

Scouts Tasmania Newsletter

April 2023

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ONE DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM ACROSS FIVE SECTIONS



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Chief's Report

Well, what did I do in March?

Looking at my calendar I had 6 days without something scrawled on it so it must have been a quiet month.

Obviously Scout/Guide Regatta was the major highlight, and gee it went well. The weather gods gave us a dry one, which also makes packing up easier, and the numbers were excellent, especially given we had 2 years break and so many of our members had not had the opportunity to come to Regatta. It was terrific to see our younger adults and youth members taking such a prominent role in the proceedings, with a particular thanks to Isaac Beswick (Parades), Phoebe Djakic (Egeria) and Justine McKeown (Luncheon) for their roles in hosting the Governor on Saturday morning.

Our new Assistant Chief Commissioners and the Future Directions team took the outcomes of their planning meetings to the Commissioners and Group Leaders Workshops at Ross on the 18th March. The attendance numbers were very heartening with many Groups sending a representative where the GL was unavailable. The outcomes from those have now been collated and will be distributed for feedback before we start on the next stage of implementation. What is evident is that the need for more efficiencies in our operational structure has been identified as a major area to work on. You will be kept informed as the process continues.

A very productive and supportive meeting with the Northern Midlands Council has enabled us to submit an application for a long term lease of Avoca School as an Activity/Training Centre. An answer is expected late April.

Nigel & I have met with the head of Sport & Recreation to keep them informed of what is happening in Scouting. There are opportunities we are examining where their support will enable valuable contacts to be made and developed.

It is AGM season and Nigel & I are receiving invitations from around the state. I have had to make the decision that it is impractical for me to attend 47 Group plus 9 District AGMs, due to travel, time and expense. The District Commissioners are the primary contact for Groups and represent the State in my absence. I don't play favourites, so don't take offence and please accept my apologies in advance.

Cheers

Phil

Scout Report

Welcome to April. It was great to see so many of you at Regatta! We had Scouts from 21 groups, and our sub-camp comprised more than 370 Scouts and adults.

This month I'm talking about:

- [Numbers](#),
- [the Commissioner's Challenge](#)
- [All Leaders Weekend](#),
- [upcoming Training Courses](#), and
- [Clark Trophy](#).

Numbers



Pleasingly, our Scout numbers (currently 519 and nearly 40% of the 1310 total youth members of Scouts Tasmania) have increased since last month and are close to our 2020 and 2022 numbers. All other sections are sadly in decline at the moment, but your efforts in Scouting are making a very real difference! Please continue with what you're doing to ensure our Scouts get Fun, Adventurous, Challenging, and Inclusive activities.

Commissioner's Challenge Competition!

This year the Commissioner's Challenge badge will be designed by a Scout. And perhaps it'll be one of your Scouts! Please share the competition with them and invite them to send their designs to me. This can be done by sending a photo of a drawing or by emailing a digital design. The winning design will be chosen by the District Scout Leaders and will be put on a 7.5x7.5cm badge.

Entries should contain the text "Commissioner's Challenge 2023" and the Scout logo somewhere within them. Entries should be received by the end of Term 2.

All Leaders' Weekend

The 2023 All Leaders' Weekend will be held at Fulton Park (Forth) on the weekend of June 24th and 25th. Please put this in your calendar now!

The All Leaders' Weekend is a fun weekend of social interaction, personal development, and consultation and includes leaders across all Sections.

What do you want to know more about? What support do you need? What would you like to try? Send me an email with ideas for topics that we can invite experts to discuss/demonstrate.

Training

The Training Team has just delivered another Scouting Adventure and Scouting Management weekend. Next up will be Scouting Essentials at Fulton Park in Forth in the North West towards the end of May. Don't forget that the cut-off for all training courses is 14 days from the start of the course.

Are you a new leader? Are you an existing leader who's interested in learning/doing more?

Please have a look at the calendar on *MyScout* for training opportunities

(https://tas.myscout.com.au/admin/calendar_month).

Clark Trophy

Way off in the distance of the year (November 18th and 19th) is the next Clark Trophy. It's a light-weight hike camp this year. Attendance from all Groups is encouraged; please put it in your Calendar now and please try to avoid organising other camps/activities at that time.

