. His position supports the Timor-Leste National Scout Council with implementing its priorities, including strengthening its National Office.

Under the banner of 'Dollars for Dili', Scouts Australia continues to work hard to attract funds which will assist with the construction of an Activity Centre and a sanitation and health block in a second Dili primary school.

## Asia-Pacific Region (APR)

The 24th Asia-Pacific Region Scout Conference, 7th Youth Forum and APR Course for Leader Trainers were held in Bangladesh in November 2012. Of the 31 million Scouts worldwide, about 18 Million are located in the Asia-Pacific Region, including Scouts Australia. As a result, these three Regional events were a huge undertaking and the Bangladesh Scout Association is to be congratulated for how well they hosted these events.

With the theme of 'Scouting: Bridging the Gap,' the Youth Forum was attended by 71 youth members from 24 countries and was the first of these events. Led by Shaun Sandilands (QLD), Australia's Contingent comprised of Chris Neilsen (VIC), Kathy Radoslovich (SA), Nick Banks (SA) and Tahlia Siddall (TAS).

This was followed by the APR Scout Conference, held in Dhaka. The Conference was extremely successful, offering valuable experiences for Australia's Contingent.

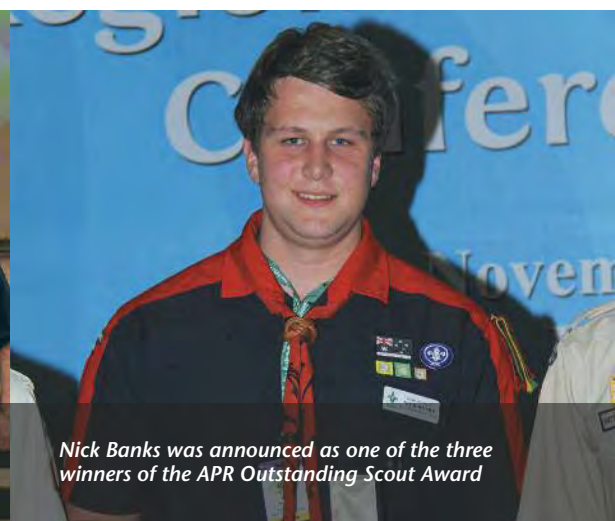
Particular highlights included the presentation of the APR Distinguished Service Award to John Ravenhall and the APR Chairman's Award to Peter Blatch. In addition:

## Australia-Japan Foundation Grant

Scouts Australia was pleased to be advised by the Australia-Japan Foundation that its application for a grant of \$28 271 had been successful. That grant enabled Scouts Australia to bring four Scouts and one Leader from the earthquake and tsunami devastated region of north east Japan, to AJ2013; and to have a Japanese Scout participate in our Scouts International Student Exchange Program. The grant will also promote friendship between Scouts Australia and Scouts of Japan through the Pen-Pal Program. Sponsorship was also received from Snowgum Australia to assist the Japanese Scouts and Leader with clothing and camping equipment.



*The Australian Contingent at the 24th APR Scout Conference (L-R): Row 1 – David Jones, Nick Banks, Neville Tomkins, Kirsty Brown, Jill & Graham Coates; Row 2 – Bob Taylor, Helen Wells, Tahlia Siddall, Chris Neilsen, Shaun Sandilands, Bryan Brown, Kathy Radoslovich, Richard Miller; Row 3 – Peter Nickl, Steve Tyas, Dr William Wells, Martin Thomas, Paul Parkinson, John Clarke, Reg Williams*



*Nick Banks was announced as one of the three winners of the APR Outstanding Scout Award*

- **Nick Banks** (young Leader and Branch Commissioner, South Australia Scouts) was announced as one of the three winners of the APR Outstanding Scout Award;
- **Paul Parkinson** was elected as a Member of the Regional Scout Committee;
- **Richard Miller** was appointed as Chair of the APR Profile Sub-Committee;
- **Reg Williams, David Jones** and **Neville Tomkins** were appointed as members of the Management, Finance, and Adult Support Sub-Committees respectively;
- **Dr William Wells** was appointed as Vice President of the APR Foundation Management Committee; and
- **John Ravenhall** was appointed as a Member of the APR Awards Committee.

Scouts Australia is proud of the contribution it has made, and continues to make, to Scouting across the Asia-Pacific Region.

## Council of South Pacific Scout Associations Forum

The Council of South Pacific Scout Associations (CSPSA) Forum and Workshop was held in Nouméa, New Caledonia from 16 to 20 July 2012. The Forum and Workshop were attended by Reg Williams, Chief Commissioner; John Ravenhall, former Chief Commissioner; Neville Tomkins, International Commissioner; and Stuart Sandell, a NSW Leader who worked for nine months with the Vanuatu Scout Association, under an AusAID Program. The Forum provided opportunities for networking and fostering closer relationships with countries in the Pacific region.

This was a very valuable grant. It enables us to help improve the quality of life of Scouts in especially difficult circumstances, and thereby contribute to the World Strategic Priority number four, of *Reaching Out*.

## Fiji Scouting

Following the CSPSA Forum, Scouts Australia and the Fiji Scout Association applied to the Australian Government for an AYAD to volunteer with the Fiji Scout Association for 12 months. Former National Rover Council Chair and Victorian Fellowship member, Libby Davison was appointed to this position and commenced her assignment in May 2013.

**Scouts Australia is currently developing a National e-Store and has already started releasing some of its exciting e-Publications and e-Song Books...**

## Papua New Guinea (PNG) Scouting

A further outcome of the CSPSA Forum was a fresh look at ways Scouts Australia could support the development of Scouting in PNG. Reg Williams, National Chief Commissioner; Kirsty Brown, Chief Commissioner, Queensland Branch; and Neville Tomkins, International Commissioner; visited PNG Scouts in October to discuss ways Australia can support PNG.

At the request of PNG Scouts, specific initiatives will be pursued over the coming years.

## Major International Events

### 29th APR Jamboree

The 29th APR Jamboree in Sri Lanka was attended by 32 youth members and Leaders during April 2012. Australian Leaders hosted over 5000 Scouts in their APR Village display and activity, illustrating Scouting in Australia and Aboriginal culture.

the Rajans International Scout Gathering of Centennial (RISGO) in February 2013 at Lake View Park International Scout Centre, Kandy, Sri Lanka. The trip concluded with a reception at the Australian High Commission, Colombo.

This rounded off the incredible experience, giving our youth a better understanding of Scouting in Sri Lanka.

### International Scout Peace Camp, Indonesia

Three Rovers – Laura Powe (QLD), Tegan Cree (NSW) and Andre Selton (VIC), attended an International Scout Peace Camp, from 25-31 March 2013 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The event was hosted by Gerakan Pramuka and partly funded through the Messengers of Peace initiative.



Reg Williams, Kirsty Brown and Neville Tomkins visit the PNG Scouts



Chris Neilsen, NYC Chair, (left) and Katy Tomkins, ACT Rover, attended the first Commonwealth Scout Youth Forum in London

### 70th New Zealand Rover Moot

Over the 2012 Easter weekend, 24 Rover Scouts from around Australia participated in the 70th New Zealand Rover Moot (5-9 April 2012). New Zealand Moots incorporate the three foundations of Rovering: Service, Self development and Social. Over the long weekend, events and activities built on these three Scouting tenets, culminating in a host of exciting things to do and see. Activities ranged from a Service Activity at a small school, a day tour, a healthy competition of tug-of-war, cross country activities, shooting, paintball and a scavenger hunt. As part of the post-event tour, 11 Contingent members visited Kerikeri in the Bay of Islands, Rotorua and Auckland.

### Commonwealth Youth Forum

Following a nationwide advertisement and assessment by an independent panel, Chris Neilsen, NYC Chair, and Katy Tomkins, ACT Rover, attended the first Commonwealth Scout Youth Forum in London from 27 to 30 April, 2012. It included a one-day youth forum, and one day of networking in London including a reception at Marlborough House, headquarters of the Commonwealth Secretariat. Our delegates also attended the United Kingdom Scout Association's annual Scout Parade at Windsor Castle. As 2012 was the Queen's Jubilee year, the Queen herself attended the parade along with the UK's Chief Scout, Bear Grylls.

