

The Bulletin

Journal of the Greater Western Sydney Region



No. 374 February 2010



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| From the Region Commissioner | 3 |
| Positions Vacant | 4 |
| Region Office | 5 |
| Appointments List | 6 |
| Joey Scout Report | 7 |
| 1st Dural 70th Anniversary | 7 |
| Cub Scout Notes | 8 |
| Grey Wolf Awardee | 8 |
| Youth Helpers Course | 9 |
| First Aid Courses | 9 |
| Karl's Radio Base AJ10 | 10 |
| Training Talk | 12 |
| Wood Badge Awardees | 12 |
| Radio, Science, Technology | 13 |
| Venturer Report | 14 |
| 22nd WSJ | 15 |
| Rover Report | 16 |
| Region Activity Team Report | 17 |
| Rock Related Activities Report | 18 |
| Bushwalking Notes | 19 |
| From the Scout Den | 20 |
| The Bulletin | 23 |

Check out the GWSR website for opening times of Region Office

Due to technical difficulties, the internet has been down at the office for the past month. We apologise if you have been waiting for a reply to an email and will do our best to catch up, now we are back online!

*Photos front cover;
Scenes from AJ2010
courtesy of
Jenny Wardell and
Linda Apthorpe
Entertainment Team*



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

FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

Neville Henderson

Email: rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au



Building a Better Future

Who would believe that another Scouting year is now under way, after a well earned break for some Leaders and for those who attended AJ2010 at Cataract Park it must seem that the Scouting year never ended. From all reports - the Jamboree was a success and we can look forward to when the Jamboree returns to Cataract in 2016.

For those Groups who haven't been told, the fee for 2010/2011 has increased to \$90.00. We were only advised of this the week before Christmas and publicised the fact on our website.

The long awaited AGM packs are ready and will be handed to your District Commissioners at Region Council on 17th February. Please start to plan your AGM's now and your treasurer should have your books ready for or with the auditors. We have some cash book computer programs available, if you would like one of these please let me know.

Please note that the nominations for Good Service Awards (on the correct form) should be in Region Office by close of business on February 15th. If the Office is unattended, please leave in the letterbox at the house as this is cleared daily. I would like to see as many nominations as possible from our Region - so get your thinking caps on as to who you can nominate. Remember we have to vet them before they go to State Office, therefore, they must be in by the closing date, thank you.

We are currently advertising for office staff and will have the office open four days a week shortly. In the mean time please be patient and bear with us. The Camp Caretaker's position has been advertised (some interest has been shown) and we will be interviewing shortly, after State Office has conducted the initial interviews.

The camp caretaker position is being advertised locally and should

you know someone who would be interested, please contact State Office as they will be conducting the initial interviews for the position. A job description can be obtained from State Office.

Work has commenced at Bundilla and should be completed by the end of February. This will be the best Scout camp site in Sydney once the work is completed.

We were able to make Bundilla available after Christmas for a Leader training course involving Leaders from Vanuatu. I was lucky enough to be able to observe a session and they seemed to enjoy themselves. Well done to Carol Cope and her team.

I have asked Jan Playford to form and chair a Bundilla Camp Committee in an attempt to increase the use of the camp site by Scouting. If you are interested in working with Jan please let me know and I will advise her.

Finally, I am looking forward to another excellent year in Scouting and look forward to working with you in 2010.

Neville Henderson

POSITIONS VACANT

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Hawkesbury District and Parramatta District

DISTRICT LEADERS

District Scout Leader – Hawkesbury

District Scout Leader – Parramatta

District Scout Leader – Hills

District Scout Leader – Blue Mountains

DISTRICT LEADER TRAINING

District Leader Training – Holroyd

District Leader Training – Parramatta

DISTRICT DELEGATES TO REGION EXECUTIVE

All Districts need a representative.

If you are interested in any of the above positions please contact the Region Commissioner.



Region Office

Phone: 9639 2488

Fax: 9686 2510

Email: gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au



It's time to prepare for your Group AGM !!

- Make sure your books are audited and ready for presentation at the AGM
- Make sure all your members are staying on. If not, resign them BEFORE 31st March '09.
- Make sure your Leaders are still committed to your Group. If not, resign them at the **BEGINNING** of **MARCH**. Send the W4 form to Region Office.
- Make sure your Treasurer has sent invoices out to parents.
- Group/Fellowship AGM's are to be held, no earlier than the 15th April and no later than the 5th May.
- When you receive your pack from your District Commissioner, please open it and start working on it straight away. Don't leave it until your AGM.
- All cheques to be given to the Representative at the meeting and this includes any outstanding invoices.
- **DO NOT SEND** cheques direct to State or Willis.

