

# The Bulletin

*Journal of the Greater Western Sydney Region*



*A scout abseiling on a recent course at Yellow Rock*

**No. 359 September 2008**

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McHappy Day this year will be held on Saturday 15th November. Scouts Australia will once again be helping to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. Last year Scouts raised over \$17,000, and we hope to increase that number this year. Registration has begun, so please contact your State Branch for more information on how your Group can assist.

### SCOUTS AUSTRALIA WEBSITE

Check out the website for the latest  
Leader Support Guide #37

### Tourette Syndrome

and all the latest updates to the O &  
I Handbook, Policies and Forms.

[www.nsw.scouts.com.au](http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au)

The Bulletin is edited and published for the general information of members in the Greater Western Sydney Region. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of GWSR or Scouts Australia.

**Submissions** must be made by the **20th day of the month preceding publication.**

Editor; Anne Thompson [anne.dlcs@gmail.com](mailto:anne.dlcs@gmail.com)

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

*Jan Playford*



The last month has been very busy for everyone, with lots of activities happening. I visited Palaver and whilst there were only a small number present those who attended were having a great time. Tricia Shaw and team worked very hard to put on the day so let's see if we can get better numbers next year. I found out later that Craig Kennedy and Lorraine Shaw had their Wood Badges presented earlier in the day and I missed the presentation. So Lorraine and Craig congratulations. Mark Absalom also gained his Wood Badge and was presented at Region Council. Congratulations to Mark also.

I also attended the Gilwell Reunion at Pennant Hills. It was wonderful to catch up with old friends and reminisce over old photos of Wood Badge courses, much less grey hair then!

Hills District was honoured by Baulkham Hills Shire Council with a civic reception for the Year of The Scout. We had quite a crowd there and everyone present was presented with a special centenary badge by the council. I know other councils have been doing likewise as well as many Districts presenting centenary scarves to their local councils. It was also my pleasure to attend 1<sup>st</sup> Toongabbie's centenary dinner. The group put on a great "birthday party" with many people attending who had been involved with the group over many years. Alan Murphy presented us with some historical information on the group going back to the start of the group up to the present day. A great memorabilia display was also on show. Many of the photos brought back memories to myself and others who attended, particularly to the people who were part of Tartoola District in the good old days. I wonder what the next centenary will be like and what memorabilia will be available. Is your group keeping a history?

I have asked all the District Commissioners to report on their districts and Neville and I will be reviewing them. We are looking at all groups and the health of them. I want to put a plan together for all districts for 2009. I have also asked for input on the region

calendar for 2009. What do you want on the calendar? Please contact me with your thoughts so we can all be happy with the events for next year. Our centenary day in June was fantastic and was a great deal of work. Do we want something similar on a smaller scale or do want to “go big” again perhaps in 2010.

Next month we will be holding our celebration dinner for all the world scout day awardees, their friends and families. We have booked the large room this year so why not put a party together and come along. Let’s make this Centenary year a special one.

Matt Thompson has been busy with the new website for the region. I have had a sneak preview and it looks fantastic. The calendar section will be great, so if you have calendar items you want included please send them in. I want us all to be working together and everyone knowing what is happening. This will enable groups to get together more easily with combined activities.

*Jan Playford*

***Thought for the month***

Drop a pebble in the water; just a splash and it is gone, but there’s half a hundred ripples circling on and on and on.

Kindness spreading from the centre, flowing on and out to sea, and there’s no sure way of telling where the end is going to be.



*Congratulations and Best Wishes to*

**Benjamin Scott**

**1st Winston Hills Venturer Unit**

*Who has gained his Queen’s Scout Award*

**Bravo - Well done**



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

*Jan Carter - Region Office*

*Phone: 9639 2488 Facs: 9686 2510*

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



### **JOTA BADGES**

JOTA is coming up soon. Please place your badge order with Region Office as soon as possible. Don't miss out this year!