### Rajan's International Scout Gathering of Centennial (RISGO) Jamboree, Sri Lanka

Scholarships were awarded to three Venturer Scouts – Liam Furchow (WA), Rebecca Parish (VIC) and Kate Broekman (NSW); and one Leader, Vicki Knopke (QLD), to attend

## Kandersteg International Scout Centre

The past year saw several Scouts Australia youth members and young Leaders volunteer at the Kandersteg International Scout Centre. Two Rover Scouts, David Langron (NSW) and Lisa Picking (VIC), were appointed to long term positions. In addition, Sarah Jane Petts (NSW) and Dylan Hunt (SA) spent three months donating their time to manage and maintain the Centre and to run activities.

This is Lord Baden-Powell's vision of a permanent Jamboree, where Scouts from all over the world come together. Our young people are well regarded at the Centre and return with unique experiences

## Scholarships to Australian Events

Scouts Australia's sponsorship of youth from neighbouring Scout Associations to attend key Australian Scouting events continued during the year. These scholarships are crucial to capacity building in the Asia-Pacific Region and extending the Scouting hand of friendship to our nearest neighbours.



Through its own funds and external donations, Scouts Australia supported seven Scouts and one Leader from Timor-Leste, two Scouts from PNG and two Scouts from Indonesia, to attend AJ2013.

During this time, the sponsored overseas Scouts camped with Australians in their Troops, ensuring that opportunities arose for a two-way of exchange of language, culture and Scouting ideas. Before and after events, scholarship holders were hosted by Australian Scouting families.

## International Programs

### Pen-Pal Program

2012/2013 was a very busy year for the Pen-Pal Program with Scouts in Action Week increasing registrations from Branches that had not regularly participated in the Program. The Pen-Pal Program has linked Scouts with 26 countries. A record 690 Australians registered for the Program during the year.

## Messengers of Peace

The International Commissioner attended the Asia-Pacific Region Messengers of Peace Coordinators gathering in Manila, Philippines, during February.

## Branch Activities

New South Wales (NSW) Branch held their Annual Showcase and supported National Programs and Contingents. Program support was provided to Vanuatu Scouting and New Caledonian Scouts. A visit from Mr. Yannia Melahrinoudis, Commissioner for Greek Scouts Abroad, who was here to promote the Centenary of Greek Scouting, presented Scout Groups from both NSW and Victoria (VIC) with Recognition Awards from his Association.



*Through the Pen-Pal Program, the four Japanese Scouts funded through the Australia-Japan Foundation grant were linked at AJ2013 with Australian Scouts who speak Japanese*



*Having fun, learning new things and making new friends at JOTA-JOTI*

The four Japanese Scouts funded through the Australia-Japan Foundation grant were linked at the Jamboree with Australian Scouts who speak Japanese. The eight youth members met regularly during Jamboree, getting to know each other.

Opportunities for the use of SKYPE, JOTA-JOTI and other technological media have continued to be popular ways of communicating with Pen-Pals throughout the year. The Pen-Pal Program facilitated a SKYPE link at the Australian Jamboree with a South Australian Scout Troop and their Canadian Pen-Pal Link.

### Scout International Student Exchange Program (SISEP)

Through the Scout International Student Exchange Program (SISEP), Scouts Australia families hosted for a two month period, 15 Venturer Scouts from Denmark, England and Japan. The Program also saw 17 Australian youth members live in those countries for the same period of time, enjoying home hosting, school and Scouting.

### 2012 Jamboree of the Air and Jamboree of the Internet (JOTA-JOTI)

The 2012 Jamboree of the Air (JOTA) and Jamboree of the Internet (JOTI) was held on the weekend of 20-21 October and attracted interest from all States and Territories of Australia and from most countries around the world.

Through JOTA-JOTI, every member of Scouts Australia can make friends, exchange stories, experience different cultures and have fun as part of the largest activity in World Scouting. JOTA-JOTI also gives youth members an awareness of belonging to a worldwide Movement.

A group of 18 Victorian youth and carers attended the Japanese Agoonoree in July. Another Victorian Scout Group visited Nauru during the year and hosted the Tongan Contingent to AJ2013. The South Australian Branch Senior Leadership team embarked on an Ambassadorial visit to Fiji, to evaluate how our two Scout Associations may be able to work together for the benefit of youth in both Fiji and South Australia.

Queensland (QLD) Branch hosted several Contingents and individuals attending AJ2013. The Branch International Commissioner provided dental treatment to Timor-Leste and PNG youth members at the Jamboree and they returned home with full dental health.

The Western Australia (WA) Branch formed the largest part of Australia's Contingent to the 29th APR Jamboree in April 2012. In November 2012, some 30 youth and adult members of the Yuan Ching Cougar Scout Group (Singapore) visited Perth and were hosted by the Joondalup Scout Group. This was followed in January 2013 by a small but dedicated Contingent of two WA Rovers and one VIC Rover, accompanied by the WA Branch Commissioner International, to fulfill their mission of visiting India and delivering a Scouting Skills workshop to the young Scouts of Troop 1992, located

in the Chandrabhaga slum in Ahmadabad. A highly successful adventure camp at the Mt Abu Scout facility in Rajasthan followed. Troop 1992 was founded in 2010: a collaboration between the Bharat Scouts and Guides, Scouts WA and Taj Global Understanding, an American based non-governmental organisation (NGO). WA members continue to provide financial and material support to this project, which is broadly based on the WOSM 'Ticket to Life' Street Kid Program.

The Tasmanian (TAS) Branch actively promoted International Scouting throughout the year. Branch members participated in SISEP, Pen-pals, the New Zealand Venture as well as the APR Scout Youth Forum.

In the Australian Capital Territory (ACT), the Lake Ginninderra Sea Scouts conducted their third community service project in Lombok, Indonesia. They used a youth leadership model which meant that in addition to the community service, cultural experience and the international understanding which emerged from the project, young people also developed their leadership abilities. The Timor-Leste Project was another youth led project from the ACT. This project was a partnership of members from three Venturer Units who travelled to Timor-Leste.

## Scoutlink 4 Leadership

A pilot program is under way to support recruitment of younger Leaders through targeting Undergraduate University students and TAFE students.

The University of New England in Armidale, NSW, has facilitated local Scout Leaders and Group Committee members to become part of its Orientation Week.

Negotiations are proceeding around recognition of our Certificate IV and Diplomas in Leadership and Business to provide accreditation towards relevant Undergraduate Degrees and TAFE qualifications.



*The seven Timor-Leste Scouts who were funded to attend AJ2013 received free dental treatment courtesy of the Queensland Branch*



*Australian Scouts assisted Indonesian Scouts through a community service project*

## Partnerships

### Timor-Leste Partnership Project

The second project for the Timor-Leste Partnership Project is Fatuhada Public School in Dili, chosen through consultation with Dili Rotary and Scout members. Work on this project began in April/May 2013.

This continues the work of supporting students in primary schools in Dili by improving health and sanitation. It is structured to promote community capacity building by funding a local builder to construct a much needed toilet block. Rover Scouts from Australia develop friendships with Rovers and Rotaractors from Dili by working on school improvement projects nominated by the school's principal.

Funding support comes from Rotary Clubs, individual donations and Scouts Australia.

We continue to work in partnership with the ACT Government's 'Dollars for Dili' campaign, which is part of the Canberra Centenary Celebrations in 2013, and with Rotary Clubs in NSW and Dili.

### Red Cross Australia

Negotiations continue to build on the international partnership between WOSM, Red Cross and Red Crescent. Areas of interest to Scouts Australia and Red Cross include formalising and extending Scouts and Red Cross to work together at a local level in government declared emergencies, including floods and bush fires and fundraising and blood donation services.

### Reconciliation Australia and Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC)

Our involvement in the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition and Reconciliation Australia's 'Yarn About Youth Meeting' in 2013 has further developed our relationship with Reconciliation Australia and AYAC.

A Reconciliation Action Plan is being investigated through a process of consultation and negotiation with stakeholders in Scouts and Reconciliation Australia.

The Plan will support increased awareness for young people and Leaders, both in Scouts and among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, encouraging further inclusivity. This is a long-term process.

Chris Neilsen, National Youth Council Chair, is a member of the Policy Advisory Council of AYAC, adding extra depth to a partnership with a leading youth policy organisation.