Best wishes,

-Julian.

Dr Julian Dermoudy

Branch Commissioner, Scouts

e: bc.scouts@tas.scouts.com.au

Cub Report

We are at the end of Term 1 already! Hopefully you have been making the most out of the last of the good weather and been out and about. What have you got planned for Term 2? Have you got any great activity ideas that your Cubs love to share? Please get in touch so we can share them with everyone.

Joint District Cub Leadership Course

On Sunday the 26th of March, the cubs from the Clarence and Wellington Districts met together to participate in a Cub Leadership Course at Howrah Hall. The twelve cubs and five leaders got together to discuss leadership and communication skills, tackle problem solving and behaviour management and many more activities that will help them as they begin or continue in their roles as Patrol leaders or Assistant Patrol Leaders. There was a lot of fun and laughter had, and many new friendships made by Cubs and Leaders alike. We look forward to joining Districts for many more activities in the future.



Regatta Taster

The Regatta taster was a fantastic event attended by 80 -100 Cubs and Guides across 12 units. The youth members participated in a number of activities like thong throw, sand castle building, sack races, water rob the nest, line heaving as well as kayaking and greasy pole. The day ended with a 4 way tug-o-war and a wet sponge battle. Thank you to all those who came along and a big THANK YOU to Jacki & Mel who organised and co-ordinated the day.



Cuboree 2023

As mentioned in the last newsletter we are in desperate need for some extra people on the committee. The positions we urgently need to fill are Camp Chief, Site Co-ordinator & Catering Liaison Officer. If you or someone you know are interested in these roles please get in touch with me. Without these roles being filled we may not be able to run the Cuboree and we don't want to see the Cubs miss out! As previously mentioned the theme for this years Cuboree will be Pirates. Further info will be sent out over the next few months via email.

Good Hunting! David Henwood Branch
Commissioner – Cub Scouts
bc.cubs@tas.scouts.com.au



Joey Report

It's hard to believe it is almost Easter. It's been a short but busy Term 1 for our Joey Scout Units and it has been lovely seeing our Joey Scout Units out and about this Term participating in community activities such as Clean Up Australia Day and Harmony Day.



New Commissioner's Challenge – "Our Community"

A new Commissioner's Challenge will be coming out soon. Last year's "Outdoor" Commissioner's Challenge was successfully completed by 129 Joey Scouts from 11 Joey Scout Units. That's an amazing effort! Well done to all.

The focus for this year's badge will be on challenging Joey Scout Units to PLAN, DO and REVIEW, 8 activities that involve the Joey Scouts engaging with their local community. As I mentioned in my recent email to Leaders, this year we will also be running a badge design competition. Joey Scouts have until the end of the Term 1 school holiday break to design a Commissioner's Challenge badge that shows Joey Scouts being involved in the community. We will use the winning design on this year's badge. If you did not receive a copy of the entry form, please email me (see contact details below).



Regional Events

Southern Joey Scout Leaders will be holding a get together at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) on 1 April at 2:00pm to start planning the Southern Region Joey Scout Event. This Joey Scout event will be held in June at TMAG (date to be confirmed soon). Plans are also underway in the North West and North for Joey Scout events in those areas, and I am looking forward to seeing what exciting events our Leaders have planned.

All Leader Weekend

The All Leaders Weekend is on again and this year it will be held at Fulton Park (Forth) on the weekend of June 24 and 25. For those that haven't been before, the All Leaders Weekend is a fun weekend of social interaction, personal development, and consultation for all of our Leaders. We want to make this weekend as relevant and useful as possible. To do this we



**Scouts**
TASMANIA
2023 All Leaders Weekend
24-25 June, Fulton Park

would love some feedback on what you would like to know more about as a Leader. What support do you need? What would you like to try? Please let me know your ideas for topics by email or via our Tassie Joey Leader Facebook page. www.facebook.com/groups/589828981115011

Well that's it for this month. I look forward to seeing you all at the many Scouting events over the coming months. I hope you and your family have a wonderful and relaxing Easter.

Happy Joey Scouting!

Ruth Henderson
Branch Commissioner (Joey Scouts)
bc.joey@scoutstas.org.au



Training

Opportunities to gain a Certificate 3 in Outdoor Leadership in just 12 months.

