

Scouts Tasmania Newsletter

November 2023

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ONE DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM ACROSS FIVE SECTIONS



www.facebook.com/ScoutsTas

Chief's Report

October started off with the Group Leaders Workshops at Ross.

These workshops are the main means of gathering information from our state-wide teams with the collective brain power of a wide cross section of ages and experience represented.

I am conscious that this is a long report, but I think it is important that you all get an idea of the extent of the discussions.

I have included the outcomes of the workshops in raw data form.

This information is distributed to the various teams to form the basis of future actions.

We have already seen a positive outcome with Emily's Diversity & Inclusion area having a good number of people join her team.

Remember, it's your organisation, if you have suggestions for improvements, prepare something for a team to work on and we will.

Cheers

Phil

GL Workshops – 1st October 2023

Summary of Outcomes

Workshop 1 & 2 - Membership & Marketing

When collating the information it was evident that there was considerable cross-over on responses.

As such they have been combined. (in no order)

- Best membership actions taken by Group to recruit/retain
- Best marketing actions taken by Group

Local School Newsletter

Community Events

Being seen in the Community – eg Sausage Sizzles

Getting invited to School events

Facebook

Word of mouth

Bring a friend

Good signage

Run a good program

Scouting fun day for public

Local Radio Exposure

- What practical Support would assist you in recruiting/retaining
- What practical support would assist you in Marketing

You Tube

Social Media Training

Freebies

Digital Marketing Pack

Promotion Trailer available

Good signage

Scout Halls on Google Maps

Central Resource centre

Business Cards - template for Groups/Leaders

Bus signage

Peak Award info to schools

Apps: Scouting Games/activities

Workshop 3 – Communication

- What are the most successful means of communication to/from your members
- What State communication methods are best for you

To/from Groups:

Facebook

Messenger

Closed Groups

Open

Text

Face to Face

Email

Phone Calls

Group Newsletters

Leader meetings

To/from State:

Email

Newsletter

Workshops

MyScout Calendar

State Office Staff

District Meetings

Challenges to Address:

MyScout email system – bounces – not received

Communication of Activities & Training

Less / smaller emails

Make sure email heading identifies the subject for ease of retrieval later

Session 4 – Diversity & Inclusion:

- What has worked well in your Group
- What practical Support do you need

The responses in this area were a combination of questions/Concerns & comments.

As such they have been listed and grouped together as best as possible to cover the points raised.

Concerns expressed:

Sleeping arrangements

Difficult to balance inclusion for everyone

Personal views on issues may be disruptive to group.

Either side of the issue

Risk Management:

RM Plans

Effect on other members

Identifying youth with needs and how to program for them

Mental Health

Youth

Leaders

Questions:

How to attract Leaders & Youth from diverse cultural backgrounds

Access for Grants for D&I matters

Eg: Ramps . toilets

What resources are available for neuro diversity

Should Scouts (Tas/Aust) explore relationships with NDIS

How to use technology & social media to support D&I youth.

Venturer Report

From Mt Faulkner Venturer Unit

Fraser Creek Scout Hut sits on the slopes of Mt. Dundas. The hut's location is frequently visited by rainfall as it sits in the wettest part of the state, the West Coast. The Mt Faulkner Venturer Unit travelled from Austins Ferry (Hobart); leaving just after 4pm on Friday on a recent evening in August and arriving at the hut at around 11:30pm.

The trip to the hut was a challenge but most definitely worth it. The track included scenic walk in the Tasmanian rainforest that tells a story the deeper you go in; from abandoned mineshafts to an old wooden tram line and more, as logging and mining industries made their impact.

Mt Faulkner Venturers experienced a new type of bushwalking terrain and were relieved to see the hut and have a rest after a long day. On Saturday the Venturers then got a guided tour by Terry (the hut warden), who taught the Venturers about Tasmania's own flora and fauna, alongside new, useful skills that will be used for years to come.

