



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 387 - MAY 2011



GWSR SEONEE

Invites you to enter the Library at Bundilla to meet The Pagemaster at

PALAUER

4th and 5th June 2011

All Cub Scout Leaders and Youth Helpers working with the Cub Pack are invited to unravel the mysteries held in the library.

Participants should arrive at the library from 8:45am on Saturday June 4, to be ready for the start of activities at 9:15am. Our celebrations will conclude at 2:30pm on Sunday 5th June.

Uniform should be worn for arrival, but please bring comfortable clothes for the weekend's activities. We invite you to dress as your **favourite person** from **History** for Dinner on Saturday evening.

COST	WHOLE WEEKEND	\$75.00
	SATURDAY only	\$55.00
	SUNDAY only	\$30.00

RSVP 20th May 2011 - Region Office
A1 available on the GWSR website

Come and join in the fun and share some great Program ideas for your pack!



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA, NSW

GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION'S 64TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY 26TH JUNE 2011

Commences 2.30pm

RSVP due 5th June 2011

Please see Page 15 for your official invitation and RSVP slip.

OFFICE BEARERS WORKSHOP

Saturday 28th May 2.00pm

Rotary Hut at Bundilla

This workshop is designed for anyone holding the position of Chairperson, Secretary or Treasurer on a Group Committee and anyone else keen to learn what the various jobs entail.

All Groups to notify Region Office of their intentions i.e. whether they will have representatives attending or not.

Please RSVP to Region Office by Wednesday 25th May

GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153

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

Phone: 9639 2488 Fax: 9686 2510 Email: gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

Don't the months fly. Easter is now gone and it won't be long before the Jamborette is upon us. Don't forget to get your applications in on time as we don't want anyone to miss out on this great weekend.

I recently worked at the Royal Easter Show as a volunteer and realised how lucky we are to have 738 volunteer Leaders in our Region. Also I had the opportunity to visit the Scout Base and saw a number of GWSR Leaders assisting and helping to promote Scouting. How lucky we are to have dedicated people working with our youth members.

By the time you read this a number of AGM's will have been conducted and the others will be completed by the end of the May. Welcome to all the new committee members and I look forward to working with you over the next 12 months.

Our Region AGM will be held at Bundilla on Sunday 26th June 2011 at 2.30pm. Your invitation appears in this issue of The Bulletin. Please attend and show your support of our Region.

I have written to Miles Stepniewski of 1st Emu Plains Venturer Unit on behalf of Region, expressing our congratulations on the approval of his Queen's Scout Award. A big BRAVO Miles on this fine achievement and congratulations to the Leaders and other members of the unit who helped him complete the challenges of this award.

Our numbers have again gone up at the end of March, by 74. There has been some end of Scout year housekeeping done by some Groups, resulting in a decline in Leader numbers. The March numbers usually show the low point in membership numbers during the annual cycle, as this is when the most members are resigned before fee billing. Our Leader numbers have reduced by 12 but our youth members have increased by 86. The big winner is the Venturer section with increased youth numbers of 74 and Leaders by 4. Our Region had the biggest increase in NSW. Congratulations to all concerned on a great effort in building up our Groups.

Until next time.....Carry on Scouting

Neville Henderson - Region Commissioner
Email: rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au

JOEY SCOUT REPORT

Term One for most Joey Scout mobs finished with attendance at an Anzac Day parade in their local community. It is pleasing to see mobs taking part in these activities.

Many mobs have also completed their Environment Badge. Activities for this included taking part in Clean Up Australia Day, looking at recycling and going on a bushwalk to look at native flora and fauna. In true Scouting tradition, Oakville decided to do the bushwalk on the wettest Saturday of the year so far!



1st South Penrith had a mob holiday to Lake Burrendong (near Dubbo) and the leader reports that all enjoyed going somewhere new. Brian thanks the parents that attended and helped make the experience enjoyable for the Joey Scouts.

Twenty six Joey Scout Leaders from GWSR will be attending the State Konara in May. The final preparations are being done for our bases and also for the Region skit we have to present.

At the last Wandarrah, the topic of **'Recruiting and Holding Leaders'** was discussed. Lively discussion followed the presentation of the session and now we are going to put some of the ideas into practice.

We also welcome the new Joey Scout Leaders around the Region, who are just commencing their e-learning.

Kathy Cuneo - RC Joey Scouts
Email: joeyscouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au



SENIOR FIRST AID COURSE

June 18th and 19th 2011 - 8.30am to 4.30pm at Bundilla

\$85pp Closing Date 3rd June 2011

All details including A1 are on the region website.

Please register asap. Unfortunately we have had to cancel the last two planned courses due to lack of numbers.

CUB SCOUT NOTES

CUB DAY at the Jamborette is a great opportunity for your Cub Scouts to see the Scouts in action and help prepare them for their next great Scouting experience. **Activity bases** will run from 10.00am to Noon and 1.00pm to 3.00pm - this gives you time to visit your Scouts and see what they do in camp. The cost of the day is \$5.00 (includes badge and activities), plus you will need to purchase a **Car Pass at \$7.00**. See your DLCS if you need any further information.

