



# The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 393 - NOVEMBER 2011



## REGION FUN DAY ON THE WATER

Sunday 4th December 2011

ANGLE PARK, CHIPPING NORTON LAKE

CLIMBING  
WALL

9.00am till 3.00pm

Only \$5.00 per person  
or \$20.00 for a family

Children under 5 are Free

LIMITED BBQ  
FACILITIES

DRINKS AND  
HOT FOOD  
ON SALE



PFD's SUPPLIED  
TO ALL  
PARTICIPANTS

Please wear uniform, bring a hat, sunscreen, bottle water, towel, swimmers and river shoes (which must be worn while in the water or boats).

YOU WILL NEED TO REGISTER USING THE A1 FORM AVAILABLE FROM OUR WEBSITE.

ALL FORMS AND MONEY DUE AT REGION OFFICE BY 25TH NOVEMBER 2011

Further information is on the A1 Form.

Pre-registration is essential - unfortunately we are unable to accept registrations on the day.

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

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

## FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

The awards dinner was a full house with 257 attending of whom, 62 were recipients. There was also a Medal for Meritorious Conduct presented to Lachlan Hill of 1<sup>st</sup> Blaxland and our Patron Julie Owens assisted with this presentation. Well done Lachlan. As usual the office ladies did a great job in organising such an enjoyable evening and they deserve a huge BRAVO. Thanks to Julie Owens, Alan Overton, Geoff McGrath for their assistance on the night and to Mark Fell, Jeanie Wood, Ann Pounder, Anne Thompson, Ron Brown and Tricia Shaw who were the citation readers and Peter Steime for taking the photos on the night.

I had the pleasure of attending an afternoon tea at Springwood with Col Nicholas and Paul Roach to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of John Clapham as a Scout Leader at 1<sup>st</sup> Springwood. A big BRAVO to John on this fabulous milestone.

Also congratulations to Liz Sobolewski of 1<sup>st</sup> Parramatta for 31 years service to the Group and I look forward to catching up with Liz to pass on my personal congratulations on a job well done.

Along with Phil Heinrich from 1<sup>st</sup> Hawkesbury Group, I attended the RAAF Base Richmond to attend a Community Afternoon Tea as part of a relationship building between the services and the community. A very enjoyable afternoon.

The Region Chairman, Geoff McGrath, was a guest at the opening of the hall at Wilberforce which has been leased to the Hawkesbury Wood turners and he was impressed with the upgrade done to the hall by them. Alan Overton and I were invited to a hall opening at Toongabbie West where St Johns Ambulance have done a magnificent job in renovating a hall which had been vacant for almost a decade.

As from 1st April 2012 the State fees will be charged on quarterly billing and this should enable both parents and Groups to budget better in the future. The new fee structure is \$30 per quarter (or \$120 per annum). The Group Leaders have been advised as to what is required for this to function efficiently and to be of benefit to the Group.

A reminder that we are conducting a Group Leader, Group Manager, Leader in Charge, Group President and Region Team training day on 5th February next year. We have had a number of incidents recently which have caused concern and we really need to get our act into gear.

I had the pleasure to visit Cub Baanya at Bundilla and it was good to catch up with the Leaders and talk to some of the Cub Scouts. The participants seemed to be having a great time and it was good to see happy faces.

As we start to wind down this year I hope your Group is arranging for a family function to thank the parents for their support during the year.

An advanced notice that the Region Office will close on Friday 16th December and will reopen on Tuesday 31st January 2012. Watch the next Bulletin for details of any special opening times during the holiday period.

Carry on Scouting

**Neville Henderson - Region Commissioner**  
Email: [rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au)

### Some scenes from Cub Baanya



## JOEY SCOUT REPORT

At the beginning of October, Winston Hills Joey Scouts and Blaxland Taipan Joey Scouts attended a mob holiday at Kariong Scout Camp. This was a great venue for the **Caveman** themed weekend. Twenty three Joey Scouts attended. Each Joey Scout had a parent and they assisted the Leaders with running games, doing craft and exploring the surrounding bush.

Kariong has a nice big hall and a well equipped kitchen and dining room so that there was plenty of space for all to mix together. The parents, children and Leaders all meshed together so that the experience for the children was very positive.

Congratulations go to Dean Maddock, Helen Sara, Jodie Richards, Greg Boxall and Greg Janson for the preparation that went into making the weekend a success. A big thank you also to Hamish Boxall who came as a Scout Helper and was the message boy between the Leaders. The Joey Scouts do like to interact with youth members from other sections.

Mob holidays are planned by other mobs in the next few weekends and I hope they are as successful. Mob holidays are a good way to introduce Joey Scouts and their parents, to being away from home and ultimately to camping.

A new mob has been started at 1st Greystanes. The children that have come along are all enthusiastic. Hopefully we can get enough parents to volunteer as leaders to make this mob a success.

