2017 Youth Activities

We invite organisations and individuals to consider some of the youth activities planned in 2017. Details are provided within the newsletter and on the websites.

National Youth Week (31 March – 9 April)
The theme is Be Bold, Be Brave, Be You. Activities will be posted on the PCYC website closer to the date. https://www.qld.gov.au/youth/be-involved-have-your-say/youth-week/

QYA Sailing Days (8 & 9 April)
Young people aged 14-17 are invited to spend a day sailing on the tall ship, the South Passage. Cost $68. Information on the tall ship “South Passage” has been included on the last page of the newsletter. More information is available on their website www.southpassage.org.au.

As part of National Youth Week, there are some sponsored free places on the QYA sailing days for young people who would not normally be able to take part. Contact skipscout@bigpond.com for more information on the sponsored places.

YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament
(Applications close 27 February)
Young people aged 15-25 can apply.

Australia Day Award

Congratulations to Michael Bischa for being awarded a Lord Mayor’s Australia Day Award for his contribution to young people in the community. Michael has been a dedicated volunteer Sea Scout Leader at Pamphlett-Tennyson Scout Group for 30 years.
**Online Youth Forum**

**A voice for young people in Queensland**

The QYA is very interested in issues that relate to young people and their ideas. Young people and youth groups are invited to contribute to an online forum using Padlet. Suggestions on how to solve problems would be great too.

The forum is open now. Please encourage your members to contribute.

Padlet allows participants to add to the discussion and even add topics.

Initial themes include: Environment, Health, Social, Activities. Do you have any other ideas?

Contributions are welcome up to **Sunday 9 April** (the end of Youth Week). Youth groups are encouraged to run mini forums in their groups and add ideas to the online forum on behalf of the group. To take part, go to:

[https://padlet.com/skipscout/qya2017forum](https://padlet.com/skipscout/qya2017forum)

Thank you for helping young people to have a voice.

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**Grants available $$$**

State Government funding to support sport and active recreation activities, including:

- Get Started Vouchers of $150 for families to cover registration or participation fees. Next round opens 12 July 2017.

The next Get in the Game grants for clubs and groups open in July 2017. It is time to get planning.

**Community benefit funding programs**

The Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation distributes revenue from gaming taxes to various not-for-profit community groups throughout Queensland. They invite all eligible organisations to submit grant applications to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund during the application periods.

Grants up to the value of $35,000 (inclusive of GST) are available. The Gambling Community Benefit Fund round 92 will close 28 February.

**Local Council Grants**

Some local governments provide grant funding for not-for-profit organisations. It is worth checking out your local government website to become familiar with what is available.

For example, for local not-for-profit groups the Brisbane City Council now has:

1. **Community Development and Capacity Building Grants** up to $10,000 to improve and develop services that respond to local and city-wide issues in Brisbane (closes 20 Feb).
2. **Healthy and Physical Activity Grants** up to $20,000 for projects to increase participation in community sport, recreation and physical activity in Brisbane (closes 27 Feb).
About South Passage

South Passage is a 100 foot (30.5m), 60 tonne, gaff-rigged schooner sailed in the traditional way. Everything is done manually – there are no winches or mechanical aids. Sails are raised and lowered by hand and just about every activity requires a number of people working together as a team.

South Passage was designed and built in Queensland 24 years ago specifically for 14-17 year olds to experience Adventure under Sail and she has taken over 40,000 students sailing during that time.

Safety is important and South Passage has all the required safety equipment such as life rafts, life jackets, GPS navigation system, radios, satellite phone, first aid kits and fire-fighting facilities. The crew are trained in the use of the equipment and safety drills are conducted on all voyages.

Our Vision: South Passage will grow and develop young people through adventure under sail.

Our Mission: South Passage will provide safe and challenging experiences for young men and women using the ship as a medium to develop leadership, initiative, independence and self-discipline.

Our Program: ROPES:

Respect, Opportunity, Participation, Enjoyment, Safety

Upcoming events

- QYA Day Sails in Moreton Bay 8th or 9th April (two opportunities)
- 3-day Moreton Bay Voyage: 10-12 April. Perfect for Bronze Duke of Edinburgh
- 7-day Voyage – Gladstone to Manly 17-23 April. Perfect for Gold Duke of Edinburgh
- Sponsored ISPA Japan 8-day Voyage Townsville to Mackay 8-15 August. Expressions of Interest are due by Friday 28th April. Only cost is journey to Townsville and home from Mackay. Please contact office for more information.

Contact details

www.southpassage.org.au
Telephone: (07) 3893 3777
Email: office@southpassage.org.au
Postal address: PO Box 5114 Manly QLD 4179
Physical address: 8/188 Stratton Tce, Manly
The YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament (QYP) is, quite literally, a Parliament of young people. It provides the largest apolitical forum for youth aged 15-25 years, equipping the leaders of tomorrow with the skills to change Queensland’s future today.

