



# The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 394 - DECEMBER 2011



WISHING YOU ALL THE JOYS OF THE  
FESTIVE SEASON AND A HAPPY, HEALTHY  
AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

**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

I had the pleasure to write to three Venturers from 1<sup>st</sup> Carlingford, congratulating them on being awarded the **Queens Scout Award**. A big WELL DONE to **Daniel Mort, Nicola Rammers and Kristin Bartlett** and their Venturer Leaders for this excellent achievement.

Another pleasant task was to go through the logs for our Region Webmaster, Matthew Thompson for his BP Award and I wish him all the best with the BP process. Will keep you updated in future Bulletins.

A special thank you to two special Leaders Sandra Parker and Lorraine Shaw who have stepped down from their current roles in Blacktown District and will be assisting me with some special projects. Congratulations to David Stopps (District Commissioner) and Alison Sullivan (District Leader Cub Scouts) who have stepped up to fill the vacated roles. I had the pleasure to attend a thank you dinner for Sandra and Lorraine and had a very enjoyable evening.

A reminder that from 1st April 2012 the State fees will be charged on quarterly billing and this should assist both parents and Groups to budget better in the future. The new fee structure is \$30.00 per quarter (or \$120.00 per annum). It is now time for Groups to start sending out accounts to the parents for the fees.

As the end of the financial year is 31 December 2011 it is time for the Treasurers to be thinking about the audit of the Group books and during Group Christmas parties it is a good time to approach parents for positions on the Group Committee.

A reminder that we are conducting a Mandatory Training Day for all Group Leaders, Group Managers, Group Presidents and Leaders in Charge on 5th February 2012. The Region Team are currently putting together the agenda for the day. Please mark this day in your calendar.

The Region Chairman, Geoff McGrath and myself attended a Christmas function arranged by our Patron, Julie Owens and it was an enjoyable evening. Thanks for the invite Julie.

The Adult Recognition Awards list has been sent out to Group Leaders and the nomination form for Silver Koala, Silver Emu, Silver Kangaroo and Distinguished Service Awards is on our website. Citations are not to exceed **1500 characters** and must be sent by email to Region Office by 31st January 2012. No late nominations or those not sent by email will not be accepted. Email address for nominations is [gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au).

Please note that the Region Office will close on Friday 16th December and will reopen on Tuesday 31st January 2012. There will be a post box on the wall of

the brick building where any mail can be placed whilst the Office is closed. It will be cleared weekly.

Sincere Congratulations to Alan Overton, who was the recipient of a Volunteer Award at the recent Julie Owens Volunteer presentation night. Bravo Alan.

On behalf of my family, the Region Executive and Region Team I wish you and your family a Peaceful Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year. Please be careful as I wish to see you all back in 2012 after a well earned rest.

Until then ..... Carry on scouting.

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



### Matt Thompson's Booting Ceremony



Our Region Webmaster, Matt Thompson gets 'Booted' out of 1st/2nd Merrylands Rover Crew after having reached his 26th Birthday during a ceremony held at Bundilla Scout Camp - 11th December 2011

## JOEY SCOUT REPORT

Congratulations to all the Joey Scouts who have received their Promise Challenge badges. These awards have been presented since August and it is very pleasing to note that 10 mobs are represented.

I would like to wish each and everyone of you a very Happy Christmas, a safe and restful holiday break and all the best for 2012.

**Kathy Cuneo - RC Joey Scouts**

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



***Congratulations to these Joey Scouts who have earned their Promise Challenge Badge***

**Lachlan Rec - 1st North Rocks**

**William Jones - 1st Kellyville**

**Charlotte Owen - 1st Blaxland *Taipans***

**James Ryan - 1st Ermington**

**Amanda Borazio - 1st Kings Langley**

**Angus Katen - 1st Winston Hills**

**Lachlan Watts - 1st Oakville**

**Mitchell Pagett - 2nd Castle Hill**

**Cassidy Garland - 1st Quakers Hill-Doonside**

**Georgia Green - 1st Quakers Hill-Doonside**

**Jordan Bugeja - 1st Balcombe Heights**

**Alex Quan - 2nd Castle Hill**

**HOP HOP HOP**

**1st Greystanes Cub Scouts**

**Archy Fowler and Isabelle Singleton proudly display their Grey Wolf awards.**



## CUB SCOUT NOTES

Another year is almost over and many of the Cub Packs have held their final Pack meeting, finishing the year with Christmas parties, outings or staging their annual Play for parents and friends.

Congratulations to all the Cub Scout Leaders in the Region who have done a fabulous job throughout the year, working tirelessly to deliver fun and informative programs for their Cub Scouts. It is not easy, balancing family, work and Scouting and sometimes it seems to be a thankless task - but believe me your efforts are very much appreciated.

Thank you to the many Groups who have welcomed me into their halls to present Grey Wolf Awards - it is a great opportunity for me to meet many of the Leaders (put faces to names) and catch up with the Cubs I have met at camps, Cuboree and Courses. Without your dedication, support and encouragement, those Cubs would never have achieved this prestigious Award.

