



TROOP CAMP AT PENNANT HILLS HARBOUR CRUISE & SEA WORLD 2-5/Oct/2009

Story & photos by Chris.

We had a great weekend however it was extremely wet. Friday night we put the fly up in the rain, and the Scouts did a fantastic job. Michelle and I would not have been able to get this up without the assistance of Hannah and Daniel. They both took on an astonishing leadership role and truly showed how far they have progressed.

After getting the fly up and some tables underneath to assess the equipment, we discovered that we had 3 sleeping bags that were wet (one that was like it had just come out of a swimming pool) and 2 stretcher beds that were sopping wet. Many of the Scouts bags were full of water and this was due to the ground subsiding underneath them. The thunder and lighting was right above us, and this made for some interesting conversations whilst assessing the area. After looking around the camp site, and discovering some loose ground and deep puddles, it was decided that it was too dangerous to have the kids out in the open, and the camp warden allowed us access to the Scout Hall on site. Unfortunately the weekend got no better and we spent the weekend sleeping in the hall.



Traveling into the city by train

We spent Saturday in town, and the Scouts had a ball. They were really impressed with the ferry ride. Some were a little skeptical as we crossed the heads on our way to Manly but they were all well behaved and looked out for each other whilst on the ferry. They were amazed as we walked through Ocean World, and we sat up the top whilst we had lunch and watched a Dangerous Animal presentation.



Wild ferry ride



At Sea World, Manly.

Sunday there was a small break in the rain, and we headed out to the camp fire circle. Keats and Ally attempted to light their wet fire and they gave it a hell of a shot, but were not successful. A short walk into the national park along the trail and we were ducking for cover again as the rain came back.



Attempting to light 'wet' fires.





Hike during a short break in the weather.

There was a large amount of time spent in the hall, so the Scouts had the opportunity to progress on some badge work. Elanna has just about finished her Pioneer Badge, and the others all did a little towards their respective blue and green badges.



Cooking and eating, favorite activities.



Opportunity for badge work.



All in all a great weekend was had by all.