

The Bulletin

Journal of the Greater Western Sydney Region



The Winning Team Dragon Skin 2008

Matt Shaw, 1st Winston Hills and the
1st Narwee Team Members
pose proudly with their trophies.

No. 354 April 2008



1st Pendle Hill Cub Scout
James McKenzie
won the shield for
Best 10 Year Old
swimmer at
Holroyd District's
Swimming Carnival.
Congratulations James

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1st Castle Hill Scout Group

TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 17th May 2008

7:30pm

@

Oakhill College

Great prizes include, Bridge Climb tickets, passes for The Edge Climbing Wall, DVD player from Nash Patel's.

Early bird table bookings \$12 per head

Call 0418 228 173 or email trivia1ch@iinet.net.au

FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

Jan Playford



Dear All

It's hard to believe that nearly four months of the year have gone and one term is over already. The results of the Stop The Summer Drop are in. Seventeen groups, four crews, and two fellowships as well as some District and Region team members will receive the scarf. A total of 980 members. This is less than 50% of the region. We lost 215 members over the Christmas break. Whilst I know some of the groups have resigned members due to non payment of fees and will reinstate them as the fees are paid - it is disappointing that some members will miss out due to groups unable to follow our recommendations for invoicing their members and the timely collection of fees.

To the groups who maintained their numbers BRAVO. To the groups who increased a double Bravo. I hope you will enjoy your collectable scarf. They will not be for sale and could only be gained by maintaining or increasing numbers.

We now have three groups who have in excess of 100 members – 1st Blaxland, 1st/2nd Merrylands and 1st Winston Hills. I am sure if you contacted these groups and asked them what they were doing to attract new members they would be only too happy to offer their wisdom.

I often hear moans that State and Region do nothing to help groups recruit. Region and State can help with recruitment, offering promotion packs, the promotion trailer, banners and some good "how to" advice. However, it is your group committee's responsibility to recruit. With most groups holding their AGM's now, we can help with guides for the incoming committees of what their duties entail. We have offered workshops in the past, so if your group is interested, please contact the Region Office and we will arrange more workshops.

This year, there has been a great deal of support from local government and State members. Have you contacted your local member for help. Many of them will offer space in their newsletters

or newspaper articles. Again the groups that are using these contacts are growing.

Is your hall displaying signage? Many of the halls are not taking advantage of 'free advertising'. People are moving house all the time. If a new family moved into your area, would they know where the local scout group is or when they meet?

Have you contacted the schools in your area with information, or submitted an article for the school newsletter. We distributed email addresses for many schools recently. Why not get the committee to send an email for the schools information.

Have you had a *bring a friend night* recently or *bring the family night*. You never know - you may find a leader or parent helper. All the festivals are coming up. Is your group participating? Take advantage of The Year Of The Scout. Get out and about in uniform and be seen.

Our own Region Centenary party is being well advertised and we hope to attract lots of people. Is your group coming? Will you be there to talk to prospective members? Don't forget the special prizes you may win by pre-registering. I look forward to catching up with as many people as I can on the day.

Jan Playford

BP's words;

"Scouting is a fine game, if we put our backs into it and tackle it well with real enthusiasm. As with other games, too, we will find that we gain strength of body, mind, and spirit from the playing of it. But remember! It is a *game for the open air*, so whenever the opportunity occurs get out in the open, and good luck and good camping go with you!"



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



SENIOR FIRST AID COURSES

31st May & 1st June	Closing date	19th May	Cost \$85
11th & 12th October	Closing date	29th September	Cost \$85
29th & 30th November	Closing date	17th November	Cost \$85

Participant Workbooks

We have participant workbooks for the following people;

Trudie Oa'Ariki 1st St Marys
Chris Lummis 1st Ermington
Terry and Chris Henry 1st Castle Hill
Philomena Henriksson 1st Murray Farm
Joe Mercieca 1st Blaxland

They can be collected from the Region Office until May 31st (after that date they will be destroyed).

Transferring Sections

If you are thinking of changing to a different section, example a Cub Leader transferring to the Scout Section, you need to contact your District Leader for Training, attend a BL 3 (for the appropriate section) and purchase a Transfer Kit from the Region Office (we are the only Region who have them) which contains all the information you need to complete your In-Service.

All for the amazing cost of only \$2.00; if you want it mailed to you send me \$4.00 and that will pay for the postage as well.