Thank you also to my wonderful District Cub Scout Leaders, who do a sterling job taking care of the Leaders within their Districts, organising District events and supporting Region events. Thank you also to my Region Advisers, Shirley and Charlene and members of Pinnaroo, who are always there when needed and ready to lend a hand. Thank you for your support and friendship. It has been a challenge taking on this new role, but you have all helped to make it easier!

My final thanks must go to 'Tricia Shaw, who did a wonderful job as our RC Cub Scouts and who is now the State Commissioner Cub Scouts. She is certainly a tough act to follow, but she is always available to offer advice and lend a hand, for which I am most grateful.

Merry Christmas to you and your families. I hope you manage to have a bit of rest during the holiday season and return refreshed in 2012 to do it all over again!

**Anne Thompson - RC Cub Scouts**

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



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

**Abigail Ewings, Joel Lummis, Timothy Marks**  
*1st Ermington*

**Paul Charbel, Ricky Newell**  
*3rd Merrylands*

**Daniel Apap, Bailey Neal**  
*1st South Penrith*

**Amy Priest - 1st Cambridge Park**  
**William Wade - 1st/2nd Blacktown**  
**Ewan Huthnance - 1st Springwood**

**1 - 2 - 3 - WOOF**

## VENTURER REPORT

Congratulations to 1st North Mt Druitt Venturer Scout Unit on winning the NSW Venturer Scout competition **Operation Dragnet 2011** – in a very close race! The team succeeded in avoiding dozens of seeker teams through the Vulcan State Forest over 36 hours to cross the finish line with all lives intact. This was a massive effort, with teams having to navigate over challenging terrain, often at night, in thick pine forest, and careful to avoid attracting unwanted attention. Line honours were awarded to a mixed team from South Coast and Tablelands Region, crossing the finish line only 12 seconds after midday Sunday!

A huge thank you to the scores of adult staff for their

PLACE	TEAM NAME/UNIT	TIME	LIVES LOST
1ST	Finally Trying 1st Nth Mt Druitt, GWS	+0:00:45	0
2ND	Nepean Bushrangers Nepean, GWS	+0:00:48	0
3RD	Auscom Various, SC&T	+0:00:12	1
4TH	Field Soldiers 1st Emu Plains, GWS	+0:00:57	1
5TH	Stripper Pants 1st Ermington, GWS	+0:01:43	1
6TH	Valley Ops West PH Valley, GWS	+0:00:49	2
7TH	Neon Dusk 1st Kings Langley, GWS	+0:03:03	2
8TH	Pagum de Querius 1st Oakville, GWS	+0:12:28	2
9TH	Stealthy Operations Incorporated 1st Blaxland, GWS	+0:18:20	2
10TH	League of /b/ 1st Westmead, GWS	+0:05:38	3
11TH	I Wish I Knew This Team's Name 1st Erskine Park, GWS	+0:12:05	3

sleepless efforts during the weekend to maintain safety points in the forest and provide continuous radio communication for the event - without your dedication and support this activity would never have been able to exist. Indeed, Phil Crawford, Branch Commissioner (Venturer Scouts), visited the event and was very impressed with the dedication and support demonstrated by all of the event staff. The seeker

team of leaders from 1st Glossodia were recognised for the highest number of lives caught during the event. Well done!

A special thank you goes to **Steve Wallace** for coordinating the entire activity, having spent over 18 months of detailed preparations and hundreds of hours of organisation to ensure this activity would be a huge success.

**Waratah** returns in 2012 to the theme **Knights of Camelot** at Camp Coutts on the weekend of 9-11 November 2012. Applications will be open to all Scouts and Venturers aged 14 to 18. More information and application forms will be available early in the new year.

Our newest Unit has opened at **1st Kellyville** earlier this term and they have already attended Operation Dragnet as their first major event since registration. Whilst unlucky not to retain their last life in the final hours, it was certainly a tremendous effort to have entered a team in the competition and we look forward to seeing the Unit at many future events.

**The Region Venturer Council** meeting for February has been rescheduled as a full weekend camp with all Venturer Leaders and Unit Council members in attendance. This is to provide necessary training for the Venturer section as well as an additional opportunity for issuing of Bushwalking qualifications. A1 forms and an information sheet have been sent to all Units. Please ensure that these are returned to the Region Office by 31st January 2012.

I am pleased to report that Rob Slater, formerly of 2nd Baulkham Hills Venturer Scout Unit, has been appointed to the **Contingent Team for the 12th New Zealand Venture**, to be held in Riverton, South Island, New Zealand in January 2013. Gary Steinhardt of Victoria is the Australian Contingent Leader. Rob will be conducting promotions for the event over the next few months.

Finally, my personal thanks to Kim and Maggi in the Region Office for all their assistance this year in administering our events, and thank you to each and every Leader, Rover and Supporter that has made our activities possible. I certainly hope that you have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and I shall look forward to seeing everyone again for another busy year ahead. Good luck also to all of the Venturers, Rovers and Leaders attending the Australian Venture in Tasmania during the holidays. The Region wish you all the very best of excitement on your journey.