Congratulations and best wishes to

Jacqueline Kibble

1st Springwood

who gained her Green Adventurer Cord Award

Bravo - Well done!



Sincere apologies for the omission from the December issue - Ed.

APPOINTMENTS LIST

DECEMBER 2009 - JANUARY 2010

APPOINTMENTS

| | | |
|-------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| DUFFY, Nathan | AL (G) | 1st Springwood Scout Group |
| LOPEZ, Daniel | AL (G) | 1st Sth Penrith Scout Group |
| MONAGHAN, Gregory | AL (G) | 1st Glossodia Scout Group |

RESIGNATIONS

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| GIBBS, Bligh | AJSL | 1st Winston Hills Joey Mob |
| SPERINCK, Richard | AL (G) | 1st Winston Hills Scout Group |
| GEELLEN, Andrew | AL (G) | 1st Parramatta Scout Group |
| JIANG, Hong | AL (G) | 1st Carlingford Scout Group |
| WATTS, Belinda | AL (G) | 1st Carlingford Scout Group |
| STOCKS, Dianne | RC (Dev) | GWSR |

TRANSFERS

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--|
| MICALLEF, Vicki | Fr AL (G) To AJSL | 1st Erskine Park Scout Group 1st Erskine Park Joey Mob |
| MILLER, Colleen | Fr AL (G) To ACSL | 1st St Marys Scout Group 1st St Marys Cub Pack |
| SMITH, Roslyn | Fr AL (G) To AJSL | 1st Erskine Park Scout Group 1st Erskine Park Joey Mob |
| GLEESON, Karine | Fr AL (G) To AJSL | 1st Hazelbrook Scout Group 1st Hazelbrook Joey Mob |
| HILLYARD, Jo-Ann | Fr AL (G) To ACSL | 1st Blaxland Scout Group 1st Blaxland Cub Pack <i>Keego</i> |
| MEREDITH, Darrell | Fr AL (G) To ACSL | 1st Dural Scout Group 1st Dural Cub Pack |
| SHEPHERD, Sean | Fr AJSL To AL (G) | 1st Hazelbrook Joey Mob 1st Blackheath Scout Group |
| VAN DER VOORT, Adrian | Fr AL (G) To AVSL | 1st Springwood Scout Group 1st Springwood Venturer Unit |
| ZARTH, Brian | Fr AL (G) To JSL | 1st South Penrith Scout Group 1st Sth Penrith Joey Mob <i>Jamison</i> |
| ZARTH, Sharon | Fr AL (G) To JSL | 1st South Penrith Scout Group 1st Sth Penrith Joey Mob <i>Jamison</i> |
| STOPPS, David | Fr AL (G) To GL | 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Group 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Group |

RESIGNED OR DID NOT PROCEED IN ERROR

| | | |
|----------------|------|-------------------------|
| SHEPHERD, Sean | AJSL | 1st Hazelbrook Joey Mob |
|----------------|------|-------------------------|

REGISTRATIONS

1ST SOUTH PENRITH JOEY MOB *Jamison*

JOEY SCOUT NOTES

Kathy Cuneo

Region Commissioner Joey Scouts

Email: joey@greaterwestscouts.com.au



All Joey Scout Leaders are asked to attend the February Wandarrah, on Friday 19th February, as the planning for the Region Fun Day on 16th May will take place. All ideas will be welcome and activities allocated. The theme is **Super Joeys**.

The **Hands across the Water** projects will take place in Terms One and Two. A number of mobs have been allocated contacts overseas and will be sharing news and programs.

A **Youth Helper course** has been planned for Saturday 20th March at Bundilla. All Youth helpers in mobs are urged to do the course. This course is also open to Venturers who may wish to become Youth Helpers in the Joey Scout or Cub Scout section.

A Joey Scout Leader get together was held at the Jamboree. Ideas were shared and positive feedback was received about the www.gwsjoeys.org.au website. It has been accessed by Leaders from other states with very favourable reviews. It was pleasing to see a number of GWSR JSL's helping at the Jamboree.