**Kathy Cuneo - RC Joey Scouts**

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

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

**Mitchell Stein - 1st Sth Penrith**

**Oliver Perrival - 1st Hazelbrook**

**Claire Dunning - 1st Blaxland**

**Mitchell O'Connell - 1st Dural**

**Isabella Bonazza - 1st Grose Vale**

**Joshua Stamminger - 1st Carlingford**

**Zachary Creighton - 1st Ermington**

**Isabelle Singleton - 1st Greystanes**



**1 - 2 - 3 WOOF**

## CUB SCOUT NOTES

**Cub Baanya** took place at Bundilla over the last weekend in October. Cub numbers were down a little on previous years, but still 52 cubs had a great time. My sincere thanks to the following people:

- ★ All the CSL's who gave up their precious weekend to camp with the Cubs.
- ★ The DCSL's, Sandy Knox, Rob Drury, Gabbie Thompson, Ian Lutz, John Aquilina and members of Pinnaroo, who organised and ran a variety of fun bases.
- ★ Scouts who helped the Cubs to camp and learn more about the Patrol system.
- ★ Ayla-Shannyn, Tanaya, Jye and Kyara Sloan, who cheerfully volunteered their services at very short notice!
- ★ Jo Hillyard CSL 1st Blaxland, who set up and ran a fabulous Campfire for us.
- ★ Neville Henderson who took the time to visit us.

I would also like to pay tribute to 'Nurse' Jodie Green, CSL 1st Kings Langley, who did a marvellous job of taking care of all the Cubs and their medications and coped well with two hourly blood sugars, BD Insulin and all the associated highs and lows. Bravo Jodie!

**Grey Wolf Applications** have been arriving very steadily. Just a reminder that 'Tricia Shaw will be away from the 24th November until Christmas. She will accept applications up to the 23rd November - so get any outstanding paperwork completed and in asap.

I have had a number of concerned and very unhappy mothers calling to say that their Cubs are having trouble gaining the Grey Wolf because their Leaders do not have enough time to do the badge examining and in some cases the Cubs are waiting months to get signed off. There is really no excuse for this.

If you are a solo Leader running a busy Pack, then get some parents to help out as badge examiners or ask another section Leader, your GL or Fellowship member to come and help you. You could even attend Seonee and make your fellow Leaders and DLCS aware of your situation - I'm sure they would offer their help.

If you are fortunate enough to have Assistant Leaders, there should be no obstacles put in place to discourage badge examining and there are no legal limits to the number of badges a Cub Scout can achieve. Please give every encouragement to the Cubs under your Leadership and be glad that they want to achieve!

Just one other thing - the resource that the Cub makes for the Pack is to be kept by the CSL and used regularly to instruct in Jungle Book - not returned to the Cub! It would also be nice to see the resource on display in the hall, when the Grey Wolf is being presented.

**Anne Thompson - RC Cub Scouts**

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

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## ROVER REPORT

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### LORD MAYOR'S PICNIC

Once again, NSW Rovers will be assisting with the Annual Lord Mayor's Picnic which is held in the Sydney Botanical Gardens on New Year's Eve. Anyone who is interested in helping at this event should email their name and contact details to [activities@nsw.rovers.com.au](mailto:activities@nsw.rovers.com.au)

### TIMOR-LESTE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Following the success of the project in 2011 at Aimutin Public School, we are looking for a new team of passionate and enthusiastic Rovers, Rotaractors and Rotarians to help improve the health and sanitation for young people at another primary school in Dili, the capital of Timor-Leste. The school will be chosen by Timor-Leste Scouts, Rotarians and members of Rotaract. Team members will work on jobs such as painting or general repairs around the school. They may also help in the construction of toilets at the school which will be funded as a major component of the partnership. Anyone interested in attending should contact Nicky Strachan on 0429 425 619 or visit the Project Webpage at <http://scouts.com.au/main.asp?iStoryID=18463930>.

### HIKE FOR HUNGER

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of November, Brendan Richards represented Greater Western Sydney Rovers at the annual Hike for Hunger. A big congratulations must go to Brendan for his dedication and effort to this cause.

### RESIGNATION OF STATE COMMISSIONER – ROVERS

In early November, the State Commissioner for Rovers, Iain Bain tendered his resignation to the Branch Rover Council President. Fortunately Ian only filled the position for just under eight months so his impact was minimal and the Branch Executive has absorbed his tasks into its day to day operations.

If anyone has an issues or communications that have not been answered by Ian, they can contact the BRC President, Pete Favelle on 0404 169 346, who will take all correspondence for the State Commissioner while a replacement is found. The position for State Commissioner for Rovers is open and information will be sent in the next few days.

**Luke Saunders - PR & Internet Officer**

**GWSR Rover Council**

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

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## VENTURER REPORT

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Congratulations to all of the Venturers that qualified for their **Bushwalking Certificates** last month and a huge thank you to Frank Barr and his team for coordinating the **Region workshop**. Don't forget that all Venturers will need a qualification under the new policy to complete bushwalking activities. We will look at making convenient opportunities to facilitate the issuing of more qualifications again in the future.

Many units are now making plans for their 2012 calendar. **Dragon Skin** applications will open in January after the **Venture** and it is a good idea to start preparing your teams now. In particular, there are lots of Scouts in the Region that will be turning 15 before the event. These Scouts should be attending Unit activities NOW so that they are ready to link and can have their Venturing Skills Award completed before applications close. Any Scout Leader or Venturer Leader with questions about the linking or **Try Venturing** processes should contact their District Leader or myself for further advice.

Another event scheduled for 2012 is the **Air Venture Flying Camp**. This is an excellent activity and I highly encourage anyone interested in aviation to attend. Applications are now open and more information can be found on the following page.

Our first Region meeting for next year will commence at 7:30pm on Monday 20 February. All Units must have representation from adult Leaders and their Unit Council members. All other Venturers are also invited to attend. Please make sure that this date is included in your calendars now.

