

# The Bulletin

*Journal of the Greater Western Sydney Region*



**Commemorating our Founder, Lord Baden Powell  
Brownsea Island, England**

*Photos courtesy of David Mort VSL 1st Carlingford*



**No. 371 October 2009**

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## REGION OFFICE HOURS

**MONDAY to FRIDAY**  
**8:30 am to 4:30 pm**

**Closed for Lunch**  
**1:00pm – 1:30 pm**

**Telephone**  
**9639 2488**  
**Fax**  
**9686 2510**

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 the GWSR or Scouts Australia.

**Submissions** must be made by the **20th day of the month preceding publication** and may be edited for clarity or to fit available print space. Unless specifically requested, submissions and photographs will not be returned except when accompanied by a self addressed envelope. Articles and illustrations (except for copyright items) from the Bulletin may be re-used unaltered by other Scouting publications and credits shown.  
**Editor;** Anne Thompson [anne.dlcs@gmail.com](mailto:anne.dlcs@gmail.com)

## **FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER**

*Jan Playford*

*Email: [rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au)*



*Building a Better Future*

On a very cold but sunny day (6 degrees), and I am told, snow the previous day, I attended Blackheath's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations. Along with local councillors, past and present members of 1st Blackheath, as well as other members from Hazelbrook and Region we participated in an opening parade, some games and a celebration speech. Then followed a good old fashioned Scout sausage sizzle and afternoon tea. I would like to congratulate Russel Brown and his Leaders and Committee for organising the day. **BRAVOOO**

I would also like to comment on Blackheath's hall appearance. The hall was very well presented inside and out with good signage. The public are in no doubt that it is a Scout hall and it is very inviting to look at. If I was a member of the general public moving into the area, I would have no difficulty identifying the Scout hall and feeling that I would be made welcome. The old saying, "you can't judge a book by its cover", unfortunately does not ring true for Scouting - we are judged by our covers! Blackheath passes with flying colours!! How is your cover?

I admit I don't get to the far flung parts of the Region too often, as functions are often at night and I have difficulty driving alone at night over long distances. I do try to attend as many functions as possible, but bear in mind I am often asked to things on the same night so it is first in first served, so to speak.

I would also like to congratulate the GWSR team who took part in and won Rat Skin! The team, led by Frank Barr and consisting of Gary Wilkinson (Hazelbrook), Lisa Gorman (Hazelbrook), Adam Wheat (Hazelbrook), and Terry Darragh (Blaxland/District), won by a massive 30 points, a result of teamwork and persistence. **BRAVOOO**

We are now in our last term, and as usual, I would like to speak on housekeeping to do this term. Whilst I know the Jamboree is

forefront in the minds of most Groups, please put in a process to manage membership fees for 2010.

At the time of writing, I don't know what the membership fee will be, but we can *gestimate* what it will be - 2009 equivalent plus, I imagine, an increase.

You need to be talking to your members and ascertaining if they will be returning in the New Year. Talk to your Treasurer about how you are going to invoice members. Make sure your records are up to date, so that when you receive your CMR early 2010 you can get it in **ON TIME**, and not be charged for members who are not there. State as you know, are updating their systems, however a crystal ball is not part of Star. Only you can let State know, who is or isn't attending your Group, so that you will be billed correctly.

Bundilla has been most fortunate to receive a government grant of \$270K. This is for upgrading the facilities and repairs to plumbing and white ant damage. We will all have to be patient while the work is undertaken, and yes we may need help from volunteers! We will keep you posted on what is happening during the coming months . I have already received offers of assistance from some of the Commissioners and I thank them for that.

*Jan Playford*

**Thought for the month:**

Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must BELIEVE that we are gifted for something, and that this thing, at whatever cost, must be attained. **Marie Curie**



**SENIOR FIRST AID COURSE**

**Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th November 2009**

**\$85 per person**

**Closing date 13th November 2009**



We need at least ten applicants to run this course - so apply now at Region Office. The A1 is available on the GWSR website.