By now, all Leaders and Youth Helpers working with a Cub Pack, should have received their invitation to join **The Pagemaster** as we explore the library and take home lots of great ideas to use with your Cub Pack. **Palaver is on the 4th and 5th June at Bundilla**, so contact your District Leader Cub Scouts if you have not received your invitation. **RSVP 29th May 2011.**

Other Dates for your 2011 Diary

17th September Cub Scout Leadership Course
24th - 25th September STATE COOK-OFF
29th - 30th October Cub Baayna

Have Fun!

'Tricia Shaw - RC Cub Scouts

Email: cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au



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

Jonathon Connor
1st/2nd Blacktown

Monty Cooke
1st Hazelbrook

Connor Abnett
2nd Kings Langley

1 - 2 - 3 WOOF

FROM THE SCOUT DEN

Hi Everyone.

The **Jamborette** preparations are well under way!



PLEASE REMEMBER THE CLOSING DATES:

Early bird registrations closed on the **13th May**. **The final closing date for Scouts, Rovers and Leaders is 4.30pm on Friday 27th May**. **Venturers** final closing date is **Friday 20th May**. Get your A1's and Group cheques into the Region Office asap. **No late applications will be accepted.**

Activity base titles and descriptions should have already been decided on by now and submitted either to myself or Ross Howlett, DSL Blacktown District. This provides us with information on what the activity bases are, so that we do not have duplicates. First come first served for the type of activities. If you are late with an activity it is not likely to be allowed to proceed, particularly if it is a duplicate of another activity. We are required to get booklets printed for the Scouts which also need all the bases listed in it and we need several weeks to get that done. We need to know which Leaders are responsible for each activity as well as their contact details, so we can communicate with them if necessary. Don't forget Risk Assessments etc.

Sadly, this year we will not have the usual Abseiling. There are some safety concerns about last year's site and the previously used site is in an environmentally restricted area. We are bringing in an extra climbing wall which will be used for abseiling as well. We are trying to get another Region to organise a Flying Fox training course to run on the same weekend which will provide a Flying Fox for the Jamborette and provide training for Leaders in the Flying Fox.

We will be looking at camping requirements/needs this Jamborette. We have some camping sites that are bulging to accommodate everyone while other sites are quite spacious! Next year everyone will have a different camp site. No spot of camp ground is sacred and we need to change. So this year, say goodbye to your existing camp site and prepare to experience something different next year!

VENTURER REPORT

No vehicles are to be parked anywhere except in the designated parking areas. We will be using the grassed area opposite the ranger HQ where we come in, which can fit 130 vehicles. Vehicles may be driven into the camping ground area, unloaded and then **MUST** be moved to one of the car parking areas. Trailers will be permitted *next* to the camp sites. There are only about 60 bays next to camp sites which we will allocate one per Troop plus an extra one per District.

For Cub Day, the best car parking is on the other side of the Basin which will be opened up just for Cub Day visitors. It is important for people coming in for Cub Day and wanting to go directly to this car park, to turn right at the roundabout in Wallacia, cross the bridge and turn left into Bents Basin Road. This will then take them down into the car parking area. Those leaders bringing in material for cub activities may find some car parking in the usual area over where the activities are being run but will need to come in very early.

This year, in an attempt to stop the sewage over flow, we are bringing in extra **self contained toilets** and **closing off the toilets in the toilet/shower block**. This will allow us to have only the shower water going into the system - which is easier to handle than raw sewage! **We ask that everyone will help to keep these units clean over the weekend.**

Robin Garrett - RC Scouts

scouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au

COME CAMPING

With the Duty to God Christian Fellowship

JULY 2nd TO JULY 9th, 2011

Camp Courage, Appin

This camp, on the Georges River, near Appin is for all invested Scouts 11 to 14 years of age (\$165 pp).

The purpose of the camp is to gain a clearer understanding of God and our duty to Him. Daily sessions of discussion and Bible study will be provided to achieve this aim. Only warranted Scouters will take charge of the camp, under the leadership of the Camp Director, Mr Robert Reeve.

The camp revolves around good meals and heaps of fun activities including archery, BMX bike riding, horse riding, canoeing, abseiling, wide games, first aid training, bush cooking, axemanship and blacksmithing, with the opportunity to reach a satisfactory standard in various Target and Challenge badges.

Application forms are available at Region Office or contact Mrs Cheryl Alexander on 4657 2700 for further details.

Our Region had a huge turnout at **Dragon Skin** again this year, with 24 teams participating in the event over the Easter long weekend and almost every Unit being represented. The weekend started with clear skies and a special appearance by the Red Bull promotional team at VOC 1 on the first night.

The weekend brought many exciting challenges with 58 activity bases scattered throughout the Belanglo State Forest. As Sunday night approached though, so too did the clouds. Fortunately the drizzle did nothing to dampen the party atmosphere of the final all night celebration. Many of our teams achieved great success in the competition, with teams from 1st Springwood, 1st Kings Langley and 1st North Rocks each scoring over 700 points. A full list of results is available from the Dragon Skin website. We shall all look forward to having even more teams competing next year.

The next major event in the calendar is of course the **Region Scout Jamborette**. Many units are organising activity bases for the event. All units are reminded to have their base details and a copy of the Scoutsafe Risk Awareness form submitted as soon as possible. All forms are available for download from the Venturer Resources page of the Region website. Please remember that **applications close** for the Venturer Section on **Friday 20 May 2011** and no late applications will be accepted.

