

# The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 413 - September 2013



## SCOUTS AUSTRALIA NSW - GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION

**Mr. Neville Henderson**

*Region Commissioner*

*and*

**Mr. Alan Overton**

*Region President*

*and*

**Mr. Geoff McGrath**

*Region Chairman*

*Cordially invite you to attend the annual  
Adult Recognition Awards Presentation Dinner*

*on*

*Thursday, 7th November 2013*

*6.30pm for 7.00pm start*

*at*

**Toongabbie Sports Club**

**12 Station Street, Toongabbie**

*\$40 per person includes three course meal*

➤ *Full and correct uniform and decorations to be worn please.*

***R.S.V.P. to Region Office by 25th October 2013***

**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

When this Bulletin goes to press I am in Mackay, North Queensland and would like to draw to your attention to something Scouting I came across on a recent Saturday.

My wife and I went to the small town of Sarina, some 35 kilometers south of Mackay and noticed in a local park, a display being run by the Scouts to attract new members to their group. They had set up a rope bridge and had a stall with promotion material to hand out to the locals who attended.

Has your group tried a promotion day in your local area to increase the numbers in your group? Make sure you have banners reminding the public that Scouting is still solid and growing.

Until next time (when I will be back on deck)...keep on Scouting.

**Neville Henderson - Region Commissioner**

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

### REGION COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

#### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

#### Region Leader Communications

Are you looking to do something different in Scouting or do you know of a Venturer or Rover who would like to become involved in Communications or Website Development?

We are currently looking at appointing one or more volunteer **Web Content Coordinators** to join the Region Communications Team. The appointment will be, Region Leader Communications.

The Web Content Coordinator would be responsible for adding and updating content on the Region website. News articles, links, calendar events, contacts and resources need to be monitored to ensure the information is current and relevant and be updated in a timely manner.

The applicant should have basic graphic design and HTML skills and a high level of English language communication skills. The use of our web content management system will be taught to the ideal candidate or candidates on a one-on-one basis by our webmaster.

If you think you are the right person for this role or would like some further information please contact:

**Matt Thompson, RC Communications and PR**

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

## FROM THE DEPUTY RC

This is the last report from me before Neville returns from his Round Australia trip - I am sure he will have lots of stories and pictures to share!

Census time is upon us - so make sure your Group has returned their census form.

To all the Cubs getting ready for the shake down camps good luck and have fun. Cuboree is just around the corner!

I would like to once again congratulate all the Scout Medallion recipients and Queen's Scouts from GWSR who will soon be attending their presentations. BRAVO-O-O from Neville and I.

I would also like to thank Kim and Maggie from our Office and all the Leaders who have assisted me while Neville has been away. It hasn't always been easy!

Don't forget the Information Day on September 14 for all Treasurers and Chairpersons.

All awardees will soon receive their Invitation to the dinner in November. Looking forward to seeing every one there.

Yours In Scouting

**David Stopps Deputy RC**

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



## HELP NEEDED

**GWS Venturers are at it again with Waratah 2013:  
The Amazing Race!**

**Staff are needed for the 9th and 10th November to  
assist us across the Greater Sydney Region.**

**Come and join in the fun as Staff assisting with  
Support, Activities, Catering, Entertainment & more**

**For more info check out  
[Waratah.GreaterWestScouts.com.au](http://Waratah.GreaterWestScouts.com.au) or email  
[waratah@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:waratah@greaterwestscouts.com.au)**



### **Wandarrah Attendance**

Unfortunately attendance at Wandarrahs, District and Region, has been very poor lately and that's being polite. The current regime is not working and needs to change.

I have been talking with other Regions and our local team about this and from October onwards there will be some major changes on how we run Wandarrahs in our own Region.

I am calling for ALL Joey Leaders to attend the October Region Wandarrah at Bundilla on Thursday 17th October at 7:30pm to discuss the changes. The details haven't been finalised with the Region Team yet so they won't be released.

### **Region -> District -> Mob Information.**

As a prelude to the changes mentioned above, we are going to be focusing more on providing updates in The Bulletin and reserving the Wandarrahs for Training, event planning and Networking.

This means that ALL Joey Scout Leaders should be on the email list for this publication so that they can keep up to date with Region news and events.

### **Mob Hop Challenge**

We are almost at the end of the first term of the Mob Hop Challenge. Unfortunately there are a couple of Mobs that haven't received the contact details yet and I apologise. There is a State Joey Council next week and I hope to get more information then.

### **District Mob Holidays**

We should all be aware of the work that goes into planning Mob Holidays. One was planned recently and support for it was dropped without much notice. This placed our Region in a difficult position as Bundilla was booked out for that weekend for the Mob Holiday and therefore no bookings for the site were accepted. The Bundilla Scout Camp made no income that weekend.