Oh yes - don't forget to let me know the section which you are interested in!

Thank you so much to the following people who came to Bundilla on Saturday 29th March to help the Bundy Club clean up the Centre;

Alexander, Jonathan and Elizabeth Meyers, Col Nicholas Jan and Barry Playford, Peter Browne, Peter Nickl, Ted Norval Peter Coffill, Aafke and Gavan Hall, Geoff McGrath and Anne and Andrew Thompson.

Whilst I attended the day and saw what was being done, I was really thrilled to bits when I came to work on Monday; I just stopped the car on the driveway and sat for awhile admiring the results of all that hard work. Thanks again. *Jan the Elder*

It was most enjoyable to do some gardening with Cub Scout Alexander Myers. He used the opportunity of the Working Bee to gain some service towards his Citizenship Badge. I think this is a splendid idea as sometimes it is quite difficult for the young ones to do community service! So well done Alexander and best of luck with your badge work. If any other cub is thinking of doing the same thing, I'm certain that Aunty Possum has plenty more jobs to be done - just contact her at Bundilla. *Anne (The office junior)!*

Current Forms

It is very important that only the current forms are used; State Headquarters will not accept any forms that are older than 2007... so please save time and stress, by using only those forms dated 2007 or 2008.

www.nsw.scouts.com.au/

Don't forget to check out the Scouts NSW website for all the latest news, updates, events and forms.

Having difficulty with behavior in your Unit or Troop?
then

Read the Leader Support Guide Number 12

PROMOTING GOOD BEHAVIOR IN THE TROOP OR UNIT

JOEY SCOUT NOTES

Kathy Cuneo

Region Commissioner Joey Scouts

kcuneo@tpg.com.au



Plans are being finalised for the Joey Fun Day on Sunday 4th May. The theme is The Circus and there will be plenty of fun performances on the day. Registration closed on the 11th April - so I hope you registered your mob!

The 18th birthday badge is available from the RC Joey Scouts (Kathy Cuneo) and can be worn by Joeys and Joey Leaders on the right hand side of the uniform.

We have started the year with more promise badges being presented. Congratulations to **Meaghan Smith from 1st Oakville** and **Sean Turner from 1st Winston Hills**. *Hop Hop Hop* to these Joeys.

Happy Birthday Joey Scouts

On 1st July 2008, Joey Scouts across Australia will celebrate the National 18th birthday of the Joey Scout section.

From humble beginnings we have grown to be the “engine room” of most groups’ recruiting.

Each Joey Mob will be having a **Big Party** as close to that date as possible. Contact your local Mob or the Regional Commissioner Joey Scouts to confirm the date.

Former Joey Scouts and former Leaders are all welcome at these parties; just let your Leader know so that there is plenty of **Beautiful Party** food available.

To celebrate a great blanket badge has been designed and will cost \$1.00. Stocks are limited – so get in quickly and place your order with Kathy.



VENTURER REPORT

Mark Absalom RC Venturers Scouts

Mobile 0413 387 792

m.absalom@exemail.com.au



A reminder to Units that applications for the upcoming Initiative Course to be held on 24th & 25th May close on Friday 2nd May. Applications need to be into Region Office by this date.

Here is a report that I would like to share with you, from Matt Shaw 1st Winston Hills Venturer Unit....

Dragon Skin 2008

A first for 1st Winston Hills and only the second time for a GWSR team in the history of Dragon Skin! A first what, you ask? – having a team member in the winning team at Dragon Skin.

This year, was my third year attending Dragon Skin and after last year when I was in the team that came 15th, I set myself a goal to go hard out and try to finish in 1st place. So at the Aussiemoot – Venturer Day, I got to know some of the guys from 1st Narwee. They wanted to go hard out to win also and so we formed a team. It was awesome winning! **Matt Shaw**



Scouts were given the honour of leading the Grand Parade at the recent Hawkesbury Show. This huge, colorful float was loaded with many aspects of Scouting life.