There are two different **Environment Camps** organised for July. The **State Venturer Environment Camp** will be held at **Ingleside Scout Camp** on the first weekend of the school holidays, while the **State Environment Activity Camp** runs for 5 days during the middle of the school holidays at **Camp Kurrajong**, near Wagga Wagga. Participation in either activity will qualify you for the **Venturer Award Environment Badge**. More information on both events, including costs and closing dates, is available from the Region website.

Bud 2011 is our Region **Try Venturing Camp** to be held at Glenrock Scout Camp on the weekend of September 10 and 11, 2011. This is a new activity for GWSR and the entire camp is being coordinated by a dedicated team of Venturer Scouts from across the Region. All Scouts aged over 13 years as of the 9th September are encouraged to attend. A1 forms are now available from the Calendar page of the Region website. A planning update will also be presented at our next Region Venturer Scout Council at 1st North Mount Druitt Scout Hall on Monday May 16. **Applications to attend the camp close on Friday 19th August 2011.**

Venturer Units will be visiting Troops throughout the Region to advertise this exciting activity and more information will also be available at the **Venturer Kaleidoscope base at Jamborette.**

Finally, I am pleased to announce that Miles Stepniewski of 1st Emu Plains has recently completed his Queen's Scout Award. Congratulations Miles.

Aaron Wardle - RC Venturers

Email: venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au



JOIN IN JAMBOREE

22nd World Scout Jamboree

27th July – 7th August 2011

Join in Jamboree is a way for all members of Scouts Australia to participate in a World Scout Jamboree.

The Programs provided are some ideas of activities in sample programs kindly provided by Section Leaders from the ACT Branch to assist those not attending WSJ2011 to Join In Jamboree and learn more about Sweden.

Please use the Programs as you would like, adapt them or use them in their entirety - it will depend on your Youth Members, Leaders and other resources. These are useful resources thanks to our Scouting network.

A Join In Jamboree badge available for purchase as part of Join In Jamboree and the order form can be downloaded via wsj2011.scouts.com.au where you can also learn more about WSJ2011 and visit our daily blog during Jamboree for photos and stories from the 190 members of the Australian Contingent attending Sweden for WSJ2011. Once again the Australian Contingent Team for WSJ2011 would like to acknowledge the support and assistance from the team that created these Programs – please enjoy!

Phil Harrison
Australian Contingent Leader

1ST NORTH ROCKS CUB SCOUTS

BY JOANNE HRAST ACSL

There were recent celebrations at 1st North Rocks Scout Group when three Cub Scouts – twins Melanie and Thomas Hrast, and Joshua Rec were presented with their Grey Wolf Award.

The District Commissioner for Parramatta, Tracey Hansford, was present when 'Tricia Shaw, RC Cub Scouts awarded this prestigious honour. This is not an easy award and all three children have worked consistently hard for three years to complete their challenges and gain the highest award possible in Cub Scouts.

Cub Scouts have given these children a journey that took them to new places, introduced them to new friends, and allowed them to experience things they never thought possible.

As well as enjoying camping and bushcraft, the children have enjoyed many other experiences, including flying in the Scouts own Cessna aircraft, learning skills for safe canoeing, participating in conservation activities, abseiling rock walls, First Aid training and assisting a local community organisation that helps other people.

Each Cub also organised a two hour walk for their Pack through the beautiful bushland of North Rocks to complete the challenge.

When the Cubs were asked what the highlight of their time in Cubs was, they replied, "Cuboree"! Cuboree is a five day camp with 2000 other Cub Scouts from across New South Wales, which is held every three years .



*Proud recipients of the Grey Wolf Award
Melanie and Thomas Hrast and Joshua Rec
pose with Tracey Hansford and 'Tricia Shaw.*

ROVER REPORT

April was a quieter month for Rovers, with the majority of our efforts focused on Dragonskin.

Dragonskin 2011 – Get a Job

Dragon Skin is the Premier event for Venturers in NSW and is held every year over the Easter Long Weekend. This year, Dragon Skin was held at Belanglo State Forest, GWSR was responsible for many high quality bases, the majority of which were hosted on VOC 4. In keeping with the theme **Get a Job**, bases varied from helping old to ladies in a nursing home, to delivering post, getting a job with the Wiggles, retrieving money stolen by 'tax cheats' and working in the 'mining industry'.

Annual Formal Macca's Regressive Dinner

On the first weekend of May, Kings Langley Rovers organised the Annual Formal Macca's Regressive Dinner. This event involves visiting three McDonald's restaurants, one for Entree, one for Mains and one for Dessert. However, the order of the meals is reversed so that Dessert is eaten first!

Many thanks to Jodie Richards and Jonathan Morey for their dedication to making this event happen this year. A fun time was had by all involved.

Rovering Towards 2020 Survey

The Rovering Towards 2020 team would like to thank all the Rovers who completed the Rovering Towards 2020 Survey in April.

Luke Saunders - PR & Internet Officer

GWSR Rover Council

Email: pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au



Daniel Haugh serving the salads



*The Rovers pose for a group photo.
Photos: Brendan Richards*

JAPANESE EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI

FUNDRAISING BADGE

Hume Region has instigated a special Camp Shirt/Blanket Badge, to raise funds to go to Scouts Japan, to help fellow Scouts affected by the Earthquake and ensuing Tsunami.

All profits from the sale of badges will go to Scouts Japan and a cheque will be presented to the International Commissioner at the Hume Region Cub Fun Day on 19th June 2011.