If a District Mob Holiday is organised, I expect all Joey Mobs in that District to support them whole heartedly from Day 1, and if they can't, then let it be known up front so that there are no surprises.

### **Group Family Camps**

Good to see some approval Forms coming through. Everyone of them was approved. As summer approaches and more Family Camps are planned, please ensure that this is included in the organising process.

## **Bindi's Guide to Running A Joey Mob**



### **How long has it been since you did your Joey Scout Leader Training?**

In this section of The Bulletin we hope to bring up some items from our training that some may have forgotten and hopefully will make our lives easier.

### **The Joey Scout Promise Challenge**



This month I hope to clear up how the Promise Challenge is processed and eventually finds its way back for presentation to the Joey Scout.

According to the established procedures, the Promise Challenge is signed off by the Joey Scout Leader and is then presented to the Region Commissioner Joey Scouts (RCJS) at the next Region Wandarrah (3rd Thurs of the month).

Following the Wandarrah, it is sent to the State Commissioner Joey Scouts (SCJS). The SCJS collects them over the month from all RCJSs and then in the first week of the following month they are processed and then sent back to the RCJS's for awarding.

The whole process can take up to a month and a half so it is imperative that Joey Scouts do not wait until the last moment before linking to Cubs to submit them.

In GWSR we have started to accept applications via email to try and speed up the process. We haven't managed to get badges and signed certificates sent through email yet, but the process has been getting quicker!

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask your RCJS.

**Brian Zarth (Magpie) - RC Joey Scouts**  
Email: [joeyscouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:joeyscouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au)

## CUB SCOUT NOTES

Such a busy time for the Cub Scout section! 203 Cubs and 81 Leaders and supporters took part in the **Region Cub Scout Outing**. It was a glorious day and I think everyone came away a little more informed about historical Parramatta. My thanks to everyone who helped on the day and to all the participants.



1st Greystanes visiting the Lancer Barracks

Our **CS Leadership course** was held at Bundilla on September 7. We had 49 very enthusiastic and polite Cub Scouts on course. My thanks to my District CS Leaders and their helpers for running the sessions and activities and for helping with the clean up at the end of the long day. A big thank you also to the members of the Blue Mts Scout Fellowship who catered for all of us - the evening baked dinner was delicious.



Sessions were conducted both indoors and outside in the shade.



Lunchtime assembly line!

The Pack Coordinators are busy organising their packs for Cuboree and contacting Groups for items they will need, such as tents, dining flys and kitchen gear. CSLs are busy with camps and training their Cubs to deal with camp living for four days. Hopefully many of our Cubs will attempt the **Campout Badge** during the school holidays - this will help them to gain some insight into living out of a suitcase, washing up and finding their way in the dark with a torch!

**All Cuboree final payments** should have been posted to Cuboree Office by now. Applications for newly invested Cubs need to be forwarded to Region Office with full payment as soon as the application is able to be submitted on-line (these do not attract the \$50 late fee). Any one who is not travelling to or from Cuboree by bus must complete a Independent Travel form and anyone who can no longer attend Cuboree, must complete a Withdrawal form. These can be found on the GWS website. All questions about Cuboree should be directed to me please.

**A couple of issues became evident during discussion with the Cubs on the CS Leadership course:**

- > Many Packs have no Akela! All CS Leaders should take on the title of Akela. Even if the Cubs know you under another name, they will soon get used to calling you Akela, once they hear other Leaders using the title.
- > All CSLs and ACSLs should have Jungle Book names.
- > There are still CSLs not conducting Pack Councils for their Sixers and Seconds. Please remedy this asap? The Cubs do have a lot of good ideas and love to be involved. Pack Councils are also essential for earning the Grey Wolf award.

**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**

**Keaton Daniels - 1st Blaxland  
Cosmica Donna-Aroon - 1st Parramatta  
Zaki Razi - 1st Carlingford**

**1, 2, 3 WOOF**

# APPOINTMENTS LIST

## 6/8/2013 - 2/9/2013



### APPOINTMENTS

<b>AQUILINA</b> , John Joseph	DCSL	Hawkesbury District	08/04/2013
<b>STOPPS</b> , Tracey Kim	DSL	Blacktown District	17/12/2012
<b>WARD</b> , Kristine Fay	JSL	1st Hazelbrook Joey Mob	
<b>FENECH</b> , Jordan Peter	Appt TL (S)	2nd Northmead Scout Troop	
<b>BISHELL</b> , Karin Appt	TL (C)	1st Glossodia Cub Pack	
<b>DARLINGTON</b> , Ryan John	Appt TL (J)	1st Oakville Joey Mob	
<b>ABNETT</b> , Charlotte Kathleen	Appt TL (C)	1st Kings Langley Cub Pack <i>Impeesa</i>	
<b>LIVINGSTONE</b> , Jayson Todd	Appt TL (C)	1st Cambridge Park Cub Pack <i>Koala</i>	
<b>STARR</b> , Lorelle Tara	Appt TL (S)	1st St Marys Scout Troop	
<b>WOODLEY</b> , Mathew John	Appt TL (S)	1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Troop	
<b>JEFFS</b> , Rebecca Maree	Appt TL (C)	1st South Penrith Cub Pack <i>Glenmore</i>	
<b>WHELAN</b> , Yumiko	Appt TL (C)	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>	
<b>LOVERIDGE</b> , Samuel Eames	Appt TL (R)	Kings Langley Rover Crew	

