



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 381 - OCTOBER 2010



GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

OPEN HOURS: TUESDAY to THURSDAY 9AM TO 3.30PM, FRIDAY 10AM TO 4.30PM

Phone: (02) 9639 2488 Fax: (02) 9686 2510 Email: gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

Be Prepared... for new adventure!

On Sunday September 12, 2010 **Scouts Australia NSW** successfully launched its Be Prepared...for New Adventure - (Parent's PR Program) on the Today Show.

The segment ran for 3 minutes and 18 seconds and showed a number of Scouts and Leaders in Martin Place on our climbing wall, as well as footage from AJ2010. Grant was our key spokesperson and we had Scouts and Leaders from 1st Caringbah, 1st Burwood, 1st Cabarita-Mortlake, 1st Brush Park, Epping Rover Crew, and 1st Turramura Rover Crew.

Thanks to everyone who made the trip into the city - very early on a Sunday to make this happen. The video appears on news.ninemsn.com.au.

<http://today.ninemsn.com.au/videoindex.aspx?videoid=df7c7b14-414a-4170-9a54-db6b42dc2f28>

UPCOMING GWS REGION EVENTS

OCTOBER

16th to 17th - JOTA/JOTI

21st - Adult Recognition Awards Dinner, Blacktown RSL Club

23rd to 24th - BL1 Course, Bundilla

26th, 30th to 31st - Abseil Course

30th to 31st - Senior First Aid Course, Bundilla

NOVEMBER

4th November - Introductory Interviews, Bundilla

6th to 7th - BL2 Course, Bundilla

7th - Rescue (Recovery) Course

12th to 14th - Waratah

14th - McHappy Day

14th - Canyon Trip

27th to 28th - Caving Course

The Scouts Australia Brand Manual is here! Now live on the Scouts Australia web site...

www.scouts.com.au/main.asp?iStoryID=1926

To help pull together all the work done in the past year or two on the Scouts Australia Brand Strategy, we have now completed the Scouts Australia Brand manual.

We believe this booklet will be an invaluable resource for every member of Scouts Australia, because every one of us – whether a youth member, adult volunteer, supporter or employee - contributes to Scouts Australia's 'brand'. This manual covers Scouts Australia's philosophy, our new brand strategy, and information on how to communicate our brand.



A brand is much more than a logo, slogan or advertisement. Our brand is a collection of experiences and a set of fundamental principles as understood by anyone who comes into contact with Scouts Australia. It is our 'reason for being', and ultimately what people expect of us.

This set of national guidelines has been developed to help members understand our brand, inspire members to live up to our brand promise, and help them express our brand consistently and effectively to a wide range of audiences using a wide range of communication methods.

Ultimately it will help recruit and retain adult volunteers and youth members, and this, in turn, will strengthen Scouts Australia as a national (and also as part of a world-wide) organisation.

I hope you will encourage all our members to familiarise themselves with Scouts Australia's brand guidelines, do their best to follow them... and enjoy the benefits!

Richard Miller
National Chief Executive, Scouts Australia

FROM THE SCOUT DEN

Hi everyone. Last month I attended government house to see a number of our youth receive their award certificates from the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir.

For the Australian Scout Medallion we only had one, Joshua Mercieca of 1st Blaxland.



For the Queen Scout there were Erica Barlow and Joseph Gleeson of 1st Blaxland as well as Julian Stewart now of 1st Brush Park formerly 1st Ermington in our Region. For the Baden-Powell award, Chloe Hatcher of 1st Blaxland 'Kalangadoo'.

Congratulations and bravo to these Scout, Venturers and Rover for their effort to receive these awards. It is interesting to note that most of these awardees had achieved the Australian Scout Medallion while they were in Scouts.

Adult Awards

I would also like to congratulate all the 2010 adult award recipients on their awards this year. Many are well overdue and well deserved. Bravo

Scout Salute and Sign

As I have visited a number of troops in my travels I have been intrigued by the various forms of salutes that I have seen when saluting the flag or receiving awards. Often many of these salutes more closely resembles the Scout Sign rather than the salute, but they are supposed to be quite different. I suggest we look carefully at the differences and use them appropriately. The Scout Sign is usually only done during an investiture and the salute for all occasions requiring the salute. One good resource is the book on Ceremonies which probably can still be purchased at the Scout Shop and Snowgum. This book also covers flag protocol and ceremonies which I have also noticed we do not always follow correctly.