## A Scout cares for the environment

Scouts Australia has had a fantastic year starting with the Scouts Australia Environment Conference and continuing with tremendous work by all involved.

Following some positive and meaningful discussions at the Conference between Gus Lloyd, National Adviser for Environment; and Reg Williams, Chief Commissioner of Australia; two people were approached to take on added responsibility for assisting with managing Scouts Australia's environmental initiatives and partnerships.

Stephen Kingham and Patrick McCormick are the new Assistant National Advisers, with Stephen leading work on the ongoing resourcing and Patrick focussing on implementing sustainability programs and procedures.

Chris Malam (ACT) and Mel Nicholls (VIC) continue to work on the development of environmental resources for Scout Central. In 2012, Gus Lloyd dedicated his time to developing Memorandums of Understanding with Scouts Australia's Environmental partners. He has also been busy preparing relevant paperwork and presentations for

International Scouts in Action Week continued at AJ2013 with a variety of international displays and games at the National tent.

Well done to John Parr and his supporters at Gumdale Scout Group. They should be proud of their efforts to create this rapidly growing Scouting activity.

## A New Team Drives The Development Of Our Youth Program

WOSM has an expectation that all National Scout Organisations have a National Program Committee. In Australia we previously accepted the five National Youth Program Meetings (meeting of the Branch



three possible Scout Centres with Excellence in Nature and Environment (SCENEs), with plans to complete their applications for mid 2014.

Our Environment team has also been working on the three Environment Training modules as part of the Scouts Australia Institute of Training (SAIT) scope. This work will lead to modules which will be both interesting and current, becoming available to all Leaders as part of their Scout Training and Development.

We have representatives at the Asia-Pacific Region Environment Conference in Taiwan this year in June and are hoping to host the 2014 Conference to showcase our resources.

Times are tough in all areas but this last year has been encouraging as we see Branches and ourselves become more resourceful in meeting our aims and plans, which naturally leads to the protection of our environment.

## Scouts In Action Week – The numbers are adding up!

Three years ago John Parr (a Queensland Leader) suggested that Scouts Australia run a National activity to promote emergency First Aid training for youth members. From this initial idea, 'Scouts in Action Week' was born. Scouts Australia has now covered First Aid, Disability Awareness and in 2012, International Scouting.

The cumulative participation rate over the three years of the Scouts in Action Week Program has grown to 100 000 members. This is extremely impressive, considering the Program has been virtually run by just one person! In 2012, 30 419 members of Scouting participated in a variety of International activities. However, this year 700 overseas participants from ten other National Scout Organisations and over 1000 members of Guides Australia joined us. A small Australian Program is going global!

Commissioners for each section) as our alternate Program Committee. Due to the changing development of Youth Program across Australia, a team needs to meet regularly, have ongoing communication and take on development tasks between meetings relating to the Scout Program. From this concept, the National Youth Program Team (NYPT) has evolved.

The NYPT consists of either the Deputy Chief Commissioner or Branch Commissioner Youth Program (for some Branches this was a new appointment), National Youth Council Chair, National Commissioner Youth Program and other key National team members.

During its first year, the NYPT has taken on responsibility for the development and implementation of the Areas of Personal Growth documents and tools, explored a variety of new events and activities and started to build a strong National identity which will ensure the growth of the Program provided to our youth members.

Every second year, a forum is held for Section Commissioners to meet, share and discuss common issues in collaboration with the NYPT.

# Areas Of Personal Growth And The Scout Method

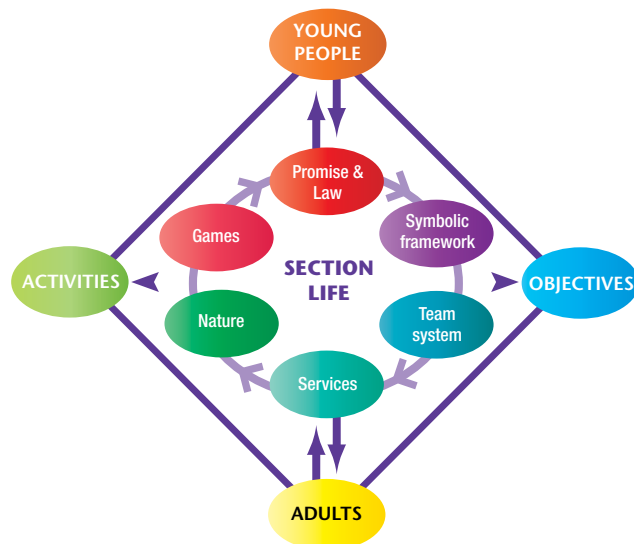
## The Foundations of A Quality Youth Program

By ensuring the Areas of Personal Growth (AoPG) and our Method are the basis of everything we do in Scouting, we can guarantee a quality Program for our youth members across all Sections.

Scouts Australia has adopted the guidelines developed by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).

To ensure quality Scouting, the Program must be implemented using our Scouting Method and cover all facets of the Areas of Personal Growth.

The areas of growth should not be considered separate elements, but as parts of a whole. They are all interrelated and form a whole – the human personality. Similarly, when the human personality is developing, the six areas of growth interact with each other. The character occupies a central position: it unifies a person and forms his or her identity.



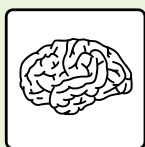
## ICONS TO REPRESENT EACH AREA OF PERSONAL GROWTH AND EACH PART OF OUR METHOD



Spiritual



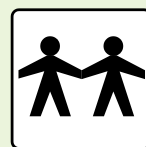
Physical



Intellectual



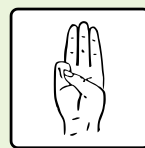
Emotional



Social



Character



Promise & Law



Symbolic Framework



Team System



Service



Nature



Games & Activities

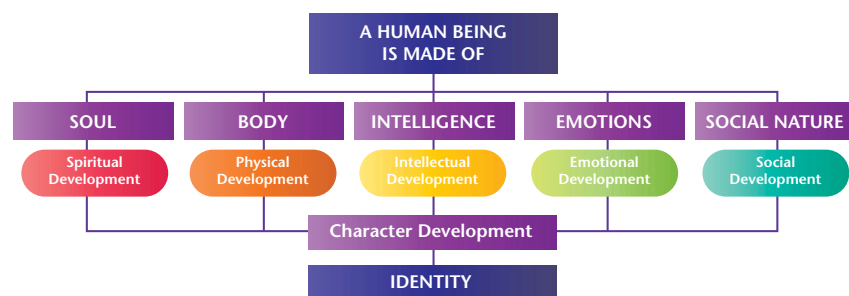
In Aids to Scoutmastership, Baden-Powell wrote:

The aim of the Scout training is to improve the standard of our future citizenship, especially in character and health, to replace self with service, to make the lads individually efficient, morally and physically, with the object of using that efficiency for service for their fellow-men.

The purpose of the Scout Movement is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The Scout Method is an essential part of the Scout non-formal educational system. It may be defined as a program of progressive self-education, which is complementary to the family and school, and is based on the interaction of several key elements.

- The Scout Law – a code of conduct which sets out the principles that guide us in language readily understood by young people; and the Promise – a voluntary and personal commitment to live in accordance with the Scout Law.
- The symbolic framework, which conveys the Scout proposal to each age range, through various symbols.
- The Patrol System, which organises the mechanisms of the informal peer group into a learning community, giving each Scout a role and say in the decision making process.
- Services to others, which is fostered by the habit of individual good turns and consists of activities and projects which bring young people closer to those most in need, generating a willingness to serve.
- Life in nature, a special environment in which to carry out many of the activities of the Section, Six, Patrol and small Groups.



- **Learning by doing or, learning through play**, which is attractive to young people, facilitates their integration into the Group, helps them to discover their abilities and encourages an interest in exploring and adventure.

## Providing Support

To support the implementation of the AoPG and Method a number of strategies have been introduced including:

- **Method Document** – A detailed document for Leaders, Venturers and Rovers to outline why we have the AoPG and our Method. It includes links to the Program and an outline of where the Section fits within the developmental frameworks of young people. Effective icons have been produced to represent each AoPG and each part of our Method.
- **Program Planning Templates** – A new approach to programming has been created, taking youth and Leaders through a step by step approach to develop a balanced Program. The templates are available in a variety of formats and assist the Planning Team in ensuring youth members develop their Program.

