

# Scouts Tasmania Newsletter December 2023

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## ONE DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM ACROSS FIVE SECTIONS



[www.facebook.com/ScoutsTas](http://www.facebook.com/ScoutsTas)

# Chief's Report



Hi all,

Simple message this month.

The run up to Christmas is an opportunity to celebrate with your youth members, and fellow team members, the wind up of the years program and set the scene for next year.

Then there is the well earned break from the normal Scouting program and the opportunity to celebrate and be with your family and friends.

We all need that balance, so please, when the years program is wrapped up, switch off, relax and enjoy the break.

I thank you for being a part of the Scouts Tasmania team and look forward to everyone being back on deck next year refreshed and eager to continue to support our youth and fellow adults through their Scouting experience.

Have a great Xmas & New Year.

Cheers  
Phil

Phil Harper  
Chief Commissioner  
Scouts Tasmania



# Scout Report

Dear all,

Have yourself a Merry Scouting Christmas!

We've had a great Clark Trophy and Congratulations go to Lindisfarne Scout Group (once more). Mount Stuart was second (as they were in 2022), and Port Cygnet was third (returning to Clark after a gap of many years). Well done to all Scouts who participated!

Below is a picture of the winning patrol.



My thanks go to the Camp Co-Chiefs, David and Andrea Heap, to Cindy Ruut for her work with the Journey Plans and the BBQ supplies, to Helen Chick for delivering the toilet(!), and to Kathryn Storey for delivering the BBQ. Special thanks to Roger and Janette Fish for allowing us to use "Rockton" once more, and to all the Scouts of the 10 participating patrols, and to the leaders and parents that supported the patrols. Please don't forget to complete the Review survey.

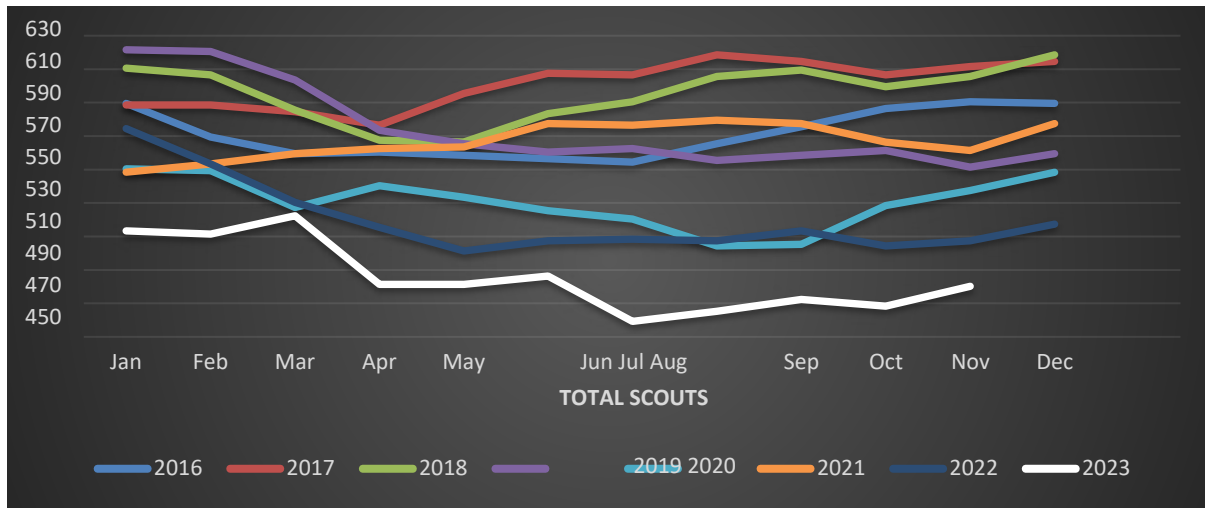


Looking ahead to next year, please put it in your calendar now: November 16–17th 2024 at Scout Island. The format is a standing camp with cooking on gas.

This month I'm talking about:

- [Numbers](#)
- [Corroboree and](#)
- [Scout Regatta](#)

## Numbers



It's been an up and down year for the Scout section but let's hope that we finish the year with an up! Thank you again for all that you do to give our Scouts a great experience.