**Aaron Wardle - RC Venturer Scouts**  
[venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au)  
**Mobile: 0421 076 497**



# 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/)

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## REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM

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There is a saying in Scouts; actually I think it is the motto "**BE PREPARED**"

So how many were prepared for our Water Fun Day? Who brought woolly jackets or even a rain coat? I think we'll just call it our Weather Fun Day. We had it all. Nice warm sunny weather; cool and cloudy; a thunderstorm; cold and overcast; southerly winds; another thunderstorm; and heavy rain. And yes it did finish up pretty cold and miserable. Welcome to summer!

A big thank you to all who braved the conditions on the day. There was actually a lot of fun to be had, despite the weather.

Also a big thank you to the Rock Team, led by Fred Kaltenbacher, who ran the climbing wall which was certainly a big hit. Special thanks to David Stopps who transported the climbing wall. In doing so Dave earned his Level 2 in 4W Driving with Oversize Trailer Obstacle Course. (Would have earned his Level 3 if he was driving a Toyota)! Thanks also to David Mort who brought along his boat for power boat rides, and some scouts were even lucky enough to have a ride on the "tube"....and I confess, I did not bring a rain coat or a jacket either, so got pretty cold as well!

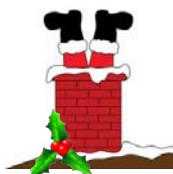
It may be getting to the end of the year, but there has been a lot of action happening around the Region with numerous camps and hikes. Our Activities Team has also been busy with canoe courses, a caving weekend at Wee Jasper and a Rescue Recovery Course up at Bowen Mountain.

As this year comes to a close, may I take this opportunity to thank all those people on the Activities Team for their dedication and effort over the last 12 months. It has certainly been my pleasure to be part of such a dynamic team.

As a Leader why not make 2012 a year where you learn one new skill. It may be simply a First Aid course, or something a little more adventurous like abseiling or caving, and for the real adrenalin junkies, what about getting involved with Gang Show!

While there is a great feeling of achievement in learning a new skill, there is a far greater feeling of satisfaction in sharing that skill with our youth, not to mention the fun aspect of it all.

May you all have a wonderful Christmas and an exciting New Year...and in everything you do: "**Have adventurous FUN, and be activity SAFE!**"



**Mark Fell (DINGO) – RC Activities**  
Email: [activities@greaterwetscouts.com.au](mailto:activities@greaterwetscouts.com.au)

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## ROCK RELATED ACTIVITIES

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### COMING ACTIVITIES

**Canyon Trip:** Sunday 12th February – Wolgan View and Glow-worm Tunnel Canyons. No abseils or swims – suitable for Scouts.

**Abseil Course:** Tuesday 14th (theory) and 18th and 19th February (Practical at Bowen Mtn. and Yellow Rock). Also 1st, 5th and 6th May.

**Rescue (Recovery) Course:** Sunday 26th February. Also 17th June.

**Canyon Course:** 3rd and 4th March. Juggler and Grand Canyons, camp at Mt. Wilson, then Serendipity Canyon.

**Caving Course:** Wednesday 14th (theory) and 17th and 18th March (practical at Bungonia).

**Scout Abseil Badge Course:** Sunday 25th March with theory on a suitable night during the week before.

**Scout Top-Rope Climbing Course:** Sunday 24th June with theory during the week before.

**Caving Trip:** 19th and 20th May (location to be announced).

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

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

A1 forms are on the greaterwetscouts 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 Abseiling at Bowen Mountain on a recent Abseil Badge Course.

# Region Water Fun Day

The weather was all over the place. It started off sunny and warm, then the wind picked up and it cooled off, then a thunder storm went past close by to us, then after more sun it poured with rain !!!

There were plenty of canoes, kayaks, sail boats, and a speed boat, as well as the rock climbing wall which was a real hit. We all had such a fun time.

A huge thank you goes to all the organisers of the event.

**BRAVO O O**

**Julie Overton (Kim)  
1st Greystanes Scout Group**



## TRAINING REPORT

As this is my last report for the year there are a couple of administration things that Groups need to look at:

- Are your Leaders appointed to run Activities?
- A Leader who has completed training - whether it be the old BL1, BL2 ,BL3 and Inservice or the new e learning modules, a Basic sectional Techniques course for their section and Inservice, cannot be appointed until the W3 is submitted. This will take them from Trainee Leader or Associate Leader to a Section Leader i.e. JSL, AJSL, CSL, ACSL, SL, ASL, VSL, AVSL.
- A W3 is also the form the Crew Leader uses for appointment after they complete their training requirements.

I really hope this clears things up and enables Groups to submit the correct paperwork for their Leader appointments - which then allows Leaders to run activities as per our Policies.

### Workshop Reminder:

To all GL's, LIC's and Group Managers please remember the workshop in February. Details are on the website. Book in at our Region Office If you forget to book in, just turn up on the day. This day is for you to be better informed in managing your Group. If there is a particular topic or area you want covered let us know via the training or RC's email.

