

26TH AUSTRALIAN SCOUT JAMBOREE QUEENSLAND CONTINGENT

FINAL QLD NEWS FROM AJ, WEDNESDAY 15.01.2025



HELLO FROM THE AUSTRALIAN JAMBOREE!

Good morning Queensland families!

It's a vibrant Wednesday, and today is our pack-up day! We are concluding our journey together, where we've witnessed amazing growth and boundless enthusiasm from everyone involved.

Packing up is all part of the learning opportunity. Involving Scouts in packing up is crucial as it teaches them responsibility, teamwork, and organisation. By participating in these tasks, they learn the importance of contributing to the unit or patrol's success and develop a sense of ownership and pride in their accomplishments. It also provides practical skills such as time management and problem-solving, which are valuable in everyday life. Moreover, it creates a sense of community and camaraderie among the Scouts, reinforcing the core values of the Scouting movement. Through these experiences, Scouts grow into well-rounded individuals who are prepared to take on future challenges with confidence and resilience.

As we prepare to bid farewell to this incredible chapter, we can celebrate the friendships created, the challenges overcome, and the resilience demonstrated.

Dinner and lunch have been swapped around for many units to enable BBQ's to be packed up in the afternoon. The Closing Ceremony is tonight and if a live stream is available, it'll be posted on the Australian Jamboree Facebook page, not the Queensland Contingent Facebook page. We will share it with you though as soon as it becomes available.

Thanks again to our amazing team of volunteers! If you want to be part of something as amazing as working with young people to build their resilience and confidence, be sure to speak with a leader at your home group upon the return to Scouting in 2025 to find out how you can help.

This will be our final newsletter as the Marketing and Communications Team either begin travelling home from midnight on Thursday 16/01, or are repurposed as Bus Marshals. We thank you for your encouragement and positivity throughout the Jamboree on our Facebook page.

It's been a pleasure!
Nyree, Chris, Matt, Chantelle & Isabella
Queensland Marketing & Communications Team

Camping Standard Awards 🏆

Our final day for awarding Camping Standards has passed. We're pleased to share the following who obtained the award on Tuesday.

New Camping Standard Awards:

- C030
- FC064

The following units were awarded a second Camping Standard Award on Tuesday:

- C006
- FC042

Overall Camping Standard Winners 🏆

The top three campsites for Queenslanders at the Jamboree are:

- 1st Place - T061
- 2nd Place - C006
- 3rd Place - FC035

Gateway Awards 🏆

If you haven't yet seen all of the Gateways, please find the three Facebook posts on the QLD Contingent page from Friday, 10.01.25, where they're showcased per sub-camp.

New Gateway Awards:

- FC028
- C048
- FC050

Your Seaside Awards 🏆

- 1st Place - C075, Patrol 5
- 2nd Place - FC035, Patrol 3
- 3rd Place - T042, Patrol 2

Jamboree Executive Committee Thank You

On Tuesday evening, Jean and Ryan, representatives of the Jamboree Executive Committee (JEC), presented the Queensland Contingent Leaders, John and Gill, with a special gift as a thank you. This gesture symbolizes the gratitude and appreciation for John and Gill's exceptional leadership and dedication.

A big thank you to the JEC Queenslanders for their tireless work in preparing for AJ 2025, the 26th Australian Jamboree. Their commitment and hard work have ensured an unforgettable experience for all participants, creating a sense of community and camaraderie that embodies the spirit of Scouting.

Bogged Buggy

On Tuesday afternoon, a delivery of nine birthday cakes became a little stuck in the mud. Tuan and Fraser Coast sub-camps are still a little challenging to move through in some spots and this wrong move meant mud cakes were almost on the cards!

In true Scouting spirit, a team of Scouts quickly sprang into action. FC064, with enthusiasm and teamwork, assessed the situation and devised a plan to free the buggy. Utilising their problem-solving skills and physical strength, they worked together to push, pull, and maneuver the buggy out of the mud. Their combined efforts paid off as the buggy was finally set free, to the cheers of everyone around. This incident highlighted the Scouts' resourcefulness, collaboration, and readiness to help others in times of need, embodying the true essence of the Scouting movement.

QLD Jamboree Photos

Please trawl through the Facebook page to find the photos you want to keep. A public album for downloads will not be made available. All the best pictures are on the QLD Contingents Facebook page.

A Very Special Message From Home to the Jamboree Volunteers

Hello Jamboree organisers,

Thank you so much for the amazing opportunity you have provided to the Scouting youth over the past 10 days and all the planning and preparation prior as well as the clean up after. The giving up of more of your annual leave for Scouting youth.

These are opportunities of a lifetime and so rewarding. As we farewelled our son I thought of the 37 years prior when I was 12 and off to a Girl Guide Jamboree in New Zealand and the experiences I had there. So much learning, especially self management and surviving 10 -12 days without Mum or Dad.

Thank you all so much and enjoy the rest, hot shower, no mud under your feet, a home cooked meal and being able to flick the light switch on when it gets dark.

Safe travels home,

Kind regards, a thankful family of a Scout in attendance.

Unpacking Help Required - 25 & 26 January

Are you an AJ parent, or are you someone who didn't get to the 26th Australian Jamboree? This is your chance to support the Contingent and make a difference!

We've moved the unpacking weekend to 25 and 26 January, to avoid having wet tents sitting in pallecons.

What's Needed: Volunteers for unpacking (the more, the merrier!) and Forklift drivers.

Details: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM (both days if needed) at BP Park, Samford. Lunch will be provided.

Any help you can offer will be appreciated.

Please contact: cl@aj.scoutsqld.com.au if you can help.

Local Retailers Loving the Boom

By Matt Gees

Queenslanders are known for their hospitality - especially in country towns - but Maryborough retailers, particularly small businesses, are overjoyed at the opportunity to host 10,000 scouts just outside of their small town.

From Lolly Shops to cafes to OP Shops and even the visitor information centre; Maryborough have fully supported the way Jamboree has increased the population of their region.

"The kids have just been outstanding - myself and all our volunteers have enjoyed our interactions with them" says Lisa McGrath the manager of the Adelaide Street Lifeline store.

"From a retail perspective, business has increased 10 fold. Not only revenue on a day to day basis, but foot traffic through the store. We're looking at about 300% increase - I'm nearly out of stock in Sunglasses, Socks and Soft Toys" Katie laughs.

This sentiment is echoed from other retailers, with praise for the behaviour of Scouts and the leadership abilities of the youth in looking after each other being a common theme.

Shay from Alowishus Delcious giggles when she reveals how much ice cream and Gelato they've gone through. "We've gone through 3 times more tubs of vanilla ice cream than usual and our Gelato is flying out the door".

Wide Bay Sweets Proprietor Matthew only recently opened his store in the main street. "I hadn't actually heard of the Jamboree and then when I did, I ordered in as much stock as I could". Matthew is also now investigating more about Scouting thanks to his encounters over the course of the Jamboree, even considering becoming an Adult Member.

As for Katie and her Lifeline store, the shop window is focused on Scout uniforms and she herself is now covered in badges after she started to accept badge currency in the store. "I allowed one young Scout to part pay for an item with a badge. I put the badge on and then other kids started to give me more and more badges over the following days and the shirt is now pretty heavy. But its fun and we got to support an event happening in our community."

Yours in Scouting,

The Queensland Contingent Jamboree Team