**Aaron Wardle - RC Venturer Scouts**

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

**Mobile: 0421 076 497**

### THE SCOUT SHOP

85 Wentworth Street  
Port Kembla NSW 2505

Ph: 4274 1193 Fax: 4274 6334

### OPENING HOURS

Mon. Tue. Wed: 9:00am - 4:30pm  
Thursday: 10:00am - 4:30pm  
Friday: 9:00am - 4:30pm  
Saturday: 9:00am - 12:00pm

# Venturers Learn to Fly



## AIR VENTURE FLYING CAMP

Sat 14th – Sat 21st April 2012

Open to NSW Venturers, the camp is run annually by the Scouts NSW Air Activities Centre at Camden Airport.

This unique 7 day, live-in, intensive flying training course includes :

- 12 Hours Practical flying training in modern Cessna 172 aircraft,
- Theory briefings and lessons,
- Text books and Log Book,
- Accommodation
- All meals

Whether you want to launch your career in the aviation industry, or just learn to fly for fun as the ultimate activity in your scouting life, the Air Venture Flying Camp could be for you.

### DID YOU KNOW ?

- The Scouts NSW Air Activities Centre is fully accredited by CASA as a flying school and ;
- Our team of flying instructors are all professionally qualified to teach you to fly a Cessna, right up to your Commercial Pilots Licence.
- Many former Venturers are now pilots with airlines such as Qantas, Jetstar, Cathay Pacific. Others have gone on to successful careers in aviation such as Air Traffic Controllers and aircraft engineers and more !

For more information email [flyscouts@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:flyscouts@nsw.scouts.com.au)



### NSW Scout Air Activities Centre

Camden Airport  
PO Box 922 Narellan NSW 2567  
[flyscouts@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:flyscouts@nsw.scouts.com.au)  
Bookings (02) 4655 3465  
[www.nsw.scouts.com.au/air/](http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/air/)

## **REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM**

With the weather now warming up - what a great time of year to get out and do stuff in the great outdoors.

As I write this, I am aware there are Scouts and Venturers doing various hikes in the Blue Mountains; there are both Cubs and Scouts doing a day hike in the Royal National Park; there is also a canoe course being run by the Water Activities Team at Putney and not to be outdone, the Rock Team are also busy up at Bowen Mountain, with an abseiling course. To me that all adds up to a very healthy and vibrant Region. The fact that we have so many very dedicated Leaders, eager to get out and share their skills with others. Leaders who give up their time to ensure that the youth in our charge do not end up as part of the "**cottonwool kid**" generation!

Of course it's not just our youth that have all the fun. A number of us Leaders from GWSR recently had the opportunity to do an overnight canoe trip up at Wisemans Ferry, to attain our Expedition Endorsement. Clocking up over 40km of paddling in conditions which varied from fine sunny weather to an early morning pea soup fog. As part of the course we even did a night paddle, which was really exciting.



*Photo courtesy of Mark Fell*

I know about all these activities, because I am fortunate enough to get a copy of the AI Forms.

### **ACTIVITY NOTIFICATION FORM (A1)**

Let's talk briefly about the **AI Form** and in particular Part 3. That's the Activity Rescue Information (pages 3 and 4), the bit you fill out if you are doing a more '**adventurous**' type activity. The overnight camp or hike; the canoeing trip or perhaps a day bike hike in the mountains etc. (A trip to the local pool or a navigation activity around your local streets would generally not require a Part 3).

**It is a requirement the RC Activities gets a copy of the complete A1, whenever Part 3 is filled out.** While I appreciate you may not have all the participants names, (which can come later), it's the other stuff I am

looking at. **As a rule, the A1 should come to me via the Group Leader**, although I do get many directly from the actual Activity Leader.

The main reason I like to see the A1 - is to ensure the activity itself is appropriate for the participants; that there will be suitably qualified person/s present and that the form has been correctly filled out. (Do it properly and you are legally protected by the Association). Then in the unlikely event of a mishap, we have all the information on hand to implement further action if required.

I do try to acknowledge all A1's sent through to me. Sometimes I may ask a question or request further information. Please do not take that as a criticism, but look at it subtle '**training**,' so as Leaders you can continue to improve and do it better next time. Of course if you get stuck, please contact me. I am here to help.

### **FIRST AID QUALIFICATIONS**

There has been some recent confusion in regard to First Aid qualifications and in particular **Remote First Aid**. Prior to 2011, when a person updated their Remote First Aid (RFA) it would automatically update their Senior First Aid (SFA). **This is not the case now.**

RFA is a standalone course, and has a pre-requisite of a SFA qualification. In other words you need to have SFA qualifications before you can do a RFA Course. **Once your SFA qualification expires, so does your RFA qualification.** As I mentioned in an earlier Bulletin, can I encourage all Leaders to hold and maintain SFA qualifications. If you renew your qualification before your certificate expires, you only need to do the one day refresher course.

Don't forget our **Water Fun Day** coming up **Sunday 4th December at Chipping Norton Lake**. Come along for the day and enjoy some fun on the water with canoeing, sailing and maybe even some power boats for a real thrill. For that extra thrill we also will have a climbing wall on site to enjoy. Details including the A1 Forms can be found on the GWSR website.