The Venturers carried out service tasks including, but not limited to: learning and producing kindling out of the beautiful King Billy and firewood out of other rainforest species, all found dead/dying on the forest floor. Learning how to use a froe - aligning the blade parallel to the wood at the thickness you want (we needed about 1.5cm for the to make panelling for the door), then you hit the blade with a 'froes club' until it is fully "submerged" before using the bangle of the froe as a lever to push the wood a part, splitting the wood. We did this to make wooden panelling to repair the hut's door, the split King Billy boards used for this came from a tree that had fallen over 90 years ago!

Some of the unit also learnt the process of drying wet wood to be used in the fire, as well as how important it is to preserve the wood as it takes years to be fire ready after being cut initially. The day was then highlighted by a visit to some old mine shafts to see some glow worms. That night the Venturers learnt about Tasmania's only endemic rodent, *Pseudomys higginsi*, or the Long-Tailed Mouse, even feeding it some sneaky bits of food!

The trip was not met with a boring second and the unit showed up with positivity and teamwork on mind, resulting in great weekend! Most are keen and want to come back time again to give Terry a hand.

Thank you Terry!





A few words from our unit chair:

“I loved coming up to the hut and learning about all the natural flora and fauna. Terry is a pool of wisdom who is more than happy to teach others about the native species, these were the highlights of my weekend as I learnt many things I didn't know before. I thoroughly enjoyed helping out with the manual work too. I enjoyed chopping kindling and I thoroughly enjoyed splitting King Billy kindling with an axe and splitting King Billy wall boards with a froe and using them to repair a hut wall. The weekend had lots in store and never left me bored. It certainly was one of the best camps I've been on. I even made a new friend (*Pseudomys higginsi*) or a long tailed mouse and took and took a piece of hand split King Billy home to show my family and use for a craft project. I'm keen to become a regular working bee participant. The company at the hut and the hut itself are both fantastic. Thank you Terry!” - Chloe

Scouts

Port Cygnet Scout Group present Scout Coen Greenleaf with his Australian Scout Badge and a plaque ahead of his formal presentation at Clark Trophy



Cub Report

I hope you all had a good term break, and for those who went to Cuboree, I hope you enjoyed it! Term 4 is now well underway! What have you got planned? Did you attend JOTA/JOTI events? Did you have a Halloween night? Are you planning to get out of the hall now the weather is warming up? Please feel free to send through photos and reports so I can include them in the newsletter. I'm pleased to say that Cub numbers are up again this month. Let's try and keep that momentum going!

Cuboree 2023

Cuboree has now been and gone, and what a weekend it was! Despite the weather (and some would say it's not a Cuboree without some rain), all of the Cubs I spoke to had a great time.

Lost Property

As always there is some lost property not collected. Please get in touch if you know of anyone missing items. Any lost property not claimed by the end of November will be donated.

Cuboree Review

We would greatly appreciate it if you could have a group discussion with your Unit and submit a short feedback survey available here <https://forms.office.com/r/Er1VJm2AL6>. The survey will be open until 5pm Friday 10th November 2023.

THANK YOU!!

I would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to the committee who helped bring this year's Cuboree to life. You all did an amazing job and from all reports I've heard we achieved what we set out to do. For the Cubs to have a great time!

Commissioners Challenge

The requirements for the Commissioners Challenge have been in the last few newsletters so I won't list them again. A link to order badges is <https://forms.office.com/r/TcYd7S1Rcc>

Wood Badge Training

Over the weekend of 27-29 October the second weekend of the Woodbadge training was held. A big congratulations to the four Cub Leaders who completed their training and are now members of the 1st Gilwell Park Cub Pack! (photo attached).

Good Hunting!

David Henwood

Branch Commissioner – Cub Scouts

bc.cubs@tas.scouts.com.au





Pictured is DCSL Stuart Ferguson (Wellington) presenting the Grey Wolf Award to (from left) Eva Wright, Genevieve Holloway, and Samantha Ship.