Yours in Scouting

Robin Garrett - RC Scouts

scouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au

CUB SCOUT NOTES

CUBOREE

We have 11 Cuboree Packs attend Cuboree, well done all. Please give your support to the Pack Co-ordinators as they organise you all for the Shakedown camps. Shakedown camps should only have the leaders, cooks and cubs that are camping together at Cuboree.

Leaders working in a role as an Activity Leader, we will have a meeting on 14th October at Bundilla at 7.45p.m.

Thank you to our Scouts and Venturers who have already attended meetings.

REMINDER – Please use the current Grey Wolf Award Application. Make sure the name is legible. Ensure details of where the Grey Wolf hike was walked. Include details of the Jungle resource. Complete the supporting statement. Return to District Leader Cub Scouts with the payment. This will ensure prompt processing of the award.

Congratulations to Matthew Preist who has been appointed as a Youth Helper at 1st Cambridge Park Pack.

We will be holding a **Youth Helpers Course** on 12th March 2011, so if you have Venturers working with you at your pack who have not yet attended a Youth Helpers Course, please let them know about this course.

DIARY DATES

2010

23 - 24 October	Cuboree Shakedown Camp
30 - 31 October	Cuboree Shakedown Camp
6 - 7 November	Cuboree Shakedown Camp

2011

9 - 13 January

CUBOREE

Have Fun!
'Tricia Shaw



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

Matthew Hocking	1st Granville
Cameron Thompson	1st Kellyville
Amicus Majoor	1st Ermington
Madeleine Botto	1st Ermington
Elysia Higgins	1st Ermington

1 - 2 - 3 WOOF

VENTURER REPORT

I had the exciting opportunity to join with Venturers from the Blue Mountains on their Formal Regressive Dinner last month. Congratulations to the Venturers for organising such an excellent night. It was very impressive to see so many well dressed Venturers!

Congratulations to Harry Provins of 1st Westmead and Sushen Gupta of 1st North Rocks for completing their Queen's Scout Awards.

Four new units were officially registered during third term including 1st/2nd Blacktown, 1st Castle Hill, 1st Glossodia and 1st Riverstone. I would like to congratulate all of the units involved for their commitment and perseverance throughout the past six months. I would especially like to acknowledge the assistance provided by the units who have been sponsoring our new Venturers. Thank you and well done.

Waratah applications close on October 29. All completed A1 forms and money must be received at Region Office by this date. NO EXCEPTIONS. Cost for participants is \$60 and for adults is \$35. Copies of the A1 form are available for download from the Region website. A manual form for team registrations is also available if any unit is having difficulty using the online registration system.



Other activities are also keeping Venturers busy across the Region and the 2011 Calendar is already on the Region website. Be sure to take a look at the activities, courses and other events that have been scheduled in the coming months and year ahead.

Aaron Wardle - RC Venturers

venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au



Venturers, Joseph and Erica at Government House being presented with their Australian Queen's Scout Award Certificates by the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir.

Above right - Joseph Gleeson of 1st Blaxland.

Below right - Erica Barlow of 1st Blaxland.

Photos courtesy:
Robin Garrett



Queen's Scout Award

Harry Provins

1st Westmead Venturer Unit

Sushen Gupta

1st North Rocks Venturer Unit

*Congratulations and
best wishes to
both of you*

BRAVO



WILD DAYZ

15TH AUSTRALIAN VENTURE - TASMANIA JANUARY 2012

Applications to attend the 15th Australian Venture are now open.

A Venture is a National youth event for the Venturer section where you get to meet other Venturers from all over Australia and the world. 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!

All youth members born between 3rd January 1994 and 2nd January 1998 (i.e. minimum age 14 years and maximum age 18 years as at the start of the event) are invited to apply to join the NSW Contingent.

Simply visit the Venture website at www.wilddayz.com and follow the Registrations link to complete your application.

The NSW Contingent will also be hosting a week-long pre-tour with limited positions for 80 Venturers. Participants interested in joining this pre-tour must ensure that their online application is fully completed as early as possible to be considered for a position.

ROVER REPORT

The next few months are set to be a busy time for the Rovers as they prepare for events including Hike for Hunger, Oz Moot and much more.