What can I expect?
1. Appointment: Become the member for your state electorate by nominating online.
2. Preparation: Attend Forum to discuss ideas and decide on the topic for your youth bill.
3. Residential: Experience one of the best weeks of your life. Time is spent debating in the Chamber, out in the recreational field and meeting Politicians.
4. Implementation: See your work as a Youth Member influence legislation in years to come as Members of Parliament read the passed legislation.

Key Dates
30th January: Nominations open
27th February: Nominations close
6th March: Offers are released
10th March: Appointment as a Youth Member
7th—9th April: Launch Weekend
May—September: The Meeting Phase
24th—30th September: Residential Sitting Week

What does it cost?
The cost of participation is $400, which can be paid in two instalments, this covers:
- All training costs including mentoring
- Forum – including accommodation, meals, transport to and from Parliament House and all activities
- Residential – including accommodation, meals, transport to and from Parliament House and all activities

*Youth Members living outside of South East Queensland may be eligible for travel reimbursements. Please contact the coordinator for more details.

Contact Us
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Twitter: twitter.com/YMCA_QYP
YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/TheYMCAQYP

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Queensland Government
YMCA QUEENSLAND
YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Believe
CHANGES AT THE TOP

Recent elections were held for a new executive for Girls’ Brigade Qld. We welcome Heather Richards as our new State Commissioner. Heather lives with her family in Rockhampton. She brings to the position skills and experiences gained from her working life as well as her time in Girls’ Brigade as a girl and then as a Leader.

Queen’s Award

In November, two Queensland Girls’ Brigade members received their Queen’s Award, the highest International Award that can be achieved. It was a double celebration for one of these girls, Rachel who turned 21 on the day. The awards were received from the Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC who later in the evening proposed a toast for Rachel’s birthday.

The girls together with their parents and Leaders celebrated at a dinner the following evening.
Mr Daryl Scott was appointed by the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland and Chief Scout of Scouts Queensland in November 2016.

Daryl brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the position having been involved in Scouting for over 30 years.

A message from the Chief Commissioner

Scouting is important to me because of the incredible positive impact we have on the lives of young people through their physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual development. What other organisation can provide such holistic development? I know what I got out of being a youth member and how I have benefited from being an Adult Member and I have watched the incredible development of our children through Scouting to want to stay involved.

I recognise the centrality of the Scout Group for delivery of the Scout Program and that the District, Region and Branch structure is there to support that. I also acknowledge the incredible efforts that so many volunteer Leaders put into Scouting over an extended period. Our youth members are very fortunate to have that adult support. I will work to lessen the burden of the Group Leader role through streamlined processes supported by contemporary systems.

Daryl G. Scott
Chief Commissioner of Queensland

New Scout Group opens with a bang

Biloela Scout Group has been closed since 2012. A murmur was heard of some interest in the town and from a few meetings with Kane a previous Cub Scout Leader, some plans were put in place to see the level of interest.

After months of bombarding Biloela on local Facebook pages and numerous notices around town and a surprise article in the paper the enquiries started to come in. A community meeting was held and some wonderful people came along because they had an interest in reopening the Biloela scout group. This particular night eight of these people committed to taking on lead roles. To open a Scout Group takes commitment and dedication and a plan. These people have certainly undertaken their roles and more to the full.

The Group Leader Geoff is an ex Scout from Calliope and he along with his growing team have put in some hard yards to get the ball rolling. Geoff and three Leaders have nearly completed their basic training in record time, one travelling to Rockhampton, two to Emerald and one to Brisbane. They will be travelling 1.5 hrs to Calliope to get some youth experience to complete this training. Well done Biloela.

Visit scoutsqld.com.au for more great Scouting fun and adventures, or to join Scouts QLD contact hello@scoutsqld.com.au.

Contact:

E: qldhq@scoutsqld.com.au
P: 07 3870 7000
A: PO Box 520, Toowong QLD 4074
Website: www.scoutsqld.com.au
Girl Guides are leading the way - again!

GGQ is very proud to have been the first volunteer organisation in Queensland to introduce a child safe organisational culture. During the period 1998 - 2003, Girl Guides Queensland introduced a ‘Code of Conduct’ for all adults. This was specifically geared towards child protection behaviours.

Subsequently, a coalition of QYA members, chaired by GGQ, agreed to a set of organisational behaviours and a Code of Conduct which replicated GGQ strategies. The QYA Risk Committee made 21 recommendations to the Queensland Government. All recommendations were accepted and implemented - the ‘Blue Card’ legislation was born.

As a follow on, Girl Guides introduced a ‘Keeping Children Safe’ policy and training for all leaders and adults. Training was developed to support the policy and ensure that leaders and responsible adults could recognise signs of abuse and were equipped with appropriate responses and awareness of reporting requirements.

The State Commissioner for GGQ, Velia Nicholls explained:

“We have a Keeping Children Safe Committee that is responsible on an ongoing basis, for ensuring compliance with legislation, recommending improvements, managing disclosures and providing advice to GGQ management. Currently, GGQ is undergoing a review of its KCS Policy. This review aims to ensure that GGQ continues to exceed all legislative minimum requirements and be innovative in developing new approaches to enhance the safety of the organisation.”

“Thus will also mean that GGQ is on the front foot and easily able to incorporate any additional recommendations that come out of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Abuse.”