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

*Jan Carter - Region Office Manager*

*Phone: 9639 2488*

*Fax: 9686 2510*

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



### **GROUP ADMINISTRATION MATTERS FOR ALL GROUP LEADERS, GROUP MANAGERS, LEADERS IN CHARGE, FELLOWSHIP CHAIRPERSONS AND CREW LEADERS**

*Now is the time to start thinking about the following issues:*

- Advise your Treasurer that the cash book must be closed off on 31<sup>st</sup> December and prepared for the Auditor. All cash books must be audited before your 2010 AGM.
- Think about preparing invoices for distribution early in 2010.
- Watch The Bulletin for 2010 - 2011 Membership Fees, we will also advise District Commissioners as soon as we know.
- Remember that the February 2010 Census Member Report is crucial for accurate Group billing. It is very important that the February CMR is returned **BEFORE April 1<sup>st</sup>**, otherwise the Group/Fellowship/Crew will be responsible to pay the invoice in full, **no exceptions**.

Groups who experience the least amount of problems are the ones who are very diligent in completing and returning the crucial February Census Member Report (CMR) and distribute their Invoices early for Membership and Group fees.

When preparing your Invoices it must be made clear, which amount is the **Membership Fee** to the Scout Association and which amount is the **Group Fee**.

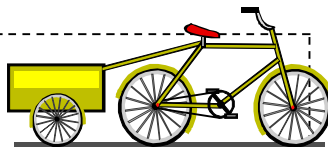
Stipulate a date that the money must be paid to the Group, so that you have the money collected, banked and ready to pay the Association's Invoice. After that date has elapsed - resign your non financial members and tell them not to return until the money is paid. You can re-instate them once the money has been paid (within six months).

## FREE MULCH @ BUNDILLA

Mulch, glorious mulch - yes folks we have had several trees removed and now have a large pile of lovely mulch.

After my *bellyaching* of last month I want to make it up to you all, with a gift of mulch.

Bring your truck, bring your trailer, bring your car boot, fill your pockets as well! However it must be taken through the week during office hours 8.30 am to 4.30 pm.



## ADULT RECOGNITION AWARDS 2010

Now is the time to think about any Leader or Committee Member, who you think is worthy of an Adult Recognition Award in 2010.

Remember the recognition is for work done **above and beyond** their appointment. Your District Commissioner has a list of members who are eligible for award nominations. A new National Recommendation Form, should be available by November. I will advise you when it is finalised and available on their website.

## Y1 FORMS

When accepting Y1's from parent/guardians please make sure that Page 1 is filled in correctly. Very often parents fill in **their** contact details, but as the form says - it is the **applicant's** details that are needed. **Parent's details** are recorded on Page 2. The Medical Details page is kept within the Group. We do need a PED form from each parent/guardian to keep on file at Region Office.

## PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

As you are all aware, property inspections were carried out by State Office in 2004. Each Group was issued with a report which included a list of items which needed to be addressed. The items listed needed to be carried out to comply with our obligations under our Public Liability Insurance. Next year, State will conduct fresh inspections of all Scout halls in NSW.

Please check your report and make sure all items which were listed for attention have been addressed. If you have mislaid the report for your hall, a copy can be obtained from the Region Office. If by chance you have completed the recommendations and have not yet sent them in to Region Office for recording - please do so now.

## HALL HIRE WARNING

Unfortunately, some Groups are still hiring their halls *illegally* for parties. A recent Group hire , resulted in thousands of dollars worth of damage to their property and the police being called. This reflects very badly on Scouting - neighbors and passers-by believe it is a Scout function and spread the word that Scouts are an organisation to stay away from!

## PLEASE TAKE NOTE AND PASS THIS ON TO OTHERS:

- Halls should **not** be hired out for parties of any kind.
- All applications for hire must be processed on the P2 and P3 forms.
- There is no insurance cover when halls are hired without the necessary paperwork in place. If you are uncertain about the process, please ring the office, it only takes a minute or two to set things straight.
- If an accident occurs during an unauthorised hall hire, the Association's Public Liability Insurers are not responsible and therefore the onus falls back on the individual or individuals who hired the hall!
- **Alcohol and Smoking is not permitted in Scout halls.** Make certain that your hirers are made aware of this rule.



### ***LOST - ONE WIND BANNER***

A Group has borrowed one of the Wind Banners from Bundilla and has forgotten to return it. If you have it at your hall, could you please return it to the Region Office immediately?

This is a very busy time for many Groups taking part in community events such as Spring Fairs, School Fetes, Group Fundraisers and Recruitment Drives etc. and we need all our banners available for them to borrow.