For those of you interested in such things, we're currently at 477 Scouts which is 27 down on the same time last year. Over the same period, Joeys is up 10 to 208, Cubs is up 7 to 454, Venturers is down 42 to 146, and Rovers is down 13 to 49.

Please remember that there is an exit survey: <https://forms.office.com/r/HXvjqDWV4b>.

This should be completed whenever a youth member leaves any section for any reason — including moving up to the next section. If we don't know where they're going and why, then we can't do anything to keep them!

The last 8 entries show 7 leaving Scouts due to age, and 1 newly arrived from Cubs deciding to take a break from Scouting. Please fill it in whenever a youth member leaves, and please encourage the leaders of other sections in your Group to do likewise.

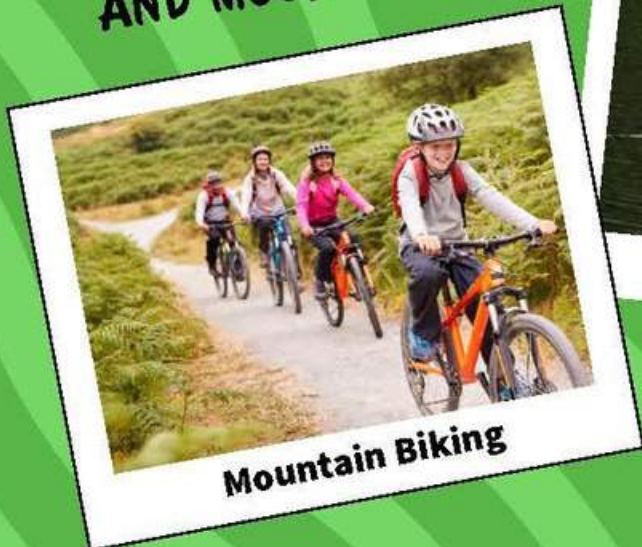
## Corroboree

This is another reminder of the Corroboree at Easter 2024. Please fill in the Expression of Interest form that you've received in the last few days (as of the time of writing) and thank you to the ten or so Groups who have already responded.

**IT'S BACK...**

# TASMANIAN CORROBOREE 2024

BILLY CARTS  
ABSEILING & CLIMBING  
CATAPULTS  
HIGH ROPES  
CRATE STACKING  
SAILING & ROWING  
ENVIRONMENT PROJECTS  
FLYING EXPERIENCES  
MOUNTAIN BIKES  
AND MUCH MORE.....



Mountain Biking



Sailing & Rowing



Abseiling & Climbing

*Save the Date...*

**Fulton Park, Forth**  
**March 29th - April 1st 2024**



Scoul  
TASMANIA

### Scout/Guide Regatta

Mike Hovington has sent information about the Regatta via email (November 22nd and 24th). To commence the registration process, your Unit's Scout Leader needs to enter details for the event on [MyScout](#). Registration closes on February 15th and the event is the March long weekend (Friday March 8th–Monday March 11th).

If you've not been to Regatta, please try to get there and to get your Scouts there. It's an absolutely fantastic weekend and your Scouts will love it!

### Merry Christmas...

Well that's it for 2023 Newsletters. I hope that you and yours have a safe and happy Christmas and festive season. If you have holidays, I hope they are restful and recuperative. Thank you for all that you do for our Scouts.

If you've any comments or questions on anything at any time, please just contact me!

Merry Christmas,

-Julian.

Dr Julian Dermoudy

Branch Commissioner, Scouts

e: [bc.scouts@tas.scouts.com.au](mailto:bc.scouts@tas.scouts.com.au)



# Cub Report

Well here we are, pretty much at the end of the year! I hope you have all had a good year with your Cubs and that you enjoy some rest and relaxation over the scouting break.

## Cuboree 2023 – Lost Property

There is still a large amount of lost property from the Cuboree. I will hold on to the unclaimed items for a little while longer before donating them. Please get in touch if you know of anyone missing items.

## Commissioners Challenge

There is still time to order the Commissioners Challenge badges! The link to order is <https://forms.office.com/r/TcYd7S1Rcc>

## Facebook Group

After a few requests I have created a Facebook Group called Tassie Cub Scouts. This can be used to share ideas, ask questions and share resources and ideas. Feel free to join <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tassieclubscouts/>

## Grey Wolf Awards

Congratulations to the following Cubs who have achieved their Grey Wolf Award! This is a fantastic achievement! One! Two! Three! WOLF!!!!