Working With Vulnerable Peoples Card

If you receive an email from the Justice Department to say
“your WWVP Card has been amended with the details of The Scout Association of Australia—Tasmania Branch having been added”

This is Branch correctly registering itself as a Volunteer Organisation on your WWVP Card registration with the correct details for the Branch Office.

If you have any queries regarding this please email admin@tas.scouts.com.au

Scouts Tasmania

Branch Headquarters

Leader Training and Support

Congratulations to the 12 leaders with Wood Bagdes from last weekend's Scouting Leadership course.

Upcoming training is listed below and please make sure you put in your TOP 7 to Branch ASAP this needs to be done 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:

Low Ropes Induction Course – 10th Nov – 5-7pm Contact Danie – activities@thelea.com.au
No TOP7 required just email Danie that you would like to attend.

Abseiling SP/TP – 25th November

Kayaking/Canoeing SP/TP – Flat Water – 26th November

Remote location 1st Aid - 8-10th December

Training for next year will be released in about 2 weeks and will be put onto the calendar in MyScout.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!

I recently explained (Aug23 newsletter) the new On the Job Training (OJT) that we all now have to use. Unfortunately, we have seen a number of leaders complete the incorrect training. Can all Mentors/Team Leaders please ensure that leaders are completing the Correct OJT section. There are 3 options that are:

- 1 – On the job Training – Youth Program Leader – This is for all Youth section leaders.
- 2 – On the job Training – Program Support Leader – This is for all Group Leaders, District Leaders, District commissioner or Leader of Adults role and
- 3 – On the job Training – Scouting Leadership – This is for all leaders that are completing their Scouting Leadership training i.e. Woodbadge training to receive your Gillwell scarf and Wood beads.

Also some people have experienced issue with typing in text, losing information which under most circumstances can be fixed by using a different browser (i.e. Chrome, Firefox etc) or computer.

Another issue quite common is peoples OJT email which come from noreply@training.scouts.com.au are ending up in the junk mail folder especially emails to Team Leaders, please look out for this.

IAMP's (Individual Adult Volunteer Plans). Thanks for those that have had a look and completed a new form.

TOP's rewrite

comment/review.

I am continually hearing of people without their Scout endorsements because they have not completed a TOP31!! It is important you use the version that is current (Feb 2022) and on MyScout all old versions do not have the required information on them and will be rejected.

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



LOW ROPES INDUCTION COURSE

Location: The Lea, Kingston

Date: Friday 10th November

Time: 5pm-7pm

Suits: Leaders of all sections, no prerequisite knowledge

Come along and learn to lead your youth on The Lea low ropes course. This short 2 hour induction will qualify you to operate the course unsupervised and reduces your cost when booking the activity. For bookings and inquiries contact Danie activities@thelea.com.au"

Cheers,
Danie

The Lea Activities Centre

Applications Now Open

Applications to support fund your next adventure are now open thanks to the Dick & Pip Smith Leadership Through Adventure Fund.

Attention all youth members planning your adventure for next year! [The Dick & Pip Smith Leadership through Adventure Fund \(LTAF\)](#) can assist them make this an even more exciting event. The Fund encourages youth members when planning their adventures, to set greater challenges and goals that will develop their increased levels of self-confidence, resilience, and leadership capabilities – that would not be possible without additional funds.

It is open only to youth members from all sections and Branches in Australia. Adults are encouraged to support youth members in preparing their application. Different adventures supported to date including sea kayaking at Hinchinbrook, exploring Cradle Mountain, bushwalking the Great South West Walk and mountaineering in New Zealand. While you can apply for funding at any time, the next round closes on Sunday 12 November 2023.