*Thanking you, Jan the Elder*

# APPOINTMENTS LIST

## SEPTEMBER 2009

### APPOINTMENTS

BLACK, Thomas	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> North Rocks Group
BOLLARD, Gavin	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Balcombe Heights Group
BOSCH Andrew	AL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Northmead Group
BROOKS Anthony	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Kellyville Group
FULLER Anne	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Balcombe Heights Group
HUDSON Garry	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Oakville Group
JACOBS Christiaan	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Castle Hill Group
STOPPS David	AL	1/2 <sup>nd</sup> Blacktown Group
VERDON Shane	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> Carlingford Group
ZARTH Brian	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> South Penrith Group
ZARTH Sharon	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> South Penrith Group

### TRANSFERS

CHRISTMAS, Kane	Fr T/RA	1 <sup>st</sup> Blaxland <i>Kalangadoo</i>
	To RA Resp	1 <sup>st</sup> Blaxland <i>Kalangadoo</i>
FLAVELL Mark	Fr ACSL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Kings Langley Pack
	To CSL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Kings Langley Pack
HARRISON Jeffrey	Fr Fellow	Hume Region Fellowship
	To Fellow	CGS Fellowship
HARRISON, June	Fr Fellow	Hume Region Fellowship
	To Fellow	CGS Fellowship
HENRY Terri	Fr ACSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Castle Hill Pack
	To ASL	1 <sup>st</sup> Castle Hill Troop
LOVE David	Fr AL	West Pennant Hills Valley
	To ASL	West PH Valley Troop
TUNICA Nicolette	Fr CSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Blaxland Pack
	To CSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Blaxland <i>Keego</i> Pack

## TRANSFERS

WALLACE Stephen	Fr AVSL	1 <sup>st</sup> North Mt Druitt Unit
	To DVSL	Blacktown District
WEBB Kim	Fr JSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Castle Hill Mob
	To JSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Kellyville Mob
WILSON Gregory	Fr CSL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Kings Langley Pack
	To GL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Kings Langley Group

## RESIGNATIONS

CARDILINI John	AL	1 <sup>st</sup> North Mt Druitt Group
LENNARD Robert	AVSL	1 <sup>st</sup> North Mt Druitt Unit
MAHNS David	GL	1 <sup>st</sup> Springwood Group

## REGISTRATIONS

1<sup>st</sup> Blaxland Keego Pack  
1<sup>st</sup> Kellyville Joey Mob

## DE-REGISTRATIONS

1st Oakville Joey Mob  
1st Blaxland Cub Pack

*Congratulations and best wishes to*

**Ben Marsden**

**1st Winston Hills Scout Troop**

*who has achieved his*

*Adventurer Cord Award*

**Bravo - Well done**



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

*John Leahy*

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

*john.leahy@measurement.gov.au*



## ***Stand-by-List***

We recently had a spare night, when a previous booking was cancelled. I was able to fill the night by looking through my contact list and contacting a Group we hadn't visited recently. If you would like to be on a short notice list, please send me an email. I will give you a call, and if it is convenient to you, a bonus Science night could be yours! I wouldn't bother you if we had visited a month or two previously or were scheduled to see you soon.

## ***Bookings for November - December 2009***

Wed 4th Nov	1st/2nd Merrylands	Cubs then Scouts Light?
Tue 10th Nov	1st Ermington	Joeys then Cubs ?
Fri 20th Nov	Blaxland	Cubs then Scouts Chemistry?
Mon 23rd Nov	2nd Baulkham Hills	Cubs then Scouts ?
Mon 30th Nov	1st Kellyville Group	Various Science
Thu 2nd Dec	1st Parramatta	Cubs then Scouts Magnets/Arcs/Sparks
Mon 7th Dec	1st Balcombe Hts	Joeys then Cubs ?
Tue 15th Dec	1st Kings Langley Group	Rockets

## ***Shadow Screen***

A new addition to our Scout *Light Night* is the phosphorescent shadow screen. The screen is made from glow-in-the-dark material which lights up a bright green, when excited by an intense light. The light is a Zeon flash lamp about the size of a disposable flash camera, flash. The light unit also includes a bright white LED which can be used to



'write' on the screen. The Scout stands close to the screen in profile, or makes still patterns with hands and fingers close to the screen. The flash is popped, and a silhouette of the head or fingers appears on the screen. The pattern fades in about 20 seconds, then another pattern can be frozen on the screen.