Penny Sanderson Turners Beach

Thomas Cope Motton Preston

Mariella Tough North West Bay

Luke Macpherson Riverside

Paige Maine City of Devonport

Good Hunting!

David Henwood

Branch Commissioner – Cub Scouts

[bc.cubs@tas.scouts.com.au](mailto:bc.cubs@tas.scouts.com.au)



# Joey Scout Report

As we approach the end of the year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've had together in 2023. For the Joey Scout Section it has been a year filled with adventure, growth, and in particular community spirit. This was reflected in so many activities, from the large number of Joey Scouts that attended community events such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day services, to the fantastic series of Regional Events across the State with the theme "Out in the Community", to the Pirate themed Cuboree Taster (pictures at the end of this article), to the many fun-filled Group and District Events where Joey Scouts engaged with emergency services, charities and other community organisations.



## Commissioner's Challenge

Well done to the Joey Scouts from Blackmans Bay, Howrah, 1st Derwent and Tarooma for completing the 2023 Commissioner's Challenge. Joey Scout Units have until the end of 2023 to complete the Challenges. If you have any queries about the Commissioner's Challenge, please let me know. You can order the badges (\$3.50 each) by completing the online form <https://forms.office.com/r/EkSa0MSL7b>



### Wood badge

A special congratulations to our Joey Scout Leaders, Adele, Sivasathya and Niall, who achieved their Wood Badge this year. Your commitment to ongoing learning and leadership development sets a fantastic example for us all.

### Joey Scout Challenge Award

As the year comes to a close, I am looking forward to the presentation of a number of Joey Scout Challenge Awards. These Awards will be included in our next newsletter. Well done to all of our Joey Scouts that completed the Joey Scout Challenge Award this year. So far we have had 15 Joey Scouts receive the award this year from across the State. That is a fantastic effort and is a testament to the quality of the program provided by our Leaders, the hard work of our Joey Scouts and the fantastic support we get from parents.





Just a reminder that Youth Members who were awarded the Joey Promise Challenge Award under the old Program are eligible to purchase the Joey Scout Challenge Award badge to wear on their Cubs/Scouts/Venturer/Rover uniform. If a Leader or a parent would like to purchase the reissued badge for a Youth Member they can do so by emailing [admin@tas.scouts.com.au](mailto:admin@tas.scouts.com.au).

### Thank you

Finally, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of our Joey Scout Leaders for making 2023 such a fantastic Scouting year. Thank you for your commitment, your time, your caring spirit and your energy. The positive impact you make on the lives of our Joey Scouts is immeasurable, and the memories you've created will last a lifetime.

To all our Joey Scouts, thank you for coming along and sharing your many talents, your sense of fun and your friendships. Thank you also to all the parents and supporters who have helped the Joey Scout Section during 2023 – we couldn't do it without you.

Well that's it from me for 2023. However you will be spending Christmas this year, I hope that the time creates many wonderful memories for you. Merry Christmas and happy Joey Scouting for the new year ahead.

Ruth Henderson  
Branch Commissioner Joey Scouts  
[bc.joey@tas.scouts.com.au](mailto:bc.joey@tas.scouts.com.au)



# Program Support

This has certainly been a year of changes and uncertainty and my thanks to all the Tasmanian Leaders who have remained focussed on what is important – that is providing a fantastic Scouting program for our youth members. This is at the centre of all we do.

It was also very pleasing to note that of all the participants in the Wood badge (Scouting Leadership course, all completed the various requirements and were able to be presented with their beads and scarf at the final dinner. This is an outstanding achievement and once again highlights commitment to our youth members by having Leaders who have completed their training. There is always something extra if you wish in the adventurous Activities space, or e-learning electives, to further enhance your skills.

Child Safe has been a major focus this year, with the National policy being reviewed as well as the e-learning mandatory training. As Scouts Tasmania we welcomed Katrina Munting as our new Child Safe Commissioner. Many of you may know Kate as a 1st Derwent Cub Scout leader and as a victim survivor and also a consultant for the new Tasmanian legislation. I will be working closely with Kate on ensuring ALL our Leaders, District and Support personnel and fellowship members, as well as other adults who assist in delivering Scouting have completed the mandatory Child Safe and WHS modules and are current with WWVP and other requirements.

