

Today's



Be prepared...
for new adventure!

THE DEN RAG

Shailer Park Scout Group | Quarterly Newsletter November 2014

**XMAS Breakup
November 30**

Starts 9.30am. All members and their families welcome. Brunch, games and fun included.

Celebrating 30 years



VIVE LA FRANCE! VENTURERS DO SWEET PARIS

During the September/October School Holidays, 5 Shailer Park Venturers and 4 Shailer Park Leaders left Brisbane for a long journey to France. Some of the party did a quick tour of Kuala Lumpur during their stopover.

We flew into Paris at dawn on the 18/09/2014, seeing the Eiffel Tower from 7000m before we landed. Everyone spent the next couple of days, sightseeing.

We toured the Notre Dame Cathedral, Arc de Triomphe, Louvre and the Eiffel Tower. We left Paris on the 25/09/2014 and headed to Jambville Scout camping grounds.

On the 26/09/2014, we travelled to Villers-Bretonneux, one of the World War one battle sites, where Australian Troops fought, three years after the ANZAC troops landed in Gallipoli. It was here that Mephisto, the last surviving example

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XMAS FUNDRAISER

Books of 30 tickets will be sent home with the eldest child. Families need to sell at least \$20 worth of tickets to help with the group's fundraising efforts. \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5.

DONATIONS NEEDED

We need donations for our Xmas raffle prize hampers. Please leave your donations in the box near the sign-in table. **All donations must be in by November 28** to give us time to make up the hampers.



Bunderra Cub Pack Report



CUBS LIKE CAMPING!

Tyamolum is the name of a great place for a Cub camp. That sort of nice bush that doesn't look like it hasn't had a drink in 20 years. The land looked like it had lots of folds, tall gums with bush surrounding a languidly flowing creek, perfect for a hide away. And that's exactly what the bushrangers of Tyamolum did. Hiding their gold they sought out more; any rumours that it was just popping corn were totally ignored. This adventure was interspersed with some good scouting games with skills, campfire, oh, and lots of tucker.

August proved to be a good time, cool, but that just makes a more interesting escapade.

A leader new to the Cub style joined us this term - 'Curlew' (Helen Petersen), known to many of the Cubs from their Joey days. Seasoned on the Tyamolum camp Curlew makes Cubbing even better.

Isobel put in the hard yards and became our second Grey Wolf recipient for 2014 - what a great effort - woof!

A special night was planned in advance by the Cubs and the Sixers and Seconders ran the night which went really well, so impressive.

Now recently we had another wonderful camp at BP Park Samford. Swimming, abseiling, campfire, building things, JOTA, camping, and the Cubs own made up fun.

Good Hunting Pack Quoll



James Cuthbert was a champion, looking after the camp and meals so we could get off to activities quickly.

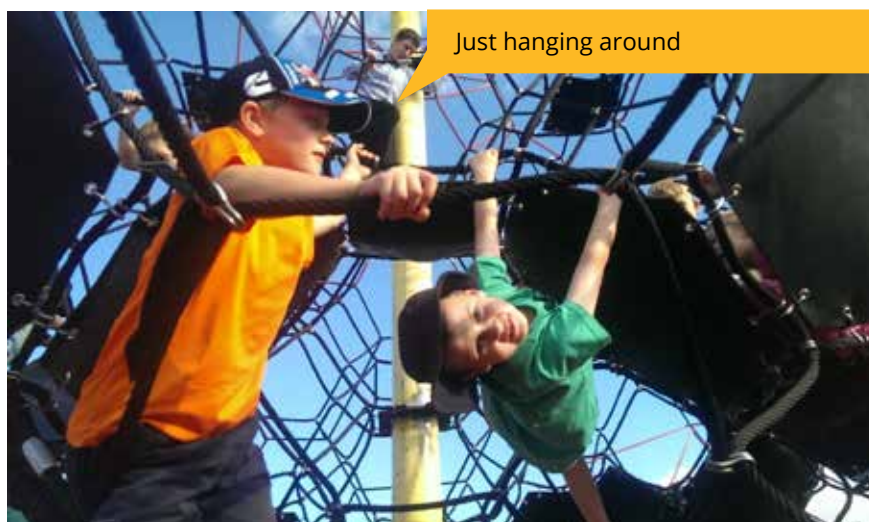
Thanks to the parents for helping set up and pack, these leaders really appreciate it.