### RESIGNATIONS

<b>BAZELMANS</b> , Paul Theodore	AL (S)	1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Scout Troop
<b>MACLEAY</b> , Amanda Nell	CrL (Appointed)	1st Baulkham Hills Rover Crew
<b>RAYNER</b> , Jo-Anne Maree	ACSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>
<b>TUNICA</b> , Nicolette	AGL	1st Blaxland Scout Group

### CORRECTIONS

<b>AQUILINA</b> , John Joseph	From CSL To DCSL	1st Glossodia Cub Pack Hawkesbury District 08/04/2013
<b>STOPPS</b> , Tracey Kim	From ASL To DSL	1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Troop Blacktown District 17/12/2012

### TRANSFERS

<b>OBLEIN</b> , Anne	From Appt TL (C) To JSL	1st Emu Plains Cub Pack Booragorang 1st Emu Plains Joey Mob
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### REGISTRATIONS

1st Emu Plains Joey Mob

### TRAINEE LEADERS NOT PROCEEDING

<b>WILLIAMS</b> , Jeffrey	Trainee Ldr (CS)	1st Kellyville Cub Pack <i>Darzee</i>
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## VENTURER REPORT

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Last month I had the pleasure of attending the International Team Conference in Canberra, together with Robert Slater of 1st Westmead Rover Crew. The highlight of the weekend was a visit to the High Commission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. His Excellency Admiral Thisara Samarasinghe was a Scout himself and very encouraged to see Scouting relations grow between both countries.

The remainder of the weekend involved some great discussion to expand our participation in international Scouting programs both overseas and in Australia, and I certainly encourage every member to get involved in an international experience whether that is for JOTA/JOTI, SISEP, Pen Pals, Home Hosting, Friendship Tours, Service Projects or even a Jamboree overseas!



On the theme of international Jamborees, I enjoyed a visit to yet another Jamboree for the year, this time in Japan in early August. The Nippon Jamboree was hosted on the same site that will be used for the next World Scout Jamboree in 2015. It was a very eye opening experience and gave me lots of information to help organise the Australian Contingent in two years time. Once again, I would encourage every eligible Scout and Venturer to register for this once in a lifetime experience at [www.wsj2015.scouts.com.au](http://www.wsj2015.scouts.com.au)

I would like to thank my District Venturer Leaders for managing the section so well in my absence, as I was travelling the world with Scouts these past couple of months. A lot of work has been happening in the background to build the Venturer program and recruit as many Scouts as possible. Following the Australian Jamboree in January of this year, it is vitally important that we capture the older Scouts into the Venturer section as soon as possible before they depart the organisation permanently. I would like to express my appreciation to all of the Venturers, Leaders, and most importantly, the Scout Leaders for helping these efforts in providing new challenges to our youth members.

The next big event in the calendar is Waratah on **8-10 November**. Applications are currently open for Venturers and Scouts over the age of 14 to join us for **The Amazing Race**. Registrations will **close** on **Friday 11th October**. All adults from any section are also invited to join us for a very enjoyable weekend.

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



## ROVER REPORT

GWS Rovers have been busy in August. Starting the month with the GWS Moot, *Alice in Wonderland*, with 2nd Castle Hill Rover Crew taking out the weekend and ending with Service Moot and the Balls of Steel competition.

2nd Castle Hill Rovers hosted their annual *Gold Coin Gourmet* event, requiring each crew to cook a full three course meal for no more than \$16. The evening was a great success, with several side competitions over the course of the evening.

More recently RRC hosted a *Service Moot* at Bundilla to help out with some maintenance of the grounds. The weekend was well received and culminated in the cleaning of the 'dungeon' and underneath the Cub den. Thank you to Kings Langley and Nepean Rover Crews and individuals from 2nd Castle Hill, Merrylands and Westmead. I encourage all the crews who were unable to make the weekend to talk to David Stopps and arrange a day that suites to go down and lend a hand.