HIKE FOR HUNGER

This November, the Rover Scouts will be walking across the Harbour Bridge for their annual Hike For Hunger (in co-operation with Wesley Mission). The main aim of the event is for all the Rover Crews to donate cans and packets of non-perishable food, which will then be distributed to the many families and individuals that Wesley Mission supports.

If you would like to donate any non-perishable food to this worthy cause, please contact your local Rover Crew or visit <http://nsw.rovers.com.au> and follow the links to "Hike for Hunger".

The hike will take place on 6 November 2010 and will start from Milsons Point. If there are any Rovers who would like to take part in the actual hike, or if you would like more information, please send an e-mail to activities.service@nsw.rovers.com.au.

OZ MOOT 2011

Experience ADVENTURE. Experience ADELAIDE. Experience OZ MOOT! We are now just a few short months away from the 2011 Oz Moot which will be held at the Woodhouse Scout Campside in Adelaide, South Australia.

There is a wide variety of activities and excursions for all Rovers to participate in such as beaching, nature walking, catching glimpses of the pandas at Adelaide Zoo, and meeting other Rover Scouts from all around Australia.

If you would like to take part in this fantastic event, please visit www.ozmoot.com for registration and pricing. Don't miss out! Applications close 1 December 2010.

BRC 2011-12 NOMINATIONS OPEN

Nominations are now open for the Branch Rover Council's Executive. If you are interested in being part of a passionate, hard-working, dynamic team of Rovers that are focused on increasing Rover numbers within the state, please send your nominations to any member of the current BRC executive. These are the positions that all Rovers can apply for:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Activities, Service, Training, Internet, Venturer Liaison, Special Projects.

All written nominations must have the backing of the Regional Rover Council. For more information, visit the NSW Rovers website.

BRANCH BALL TENDERS OPEN

Tenders are now open for the 2011 NSW Rovers Branch Ball. If your Rover Crew has what it takes to run this event, please visit the NSW Rovers website and follow the links or for more information contact activities.service@nsw.rovers.com.au

UPCOMING EVENTS

22-24 October – Hume Region's The Festival Moot – everything musical and festive. Hosted by Razorback Rovers

30 October – Relay for Life, Blacktown Olympic Park. If you would like to participate in this event or make a donation, please visit http://relay.cancercouncil.com.au/2010/blacktown_2010/gws_rovers or contact Jodie Richards (Kings Langley Rover Crew) on 0414 231 549

30 October – GyMEA Rovers' Halloween Party. For more information please contact gymearovers@hotmail.com

6 November – Hike for Hunger (in association with Wesley Mission). More information – <http://www.nsw.rovers.com.au/events/hike-for-hunger.html>

27 November – Branch Rover Council

Brendan Richards PR / Internet Officer
GWS Region Rover Council
Mobile: 0431 107 125
Email: pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au

Right - Chloe Hatcher of 1st Blaxland 'Kalangadoo' Rover Crew being presented with her BP Award Certificate at Government House by the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir. Photo courtesy: Robin Garrett



Baden-Powell Award

Chloe Hatcher

1st Blaxland 'Kalangadoo' Rover Crew

*Congratulations and
best wishes
to you*

BRAVO



REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM

What a strange month we have had for weather, we have just completed another successful sailing course with some days 27 degrees other days and our last day on the harbour aboard John van den Burg's boat we had a cold day 14 degrees and 30 knots of wind.

We changed our format slightly to enable some people to renew qualifications and some others who only did 2 days for a taste of sailing over the weekend.

We have 3 groups wanting 20/21 November for canoeing; Northmead, Murray Farm and Wentworthville. We can only take 20 so first in best dressed. We have Venturers 9/10 October but only 10 so we are open for more entries. Holroyd have booked 30/31 October. 27/28 November is vacant perhaps Wentworth Falls lake. For the mountain people perhaps Springwood or Hazelbrook could organise a weekend for canoes. What a beautiful spot in November.

I have been travelling again a week away with my wife and her probus group to Armidale, Inverell, Glenn Innis, Uralla and Captain starlight country, very interesting history. Lot's of water places filling up that have not had water for years. A canoe carnival at Barrington with lots of water. I notice caving courses are going ahead, 27 on the last course.

