

# The Bulletin

*Journal of the Greater Western Sydney Region*



**Joey Scouts at the Science base  
Joey Fun Day @ Bundilla**

**No. 355 May 2008**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Cover photo by John Leahy	1
From the Region Commissioner	3
ANZAC Day	4
Centenary Open Day	5
Possum's Corner	6
Joey Scout Report	7
Cub Scout Report	8
Appointment List	10
Gilwell Reunion	11
Rover Report	12
Region Activity Report	13
Radio/Science/Technology	14
Rock Related Activities	16
Trivia Night	17
Bushwalking Notes	18
Snowgum	19



## James Craig Sleepovers

Looking for something completely different?

Then consider a sleepover aboard the beautifully restored genuine 19th Century sailing ship, The James Craig, berthed at Wharf 7, Pyrmont - just across from the Australian Maritime Museum. Be transported back in time on an imaginary journey of 120 years ago. *Help set a sail, sing sea shanties, scrub the decks, sleep in hammocks or bunks, heave cargo and learn the language and discipline of the sea and seamanship skills including knotting and basic navigation!*

Several packages are available and up to 40 guests can be accommodated. All packages include dinner, supper and breakfast and a personalised James Craig Certificate for each child.

*For more information or to make a booking contact;*

**Amy Gill, Education Coordinator on 9298 3888, 0414 810 184 or email [agill@shf.org.au](mailto:agill@shf.org.au)**

*Amy and her crew run a fabulous, fun filled program.*

## ***FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER***

*Jan Playford*



Dear All

When I think of Scouting, I like to think of how it began with small groups of boys forming themselves into a self governing patrol. In this the year of the Scout this is what we should be focusing on.

The aims and principles of Scouting and the methods in which we present the program. When was the last time you reviewed our aims and principles? Do you know where to find them?

So often recently I am being called to make decisions and judgments in times of conflict. This is rarely at a youth level, but mostly conflict between leaders and or committee members. When I sit down and try very often to be the devil's advocate, I think of our founder and what he would have done.

Small patrols governing themselves. When we break it down what are we? We are all in a patrol of some sort. From Group level, through District and Region and State we are all managing our own patrol. Are we truly using the patrol system as we should?

Even the younger members have a very strict sense of social justice and should be engaged in the governing of their "patrol". We seem to have many leaders who are not instilling these skills in their youth members. How can we produce self reliant young individuals if we don't give them a fair go? Particularly in the older sections the adults should be facilitating the youth members in running their program, rather than running the program the leaders have decided on.

So to with leaders; we have to listen to one another, sure we do have rules and guidelines to follow, but again, how are we going to produce self governing "patrols" if the members are not prepared to talk to one another and learn to work together as a cohesive team.

When I look at the groups whose numbers are growing these are the groups I rarely hear from. Groups working quietly away, helping one another and doing their utmost best for their youth members. More often than not these are the groups whose leaders have done

their advanced training. We are often asked why bother with advanced training? Advanced training gives those extra skills. Basic training is very much hands on, how to do. Advanced training gives you the leadership and management skills. It allows you to meet other experienced leaders and discuss issues and most importantly it gives you problem solving skills.

There are six questions you need to ask:

**WHAT** are we doing? **WHY** are we doing it? **WHO** is going to do it? **WHEN** will we do it? **WHERE** does it lead to?

If you ask your self these questions along with running a program using the answers you can't go wrong.

So many groups aren't using programs. How can you plan ahead without programming? To keep the youth members interested, it is always great to give them something to look forward to. It also helps with parents' budgeting, and parents helping if they are given prior notice of upcoming activities.

We all try our best but are sometimes bogged down by adult's egos. Of course we can't run Scouting without adults but I must admit to thinking from time to time that Scouting would be great if we had no adults! Let's all think of kids first and leaders second, that way surely we can't go wrong.

**Thought for the month** – Be kind to the people you meet on the highways and byways of your life because paths cross, lanes merge, and you never know where or when you may meet some of those very same people once again!

Lynne & Lew Smith from CGS Fellowship attended a magical Anzac Day Dawn Service at Manly Dam Memorial Park.