As we approach the end of the year keep enjoying your Scouting and always remember, "**have adventurous fun and be activity safe!**"

**Mark Fell (DINGO) - RC Activities**

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



**APPOINTMENTS**

**CRUMP, Laura**

TL(J) 1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Joey Mob

**WHITTAKER, Lisa**

TL(J) 1st Kellyville Joey Mob

**JARVIS, Deborah**

TL(S) 1st Glossodia Scout Troop

**TRANSFERS**

**GLEESON, Joseph**

Fr AL(G) 1st Blaxland Scout Group  
To ASL 1st Blaxland Scout Troop (Erskine)

**GRAHAM, Brett**

Fr ASL 1st South Penrith Scout Troop  
To DSL Penrith City District

**LOCKMAN, Valerie**

Fr AJSL 1st Kings Langley Joey Mob  
To DJSL Blacktown District

**MCDONALD, Ian**

Fr AL(G) 1st Blaxland Scout Group  
To ASL 1st Blaxland Scout Troop (Dunphy)

**RAE, Debbie**

Fr AL(G) 1st Glossodia Scout Group  
To GL 1st Glossodia Scout Group

**SHAW, Lorraine**

Fr DCSL Blacktown District  
To District Adviser Blacktown District

**GLEESON, Joseph**

Fr AL(G) 1st Blaxland Scout Group  
To ASL 1st Blaxland Scout Troop (Erskine)

**LESSLIE, Shaun**

Fr ASL 1st Kellyville Scout Troop  
To VSL 1st Kellyville Venturer Unit

**WATTS, Caroline**

Fr CSL 1st Oakville Cub Pack  
To JSL 1st Oakville Joey Mob

**WHITE, Sidney**

Fr ACSL 1st St Marys Cub Pack  
To ACSL 1st Cambridge Park Cub Pack (Koala)

**REGISTRATIONS**

1st Kellyville Venturer Unit  
1st Oakville Joey Mob

**ROCK RELATED ACTIVITIES**

**New Instructor !** Great news ! We are appointing Stuart Cowen ("KT") from 1<sup>st</sup> Balcombe Heights as an Abseil Instructor (Level 3 on the new system). Stuart was a great help on the recent Abseil Course and we welcome him very warmly to the team.

**Coming Activities**

**Caving Trip:** 19th and 20th November at Wee Jasper.

**Venturer Canyon Course:** 26th and 27th November – Juggler, Grand and Serendipity Canyons, camping at Mt. Wilson on the Saturday night.

**Canyon Trip:** Sunday 4th December at River Caves and Deep Pass Canyons – no abseils or swims – suitable for Scouts.

Special courses for individual groups can be arranged by contacting Rick.

**The complete program for 2011/2012**  
**is on our web site**  
[www.beprepared.com.au/gws](http://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](mailto:rickj15@bigpond.com)**



*Scout Hayden Apps jumping in Deep Pass Canyon on a GWSR trip.*

# SCOUT SAILING COURSE

Lake Chipping Norton, 5th to 9th October 2011

During the second week of the Term 3 school holidays we were given the opportunity to take part in a 5 day sailing course. Armed with our swimmers, water shoes, food and water, our mums drove us from Bowen Mountain and North Richmond to Lake Chipping Norton. It took us nearly an hour to get there!

We knew we would be sailing but we weren't sure of what other things we would be doing. Each day we had to find out what the weather would be like and how strong the wind would be. On the first day we were introduced to the Leaders and other Scouts participating in the course.

Over the five day course we learnt many new skills. We were tested on the parts of a sailing boat, practised rigging and de-rigging boats and the important parts of water safety. The highlight for both of us was the day we did a capsized drill out on the lake. We were nervous at first but the Leaders gave us good instructions and we were able to stay calm and we managed to get the boat upright again. That was great to know - especially when our boat capsized when we were sailing on our own in a group with no instructors onboard! We were able to get ourselves upright with the help of the older Scouts. We had to bail out the boat and we were off for another adventure.

We would definitely recommend the sailing course to other Scouts. We had a lot of fun and we are looking forward to the water fun day that is coming up on December 4th. We are also looking forward to meeting up with the Leaders and going sailing again.

Thank you to Tracey, Keith and the other Leaders and Instructors who gave up five days of their time to teach us how to sail. We had a lot of fun!

**Isabella Bonazza and Laura Grisedale**  
**1st Grose Vale Scouts**



# Holroyd District Cubs 'Spy' Camp

Cubs and Leaders from 1<sup>st</sup> Granville, 1<sup>st</sup> Greystanes, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Merrylands, 3<sup>rd</sup> Merrylands, 1<sup>st</sup> Pendle Hill and 1<sup>st</sup> Westmead spent a weekend at **Spy Camp**, training and completing their Codes and Signals badges as a part of the JOTA/JOTI weekend on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

The annual Holroyd District Cub Camp this year was held at 1<sup>st</sup> Greystanes Scout Hall and was attended by 37 Cubs and 12 Leaders. After completing various *Spy Training activities*, the cubs walked down to Central Gardens, Merrylands to build spy towers (giant Jenga) and participate in other covert operations spying on native vegetation and animals.

After dinner the JOTA/JOTI activities came alive and were followed up by a very lively campfire run by Akela from 1st Westmead (Aka Jeff Hook). More activities followed early the next morning, including *bug hunts* and Cubs cooking their own sausages on open fires, which proved a great success.