Study is an important aspect of the lives of the graduates. The group includes a number of school Dux, University Award winners and a selection of School Captains and Prefects. Others are Award winners due to their community service and recreation awardees, a group participated in the Oaktree Foundation road trip in January and we even have a state wide top Army Cadet.

*Feedback from a Mawson participant:*

*As soon as I returned to my Unit, I advertised the Mawson Scholarship as I truly believe in the Program.*

*At school, I am pleased to say I have flourished. At the end of Grade 12, I received an OP1 and was admitted to my preferred course of Engineering/Commerce at the University of Queensland and a scholarship. I was also*



*The 2012 Mawson Course program even included the surprise challenge of having to complete the ADFA obstacle course suspended over its swimming pool*



*Geocaching – combining technology with modern day adventure!*

- **Scout Central Program Builder** – All activities uploaded to the Program builder, break them down to highlight the AoPG and Methods covered; thereby assisting planning teams to develop a balanced Program.
- **Information sessions** – Across the country, a number of Training sessions have been provided for Leaders to introduce the new concepts.
- **Leader Training** – All Leader Training modules have been adapted to cover the new concepts. Planning tools can be downloaded during e-Learning sessions and Leaders also have access to the documents on Scout Central.

*awarded DUX of the School. I have become more social, more outgoing since Mawson, something I have never had the courage to do before.*

*I have striven for the best in both my Venturing and scholarly lives and I am pleased to say that the Mawson Scholarship certainly assisted me in doing that.*

*The Mawson Scholarship was a turning point in my life and I am still reaping the benefits of attending.*

## Enthusiasm for Scouting continues long after Mawson Course concludes

A fundamental goal of the Mawson Leadership Program is to develop future Leaders for Scouting and the wider community. In 2012, courses were run in Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory, where 41 participants attending from all corners of Australia, were challenged, provoked and pushed to achieve his or her best. The ACT Program even included the surprise challenge of having to complete the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) obstacle course suspended above its swimming pool.

The Queen's Scout Award has now been completed by 24 Mawson graduates, several of whom have already progressed to Rover Scouts, with a number of them having taken on a diverse range of Scouting Leadership responsibilities. This includes being a Line Leader, joining Adventurous Activities teams, running Branch Youth Councils, establishing Region Venturer Councils, roles on major Event Committees, Assistant Contingent Leaders and of course, leading their local Units.

## Geocaching – Why not try it today!

The Great Scouts Australia Geocaching Competition is another new National initiative. The concept was inspired by youth members and developed Nationally by a team of Scouts, Venturer Scouts and young Leaders, led by Alex Motyka.

Geocaching combines technology with outdoor adventure and is a great way to explore locations, near and far. Scouts Australia members have been challenged to find as many caches as possible, within a six month period. Packs, Mobs, Patrols, small teams or individuals have been able to participate, all having the chance to with a share of \$10 000 in prizes provided by Magellan. A Scouts Australia Geocoin has been produced along with other support material to add to the fun and ensure the activity is a great success.

## National Youth Council

The National Youth Council (NYC) has gone from strength to strength over the year. Two areas that the Executive Team focused on improving were increasing promotion and engagement with youth members, and completing a more diverse range of discussion topics. At the NYC's two annual conferences, the Council worked on ensuring it followed the Scout Method, with more focus on learning by doing. This empowered the entire Executive Team to be involved in the Organisation, not just the Chair. The NYC was also lucky enough to be visited by Dan Ryan, Australia's 2012 United Nations Youth Representative, at its September conference. Here members told him all about youth involvement in decision making!

The establishment of a NYC Facebook page has done wonders for engaging young and old alike. As a result, NYC online surveys are receiving ever increasing response rates. The NYC has also diversified the spaces available to members, empowering them to communicate more with the Executive Team. Many members have taken up this opportunity to discuss issues and their responses through the NYC Facebook Events Page.

but also to the Scouting Movement, with the months of effort and energy he undertook during the 23rd Australian Jamboree, AJ2013, deserves tremendous praise.

**New Rover Website – [www.rovers.com.au](http://www.rovers.com.au)**

The much awaited Rover Scouts website was launched in November 2012. From all reports, it has been a successful venture, taking much of the Rover Scouts' time over the last 12 months.

Nicole Strachan, current National Rover Council Chair 2013 said:

*Through this website, we achieved our aim of producing an interactive site with a simple management system, allowing anyone without website experience to be able to keep the site up to date.*



The Council has also worked on completing a broader range of topics. Its inclusion in the National Youth Program Team has enabled it to gain incredible insight into its own research, along with developing important feedback. Focussing on short topics and providing a snapshot of youth ideas, rather than performing in-depth research, has allowed the NYC to become involved in decisions made at National level.

However at the same time, the NYC has remained dedicated to its key long term topics. Some of the topics the NYC completed in 2012 included reviewing the uniform; suggesting activities for the upcoming WWI Centenary; assisting the Rover Review and Implementation Team (RRIT); exit surveys for members; and the role of Venturers at Jamborees. The NYC has also developed innovative new ways of communicating results, using explanatory videos for the first time, for example, to deliver the uniform report. This was well received around Australia and the NYC continues to develop this idea even further in the future.

## National Rover Council

The last 12 months have seen the National Rover Council Executive Team and National Rover Council (NRC) achieve a majority of its goals, including the redevelopment and launch of the new Rover Australia website.

This would not have occurred without the tenacity, guidance and leadership of Shaun Sandilands, NRC Chair 2012. Shaun has done himself and the Rover Scouts Section proud and Scouts Australia is glad to see him achieve not only his Wood Badge in Rovers, but also a Rover Scout Service Award. Shaun is a great example of what Scouting development is all about. His dedicated work, not only to the Section, as Chair

New features of the website include a strong emphasis being placed on developing successful partnerships and advanced connections with organisations like Reachout.com, Stay Smart Online and HelloSundayMorning. Additional features of the website include a National Calendar along with interactive and up-to-date news. The future development of the new website will include assessing the need for a webmaster.

## AJ2013 Maryborough

Rover Scouts was very well represented at AJ2013. They had an active role in many parts of the camp including Troop lines, Organising Committee, activities, media, welfare and organising / building one of the most popular activities at Jamboree, 'Challenge Valley'. The Rover Scouts Section contributed hugely to ensuring the success of AJ2013. The Jamboree also gave Rovers the opportunity to promote their Section and the diverse experiences this Section has to offer.

The Rover display at the National tent saw Rover Scouts promote upcoming Moots, weekly Program nights and the new Rover Service Award medallion.

## Rover Review Implementation Team

Keeping in line with the recommendations of the 'Rovering Toward 2020' report (The Rover Review), the National Operations Committee established a Rover Review Implementation Team (RRIT) in April 2012, to work on these recommendations. A new position was created to Chair the RRIT in April 2012, under the title of National Rover Council Adviser and Leah Bach was appointed to this role.

Though not even 12 months into her three year term, Leah has not only integrated well but set a good grounding for further development of this role and the future governance of the National Rover Council.

The RRIT meets on a regular basis to analyse work progress. The team consists of Shaun Sandilands (QLD), Matthew Ray (QLD), Ayden Mackenzie (WA), Mathew McKernan (VIC) and Andrew Tremain (SA). It is chaired by Leah Bach; while John Clarke, National Commissioner, Youth Program and Reg Williams, Chief Commissioner, are ex-officio members.

The RRIT also secured agreement of the National Operations Committee to a newly designed Rover Scout Award Scheme and continues to work towards a launch of the new Scheme at the National Rover Moot – Western Australia Moot in January 2014.

## Special Needs

The last 12 months have seen exciting activities within the Special Needs area of Scouts Australia. Young people with special needs continue to be involved in Scouting activities, along with their peers in local Scout Groups as well as a small number of Specialised Troops.