The majority of the service was in almost total darkness and the magic came from six canoes paddled by Seaforth Sea Scouts, which had lanterns suspended from their bows. The canoes



moved slowly across the Dam in the moonlight, in commemoration of the Dawn Landing at Gallipoli. We were spellbound, and all felt very emotional. All in all, the best Dawn Service we have ever been present at.

***Lest We Forget***

# **CENTENARY OF SCOUTING OPEN DAY**



**COME AND CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF  
SCOUTING IN AUSTRALIA**

on

**SUNDAY 29th JUNE 2008**

at

**BUNDILLA SCOUT ACTIVITY CENTRE  
BADEN POWELL PLACE WINSTON HILLS**

from

**10:00 am to 3:00pm**

**(Lunch/AGM break 12:30pm to 1:30pm - all activities, except  
food stalls will be closed during this time)**

**GIANT SLIDE CLIMBING WALL FLYING FOX**

**JUMPING CASTLE FUN ACTIVITY BASES**

**FAIRY FLOSS GUESSING COMPETITION**

**FOOD STALLS CAKE STALL SOUVENIRS**

**LUCKY DOOR PRIZES** Donated by Parramatta Leagues Club

**DEVONSHIRE TEAS & MUCH, MUCH MORE!**

**REGISTER YOUR GROUP BY JUNE 16th**

**ONLY \$4.00 PER PERSON**

Each registered person will receive a special embroidered birthday badge, lucky door ticket, fairy floss, activity passport and priority on one of the three commercial activities (ALL activities are FREE)

Check out the poster in your hall with the special tear-off registration slips. Please encourage all your youth members, leaders and their families to come and join in the celebration.

***All enquiries to Neville Henderson 0418 464 296***

## ***POSSUM'S CORNER***

*Jan Carter - Region Office*

*Phone: 9639 2488*

*Email: [gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au)*



### **Helpers on Courses**

Following Rick's report in the November Bulletin regarding Helpers on Abseil Courses, this will now pertain to all Rockcraft courses, Canyoning and Caving.

The cost of attending a course will be halved to \$10 (but a Rockcraft Form will need to be submitted). Attendance as a helper will need to be approved by the Instructor and the Helper would need to keep a log of his/her *helping* activities.

This will greatly assist the instructors running a course and will enable Abseilers/Cavers and Canyoners to work towards their Leader's qualifications and gain practice in instructing.

### **Working Bee**

Bundy Club 14th June, all hands would be helpful as we will need to ready the grounds for the Centenary Event.

### **Scouts NSW Website**

Visit **[www.nsw.scouts.com.au/](http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/)** and check out our new website for all the latest news and information on all things Scouting.

The latest summary of updates to the O & I Handbook, Forms, and Support Guides is now available and from now on, the summary will be updated monthly.

*Tim Gilbert - Webmaster*

*Scouts Australia NSW*

*Tel direct: 9735 9020*

## **JOEY SCOUT NOTES**

*Kathy Cuneo*

*Region Commissioner Joey Scouts*

*Kcuneo@tpg.com.au*



May 4th was a beautiful sunny day for 146 Joeys from the Region to enjoy their Fun Day.

As well as a jumping castle and Eddie Spaghetti who made balloon animals and told stories, there was a side show alley, a rope bridge and all sorts of crafts and games. The Joeys moved around the activities and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The most excited Joey was the one that won the "bellyjean" guessing competition.

A big thank you must go to all leaders for their help in setting up and running activities. It was especially pleasing to see leaders from other sections helping us. A big **HOP HOP HOP** to all leaders.

The next Wandarrah is the 9th May at which we will debrief over the Fun day and then start to plan our activities for the Centenary Day.

### **WANTED URGENTLY - PLANTS FOR BUNDILLA**

Does anyone have any plants or shrubs they would like to donate to Bundilla to help us fill some of the garden beds?



We have lots of room and would appreciate anything that you care to offer.

Please leave them at Bundilla next time you are passing by or bring them along to the working bee on June 14.

*Many thanks  
from Jan and Anne*

# ***CUB SCOUT REPORT***

*'Tricia Shaw*

*Region Commissioner Cub Scouts*



My apology for being missing from the last Bulletins, but sometimes family comes first!