GGQ is very excited with the release of a NEW Guide Your Money Foundations program for girls aged 7 – 12 years. There are six topics. Each one has games and activities that can be adapted to suit a range of ages. Using Guide Your Money Foundations, girls will build basic money habits, learn about making positive money choices and become more aware of what influences their spending behaviour!

Our Olave members (18 – 30 year olds) recently ran a successful Chain of Cardboard Cities event. This biennial event is aimed at increasing community awareness and raising money for charities that work with the homeless.

Last October, 134 participants from 10 different Girl Guide Districts across South East Queensland, spent the night sleeping in cardboard boxes and eating their meals from a soup kitchen. Event organisers presented a cheque for $7353.75 to Orange Sky Laundry (OSL) as a result of their efforts.

OSL is a charity offering free mobile laundry facilities to the homeless. OSL washes 6.9 tonnes of laundry every week, its volunteers engage with their clients in positive and genuine conversations whilst the laundry is being done. A very worthy recipient of the Chain of Cardboard Cities fundraising!

For further information on Girl Guides, email reception@guidesqld.org, visit our website – www.guidesqld.org or call 07 3357 1266.
In January, over 180 young surf lifesavers across three youth development programs within Queensland had their decision-making and team-building skills put to the ultimate test.

These programs equipped participants with the skills required to reach their full potential as leaders within both Surf Life Saving and their lives away from the beach. It was an ideal opportunity for young members to gain leadership skills, boost their lifesaving knowledge, and meet like-minded members from other clubs.

**Surf Life Saving Sunshine Coast – Camp Commando**

Approximately 130 young surf lifesavers from across the Sunshine Coast attended ‘Camp Commando’ from 9-11 January at Sunshine Coast Recreation Centre, with a major component of the program being a challenging session conducted by the Australian Defence Force.

While mixing the Defence Force and surf lifesaving together may seem an unusual combination, we have found that many of the skills learned by our young members can be used across both organisations. Both groups promote skills around teamwork, decision-making under pressure, and leadership.

**Surf Life Saving North Queensland**

The North Queensland Branch Youth Summer Camp was held from 13-15 January at Camp Paterson. All 5 Branch clubs were represented, with 27 youth and 4 leaders making for an action-packed, fun-filled weekend of team building and adventure activities including raft building/rescue, obstacle challenge, plugga, leaders gone missing and night spotting, just to name a few.

A highlight included a youth meeting held on Sunday with great new ideas and funding options to assist in driving youth development in NQ.

**Surf Life Saving Wide Bay Capricorn – Camp Commando**

The Wide Bay Capricorn Branch ‘Camp Commando’ was held from 16-18 January at Chaverim Outdoor Education Centre in the Bundaberg Region.

There were 29 participants, 3 leaders and 1 mentor, with 5 of the 8 clubs represented.
Queens Badge 2016 Presentation
Fourteen young men were presented with their Queens Badge (the highest award in BB) by the Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC at Government House in a joint ceremony with The Girls’ Brigade held in November 2016. This was followed by a celebration dinner where parents and leaders were able to honour the awardees. A fifteenth recipient, unable to attend at Government House was presented with his award during the dinner. Local MPs in the electorates where the awardees live were alerted of their achievement and many have made contact in various ways to add their congratulations as well.

Growth initiatives for BB
A new group has commenced operation in Mt Isa with good local media attention in the city. A radio campaign on station 96.5FM commenced in mid-January and will run through until Easter. The audience demographic is the family and early signs of new boys joining up with local groups is encouraging.

Centenary Celebrations
2017 is a special year for Boys’ Brigade. When BB commenced over 130 years ago in Scotland, it was for 12 to 17 year old boys only. In 1917, in the midst of The Great War, ‘The Boy Reserves’ was started for youngsters from the age of nine. So, this year we celebrate the centenary of the formation of work with this ‘Junior’ age group. Special emphasis will be placed on this during all normal Juniors events with a special celebration event being planned for June.

BB Qld hosts Pan Australian Camp
Boys’ Brigade Queensland hosted the Brigade’s Pan Australian Camp, PAC19, at Tamborine Mountain in January. The camp was officially opened by local Scenic Rim Deputy Mayor, Cr Nigel Waintell. Almost 300 campers participated from all over Australia were treated to a sample of the tourist attractions South East Queensland has to offer.
To kick off the experience, the entire camp invaded Dreamworld for a day. They also travelled by train from the Gold Coast to ‘Discover Brisbane’ in smaller groups. The distinctive maroon shirts worn on outings certainly made quite an impression with the locals wherever they went.

PAC at Dreamworld
Overnight and single day electives were offered including hiking in the Lamington National Park, climbing Mt Maroon, beach fishing on Stradbroke Island, paintball, carting, laser tag, indoor climbing, and of course a Gold Coast beach day and surfing lessons.

Mt Maroon summit
All campers had a great time with lots of memories to share with their new friends and their family on their return home.

Contact:
boys.brigadeaustralia.org/qld
P: 07 3849 4498
E: bbqldgm@brigadeaustralia.org