Have a peaceful and relaxing holiday and I'll see you in the New Year.



**Ann Pounder RC AT&D**

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



Daniel Mort, Kristin Bartlett and Nicola Rammers prepare to cut their beautifully decorated cake during the Queen Scout Award Presentation held at 1st Carlingford Scout Hall on 10th December.



*Congratulations and best wishes to these Leaders who have gained their Wood Badges*

**DAVID ZARTH - 1<sup>ST</sup> SOUTH PENRITH**

Joey Scout Wood Badge

**SHARON ZARTH - 1<sup>ST</sup> SOUTH PENRITH**

Joey Scout Wood Badge

**TERESA MORT - 1<sup>ST</sup> CARLINGFORD**

Venturer Scout Wood Badge

**DAVID MORT - 1<sup>ST</sup> CARLINGFORD**

Venturer Scout Wood Badge

**GABBY THOMPSON - 1<sup>ST</sup> KELLYVILLE**

Cub Scout Wood Badge

**DAVID ROCHE - 1<sup>ST</sup> GLOSSODIA**

Scout Wood Badge

*Bravo - well done!*



*Congratulations and Best Wishes to these Venturer Scouts who recently received their Queen Scout Award.*

Daniel Mort

Kristin Bartlett

Nicola Rammers

from

1st Carlingford Venturer Unit

**BRAVO**

# Hawkesbury District Pack Holiday with a difference!

Our venue was Ingleside Scout Camp and we travelled there by public transport. First by train, which was a new experience for several of the Cubs! Next part was on the Parramatta River Cat, with all the Cubs having time in the Captain's Bridge area - a first for all the Cubs and Leaders.

We spent time at Circular Quay and saw the buskers. We then walked over the Sydney Harbour Bridge and stopped for lunch at Milsons Point.

We had planned to catch a train to Gordon but there were no trains, so we caught a bus to Wynyard and then another to Gordon.

Our final part of the trip was another bus to Ingleside where our cooks were waiting to transport us to camp. The Cubs enjoyed their new experiences. The journey home was certainly a little less exciting in their Parents' cars!

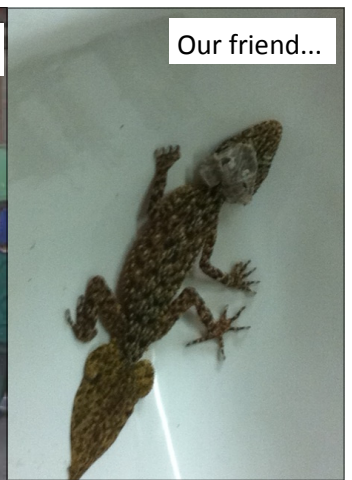
**Phyllis McAlpine - Region Adviser  
Hawkesbury District**



Waiting for the River Cat



Our Cook



Our friend...



On the bridge of the River Cat



At camp



At Circular Quay with the Aboriginal group



Scouts own by 1st Glossodia

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## **BUSHWALKING NOTES**

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I am currently still buried in paperwork from our October 23rd workshop. My ambition is to catch up over the Christmas/New Year period and have it all sorted out for the start of the 2012 Scout Year.

We are still ahead of Branch that have not yet implemented any way to record the new Bushwalking qualifications on the MIS. Until then, details will be recorded on an internal Access Database within GWS Region and our helpful Region staff will be able to answer queries regarding qualifications.

I have been asked a number of times how people can qualify under the new system, who were unable to attend the October workshop. Any Level 3 qualified Bushwalker can issue Level 1 and 2 qualifications.

A list of GWSR Level 3 qualified Leaders was published in last month's Bulletin. Some Troops/Unit/Groups are also organising qualification nights where Level 3's are available to qualify those attending.

Another option is to submit completed worksheets direct to (and blanks obtainable from) me to the email address below. Please remember those over 14 years of age MUST have a current Senior First Aid qualification for Level 2 or higher.

I have submitted for publication an email written by Ken Broderick. Ken is a very experienced bushwalker and relates his experience of running a 'bushwalk' for a church group recently. Ken laments (in a very humorous and entertaining way) his attempt at running a youth activity with unqualified adult helpers. It is well worth a read and might explain to some why Leadership training is so important in Scouting!

And finally....some bushwalking. As mentioned last month, I actually managed a five day outing in October and promised a few photos for this Bulletin. The walk was detailed in an article last month, written by Rachel from 1<sup>st</sup> Erskine Park Venturers. Briefly the trip was from Katoomba to Jenolan Caves by following the Jenolan River. Under the new qualification, it requires a Level 2 with Wilderness endorsement qualification to lead but is well worth the effort for those interested in areas away from the beaten track. Collectively, we tallied over 500 photos so I would like to share some of them with you and end my last Bulletin article for 2011 by wishing everyone a safe and Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

**Frank Barr - GWSR Bushwalking Coordinator**

**Phone: 4758 6472 Mobile: 0409 128 310**

**Email: [data\\_scsi@msn.com.au](mailto:data_scsi@msn.com.au)**

**67 Railway Parade**

**HAZELBROOK NSW 2779**



## **An email from Ken Brodrick....**

My sister in law is a member of a certain church. The church has a youth group attached to it and I have been at church services where they have encouraged their youth members to attend their youth group by saying, "they do the things that SCOUTS do"!