### **SENIOR FIRST AID COURSES**

11th and 12th October

Closing date 29th September Cost \$85

29th and 30th November

Closing date 17th November Cost \$85

### **JOB WEEKS**

Scout Job Weeks returns should have been finalised and sent to your Region Office by 31st August. I have distributed the badges and woggles to all Groups who have submitted their details. Mid September will be the final cutoff to obtain your Job Weeks awards.

### **CENTENARY SCARVES**

Have you Scarfed Up your community?

I have several hundred Centenary Scarves at the Office, and the year is fast running out. These special scarves are for prominent members who support your group - be it local councilors, Bunnings, Woolworths, shopping centres, in fact anyone who gives a hand. They are not for current uniformed members - however in saying that, there could be a former member or someone on your committee who has gone out of their way to still be of service.

### **NEW LEADER KITS**

To GL's/GM's and LIC's; we have been selling plenty of New Leader Kits, and that is great, thank you for your hard work recruiting. However, we are finding that trainees are not completing their training - so please encourage and help them along or direct them to someone else who can assist them with their training, thank you.

## **GOOD SERVICE AWARDS**

Even though we are still celebrating the 2008 Awards for Good Service, it is now time to start thinking about 2009. Later this month I will compile a list of people who are eligible to be recommended. The list will be given to District Commissioners, who will then distribute to GL's. Anyone can recommend anyone else, however, we like them to be confidential, so that on World Scout Day (01/08/09), the recipients will be truly surprised.

People are eligible for an award for those extra jobs they have done above and beyond their appointment. If there is someone in your group who is a layside member and has done some wonderful work for the group, they can also be recommended.

Next issue, I will give you details on the National Recommendation Form and how to write a Citation.

## **SAFETY AUDITS**

Please be advised that there are STILL groups who are yet to complete the recommendations that were listed in the 2004 Safety Audits. Perhaps the jobs are completed and you haven't let me know. If you have done any of the recommendations please copy the recommendation page, sign and date when the jobs were done and forward to Region Office.

### ***The following groups are being targeted this month.***

1st Mount Druitt (not done)	1st QH-Doonside (not done)
1st Riverstone (not done)	1st Whalan (not done)
1/2nd Blacktown (not done)	
1st Blackheath (incomplete)	
1st Blaxland (Reading St. not done)	
1st Blaxland (Baden Ave not done)	
1st Hazelbrook (incomplete)	
1st Glossodia (not done)	1st Grose Vale (not done)
1st Hawkesbury (not done)	1st Kurrajong (not done)
1st North Richmond (incomplete)	
1st Oakville (not done)	
2nd Baulkham Hills (not done)	
CGS (not done)	
2nd Castle Hill (including Rover Den -not done)	



## **JOEY SCOUT NOTES**

*Kathy Cuneo*

*Region Commissioner Joey Scouts*

*kcuneo@tpg.com.au*



Early August saw JSL's from GWS and Hume Regions combine for a Konara. The theme for the day was *Fun Programming* with experienced leaders sharing their knowledge with new leaders. Many leaders were getting stressed trying to plan weekly programs that were stimulating for the youth members so we tried to show different strategies for planning.

The talking/thinking aspect of the day produced a program for term 4 with the weekly activities already planned. It will be interesting to see how different leaders interpret the ideas. To break up the sessions Hume ran an adventure challenge program based on Harry Potter. This was a great example of how to make programs exciting for our youth members. A number of GWS leaders ran games based on the Joey participation badges. Getting 32 leaders onto one sheet of newspaper for care and share was an achievement! A big thank you to the leaders who were prepared to share their expertise. A resource CD was produced for those attending the day and this has been widely praised.

The September Wandarrah will feature a mini training session on strategies for handling youth members with low concentration, poor co-ordination and /or other problems that may affect the smooth running of a Joey program. All Joey leaders are welcome on September 19th at 7:30 pm at Bundilla.