Badges are \$5 each which includes GST and postage

ALL ORDERS AND PAYMENTS TO:



Scouts Australia
Hume Region Japanese Appeal
PO Box 1153
Campbelltown NSW 2560



*Johnathan Morey looks on as
Jodie Richards serves one of the courses*

REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM

If anyone ever comes to you to say, "they are bored with their lives", tell them to get a life and try Scouting ...and I don't just mean youth!

As a Leader, it is always great to see our youth out and about doing stuff, having an absolute ball; whether it's camping, caving, canoeing or simply crashing with exhaustion. I don't know about you, but I get just as much of a kick seeing Leaders and parent helpers doing exactly the same thing - especially the crashing bit, which adults seem to do particularly well!

Again another month of action with a well attended Canoe Course lead by Bruce Homer Brigden at Putney, a Caving Proficiency Badge Course held at Wee Jasper Caves, run by David Macca McKinley and a number of Arcs and Sparks nights with the Science team.

I had the privilege of attending the Caving Course (which I think was a conspiracy to get the RC Act down a hole and covered in mud)! What a fantastic time was had by all. We even had the opportunity to do a guided cave tour of Carey's Cave, which provided us all with an incredible insight into how the caves systems are formed and continue to 'grow'.

I also had the opportunity to see the Science Team in action at 1st Whalan, under the guidance of John Leahy. Again another fascinating night with all sorts of flames and coloured smoke. Having to move inside because of a bit of rain didn't stop anything. (I actually think John was secretly trying to activate the smoke alarms).

I mentioned last month about a few difficulties some people were having with the A1 Forms. Certainly getting better, so thank you to all. Again if you are unsure, please contact me.

Some people are asking me what is the role of the LAC (Local Area Coordinator)? Basically it is a nominated person, who lives within a particular region, where an activity/camp/hike/etc is going to take place. They have local knowledge of the area and can advise if conditions are suitable or not. (Unfortunately a map does not show a creek in flood, or a track closed because of a recent bushfire). To find who the relevant LAC is, go to the GWSR Website home page, Quick Links and LAC Contacts.

Carey Barlow, an active member of the Caving Team since 2004 and an Abseil Instructor since 2008, has decided to hang up her helmet and gloves. I would like to pass on my thanks to Carey for the tremendous effort she has put into the Activities Team, and wish her the all the very best in her future pursuits.



If you have any questions regarding the Activities Team or perhaps you would like me to come along to one of your team meetings to do a bit of a plug on the various Activities we can provide, please contact me.

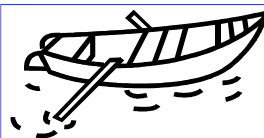
In the meantime have adventurous fun and be activity safe.

Mark Fell (DINGO) – RC Activities

Email: activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au



*Dingo emerging from a cave!
Photo: Meredith Stewart*



WHAT'S NEW ON THE WATER FOR 2011?

One day Cub specific Canoe Fun Day/Courses are coming in Spring/Summer 2011. Cub Leaders email Tracey to make a booking for your cubs asap.

Social Paddlers Days - I'm thinking about running a few social paddler's days. For a trial period, if anyone is interested in doing a day or half day paddle on the Parramatta/Lane Cove River and the Harbour between now and 6th July, please send me an indication of your interest and I will keep you informed. No instruction given on this social paddle. Participants must hold a current Level 2 canoe/kayak certificate and provide own/group seaworthy boat. Competent paddlers only.

Novice Paddlers - Practical Experience Days - NEW for Summer 2011. For New or Novice Paddlers (Level 1) Scouts and older youth members and leaders - develop your confidence and paddling skills in a fun environment with no tests to worry about. Limited to 10 Paddlers per day. \$15 fee. Please email me to indicate your interest in participating in a one day novice course.

Expressions of Interest: 5 Day Sailing Course - September School Holidays. Email me your expression of interest in this sailing course. Participants can gain Level 2 through this course.

Tracey Hansford (Potoroo)

GWS Water Activities Co-ordinator

Email: parramatta@greaterwestscouts.com.au

RECENT ACTIVITY NIGHTS

There were only two scouting weeks in April due to School holidays and Easter, but significant ones for me. One was our first night with the 5 Cubs of Riverstone, which swelled to 28 Cubs, and the other was an 'Arcs and Sparks' night at Grose Vale Cubs where I was able to shake the hand of my youngest Grandson and welcome him into Cubs. My son and daughter-in-law were Venturers in the Grose Vale Group that visited German Scouts at Koln in 1991, so I guess it was inevitable that their son would join Cubs.

The Riverstone Leaders organised a great night at Quakers Hill/Doonside hall with the Doonside Cubs and the Kings Langley Cubs. There were 8 Leaders in attendance, so a couple circulating with each group of Cubs. The Cubs were well behaved for a mixed group, especially since it was a 'Light' night, and we were in the dark for most of the evening. The Leaders had warmed them up with games before I arrived. I know it is difficult to organise with just one other Group, so to get three together was outstanding. Well done guys.