Soon we have our fancy dress night coming up for Halloween be ready for that one. So with a good group of leaders and a great bunch of Cubs, the meetings will keep being awesome.



MINBALUP MOB — SHAILER PARK JOEY SCOUTS.

Term Three was all about colours and non-stop fun



Another year in Joeys is nearly over and Christmas is coming up very quickly. Term 3 saw Minbalup Joey Mob have fun participating in programs incorporating a colour theme. We progressed through the term with rainbows, the beach colours of blue and yellow, light and dark and making playdough and green goop as well as cooking some yummy goodies.

We also finished off earning our Buddy Badges by visiting Marsden Joeys and them visiting us. We enjoyed some great fun in the obstacle course including climbing over a rope bridge, playing a giant Twister game and making our own woggles. The Scouts-in-Action topic, 'Bullying is NOT a part of Scouting', was introduced and discussed with our Joeys where they heard about Allen the Alien, who helped us understand about being different. Joey Jaunt at BP Park was well attended by the

Joeys enjoying 'Queensland Agent - Sorry about that Chief' spy type activities.

Our sleep-over at Bayside Sea Scouts Landship was held at the end of August where we played in the parks, went for a walk along the waterfront, ate popcorn while we watched a movie, made sherbert and cooked 'cupcakes' in the microwave.

Joeys have welcomed 2 new Joeys at the end of Term 3 so we now have 11 Joeys and 2 Leaders making up our Joey Mob and have started Term 4 with a Science theme as well as including some fun Christmas activities, including a Christmas Concert and break-up to finish off the year. Thank you parents for your support during 2014, Kookaburra (Judy) and I appreciate your help.

We will be back next year with more fun and learning experiences for our Joeys to explore with each other.



Have a very Happy Christmas, be safe and enjoy a well-earned break with the family over the holidays.

See you all in 2015.

Good Scouting Joeys

*Platypus (Carol Riek)
Kookaburra (Judy Fisk)*

GROUP MEMBERS STAY STRONG

Every week we are getting more enquiries but more members are always welcome, especially girls.

Joeys	10	Leaders	2
Cubs	25	Leaders	5
Scouts	15	Leaders	3 + 1 parent helper
Venturers	9	Leaders	2
Rovers		New crew starting up	



THE JABIRU REPORT!

Group Leader Jabiru (Bob Riek)

I must thank Jenny our District Commissioner (DC) for stepping in when Carol and I had to travel interstate.

Our group has finally completed the questionnaire for the Group to be re-charted.

Our Den had an asbestos audit a couple Mondays ago and I am awaiting the outcome.

At the DTM last week the members who attended completed two e-learning modules that need to be completed by everyone by 31 March next year. These modules need to be completed by every member of scouting over the age of 18 years old including Leaders, Committee members and Supporters. I will be arranging an evening to complete

this training as a combined group at our den in the near future. I would like to sign up all parents who have not yet have a Positive Notice Blue Card. This will help when we require volunteers to help with camps, transport to camps or even help on a section night. The rules now state we can only choose you if you hold a Blue Card. So early next year I will be conducting sign up nights.

I was asked if our Group would join the other scouts to march in the G20 parade. I declined on behalf of the Leaders and committee on the grounds of likely protests. We have a substitute Regional Commissioner Jean Clifford as Ian Mcphee is away at present.

Xmas is fast approaching so we need to place donations in the box in the den. The more donations we get the more prizes we can give away.

Our Group break-up this year will be on Sunday 30 November at 9:30am. This will be a bacon and egg brunch. Each section will be called to help on the day. The Xmas raffle will be drawn at this function. More information to follow.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very merry and safe Christmas and hope to see you all again next year.

Yours in Scouting

*Jabiru
(Bob Riek)*



Scout Troop Report



BUILD A BRIDGE AND GET OVER IT!

And that's exactly what our troop did as part of our hiking and construction term. The challenge was to build a 3-metre bridge from rope and wood strong enough to hold a leader. The guys efforts were excellent with at least one sturdy bridge ready to cross.

Bridges weren't our only activities last term. We also spent time building flag poles, practising knots and learning the basics of first aid, hiking, the compass and orienteering.