1st Dural Scout Group 70th Anniversary Celebrations

Your Invitation

A warm invitation is issued to all past Leaders, Youth Members and Supporters of 1st Dural Scout Group, to take part in the celebrations planned for this very important milestone.

Please join us at our special weekend Family Camp, to be held at Camp Ku-ring-gai, Ebenezer, on 21st and 22nd March, 2010.

For further details please contact Stephen Maher on 0404 054 839 or via email stephenmaher@tpg.com.au

~ We look forward to the pleasure of your company ~

CUB SCOUT NOTES

Patricia Shaw

Region Commissioner Cub Scouts

Email: cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au



Well, here we are well into the New Year! Thank you to all those Leaders who gave their Cub Scouts the opportunity to take part in **Future Scout Day** at the Jamboree. It was a great day to be part of, despite of the heat!

Thank you also, to those Leaders who attended the **Programming Workshop** on such a hot night. I know from the feedback - that you all gained from the experience of sharing ideas.

Our **Cub Scout Leadership Course** will be held at Bundilla on the 27th March. If you have not received the necessary information, please ask your DLCS. **Remember** this course is only for the older Cub Scout who shows leadership potential. It is **NOT** a requirement for the Grey Wolf Award.

I am sure you all have **CUBOREE** in your Programs. Now is the time to advise your parents of what will be happening. Ask your DLCS to come along and speak with your parents. Remember we need cooks and other service rolls at Cuboree and they may like to participate with you. (*Estimated cost is \$220 - to be confirmed*).

Do you have a Youth Helper working with your pack? We are holding a **Youth Helper Course** on 20th March at Bundilla, please encourage them to come along. They need to complete this course as well as to be working with the Pack, to receive their Youth Helpers Badge.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Cub Scout

Siobhan Toft

1st Hazelbrook Cub Pack

who has earned her Grey Wolf Award



1 - 2 - 3 WOOF

SOME IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2010

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| May 7 | PALANEE (<i>a fun night for Leaders</i>) |
| May 15 & 16 | Meeting for Cuboree Pack and Base Coordinators |
| May 30 | Region Cub Outing |
| August 28 | PALAUVER |
| September 18 | Cub Scout Leadership Course |
| October 23 - 24 | Cuboree Shakedown Camp |
| October 30 - 31 | Cuboree Shakedown Camp |
| November 6 - 7 | Cuboree Shakedown Camp |

JANUARY 9th to 13th, 2011 - CUBOREE at Cataract Scout Park

YOUTH HELPERS COURSE

Bundilla Scout Camp - Saturday 20th March 2010

WHO CAN ATTEND?

If you are working as a Youth Helper with a MOB, Pack or Troop you are eligible to attend this course. You need to attend this course in addition to your work with the section, to receive your Youth Helpers Badge.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete an 'Application to Attend a Training Course' Form and return to GWS Region Office, 6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills NSW 2153 with **\$35.00** by 5th March, 2010.

FIRST AID COURSES

SENIOR FIRST AID COURSE DATES Cost \$85

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------|
| June 19 and 20 | closing date | 5th June |
| October 17 and 18 | closing date | 2nd October |

ONE DAY REQUALIFICATION COURSES Cost \$75

| | | |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| April 17 | closing date | 1st April |
| August 14 | closing date | 31st July |
| November 27 | closing date | 13th November |

You must have a current (not expired) First Aid Certificate in order to do this course. A photocopy of current certificate must be submitted with your application form and money.

Application forms and payment to be at Region Office by closing date please. Cheques payable to Scouts Australia.



Karl's Radio Base at the Jamboree

I helped man the radio shack at AJ10 with the Fishers Ghost Camden amateur radio group. When groups of scouts were assigned to my tent, I first asked if they knew what **AM and FM** on their radios mean. Most had no clue, making suggestions like, "AM is only listening to in the morning" (I have to giggle at that). There were also such gems as, "AM is only for talk and bad music," (all very funny). They were shown a frequency generator and the waveform on a CRO, and told about frequencies and sound waves. The generator was tuned up through the audio frequencies to allow the scouts to test their hearing range. When the frequency reached about 21 KHz all but a few could not hear the signal, but it was still there on the CRO. Most scouts were amazed by this.