We ended the camp by asking members of each Cub Pack in Holroyd District to plant some watermelon seeds in our recently made Coles Junior Landcare veggie gardens. Every Cub had eaten lettuce, picked fresh from the garden as a part of their lunchtime salad rolls, which was a real winner.

A huge One, two, three Woof goes to all the Leaders who planned and executed a very successful camp. Lord Baden Powell, our Chief Spy, would have been proud of this one!

**Julie Overton ACSL**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Greystanes Cub Pack**



This just goes to prove that you don't have to travel miles away for a Pack Holiday - you can have just as much fun in your own Backyard!



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## **BUSHWALKING NOTES**

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Many thanks to all involved with the bushwalking workshop held at Bundilla on 23rd October last. It was all fairly chaotic but, thanks to heaps of patience and goodwill, all came together with around 200 qualifications issued on the day! The First Aid component of the requirements caused some problems and we are still trying to sort them out. A Senior First Aid qualification (or equivalent) is required for all Level 2 awards, for those who have turned 15. Anyone who qualified for Level 2, except for First Aid, can upgrade by advising me of their certificate details, when available.

There is no formal system for recording the new Adventurous Activities yet. It has all been dictated by Branch but the finer details are still to be advised. In the meantime, the bushwalking records will be kept on our very own GWSR database. Reports will be produced by name, Group, level etc and details can be obtained from myself or our very helpful Region Office staff.

**For those people that were unable to attend the workshop, the rollout continues. I have been asked a number of times how people can now qualify. Options include:**

- Email or post completed worksheets to me (details below).
- Come to a workshop at a local Group to complete the requirements. Myself and Level 3 bushwalking qualified Leaders have already been involved in processing Troop/Unit meeting nights.
- Deal directly with a GWS Level 3 qualified bushwalker. See list below and make sure the worksheets are forwarded to me, for recording details on our database.

Another FAQ at the moment is, **“How do I become qualified as a Level 3?”**. One requirement is to read the document that tells you – a knowledge of the Adventurous Activities Policy is one of the requirements. The NSW Scout website has the details at: [http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/images/stories/Bushwalking\\_Activities.pdf](http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/images/stories/Bushwalking_Activities.pdf)

We currently have 9 Level 3 qualification holders and 4 more in the approval process. Level 3 certificates are endorsed by our Region Commissioner (Activities). In addition to taking novices on bushwalks they can process Level 1 and 2 qualifications. These still need to be forwarded to the GWS Bushwalking Coordinator for validation.

**Current Level 3 qualified GWS Leaders are:**

Simon Edwards VSL 1 <sup>st</sup> Dural	Phillip Gane AVSL 1 <sup>st</sup> Emu Plains	Adam McLean RL AT&D GWSR
Brian Roberts DA Hills District	Matthew Vella AVSL 1 <sup>st</sup> Kings Langley	Aaron Wardle RC (Venturers) GWSR
Duncan Watts SL 1 <sup>st</sup> Oakville	Adam Wheat AVL 1 <sup>st</sup> Hazelbrook	Gary Wilkinson SL 1 <sup>st</sup> Hazelbrook

Despite October being a busy month, I actually managed to squeeze in a BUSHWALK. I tagged on to a party of 1<sup>st</sup> Hazelbrook/1<sup>st</sup> Erskine Park Venturers walking from Katoomba to Jenolan Caves. Not the standard Six Foot Track but via Jenolan River and Hellgate Canyon. This is very different to the standard SFT and very much a wilderness and remote experience. The trip took five days and for the middle three days, we did not see anyone else. We have collectively, over 500 photos and GPS marks of the obstacles we encountered in the canyon. Have a few items for mention this month so will try and fit some photos and notes in the December Bulletin.

**RATSKIN 2011** was a great weekend. It also proved to be a great learning experience navigation wise. The location (Felnash SF) spanned two map zones and made for some interesting GPS readings. GWSR was by far the best represented Region both in quantity and quality. We scored 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place and had heaps of fun in the process. It was a little disappointing to see so much organising effort and youth involvement wasted with lack of Leader participation. In an effort to improve **Ratskin 2012 (15th and 16th September 2012)**, the winning team has decided to break up and each member lead a team of novices. Anyone out there that would like to join me in a fun team for a weekend of entertainment and...

- has little to no navigation skills - but willing to be ‘guided’
- can walk ‘a few’ kilometers two days running
- likes miming/singing/acting etc in front of youthful strangers
- is happy to camp beside a vehicle overnight
- is willing to spend \$15 entry fee and
- possesses (most importantly) a sense of humor **Please let me know!**



**Frank Barr - GWSR Bushwalking Coordinator**  
**Phone: 4758 6472 Mobile: 0409 128 310**  
**Email: [data\\_scsi@msn.com.au](mailto:data_scsi@msn.com.au)**



## FIRST AIDER SAVES MAN'S LIFE

Taylor Page is currently a Leader in training in the Cub Section with 2nd Baulkham Hills Scout Group. Taylor has been in Scouts for almost 14 years officially, but has been coming to Scout meetings since she was three - accompanying her mum, Jennie, when she first started at 1st Baulkham Hills. Taylor is also a member of St John Ambulance Australia at Hills Division.

Taylor attended this year's City to Surf. A participant collapsed near her post, just east of the Kings Cross Tunnel. Taylor and her colleagues performed CPR on the gentleman. Taylor defibrillated him five times - the fifth time with success, reviving the gentleman who was then taken to St Vincent's Hospital and who has since undergone surgery and made a full recovery.