Scouts Tasmania, through the Scouts Aust Institute of Training (SAIT) is offering you the opportunity to gain a valuable qualification, with no Course Fees, and with a Training Plan that will ensure you can achieve this.

You must be a current member of Scouts or Guides Tasmania to be eligible.

The Training Plan will involve primarily voluntary hours, with the opportunity to earn a small income during the peak seasons of Term 4 and Term 1 and on other occasions throughout the year.

It will involve completion of a number of online modules and regular practical hands-on experience through-out the whole year.

Relevant compulsory Scouts Tasmania Training Courses will be provided free of charge.

Initially this will be offered through The Lea Scout Centre in Hobart.

When completed you will have a qualification to assist you in gaining employment in an area that has a high demand for qualified people.

Not only that, your eligibility for future VET funding will not be affected.

Start date will be 1st July 2023 with completion date expected to be 30th June 2024.

Sounds like something that you would like to be involved in?

Simple, please provide an Expression of Interest to:

State Commissioner VET (mike.wilson@tas.scouts.com.au)

First round of applications close 30th April 2023.

Leader Training and Support

Training for all new leaders is about to have a slight makeover as we move to a system that uses OJT (On the Job Training), where rather than paperwork all the required steps will be on your training portal and you will have tick boxes to complete tasks and once finished send to your Team Leader (your nominated mentor or support person previously call a PLA) for approval. If suddenly your training seems different this may be the reason and let us know if there are any issues.

Here is an update on the upcoming training for this year. We have had a busy start to the year with some of the AA courses cancelled due to low numbers. Please ensure your TOP 7 is sent to Branch at least three weeks before any Courses to help us make sure the course can be run. Here is a list of upcoming training and dates:

1st Aid Course - 15th April (South – The Lea) and 16th April (North TBA)

Remote 1st Aid – 28-30th April – (North)

Abseiling 4-6th May – Quercus Park (Logbook hours and training refresher, no course fees)

Basic Seamanship (Sailing and Rowing) 13-14th May – South TBA

Climbing – Natural TP 13-14th May *** Limited Numbers ***

Scouting Essentials 27-28th May – FULTON PARK – NW

Pioneering TP 27-28th May – FULTON PARK – NW ***NEW COURSE*** Limited Numbers

Caving SP/TP 2-4th June – Mole Creek TBA ***NEW COURSE*** Limited Numbers

Scouting Adventure 17-18th June - FULTON PARK – NW

Scouting Management 17-18th June - FULTON PARK – NW

Bushwalking TP (Alpine Conditions) 28-30th – Cradle Mtn Limited numbers

Later in the year - 4WD SP/TP 13-14th August, Abseiling TP – 25-27th August, Scouting Leadership (Woodbadge) 1st day – 2nd September (2nd Weekend 27-29th October)

Is **Cycling** your passion?? With the event the TAS Cycling team run such as the TDT7 in April and Mountain biking in October , these are events that we are able to progress any leaders training to SP and TP Cycling for OnRoad and MTB.

I have also been asked about additional training courses and we will always consider running any training that people/Groups require if the numbers are there i.e. if you have 10 people that would like to do a SP/TP Kayaking course please let us know.

Are you having issues keeping your hours up? Maybe consider coming along to a training course as a mentor or participant.

Gilwell Reunion

Saturday 1st July – all holders of a Wood Badge are invited to catch up with their fellow Gilwellians at the Gilwell Reunion, The Lea Scout Centre from 5.30 pm. Nibbles, main course, dessert and cheese and biscuits, including all drinks, more information to come but keep the date free and come along. As always partners are **very** welcome to attend.

If you have completed any training in the outdoor space i.e. bushwalking, boating etc have you completed your TOP31 to have the scout endorsement updated?
Have you filled in your TOP27 (LOGBOOK) for the month!!

If you wish to discuss anything further feel free to drop me an email or call me on 0418 130 996.

Ross Smith

Assistant Chief Commissioner Training & Adult Support

ross.smith@tas.scouts.com.au

Venturer Peak Award



On March 23rd Port Cygnet Scout Group and Blackmans Bay Scout Group, came together to celebrate Isabel Weiley's Peak award.