It is hoped that an up-dated TOPS will be available early in 2024. To ensure that everyone is working from the same document we will not be printing them off but the most current document will be on MyScout and also the website. This is to ensure that as changes are required TOPS can be up-dated immediately, rather than waiting years for it to be amended and then printed (making it out of date as soon as you get a copy!).

As we move towards a new structure designed to assist our Leaders deliver the program, please always communicate any concerns, wins and suggestions for improvement. None of us is infallible and we can always improve with help of other with the same goals – that is that Scouting in Tasmania is the top youth organisation providing a broad ranging programme full of fun, adventure, knowledge and inclusion.

I hope all our Leaders and adult who support Scouting in Tasmania have a wonderful Christmas full of joy, family and friends and that 2024 will be full of fun, adventure, knowledge and inclusion, just like Scouting.

Geraldine Harwood

Branch commissioner Program Support



# December AJ 2025 Update



13 months to go until AJ2025 starts and the fun begins.

Applications are now open and will close at the end of April 2024

More information is available about the Jamboree on the Tasmanian Scout web site

<https://www.tas.scouts.com.au/australian-jamboree-aj2025/>

So, get on and start your application now at [www.aj2025.com.au](http://www.aj2025.com.au)

And follow our Facebook page for current information and updates.

Andrea Heap

Tasmanian Contingent Leader



## Clark Trophy Communications Report

On behalf of the Scouts who attended the Clark Trophy this year, I would like to thank some Amateur radio operators who staffed the communications operation.

Gary, VK7JGD & Anthony, VK7AG who are members of the Wireless Institute Civil Emergency Network (WICEN) volunteered their time to spend the weekend on top of the hill at Rocton farm.

They managed 3 different radio nets providing safety communications for the scout patrols, scoring traffic on another frequency from the various nodes and then on another system forward this down to the base. This system was needed as not all areas of the property could contact the base directly with radio. They also needed to keep a listening watch on the radios overnight in case of emergency.

They also had to keep paper records up to date with scoring info from the nodes as these had to be relayed back to base. Not sure how windy it was up there but all seemed to go well.

Also on air was Coen VK7CAG a licensed youth member from Cygnet who was assisting at the Base location. Tasks included receiving scoring info from operators on the hill and delivering them to the scoring team.

Well done all.

Peter Dodd  
PC Radio and Electronics



## 2 kayaks for sale

\$100 each.  
PH. 0438598571

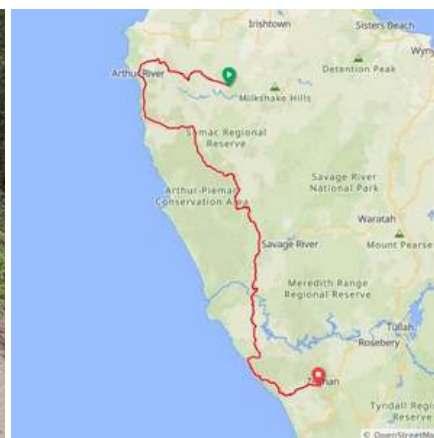
Eunice Horne  
Group Leader  
Turners Beach Scouts



## Scouts Tasmania Cycling Team

The October school break saw a flurry of activity from the cycling team, and some plans hatched for next year.

Firstly we assisted a Venturer expedition, coordinated by Alexander Varney (Hellyer Venturers) & Simran Grubb (Leven Venturers). They were joined by Riley Walters-Simpson (Leven) & Brody Elphinstone (Hellyer), riding for 4 days from Trowutta to Zeehan down the Western edge of Tasmania. Over 200k of riding, some big hills & amazing sights along the way, as well as a steak lunch while waiting for the Corinna Ferry. It's not very often a Scout expedition includes such fancy food!



The cycling team now has a number of bike bags & racks that can be hired for any Scouts/Venturers considering a cycling expedition as part of their Peak award. Contact the Cycling Team for more information.