BOOKINGS FOR JUNE/JULY 2011

Tue 7th June	Berowra	Joeys then Cubs <i>Measure Up</i>
11-13 June	GWSR Jamborette	Scouts
Tue 14th June	Forestville Cubs	<i>Light</i>
Mon 20th June	Riverstone	Scouts <i>Light</i>
Mon 27 June	Abbotsford	Joeys then Cubs <i>Light</i>
Wed 20 July	Quakers Hill	Joeys then Cubs <i>Light</i>
Mon 25 July	Grose Vale	Cubs then Scouts <i>Light</i>

REMEMBERING ANDY WALKER (3)

Most Scouters would remember Andy as the **Solar Cooking Man**, and his battered Johnson hat with solar driven fan. If we had a demonstration on a sunny day, Andy would unfold his various solar reflectors and ovens, place the tape fence in front (to keep onlookers out of the area where they might be blinded by the glare) and proceed to mix and place the food to be cooked for his lunch. He was keen to explain to passers-by the operation of the different reflectors, and point out the bimetal strip thermometer reading some 200 degrees C. on top of the black pot containing the chicken stew or muffin he was cooking. If you were nearby when he opened the pot to eat, samples of the food would be given to you to try. Although not very

enticing (not browned) the taste was invariably delicious. At the yearly **GWSR Jamborette** at Bents Basin, Andy was our stalwart. Not only demonstrating Solar Cooking and Crystal Radios, but doing all the cooking for us on the weekend. He enjoyed long discussions with John Vincent on their Lodge activities, Sydney Region scouting history, Groups he had started, district boundaries that had changed, the sad demise of Senior Scouts and the uniform, and the excellent (and some difficult) Leaders he had encountered!

I don't think I was a good listener. After a long day demonstrating to Scouts (and a small Tawny Port), I often fell asleep while he was talking. I realised I was listening to living history and should record it (Andy repeated it often, without variation) but it wasn't until last year that I captured about two hours on a small MP3 player, so we at least have that!



*Tiga
appears in
mid air !*



*Defend
the
Flame*



*Quakers
Hill/
Doonside
Cubs*



Polarised Light

MY DAY AT THE AUSTRALIAN REPTILE PARK

I am Chloe Drinkwater from 1st North Rocks Scouts and I am writing about my day at the Australian Reptile Park. This was my first time with the Scouts with special needs on an outing and I had a blast. I really enjoyed playing with the kids and I am sure that they had as much fun as I did.

At the reptile park we pretty much went around all day looking at all of the different animals and some of us even got to see the owls, koalas, Tasmanian Devils and the tortoises being fed. The staff were very friendly, helpful and had lots of info on all the animals and reptiles, which helped us learn more about them. We even had time to have a photo with a local python!

I had so much fun with the Scouts with special needs, that I can't wait for the Agoonorette in August.



Andy demonstrates his solar cooking



A SPECIAL NEEDS SCOUTING EVENT....

AGOONORETTE

KUM-BA-YAH GUIDE CAMP, MT. KEIRA

FRIDAY 26 to SUNDAY 28 AUGUST, 2011

An Agoonoree is a camp for all Scouts and Guides, especially for those with Special Needs. An Agoonorette is a mini-Agoonoree.

This event:

- ★ is open to any Scouts/Guides, Venturers, Rovers, Leaders, Commissioners, Fellowship members, parents and carers.
- ★ will include a day outing to the Wollongong Science Centre on Saturday 27 August. Visitors (including Joeys and Cubs) are welcome to attend this outing as a stand-alone activity.
- ★ will have indoor accommodation.
- ★ is being held during the nation Scouts in Action – Disability Awareness Week
- ★ will cost about \$60 for full-time participants
- ★ will be GREAT FUN !!

If you have any queries or if you wish to register your interest and receive the appropriate A1 Activity/ Application Form, please contact:

Mark Burfield

Assistant State Commissioner, Special Needs
Ph. 0425 236 617 or email: oceaniahq@froggy.com.au
or

Cassie Rec

GWSR representative, Special Needs
Ph. 0408 293 077 or email: casrec@bigpond.net.au

THE RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM

John Leahy	john.leahy@nmi.gov.au Work phone: 8467-3592 Home phone: 4572-1549
Karl Humphreys	ets0@bigpond.com
Murray Irwin	9868 5559

SYDNEY JUNIOR ORIENTEERING LEAGUE

The NSW Orienteering Association would like to extend an invitation to Sydney Scouts to attend any of the events. Scouts would be very welcome to attend either individually or as a pack/troop. I would however be grateful of prior notice of any Groups that are interested to be certain that adequate maps are printed and helpers available to ensure that the Scouts have a great morning.

The series comprises 8 events on Sunday mornings throughout terms 2 and 3. Suitable for beginners and experienced orienteers, aged 10 to 18 years.

EVENT INFORMATION

Once you have registered we will email you newsletters with additional details on all events. Your start time at each event will generally be between 9 and 10am. However you should allow yourself time to warm up, talk to a club coach and familiarise yourself with course details prior to starting.

In addition to entering as an individual, you may also choose to enter as a part of a team of three. If you have two friends that you would like to be with, please let us know or we can try to find a team for you.

SERIES PRIZES

During the Series, points will be awarded to entrants based on placings in each event. At the end of the Series, prizes will be awarded to competitors that accumulate the most points from their 5 best events. There will also be a trophy for the champion club and a number of lucky draw prizes.

EQUIPMENT

Essential equipment is an orienteering compass and a plastic whistle.