This term our focus is on wrapping up our construction activities and commencing our water activities training so we can finally drag the new canoes out of the shed and hit the water!

It hasn't just been all work. We've had plenty of fun on the way including our spooky Dutton Park cemetery ghost tour and Halloween night party including all the usual games and treats.

A big welcome to all our new members

This term has seen five new scouts and one new leader (Python) join our troop. It seems every week we are welcoming a new face to our troop and we couldn't be more excited about it. Finally, congratulations to all our scouts who have been hard at work earning new badges. It takes a lot of time and commitment to earn a badge and it's great to see so many scouts making the effort.



DEN CLEANING REPORT

Welcome back to another term of Scouting!

Once again, our leaders have devised programmes for our kids that are full of opportunities to learn and develop, but most importantly to have fun.

In order for everyone to be able to get the most out of this, we owe it to the kids and the leaders to make sure the den is kept clean and tidy.

With this in mind, I would like to put forward a HUGE vote of thanks to all of you – pretty much everyone has been turning up when they are rostered and doing their bit to help.

This is wonderful to see!

Please have a check through to see if your family is on the roster this term.

Call the family you are rostered with and arrange a time to meet at the den (if you cannot both come at the same time, perhaps agree who will do what and arrive separately).

The key is available to be collected from me – I am at the den Wednesday and Friday evenings (as I have a Cub and a Scout), or you can collect it from my house on your way to the den – I live on Anakie Dr, so you drive past my place to get to the den anyway!

Just call on 0411 838 100 to arrange when you will need the key, but please bear in mind that as I leave for work early most days, it is best if you call me the day before you will be doing the cleaning, so I can leave the key out for you if need be.

I hope you all have a wonderful final term of 2014.

Hanette Young
Den cleaning Coordinator

Den Cleaning Roster Term 2

Den key is available for collection from Hanette Young **0411 838 100**

Date	Child / Section	Parent's Surname	Contacts
15th / 16th Nov	Eli Bellini - Joeys	Bellini / Bath	Lucas / Jessica 0414 986 444
	Hamish Fox - Joeys	Fox	Angela / Christopher 0403 944 71
22nd / 23rd Nov	Henry Cosgrove - Scouts	Cosgrove	Annette / Andrew 0401 284 422 0413 544 532
	Ashton Back - Cubs	Back	Nicola / Jonathan 3806 2502 0421 757 998
29th / 30th Nov	Carlos Manderson - Cubs	Smith / Jungle	Kerryn / Mark 0438 033 474 3808 4619
	Jacob Chenhall - Scouts	Chenhall	Tracey / Ben 0432 455 578
6th / 7th Dec	Daniel Vernon - Cub	Vernon	Daniel / Amanda 0418 783 787
	Elizabeth Wheaton - Venturer	Wheaton	Lisa / David 3287 4839



KEEPING UP WITH THE VENTURERS!

of the first German military tank was captured and is currently housed at the Workshops Rail Museum at North Ipswich.

The Venturers handed over some photos and posters of the Tank, and then headed to the Australian War Memorial.

We said goodbye to Jambville on the 27/09/2014 and headed to La Rochelle. We spent the next couple of days exploring the area, finding geocaches and visiting Bordeaux.

On the 4/10/2014, we arrived at a French Scout camp. There was about 80 French Scout Youth members and about 20 Scout Leaders. We all had a wonderful time, making new friends and learning new activities and games. The theme of the camp was Pirates of the Caribbean. We swapped our scarves and handed out small gifts to the French Leaders and Youth Members.

All too soon, it was time to say Goodbye (au revoir) and start heading back to Paris.

The 7/10/2014, the Venturers visited the Catacombs under Paris. The remains of over 6 million French people have been placed here. We headed to one of a few bridges in Paris that is covered in locks. That night, we packed our luggage, ready for the trip home the next day. All too soon, we were back in Brisbane, hugging and talking to friends and loved ones, glad to be back home.

We had seen so much and made a lot of friends while we were there.

A big THANK YOU to all the wonderful people who helped with fundraising and donated time and money for this trip, from Cael Hodder, Cordelia Mason, Elizabeth Wheaton, Bryton Thompson, Jamie Hunter, Peter and Andrea Mason, Chrystele Morisset and Steven Moore.



GROUP SURVEY RESULTS

A few months back, parents were asked to share their thoughts and respond to a group survey.