The scouts were then asked how we can get a voice on the wave. Most said, "Talk into the microphone on the table". They then had a go at talking into the microphone and making all sorts of strange patterns; holding a tone by whistling worked very well and resulted in lots of smiles. The switch was then changed and the same was repeated on FM with very similar results. This part of the activity worked very well and is demonstrated on our **Sound night**.



The activity then moved on to a static display of a number of **different sorts of radios** that consisted of an IC-91A, IC-280H representing amateur radios. Most of the kids were amazed at the variety of radios on display. A number of old hand-held 11meter radios were passed around the group for the scouts to inspect and play with. All these radios were disabled, so there was no way they could transmit. By far the most popular handheld was an old 3 channel Realistic AM set with a meter long telescopic aerial.

Next the scouts were shown radio scanners. One of the scouts from 1st King Lake in Victoria said that it would have been really good to have one of them in February last year (during the bushfires).

A **demonstration of APRS** was next on display. It was a portable Tracking unit (located by GPS) along with a WX station and Mobile unit with a screen. On the same table was a computer showing the site on *Google Earth* with the APRS.KMZ file loaded on it. The scouts were amazed by the little icons on the screen representing active locators. A few tried to run off with the portable tracker to see if the icon for this locator would move.

I had a computer setup running **Earth Watch**, showing which countries were in sunlight and which in night for that time of day in Sydney. It was showing that it was night in other countries and some a day behind. This idea had a few scouts very confused, but they soon understood.

The next thing was a **camera on the 9 meter portable tower** behind the tent. This was a last minute addition and was just for fun, but surprisingly the kids loved it. They would run outside wave to their mates and then return. The fact of it being on a rotator and could be remotely scanned around made it all the more interesting.

The final demonstration was **IRLP**. The Jamboree had its own IRLP Node 6111 for the entire camp and was in high demand at times. This was significant because it is not every day you get to see an IRLP node - they are normally out of sight, out of mind, but it was there in a rack case for all to see.



A number of Leaders and Amateurs paid a visit over the camp, including the engineer from the site FM radio station. Next to the rack was a computer showing the live **IRLP network on Google Earth**, blue lines and dots everywhere, the USA was a big hit as there are hundreds there and something is always going on. I am pleased to say most kids left the tent with a lot to think about, and a smile on their faces.

Karl Humphreys (Buzz) VK2HKF
Activity Leader, GWSR Radio Science and Technology Team

TRAINING TALK

Ann Pounder

Region Commissioner ATD

Email: training@greaterwestscouts.com.au



Welcome to the new year and I hope those who went to the Jamboree enjoyed themselves. I enjoyed talking to Leaders from all around Australia and overseas. I had the pleasure of presenting Clinton and Meredith Stewart with their Scout Woodbadges at the AJ10 Gilwell Reunion (most enjoyable and very well attended).

New Leader Kits will be available from Trainers, on the first Thursday of each month at \$10 each. All participants will need to have a completed a W1 before attending the Introductory Interview This can be downloaded from the State website.

2009 Kits; The W1, Training Course application and PED's will need to be replaced with the 2010 dated forms. These forms are available on Scouts NSW website. Please print off and replace any forms not dated 2010. Earlier dated forms cannot be used.

Stockpiling kits; Whilst I am not whinging, the following needs to be said; the orders for kits each year are dependent on the previous years sales, to avoid running out of stock. In excess of 300 kits have been sold over the last two years BUT we have not had in excess of 300 new Leaders interviewed! Groups are stockpiling and when new Leaders come to Interview, there is an expectation that old kits will be exchanged for new kits. From now on the Trainers will no longer exchange. Groups will have to purchase the newer version. Please only purchase kits as you require them - this will reduce our running costs and waste.

Hills South District are planning to run a **BL1**. Please visit the GWSR website, for regular updates and new courses on offer.



Congratulations and Best Wishes to

Meredith and Clinton Stewart

1st Ermington

who have earned their Scout Wood Badges Bravo

RADIO, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY TEAM

John Leahy

(H) 4572 1549 (W) 8467 3592

john.leahy@measurement.gov.au



BUILD A MODEL ROCKET DAY



I placed a bulk order of model rockets for Penrith Scouts to build over the JOTA weekend. Unfortunately they didn't arrive in time, but they have now. The Penrith Scouts will start building the rockets on Friday night, 19th February, and complete and launch them on Sunday 21st February.