My sister in law asked me to help out on a church camp she was running at a Christian Conference Centre in Winmalee due to my Scout Bushwalking qualifications. There is a marked bushwalking track around the centre that is marked every 10 metres or so with white paint on rocks and trees. The bushwalk is a major selling point the centre uses to get groups to use their facility. It is well maintained and is simply a path through the bush. A map of the walk is provided by the centre.

I decided, to make it a bit more exciting for the church kids, to run a treasure hunt similar to ones we have run at our group camps. My sister in law and I walked the track a few weeks before and planned the 1.5km walk, including a good spot for a rest and drink. The problems in this case were not with the kids, but with the leaders. The leaders were the same people who are in charge of the kids at their meeting nights.

The alarm bells started to ring with me right at the beginning of the walk. I had already gone out by myself and put out the notes at the various track junctions and was going out with the leaders to position them at the least obvious track junctions to ensure the kids stayed on the agreed path. The more obvious track junctions were marked with notes.

As we walked down the track the leaders were commenting on how rough the track was and they were wondering how the kids were possibly going to do the walk! I left a leader at each track junction and went on to the place where we going to have our break. I found a bull ants nest there and decided that we had better find another place. As the first group of kids moved in to the area I asked the leader to move them on up the track. The leader stopped about 30 metres further up the track which unknown to us, was also the site of a bull ants nest. One kid was bitten and the others began to stamp to keep the ants away, making the ants angrier. The leader did not move the kids on but just looked at them screaming and dancing. I ran up and told them to move on which they did.

Further up there was a track junction with another leader. I thought they would have stopped there but they kept on going after the leader at the track junction told them what direction to take. About 200 metres further on there was another track junction where I had put a note telling them which direction to go. We had run out of leaders and as this track junction

was a T, off to the right there was no leader there to point them in the right direction. Even if they did go wrong it was still on a marked track marked with paint spots. It just meant they would come out on a road about 1KM from the centre and have walked 2.2 km instead of 1.5km.

Two groups of kids had joined up together, so there were about 15 kids in a group when they got to this track junction. The first group were reading the note when one of the leaders saw a leech on a child's leg and screamed out. This caused panic amongst the kids who began to jump and dance around again. The first kid dropped the note as the whole group ran up the track. When the kid dropped the note, he dropped it on the main track instead of the T intersection, and as a result the three following groups went up the T intersection instead of the main track!

I realised and asked the last two leaders to follow the main track and I would catch the groups who went wrong and ensure they were OK. Luckily one of the leaders with this group kept a level head. But the panic did not finish there. One of these leaders ran back to camp and began yelling how they needed to get the buses out fast to go get the kids who were "lost".

We sat at the end of White Cross Rd and then the buses arrived and took us back to camp. The panic had rubbed off on to the kids. Many people (kids and leaders) were walking around saying "how lucky they were". One leader was getting names for her incident report. An incident report?! for a bull ant bite and a leech? With the accusing looks I began to get from the leaders, I went home. I would hate to think how these leaders would react if there was some kind of problem at their meeting nights.

I have been involved in Scouts Australia now for 13 years. Occasionally activities don't go to plan. I have NEVER seen Scout, Cub or Joey leaders panic in the way these leaders did. We have always just taken stock and then made the best of it and the youth members have still come away saying they had fun. The only thing that I can put this fact down to is the fact that Scout leaders are so well trained.

I know it's hard giving up a weekend for training and I have also been an offender in asking why we have to go through all this training when other groups don't do the training we do. Well, I wish to publically apologise for this and encourage new Leaders to get in and participate in all training that Scouts Australia can give you. I have seen first hand the result of sending untrained leaders out on an activity!

**Ken Brodrick (Kooleen)**  
**1st Blaxland Scout Troop Dunphy**

## **HOLROYD DISTRICT SCOUTS** **'LOVE YOUR LEFTOVERS COOKBOOK'**

Recently three Holroyd Scout Groups were presented with copies of the Holroyd City Council's Community Cookbook by Holroyd Mayor, Councillor Yvette Whitfield, to acknowledge their input.

Drawings, recipes and photos that Joeys, Cubs and Leaders from 1<sup>st</sup> Greystanes, 3<sup>rd</sup> Merrylands, and 1<sup>st</sup> Pendle Hill submitted, were included in the book.

The community cookbook '*Love Your Leftovers*' has been developed as part of Council's commitment to the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage's 'Love Food Hate Waste' program, designed to minimise food waste in NSW households.

The majority of recipes in the book were sourced from members of the community who, along with their parents before them, survived periods of food scarcity. They respected food and were creative in developing ways to ensure that it was never wasted.