## ***JOTA/JOTI*** ***17th - 18th October 2009***



What has your Group planned for  
Scouting's biggest annual  
**International Jamboree!**

We have had some cracker JOTA camping weekends in GWSR - notably by the Hawkesbury, Penrith and Winston Hills Groups, with great Radio and Internet setups, electronic kits, and diverse technology bases to keep the Scouts interested all weekend.

### ***What is happening this year?***

Despite the looming Jamboree in January, Penrith Group will camp about 80 Scouts at the Penrith VRA base and utilise the facility to provide interesting activities for the weekend. Karl Humphries (VK2HKF) and a couple of operators from the Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club, will help keep them in touch with Scouts around the world. Region Joeys and Cubs will visit, and their Leaders provide additional activity bases during the weekend.

Karl is keen to try his latest 'toy' which will transport his signal via satellite and put it in any country he programs, as though he was transmitting in that country. That should be an experience for the Scouts, not having to talk through a distorted channel of interference and static. I think it's cheating, but if it gets the job done and the Scouts interested in a new hobby, it's OK by me.

***Whatever you do, keep a list of radios you contact and activities you conduct, and I will let other Groups know through this Bulletin.***

Karl Humphreys	karlhumphreys@iprimus.com
Andy Walker	Awalker@barekoala.net
Murray Irwin	9868 5559

## **JOEY SCOUT NOTES**

*Kathy Cuneo*

*Region Commissioner Joey Scouts*

*Email: [joeyscouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:joeyscouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au)*



A number of mobs have participated in the **Joey Scout Trek About**. Mobs have walked around Lake Parramatta, the Cumberland State Forest, Mabel Falls at Woodford, Glenbrook to Euroka and through the Richard Webb Reserve, Baulkham Hills. *Please send in any late applications as soon as possible.*

A number of Promise Challenge badges have been earned during the last month and they have been presented by Sandra Knox and Kathy Cuneo. It was very pleasing to see some of the Kings Langley Rover Crew running an activity night for St Mary's mob on the night I visited that mob. Thank you to the Rovers.



Congratulations to the following  
Joey Scouts who have earned their  
Promise Challenge Badges.

**Ethan Battam - 1st Kellyville**

**Jared Belo - 1st Carlingford**

**Sophie Black - 1st North Rocks**

**James Brush - 1st Winston Hills**

**Daniel Carter - 1st Blaxland *Pythons***

**Tyra Drinkwater - 1st North Rocks**

**Rebecca Galea - 1st St Marys**

**A big Hop Hop Hop to you all!**



## ***VENTURER REPORT***

*Aaron Wardle RC Venturer Scouts*

*Mobile: 0421 076 497*

*Email: [venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au)*



Early in September, I had the pleasure of attending Government House, to witness Sean Emery and Mitchell Woolfenden receiving their Queen Scout Award certificates from the Governor. This was the culmination of all their efforts in achieving this goal, and the recognition was well deserved. Congratulations Sean and Mitchell.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to Brendan Emery, Blake Huthnance and Ben Marsden on receiving their Australian Scout Medallion Certificates. It is always excellent to see so many members of our Region receiving awards, and I am sure that next year, we will continue to see many more names added to the Branch Honour Roll. Well done to you all!

Also held in September, was our Unit Management Course. We had a massive 40 participants filling the Oakville Scout Hall. The day ran exceptionally smoothly, with presentations from Frank Barr, Adam Wheat, Adam McLean, Terry Darragh and Steve Wallace. I am sure that all of the course participants will be putting their new skills to good use back in their local units.

Recently I attended a joint program between 1st North Rocks and 1st Kings Langley Venturer Units, competing for the title of ***Masterchef 2009***. The meals were very innovative, particularly the desserts (which were highly unsuitable for diabetics)!! I must congratulate both units on such excellent teamwork in preparing their menus in the limited time available. Thank you to Thomas Butt for organising the night and well done to 1st Kings Langley who were the eventual winners of the evening in a very close race.

Lastly, applications to attend Waratah are closing shortly. Don't forget that all Scouts and Venturers aged 14 to 18 years can attend. Visit the website for more information and to avoid missing out on this excellent weekend.

## **REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM**

*Keith Travers Activity Commissioner*

*Telephone: 9632-3341*

*Email: [activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au)*



Well it looks like summer has come early as I write this it is 30 degrees and this is only September. I have already been in the water - very nice.