Isabel first joined Port Cygnet Scout Group as a Joey Scout in 2010, she progressed through all the sections there before moving to Blackmans Bay Unit in 2021

Left: Isabel with Mayor of the Huon Valley - Sally Doyle and Deputy Mayor Toby Thorpe

AGFEST 2023 – IT'S ON AGAIN

Thursday 4th to Saturday the 6th May 2023



Hi Everyone, yes AGFEST is back on in May again and as always I am reaching out for support to run the Climbing and Abseiling tower, a massive thanks to those who have helped previously and I'm sure you'd love to do it all again.

This year ticketing has changed again so I need to find out who can help out on each day (Thursday, Friday, Saturday or all days) on site at AGFEST to understand what tickets I need to purchase (tickets are 'day' specific or all 3 days) so your earliest response would be greatly appreciated.

Reaching out to those who have Abseiling and climbing quals/skills that may be interested and able to support us at AGFEST running the Climbing and Abseiling Tower and also reaching out to those who can come and help with the ground-based requirements, we need you too!!

I am looking for 15 to 20 people per day to cover;

Belaying on the Climbing Wall – 3 lines.

- Experience preferred but an easy one to learn.

Abseiling belayers – 3 lines.

- Experience and quals required.

Jump Master on the Tower.

- Abseil Qualls required.

Tower ground controller – 2 people.

- Disconnecting abseil lines.
- Supporting struggling participants
- Ensuring participants move out of the fall zone when disconnected.

Climb zone entry controller.

- Controlling numbers entering the climb/abseil area.
- Fitting Descenders and Crabs for Abseiling and removing as people return.

Harness and helmet fitting – 2 people.

- Fitting harnesses and helmets (including hair nets) and ensuring correct fit.
- Experience handy but easy to learn.

Removing harnesses and helmets.

- Ensuring gear is returned and ready for fitting.
- Disposing of hair nets.

Promoting Scouts on the Exit lane.

continued next page

All positions require others for rotation to allow for breaks during the event.

The days and times during the day vary on how busy it is, there is opportunity to have a look around AGFSEST during breaks.

Passes are full day only, if you attend AGFEST but not part of the Abseiling we welcome you dropping in.

We are limited to 20 passes per day, trained personal will have priority.

Please email Andrew Thompson at Andrew.thompson@tas.scouts.com if you are available and able to assist.

Thanks in anticipation

Yours in Scouting

Andrew

Help Wanted

Xero Conversion Team

Scouts Tasmania is in the process of bringing all our accounting onto the

Xero platform.

Demand has exceeded our ability to transfer Groups as fast as we need to meet our Auditors requirements.

We are looking for a team of volunteers to help with the process. This can be done from anywhere in the State with a good internet connection, it is not necessary to travel.

If you have the skills, we would really appreciate your assistance.

Please contact Stuart Morse

stuart.morse@tas.scouts.com.au

to discuss further.



Thank you for your service!

Years	Years	Years	Years
5 year	BARRY, Melissa Mary	Cmtee	Branch Business and Finance Committee
5 year	KAYS, Gareth Benjamin	Ad Help	Hobart Gang Show Team
5 year	MCGUIRE, Christopher Brian	Prov. - ASL	Sandford Scout Unit
5 year	PERCEY, William	Prov. - RVCo-ord	North West Region
5 year	RAND, Gillian	Com Tres	Sandford Scout Group
5 year	SANSOM, Naomi	Com Sec	Old Beach Scout Group
5 year	STEPHENS, Michael	Prov. - AJSL	Taroona Joey Unit
5 year	WEBB, Mary Jean	Penpal co	Tasmania Branch
10 year	MARSZALEK, Timothy John	ASL	Kingston Scout Group
15 year	BENNEL, Stuart Graham	Tnee. - PC (Jamboree)	Tasmania Branch
15 year	GRAY, Wendy	Cmtee	Smithton Scout Group
15 year	RILEY, Sue	GL	Wynyard Scout Group
15 year	VAN DEN BOSCH, Karen	Scout Leader	Glenorchy Scout Group
25 year	TRELOYN, Jodie Fearn	ASL	Mt Stuart Scout Unit
35 year	BISHOP, Peter John	Group Leader	Port Cygnet Scout Group
35 year	GARDNER, Susan	GL	Hobart 10th Scout Group
40 year	MCINDOE, Alexander Purden	Cmtee (Member)	Branch Property Committee
50 year	FULLJAMES, Greg Richard	Cmtee	Paton Park Service Crew Team

Youth Program Report

Many of our youth members have recently enjoyed a wonderful weekend at the Scout-Guide Regatta at Snug. As well as being great fun, the Regatta activities have the potential to allow youth members to progress on the Achievement Pathway. Some suggestions of which youth members should be aware...