Scouts Australia hosted a highly successful Asia-Pacific Workshop on Special Needs over the Easter 2012 period in Perth. It was attended by 34 representatives from all the Branches as well as from Bangladesh,



*The 2013 National Rover Executive (L-R): Ryan Beeby, Training & Development Officer; Nicole Strachan, NRC Chair; Alison Maynard, NRC Vic Chair; and, Leah Bach, NRC Adviser*



In particular the RRIT is tasked with:

- recommending a model and tools to deliver the Rover Program as outlined in the Rover Review;
- developing the details for a new Rover Scout Award Scheme, using the framework as outlined in the Review;
- developing clearer guidelines for Squire Training and the Knighthood theme;
- examining governance of the Rover Scout Section at National and Branch levels and recommending changes;
- developing and implementing effective communications within the Rover Scout Section, linked to Scouts Australia's systems;
- developing and implementing strategies to attract new members to the Rover Scout Section; and
- recommending changes to all publications in hard and electronic copy.

The RRIT, in conjunction with work undertaken by the NRC, NYC, Branch Teams and Branch Rover Councils, completed 14 of the 19 recommendations.

Just some of the work rolled out in 2012 included:

- name of the Section changing to the Rover Scout Section and members of the Section now referred to as 'young adults';
- age range for the Section becoming 18-25 years (i.e. 26th birthday);
- NRC developing programming tools for the Rover Scout Section that promote flexible and affordable Programs;
- NRC undertaking a review of its governance arrangements and identifying areas for improvement; and
- NSW Branch undertaking a trial of the Rover Pathways Program to support those exiting the Section.

Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Singapore and Sri Lanka. The participants worked together to:

- explain terminologies and list new developments in working with young people with special needs;
- outline the benefits of including youth with special needs and disabilities in Scouting;
- share current practices for working with youth with special needs and disabilities in Scouting;
- contribute to a network among interested persons in National Scout Organisations to share experiences and promote the involvement of youth with special needs in Scouting; and
- develop an activity or project to be considered by NSOs to support Scouts and non-Scouts with disabilities.

At the end of the workshop, 13 recommendations arose under three areas – Training, Networking/Resources and Program/Activities. One of the recommendations is to organise a similar workshop in 2014. The workshop concluded well with the support of Reg Williams, National Chief Commissioner; Peter Blatch, National Adviser for Special Needs; John Clarke, National Commissioner Youth Program; and Sheridan Bunney of WA, who was Workshop Director; as well as Abdullah Rasheed and Farouk Bouraoui from the Asia-Pacific Regional office.

AJ2013 provided a great opportunity for Scouts with special needs to join in Scouting at the Jamboree. It is believed about 200 young people with special needs were at the Maryborough site. One of the activities at the Jamboree enabled youth to experience what it was like to have a special need, as they participated in specific recreational activities.

The Special Needs Network continues to operate across Australia and provides specialist expertise in the area of Scouting for people with special needs. It is currently working on Guidelines to assist with Award Scheme accommodations for individual Scouts; and the development of management plans for young people participating in specific events. A National survey is being conducted regarding support needed by Leaders who have Scouts with autism. Training of all Leaders about youth with special needs remains a priority.

## Scouts Australia Institute of Training (SAIT)

The Scouts Australia Institute of Training (SAIT) is committed to growing and developing Program material and its personnel to ensure the services we provide is of the highest standard across Australia. In turbo-charging this development, during the year SAIT created two Deputy Principal positions, one for Academia to continue the build-out of our e-Learning offering and ensure our alignment with the VET sector remains a focus; and another, for Adventurous Activities to bring alive SAIT's capability to deliver Certificates II, III and IV in Outdoor Recreation, while ensuring all of our Programs meet the needs of the Youth Program. Paul Parkinson and Phil Harrison have been appointed to these roles respectively.

## Wood Badge Training Statistics

Training statistics for the 2012-13 year are indicated below. Branches have continued to ensure opportunities for Leaders to progress through their Basic and Advanced Training to attain the Wood Badge, which remains one of our highest priorities. Also, for those who have completed their Wood Badge, further development opportunities to achieve the Diploma in Management and Leadership have been provided.

## Scouts Australia Institute of Training 'e-Learning'

There have been significant developments in the provision of e-Learning Training Programs since the last period of reporting. In the period under review, Leader of Youth and Leader of Adults modules have been progressed, with a continual review of content, method and approach occurring. To date, 79 individual modules for Leaders of Youth in both Basic and Advanced Training have been completed, and 45 modules relevant to both Basic and Advanced Training for Leaders of Adults have also been finished.

### 2012-2013 ANNUAL STATISTICS

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	TOTAL
Basic-Certificates of Adult Leadership – LOY	83	313	5	499	88	49	622	212	1871
Basic-Certificates of Adult Leadership – LOA	3	27	1	178	9	2	66	32	318
Advanced Training Courses – LOY	3	66	2	492	38	0	157	15	773
Advanced Training Courses – LOA	0	16	0	197	17	2	46	5	283
Wood Badges LOY	3	66	2	39	38	0	157	15	320
Wood Badges LOA	0	16	0	6	17	0	46	5	90
Training of Trainers Part 1, 2, 3 and 4	0	0	0	16	27	3	124	9	179

(LOY – Leader of Youth, LOA – Leader of Adults)

Branch	Cert II	Cert III	Cert IV	Completed Diplomas	Diploma Units
ACT	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	0	66 (41)	66 (48)	1 (1)	8
NT	0	7 (0)	2 (0)	0	0
QLD	8 (8)	80 (53)	38 (30)	0 (2)	10
SA	0	36 (29)	52 (38)	5 (5)	84
TAS	0	2 (1)	3 (3)	0	2
VIC	8 (8)	33 (29)	96 (66)	2 (2)	29
WA	0	95 (60)	14 (12)	0	13
Total	16 (16)	319 (213)	271 (197)	8 (10)	146

First figure is Frontline Management and the figure in brackets is Leadership



Additionally, a complete analysis of current training topics into common headings as well as a check of all materials was completed. This was to ensure consistency across Sections. To this effect, amendments were made to various modules relating to the incorporation of materials for the new Scout Method and the Areas of Personal Growth. Certificate IV attachments required for completion by Leaders in Advanced Training have been embedded in all modules necessary, which added to the bank of material immediately accessible by new Leaders.

This followed on from the incorporation of the attachments relating to the Certificate III qualifications, which were added earlier in the period of review. Both of these inclusions were created to reduce direct printing costs to Branches where attachment booklets were printed; provide immediate access and connection to Leaders working their way through the training material; and have 'value added' greatly to our overall Wood Badge Training Program.

A number of new Electives have also been in development, but were put on hold due to various development demands and budget considerations. Action required of training from the implementation of the Rover Review recommendations has been addressed, and the Session Leader Handbook material required to support the new 'Growing Your Group' DVD expected to be released by June 2013, has also been actioned.

With the increased emphasis being placed on Adventurous Activities and our capacity to be able to deliver the full qualifications at Certificate II, III and IV level in Outdoor Recreation, ten e-Learning modules are in development, related to the theory components of various areas. More work will occur in this area with the current ten modules under final development to be released in May 2013.

Overall, it has been a very active year for the continued development of our e-Learning platform, which will continue to grow and develop in the many years to come. This platform, which provides flexibility, consistency and currency of learning, is now the core of our Adult Training and Development Program. This is because it delivers the benefits of a reduction in the time taken for new Leaders to gain base competency and provides simple pathways for experienced Leaders to further develop their skills through our Advanced Programs.

## National Training Committee

Two meetings of the National Training Committee were held in May and September 2012. Both meetings were extremely valuable in maintaining our targeted focus on many issues. These include the SAIT Annual Business Plan, e-Learning and RTO responsibilities, including our accountability reporting for compliance issues to the new National regulator the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA).

These meetings are SAIT's Curriculum Development Advisory Committee (CDAC), a necessary body required to meet regularly under the conditions of being a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). Various aspects of compliance related to all Branches were also topics for discussion and action.

## Training of Trainers

As in recent years, SAIT continues to improve on the capabilities of its Trainers across Australia. It is a requirement that all Trainers hold a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment as a minimum; our partnership with St. John Ambulance Australia is an enabler for this qualification.

As we finalise this minimum requirement across the National Training Team, this critical standard now allows our higher level Trainer Programs (e.g. Course for Potential Leader Trainers) to focus on more advanced learning theories, course design principles, leadership etc.