I have a few spare kits and motors. If you would like your Scouts to join in this activity at South Penrith hall, please call Craig on 0409 429 198, and let him know you will be there. A maximum cost of \$40 and bring you own lunch on the Sunday.

BOOKINGS FOR FEBRUARY - APRIL 2010

We have one spare night available in June, two in September and several in Nov and Dec. Groups with ? need to contact me asap!

February

| | | |
|----------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1st?5th | Baulkham Hills Rovers | Liquid Nitrogen |
| Mon 8th | Abbotsford Joeys then Cubs | Arcs & Sparks |
| Wed 17th | Doonside Cubs then Scouts | Arcs & Sparks |
| Fri 19th | Penrith Scouts | Model Rockets |
| Mon 22nd | 1st Balcombe Hts Joeys then Cubs | ? |

March

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Mon 1st | 1st Berowra Joeys then Cubs | Sound |
| Tue 9th | 1st Murray Farm Cubs | Arcs & Sparks |
| Fri 19th | 1st Kings Langley Scouts | ? |
| Sat 20th | Whalan Venturers | Pyro Rockets |
| Tue 23rd | Dural Cubs then Scouts | ? |
| Mon 29th | 1st Erskine Pk Joeys then Cubs | Spies & Codes |

April

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Tues 20th | 1st Ermington Joeys then Cubs | |
| 27th?30thApril | 1st North Mt Druitt ? | ? |

VENTURER REPORT

Aaron Wardle RC Venturer Scouts

Mobile: 0421 076 497

Email: venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au



Welcome to 2010 and what a great start to the year we have had! Already Venturers from across the Region have been providing service at the Australian Jamboree and in local communities on Australia Day, and many more are getting ready to help out at District Founder's Day camps.

As well as this, our Region was well represented in the Australian Contingent to the New Zealand Venture. Congratulations to everyone for getting involved with these major events in January! I am sure that you all had immense fun, and the commitment you have shown to making the most out of what Scouting has to offer will bring you many rewards in the future.

Well, there is already plenty more scheduled in our calendar in coming months, with applications closing soon for many important events. All Venturer Units should be using the warmer weather to get outdoors. We have a canoeing course running in March for those who are interested. Forms are available on the Venturer pages of the Region website. As well, it is now time to organise your Dragon Skin teams and make sure that they are registered on the website. Visit www.dragonskin.org.au for more information.

For the first time in over two years, there is also a Youth Helper course being conducted at Bundilla Scout Camp on March 20. This will be an excellent opportunity for any Venturer interested in doing their Queen's Scout Service badge in the coming year or two by completing training now. More information is available on the Region website. Make sure that your application is in early to avoid missing out!

With the Jamboree behind us, Venturers are looking ahead to January 2012. The 15th Australian Venture is being held in Launceston, Tasmania to the theme of **Wild Dayz**. For 12 days you will get to enjoy the best Tasmania has to offer, meet new people, have a go at all sorts of different activities and challenges and most

of all have fun! Expeditions on offer include white water rafting, bush walking, mountain biking, tall ship sailing, surfing, abseiling, sightseeing tours and much more. Now is the time to start fundraising so that you don't miss out on this adrenalin filled adventure. Application forms will be available later this year, but make sure that you come along to the next Region Venturer Council to hear the latest information.

Finally, there comes a time in every Scout's career, when they decide to move on, and none more common than after a Jamboree. I strongly encourage every Leader in the Region to make sure that our Scouts make that move into the Venturer section. Unit programs are full of exciting activities and we look forward to seeing all of our current Scouts making the transition soon. Please remember that Scouts should try a couple of different units and find one that interests them. All Venturer Units are different, with Leaders who are skilled in different activities and programs that focus on different goals. Get out and sample what is on offer, and make sure that our Scouts keep having fun!

Happy Scouting! Aaron.

22nd WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE

July 23 to August 14, 2011

Kristianstad, Sweden (near Copenhagen)

Applications to the 22nd World Scout Jamboree are currently open. All youth members aged between 14 and 18 years, will be eligible to apply. Join over 30,000 other Scouts from around the world celebrating the theme ***Simply Scouting***.

Activities will include the Global Development Village, Crossroads of Culture, and various traditional Swedish camping experiences. An optional 7 to 10 day tour of Scandinavia following the Jamboree will be available for all participants and selected adult Leaders.