- Check the 'I' statements for OAS stages and make sure that you record anything that you did at Regatta that ticks off one or more of those.
- If you were involved in organising or helping to organise a part (or all of) the Regatta, make sure that you have an assist or lead recorded. At the very least, all youth members who attended should have a participate recorded. Unit Councils should have a discussion as to which is the most appropriate challenge area for the PAL (Participate-Assist-Lead).
- In looking ahead to the next Regatta, youth members could consider whether there is a Special Interest Area (SiA) project for which they could plan. Some possibilities include...
 - Adventure and Sport – Scouts/Venturers/Rovers could set themselves a goal to learn a new skill (for an event that they have not previously entered) or improve on an existing skill. They could then set a training schedule for the months leading up to the Regatta, culminating in participating in their event.
 - Environment – It fits with the Scout Law (Be Respectful – cares for the environment, Do What is Right – use resources wisely) to look after the environment at Regatta by managing the waste stream and thus reducing the amount of rubbish that goes into landfill. An Environment Team for the Regatta could work on a waste management plan and thus earn themselves and Environment SiA.
 - Arts and Literature – there has been a suggestion that there be a media team made up of Youth Members at the Regatta. They would need to do some planning around child safety and photographic permissions and may need an adult mentor. However, if it could be made to work, this offers some exciting possibilities in hearing the youth voice in the outwards-facing newsletter and could also earn these youth members an Arts and Literature SiA.
 - Creating a Better World – this SiA requires Youth Members to do something that contributes to their community. It would be a great public-relations effort to engage with the local community to see what their needs might be and to spend some time while at Regatta working on a project that was of benefit to the community of Snug. Perhaps there is a local Bushcare group who would like some help with weeding on the foreshore and groups of Scouts could be organised to undertake this in shifts. Perhaps there is a rubbish problem on the beach and again, teams of Scouts could be organised to undertake a clean-up. It would be good to see Scouts giving back to a community that has hosted them for so many years at Snug.

Hobart Gang Show Relay for Life & Auditions

What a busy weekend the 18th & 19th March was. In the 20 hours between 1.00 p.m. (Saturday) and 9.00 a.m. (Sunday) a dedicated team of 11 from Hobart Gang Show participated in Relay for Life. The team has raised an amazing amount of \$2,506.00 raised for the Cancer Council. Great effort with the team being 26th out of 89 teams who participated in the Hobart Relay for Life. The Hobart Gang Show Team Baton was carried for a total of 230 laps (92 km) and the total number of laps walked by the entire teamed walked = 646, which is a total of 256 km. Well done to everyone.

Donations can still be made, so if you would like to donate to such a great cause, please support the Hobart Gang Show Team ... link address below.

<https://www.relayforlife.org.au/st/2667/23156>

Within 90 minutes of the Hobart Relay for Life finishing, the first audition group for Hobart Gang Show 2023 were underway. There were three audition groups, with a total of over 30 youth members auditioning this year, which is fantastic. It is going to be a hard job for our director (Tracey Adams) the Musical Director (Adrian Reader) and other Production team members to cast the show. It has also been pleasing to see an increased interest in those wanting to work back- stage ... however it is very important to note that the minimum age for working backstage is 16. This is for many reasons, including safety. If however, there is anyone aged 16+ who is interested in working back- stage in one of the many different areas for this year's show, please contact me and we will see where you may be able to help and be given some valuable training.

To those who auditioned – we look forward to seeing you at the briefing session on Sunday 30th April. More information will be forwarded prior to this date.

If anyone has any questions or are interested in working backstage, please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards,
Denice Walter
Hobart Gang Show



Need a break or short holiday?