## Adventurous Activities

During the year, SIS10 (the Sports, Fitness and Recreation Training Package) has continued to be embedded into our Adult Training & Development Program. As reported earlier, our ability to offer Certificate II, III and IV in Outdoor Recreation as part of our training offering, not only provides external recognition for the material we deliver in our Youth Program, but is providing employment opportunities for our Scouting members.

Although the variety of offerings under this Training Package is vast, Scouts is focussing on ensuring the Programs we offer and deliver are aligned to our Youth Program needs, as a priority. For this reason the key areas that have been our focus of effort are abseiling, bushwalking, canoeing, kayaking, caving, climbing, challenge ropes and sailing.

There are many different levels of skill in each of these areas as well as the type of terrain/environment in which they apply. For this reason, we have not yet elaborated in detail on the many other recreation activities offered under this Training Package. However, this will be in focus over the year or two ahead.

As these Programs, and their application in broader Scouting, are of potentially high risk, we need to ensure we have the highest standard of quality assurance in both what we offer and how we deliver it.

The National Adventurous Activities Committee met in May 2012 at Treetops Campsite in Victoria, to continue its extensive work in developing and refining Adventurous Activities Training. New innovations include the trial of on the job assessment of Adventurous Activities skills during AJ2013 in Maryborough, and the development of the 'National School' concept. The key focus however, has been ensuring we have a structured Assessment Program that recognises the skills that Scouting members have gathered, through experience or external education.

While there is more to do here, including having a National register of people delivering this type of training, we are well on the path to providing the best Adventurous Activities training in Australia.

**Although the variety of offerings under this Training Package is vast, Scouts is focussing on ensuring the Programs we offer and deliver are aligned to our Youth Program needs, as a priority.**



## Lord Baden-Powell Society

For over 25 years, Members of the Lord Baden-Powell Society have helped young Australians to experience the benefits and joy of Scouting, by providing private financial support to Scouting across Australia.

In 2012, the Society contributed over \$287 195 to Branches and Scouting Members. Included in this figure was \$151 195 which was provided as financial assistance to over 300 youth members to attend the 23rd Australian Jamboree and other international events.

The Society has four levels of membership – Members, Leaders, Ambassadors and Patrons, who contribute from \$175 to \$1200 annually. The annual membership income is distributed each June to the State branches at the Annual General Meeting. The distribution to each branch is calculated according to the proportion of Society members in each State.

To show its appreciation to its truly loyal and committed supporter base, the Society launched its Honours Recognition Program in 2011.

The Program recognises those members, both current and past, whose cumulative financial contributions total in excess of \$15 000, including membership gifts, Jamboree Fund support, general donations and bequests to The Scout Association of Australia.

We are pleased to announce that an additional five members reached Honours Recognition Status in the last 12 months.

# Lord Baden-Powell Society



## Honour Board

### **BADEN-POWELL CIRCLE** \$100 000+

Mr Dick Smith AO & Mrs Pip Smith  
Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Ltd

### **CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE** \$50 000 - \$99 999

Colonel John Hill MBE OAM ED Rtd ●  
Mr John D Leece OAM  
Mr Peter F Perini  
Mr Allan Hogarth Waterworth ●

### **BENEFACTORS CIRCLE** \$25 000 - \$49 999

Mr Robert O Albert AO RFD RD  
Mr R G N Fabris OAM ●  
Mr John B Fairfax AO  
Mr Brian T Loton AC  
Mrs Vicki Parsons  
Mr Allan J Rogers AM  
Mr Neil M Westaway AM

### **HONOURS CIRCLE** \$15 000 - \$24 999

Mr Paul P Andersen  
Mr Miles D Barclay QS  
Mr Anthony R Berg AM  
Mr Marc Besen AO  
Dr John Hans Bollig PhD OAM AAA ●  
Mr Robert Bryan  
Mr Kenneth J Butterworth  
Mr John T Cameron  
Mr Keith Carmody ●  
Mr Robert B Coles  
Dr Peter J Davis  
Mr David De La Coeur  
Mr Robin H Fildes OAM  
Mr Peter N Fleming MBE ●  
Mr William A Gillespie OAM  
Mr Frank D Goudge  
Mrs Shirley W Greathead  
Mr Frederick L Hall AM ●  
Mr William Hayward  
Mr Eric C Howie ●  
Mr Gordon W Ingate  
Mr Brian L Jones OAM  
Mr A Geoff Lee AM OAM ●  
Mr Norman Lees  
Mr Owen Longfield  
Mrs Skye McGregor

### **HONOURS CIRCLE** \$15 000 - \$24 999

Mr John R McIlwain  
Mr N Frank Mitchell  
Mr Richard Montgomery  
Mr Baillieu Myer AC  
Mr Richard J D Oliver AM  
Mr Rodney O'Neil  
Mr Max A Otto BE JP  
Mr J Bruce Parncutt  
Miss Florence V M Pidgeon AM  
Mr Allan G Preece  
Mr John B Prescott AC  
Mr Robert Rich  
Mr Alan E Richmond  
Mrs Gina H Rinehart  
Mr George W Roberts OBE  
Cmdre Dacre H D Smyth  
AO RAN Rtd ●  
Mr John G Spalvins  
Mrs Edith C Stewart ●  
Mr J W M Tidex DFC ●  
Sir Bruce D Watson AC Kt ●  
Mr Robert J White AO  
Mr A G D White  
Mr Laurence E Wilkins  
The Hon Sir John Young  
AC KCMG ●

● Gone Home

*The Honour Board is located at the National Office of The Scout Association of Australia in Sydney.*

*Updates can be viewed on the Scout Association of Australia website.*

*The Lord Baden-Powell Society Committee wishes to thank all its members and the Movement for their continued support.*

Scouts Australia is the largest youth Movement in Australia. There are around 66 000 members, joining over 30 million Scouts in 161 countries.

## The Mission of Scouts

To contribute to the education of young people, through a value system based on the Promise and Law, to help build a better world, where people are self fulfilled as individuals and play a constructive role in society.

We achieve this by:

- Involving young people through their formative years in a non-formal education process.
- Using a specific method that makes each individual the principal agent in his or her development as a self-reliant, supportive and committed person.
- Assisting them to establish a value system based upon spiritual, social and personal principles as expressed in the Promise and Law.

## The Scouting Sections

### Joey Scouts (Ages 6 to 7)

Joey Scout activities develop children's sense of sharing and personal identity, as well as teach them about nature. Joey Scouts work together as a Mob under the theme HOP (Helping Other People). The Program emphasises cooperative, participatory learning, through a wide range of fun activities.

### Cub Scouts (Ages \*8 to 10)

Cub Scouting gives boys and girls adventure, achievement and a chance to grow their character. Cub Scouts develop their skills by working for Achievement Badges in their favourite areas such as sport, environment and art. Cubs Scouts operate in a Pack, with the emphasis on fun activity.

# What is Scouting?



## Aim

The Aim of Scouting is to encourage the physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual development of young people so that they take a constructive place in society as a member of their local, national and international community.

## Principles

The Principles of Scouting, as identified by the founder, Lord Baden-Powell, are that Scouts serve their God, act in consideration of the needs of others and develop and use their abilities to the betterment of themselves, their families and the community in which they live.

## Methods

The principal methods used by the Association to achieve its aims are:

- Voluntary membership of a uniformed Group which, guided by adults, is increasingly self-governing in its successive age groups.
- Commitment to a code of living as expressed in the Promise and Law, the meaning of which is expanded as the member grows towards maturity.
- The provision of a wide range of attractive, constructive and challenging activities, including opportunities for adventure and exploration, both indoors and outdoors.
- The provision of opportunities for leadership and responsibility.
- Learning by doing.
- Encouragement of activities in small Groups.
- An Award Scheme that encourages participation in the full range of activities and provides recognition of individual achievements.

### Scouts (Ages: \*11 to 14 years)

Boys and girls of Scout age are looking for a sense of achievement. Scouts gives young people the opportunity to follow their special interests closely, develop personally and learn special skills in fields such as campcraft, air and water activities and the environment.

### Venturer Scouts (Ages: \*15 to 17 years)

Young people in Venturer Scouts develop their sense of maturity and responsibility through the chance to be self-governing and to choose their own activities. Venturer Scouts expand on their Scouting knowledge, learning more about leadership, initiative and personal skills.