Twenty four people completed the survey from a total of about 60 email invitations sent.

Most respondents had two children in Scouts for a period of 12 months or more. Just under half of all respondents currently are — or have been — committee members.

Total	Male	Female
24	9	15

While three-quarters (75%) of all parents surveyed have a valid blue card there was variance across sections with the number of blue card holders peaking in Scouts.

The results showed that most members only do Scouts. A number of youth members had done sport previously before joining Scouts but no longer did sporting activities outside of Scouts. Only a small percentage have intentions of taking up a sport or other activity in the foreseeable future.

About two-thirds of respondents help out with transport or as a parent helper or committee member.

The remaining third of respondents admitted to doing nothing more than dropping off and picking up kids.

Interestingly almost half of all respondents are happy to help out with transport and requests if someone just approached them.

CURRENT INVOLVEMENT WITH SCOUTS	Total	Male	Female
Respondents	24	9	15
	100%	100%	100%
Total	Male	Female	
I simply drop off and pick up	38%	11%	53%
I help out with transport	17%	22%	13%
I actively help out as a parent helper	25%	33%	20%
I'm on the committee	25%	33%	20%
All of the above	17%	22%	13%

A further 23% of male respondents said they'd be interested in becoming a leader if they knew how to get started. No respondents had any desire to be part of the committee.

Respondents were asked to prioritise four Scouting activities from the perspective of the youth member and the parent, with 1 as the highest priority and 4 as the lowest.

INVOLVEMENT YOU'D LIKE TO HAVE WITH SCOUTS	Total	Male	Female
Respondents	24	9	15
	100%	100%	100%
Total	Male	Female	
As little as possible thanks	4%		7%
I'm happy to help out with transport and the odd little request	46%	33%	53%
I'm happy to be a parent helper if somebody just asked me	21%	33%	13%
I'd consider being on the committee if I knew more about what's expected first	4%		7%
I'd love to be a Scout leader if I knew how to get started	13%	23%	7%
Other	12%	11%	13%

The survey found that nearly all parents know the names of the leaders and feel that they are always approachable. This was consistent across all sections with a slight bias towards males feeling that leaders are 'Always' approachable.

Regardless of section, camps came out the clear winner with parents and kids alike.

Parents overall rated badge work higher than youth members who preferred excursions and social activities over badge work.

ACTIVITY IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE

All Sections

	Youth Priority	Parent Priority
Camps	1	1
Social	4	3
Activities		
Badge Work	3	2
Excursions	2	4

Joey's

	Youth Priority	Parent Priority
Camps	2	1
Social	3	3
Activities		
Badge Work	4	2
Excursions	1	4
Cubs		

	Youth Priority	Parent Priority
Camps	1	2
Social	4	3
Activities		
Badge Work	2	1
Excursions	3	4

Scouts

	Youth Priority	Parent Priority
Camps	1	1
Social	4	3
Activities		
Badge Work	3	2
Excursions	2	4

Venturers

	Youth Priority	Parent Priority
Camps	1	2
Social	2	1
Activities		
Badge Work	4	3
Excursions	3	4

Nearly all survey respondents agree that some level of volunteering is fair. The exact amount is roughly evenly spread at 1-2 hours (25%), 2-4 hours (29%) and 4-6 hours (33%). Forty percent (40%) of the women favoured 2-4 hours while 56% of the men favoured 4-6 hours per year of volunteering.

REASONABLE VOLUNTEER AMOUNT	Total	Male	Female
Respondents	24	9	15
None, I pay me fees	4%		7%
1-2 hours	25%	22%	27%
2-4 hours	29%	11%	40%
4-6 hours	33%	56%	20%
Don't know	8%	11%	7%

The overwhelming of all respondents irrespective of gender or section agreed that den cleaning should form part of volunteering.

INCLUDE CLEANING IN VOLUNTEERING	Total	Male	Female
Respondents	24	9	15
Yes	63%	67%	60%
No	25%	22%	27%
Don't know	12%	11%	13%

However it seemed parents were split on whether to keep the den cleaning roster at all or scrap it for a cleaning levy. Overall, 58% of all surveyed parents want to keep the roster with the men split down the middle (44% for and against). Only 27% of women surveyed would prefer to pay the levy.