Thank you to State Office for supplying so many PFD's. We still have a few left in Youth and Adult sizes *PFD 3 for canoe and sailing* and some *PFD 1 for offshore* in large adults and youth sizes. We also have some inflatable PFD's suitable for adults only.

### **We have bookings for:**

October 17, 18 Carlingford, October 24, 25 North Rocks

November 7, 8 1st Whalan, November 21, 22 Wentworth Falls

### **FAMILY FUN DAY ON THE WATER**

**13th DECEMBER at LAKE CHIPPING NORTON 9am - 3pm**

Cost \$5 payable at Region Office. There will be power boats towing donuts, sailing boats with Instructors and canoes if you wish bring your own. BBQ facilities drinks and sausage sizzle for sale or bring your own. ***Please contact me if you want to run a stall.***

**A1 forms:** There has been a serious bushfire already at Lake Burrill on the South (a holidaying cub pack had to be evacuated). Please make sure the local police have a copy of your A1 so everyone is accounted for in an emergency. Remember to contact the ZAC/LAC in the area you are going to, the day before your excursion to check on conditions. This could be a big year for fires!

### **STATE OFFICE POLICY re A1 FORMS FOR ALL OVERNIGHT AND ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES**

- A copy of your A1 must be sent to me, the LAC and the Police for the area you are visiting.
- The A1 must be fully completed and a list of participants included. Last minute changes may be made, but the LAC, Police and myself, have to be notified.

- One day events - not adventurous - are forwarded to the Group Leader, who keeps them on file.

### **AJ2010 Water Activities**

There are some vacancies for day workers on the harbour during the Jamboree. You need to register on line, and forward your application and money to Branch. Day workers pay \$30 per day (mainly for food). Accommodation can be arranged.

*See you on the water.*

*Remember your sunscreen lotion and a hat. Keith*

## **2009 RATSKIN COMPETITION WINNERS**

Held annually, *Ratskin* is a mirror image of the very popular annual Venturer *Dragonskin*. The Leaders compete in teams and the Venturers run the activity bases. The 2009 event was held in Mullion Range State Forest, north west of Orange.

The winning team was entered by 1<sup>st</sup> Hazelbrook Scout Group and called themselves the Hazelnut Cookies, in line with the 2009 activity theme of ***Alive and Cooking***.



### **THE HAZELNUT COOKIES**

(pictured left to right)

**Terry Darragh**

**Adam Wheat**

**Lisa Gorman**

**Gary Wilkinson**

**Frank Barr**

*Bravo - well done to you all!*

## ***ROCK RELATED ACTIVITIES***

*Rick Jamieson Region RRA Co-ordinator*

*Phone: 4572 1321 (for all enquiries)*

*Email : [rickj15@bigpond.com](mailto:rickj15@bigpond.com)*



**Good Courses:** We have had some **great** Rock courses lately!

### **COMING ACTIVITIES**

**Abseil (Rockcraft) Course:** Tue 27<sup>th</sup> October (theory at Bundilla) and 31<sup>st</sup> October and 1<sup>st</sup> November (practical at Bowen Mtn. and Yellow Rock).

**Caving Course:** Tue 20<sup>th</sup> October (theory at Bundilla) and 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> October (practical at Bungonia).

**Cave Trip:** 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November at Wee Jasper.

**Rescue (Recovery) Course:** Sun 8<sup>th</sup> November at Bowen Mtn.

**Canyon Course:** 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Nov at Bowens Creek South Branch and Serendipity (camp out at Mt. Wilson).

**Canyon Trip:** Sun 6<sup>th</sup> December to River Caves and Deep Pass easy, suitable for beginner Scouts, no abseil/compulsory swimming

**Group Courses** can be arranged by contacting Rick.

Applications (on the A1 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, Scout Proficiency Badge courses \$5.

**Visit our website:**

[www.beprepared.com.au/gws](http://www.beprepared.com.au/gws)

*Scouts in  
Deep Pass Canyon  
on a recent GWSR  
canyon trip*

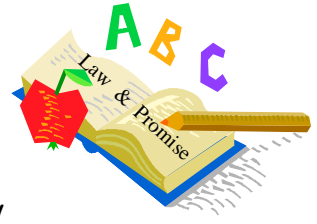


## TRAINING TALK

Ann Pounder

Region Commissioner ATD

Email: [training@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:training@greaterwestscouts.com.au)



Well the end of the year is rapidly approaching!