Photo courtesy of Robin Garrett

APPOINTMENTS LIST

March 2008

APPOINTMENTS

ANDERSON Greg CL (Appt)

1st North Mt Druitt Crew

TRANSFERS

DEMPSEY, Felicity	Fr AVSL To AL	1 st Castle Hill 1 st Castle Hill
HENNESSY Paul	Fr ACSL To CSL	1 st Erskine Park 1 st Erskine Park
HENRICKSSON Philomena	Fr AL To SL	1 st Murray Farm 1 st Murray Farm
HENRY Chris	Fr AL To ASL	1 st Castle Hill 1 st Castle Hill
HENRY Terri	Fr AL To ACSL	1 st Castle Hill 1 st Castle Hill
LUMMIS Chris	Fr AL To JSL	1 st Ermington 1 st Ermington
MERCIECA Joe	Fr AL To ACSL	1 st Blaxland 1 st Blaxland
MYERS David	Fr AL To SL	1 st Parramatta 1 st Parramatta
OA'ARIKI Gertrude	Fr AL To SL	1 st St Marys 1 st St Marys
RAMSBOTTOM Linda	Fr ASL To ASL	1 st Toongabbie 1 st Winston Hills
SHEPHERD Ray	Fr CSL To SL	1 st Greystanes 1 st Greystanes
SHEPPARD Wendy	Fr ASL To VSL	2 nd Baulkham Hills 2 nd Baulkham Hills
THOMPSON Matthew	Fr ACSL To Reg. Adv	1 st Pendle Hill GWSR
TOWNLEY Russell	Fr ACSL To CSL	1 st North Rocks 1 st North Rocks

RESIGNATIONS

ANDERSON Teresa	ACSL	2 nd Baulkham Hills
ASHPOLE Derrick	ACSL	W P Hills Valley
BORDLEY Charlene	RC Dev	GWSR
CAMERON Maurice	ACSL	1 st Sth Penrith
CHURCH Alison	AL	1 st Blackheath
COOLEY Tania	AJSL	1 st Pendle Hills
DOWLING Anicee	JSL	1 st Ermington
ELLIOTT Amanda	ACSL	W P Hills Valley
GREEDY Rod	ASL	1 st Riverstone
LATHAM Roseanne	AJSL	1 st Toongabbie
LAWRENCE Kathryn	Fellow	CGS Fellowship
LEE Dennis	ACSL	W P Hills Valley
LENTERN Bernadette	JSL	1 st Q H Doonside
LOLLBACK Steve	GL	1 st North Rocks
KOROMPAY Peter	AL	1 st Dural
PARKS Karen	CSL	1 st North Rocks
PRUDHOE Julia	AL	1 st Dural
RAMSBOTTOM Linda	ASL	1 st Toongabbie
ROBINSON David	CSL	1 st Toongabbie
STOCKFORD Andrew	AL	1 st Westmead Crew
TURNER Brett	AJSL	1 st Toongabbie

TRAINEE LEADERS NOT PROCEEDING

CLARK-FORRESTER Julie	T/CSL	1st Leura
ERIKSSON-SCOTT Kristine	T/SL	1st Leura
GRANTHAM LAWRENCE Julie	T/CSL	
HAMILTON Sue	T/JSL	1st Riverstone
NOLAN Belinda	T/AL	1st Q H Doonside
RODOPOULOS Anthony	T/AL	2nd Northmead

RESIGNED OR DID NOT PROCEED IN ERROR

RAMSBOTTOM Linda	ASL	1 st Toongabbie
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DE-REGISTRATIONS

- 1st Badgerys Creek Pack, Troop and Group
- 1st Castle Hill Venturer Unit

OUT OF RECESS

- 1st Parramatta Troop

REGISTRATIONS

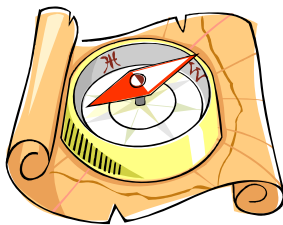
- 1st North Mt Druitt Rover Crew

FROM THE SCOUT DEN

Robin Garrett

Region Commissioner Scouts

garrettrj@ldschurch.org



I attended the presentations at Government House the other weekend and was again impressed by the number of awardees from our Region; of the 16 Australian Scout Medallion presentations, five came from GWSR and they all came from the Blue Mountains District. Congratulations to Kimberly Gash (1st Hazelbrook), Cassie Ralph (1st Hazelbrook), Lachlan Hill (1st Hazelbrook), Darcy Gorman (1st Hazelbrook), Bethany Toft (1st Springwood).

The Scout section also congratulates Cameron Foye (1st Blaxland), Jessica Micallef (1st Dural) and Sally Mills (1st Dural) for their Queen Scout Awards. Congratulations also to Aaron Wardle (1st Westmead Rovers) on achieving the Baden Powell Award. He was one of only two receiving the BP award.