Jennie, Taylor and Ben Scott (a Leader in training in the Venturer Section at 1st Winston Hills and also a member of St John Ambulance), were the First Aid Team at the 2009 GWSR Jamborette at Bents Basin. Ben and Taylor were both instrumental in the extrication from the bush, of a young Scout from Murray Farm who had suffered suspected spinal injuries following a fall.

They hiked in with their gear and treated the Scout, administering pain relief, then assisted with carrying him out, along with the RFS and NSW Ambulance. He was subsequently airlifted out. It was a highlight of the Jamborette! At that time, Taylor and Ben were both with the St John Ambulance cadet Division as well as having just started with Rovers.

**Jennie Page CSL - 2nd Baulkham Hills Superintendent, St John Ambulance Hills Division**



Ben, Taylor and her proud mum, Jennie outside the First Aid post at the 2011 GWSR Jamborette at Bents Basin.

**HILLS SHIRE Times**  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2011 hillsshiretimes.com.au PHONE 9634 2599 60c incl. GST

Trades and services HOW TO SKIP THE HASSLE WITH SKIP BINS PAGE 77

Spoil dad YOUR FATHER'S DAY LEFTOUT INSIDE

Property OUTDOOR APPEAL AT BELLA VISTA THE HILLS' BIGGEST PROPERTY GUIDE 'TODAY'

**Council applies for RTA funds**  
Bella Vista Hills Shire Council is applying for funding under the RTA's Black Spot Program for Bents Basin, Kellyville. Hills Highway police have met the Hills Shire Council and the RTA to discuss how to make Green Rd, Smeeths Rd, Drive and Huggitt Rd in Kellyville safer. Several safety systems are under review. It follows the death of Catherine Taylor earlier this month. Page 7

**Rail link drilling tests start in Oct**  
SOUTH WEST LINE: TEST drilling to determine how long the North West Link will take to complete will begin in October. Soil and rock samples will be taken from 100 boreholes along the route and sent for detailed laboratory analysis and testing. International consultancy firm Geotechnics Pty Ltd was awarded the geotechnical drilling tender last week and is on track for the work. Page 5

**Police hunt for phone pervert**  
CASTLE HILLS: POLICE have made a public appeal for information after video recordings of women in change rooms were found on a mobile phone at a Castle Hill shopping centre. Footage has been released of a man police would like to speak with about the matter. Sgt Philip Pregel said the device was hidden in a police van July 3. He said police recovered footage of undressed women. Page 6

**A bumper issue with all the news**  
HILLS: IT'S another record-breaking edition of the Hills Shire Times this week with 184 pages of news and information relevant to the Hills community. This includes an 80-page Property Liftout - your most comprehensive guide to Hills' real estate. We also have a 22-page Liftout guide to Father's Day which gives you some great gift ideas for your favourite man. Read it all about it on Page 2

**Hearty heroes**  
When a City2Surf runner collapsed at Taylor Page's feet, she wasted no time in calling St John Ambulance colleagues Bilal Rifai and Ken Schneider and the trio saved a life. Full story, Page 3

Wife-based St John Ambulance volunteers Taylor Page (20), Ken Schneider (left) and Bilal Rifai (18) all smiling heroes. Picture: PETER KELLY

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## RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### JOTA/JOTI around GWSR

Karl Humphreys and I camped with **Penrith District** at **Badgerys Creek**. Karl supervised the radios in the back room, while I organised the Treasure Hunt with a metal detector. Other bases included: Maps, Compass and GPS, Fake wound make-up followed by 1<sup>st</sup> Aid for that injury, Electrical emergency scenario, Crack the Code, Blind Sheep guiding, Connecting a Radio setup together, and traditional Puzzles and Games. The Cubs visited on Sunday, sampled bases run by the Scouts and made Slime.



Hunting for Treasure

### *I toured around the Region on Sunday:*

**Northmead** had a radio and computers running, as well as a table of electrical things to investigate. A large cargo net slung up in the centre of the hall, neatly contained Cubs who tumbled around over head.

Mapping  
Compass  
&  
GPS



**Winston Hills** had had a quiet weekend with the computers on Intranet, and had cleared up by the time I arrived. The Guides next door had their big day on Saturday, and I spoke to their radio couple as they took down the antennae.

**st Kings Langley** still had their computers operating and the white board attested to a large number of countries contacted. Operators from the Blue Mts Amateur Radio Club were there on Saturday and had experimented with a hand held antennae satellite communication.



Karl's Radio  
set up

Kitchen  
Duties !



**Glossodia:** Blue Mountains operators, Alf and (another) Karl, were at Glossodia, together with a Scout Leader operator. He also had a tracking antenna for satellite communications, which had worked very well. Outside I saw the Bungee Cord Maze, Morse Code and Semaphore base, Speed Ball Radar and Granny's Kitchen Plate break. Inside the main hall there was a soldering base, switches and light wire together, Video Car race up on stage and other bases which had been packed away.



Radio set up



Morse Code base



Throw Speed Radar

#### THE RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM

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Karl Humphreys	ets0@bigpond.com
Murray Irwin	9868 5559

## AUSSIE HELPERS: CHRISTMAS FOR AUSSIE FARMERS APPEAL



Aussie Helpers was formed by Brian Egan. Through a combination of droughts and personal depression, Brian lost his farm and fell on hard times. With the help of friends he escaped this and formed Aussie Helpers to try and support other battling farmers going through similar tough times.

