



# Cub and Scout Camp, 11–13/Mar/2011 Killalea State Park, Shellharbour

Pictures by Egil and Takae.

Our adventures began on Thursday night when the Cubs brought their gear to the hall to be packed into a trailer for transport to the camp site. The Scouts departed on Friday night in a convoy of three cars and we encountered some thick fog patches around Bulli Tops. We took a dinner break at McDonalds Albion Park where they sure were busy and it took a long time to be served. We arrived at the camp site soon after 9pm and not long after we got the dining fly up there was some light rain, but it didn't last long.



Cub tents on a fine sunny Saturday morning with views west to the escarpment.

Saturday was a fine, warm day and after a bacon and egg muffin for breakfast the Scouts helped setup some Cub tents. The Cubs boarded a train at Sutherland at 8am and the cars in camp collected them from the nearby Dunmore station by 9:30am. They were excited to arrive at camp and after putting their gear in their tents and getting changed we had some morning tea. The Scout PLs organized the Cubs and Scouts into four Patrols of seven members each and the Patrols took turns to cook and serve the meals and clean-up the kitchen after each meal - great training experience for our Cubs. Later the Scouts ran some navigation activity bases for the Cubs until lunch time. That activity involved following several compass bearings and tracing your route with string that created an outline of a recognizable shape - if you got the directions right.



Navigation activity



Adventurous boys.



After a sausage sizzle lunch we packed our afternoon tea in our back packs and spent the rest of the day on the beach. The walk to the beach was hilly and seemed longer than advertised, and emerged at the northern end of Minnamurra Beach. Everyone raced into the water to cool off on the warm afternoon. There was lots of seaweed that led to many games.



**Egil gets dumped in the surf**



**Help Egil? Naa...**



Later we walked the length of the beach to the mouth of the Minnamurra River where there were extensive sand flats and a gentle river current to explore. Massive storm clouds built up over the escarpment to the west and there were some rumbles of thunder, but lucky for us the storm did not come over the coast.



walking south down the beach



at the river mouth



With no particular schedule to meet we dawdled back to camp by about 6pm and after hot showers we refueled on a big Hawaiian burger with hash brown, followed by chocolate pudding with fruit and custard. Soon after dinner we lit a campfire in a large stone fireplace and the Cubs and Scouts told lots of jokes and stories.



campfire circle





Sunday morning brought another glorious sunny day and we fuelled up on pancakes, ready for another busy day on the beach.



**pancakes for breakfast**



**breakfast under the dining fly**

We packed morning tea in our back packs and went to the beach and after a cooling dip we walked south again to the mouth of the river. With the tide lower than yesterday we explored walking to the offshore island through shallow water across a connecting sand bar, but found the last short distance blocked by a deeper rocky channel and so turned back to keep the younger ones safe.



**monster from the deep**



**playing in the river**



**how to bury a Scout**



The morning passed quickly floating in the river and burying people in the sand and we returned to camp for a late lunch around 1:30pm. There was a lot to do to pack up camp and suddenly it was time to transport the Cubs back to the train station. We were lucky to



have such great weather for our end of summer beach camp and I heard reports that many went to bed early and slept soundly that Sunday night.



**female Scouts and friend**



**waiting for the train**

I was impressed by the behavior of our female Scouts who jumped right in and did a good job to perform the duties of PLs and APLs. Their behavior was a good example to the younger Scouts and Cubs and they did a particularly good job of helping to supervise the Cubs and engage with them. Well done ladies!

Thanks to our two parent helpers Miles and Takae whose assistance was much appreciated. Also present were three Scouts and their Leader from the Woronora River Scout Group and two Cubs from the Glenfield Scout Group. Thanks to everyone for making them feel welcome.

Our objective for this camp was just to have fun on the beach and enjoy the end of summer. I think we achieved that easily!