It was very disappointing that we needed to cancel Palaver as we only had six applications. However, we have rescheduled Palaver as a day event on August 2nd 2008. Please make an effort, in the Centenary Year of Scouting in Australia, to meet with your Scouting friends and share ideas that will enable us to give great Cubbing to our Cub Scouts.

In my visit around the Region I have been disappointed in the standard of ceremonies. If your pack does not have a current copy of the Ceremonies Book, I suggest you get one and all leaders have a read. Ceremonies should be short and sharp and therefore not onerous for a Cub Scout to stand still and be attentive for the duration.

I would also recommend that leaders take time to read the Investiture ceremony before the need to invest a cub scout and not while they are doing the ceremony. Remember cub Scouts make their promise to Akela and not on the flag. This should be a memorable occasion for the Cub Scout so prepare and make it a special event.

It has been great visiting many packs to present Grey Wolves and see lots of exciting programming. The feedback from our advertising campaign has been that in some cases children are not staying because we are not living up to the exciting image our advertising proclaims. So plan a program with VIPP – Variety, Interest, Purpose and Participation. Remember to include outdoor meetings, hikes in the bush and visits to adjoining packs.

By now you should all have applications for our next Cub Scout Leadership Course on 14<sup>th</sup> June, if not please ask your DLCS.

We welcome Charlene Bordley back to the fold as DLCS Parramatta. Congratulations Charlene, it will be great to have you as a member of our team once again.



## Diary Dates

June 14	Cub Scout Leadership Course
June 29	GWSR Centenary Day
August 2	Palaver
August 9	Gilwell Reunion @ Pennant Hills
August 30 & 31	10year Camp
September 6	Region Cook-Off
October 11 & 12	State Cook-Off
November 1	Cub Scout Leadership Course

## **Congratulations to the following Cub Scouts who have earned their Grey Wolf Award**



Annaliese Sollom	1 <sup>st</sup> Winston Hills
Megan Glacken	1 <sup>st</sup> Winston Hills
Michael Anderson	1 <sup>st</sup> Balcombe Heights
Alistair West	1 <sup>st</sup> Hawkesbury
Joshua Wheeler	1 <sup>st</sup> Emu Plains
Russell Miles	1 <sup>st</sup> St Marys
Jessica White	1 <sup>st</sup> St Marys
Joshua Priest	1 <sup>st</sup> Cambridge Park
Rebecca Knox	1 <sup>st</sup> Ermington
Shauna Molomey	1 <sup>st</sup> North Mount Drutt

**1 - 2 - 3 Woof**

## APPOINTMENTS LIST - APRIL 2008

### APPOINTMENTS

AZZOPARDI Francois	AL	1/2 <sup>nd</sup> Merrylands
CLARKE Kerriann	AL	1/2 <sup>nd</sup> Merrylands
EWE, Lillian	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> North Mt Druitt
KAY, Peter	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Riverstone
KLOMP, Virginia	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Ermington
KRAMER, Pieter	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Castle Hill
ROGAN Cheryl-Lee	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Hawkesbury
SELMES Andrew	AL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Northmead
STANFORD, Darren	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Kings Langley
TORRISI Carmela	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Blaxcell
TRAN, Minh	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Blaxcell
WARBY, Joyce	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Ermington
WARBY, Pail	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Ermington
WILLIAMS Brett	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Kings Langley

### TRANSFERS

ANDERSON Andrew	Fr ASL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Kings Langley
	To SL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Kings Langley
FRENCH Amanda	Fr JSL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Castle Hill
	To AJSL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Castle Hill
HYATT Roger	Fr GL	1 <sup>st</sup> Emu Plains
	To DC	Penrith City District
McLEAN Adam	Fr VSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Blaxland
	To AGL	1 <sup>st</sup> Blaxland
WALLACE Stephen	Fr AVSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Leura
	To AVSL	1 <sup>st</sup> North Mt Druitt
WEBB, Kim	Fr AJSL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Castle Hill
	To JSL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Castle Hill

### RESIGNATIONS

McMASTER, Robert	AVSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Oakville
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### TRAINEE LEADERS NOT PROCEEDING

MCPMAHON, Luke	T/ CSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Murray Farm
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### RESIGNED OR DID NOT PROCEED IN ERROR