Funds may provide grants to youth members or project patrols to undertake activity skills, leadership training, adventurous journeys, expeditions in Australia and overseas. Grants are made on a cost share basis with the participant/s, with up to 70% provided from the Fund, although exceptions will be considered based on need. Grants may be provided for safety and technical equipment to support adventure skills training and adventurous journeys; or participation in Adventurous Activity Schools.

Applications must be from youth members and will be viewed more favourably if there is evidence of:

- youth leading, adults supporting
- Plan > Do > Review >
- Unit Council approval



**The 4th round of applications close Sunday
12th November 2023**

To download the application form and other supporting information, go to:

[Leadership Through Adventure Fund Round 4 Grants Now Open | Scouts Australia](#)

JOTA - JOTI

World Scout Event

Quick Numbers! 📊

👤 A record 600,000 of you registered

🌍 That includes 7,000+ Scout Groups from 149 countries

📱 15,000 ScoutPass wallets were created for digital badges, boosts & more

What Went Down? 😊

👤 Meeting Face-to-Face & Screen-to-Screen!

After years of social distancing, we loved seeing you connect both online and offline. So much fun, right?

JOTA-JOTI Live Shows

Scout hosts Nour and Filipe rocked the stage, and more than 18,000 of you watched!

🎪 Super Cool Activities

From the Innovation Lab to the International Campfire, there was something for everyone with 100+ activities!

📱 ScoutPass is HERE!

Did you try it? Over 15,000 Scout wallets were created and 50,000 badges claimed!

🌳 Minecraft & Metaforest

From building digital worlds to planting 600 virtual trees, you made it epic!

🛡️ Safety First

Hey, we always want you safe. Over 10,000 of you took our online safety courses, and our Safe from Harm team was monitoring 24/7!

A Canadian Scout sits at his computer during JOTA-JOTI

💬 Chat & Video

Our chat rooms and live video chats were buzzing. More than 60 groups met via video calls and 3,000 Scouts participated in our global JOTI Chats!

🎧 Podcast for Leaders

“The Leaders’ Backpack” dropped its first episodes! Scout Leaders can listen to Episode 1 (Flexible Volunteering) [here](#) and Episode 2 (Helping Each Other Grow) [here](#).

📻 Radio is the Heart of It

Amateur radio love is still strong; 1,200 Scout Groups shared their radio call signs!

🙏 Big Thanks!

Huge shout-out to the adult leaders and our amazing JOTA-JOTI team who make it all possible - and of course shout-out to the awesome participants who make it all worthwhile!



JOTA / JOTI Tasmania

Over 70 Scouting members from Tamar, Riverside Newstead, Summer hill and 4th Launceston plus Norfolk Plains attended JOTA/JOTI site at Rocherlea.

These included 6 Joeys, 20 Cubs, 16 Scouts, 8 Venturers, 1 Rover and 20 Leaders. There were also at least 8 parents or grandparents at the event.

Equipment activated included HF radio, vhf handheld radio for echo-link node, DMR mobile radio and another UHF unit connected to an antenna to enable communication with Paton Park.

Several Morse code practice oscillators were set up as well as a Morse keyboard with its audio fed to a Morse decoder program on a laptop. Also usually word search and cross word puzzles.

The Radio club provided a large screen monitor in the attached hall for accessing Skype, and internet access for a number of pc's connected to a hub for Scoutlink chat connection. Snap together electronic kits and Edison robots also available. There were 4 hidden transmitters disguised as various animals in the surrounding bush waiting to be found by the Scouts wielding measuring tape antennas and direction finding receivers

Radio contacts were made with Paton Park and also ACT and NSW.

A good number of Skype contacts with UK, Japan, Canada, Malaysia and NSW.

Scoutlink contacts reported with Norway, Great Britain, Australia, Cyprus, France, Italy and Malaysia

There were about 20 Scouts of various ages through the event on Saturday afternoon and the remainder in 2 by 2 hour blocks from 10 am and 1pm on the Sunday.

The radio club was assisted in running the JOTI portion by a number of Matthew Brady Venturer Scouts.