Once again we need staff to help these instructors on very big courses. If you feel you would like to help please call the undersigned at 9632 3341. With the change coming in all adventurous activities we need more people wishing to teach. We are able to give you these qualifications for not a lot of work, that comes after you are qualified. The more hands the lighter the load and your kids get better instruction.

Remember Carey Barlow can answer any of your caving questions, Rick Jamison for rock related and John van den Burg and myself for boating and all adventurous activities. Remember to drink plenty of water in the hot weather.

Keith Travers - RC Activities

Email: activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au
(H) 9632 - 3341



ROCK RELATED ACTIVITIES

COMING ACTIVITIES

Abseil Course

Oct 26 (theory) and Oct 30 & 31 (practical)

Caving Course

23, 27 and 28 November (this was previously advertised as a Caving Trip)

Canyon Trips

Nov 14 Dalpura Canyon (minimal abseil experience required - for example, Scout Abseil Badge)

Dec 5 Birrabang Canyon (no swimming or abseils - suitable for Scout beginners).

Rescue Course

Nov 7 (Abseiler qualification required).

The complete year's program is on our web site at: www.beprepared.com.au/gws

The 2011 program will be on the web site very shortly. (Group Courses can be arranged by contacting Rick).

Applications (on the A1 Form) should be sent to the Regional office (phone 9639 2488) two weeks before the course. Two-day and three-day courses cost \$20, one-day trips \$10, Scout Proficiency Badge courses \$5 (one-day) or \$10 (two-day). Note that prices will increase by \$5 per practical day after 1st January 2011.

Applications (on the A1 form) should be sent in to the Region Office, **two weeks** before the course.

The A1 forms can be found at:

greaterwestscouts.com.au/activities/calendar

Rick Jamieson

Region RRA Coordinator

Phone:

4572 1321

Email:

rickj15@bigpond.com



*Above - Scout Top-Rope Course in September near Bell .
Photo courtesy: Brian Hall*

*Left - Photos from the GWS Sailing Course held on the 25th to 29th September 2010.
Photos courtesy: John van den Burg*

BUSHWALKING NOTES

Technology affects us in all aspects of our lives today. Bushwalking is no exception. On a recent weekend activity I finished up in a situation where I needed to take the proverbial plunge. Ratskin 2010 committee ruled that GPS units were mandatory for all competing teams. The location was Goobang NP, west of Yeoval in the Central West.

The terrain was difficult but featureless and the organizers deemed the maps available too inaccurate to allow the traditional map and compass navigation.

After 55 years of map and compass walking, it was with some trepidation I fronted up as part of the Hazelbrook Hearties team armed with a GPS. After a weekend of locating about 20 activity sites, I am convinced that they are a great tool. Used wisely, they should add to the general safety and well being of bushwalking groups. But remember, they are a tool and do not indicate the finer points of walking like how to cross a creek or choosing to walk over or round a mountain.



Above: Waratah Van Arkle team preparing for battle at base camp. L to R Ashton Louat 1st Blaxland Rovers, Collette Avery 1st Riverstone VL, Steve Wallace Blacktown DVL and Matt Vella 1st Kings Langley VL.

Ratskin 2010 itself was great fun. Still a shortage of Rover/Leader teams competing but this year GWS entered 2 teams. The Hearties based on 1st Hazelbrook and a team based on the Van Arkle character to advertise GWS Waratah.

The 2010 theme was pirates and the youth members did the Venturer section proud with 22 very innovative activity sites that were all challenging and entertaining.

Suspect that GPS navigation is a sign of the times so, to answer all those Leaders that ask me how to learn bushwalking skills, perhaps Ratskin 2011 will help by offering lots of GPS navigation practice as well as a whole load of fun.

Frank Barr
GWS Region Bushwalking Coordinator

H: (02) 4758 6472

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Above: Hazelbrook Hearties escaping from Pirate Cove. L to R Michael Fuller, Lones Leader Warren Batty, Frank Barr Blue Mountains DLAT&D and 1st Hazelbrook Group members Gary Wilkinson SL, Caz Robertson GL, and Adam Wheat VL.

Organisation and Information Project

Communicating our policies to the Scouting Leadership of NSW is of great importance. Scouts must maintain best practice while incorporating contemporary methods to communicate to the Leaders in NSW. This will ensure that our Leaders are aware and up to date with expected standards that apply to Scouting and directly affect them.