WALLACE Stephen	AVSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Leura
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**YEAR OF THE SCOUT  
2008 GILWELL REUNION**

**9th August 2008**

4:00pm to approx 9:00pm

**Baden Powell Scout Camp, Pomona Street, Pennant Hills**

*Open to ALL Wood Badge Holders*

*(Past and present leaders) Uniform and awards if available.*

**Cost:** \$25 includes sit down meal and souvenirs

**RSVP 15th July 2008**

**NAME:** .....

**CONTACT DETAILS:**.....  
.....

**GROUP:** .....**REGION:**.....

**WOOD BADGE SECTION/s:** .....**YEAR:** .....

**WOOD BADGE NUMBER:** .....

*Please mail your acceptance and payment to:*  
**Scouts Australia NSW PO Box 125 Lidcombe 1825**  
***Attention; Carol Cope***

Limited Accommodation is available for Saturday night - *extra \$12.00 per head (preference given to country people)*  
Breakfast Sunday morning – *extra \$12 per head optional*

## **ROVER REPORT**

*Amanda Macleay*

*Public Relations/Internet Officer*

*Phone: 0414 523 987*

*pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au*



The Region Rover Council AGM was held on the 19th of March.

### **Congratulations to the new office bearers;**

Mathew Lee - GWSR Chairman

Andy Anderson - Vice Chairman

Aaron Wardle - Treasurer

Michael Hudson - BRC Delegate

Stephen Harrison - Secretary

Alex Bertolla - Venturer Liaison Officer

Brendon Wriggly - BRC Delegate)

### **UPCOMING EVENT FOR GWS ROVERS**

***Cruise Moot 2009:*** Don't forget to get your friends together and pay your deposits to secure your cabins. For more information visit [www.cruisemoot2009.com](http://www.cruisemoot2009.com) or email Kayla at [cruisemoot2009@hotmail.com](mailto:cruisemoot2009@hotmail.com)

***Annual Maccas Dinner:*** On Saturday May 4, the members of the Kings Langley Rover Crew ran another successful Formal Regressive Maccas Dinner. Everyone definitely had a McHappy time that night.

**A group photo of the Rovers at McDonalds**

*Photo courtesy of Brendan Richards*

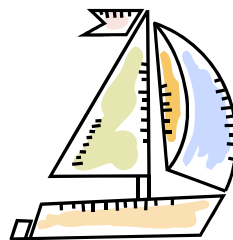


## **REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM**

*Keith Travers Activity Commissioner*

9632-3341

*kctrav@internode.on.net*



Last month we asked for a *gull* sailing boat and, within a week there was one for sale in Newcastle. After a little negotiation, we arrived home with a *gull* with very few faults (nothing we can't fix). The money was kindly donated by Alan Mason from part of his prize as Volunteer of the Year for the last three years. This donation also enabled us to buy abseil gear and repair some trailers and boats (that were in poor condition) which we had gained from groups closing. We still have some canoes to dispose of!

**Sailing Course:** We have a sailing course booked for 27/9/08 till 1/10/08. Five days for \$50. This course will enable you to sail in the Sirius Cup or any other Scout regattas run from time to time. We can hire canoes and sailing boats out for these events.

**Canoe Hire:** Canoes may be hired for a weekend for only \$20, however it is the hirer's responsibility to pay for any damage.

**Canoe Courses:** We have a couple of groups wanting canoe courses for the second half of the year. Hopefully some Rovers and Venturers may get involved also. We are looking to build our team with instructors and assisting youth members in all our teams. This can also be part of award scheme.

**Venturers and Rovers:** We would like to have a fun day for Venturers or Rovers but we need to have some input to run these events. Any good ideas we will listen to!

**Centenary of Scouting 29th June** all our teams will be in attendance. The Flying fox will need some help. An abseil traverse across Toongabbie Creek will be run the abseil team. Science and radio will have some exciting challenges.

I will be absent during June. The activity team will be lead by Frank Barr 4758 6472 and Boating will be lead by John van den Burg 8814 6594. Neville Henderson is the coordinator for the Centenary Day activities.