This is a scrapbook of their recipes, memories and ideas that is designed to inspire everyone to also 'Love Your Leftovers'.

**Julie Overton (Kim)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Greystanes Scout Group**  
**Visit our Website:**

<http://www.1stgreystanes.webs.com/>



## RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### BOOKING OUR TEAM FOR 2012

NOW is the time to plan to have us visit your Group next year. There are still some weeks clear in May and June.

Two sessions per night with a maximum of 20 per session e.g. Joeys followed by Cubs, or Pack 1 followed by Pack 2. Cost \$2 per youth or \$50, whichever is the greater.

We will give preference to Groups who give us reasonable numbers and Sections to work with, so involve a neighboring Group or organise a 'Bring a friend night,' to boost the numbers.

Our aim is to see as many of the youth in GWSR as you can muster each year, so help us out so that we can help you by providing interesting activities for more of the kids.

PS. We are willing to see Venturers any time on weekends, in smaller groups down to 10.

### RECENT NIGHTS

It was back to Oakville in October for a **Chemistry** night for their Scouts. I thought the night might be difficult when my propane burner failed and I didn't have a spare. The Oakville Leaders produced a small cooker and got us back on track. The flower bleaching is usually problematic, but the Poppy petals worked perfectly AND the colour returned when reoxygenated with Peroxide. So Poppy petals it is from now on.

November was a **Water Rocket** month at 1st/2nd Blacktown and Quakers Hill, and a pink sunset night with Erskine Park Joeys and Cubs.

This month was also the first night for Lillian's new **Heart** program. First Kings Langley Scouts was the venue and we were a little handicapped by one of our bases not being available. The Scouts joined in and tried dissecting the lamb's heart and monitoring their own heart beats on the oscilloscope. A rousing game involving the Scouts lying foot to foot on the floor and pairs hopping over them when their heart parts were called, ended the night well.

I find Scout age group a little hard (and variable) to program for, but we still have a few ideas to try, maybe involving an old fashioned Cub skit. Next to receive the Heart program will be Ermington Joeys and Cubs this month, and I think Lillian's ideas will work well there.



1st Kings Langley  
Heart night



Chemistry night  
at 1st Oakville

Sparklers at  
1st Oakville



Evening Rockets  
at  
1st Erskine Park

### 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



## APPOINTMENTS LIST 21/11/2011 TO 5/12/2011

### APPOINTMENTS

**HARRIS, Eric**

ASL 2nd Baulkham Hills Scout Troop

**FOYE, Cameron**

TL (V) 1st Sth Penrith Venturer Unit (Nepean)

### TRANSFERS

**INGLETON, Colin**

Fr ASL 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Troop

To GL 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Group

**PARKER, Sandra**

Fr DC Blacktown District

To Region Adviser GWSR

**STOPPS, David**

Fr GL 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Group

To DC Blacktown District

**FRANCIS, Tim**

Fr VSL 1st/2nd Merrylands Venturer Unit

To RA (Resp) 1st/2nd Merrylands Rover Crew

**GIBIAN, Michael**

Fr AL (G) 1st Carlingford Scout Group

To ASL 1st Carlingford Scout Troop (Bartoo)

**HORNSTRA, Tristan**

Fr AVSL 1st/2nd Merrylands Venturer Unit

To VSL 1st/2nd Merrylands Venturer Unit

**SHERWIN, Fiona**

Fr AL (G) 1st Sth Penrith Scout Group

To ASL 1st Sth Penrith Scout Troop

### RESIGNATIONS

**DAVIS, Karen** JSL 1st St Marys Joey Mob

**GARSKE, Bradley** AJSL 1st St Marys Joey Mob

**JOHNSTONE, Malcolm** GL 1st St Marys Scout Group

**NELSON, Kenneth** AL (G) 1st St Marys Scout Group

**NELSON, Leonie** AL (G) 1st St Marys Scout Group

**CHAN, Marian** AL (G) 1st Carlingford Scout Group

### TRAINEE LEADER NOT PROCEEDING

**NELSON, Garry** T/L (JS) 1st St Marys Joey Mob



## REGION OFFICE

A few reminders from Kim and Maggi in the office:

- ★ Any copies of certificates sent to us to add to member records **MUST** be certified. We cannot accept uncertified copies.
- ★ The Region Office address is **6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills, NSW 2153**. Please make certain that all correspondence is correctly addressed and please Leaders, let parents know this if they are sending paperwork directly to us.

**The people at 6 Bundilla Avenue in Winston Hills are getting really fed up with receiving our mail!**



Many thanks for all your support during the year. We wish you a Merry Christmas and hope that 2012 is good to you.

**Maggi Roynon and Kim Harris**  
*Office Assistants*



I am pleased to announce that registrations for AJ2013 are now open!

To lodge an application, please proceed to the link below and follow the instructions on the page. There are links from the Jamboree website <http://aj2013.scouts.com.au> to the registration system as well. There is a short summary of the information a user requires in order to apply as well as a few guides to assist the user through the registration process. Clicking on the buttons at the bottom of the page takes the user on to the registration system itself.