Scouts Australia NSW is reviewing the current Organisation & Information Handbook to determine a more contemporary method of communicating Scouts Australia NSW policy, procedures and practices. This is the first time for a review of this nature and the Project Team would like your thoughts and ideas.

The current Organisation and Information Handbook can be downloaded from the NSW website <http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/leaders/ScoutsSectionContent.aspx?Id=431>. Please submit your written comments on the current Organisation & Information Handbook for consideration by the Project Team. Email your comments to Nicole Brooke at n.brooke@bigpond.net.au. Comments need to be in writing only please and submitted by 17th October 2010.

RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

It finally happened on Sunday 19 September! A fine sunny day with the local Scouts and High School serving sausage sandwiches, lots of families and kids and 'Dr John's Science Exploratorium'. Yes I know, hard to believe, but there I was giving half hour demonstrations of the types of science experiments we do with the kids, and expounding the virtues of Scouting.

These pictures show the fifth group and some of the equipment including the Van de Graaff and Wimhurst generators, 3 PET bottle electrostatic motor, Atmosphere can crush and HeNe Laser in background, Liquid nitrogen demos. Further around on the left Jacobs ladder arcs, plasma plate, Singing Rods and the Talking Cup.



2010 JOTA/JOTI Bases

Radios or computers or both may be operating at the following sites:

1st Glossodia	Lamrock Av. / Creek Ridge Rd.	Radios
1st Kings Langley	James Cook Dr.	Radios in Venturer den.
1st Winston Hills	Edison Pde.	JOTI in Scout Hall, Radios in Guide Hall
1st Greystanes	Hampden Rd.	Radios & Computers
1st North Rocks	Baden Powell Place	Hopefully both
Penrith Scouts	Gone to Nords Warf	Radios



Join the Science Team!

We need more Leaders to effectively deliver this popular Activity.

Here is an outline of what we do now (right column) and what we could be doing (underneath – New Programs).

If you would like to be involved in developing and presenting these types of programs, get in contact with John Leahy.



Reinvent yourself in Scouting

Once in a while we have to stop doing what we're doing and try something different.

Do any of the follow apply to you:

"If I stop doing this job the Section/Group will close"

"I'm doing three jobs already, no body else will take them on"

"I don't want to let the other Leaders down by leaving"

Well NO to all of these.

New youth are joining every month. The Group Leader needs to challenge their Parents to take on Leader positions. The Scouting Association only expects you to volunteer, NOT become a martyr to the cause.

Of course if you're happy in your position, look forward to each meeting, and are still being innovative in your programs, then carry on doing an excellent job.

On the other hand, if you would like to try something different, travel around the Region to a different group of kids each week, be appreciated every single meeting and pick up some exciting new skills, then get in contact with me.

What's the saying? "a change is as good as a holiday". I want you to join me on a holiday with the Science Activity Team.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA 2010 JAMBOREE

Article by Aaron Wardle

The Boy Scouts of America recently celebrated their 100th anniversary at the 17th National Scout Jamboree held at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia, USA. A contingent of seven Scouts and two leaders represented Australia at the event along with over 44,000 other participants.

The Australian Contingent enjoyed a tour of famous landmarks on the way to the Jamboree site including the Empire State Building and Statue of Liberty in New York; Niagara Falls in Canada; and The Capitol Building, White House and Lincoln Memorial in Washington DC. For many of the Australians, this was their first overseas experience, and each of the boys took full advantage of the opportunity to explore the various attractions.

On reaching the Jamboree venue, the Australians were inundated with Scouts from across the USA eager to meet the international guests. The swapping of badges and hat pins was intense and the enthusiasm continued as the Scouts journeyed throughout the site.

Activities at the Jamboree included pioneering, mountain boarding, archery, trapshooting, sailing, scuba diving, air-rifle shooting, motocross and many more. The US Defence Force were actively involved with the event as well, hosting interactive demonstrations of the latest military hardware and providing support to ensure the Jamboree would be a safe and memorable experience for all participants.