### Rover Scouts (Ages: 18 to 25 years)

A Rover Scout is a young adult dedicated to fun and adventure, while serving the community in the Scouting way. As young adults, Rover Scouts can apply to their lives the principles of Scouting they have learned, while still enjoying challenge and adventure.

*\*The commencement for advancement in Sections may vary up to six months.*

## Scout Promise

There are two versions of the Scout Promise. Individuals taking the Promise may choose to use either of the Promises.

On my honour

I promise that

I will do my best

To do my duty to my God

And to Australia

To help other people and

To live by the Scout Law.

or

On my honour

I promise that

I will do my best

To do my duty to my God

And to the Queen of Australia

To help other people and

To live by the Scout Law.



## Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy

A Scout is loyal

A Scout is helpful

A Scout is friendly

A Scout is cheerful

A Scout is considerate

A Scout is thrifty

A Scout is courageous

A Scout is respectful

A Scout cares for the environment



Scouts Australia is managed by a National Executive Committee. A body of volunteers, the Committee is made up of Chief Commissioners and Chairpersons from each State Branch as well as the Chief Commissioner of Australia, National Chairman and Hon. Treasurer.

Other members of the National Executive Committee are the International Commissioner, National Commissioner for Youth Program, National Commissioner for Adult Training and Development as well as two young people under 26 years of age, currently the Chair National Youth Council and Chair National Rover Council.

Scouts Australia's National Office has five full-time and five part-time professional staff members providing support to the positions above.

The most significant part of the team, however, is the tens of thousands of volunteers who act as Branch and Section Commissioners, Leaders and Supporters within the State Branches. They work at the ground level, directly with the Scout Sections, building Scouting in Australia every day.

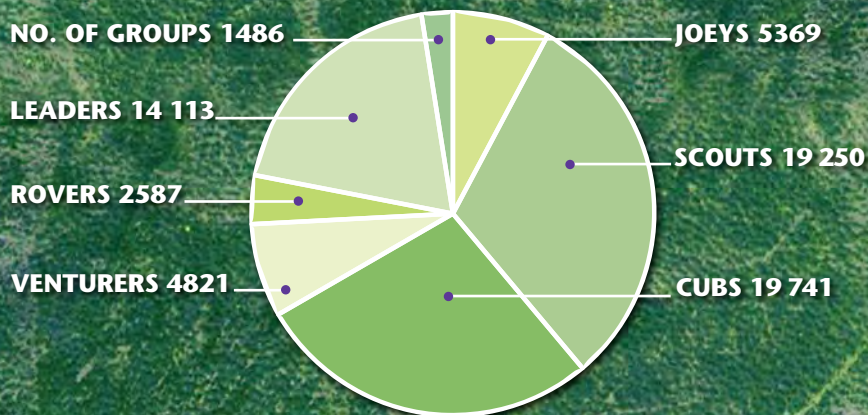
These volunteers have the support of full-time and part-time staff members at each Branch. Scouts Australia is a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).



# Scouts Australia Management



## Scouts Australia Membership 2012



## National Council

### Chief Scout of Australia

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce  
AC, CVO Governor-General of the  
Commonwealth of Australia

### National President

Major General Michael Jeffrey AC,  
AO (MLL), CVO, MC (Retd) –  
to 31 Dec 2012

Neil Westaway AM –  
from 1 Jan 2013

### Senior Vice President

Mr Neil Westaway AM

### Vice President

Dr Bruce Munro AM

## Chief Scouts of Branches

### New South Wales

Her Excellency Professor  
Marie Bashir AC, CVO

### Northern Territory

Her Honour The Honourable  
Sally Thomas AM

### Queensland

Her Excellency  
Ms Penelope Wensley AC

### South Australia

His Excellency Rear Admiral  
Kevin Scarce AC, CSC, RANR

### Tasmania

His Excellency The Honourable  
Peter Underwood AC

### Victoria

His Excellency The Honourable  
Alex Chernov AC, QC

### Western Australia

His Excellency Mr Malcolm  
McCusker AC, CVO, QC


## Life Members

Mrs K Brown OAM  
Mr HK (Chick) Carey AM  
Mr C Farmer OAM  
Mr W Geale OAM  
Dr B Munro AM  
Mr J Ravenhall AM  
Mr AL Tannahill AM  
Dr W Wells AM  
Mr N Westaway AM

## Members

Mr D Abell

Mr H Baird  
Ms A Black  
Mr P Blatch OAM  
Mr H Bloomfield  
Mrs Kirsty Brown OAM  
Mr A Buckle  
MR M Burfield  
Mr O Butler OAM  
Mr C Bates  
Mr JC Clarke  
Mr N Clutterbuck  
Mr G Coates  
Mr J Cornish  
Mr D Cossart  
Mrs J Creed OAM  
Mr R Critcher  
Mr J De Wijn QC  
The Hon. Sir W Deane AC, KBE  
Mr P Dickson  
Mr JD Doidge  
Mr L Farrelly  
Mr T Fearnley AM  
Mrs L Forde AC  
Mr G Fordham AM  
Mr A Forrest  
Mr M Freeman  
Mr P Harris OAM  
Mr T Hartley  
Mr B Hoffman  
Mr P Hull  
The Hon. GR James AM QC  
Mr DW Jones AM  
Mr J Karlovsky  
Mr G Kolsky OAM  
Mr I Langford-Brown  
Mr JD Leece OAM  
Mr A Lock OAM  
Mr L Lucas  
Mr D Martin OAM  
Mr S McCorkell JP  
Mr P McCormick  
Mr G McDougall  
Justice J McKecknie QC  
Mrs J McKenna  
Mr D Menzies  
Ms D Mitchell  
Mrs S Mitchell  
Mr GK Morgan

Mr K Moss  
Ms C Neilsen  
Mr L O'Brien  
Mr P Oldfield  
Mr R Pate OAM, OBE   
Mr P Parkinson  
Mr M Patten  
Major General J Pearn AM, RFD (Rtd)  
Mr J Ralph AC  
Mr C Ray  
Mr P Read  
Mr T Ryan  
Mr D Scott  
Mr M Stanley  
Ms N Strachan  
Mr G Strickland  
Mr P Styles  
Mr R Taylor  
Mr N Tomkins OAM JP  
Mr R Unger  
Mr S Walsh AO  
Mr P Walton CF  
Mr P Washusen  
Mr K Wells MLA  
Mr B Whittenbury  
Mr C Wilkinson  
Mr C Wise  
The Hon. G Williams AO  
Mr RW Williams RFD  
Major General N Wilson AM, RFD  
Mr D Young

## National Executive Committee

### Chairman

Mr DW Jones AM FCA

### Chief Commissioner of Australia

Mr RW Williams RFD

### Honorary Treasurer

Mr L O'Brien

## Branch Chief Commissioners

### Australian Capital Territory

Mr P Harris OAM

### New South Wales

Mr D Menzies

### Northern Territory

Mr S McCorkell JP

### Queensland

Mrs K Brown OAM

### South Australia

Mr C Bates

### Tasmania

Mr M Patten

### Victoria

Mr R Taylor

### Western Australia

Mr L Lucas

## Branch Chairmen/Presidents

### Australian Capital Territory

Mr T Ryan – to 19 Sep 2012

Mr L Farrelly – from 20 Sep 2012

### New South Wales

Mr P Read – to 18 Jan 2013

Ms H Playford – from 19 Jan 2013

### Northern Territory

Ms A Black

### Queensland

Mr C Ray

### South Australia

Mr G Coates

### Tasmania

Mr J Cornish

### Victoria

Mr J De Wijn QC

### Western Australia

Mr P Walton CF

## National Commissioners

### National Commissioner for Adult Training and Development

Mr P Parkinson – to 30 Nov 2012

Mr E Hynd – from 1 Dec 2012

### International Commissioner

Mr N Tomkins OAM JP

### National Commissioner for Youth Program

Mr JC Clarke

### Chair, National Rover Council

Mr S Sandilands – to 9 Feb 2013

Ms N Strachan – from 10 Feb 2013

### Chair, National Youth Council

Ms C Neilsen

## Officer of the Committee

Mr RJ Miller GAICD, FAIM,  
FAMI, CPM

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# 2012-2013 Awards

The following members of Scouts Australia were included in the Queen's Birthday 2012 and the Australia Day 2013 Honours.