For more information or a copy of the application form visit the contingent website:

www.wsj2011.scouts.com.au



ROVER REPORT

Matt Thompson

PR & Internet Officer

Email: pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au



The 2009 Annual Lord Mayor's Picnic was well attended by GWSR Rovers - thank you to all who attended, for their support in helping disadvantaged families enjoy the New Year's Eve celebrations.



We've had a busy start to the year with many GWSR Rovers volunteering their time to assist at the 22nd Australian Jamboree at Cataract. The Rovers helped in many different roles including activities, entertainment, sites and

services and as line leaders with their troops.

All Rover crews are holding their AGM's during the month of February, with the Region Rover Council (RRC) AGM to be held on the 10th March at Bundilla, from 7.30pm. All Rovers, Rover Advisers and Commissioners are welcome to attend in full uniform. For Crew Leaders and Crew Executive, AGM's are a great chance to show off what your crew has been up to during the year, why not invite your Group Leader/Manager, Group Executive and other Section Leaders to your AGM to learn more about the great things you have been doing.

On the weekend of February 26th to 28th, 1st Baulkham Hills Rover Crew will be booting Brendan Saunders at Newnes - for more info, check out the Region Rover Calendar.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 3 - RRC

February 6 - NSW Branch Rover Ball

February 26 - 28 BJ's Booting (1st Baulkham Hills Rover Crew)

March 10 RRC AGM

March 12 - 14 Summer Moot (Suess Moot)

Full details are available on

www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/rovers/calendar

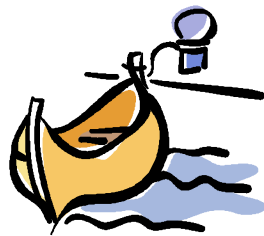
Have a great year of Roving!

REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM

Keith Travers Activity Commissioner

Telephone: 9632-3341

Email: activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au



We have just come home from the Jamboree with faces of very excited kids, fresh in our memories (I guess this is why we go to Jamborees). I was lucky, as was Bruce Brigden (cat sailor extraordinaire)! Who now knows where Wedding Cake, Destroyer Buoy and Matilda Ferry are located? Our Region provided six sailing boats for Jamboree, Hunter & Coastal provided one gull and John Van den Burg provided his Pacific 27 yacht (a long way short of the 50 sailing boats we were told would be provided). However 200 canoes and 8 sailing boats worked well with over 2,500 Scouts and Leaders getting a taste of sailing.

We have been asked to provide courses for youth members and out of Region Instructor Courses. We were assisted by North Coast rubber duckies in keeping canoes and sailing boats apart! The idea of all water activities and beach activities combined with bush walks, taking in local history and exploring old gun emplacements, worked well for everyone. The coffee shops also did a good trade. A bus runs directly from Wynyard to Chowder Bay, making this a good day out for anyone who missed out during the Jamboree.

We have a packed program with 12 canoe and three sailing courses planned for the year - all dates are on the website. Please contact me, not Region Office, for bookings on 9632 3341. Next activity meeting is on February 9th at Bundilla, commencing at 7.30

We have bought 4 Wobbecong canoes from the Jamboree but we will still limit courses to 20 participants (min of 10). Cost stays the same @ \$20 per weekend or \$10 per day. Check your blue cards as they only last three years. People with log books kept up to date may not need to renew at a course but may submit their logs for assessment.

Let's keep the same enthusiasm that the kids found at the Jamboree and have a great year. Remember the Groups that work well - plan in advance!

ROCK RELATED ACTIVITIES

Rick Jamieson Region RRA Co-ordinator

Phone: 4572 1321 (for all enquiries)

Email : rickj15@bigpond.com



Great Canyon Trip: Our canyon trip in December was GREAT!
Thank you to all our helpers.

A1 Forms to June are on the Region Calendar section of the greaterwestscouts website.