A huge highlight of the Jamboree was the main arena show – “A Shining Light Across America”. The performance was delivered to a capacity audience of over 70,000 and broadcast live to venues across the

USA and via the internet. Showcasing a tribute to 100 years of Scouting in the USA, the evening also featured an appearance from popular Eagle Scout Mike Rowe (Dirty Jobs) and ended with a 20 minute fireworks extravaganza.



At the conclusion of the Jamboree, the Australian Contingent was hosted to a reception at the residence of the Australian Ambassador. Our adventure then ended with three enjoyable days exploring Disneyland, California Adventure and Universal Studios before flying home to Australia. Indeed the entire Jamboree experience was simply amazing and it can be guaranteed that the memories from this journey will last for a very long time.

The next BSA National Scout Jamboree will be held in 2013.



e-Learning *Project: On track to launch in January 2011!*

"FACTS -vs-Myths"

I would like to share some information about what is happening regarding e-Learning in NSW, you may hear a lot of rumors' but here are the facts:-

e-Learning is NOT going to replace our Wood Badge training program and all that goes with it, especially the significant practical components. Nor is e-Learning 'watering down' the content and what is required of the Leader. e-Learning is another method of delivery, albeit a significant one, and it needs to be seen in that light. It will offer an avenue for greater flexibility in training delivery linked to current Branch training offerings in the Wood Badge training program, and beyond. (from the National e-news)



- Members who have started on our existing training (e.g. BL1 phased out March 2011, BL2 phased out June 2011 and BL3 phased out August 2011) will still have the opportunity to complete their training through the existing format until August 2011. RPL/Skills Recognition and other options are open to complete your training.
- e-Learning is sectional based, and gives you the opportunity to work at your own pace, at a time that suits you, when you have time.
- e-Learning has some other great benefits, for the first time ever, every state will run the same training program, allowing those members who often move (e.g. defense personnel) to travel with ease.
- Regions can run group sessions for those members who do not have access to a computer or broadband, they have facilities to assist you along the way on your training program.
- Each member will also be allocated a PLA (Personal Leader Advisor) to help them with their training, somebody to answer your questions and guide you along the way to complete your training.
- For those members who start e-Learning, they still have the opportunity to network and meet with other members in a sectional residential weekend, which will now be practically based, to give you the hands on skills you need for your pack, troop, or mob etc.
- The new training program now frees up two residential weekends that allows new Leaders to balance their Scouting with family commitments.
- e-Learning enables Scouts Australia to achieve our National Commissioner's vision that a new Leader will be able to complete their COAL (Certificate of Adult Leadership) within 6 months .



Margaret Crawford
State Commissioner
Adult Training and Development
Scouts Australia NSW

Level 1, Quad 3, 102 Bennelong Pkwy, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW, 2127, Australia
Email Margaretcraw@bigpond.com Phone 02 97507501

Building a Better Future Today.

Looking for an excursion that gives Scouts, Guides and Joeys a real Australian bush experience in a safe controlled environment?

The Australia Walkabout Wildlife Park (Walkabout Park) is offering Scout and Guide groups with accompanying adults the magical experience of camping out overnight, as part of its 'Wild Sleep Out'.



"A Wild Sleep Out is a fantastic excursion experience that will appeal to the young and adults alike," said the park's Education & Marketing Director, Tassin Barnard. "It offers ready-made camping facilities along with the chance to enjoy a friendly, close-up encounter with our native animals, especially the nocturnal ones."

A Wild Sleep Out Scouts and Guides excursion starts at 3pm when you are allocated fully assembled spider- and snake-proof tents which make for a safe and relaxing stay.

"It's a real treat to see kangaroos, emus, wallabies and more roaming freely in their natural habitat," said Barnard. "It's a genuine Australian bush experience and so different to a zoo where the animals are in cages."

Walkabout Park's experienced rangers are on hand to help acquaint you with the animals and to teach you plenty of interesting facts about the way they live, as well as some fascinating facts about how Aboriginal Australians lived off the bush.

After some indigenous workshop activities, you are led on a spotlight tour of the nearby bush, where nocturnal native animals such as possums, bats and bettongs are coming out to feed and play.

"After a delicious barbecue dinner, everyone gathers around the campfire to listen to stories about the Dreamtime told by one of our knowledgeable rangers," said Barnard. "It's a real highlight of the excursion and of course a great opportunity to toast marshmallows under the stars!"