The following members of NTARC Inc helped during the weekend many for the whole operational period. Andre VK7ZAB, Stefan VK7ZSB, Kevin VK7KJL, Ian VK7IG, Tony VK7ZTT, Brendan VK7VIP, Tony VK7YG, Ian VK7IH, Idris VK7ZIR and Douglas VK7DGD and Bernie VK7BR.

The following info received from Eunice Horne ref Paton Park
Attendance 6 Joeys,7 Cubs, 16 Scouts,2 Venturers, 4 Rovers, 8 leaders and adult
helpers, 3 parents,
1 helper and 6 radio people
Totalling 53

Activities included, Hand held radio game, Morse code messaging, Radio Fox
hunt, Radio short wave and UHF, Morse code biscuits, Word search, Internet
including “mine-craft”, Backwoods cooking and Kit building buzzer.

A great time is reported from those who attended.

Eric VK7EV supplied some further info.

The following North West Tasmania Amateur Radio Club members, VK7AK Tony,
VK7NB Tanya, VK7EV Eric, VK7LSB Lucas, VL7BYL Anne and VK7DC Dave were on
site. Shirley VK7HSC was operating from home as a backup for JOTA users to chat
to. VK7AX Tony assisted with Echo link access. We had an 80/40m HF station and
a 20/15/10m HF station, as well as separate 2m and 70m Stations. We had great
success on 40m, but struggled to get contacts on 20m, even with zero noise
levels.

I have not received info from any other participants at the time of writing.

Peter Dodd

Project Commissioner Radio and Electronics

pc.radio@scoutstas.org.au





JOTA 2023 at Port Cygnet Scouts

This year was my 4th JOTA and this year I got a special opportunity to be the operator of the main JOTA radio. I got my amateur radio license over a year ago and JOTA was a great opportunity to build my experience and understanding and knowledge of radios; I hadn't operated a DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) before so that was a new learning experience.

At 14:30 pm on Saturday I started by making some contacts in America and around Australia, 3 of our scouts had a conversation with some other scouts from troop 1539 Washington DC. At 18:30 after cooking dinner and playing some fun games we made contact with some more troops around Australia and one from the Netherlands which was really cool.

After that we turned off the radio, prepared our sleeping areas and watched 2 movies. We were going to sleep outside in tents but because of the bad weather, we decided to sleep in our scout hall. After the movies and some more games we turned the radio back on at roughly 21:00 because I wanted to try and get some more contacts from the northern hemisphere. At this time most of the scouts had gone to bed but there was a couple still up making milo and having a chat... we ended up staying up till 02:30 in the morning having a chat and making contacts in patrols like the Philippines, the USA, South Africa, and some countries from Europe. At 02:30 we all headed to bed to get some rest.

I woke up at 06:00 and started getting ready for the day. Not many other people were awake so we waited a while before having breakfast and turning on the DMR. At 09:00-11:00 we made a few more contacts in Australia and one in Sweden, after that I packed up the radio and packed up my stuff, we did one more activity and that concluded our JOTA 2023!

-Anders Rahlen-Miles

Port Cygnet Scout Unit

1st Tamar turns 60!



On Sunday 29th October we celebrated 60 years of 18th Launceston and 1st Tamar Sea Scouts in Launceston. Good weather and a great turnout made the day a big success with a bit over 100 attendees. It was great to see so many of our families and youth members in attendance as well as the many friends and past members of our group.

We also had the privilege to present Allan Butt with life membership of 1st Tamar Sea Scouts. Mr Butt has been a major part of the group and a supporter of Scouts Tasmania, starting as a parent who helped with a few odd jobs, to becoming our Scout Leader, then Group Leader and he also volunteered on many committees for Scouts Tasmania. Our group would not be as successful without his massive contribution over the years.

