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## What was AJ2013?

AJ2013 was the 23<sup>rd</sup> Australian Jamboree, held in Maryborough, Qld from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013 to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2013. From Bangor we had 11 scouts: Alex, James, Blake, Bryce, Sam, Joel, Zoe, Owain, Nicholas, Zack and Thomas. We also had 2 leaders: Fluffy as our Jamboree Troop Leader and Angus as our Activities Leader.

It started for most of us back in September with the 'Shakedown Camp' at Cataract Scout Park. This was really more of a simple overnight camp to meet the rest of our troop and leaders. Bangor Scouts were grouped into a Troop with Scouts from 1<sup>st</sup> Alford's Point | Menai, 1<sup>st</sup> Wearne Bay and 2<sup>nd</sup> Gynea groups and with leaders from 1<sup>st</sup> Alford's Point | Menai and 1<sup>st</sup> Wearne Bay. Rikki from 1<sup>st</sup> Alford's Point | Menai was our Health and Welfare Leader and Yoji from 1<sup>st</sup> Alford's Point | Menai was our Quartermaster. Rama from 1<sup>st</sup> Wearne Bay was a Service Leader working at Splash It and Chill from 1<sup>st</sup> Alford's Point | Menai was another Service Leader working at Make It.

For most of us, it went 'quiet' until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012. On that day we all met at Bangor Scout Hall around 3pm and prepared ourselves for a very long bus trip. We travelled by bus from Bangor to Maryborough, about 20 hours and then settled in. Day one saw the temperature hit over 40 degrees and was a shock to us all. Unfortunately, we were not luckily enough to have an advance party and when we got to Maryborough had set up all our tents!! Over the next 10 days the scouts took part in many activities:

**Love It!** A trip to Australia Zoo and then a BBQ at the beach.

**Endure It!** A set of bases run by the Venturers ranging from a water slide and jelly wrestling, to picture drawing using compass bearings and removing 'sheep' from pens without touching the fence.

**Splash It!** A trip to Hervey Bay for swimming, rafting, Zorba balls, rubber raft wars, snorkelling and kite flying and other beach activities.

**Explore It!** A trip to Maryborough to find 'Wally' and find out about the time. Also some time for shopping.



**Climb It!** Abseiling, climbing, crate stacking and flying foxes.

**Tag It!** Laser skirmish, nerf skirmish and sponge wars.

**Challenge It!** Run by the Rovers. Part one was 'The Tournament'. A set of bases involving 4 way tug of war, 4 way volley ball, sponge wars, bath tub jousting and crate bridges. Part two was 'The Challenge'. An obstacle course through rope bridges, rope swings, smelly mud and obstacles. You either loved it or hated it.

**Smash It!** A series of bases involving, car smashing, plate smashing, spray painting, remote control cars and blower vac soccer.

**Clown It!** A series of bases involving circus activities: plate spinning, stilt walking, tight rope, trampoline, bicycle, face paint and dress up.

**Make It!** A series of bases doing sawing, bolting, nailing, fossicking, landscaping and many others.

**Do it!** Visit various places around the Jamboree site including contingent shops, amateur radio, ROC, geo-caching, the giant water slide and many others.

**Market Day.** A day when troops run stores and games to compete for Jamboree dollars. Our Troop sold water bombs to assist in cooling everyone down. Market Day also saw many of our parents come to visit after making the long trek themselves to Maryborough. This was our opportunity to showcase our Scouting skills to the rest of our Family.

**Main Arena:** Night activities including Tim-o-Matic, Justice Crew, Jessica Mauboy, Reece Mastin, Josh Thomas and Cosentino

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