

Scout Section Report – ARP 2020

The Scout section began the reporting year with 2 patrols and 8 scouts regularly attending. Throughout the year we grew to 23 Scouts in 4 Patrols. The Scouts had a few changes in leadership throughout this time, beginning the year with Group Leader Dingo and Dolphin. I officially took over the unit as Scout Leader in March 2019 however with baby Eamon being born March 13 my partner Lee led the troop for term 2 until I was able to begin regularly attending with Dolphin in term 3. We have since welcomed Yogi and Zac into the unit bring our leadership team to 4 and have 2 parent helpers – Kerryann who helps each week during section meetings and Mark who has come along to our camps.

Highlights of the year include district camp (where Shark patrol took home the first aid trophy), the opening of our new den, troop camp (2 patrols in attendance focusing on camping and cooking skills), Patrol Leader Reward Day and our very first troop hike. We hiked from Moggill Conservation Area into Tyamolum Scout Campsite. The weather in the week leading up to the hike was very wet! This meant we ended up with several water crossings but thankfully no wet tents. For a bunch of scouts who had never hiked before I was very impressed with their enthusiasm and this was the first hike I've ever been on with scouts where we didn't have overloaded packs. We then had the challenge of transitioning to Scouting at Home at the end of term 1, this is a very different way of doing Scouting however all Scouts have engaged really well and we are all learning new skills.

This year saw the staged introduction to the (new) Youth Program. We benchmarked all Scouts across the OAS badges and began working towards OAS and SIA badges. We awarded 3 Pioneer cords and many other badges across both award schemes. We have now transitioned to the (new) Youth Program with only Milly continuing her ASM Journey through the old program.

Now that the unit has stable leadership, we have been able to implement regular Unit Councils and have seen an increase in Youth Led programs and activities. As a leader I am incredibly proud of all Scouts in the unit, but special mention should go to Milly, Scarlett, Heath and Matthew who have taken on the challenge to step up as Patrol Leader's and all the extra work that role entails.

Using the skills she has learnt as a Patrol Leader, Milly has taken the extra step to apply for the QLD Branch Youth Council. She was successful in her application and now joins a team of 23 other Scouts, Venturers and Rovers from across QLD in an important role providing youth input and guidance on Scouting in Queensland across a range of topics.

It has been a wonderful year getting to know the Scouts, other youth members, Leader's and adult supporters here at Cleveland. I would like to thank you all for welcoming me so warmly into the group and for the work you do to keep the group running.

Thankyou also to all my parents who have been understanding as I slowly began doing more with the Scouts. With such a young baby at home we were not able to get out and camp as often as I would have liked but I am looking forward to a jam-packed year of events this year. Our Patrol leaders are already planning patrol activities that can be done right now as we wait for more COVID-19 restrictions to be lifted.

'Akuna'
Tam Hill
Scout Leader