# ***RADIO, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY***

*John Leahy (H) 4572 1549 (W) 8467 3592*

*john.leahy@measurement.gov.au*



## **Visiting ROVERS**

So far this year we have seen three Rover Crews. I've been at a bit of a loss to know what to program for Rovers, so I have been recycling our Venturer programs like the liquid Nitrogen and Cyborg.



The last couple have been the Cyborg night, where we attach electrodes to look at heart signals, visualise pulse by shining light through a finger, measure blood pressure, and try to calm the brain by flashing coloured lights and compare Biorhythms .

Most were interested in Biorhythms and how compatible they were with other members (the least scientific of the demos). These are cycles of

different periods for how you feel Physically, Emotionally and Intellectually.

Where the cycles bunch together at peaks you are supposed to be empowered and where they bunch on the negative ebb you could be hopeless or inept. It's all based on your birthdate, where the Biorhythms all start together. By displaying rhythms for pairs of people you can gauge how 'compatible' you are with each other.

I'm still none the wiser with what to program for Rovers, so I will continue to look out for and try things that are different, wacky and that interest me, and gauge their reaction.

On one of our recent visits to a Joey Mob, I was surprised to see that their Leader was a Rover we had met a couple of weeks before. He said that he found our Cyborg night really interesting because it added another perspective to his Uni course - he was studying medicine! Sometimes things just come together.

## Joey Scout Fun Day at Bundilla

Our Science base at Bundilla had a selection of hands on equipment that we use on the activities nights for the Joeys to try. It was a fine sunny day, so most demonstrations we would do on a 'Light Night' just wouldn't work. I mounted a camera body in a cardboard box to create a dark space so the Joeys could see the inverted image on the translucent screen in the back of the camera.

We also had a large yellow controllable crane and a Robot for those who had seen our demonstrations before. The PET bottle Terrarium of Fly Trap carnivorous plants was also popular, and of course the hand pump foam rocket.

It was a good chance to talk to Leaders, update contact details and book a night for the 'Science Guys' to visit their mob. I also had copies of our Joey programs on display and most of these had disappeared by the end of the day!



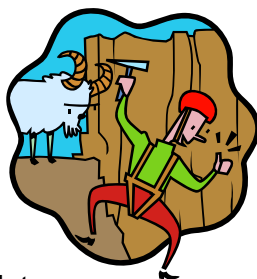
John Leahy	(H) 4572 1549 (W) 8467 3592 john.leahy@measurement.gov.au
Karl Humphreys	ets0@bigpond.com.au (M) 0408 205 649
Andy Walker	awalk1@bigpond.com
Murray Irwin	9868 5559

## ***ROCK RELATED ACTIVITIES***

*Frank Barr Acting RRA Co-ordinator*

*Email: [data\\_scsi@msn.com.au](mailto:data_scsi@msn.com.au)*

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Rick is currently traveling and will not return until late June. I will be filling in until then. A recent check of rock qualifications has revealed that many have lapsed. Scout qualifications are only current for 3 years and then require renewal.

**Rock qualification renewals** generally involve course attendance as participants, helpers or staff. Individuals are responsible for checking their own status and dates. Any confusion can be cleared up by contacting the ever helpful Jan Carter at Bundilla. Many rock qualifications also require a concurrent senior first aid certificate. These are also current for 3 years. Regardless of where the certificate is completed, it should be recorded on your Scouting record. Again, Jan will do this when the appropriate documentation is supplied.

**Working Bee:** We are organising a working bee for Sunday 18th May. Centered on the rock shack at Bundilla - we hope to clean up both the equipment and the storage area. All rock leaders and instructors are cordially invited as well as anyone else interested enough to attend. We may have a BBQ lunch for volunteers. The hours will be 9 to 5 but any time you can spare within this period would be greatly appreciated. Please register your interest (other than current rock instructors already on my list) and I can include you in an information email closer to the day.

Course leaders are reminded that virtually ALL practical rock activities require both parts I and II of the A1 activity notification form to be completed. It is also important to ensure qualifications awarded are correctly recorded including the A4 form submitted to our Region Commissioner for Activities. I appreciate that paperwork is boring but, most will concede, the lack of paperwork can be exciting – in a way we don't want!