DEN ROSTER OR CLEANING LEVY	Total	Male	Female
Respondents	24	9	15
Pay Levy	33%	44%	27%
Keep Roster	58%	44%	67%
Don't know	9%	12%	6%

The number one reason given by female parents for not actively volunteering is 'being too busy'. Encouragingly, 50% of all surveyed parents said they were willing to help out if asked with 78% of the males happy to lend a helping hand.

WHAT STOPS YOU FROM VOLUNTEERING	Total	Male	Female
Respondents	24	9	15
	100%	100%	100%
Total	Male	Female	
I'm way to busy	38%		60%
I'm scare if I volunteer for one task, I'll be expected to help with all tasks	17%	22%	13%
Nothing I'm here to help	41%	78%	20%
Other	4%		7%

One interesting survey finding was the correlation between section and willingness to volunteer. It seems the older the member, the more willing parents are to volunteer.

I'M HERE TO HELP	Joey's	Cubs	Scouts	Venturers
	33%	45%	50%	75%

On the question of fundraising, two-thirds of respondents said they would prefer to fundraise than pay a compulsory fund raising levy.

FUNDRAISE VS LEVY	Total	Male	Female
	24	9	15
Pay Levy	29%	22%	33%
Fundraise	58%	67%	54%
Don't know	13%	11%	13%

Scouts parents were the most inclined to pay a fundraising levy (40% for) and Joey parents the most opposed (83% against).

Suggestions for fund raising ideas ranged from car washes to cake stalls and car boot sales.

Fundraising Ideas

- Car wash
- Car rally
- BBQ sausage sizzles
- Mowing lawns for elderly, disabled or busy families
- www.livingfundraisers.com.au
- Market day and invite the community
- Car boot or garage sale
- Cake stall at school fete or market
- Yatala Pie drive
- Raise sponsorship for group camp shirts

The number one reason given for children not joining our Scout group is 'lack of awareness' (71%). This was followed by expense (38%), sports commitments (33%), and the night it's on (25%). More women felt the expense was a prohibitive factor (47%) then men (22%).

WHAT STOPS NEW MEMBERS FROM JOINING	Total	Male	Female
Respondents	24	9	15
	100%	100%	100%
Total	Male	Female	
Sport commitments	33%	22%	40%
The night it's on	25%	11%	33%
The expense	38%	22%	47%
Takes up too many weekends	8%	11%	7%
Fear of being asked to do things	13%	11%	13%
Lack of awareness that we exist / where we are	71%	67%	73%
Other	4%	7%	13%
Don't know	13%	22%	7%

Scout section families in particular felt that external sporting activities coupled with the expense were big contributing factors for people choosing not to join Scouts. It appears for many families it's Scouts or sport, rarely both.

A common denominator when asked what the group can do better was 'better communication' as illustrated by the following examples.

"Communication as too events but we also understand that the scout leaders are working and have limited time themselves"

"Communicate and advertise the Group..... We need to be seen in the public doing things for other people..... Like Nursing Homes, Elderly in the community and other people less fortunate than ourselves."

"Work together as a group, have more combined group activities to include all sections. Leaders to be happy, and to know how to get in and have fun with the kids while at the same time showing the kids to be responsible and have respect. Leaders are able to connect and understand children."

"Organisation for activities and clearer and professional communication."

"All parents should be required to put in a minimum effort - For example cleaning levy imposed for those who don't bother, clear expectations of what help is expected and ASKED about it when they don't follow through."

"Communicate Better"

"Have info on display at the den for new parents to access so they know how things work, what to do when etc. Pictures of the leaders with their scout names and real names attached."

Finally it seems we have an untapped source of hidden talent amongst our Members parents as highlighted by the following list of available skills.

- Woodwork or carpentry
- Sailing, canoeing or other water activities
- Bush walking or orienteering
- Other outdoor activities
- Knots, camping and other scouty things
- Music or songs
- Star gazing, bird watching etc
- Collecting
- Sewing, knitting or other needle work
- Arts and crafts
- Photography and / or video
- Painting or drawing
- Cooking

JOEY LEADER

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E platypus.scouts@gmail.com

Assistant Joey Leaders

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New members are always welcome at Shailer Park

Call Bob on 0429 322 988 or send an email to shailerparkscouts@gmail.com