A big thanks must go to our VIP's Senator Wendy Askew, Nick Duigan MLC, Jo Palmer MLC, Rosemary Armitage MLC, Janie Finlay MHA, Councillor Andrea Dawkins, Councillor Andrew Palmer, and all our Leaders, Parent Helpers and Committee who made today happen - Thank You.

Scott Lovell

Group Chairman

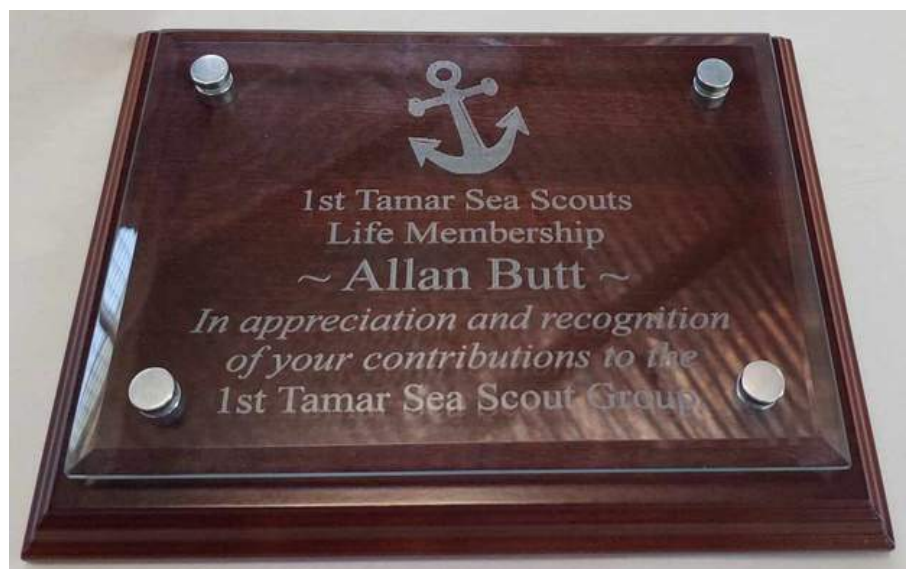
1st Tamar Scout Group







Allan Butt is awarded Life Membership of 1st Tamar Sea Scout Group



Safety Requirements

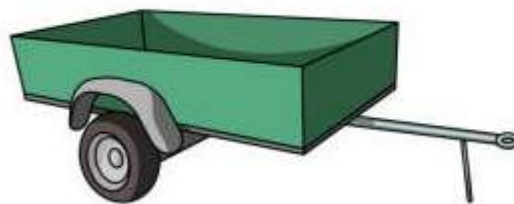


Watercraft Inspection

It is the time of the year that all Groups need to complete an inspection of their Kayaks, Canoes, Dinghy etc. to make sure they are safe for use in the summer months.

TOP 22 (declaration) and TOP 23 (Checklist)

Have been emailed to all Group Leaders asking for completion.



Trailer Inspection

This year the decision was made to have all Trailer registered by Groups inspected to make sure they are safe to be still on the road.

Trailer Inspection Checklist forms

Have been emailed to all Group Leaders asking for completion.

These inspections are required by Branch for our Insurance Coverage.

Launceston Scout Shop



A MESSAGE FROM THE LAUNCESTON SCOUT SHOP

The Launceston Scout Shop will be closing down from the end of Term 4 2023

I will have supplies of uniform and badges etc. and orders are welcome up to the end of Term 4.

I would appreciate payment of all accounts by 31st December, 2023.

It is a pity that there will not be an outlet servicing the Scouting community in Tasmania as the Scout Shop (scoutshop.com.au) wish all orders to be made online through them rather than supply a new owner.

After nearly 31 years I am retiring. I have enjoyed serving the Scouting community over this time and thank you for your friendship and visits.

I would like to wish all Scouting people a wonderful Christmas and a great 2024.

Kindest regards Rose



Scouts Tasmania would like to sincerely thank Rose Tanner for her many years of service at the Launceston Scout Shop.