Planning is under way for the Joey Fun Day in 2009 and ideas for a theme are required. If any leader is inspired, please let Kathy or Sandy know your thoughts.

***“Sun Safe” Joey Scout  
Leaders having fun at Konara***



# CUB SCOUT NOTES

Patricia Shaw

Region Commissioner Cub Scouts



Thank you to those who came and had a great time at our Region Camp. I know the cub scouts had a wonderful time at the bases and enjoyed a true camping experience, some for the first time. 1-2-3 Woof for all your efforts.

The State Cook-Off in will take place in October. Good Cooking to you all!

November is **Out and About Month**, so plan to take your pack out using public transport if at all possible. Order your badges to commemorate the event from your District Leader Cub Scouts at \$2.50ea.

Our last Cub Scout Leadership Course for the year will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2008. Your District Leader Cub Scouts has the application forms so remember to pick yours up at Seonee.

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

Matthew Prants	1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> Merrylands
Ned Bukarica	1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> Merrylands
Amy Whitton	1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> Merrylands
Angelique Lynch	1 <sup>st</sup> Blaxland
Luke Vella	1 <sup>st</sup> Kings Langley

1 - 2 - 3 WOOF





## **TRAINING TALK**

*Ann Pounder*

*Region Commissioner ATD*

*annpounder@teacher.com*



### **Changes to Course Costs 2009**

Basic \$125      Advanced \$130

Distance Learning \$80

(CBL3 Resources Book/SBL3 Field Book included)

RPL \$80

Assessing Trainees \$45

### **Train the Trainer Courses**

have been bought into line with National and the following applies;

TT1            \$45 1day

TT2,3        \$100

TT4           \$45 1 day (PLA)

TT5,6        \$100 old TT4

*TT1 will be a mandatory qualification for Activity Leaders*

### **Interviews**

Introductory Interviews will continue at Bundilla on the first Thursday in the month. For those unable to attend this night, your Group Leader needs to contact the DC and Training representative to organise an alternative.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in the month**

This is for any paperwork completion or sorting out problems people are having with any part of training or even answering questions about future training. This includes Distance Learning, Basic completion, Advanced completion, Project assistance, finding out what to do next and where someone is and what to do next and anything else that you need to ask about training.

***Our small team is there to help but we need to be approached directly with any training problems (we are not psychic)! GL's please let us know if you need help for any of your leaders.***

## ***Associate Leaders***

There are a number of Leaders who have indicated that they wish to become a section leader. They have completed their courses but no paper work has been given in to address the transfer of appointment or to indicate their completion.

I do realise the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday may be unsuitable for some, but I have a problem with those who constantly tell me it is their meeting night and could not possibly attend! It is more important for that leader to miss a meeting night and organise their reappointment - because after all they cannot run the section or be in charge of an activity as an Associate Leader.

***Please encourage your Associate Leader who is becoming a section leader to attend and get their paperwork in order for appointment.***

***Help is just an email away*** (I would say phone call but people who have tried to contact me know how difficult is by phone).

## **Training Team Conference**

I could not end without a big BRAVO to Peter Nickl and John Leahy who gave their time to the conference and to the Gilwell Reunion. John wowed people once more with his experiments and Peter overwhelmed them with his display of Scouting memorabilia. Peter also fronted up next day as a Guest Speaker. Thank you.

*Congratulations and best wishes to*

**Allan Staples SL 1st Castle Hill**

**Greg Freeman ASL 1st Oakville**

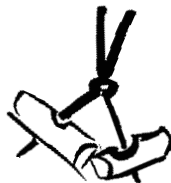
**Jo Ollerenshaw SL 1st Rydalmere**

**Mark Absalom RC (V) GWSR**

**Corey Olufsen ASL 1st Quakers Hill/Doonside**

*who have achieved their Wood Badges*

**Bravo**



# JOTA

Karl Humphrey (BUZZ/VK2FADD)

GWSR Radio Science and Technology Team



Hi all. With Jota coming up, I have decided to point out a few little things that may help in the running of the event.