How many Leaders have been meaning to see us, to complete Wood Badges or to be Appointed, but have not yet done so?

There are only two more paper nights left, for *sign offs* and *completions* for this year! If you are on the old system could I please encourage you to call or email us for assistance.

### **Some Problems that we have identified;**

It has come to my attention that there are Leaders waiting for their Wood Badges or Appointments. If you are in this situation, or there is a Leader in your Group in this situation, please email the name and Group so that the team can follow up and remedy the situation. Some glitches that have occurred and we are currently endeavouring to rectify them.

### **Introductory Interviews for new Leaders;**

**December 3**, will be the last **Introductory Interview** night for the year and they will not recommence until **February 4, 2010**.

***During this period the team will be on holidays*** - please do not ask for an interview between the first Thursday in December 2009 and the first Thursday in February 2010 - it will not happen. There will be no rush interviews conducted by any member of the team just to get Leaders on to courses. Plan your nights carefully and you won't be disappointed. *Alternative days/times can be arranged for those not able to attend Thursday night Interviews.*

Unfortunately, some people have been taking advantage of the team's time and this decision needed to be made. Yes - we are all volunteers with families and work commitments (just like everyone else), but sadly some people need to be reminded of this. We do appreciate those who appreciate us and a thank you does go along way.

*Ann Pounder*

## CUB SCOUT NOTES

Patricia Shaw

Region Commissioner Cub Scouts

Email: [cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au)



Thank you to Region Seeonee who ran a successful Cub Scout Leadership Course while I travelled Western Australia.

### Out and About Month

November is *Out and About* month, so take your Cub Scouts out by public transport and be seen. There is a special badge for this event so order the badges from your DCSL for \$1.50 each.

### Future Scout Day at AJ2010 Cataract Scout Park, Appin

Will be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.

**On line registration** is a must before October 31st - see the GWSR website for full details.

**The A1 and bus registration form** is also available on the website. You should keep a copy of A1's for your Cubs, to take with you to the Jamboree. The original should be with the bus registration form and left at the Region Office when you pay your bus fares (\$20 pp) prior to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2009.

### Programming Workshop

We will again hold a Programming Workshop on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2010 at Bundilla, for those who need a hand and to share ideas.

### OTHER DATES FOR 2010

March 27	Cub Scout Leadership Course
May 15 & 16	Meeting Cuboree Pack/Base Coordinators
May 7	PALANEE
May 30	Region Cub Outing
August 28	PALAVAR
September 18	Cub Scout Leadership Course
October 23 & 24	Cuboree Shakedown Camp
October 30 & 31	Cuboree Shakedown Camp
November 6 & 7	Cuboree Shakedown Camp2011
<b>9-13 January 2011</b>	<b>CUBOREE @ Cataract Scout Park</b>



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

**Brent Silvers - 1st Hawkesbury  
Daniel Anderson - 1st Balcombe Heights  
Caitlin Ellis - 1st Balcombe Heights**

**1 - 2 - 3 WOOF**



**Check out the latest**

***LEADER NEWS - ON THE WEB***

***SEPTEMBER 2009***

**Your Questions and Answers #2**

Sixteen of the most commonly asked questions -  
an excellent resource for Leaders.

***Question 1***

**Can I refuse to accept or resign a disabled Youth Member  
without being personally sued for discrimination?**

***Answer***

Even for what you see as the right reason and done in the right way  
**NO**. The only way to do this is if there is a threat, as outlined in  
LSG20. For an understanding of what to do read LSG 20 before  
doing anything..

*Did you know the correct answer?*

*Make sure you know what you can or can't do as a Leader and  
protect yourself at all times. For more information, visit the Scouts  
NSW website.*

***Your Questions and Answers #3 (October 2009) has just been  
issued and will be available on the website soon!***

## ***ROVER REPORT***

*Matt Thompson*

*PR & Internet Officer*

*Email: [pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au](mailto:pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au)*

*Website: [www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/rovers](http://www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/rovers)*



Blaxland 'Kalangadoo' Rovers held their '**Rocky Horror**' Moot on 7th to 9th August at Tara Guide Camp, Silverdale. It was very well attended by over 200 Rovers from NSW and it was heaps of fun.

We had four Venturer teams and one Rover team attend the Rover/Venturer Photo Hunt in the City on 27th September. 1st Winston Hills Venturers were the victorious winners. Bravo!