If you require any more information please don't hesitate to call or e-mail the Support Services team. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your assistance in getting this system up and running.

**Ryan Sodziak**  
Director Support Services  
23rd Australian Jamboree AJ2013  
Maryborough, Queensland

Phone: [+61 7 3870 2291](tel:+61738702291) | Fax: [+61 7 3870 2291](tel:+61738702291)

Email: [support@aj2013.scouts.com.au](mailto:support@aj2013.scouts.com.au)

Website: <http://aj2013.scouts.com.au/>

For information relevant to **NSW Contingent** this link will take you there: <http://aj2013.patroltent.com/>.



## K-MART WISHING TREE APPEAL

Hi everybody, I am Amanda Wade from the 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Troop and I am promoting the K-Mart Wishing Tree Appeal. The K-Mart Wishing Tree Appeal is a charity which helps under privileged families at Christmas time.

By purchasing a gift from K-Mart, you are helping a family member in need of support. Unfortunately, many families do not wake up to presents under their Christmas tree. We on the other hand are lucky and more fortunate.

Earlier this month, I attended the official opening ceremony of the K-Mart Wishing Tree Appeal, with a Cub Scout and Leader, which was held at Blacktown K-Mart. A speech was given by Mayor, Alan Pendleton, the head service management for the Salvation Army as well as the community and services of Blacktown.

Last year, the Appeal raised about 464,000 gifts. This year, the Appeal is aiming to collect more than 470,000 gifts nationally with the help of the Salvation Army and the community.

To participate in the Appeal, simply place a gift under the Christmas Wishing Tree, located in any K-Mart Store. Take a gift tag from the tree to identify the age and gender of the gift recipient and place it under the tree with your gift. In all registers of K-Mart there is also a donation box that can be contributed to. The money is then converted into a Gift card for the recipient to choose their own Christmas gift.

With the support of the Scouts and the community, we could make a difference and help many families have a great Christmas this year. So please don't forget to place a gift under the K-Mart Wishing Tree this year.



## CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW



### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST MARKETING TEAM

Gang Show is looking for some help in promoting their show. If you are interested in being on the marketing team for 2012, or could help out in any of the following areas, please let us know:

General Public marketing (newspapers, radio)

eMarketing (online, webpage, Facebook, twitter, YouTube, emails)

Scouting or Guiding marketing (visiting Groups, Scouting publications, Guiding publications)

Cast marketing (Gangway, at rehearsals, hints/tips to sell 30 tickets)

Graphic Design (print, online media)

If you have any expertise in marketing through work, or as a student doing a marketing course, looking for an opportunity to test out your skills, please get in touch. Everyone's help is welcome but we are particularly looking for parents, friends or gang members over 18 yrs.

*If you're interested, please email the Producer*

**Rob Lang**

**Producer/Director**

**Email: [rob@gangshow.asn.au](mailto:rob@gangshow.asn.au)**

### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SCOUTERS TEAM

Gang Show is looking for Scout or Guide Leaders who would like to be a part of the Scouters Team for 2012 and assist at rehearsals, camps and at the theatre. If you can relate well with children then this is the job for you.

*If you're interested, please send me an email.*

**Jenny Wardell**

**Human Resources Director**

**Email: [hr@gangshow.asn.au](mailto:hr@gangshow.asn.au)**

# The Australian Scout Environment Charter

- Caring for plants and animals, protecting and conserving threatened species.
- Protecting the environment by disposing of litter thoughtfully to preserve the naturalness and beauty of the landscape.
- Conserving our non-renewable resources for the benefit of future generations.
- Striving to reduce, reuse, recycle and recover all of our resources.
- Assisting in the reduction of impacts that change the Earth's natural processes.
- Taking part in activities and projects that encourage education through nature and the environment, learning about nature and environment, and action for nature and environment.
- Enjoying nature in all its beauty and encouraging others to do the same.
- Thinking globally and acting locally.

## Seeking Expressions of Interest for the GWSR CHAMPION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- ★ Are you a Warrior for the Environment?
- ★ Do you Champion a sustainable lifestyle for all?
- ★ Do you believe in minimising the impact left by mankind on the planet?

If you can answer yes, with passion, to any or all of the above statements, you have what we need!

The GWSR Youth Environment Team are looking for an Environmental Champion to lead them and assist with writing programs and to take the lead on projects suitable to educate all levels of Scouting about supporting, sustaining and caring for the Environment in GWS Region.

Applicants would be expected to liaise with the GWS Youth Environment Team Members to assist them moving forward to achieve outcomes and objectives set at the annual State Youth Environment Conference.

If you know that you have what it takes and are prepared to work with young people aged 12 to 26, please send your Expression of Interest and a brief outline of your experience in championing the environmental cause to:

**Environment Champion Application**  
**PO Box 6**  
**ERMINGTON NSW 1700**



**APPLICATIONS CLOSE 31ST DECEMBER 2011**

# African Drumming

I would like to offer more Scouts, the fantastic experience of African drumming! I taught the Cherrybrook Cubs on October 27th and they absolutely loved it. There was also a five year old Joey Scout present who was very hesitant in the beginning and said he didn't want to drum – but he absolutely came to love it as you can see from the photograph (the transformation was amazing).