PROGRAM TO JUNE 2010

Canyon Course: March 6 - 7 (*Abseiler qualification required*)

Abseil Courses: February 16, 20 and 21 and May 11, 15 and 16

Cave Trip: March 20 - 21 at Bendethera Caves (*Caver qualifications required*)

Scout Cave Badge Course: (new) April 17-18 at Timor Caves
(*No qualification needed – no abseiling*)

Caving Course: May 18, 22 and 23 (*abseil experience needed*)

Scout Abseil Badge Course: Mar 26 (theory) & Mar 28 (practical)

Scout Top-Rope Climbing Course: June 25 (theory) and June 27 (practical)

Rescue Course: June 13 (*Abseiler qualification required*)

Theory nights for **Scout badge courses** are organised at locations to suit attendees. **Group Courses** can be arranged by contacting Rick. The complete year's program is on our web site at www.beprepared.com.au/gws

Applications (on A1) should be at Region Office two weeks before the course. Two-day and three-day courses cost \$20, one-day trips \$10, Scout Proficiency Badge courses cost \$5 (one-day) or \$10 (two-days).

*Scouts coming out of
Birrabang Canyon on a recent
GWSR canyon trip.*

Photo courtesy of Rick Jamieson



BUSHWALKING NOTES

Frank Barr GWSR Bushwalking Coordinator

4758 6472 or 0409 128 310

Email: data_scsi@msn.com.au



I hope everyone is well rested and prepared for another year of safe and exciting activities in the great outdoors. For many, the year has already had much adventure with the AJ 2010 event declared a resounding success for those lucky enough to attend.

Scout bushwalking during 2009 maintained the usual high standard of safety. No major dramas were reported and, while not all expeditions went as planned, they were completed without rescue requirements. This is very admirable and hopefully we can say the same in 12 months time.

It is probably timely to mention that unfortunately, the general public does not share the same high standard enjoyed by Scouts. I have been involved in several search and recovery outings over the summer months and keep being amazed at what I hear and see! It is probably not a great surprise to anyone, to reveal the very high negative correlation between preparation and rescue requirements. Some would even say it is obvious - ***the less prepared we are the more likely we are to need to be rescued.***

We are well briefed before and after these searches and I try and learn as much as I can from them. Few are purely bad luck. Others are disasters waiting to happen. Some are even miracles because they are disasters that did not happen! I once accidentally came across some distressed backpackers in the middle of nowhere, because they were told, that to get to Jenolan Caves you caught a train to Katoomba and walked – in thongs!

The common theme with the latest spate of rescues is the missing EPIRB/PLB. No one goes bush with the intention of getting lost. The more prepared (less rescued) ones take one just in case. These devices are available for loan/hire from NPWS as well as local Police. GWSR even has its very own state of the art PLB available for loan at a minimal cost.

Wishing you all safe and happy walking for 2010.

FROM THE SCOUT DEN

Robin Garrett

Region Commissioner Scouts

Email: scouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au



Hi everyone and welcome to 2010. I hope that this year will be a really great year for you all. I am finally getting a chance to include something in The Bulletin again. Now that the Jamboree is completed for the most part I can now start working on other things that have fallen behind.

AJ 2010

The Jamboree was a great success in spite of rain, heat, lack of dietary food needs at the beginning etc which seems fairly normal for a Jamboree. Unfortunately one Troop was left waiting at the bus pickup going to the Jamboree, as the bus simply did not turn up. A returning bus was redirected to pick them up and they eventually arrived four hours late. Then to really soak it in, the sky opened up just as they and their gear was taken off the bus. Thank goodness for a couple of Service Leaders who had arrived on an earlier bus and started setting up their main dining tent which provided some shelter. I am sure that there are all sorts of stories going around about everyone's experiences at the Jamboree. Overall from what I have heard, there were no real problems and everyone had a great time. No doubt many slept well upon their return home to normal beds and showers!

Adventurer Journey and Medallion

At the beginning of the year it is time to once again remind Leaders and Scouts of requirements for their Adventurer Journey and Australian Scout Medallion. Please inform your Scouts that turn 14 to start seriously planning for their Adventurer Level Journey and their Medallion activities. It should not be left to the last couple of months. They need to start working out what they need to do for the activity/journey. They can start seeking information from Brian Roberts for the Journey and myself for the Medallion. Most of the District Scout Leaders or representatives plus most Scout Leaders should have the forms for these activities. Adventurer Journey applications need to be discussed with Brian Roberts who will provide the journey. Scouts need to have gone

out and done several hikes particularly overnight hikes to have enough experience for the journey. For the Medallion they need to be near the end of their Adventurer Level badges and almost ready to do, if not already done, the Scout Leadership Course. They need to put into practice what they have learnt about leadership. I have written the guidelines below with the Scouts as the intended audience, so please copy this and share it with them. I can send it out to you via email if you contact me and it can also be found on the GWSR website.