COST

Series entry is \$60. This fee will cover your entry for all 8 events. (Please note, no refund is available if you do not participate in all 8 races)

1st Event: Frenchs Forest 22nd May 2011

2nd Event: Centennial Park 19th June 2011

ENTRIES CLOSE - 15th MAY 2011

Please call or email me for any further details or with questions. We would love to see some Scouts out testing their navigation skills!

Kind regards

Barbara Hill

Promotions Director

Orienteering Association of NSW

www.nsw.orienteering.asn.au

oanswpromotions@gmail.com Mobile: 0418 270 476

TRAINING TALK

The months seem to be flying by with AGM's occurring now. I have visited some Groups and it is pleasing to see them growing - not just in youth membership but in adults stepping forward to become Leaders and Committee members.

E Learning: Our log ons are now occurring but there are some emails bouncing back to state undelivered to our new Leaders. It is really important that email details are current, as this is how all new Leaders are logged on with their details for training.

Personal details: We need to be notified of any changes to your personal details, in particular your name, address or email address. It really does hold up the processing of training and appointments if these details are not current on the database. Please send any changes in to Region Office asap.

Interviews: Remember that kits are now \$60 each, as they include the section handbooks. It is important to book interviews with Region Office or with the Leaders conducting the interviews, to ensure that we have sufficient stocks of kits, so that new Leaders receive the necessary books. Leaders who were interviewed last year and have not commenced training i.e. they have not done a BL1, need to submit an L8 with \$50 to change to e learning as the BL1 no longer exists.

Calendars: Please keep up to date with training and courses on the NSW website and on our website, as things change constantly.

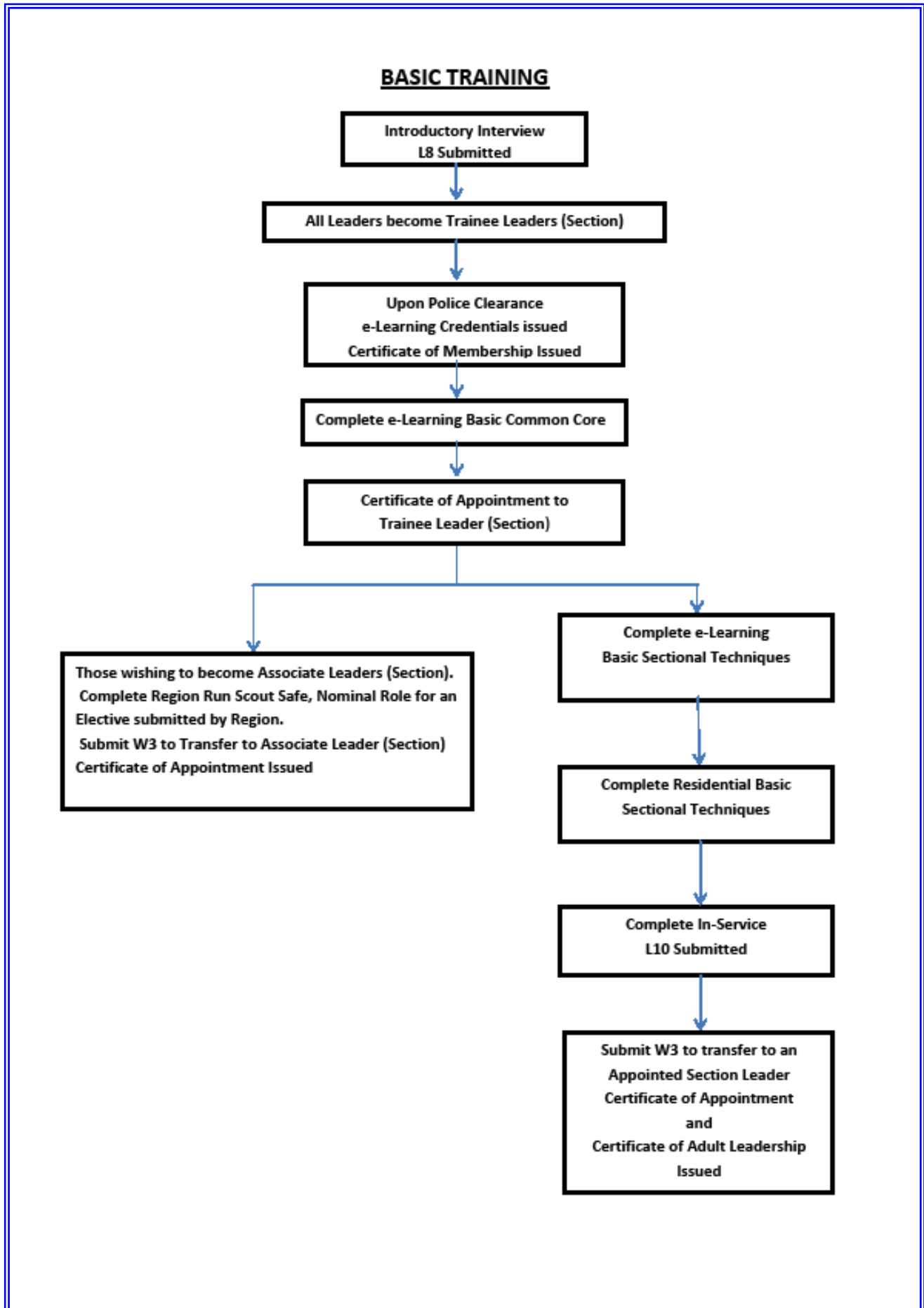
Courses: We have just completed a Cubs BL3 and a Rover BL3 in our Region. Everyone appreciated that they could complete their training. A Venturer and Scout BL3 are being run at Bundilla in June. At the time of writing this there were applications for the Scout BL3 but not the Venturer BL3. The Joey BL3 and the GL and LOA BL3 in July already have applications as does the BL2 in August. Remember that permission has been given for training Leaders to do the BL3 out of order providing they do the BL2 in August

Activity Leaders - we are running a workshop but you need to apply to State Office for the Distance Learning Package. All details are on our website.