Jamborette

By now everyone should have received the Jamborette flyer and application forms. Unfortunately we have had to increase the cost this year as National Parks have almost doubled the camping fees for Bent's Basin. This has caught us quite unprepared as we did not budget for this. If you need forms, by all means drop me an email or contact the Region Office and Jan will either email or post one out.

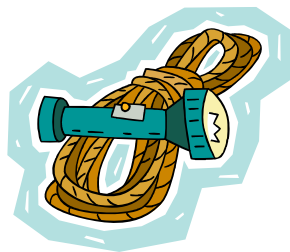
ROCK RELATED ACTIVITIES

Rick Jamieson Region RRA Co-ordinator

Phone: 4572 1321

Email: rjamieson@eftel.net.au

See our website: www.beprepared.com.au/gws



Change to Program: Please note that the inaugural Scout Top-Rope Climbing Badge Course has been changed from June to July, to avoid a conflict with the Centenary of Scouting activity day.

Coming Activities:

Abseil (Rockcraft) Courses: Tues. 20th May (theory) and 24th and 25th May (practical). Also Tues. 12th Aug. (theory) and 16th and 17th Aug (practical).

Scout Abseil Badge Course: Friday 12th September (theory) and Sun. 14th September (practical). Location will be chosen to suit attendees.

Caving Course: Tues. 29th April (theory) and 3rd and 4th May (practical at Bungonia).

Rescue (Recovery) Course: Sun. 15th June.

Scout Top-Rope Climbing Badge Course: Fri. 4th July (theory) and Sun. 6th July (practical at Lindfield or Wahroonga) (these dates have been changed).



Applications (on the Rock Activity Form) should be sent to the Region Office at least two weeks before the course. Two-day and three-day courses cost \$20, one-day trips \$10 and Scout Proficiency Badge courses \$5.

Scout in Serendipity Canyon at Mount Wilson on a recent GWSR Trip.



Castle Hill Joeys and Cubs enjoying their SOUND night

Booking reminder

Here are our bookings for the next couple of months. Question marks mean (a) Have you booked another section to follow or precede you on the night? (b) What time do you start? And (c) What program did you want? Email or ring me to supply the missing information.

Tue 6 May	1st Berowra	Joeys 6pm Cubs 7pm	CHEMISTRY
“			
Wed 14 May	1st Toongabbie	Joeys 7pm Cubs 8pm	LIGHT
“			
Mon 19 May	1st Balcombe Hts	Joeys 6pm Cubs 7pm	LIGHT
“			
Mon 26 May	1st Emu Plains	Cubs 7pm Joeys/Scouts ?	LIGHT
“			
Thu 5 June	1st Penrith	? ?	SOUND
Thu 12 June	1st Carlingford	Cubs 7pm Scouts 8pm	SOUND
“			
Tue 17 June	1st Ermington	Joeys ? Cubs ?	SOUND
“			
23-27 ? June	1st Oakville	Joeys ? Cubs ?	SOUND
“			
Mon 30 June	2nd Baulkham Hills	Cubs 7pm Joeys/Scouts ?	Hot Air Balloons
“			

**John Leahy (H) 4572 1549 (W) 8467 3592 or email:
john.leahy@measurement.gov.au**

TRAINING TALK

Ann Pounder

Region Commissioner ATD

annpounder@teacher.com



Well the year seems to be flying past - April already!

We have had a number of leaders complete their training requirements for appointment to their section while others have completed their Woodbadge requirements, so I am looking forward to presenting their scarf and beads.

Reminder; courses fill quickly especially BL1 and BL 2, so get your applications in before closing dates. If people have problems getting onto a course, please let your DLT or me know. We may be able to offer some alternative.

Introductory Interview

These continue to be held on the 1st Thursday in the month at Bundilla. Gayle, Terry and Aafke continue to offer these Interviews as required in their Districts. Most Groups assist their leaders by purchasing the Introductory Kit from GWS Region Office for \$10. If an Introductory Kit is not purchased the interview will not happen. In other words NO KIT - NO INTRODUCTORY INTERVIEW.

Help Nights

These continue to be on the 4th Thursday of the month at Bundilla. Most people are quite surprised at how simple the process is for final 'mark off'. Many come along for help and end up completing the requirements for appointment or Woodbadge, so please take the opportunity to come along.