- **Care of the Radio operators** at the event. The operators are volunteers like us and lend us their *time and equipment* for the weekend, so treat them nicely. I have heard stories from the operators of bad experiences from Jota, none from GSWR but still be mindful. The main thing being relayed to me is that some Leaders are just tossing the kids on to the operators. Now some operators love this, but most do not, so at your JOTA can you make sure there is an adult Leader present at all times to control the Kids.
- Most **operators would love to have a JOTA badge**, make sure you have enough to give them. Also you may find that the Radio Operators rule with an 'iron fist' on JOTA. Don't take this as them being unfriendly; it is just that all operators are responsible for the security and content of their radios, not to say that in most cases it is their most prized possession. The penalties *for the operator* if a kid mucks up on air, on their watch, are a max \$100,000 fine and or 3 years in jail. Now I have never heard of this happening on a JOTA but it is always in the back of the Radio Operators mind.
- **Invite the Radio Operators to meals** with the group. Even if they do not take you up on it, it will be much appreciated. The Radio Operators will just sit in the shack otherwise.

All in all what I am trying to say in this, is let's **make the Radio Operators at JOTA feel welcome** and keep them coming back every year to continue JOTA for us. If you have some kids that are interested in communication, most operators will be happy to speak with them, and the Scout may also be able to do some badge work on the JOTA weekend by assisting with the set-up and take down of the stations. But ask the Radio Operators first if it is OK. Hope to hear you on the air on the JOTA weekend - I will be operating a station some where in Western Sydney.

Oh and one last thing, if you are going to do JOTA - make sure that you get the operators to **keep a log of who they talk to** and send it to me or John Leahy so that it can be recorded for the National Report. Thank you.

# **RADIO, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

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

*john.leahy@measurement.gov.au*



## **What is JOTA?**

In 'Scouting for Boys' Lord Baden Powell wrote "...distances have become so much smaller through motor transport, aeroplanes, and radio that people of different countries have a better chance of getting to know each other more closely".

While most will not have the privilege of attending a World Jamboree, we can all participate in the **largest youth activity in Scouting**, held this year on Oct 18 & 19, Jamboree On The Air.



During the JOTA weekend all members of all Sections of Scouting and Guiding all over the World are invited to contact one another using radio communication. The most common means of communication during JOTA is that provided by the Amateur Radio Service.

The busiest time for contacts within Australia is Saturday afternoon with all stations set up and fully functioning. Sunday is generally a little more leisurely, tapering off in the afternoon as stations pack up. On Saturday night you can experience the effect of the day/night cycle of the ionosphere as the high frequency radio bands open up to long range high frequency communication. In Australia, Scouts and Guides can speak to each other on the air provided that they are supervised by a licensed operator and observed by a leader.

## **JOTA Activities**

There is a huge variety of activities you can do for JOTA - along with talking to Scouts & Guides on the radio.

**Electronics** - build a Crystal Radio or Flashers set, make circuits with an electronic experimenters kit.

**Morse Code** - Your Amateur Radio Operator may be able to assist with the necessary equipment, information, etc. Ask the youth members to transmit simple short messages via Morse code.



## **ROCK RELATED ACTIVITIES**

*Rick Jamieson Region RRA Co-ordinator*

*Phone: 4572 1321*

*Email: [rjamieson@eftel.net.au](mailto:rjamieson@eftel.net.au)*



### **Control Freaks!**

We sometimes have a problem with Rock instructors who have their own personal ideas on certain procedures and who insist on pushing their ideas with no tolerance for other ideas which often are just as effective and safe. The trainees are so dominated by different instructions that they don't know who to follow and they lose confidence in their own ability to make decisions. GWSR Rock will not encourage such "Control Freaks" on the team.