Training: To all who are doing Distance Learning and Woodbadges can I just encourage you to finish this year. If you are having difficulties contact your PLA or me and let's get your hard work acknowledged by completing your training asap.

Ann Pounder - Region Commissioner AT&D
training@greaterwestscouts.com.au

A SIMPLE STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO LEADER TRAINING



ROCK RELATED ACTIVITIES

Jamborette: Unfortunately it looks like we won't have an Abseil base at the Jamborette this year. Last year the National Parks stopped us going to our usual spot up the hill because it was in a Nature Reserve. Some people think that the place we went to last year has too many loose rocks. Maybe we can organise another climbing wall this year to make up.

Course Change: Please note that the Top-Rope Climbing Course set down for 26th June has been postponed to 17th July. Sorry !

Coming Activities

Abseil Courses: 9th Aug (theory at Bundilla) and 13th and 14th Aug (practical at Bowen Mt. and Yellow Rock) also 25th Oct (theory) and 29th and 30th Oct.

Venturer Abseil Course: 23rd Aug (theory at Bundilla) and 27th and 28th Aug (practical at Bowen Mt. and Yellow Rock)

Rescue (Recovery) Course: Sunday 19th June at Bowen Mountain.

Caving Course: 17th May (theory at Bundilla) and 21st and 22nd May at Bungonia (Abseil qualification needed).

Venturer Caving Course: 20th Sep (theory at Bundilla) and 24th and 25th Sep at Bungonia.

Scout Abseil Badge Course: Sun 18th Sep (practical), with a theory night in the week before at a location suited to applicants.

Scout Top-Rope Climbing Badge Course: Sun 17th July at Dargans Creek with a theory night during the week before. Also Sunday 11th Sep with a theory night during the week before.

Group Courses can be arranged by contacting Rick.

The complete year's program is on our web site at:

www.beprepared.com.au/gws

A1 forms are on the greaterwestscouts website in the activities calendar section. Applications (on the A1 Form) should be sent to the Region Office two weeks before the course. Two-day and three-day courses cost \$30, one-day trips \$10, Scout Proficiency Badge courses \$10 (one-day) or \$20 (two-day). **No charge for theory nights.**

Rick Jamieson RRA Coordinator

Phone: 4572 1321

Email: rickj15@bigpond.com



*Scout
abseiling in
Serendipity
Canyon.*

*Photo:
Jim Munro*

1ST GREYSTANES SCOUT GROUP

Julie Overton ACSL

1st Greystanes Scout Group were recently awarded a Coles Junior Landcare Grant of \$1000 to build an edible garden and start a compost bin at their Scout Hall.

Coles Merrylands Manager, Mr Daniel Prentice presented the Cubs and Scouts with a starter pack at their hall last week, which included packets of seeds and a sign for the new veggie garden. He congratulated the Group and told them that Coles shared in their excitement and enthusiasm for the garden project.

The grant money will be used to purchase garden edging, a water tank, a compost bin and soil improvers such as manure, compost and mulch.

The Grant has given us access to many contacts in the local community, and we are grateful for all the support we are receiving. We wouldn't have been able to do this project properly without the help of the Coles Junior Landcare grant.

Our Scouts and Cubs can now work towards earning their Landcare and Gardner's Badges, as well as enjoying the fruits/vegetables of their labours!





Leader Support Guide

THE SIGN IN BOOK (WHERE PARENTS/GUARDIANS SIGN IN THEIR CHILDREN ON MEETING NIGHTS).

The sign in book is: **NOT** policy
NOT required
NOT an insurance or OH&S requirement,
as the Scout Hall is not considered a work place under these conditions.

There has been **NO** change in this situation since April 2004 or May 2005 when, acting on legal advice, a directive for Groups to **STOP** using books for parents/guardians to sign in their children, was forwarded to all Regions.

Leaders who still ask parents to sign their children in do so at their own risk and have a potential for legal liability.

WHY IS THERE POTENTIAL FOR LEGAL LIABILITY?

Generally, Scouts only has a Duty of Care towards youth when they attend the Scout Hall/activity for the duration of that meeting/activity – outside these times parents are responsible.

If leaders require parents to "sign the child in" for the meeting, they become responsible and must also require them to "sign the child out" when the meeting concludes. If a parent takes the child without signing them out, there is a Duty of Care requirement for the Section Leader to confirm with the parent that the child has gone with someone approved by that parent. If the particular child were the subject of a Court or Custody Order and/or was "signed out" by a person not approved, the leader could have a problem.

There have been instances in another youth organisation, where parents have alleged during Court proceedings, that the Leader had assumed greater responsibility than normal because the child had been signed over to them. The parents didn't win but the stress and costs for the Leader were considerable.

WHAT IS REQUIRED?