When bedtime beckons, everyone retreats to their sturdy and comfortable critter- and bug-proof tents. In the morning after a hearty breakfast, a behind-the-scenes tour with the rangers gives you the opportunity to get up close with the park's koalas, dingoes and more.

Limited special offer – Have a Wild Sleep Out with a huge discount!

Walkabout Park is offering a huge discount on its Wild Sleep Out for Guides and Scouts plus accompanying adults, with everyone staying for just \$55 per person (normal prices are \$105 per child, \$165 per adult). This price includes a guided tour with the animals on arrival, indigenous activities, two delicious meals (dinner and breakfast), a night's stay in one of the park's substantial and sturdy tents, a guided nocturnal animal tour by spotlight, and Dreamtime stories around the campfire. Ten tents are available for hire (comfortably sleeping a total of 40 people) and you are welcome to bring additional tents if more are required.

"This is an experience you will treasure forever," said Barnard. "And at just an hour north of Sydney, it's a perfect and convenient bush destination that makes learning about the environment fun."

Enquiries: Tassin Barnard, Education & Marketing Director

T: +61 2 4375 1100 - E: info@walkaboutpark.com.au - Web: www.walkaboutpark.com.au

Byrnes Dance Image

Attention Leaders: You WILL want to contact us for more details!



We are a local Dance Studio with a strong history of competition dance and a new appreciation for Scout Groups (and their leaders).

What we can do for you:

- ★ Run programs at your hall
- ★ Take private groups at our studio
- ★ Tailor a measurable programme for individuals suitable for completion of the Yellow Cord, Green Cord, Queen Scout and Baden Powell awards.

What you also might like to know:

- ★ All our programs are prepared by a team including qualified dance teachers (but the spice comes from our ex-GWS Cub leader and our cheeky ex Rovers!)
- ★ Byrnes Dance Image is an accredited & current provider of dance training for PD/H/PE in the NSW School system
- ★ Group bookings for under 18's will use a modified style approach to eliminate contact between youth members (unless written parent consent is provided)

More info: Byrnes Dance Image, 5/46 Wellington Road, South Granville, Ph: 02 9632 4428 E: nealebyrnes@danceimage.com.au W: www.danceimage.com.au

2011 CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW AUDITIONS

Cumberland Gang Show is an action packed musical theatre comedy for all the family. It allows you to display your talents to the world in a professional theatre. It doesn't matter if you think you're not the greatest singer, actor or dancer – that's ok, we will teach you everything you need to know.

We put on one of Sydney's biggest annual variety spectacles, but our main aim is to train young (and not so young) people in the performing arts as well as all the technical areas. Rehearsals are held most Saturday nights from March until July 2011 (with more rehearsals closer to the performances) and 10 performances in the July school holidays at Parramatta Riverside Theatres.

You need to be an active member of Scouts Australia or Guides Australia and be aged at least 10 as at July 2011, and we welcome adults in our cast also. Auditions will be held on Saturday 4 December 2010 at Pennant Hills Scout Camp, Pomona Street, Pennant Hills. Please ring for details or an application form on (02) 9636 7730 OR register on line at www.gangshow.asn.au

ASK ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN IN THE SHOW BEFORE – IT'S GREAT FUN!



REGION FUN DAY ON THE WATER

Sunday 12th December 2010



Come along for a fun, action-packed day on the water!

We have sailing boats and power boats that will take you for a ride and canoes you can paddle (except Joey Scouts who need to have a level 2 in the boat with them or a parent).

Activities will include:

- Canoe races
- Sailing races
- Donuts in power boats
- Mintie scramble in the water.

Please wear uniform, bring a hat, sunscreen, bottle water, towel and swimmers.

PFD's will be supplied by Region.

There will be a food stall selling drinks and hot food.

Where: Chipping Norton Lakes, Angle Park

Time: 9.00am till 3pm

Cost: Members of Scout Association - \$10 per person
Family members (non-Scouts) - Free

You will need to register (using A1 form - available from www.greaterwestscouts.com.au) and pay region office by 26th November 2010. There will be no registrations accepted on the day. Limited BBQ facilities available.



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.

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This edition was edited by Matt Thompson.



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OPENING HOURS

Monday - Wednesday: 9am - 4.30pm
Thursday: 10am - 4.30pm
Friday: 9am - 4.30pm
Saturday: 9am - 12pm