The following week the Cycling Team held another successful MtB camp in Derby. Four days of MtB cycling skills & fun were had, with 20 Scouts & Venturers attending. Participants were able to sign off on much of OAS level 4 MtB cycling, as well as having a great time along the trails. This is fast cementing itself as a great annual event!





This was also the first outing for our newly converted bike trailer. This is now setup to carry 12 Mountain Bikes, or road bikes. Once we've converted our other trailers we will then have 3 bike trailers available for Scout Groups in the NW, North or South to hire.



In 2024 the cycling team will aim to hold a Cycling Training & Leadership weekend, teaching the cycling planning & bike maintenance skills necessary for OAS level 5. We'll also be holding another MtB camp later in the year. Keep an eye out in the Branch calendar for dates, or updates via the Cycling Team facebook page.

Julian Varney  
 Cycling Team Leader  
 Scouts Tasmania Cycling Team



# Heritage Centre News

If you enter scout HQ on any Wednesday and go into the Heritage Centre you will come across an amiable group of people working hard to look after Scouting in Tasmania history.

Tony Peck has come to the end of his six years as Project Commissioner for Heritage and I have taken over the reins again. We all work as a team, however, with each one having particular skills and between us we have an amazing knowledge of scouting in Tasmania.

During the year we have had visits from cubs scouts and joey scouts, the roving curators from Arts Tasmania, several ex scouts and relatives of old scouts and scouters.

We have received many donations of all sorts of items including a Wolf Cub totem pole from the 1930s covered in small silver wolf heads. It was northern district interpack athletic trophy.

We attended Port Cygnet's 100 years of scouting and The New Norfolk Heritage Festival where we had a display alongside the newly reformed New Norfolk Group.

Our team visited the Rosny TMAG Archive to check what they had in their vaults. ((Not an awful lot as it turns out). We were also taken to the site of "Pickie's Campsite from the 1930s near the Cascade Brewery.

We were very sad to hear that the inspired leader/commissioner who had the insight to start the Tasmanian Scout Heritage Centre in the early 1090s passed away recently. Fran Maddock gave many many hours of hard work and knowledge as well as her own money to form this enviable collection of items of international , national and state significance.

Susan Gardner

PC for Heritage





# Audit of Group Gazebos and Large Tents

Tasmanian Scouts have been working hard with the Government and subject specialist producing guidelines that meet government standards with the aim to certify our own events. These guidelines will be sent out early 2024.

A major part of this is to ensure all our tents comply with AS/NZ 1170 engineering certs.

I was hoping to have had this completed by September, disappointingly, I have only received a

handful of

respondence. A group purchased a new gazebo for the Cuboree, it stated on the box that it meets Australian standards but does not state what standard. At the Cuboree, its frame bent and had to

be taken  
down.

Please email me the following information:

## **Gazebos under 20sqm 3X4m and 3X6m**

Group Name

Contact Person

Manufacture Name

Age

Condition: include guy ropes and pegs

Size

Photo very helpful

## **Large Tents over 20 sqm**

Group Name

Contact Person

Manufacture Name

Age / Date of purchase if known

Fabric type

Guy ropes

Pegs

Photo

Engineering certs, copy of certificate if you have one Email Susanne H [sehovington@hovo.id.au](mailto:sehovington@hovo.id.au)

## Get 15% discount from

**Outdoor**  
CONNECTION



Outdoor Connection gazebo's have been tested and meet AS/NZ 1170 standard for temporary structures and have provided the engineer certification, they are one of 5 companies that have provide these certificates.

Branch HQ is purchasing a bulk order of V pegs at a big discount that will provide a greater kg ground anchoring in Sandy and light soil, watch this space.

They will give groups a **15% discount if you tell them you are buying for a Scout Group, if you buy through HQ you will also get 10% GST off.** Maria is working on a process for this to happen seamlessly, watch out for next newsletter.

Check out their range: [outdoor.connection.com.au](http://outdoor.connection.com.au) Phone 07 3715 8400

# 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 31st March 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](mailto:phil.harper@tas.scouts.com.au)



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

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## BHQ end of year Christmas Drinks & Nibblies

Friday 15th December, 4pm - 6.30pm

Scouts Tasmania  
330 Proctors Rd  
Kingston

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