Hawkesbury River Rover Crew ran an excellent Branch moot, '**Hilton Moot**' at Yass over the October long weekend.

Our crews have been busy collecting cans and non-perishable items for this years Hike for Hunger. Please pass on any donations to your nearest Rover Crew.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Friday 9th October - **Harbour Cruise**

23rd to 25th October - **Hume Region Superhero Moot**

Saturday 7th November - **Hike for Hunger**

Saturday 14th November - **Hypnotist Night East Maitland Rovers**

20th to 22nd November - **GWS Waratah**

4th to 6th December - **South Metropolitan Knurd Moot**

Full details available on

[www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/rovers/calendar](http://www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/rovers/calendar)

## ***BUSHWALKING NOTES***

*Frank Barr GWSR Bushwalking Coordinator*

*4758 6472 or 0409 128 310*

*Email: data\_scsi@msn.com.au*



We are frequently told that the world is a changing place. Without contributing to the global warming debate, I would like to raise some timely issues for those people looking forward to bush outings in the warmer seasons.

After just a few days from winter, we have already had a total fire ban day. I do not know if this is some sort of record. The weather on that day turned out to be a very nasty. Blustery winds combined with hot temperatures. Combined with plenty of fuel in the bush, the only component missing was fire.

On a recent outing, some Hazelbrook Joeys were “lucky” enough to spot a red bellied black snake in the bush. Exciting for us but a reminder that we should not assume these reptiles are only a summer phenomenon.

At a recent Commissioner’s Conference, I was lucky enough to be presented with a brand new state of the art PLB. This is a Personal Locator Beacon and replaces the previously used EPIRB’s. The PLB’s operate digitally through the satellite system and are connected to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

The one I was given has the GPS option with it. Once activated, the device transmits identification and exact location. The registered owner list is then worked through until someone is contacted to ascertain who has the device and in what circumstances it is being used. It is a fantastic safety device but very much a device of last resort.

The PLB is available for loan (free of charge) for bushwalks, so long as they are properly planned, complete with the required paperwork, including the A1.

## ***3<sup>RD</sup> MERRYLANDS SCOUT GROUP CELEBRATES CUB SCOUT LEADER'S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE!***

On September 8th, 3<sup>rd</sup> Merrylands Scout Group celebrated the outstanding achievement of their Cub Scout Leader, Charles Yendle (Bagheera), affectionately known to all as Baggy who had just clocked up 50 years of service as a Cub Scout Leader. Charles started his Cubbing at Lavender Bay and then moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Merrylands where he has spent the past 47 years as a Cub Scout Leader!

The evening started out as an ordinary Pack meeting night, with everyone, except Charles, knowing about the celebratory occasion. We all gathered quietly outside the hall and then filtered into the meeting at the designated time.

Baggy hardly skipped a beat as around 70 guests invaded his Pack meeting, to surprise him by their presence and to offer him congratulations on his longstanding service to the cubs and the Scout Movement!

The Group Leader presented Charles with his service badge and a special cake, which was enjoyed by all present.

During the night Charles spent time catching up with past cubs and Leaders he has worked with over the years. Current cubs and scouts joined together in games as the adults had a chance to catch up and reminisce.

3<sup>rd</sup> Merrylands Scout Group is grateful for the service that Charles has given to the cubs over the years, with his innovative programs, wealth of experience and enthusiasm and the many and varied outings he has organised for them during his time as a Leader. His ongoing dedication and commitment to the youth of Merrylands is an incredible achievement and we all say, "Thank you Baggy, One, Two, Three, Woof".

*Thank You*



**Group Leader, Michael Apthorpe with Charles Yendle, following the speeches and badge presentation and Baggy posing with some of the many cubs and scouts who helped celebrate his very special occasion.**

*Bravo Baggy on an amazing 50 Years of Service*

*Photos and story courtesy of  
Michael Apthorpe GL 3rd Merrylands*



## **MCHAPPY DAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2009**

Scouts Australia joins forces with Ronald McDonald House Charities to raise funds for seriously ill children and their families.

**100% of the money raised on the day goes to RMHC.**

Scout Groups are needed to collect money on the day, in any one of the 750+ McDonalds Restaurants across Australia. In return Groups have the perfect opportunity to promote Scouting in their community. All participants will earn a special camp blanket badge.

**Visit Scouts NSW website for further information and to register your Group's interest.**

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