## MEDAL (OAM) OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Mr Ronald Frederick Barnes, SA

Mr Barry John Dudman, TAS

Mrs Holly Ferrara, WA

Mr Albert William Gamble, NSW

Mr Eric Maxwell Palmer, NSW

## MEMBER (AM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

Dr Warwick Carl Bateman OAM, NSW

Mr Grant Raymond De Fries, NSW

## 2012 Silver Kangaroo Awards

The following members of Scouts Australia received the Silver Kangaroo for eminent achievement and meritorious service to the Association in the 1 August 2012 Adult Recognition Award Presentations.

NAME	APPOINTMENT	FORMATION	BRANCH
David Ian Cocking	Branch Commissioner Camp Cottermouth	ACT Branch	ACT
Kay Margaret George	Group Leader	1st South West Rocks Scout Group	NSW
Barbara Joyce Lewis	Honorary Commissioner (Region)	South Metropolitan Region	NSW
Neville Brian Murray	District Commissioner	Cudgegong District	NSW
Patricia Anne Shaw	Branch Commissioner (Cub Scouts)	NSW State Headquarters	NSW
Brian Kenneth James Tye	State Commissioner (Special Projects)	NSW State Headquarters	NSW
Michael Charles Weatherly JP	Regional Commissioner (Rover Scouts)	South Metropolitan Region	NSW
Lucy June Bate	District Adviser (Cub Scouts)	Nambour District	QLD
Arthur James Bell	Deputy Region Commissioner	Suncoast Region	QLD
Dianne Randerson	Group Leader	Scoutreach Lones Scout Group	QLD
Edna Anne Sparrow	Activity Leader (Youth Activities)	Queensland Branch Youth Activities Team	QLD
Margery Helen Currie	District Leader – Development	Boroondara District	VIC
Lindsay Keith Fry	Activity Leader	Clifford Park Patrol Activity Camps	VIC
Jon Andrew Peart	Region Commissioner	Western Region	VIC
Peter Russell Rutley OAM	Region Commissioner	Plenty Valley Region	VIC
Andrew Peter Taylor	Australian Scout Magazine Editor and Group Leader	Fitzroy Scout Group	VIC
Douglas James Wright	Executive Director – Whitehorse Showtime	Assistant Scout Leader – 1st Maroondah Scout Group	VIC
Ashley Lansom	Fellowship Member	1st Wembley Downs Scout Group	WA
Graeme Stickland	Scout Leader	1st Padbury Scout Group	WA
Larry Lucas	Chief Commissioner	WA Branch	WA



## 2012 National President's Awards

The following supporters of Scouts Australia received the National President's Award for eminent achievement and meritorious service to the Association in the 1 August 2012 Adult Recognition Award Presentations.

NAME	APPOINTMENT	FORMATION	BRANCH
Barbara Fay Osseweyer	District Leader	Keirawarra District	NSW
Lyall Alan Wood AM RFD	Fellowship Chairman	Cumberland Gang Fellowship	NSW
Ken Arthur Henstock	Honorary Commissioner (Region)	South Metropolitan Region	NSW
Lynne Faye Clark	Fellowship Member	Central Coast Gang Show Fellowship	NSW
Kay Law	Adult Helper	Queensland Branch Headquarters	QLD
Lois Parkinson	Supporter	Queensland Branch	QLD
Glen Robert Thiess	General Fellowship Member	Nambour District Scout Fellowship	QLD
Stephen John Hastwell	Marketing Manager	South Australia Branch	SA
Marjory June Flood	Branch Life Member	Tasmania Branch	TAS
Stephen Chew	Corporate Services Manager	Victoria Branch	VIC
John Edwin Evans	District Personnel Committee Convener	Bayside District	VIC
Donald Charles Leeson	Australian Scout Magazine Contributor	Australian Scout Fellowship – Mt Baw Baw District	VIC
Kelvin George McMeeken	Group Chairman	Victorian Scout Heritage	VIC
Jo Rutley	Camp Committee Secretary	Banyule District	VIC
Rodney Keith Savage	Branch Activity Leader (Scout Band)	Victoria Branch Scout Band	VIC
Margaret Joan Turner	District Treasurer	Cardinia District	VIC



# Thank you to all our Volunteers and Supporters

The National Executive Committee of Scouts Australia would like to thank you for your continued support and encouragement of our work of the past year. Your dedication and spirit motivates and inspires us to strive for more in the upcoming year, and has helped shape Scouting into what it is today.

## Our Sponsors

The support and financial contributions of our sponsors has been very much appreciated at every level within the Association:

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Scouts Australia would like to express sincere thanks to everyone who submitted photos through the year. Submissions by Andrew Cottam, Gabriel Dubler, Christina Gretton, Steve Griffin, Bryce Hofferfmann, Ben Low, Alex Motyka, Natasha Omar, John Pugh, Greg Rollo, Dion Selton, Aaron Wardle, Sandra Wind, 1st Eden Sea Scouts, AJ2013 photographers, Landcare Australia, New South Wales Branch, Queensland Branch, South Australian Branch and Tasmania Branch among others were used in the production of this publication.

# CONTACT DETAILS



## National Office

Level 1, Scouts Australia House  
8 Help Street  
Chatswood NSW 2067  
Tel: 02 9413 1133  
Fax: 02 9413 1177  
Email: [scouts@scouts.com.au](mailto:scouts@scouts.com.au)

## Scouts Australia Institute of Training

17/332 Handford Road  
Taigum QLD 4018  
Tel: 07 3216 2314  
Fax: 07 3216 2315  
Email: [training.comm@scouts.com.au](mailto:training.comm@scouts.com.au)

## National Youth Program Office

1/34 Brinkworth Street  
South Plympton SA 5038  
Mobile: 0410 402 123  
Email: [youth.comm@scouts.com.au](mailto:youth.comm@scouts.com.au)

## International Office

C/o 89 Kitchener Street  
Garran ACT 2605  
Mobile: 0418 365 664  
Email: [int.comm@scouts.com.au](mailto:int.comm@scouts.com.au)  
Website: [www.international.scouts.com.au](http://www.international.scouts.com.au)

## Australian Capital Territory Branch

89 Kitchener Street  
Garran ACT 2605  
Tel: 02 6282 5211  
Email: [actscouts@act.scouts.asn.au](mailto:actscouts@act.scouts.asn.au)

## New South Wales Branch

Level 1, Quad 3  
102 Bennelong Parkway  
Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127  
Tel: 02 9735 9000  
Email: [info@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:info@nsw.scouts.com.au)

## Northern Territory Branch

PO Box 2908  
Palmerston NT 0831  
Tel: 08 8948 0994  
Email: [admin@nthq.scouts.com.au](mailto:admin@nthq.scouts.com.au)

## Queensland Branch

32 Dixon Street  
Auchenflower QLD 4066  
Tel: 07 3870 7000  
Email: [qldhq@scoutsqld.com.au](mailto:qldhq@scoutsqld.com.au)

## South Australian Branch

211 Glen Osmond Road  
Frewville SA 5063  
Tel: 08 8130 6000  
Email: [hq@sa.scouts.com.au](mailto:hq@sa.scouts.com.au)

## Tasmanian Branch

The Lea Scout Centre  
330 Proctors Road  
Kingston TAS 7050  
Tel: 03 6229 9385  
Email: [tas.bhq@tas.scouts.com.au](mailto:tas.bhq@tas.scouts.com.au)

## Victorian Branch

152 Forster Road  
Mt Waverley VIC 3149  
Tel: 03 8543 9800  
Email: [vicbranch@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:vicbranch@vicscouts.asn.au)

## Western Australian Branch

Baden-Powell House  
581 Murray Street  
West Perth WA 6005  
Tel: 08 9480 4200  
Email: [enquiries@scoutswa.com.au](mailto:enquiries@scoutswa.com.au)

## Lord Baden-Powell Society

Level 1, Scouts Australia House  
8 Help Street  
Chatswood NSW 2067  
Tel: 02 8440 5908  
Email: [lbps@scouts.com.au](mailto:lbps@scouts.com.au)

## NATIONAL WEBSITE

[www.scouts.com.au](http://www.scouts.com.au)