Well I have the solution for you.

Plan your future now.

Volunteers Needed Now.

The Lea Scout Centre and Hobart Bush cabin needs your help. We need Volunteers, preferably with a Scouting background, to help our Caretaker have essential breaks for a few days at various times during the year.

We need a relief caretaker for the following week ends-

2023

April Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th

July Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th

September Saturday 30th & Sunday 1st October

2024

March Saturday 30th & Sunday 31st

June Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th

August Saturday 31st & Sunday September 1st

November Saturday 30th and Sunday December 1st

You would be answering the phone, updating our computerised booking system, taking bookings and payments, checking guests in, and answering general enquiries. **There is plenty of help around to get you started. For someone outside the Scouting Organisation, a police check will be required, which we can arrange if not already held. We will provide up to 5 nights free accommodation at the Lea in one of the Hobart Bush Cabins in return for your being a Volunteer Caretaker for 2 days / nights. This could mean for example, you could come down to the Lea on a Thursday night, have Friday to relax in Hobart and surrounds, have Friday evening, Saturday & Sunday looking after the Lea, then Monday free for more play, and off home on Tuesday.**

If you are available and can help with the Caretakers duties please let us know the weekend(s) that suit you, or if you know someone who you think could be interested, please bring this opportunity to their attention.

If you or someone you know is be interested, please contact Kellie (0438 679889) or Bronwyn (0417 590986)

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Rob Green
Chairman - Lea Board of Management.

Kingston Cub Scouts



Kingston Sea Scouts recently did Clean Up Australia Day around their boatshed at Brown's River at Kingston Beach. They picked up rubbish on the beach including the dog beach, Alum Cliffs, the park, along the river and also kayaked along the river picking up rubbish from the river itself.

They did a great effort and collected a ute load of rubbish! Some members of the public also joined in, which was great!

Kingston Sea Scouts have their boatshed right on the Brown's River for easy access. The pic of all the kayaks together is called "rafting up".

The cubs have done 2 weeks of kayaking. We talked about water safety, practiced skills and rowed down the river twice! For many cubs, this was their 1st time kayaking, and they really enjoyed it.



During the Scout Regatta, there was a taster for the Cubs. Kingston Cubs went along and had fun water games.

Games included skipping whilst holding a bucket of water, greasy pole, flags and a 4-way tug of war - which Kingston Cubs were part of the winning team.

All cubs had a great time and can't wait until they are scout age to join in at the Regatta.





Good morning, all,

This morning I have made an update to Bushcraft Stage 6 Pioneering in Scouts | Terrain to remove the following statement:

"I have built and cooked on a personal-sized stove made out of recycled materials."

This is following the information received yesterday in a volunteer capacity from Scouts Victoria regarding an incident that has occurred. The Safety Bulletin distributed is on the email below. Your Chief Commissioners have received a copy of this Bulletin this morning, as have your NEC representatives.

Please note that the printed record books will remain out of date for a while.

Thank you,
Emma Watson
Program Team Lead
Scouts Australia

Incident

We recently had incident where a Scout Group had decided to make improvised liquid fuel stoves as part of a survival themed activity. These stoves were constructed from empty aluminium cans and are sometimes referred to as "Penny Stoves".

These improvised stoves are fuelled with methylated spirits and are used for cooking in a similar way to a commercially manufactured Trangia burner.

Unfortunately, the stoves produced were low quality and there were some leakages of fuel. Further, when one of the stoves was being refilled a flame flashed back to the fuel bottle which understandably startled a youth member.

The youth member accidentally kicked a stove with their foot which splashed ignited methylated spirit onto two other Scouts. One of our Scouts sustained serious burns that required specialist treatment including a skin graft.

Trangia stoves are already part of our program and provide the same output whilst being safer because of their inbuilt safety features including the extinguishing ring and windshield.

This bulletin is a reminder of the dangers of using liquid fuel stoves and particular about the protocols for refuelling burners given the pale blue flame that is difficult to see. We recommend using a closed simmer ring to ensure the flame has been completely extinguished before refuelling and using a fuel bottle fitted with a safety valve.

As of today the use of any improvised liquid or gas fuel stoves is prohibited in Scouting.