For the last two years 1st South Penrith has been collecting Christmas presents to be distributed by Aussie Helpers.

While the weather has been a bit kinder to them this year, there are still a lot of farmers suffering from depression and financial stresses of the previous droughts and flooding rains. The depression can effect entire families including the wives and children. **Let's make this a special Christmas and put some smiles back on their faces.**

If your Group is interested in setting up a tree this year to collect presents for our farming families please contact Brian Zarth (Magpie) from 1st South Penrith Scout Group on 0403 781 446 or email [joeys@southpenrith.org.au](mailto:joeys@southpenrith.org.au)

You need to setup the tree as early as possible so that they can be collected early enough to distribute them to the bush. See <http://www.aussiehelpers.org.au> for more information on Aussie Helpers.

**Brian Zarth (Magpie) JSL**  
**1st South Penrith Scout Group**  
<http://www.southpenrith.org.au>  
**Mobile: 0403 781 446**

# My Katoomba to Jenolan Caves Hiking Journey

On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October I arrived at Katoomba train Station at 8am to meet up with the rest of my hiking party. Little did I know what wonderful experiences lay ahead of me! The party consisted of two leaders, Frank Barr and Adam Wheat who is a leader of Hazelbrook Venturers and three of his Venturers - John Bray, Scott Robertson and Daniel Squires.

We left the train station and started walking along the road and it started to rain. Then we walked along the Six Foot Track for a while, where we decided to take a detour to the Megalong Meat Shop at Megalong Valley. Here we had the opportunity to sample some delicious steak and have some bread dipped in various olive oils. We also purchased some steaks for our dinner. We went off the Six Foot Track and started walking along the Jenolan River past the Suspension Bridge until we reached a clearing that had a large enough space for five tents. After walking a long 25 km on the first day, we were relieved to sit and chill around our warm campfire to end the night.

For the next two days we continued following the Cox River which consisted mainly of river walking and the occasional carrying the rucksack above your head, which thankfully the boys helped me with. Luckily we had great weather to enhance the serene surroundings. At night we camped in clearings that sometimes were not always flat but our exhausted bodies were glad to sleep and we had a fire both nights to warm us up.

On Wednesday we walked through Hellgate Canyon which was strenuous at times and very challenging but the scenery including waterfalls and rivers was great. The place where the two rivers meet was called *The Race* and the water was rushing extremely fast through this area. There were many big rocks that we had to walk along or slide on when it was at a 45 degree angle. Then we finished Hellgate Canyon and set up our last camp with our campfire. In the morning it was raining while we packed up camp and it continued for the rest of the day as we headed off to Jenolan Caves. The whole 70 km hike was an amazing adventure; we had leeches sucking our blood, plenty of cuts on our legs, river walking and bushwalking! We arrived at Jenolan Caves at 3.30pm on Thursday 6th October and we relaxed by sharing some hot chips after our long trek. I am now looking forward to taking my own Venturer Unit on this great hiking adventure.

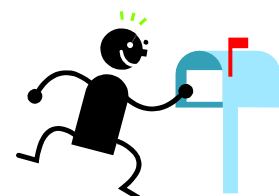
By Rachel Antala  
1<sup>st</sup> Erskine Park Venturer Unit



## PEN PALS WANTED

The National Pen Pal Coordinator has many people looking for Pen Pals in Australia. If you or any of your youth members would like to link with an overseas Scout, please contact;

Kelly Johnson - National Pen Pal Coordinator  
Scouts Australia  
PO Box 103  
MYPOLONGA SA 5254  
Email: [kelmark@mypolonga.com.au](mailto:kelmark@mypolonga.com.au)





We are looking for  
**SCOUTS, VENTURERS, ROVERS and LEADERS**  
to audition for our **2012** season of



 Cumberland  
**Gang Show**



'Being in a Gang Show is loads of fun, it's very cool & exciting  
and we guarantee that you will make friends for life!  
Would you like to perform on stage, act, dance and sing? ... then you should join Gang Show!

## ARE YOU?

- ★ at least 10 years of age as of 1st July 2012
- ★ a Cub, Scout, Venturer, Rover or Leader
- ★ excited by the thought of performing on a stage
- ★ a fan of Dancing with the Stars, The X Factor, Australia's Got Talent or Australian Idol and thought that you'd like to give that a go one day.

## THEN YOU SHOULD JOIN CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW!

### How to join Cumberland Gang Show....

- ★ First, you need to register for an audition time on our **ONE and ONLY** audition day. **Saturday 3rd December 2011** at Pennant Hills Scout Camp.
- ★ It's easy, just click on to our website - [www.gangshow.asn.au](http://www.gangshow.asn.au)  
Click on the **AUDITION NOW** link on the main page and follow the steps to register.
- ★ Once done, sit back and wait for a letter to arrive in the post with your audition time and a whole lot more information about audition day. Oh, you also have **NOTHING** to worry about, we make the whole audition process lots of fun!

**THE PRODUCTION TEAM LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU!**

**PS. BRING YOUR SMILES!!**

Check out our BEHIND THE SCENES  
YouTube video from our 2011 show!



# 1ST GRANVILLE SCOUT GROUP

in Holroyd District, recently celebrated 100 years of continuous Scouting.

Congratulations and best wishes for the next 100 years!