The nominal roll which is normally kept and filled in by the Leaders or Patrol Leaders will suffice to record who was present at the meeting. New Chums, Parent Helpers or non members attending a section meeting should be also recorded as a sign of their attendance on that date.

WORKING BEES

On Hall Working Bee days, those attending **MAY** sign a Working Bee attendance book as proof of participation in the Working Bee. In the event of later report of an accident or injury where an insurance claim might be necessary, it is easy to ascertain who was actually present on the day.

GROUP COUNCIL & GROUP COMMITTEE MEETINGS

At Leader and Parent functions an attendance sheet **MAY** be circulated for adults to sign to show their attendance. This enables the Secretary to keep an accurate log of adults attending.

HOW DO LEADERS MAKE PARENTS COME INTO THE HALL INSTEAD OF DOING THE "DROP AND RUN"?

Do what other leaders do, very successfully, which attracts a lot of positive comment from parents: Prepare a list of all youth members in alphabetical order going down a column on the page.

Have parents come in and write, in the column beside their child's name, the telephone number where they can be quickly contacted, if necessary, during the meeting.

This can help if a child has left something important at home or suddenly becomes ill.



2011 CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW 42nd SEASON

Friday 8th July to Saturday 16th July 2011

Riverside Theatre, Parramatta

Cumberland Gang Show is a revue style show, which means every couple of minutes the scene changes and something new appears – great music, side-aching comedy, spectacular dancing. Like the School's Spectacular, it's got a huge cast of kids and adults, 144 of them, performing for 2 hours in a live theatre with live music. Now add some comedy to the mix and you've got a Cumberland Gang Show which is always a huge buzz to watch! If you have never seen a Cumberland Gang Show before, make this your first, it won't be your last! **The Scouts and Guides of Greater Western Sydney Region would really enjoy your company and your support will be very welcome.**

Come along on a journey as we take a **Getaway** to Hawaii, take learning to a **Literal Level**, dance the flamenco with the **Senoritas of Seville** and ask the age-old question **Why, Why, Why Delilah?** We will have you dancing in the aisles, singing along to the tunes of **Elton John** in our **Crocodile Rock** tribute medley and you'll be laughing as we parody the weekend trip to the **Hardware Store!**

Book now for the early bird rates from \$22.50 to \$25.50 for Adults and from \$13.50 to \$16.50 for Children and Pensioners. There is also a HUGE 20% discount for groups of 20 or more and a family priced ticket, provided you book before 18th June, 2011.

You can book by contacting Lyall Wood 9636 2731 before 18th June or on the web at www.gangshow.asn.au After the 18th June, you can still obtain great tickets through the Riverside Theatre on 8839 3399. This year we are having an 11am and a 3pm matinee on both Saturdays.

***Make it a fun outing with your Mob, Pack, Troop, Unit, Crew, Group, Family and Friends.
We look forward to playing to a packed house for every show!***

FUNDING ASSISTANCE FOR 2012 WILD DAYZ IN TASMANIA

The Tony Balthasar Trust Fund



Attention Leaders and Venturers! Are you a Venturer, or do you know of a Venturer who is motivated and excited about the prospect of the Australian Venture Wild Dayz in 2012, but not sure they will be able to attend?

There are scholarships available.

The NSW Branch Trust Management Committee, with funds provided by The Tony Balthasar Fund, is seeking applicants to attend the next Australian Venture Wild Dayz in Tasmania in January 2012.

To nominate a Venturer for consideration, please register on Scouts NSW website <http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au> to receive an Application Kit from the NSW State Office, or encourage him/her to apply themselves.

CLOSING DATE IS 30TH JUNE 2011.

APPLY TODAY!



**SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
 NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH
 GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION**



MR ALAN OVERTON AM
 Region President

MR NEVILLE HENDERSON
 Region Commissioner

MR GEOFF MCGRATH
 Region Chairman

Invite you to be present at the

64th GWSR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

at

BUNDILLA SCOUT CAMP

6 Baden Powell Place
 WINSTON HILLS

Sunday 26th June 2011 @ 2.30 PM

Please RSVP by Wednesday, 15th June 2011 to:

6 Baden Powell Place
 WINSTON HILLS NSW 2153

Phone: 9639 2488

Fax: 9686 2510 or Email: gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

Tear off and return to 6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills NSW 2153

.....
Name/s.....

***Accepts* the invitation to attend the GWSR AGM**

***Declines* with regret the invitation to attend the GWSR AGM**



SCOUT JOB WEEK IS BACK!

This annual event is a proud Scouting tradition and in 2011 Scouts across NSW will once again show their community spirit by lending a hand in their local communities and undertaking various jobs for a just reward.

Scouts have the opportunity to learn new skills, interact with people in their local neighbourhood and raise funds for their Scout Group. All money raised can be used to update equipment, refurbish Scout Halls and help fund future Scout activities.

Scout Job Week is the time to step up and be an active citizen in your community.

Visit <http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/> to register your interest today!

THE BULLETIN

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 to be made by the **20th day of the month preceding publication** and may be edited for clarity or to fit available print space.

Articles and illustrations from the Bulletin (except for copyright items) may be re-used unaltered by other Scouting publications and credits shown.

**Please send all articles and photos direct to
the Editor, Anne Thompson.**

Thank you.

Email : anne.dlcs@gmail.com