The way it worked - Karen Watson invited me over. I came along with another teacher and we brought along 30 drums. Each child had received a letter to say it was on and if they wanted to participate to bring along the \$20 fee on the night. Twenty Cubs plus the Leaders took part in the drumming. We drummed for one hour and some of the children had real aptitude. I offered 10% back to the Group to go towards their fund raising.

African drumming is one of the only ways I can think of where a group of children can make music together in such a short amount of time – with our guidance. Could you imagine trying to get the same result with a clarinet or a guitar? It gives energy and upliftment and a real sense of connection throughout the group. One hour was just the right amount of time and allowed time for the Opening and Closing ceremonies.

I am an experienced teacher of African drumming, I have been teaching adults and children and people with disabilities for around 5 years now. I also run corporate classes, drum circles at parties, community events and performances at parties. More recently I have brought drumming into nursing homes and they love it – a spark of life comes into them and Rowland village Galston have asked me to bring the drumming into the nursing home section as a form of therapy for them – or simply to give them a lift.

***Please contact me for further details or to make a booking. I would be happy to meet with you. I look forward to hearing from you.***

**Regards**

**Michele Marie**

**Mobile: 0417 141 262**

**Email: [Michele@drum4fun.com.au](mailto:Michele@drum4fun.com.au)**

**Website: [www.drum4fun.com.au](http://www.drum4fun.com.au)**



## SCOUT LOGO EMBROIDERY

**EmbroidMe** at NorWest has the Scout logo on file and doesn't charge set up fees to have casual Scout polo shirts embroidered with the Scout Logo and Scout Group name underneath.

The shirts are good quality and cost approx \$23 per shirt including embroidery (other embroidery places charge at least \$90 for a set up cost)!

**Contact: EmbroidMe - Norwest  
H148/32 Lexington Drive  
Bella Vista NSW 2153  
Phone: 9629 6655**



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

## ROVER REPORT

### ROVER AND VENTURER PAINTBALL DAY

On Saturday 26th November, around 25 Rovers and Venturers participated in a cross section Paintball Event at Action Paintball, Rouse Hill. This event was organised to help promote Rovers within our Region to Venturers who are, or will soon be at the age where they can move to Venturers. Many thanks must go to Samuel Boyd for organising and running this event.

### BOOTINGS

Over the last month, GWSR Rovers have lost two well known Rovers. Brendan Richards and Matt Thompson have both been 'Booted' from Rovers, having attained the ripe old age of 26! Brendan has been a tireless promoter of Rovers within the Region and is seen at almost every Rover Moot or opportunity to Promote Rovers. He has also been a long term member of Cumberland Gang Show. I am sure we will miss the enthusiasm and effort that Brendan has put in to his Roving Career.

Many of you will know Matt Thompson in his role as Assistant Musical Director for Cumberland Gang Show and as the Region Webmaster for GWSR. Matt has been a long-serving member of 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Merrylands Rover Crew and will be greatly missed for all the enthusiasm he put into every aspect of his Roving Career.

### 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 Years 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)

### RESIGNATION OF STATE COMMISSIONER – ROVERS

In early November, the State Commissioner for Rovers, Iain Bain tendered his resignation to the Branch Rover Council President.

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 interested parties should contact the BRC President.

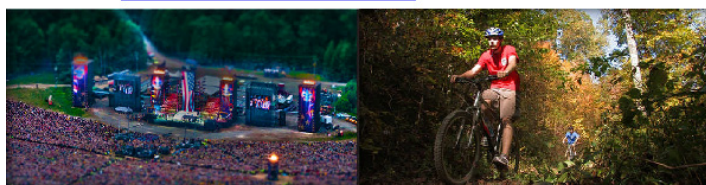
Luke Saunders - PR & Internet Officer  
GWSR Rover Council  
Email: [pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au](mailto:pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au)



**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.



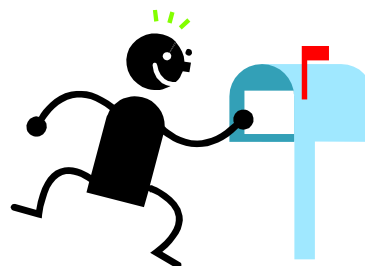
## PEN PALS WANTED

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)



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

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

**Email : [anne.dlcs@gmail.com](mailto:anne.dlcs@gmail.com) or [cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au)**



Thank you to all the regular contributors, especially for sending your reports in on time and a very special thank you to all those people who took the time to send me photos and stories of their Scouting events. This is what makes ***The Bulletin*** interesting and informative and gives other people ideas they can use in their own Group. I look forward to receiving lots of articles in 2012!

**Please note there is no January edition of The Bulletin.**

**Please submit all articles by January 31st for the February edition.**

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Anne (Editor)**