*Photos courtesy Bruce Roberts CSL 1st Granville*



Piper Riordan Drake  
Venturer Scout  
1st Springwood  
led the parade, which followed four  
vintage cars carrying some of the  
most senior past members.



Centenary plaque unveiled by  
Scout Troy Langborne and the oldest  
ex-Scout present Mr Bill Lucas (83)  
who joined in 1935!



The Centenary Banner  
will hang proudly in our hall.



MP's Laurie Ferguson, Barbara Perry,  
Parramatta Councillor, Glen Elmore  
and Branch Chairman, Alan Overton  
also took part in the street parade.



The Centenary  
cake with  
matching  
badge design.



Current and past Scouts pose for a Group photo in the  
traditional position for photos from 1925 onwards.



Current uniformed members and Mr Alan Overton.




**AUSTRALIAN CONTINGENT**  
**BOY SCOUTS of AMERICA NATIONAL JAMBOREE**  
**JULY 2013**

Boys and Girls aged 14 - 20 years

Visit [www.bsa2013.scouts.com.au](http://www.bsa2013.scouts.com.au) for more information.



## THE BULLETIN

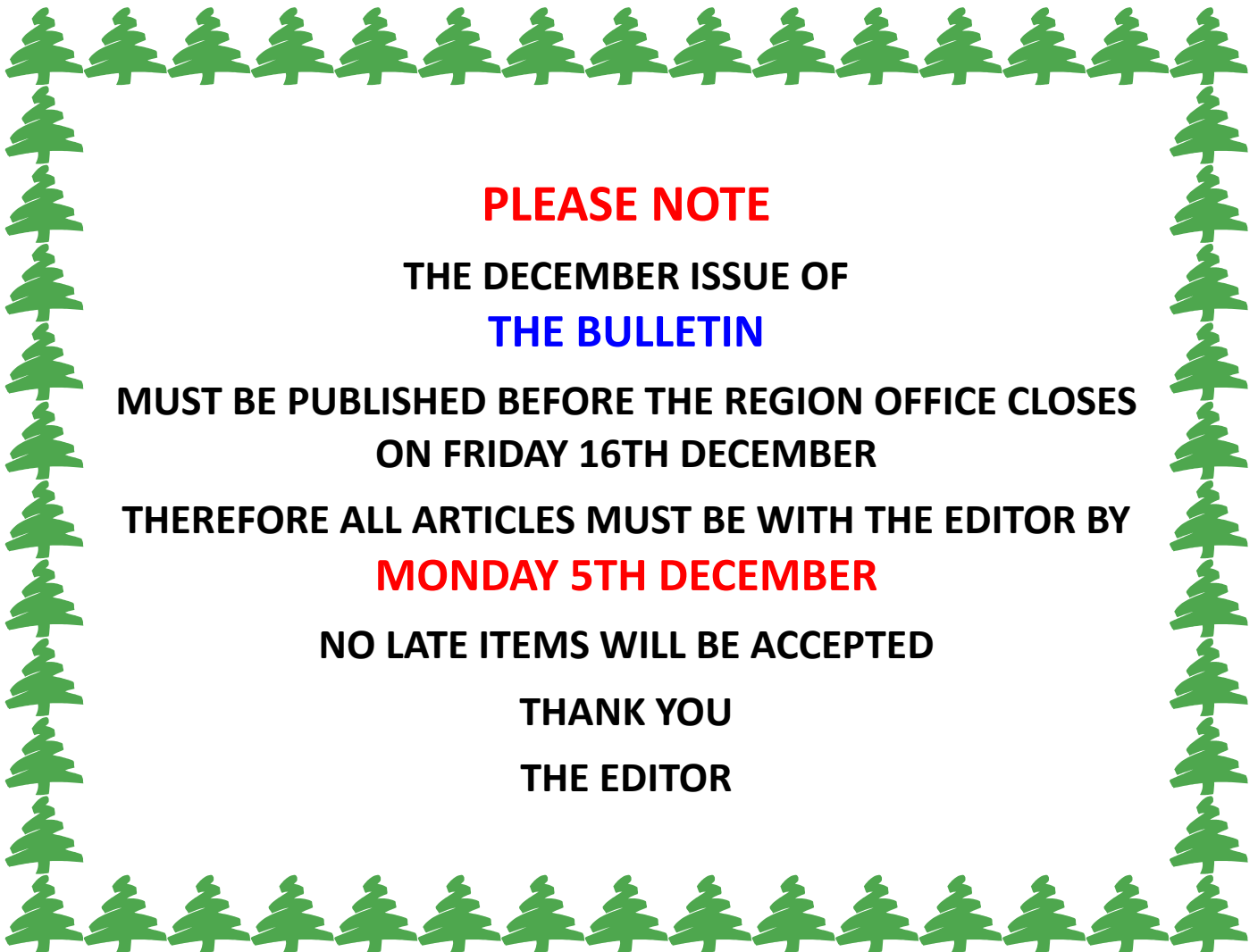
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**Please send all articles and photos direct to the Editor, Anne Thompson.**

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### PLEASE NOTE

THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF  
THE BULLETIN

MUST BE PUBLISHED BEFORE THE REGION OFFICE CLOSSES  
ON FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER

THEREFORE ALL ARTICLES MUST BE WITH THE EDITOR BY  
**MONDAY 5TH DECEMBER**

NO LATE ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED

THANK YOU

THE EDITOR