*See our website: [www.beprepared.com.au/gws](http://www.beprepared.com.au/gws)*

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## Coming Activities

**Abseil Course** 20th, 24th & 25th May

Contact Aaron Wardle [acwardle@ihug.com.au](mailto:acwardle@ihug.com.au)

**Recovery Course** 15 June

Contact Frank Barr [data\\_scsi@msn.com.au](mailto:data_scsi@msn.com.au)

All applications via Rock Activity Form to Region Office at Bundilla please.

**The Scout Top Rope Climbing Badge Course** has been rescheduled from June and will now be held on 4 July (theory) and 6 July (practical).

*"May all your ups and downs be pleasant"*

### TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June - 7:30pm

1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Merrylands Scout Hall  
Windsor Road, Merrylands



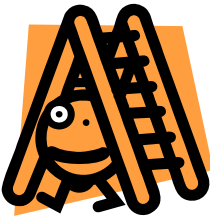
\$10 per head Tables of 8

Prizes for the best dressed person and table decorations

BYO drinks and nibbles

**Supper provided**

Reserve your place or book a table by contacting Jeanie Wood (Secretary) on 9636 2731 or email [cgstickets@iimetro.com.au](mailto:cgstickets@iimetro.com.au)



Proudly organised by  
Cumberland Gang Show Fellowship.  
Come and join us for a great night out!

## ***BUSHWALKING NOTES***

*Frank Barr GWSR Bushwalking Coordinator*

*(H) 4758 6472 (M) 04 0912 8310*

*data\_scsi@msn.com.au*



I am often asked about the merits of shadowing bushwalks organised and undertaken by Scouts and Venturers. The following are my personal views and presented as food for thought rather than an opinion in support of one side.

At the outset, I recognise that as leaders we have a number of duties to perform. These include the ever generic and often quoted duty of care as well as a duty to encourage interesting and challenging activities. Sometimes these requirements are in conflict and, like many things in modern life, result in a compromise.

In a perfect world, Scouts build up bushwalking expertise over the years, in company with more experienced leaders and other Scouts until they are experienced sufficiently to lead walks themselves. In practice, we find that outside pressures frequently result in a Venturer needing to squeeze in an expedition badge between HSC exams, sporting commitments and turning 18.

In my role as an examiner for Venturer expeditions, I try and avoid the need for shadowing in a number of ways by ensuring that;

- the proposed walk is well graded for the participants
- map reading skills are satisfactory
- landmarks and milestones are understood
- suitable emergency equipment (mobile phones, EPIRB's) are carried.

Another aspect to consider is the status of the shadowing party. To be completely independent, the party should comply with bushwalking rules including paperwork. Parties should consist of five to eight members and be lead by a bushwalking certificate holder. While we have no control over parents, and National Parks are public recreation areas, their involvement should also be

discouraged. We do not allow small parties to disappear into the bush for days on end without good reason and parents should understand this.

The other problem with shadowing youth walks is that we run the risk of trivialising the achievements. Many of us cut our teeth by struggling up the proverbial blind canyon, only to find more careful map reading could have saved hours or even days.

Tapping someone on the shoulder every time a wrong track is taken may only be helpful in the short term. The main aim of cord hikes and expeditions is not to travel from A to B. We require youth members to successfully navigate over challenging and unfamiliar terrain. I personally can relate to more than one character building experience that I was involved in because I did not have a *shadower* to turn to for help!

Bushwalking is perhaps one of the last safe, challenging activities easily available and affordable. As Scouts, we have an excellent safety record in this area. Hopefully bushwalks will continue to offer youth members a safe environment to undertake successful challenges.

And finally, a suggested rule of thumb. When we help youth members plan a walk, we should ask ourselves: "Is shadowing really necessary?". If the answer is yes, perhaps we need to revise the challenge we have set or the composition of the party.

### **Next Month:**

Some interesting walks within our own GWS backyard.

## **SNOWGUM**

A brand new Snowgum store has opened at Rouse Hill for all your Scouting needs.

### **Snowgum Australia - Rouse Hill**

Shop GR 049 Town Centre  
Cnr Main Street and Civic Way  
Rouse Hill NSW 2155

**Phone:** 8882 9551    **Fax:** 8882 9556

**Email:** [rousehill@snowgum.com.au](mailto:rousehill@snowgum.com.au)



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