Australian Scout Medallion Guidelines. (Please share this with your Scouts).

Remember not to leave it to the last couple of months to start planning your Medallion project. Start planning at least six months ahead of time. Be aware that it may take several drafts to come up with the final application which I can then forward to the State Commissioner for Scouts who gives the OK to proceed. ***Under no circumstances should the project be commenced until you have received the go ahead from either the State Commissioner or myself.***

- Obtain a form from your SL and read the instructions carefully. Part 1 is for your personal details. ***Include a phone number and email address even though there is no line for it.*** Write it somewhere neatly. An email address makes it easier for me to communicate with you.
- Part 2 is your Scouting Award history.
- Part 3 asks you to describe your leadership project. There is usually not enough room to describe your project so use a separate sheet or write on the back of the form. If you fill this in on computer, you can email it to me at garrettrj@ldschurch.org. The main thrust of the Medallion Project is demonstrating leadership. Part 3 of the Application lists some things which should be included as part of the description of the project. Such things are a time frame in which to complete the project, a description of resources needed, information on the number of meetings required and who the meetings are with. I have listed some additional things here, which I would suggest be included in your description of the project to help indicate to us how you plan to use leadership. These suggestions are in addition to what has

already been provided. **Keep in mind that this "Description of Leadership Project" is only a brief outline of the project altogether.** The actual report after the completed project should have all the details of the following items, (*general guidelines for all Medallion projects*;

- Each team of participants should be a minimum of two or three people or the same size as a small patrol. (*Planning - Resources*)
- Some kind of outline of how it is going to be organised including: Meeting plans/agendas/outlines where possible. Who is expected at each meeting. A time line showing all the activities. (*Planning - Time Frame, Coordination, Delegation, Resources*).
- A description of what assignments are being planned for each team/individual. (*Planning - Coordination, Delegation*).
- Some documentation of what research is planned and has been done. (*Planning*)
- Any activities involving the Group, try and include other sections particularly the Cubs. This may assist Cubs in achieving their own award and will help in the relationship of the Cub and Scout sections. (*Planning - Coordination, Delegation, Resources*).
- Expected plan of what will happen on the day if it is a one day or a weekend event. (*Execution*).
- How the project will be assessed. This will form a draft layout of the report on the overall activity which includes all the planning stages, like how the meetings went, how the assignments will be evaluated. Of course it will end with the submission of the final report which should be within a month of the completion of the project. (*Assessment*).

Leaders lead by example!

We as Leaders, have the responsibility of setting a good example at all times. If our Scouts observe us doing something wrong, then they will likely follow that example. If we fail to follow the rules of our organisation or the practices and guidelines that our peers expect us to follow, then we are demonstrating to our Scouts that it is ok to ignore the rules. This is not **being respectful** or **loyal**. We must demonstrate our loyalty to the Scout movement by showing respect for the rules and following the set guidelines.



The Bulletin is undergoing a facelift!

In an effort to encourage more people to opt for downloading the newsletter electronically from the website and to save on all the time and effort and expense that goes into printing and posting it out to everyone - this issue will be the final one in this booklet form.

In future it will be in A4 format, easy to read but especially easier to print out at home. You can print out the entire document, approximately six pages or you can just print a particular page - in living colour or black and white - it's entirely up to you!

You will receive an Invoice for The Bulletin in your AGM pack., which offers you three options. Every Leader in the Group needs to decide which option they want.

- ★ **Option 1:** Receive The Bulletin via post at \$11 per person for 11 issues. If you choose this option record your name neatly on the designated page in your AGM pack.
- ★ **Option 2:** Receive an email each month informing you that the latest edition of The Bulletin is now available on the GWSR website, www.greaterwestscouts.com.au which you can read, or store, or print. If you choose this option, ***please write your email address neatly and correctly*** on the designated page in your AGM pack. Do not use capitals and full stops if they are not part of your email address. Help us to ensure that the notification will reach your Inbox and not bounce back to us!
- ★ **Option 3:** Receive both if you prefer!

Please ensure that everyone who wishes to receive a copy of The Bulletin, records their details on the forms supplied, and that the forms are returned to the Region Office.

Many thanks from The Editor and The Webmaster.

For all the latest news from the Region visit

www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

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
AUSTRALIA**

The Bulletin
Journal of the GWSR