### **Coming Activities:**

**Abseil** (Rockcraft) Courses: Tues. 28th Oct. (theory) and 1st and 2nd Nov. (practical)

**Caving Course:** Tues. 21st Oct. (theory) and 25th and 26th Oct. (practical at Bungonia).

**Rescue** (Recovery) Course: Sun. 9th Nov.

**Scout Top-Rope** Climbing Badge Course: Fri. 26th Sept. (theory) and Sun. 28th Sept. (practical at Lindfield or Wahroonga).

**Canyon Trip:** Sun. 7th Dec. to River Caves Canyon and Deep Pass Canyon. An easy trip suitable for Scouts – no abseils or swims.

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

**All enquiries to Rick Jamieson: 4572 1321**

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

## **REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM**

*Keith Travers Activity Commissioner*

*9632-3341*

*[kc trav@internode.on.net](mailto:kc trav@internode.on.net)*



### **REMEMBER TO PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY:**

**14th DECEMBER 2008 - FUN DAY ON THE WATER AND BEACH AT LAKE CHIPPING NORTON.**

- There will be food stalls.
- There will be sailing. We now have 8 sailing boats, but we need people to tow them and sail them (Level 2 & above).
- The day will be open to parents and relatives of scouts, cubs and joeys. JSL's and CSL's will run activities on the beach.
- The Flying Fox will be there.
- Power boats will be there towing donuts.
- We will have a surprise raffle.

Large groups with canoes will be asked to bring canoes, paddles and PFD's. We also will provide canoes.

Any Groups wishing to have food stalls need to be aware of council regulations and need to contact Keith asap.

### **CANOE COURSES**

**September 20th and 21st** is still available

**October 11th & 12th, 18th & 19th and 25th & 26th** are available

**November** is booked out!

Remember; forms and money need to be at Region Office 2 weeks prior to the course date. Forms are available at the office and on the website. **Make sure that you check with Keith Travers on 9632 3341** before booking, to ensure there are spaces available.

### **SAILING COURSE**

**27th September to 1st October**

5 days for \$50 (Commercial rates are \$350 per day!)

***Remember the water is still cold, only 17 degrees - so take care.***

## APPOINTMENTS

AUGUST 2008

### APPOINTMENTS

SHEPHERD Sean	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Greystanes
GEELAN Noelene	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> QH-Doonside
HASLAM Leanne	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Kellyville
HAYES Alister	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> North Rocks
McMILLAN David	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> QH-Doonside
SULLIVAN Alison	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> QH-Doonside

### TRANSFERS

ABSALOM Mark	Fr Trainee RC GWSR To RC (V) GWSR
HOWARD Cliff	Fr AL 1 <sup>st</sup> Granville To ASL 1 <sup>st</sup> Granville
MACKIE Andrew	Fr AL 4 <sup>th</sup> Castle Hill To ASL 4 <sup>th</sup> Castle Hill
WARBY Joyce	Fr AL 1 <sup>st</sup> Ermington To ACSL 1 <sup>st</sup> Ermington
WARBY Paul	Fr AL 1 <sup>st</sup> Ermington To ACSL 1 <sup>st</sup> Ermington

### RESIGNATIONS

OVERLAND Timothy	GL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Castle Hill
BONE Alan	SL	1 <sup>st</sup> Kellyville
BAKER Rachel	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Kellyville



THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
NSW  
GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION



*Celebrating 100 years of Scouting in Australia*

You are cordially invited to attend our

*2008 Adult Recognition Awards for Good Service  
Celebration Dinner*

BLACKTOWN RSL CLUB  
SECOND AVENUE  
BLACKTOWN

*Commencing 6.30pm for 7.00pm Dinner  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2008*

RSVP by 9<sup>th</sup> October 2008

6 Baden Powell Place

Winston Hills 2153

Phone 9639 2488

Fax 9686 2510

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

DINNER

\$35 per person

Book early -  
numbers limited

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Cut here and return with your cheque (payable to Scouts Australia)

Name.....

Accepts/Declines with regret the Invitation to attend the Dinner

Name for place cards.....

.....

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