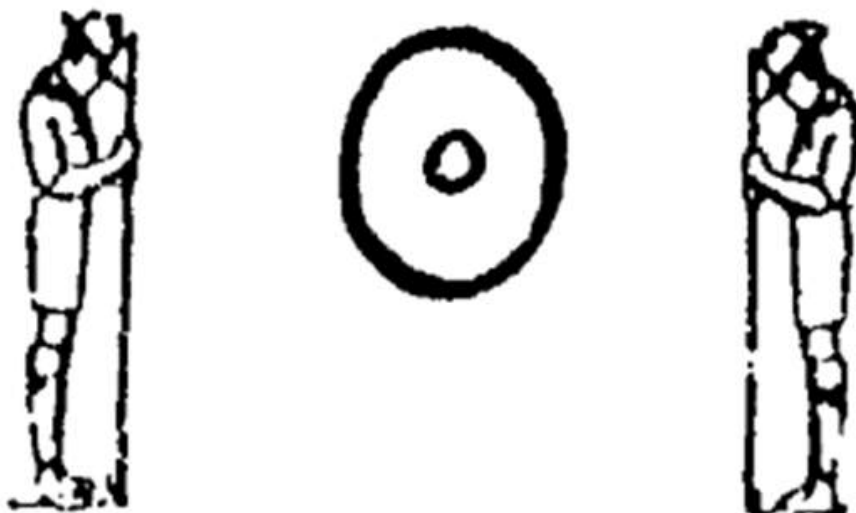
Rose has been an important part of the Scouting Community in the Launceston area and for many others around the State providing Scouting uniforms and badges to new and old members.



Rose, we hope you enjoy your well deserved retirement.

Had a great event or activity you would like to share?

Please send information about upcoming and past events etc for publication on the Scouts Tas Facebook and Scouting Tasmania Magazine to marketing@tas.scouts.com.au and to this newsletter to newsletter@tas.scouts.com.au



Gone Home

Frances (Fran) Emily Maddock 13 September 1934 – 8 October 2023

Fran joined Scouting in 1953 as a Cub Leader with a groups in the Hobart area until 1958 when she became District Cub Scout Leader in the northern districts until 1966 when she joined the Training Team until 1984. In 2006 she became Project Commissioner of the Tasmania Scout Heritage Centre and was awarded Life Membership of the Branch in 2007. Well over half a century of dedication to the Scouting Movement. Stalwart will be fondly remembered.

The Lea Scout Centre

Top of The Lea Bush Camping

<https://www.thelea.com.au/summer-camping>



The Lea is looking for help over the summer months to run our summer camping, which is a major fundraising activity for The Lea and Scouts Tasmania.

Volunteer Camp Host/s

Duties include:

- Welcoming guests, taking payments and general supervision of site.
- General site tidying on daily basis
- Cleaning of amenity Block (*an honorarium of \$85 per day is paid for this*)

A Current National Police Check and Working with Vulnerable People Card is required

A Powered site with caravan/office, a private toilet and shower facility and phone with internet access are provided. Own Camper/van is able to be set up adjacent to the office. You can do this on your own, with a partner, or bring your family and combine some part time work with a camping experience. If you know someone suitable who may be interested please feel free to forward this to them also.

Volunteer/s are not expected to be on site all day, however there are specific times required.

Dates are still available: 1st December 2023 to early January 2024

Minimum Volunteer period is preferred to be 1 month, but shorter periods will be considered.

Want to have a go? Please contact: phil.harper@tas.scouts.com.au



Scouts Tasmania wish to thank all of its
Leaders for their time
and hope you all have a Merry Christmas

BHQ end of year Christmas Drinks & Nibbles

Friday 15th December, 4pm - 6.30pm

Scouts Tasmania
330 Proctors Rd
Kingston

BHQ closes on
15th December
BHQ Re-opens
15th January