Training in the Blue Mountains

I would like to thank the Group Leaders for their initiative in the Blue Mountains District for getting some leaders trained .

It was an enjoyable time getting to know the new members in the Region and working with people in the Blue Mountains District.

Thank you

. to those who worked behind the scenes supplying the food

- to Kathryn who opened the cub area for resources to access when needed.
- to Frank Barr and to Terry Darragh for their time over the weekend; your input was most valuable
- to Gayle Reid for taking the initiative and encouraging the training to occur

Enjoy your scouting and keep the great programs going !

WEB TALK

Matt Thompson

Region Webmaster

matt.jacala@gmail.com



Have you heard the news?

GWSR is about to undergo a huge makeover to its website! This is going to be a website especially designed to meet the needs of both Leaders and youth members.

It will also act as an information hub for the general public to discover what Scouting is all about in our Region.

It will also be linked to many other websites including Scouts Australia NSW.

This is a long term project and whilst it is being developed, I would appreciate your help and ideas. I am seeking any suitable material you think should be included on the site. In particular, I am after the following;

Photos, Articles/Stories, Programs/Ideas & Event information

You can email me at [matt.jacala @gmail.com](mailto:matt.jacala@gmail.com) or leave your articles at the Region Office.

Looking forward to telling you more about our exciting new website soon!

Matt Thompson

REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM

Keith Travers Activity Commissioner

9632-3341

kctrav@internode.on.net



Congratulations to Aaron Wardle on his BP AWARD. Aaron has worked hard for this Rover Award He has been a Scout Leader and is now a Venturer Leader and part of the activity team as well. BRAVO. Aaron!

Recently, we completed a combined CANOE and KAYAK course, this has not happened for a number of years. One of the reasons is that not many groups have both types of craft. The course was run at Wentworth Falls Lake, but the water is starting to get cold there .

We have taught 95 canoeists and 15 sailors this year, making a total of 125 sailors and nearly 2000 canoeists over the last 10 years!

Sailing Course; We had planned a sailing course for the first week in the school holidays, but as there were no applicants, the course was cancelled. We only run sailing courses in the school hols as we like to have 5 days straight of sailing. Our next sailing course will be Saturday 27th September to Wednesday 1st October (thereby missing the long weekend).

Canoe Course; WE have a booking for Mt Druitt's canoe course but no numbers as yet. This will probably be our last canoe course for the year (first in best dressed). We have not planned any canoe trips for the second half of the year, so if your group wants a canoe course, now is the time to arrange one. *Please contact K.Travers 9632 3341.*

White water course; With some water in the rivers it might be time to look at white water again. We can take small numbers on a level 2 white water course, so book **now**.

I am glad to hear of groups such as 3rd MERRYLANDS doing activities in the school hols. What a great idea. Let us know of other activities you might have been on. Congratulations to SPRINGWOOD for running a fun day on the water after attending ours and having a great time at WENTWORTH FALLS LAKE.

All of this fun and so few leaders to help!

We need

- Canoeists to assist at the Jamborette. *Please contact Keith asap if you can help.*
- FLYING FOX team members and a TEAM LEADER. *For more information contact.*

WANTED

- a FAIRLIGHT GULL in good condition for our sailing team.
- A good home for four canoes that we have from Groups that have closed. *Please ring me if your Group needs a canoe.*

BOAT STICKERS

Will not be applied by Region Leaders after 31st August this year as the system will change. *If you have any questions contact Keith.*



Remember....
**Dress for whatever the weather
throws at you!**

Gayle Reid DLT Blue Mountains District

A sincere thank you to all those concerned with the BL1 Distance Learning Workshop, especially the Group Leaders of the Blue Mountains, Mark Armstrong, Russell Brown and David Mahns.

A heartfelt thanks to the group committee members who provided the delicious meals for all attendees and trainers.

Last but not least thank you to the trainers for giving up their time to be a part of this “*bringing Scouting to the leaders*” experience.



The Greater Western Sydney Region Bulletin
This Bulletin is produced monthly.
Contributions for the Bulletin should be lodged with the Editor
no later than the 20th day of the month preceding publication.
The Greater Western Sydney Region Office is located at
6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153
Telephone: 9639 2488

If unable to be delivered, return to
Scouts Australia, NSW
GWSR Office
6 Baden Powell Place
Winston Hills NSW 2153

**PRINT
POST
PP 255003/01616**

**POSTAGE
PAID
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The Bulletin
Journal of the GWSR