On the Sunday morning Kings Langley Rover Crew and Nepean Rover Crew duelled it out for the Balls of Steel, the most coveted of perpetual awards within the bounds of Greater Western Sydney Region. It all came down to a single game of oz-tag, where the winners would go home victorious, and the losers would have nothing to show for their valiant, but ultimately futile efforts. It was a tense battle with many casualties on both sides. It came down to the wire, 30 seconds to go, Kings Langley with the ball. Would they score? Fourth tackle, Nick Drury sneaks past the defence and scores. Ultimately however, the ref calls no try, and Nepean won 7-4!

Now we wait for the next challenger. Who will it be? What will they play? Only time will tell.

**Angus Boxall PR & Internet GWS**

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

**Mitchell Shaw Chairman GWS Rovers**

Email: [chairman@gwsrovers.com.au](mailto:chairman@gwsrovers.com.au)

### THE SCOUT SHOP

85 Wentworth Street  
Port Kembla NSW 2505  
Phone: 4274 1193  
Fax: 4274 6334

Email: [sctshop@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:sctshop@nsw.scouts.com.au)

### OPENING HOURS

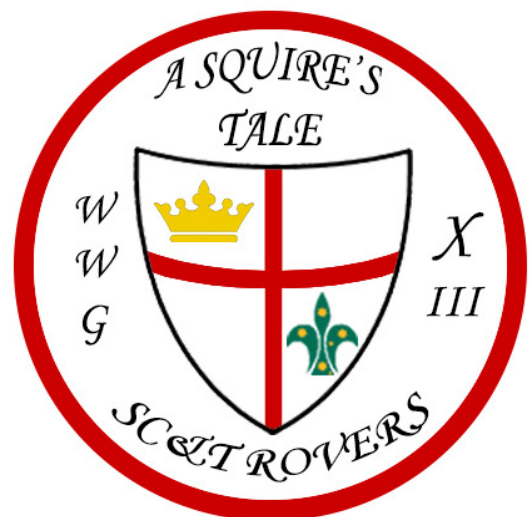
Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri 9am - 4.30pm  
Thursday: 10am - 4.30pm  
Saturday: 9am - 12pm

## South Coast & Tablelands Region Rovers Present

## WEEKEND WIDE GAME NORTH XIII

*A bi-annual competitive Patrol Activity  
for Scouts, with Venturers, Rovers,  
and Leaders participating as  
each event requires.*

## A SQUIRE'S TALE



Are you ready for a Medieval Siege?

Are you worthy of Knighthood?

Be tried and tested at our  
Weekend Wide Game!

16th and 17th November 2013

At Cataract Scout Park, Appin NSW

For further details, visit our website:

[www.widegame.com.au](http://www.widegame.com.au)

## RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### RECENT NIGHTS

We ran a **Light Night** with 2nd Merrylands Joeys at the end of August. Their excellent Leaders had invited Granville Joeys along for a combined night to increase the numbers, and spread the fun of a night with the lights mainly off.

Kellyville Scouts ran a sausage sizzle at the **Castle Hill Power House Annex** in August. I took my grandson along to see what was new on display. The answer: not much, and the outside Science displays (for science week)?, well let's just say, you get much better content and money's worth from your own GWS Science Team!

The highlight of the outing was the sausage and egg sandwich from the Kellyville scouts.



Here we see the Joey Scouts doing what they like to do best with a spot light; making shadow figures.

### JOTA 2013

It's October again and your opportunity to attend a world Jamboree, without leaving home. October 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, is the weekend this year when Scouts from all around the world will talk to each other on Amateur Radio and the Internet.

What have you organised for your Scouts? A camp with your local Amateur and his transceivers on a hill top for best reception is desirable; and because the signals are strongest in the evening, some technology/communication bases to challenge the Scouts during the day.



#### THE RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM

John Leahy      john.leahy@nmi.gov.au  
Home: 4572-1549  
Work: 8467-3592

Karl Humphreys      ets0@bigpond.com.au  
(M) 0408 205 649



Brain Dynamics Centre  
Pioneering quality research, pioneering quality of life

### Controls needed for Research in Westmead: 8 – 13 year old males!!

Healthy children and teenagers are needed as Control participants, to compare with children and teenagers with ADHD.

This study is for boys who are:

- ▶ 8 – 13 years of age
- ▶ Healthy with no history of ADHD or other psychiatric/behavioural disorder
- ▶ Fluent and literate in English

Participants will be required to satisfy study criteria and attend a medical screening and clinical assessment before being permitted to participate in the study.

- ▶ The study will involve 2 x 5 – 7 hour testing sessions plus 2 x phone follow-ups.
- ▶ Participants will be asked to provide a saliva sample, answer questions and perform various tasks (e.g., memory recall) while their brain activity is measured. Some may also be offered brain scans (MRI)
- ▶ Parent/guardians and school teachers (if applicable) will also need to complete questionnaires.

\*\*\*\*\*For more information, please call\*\*\*\*\*  
Brain Dynamics Centre (Poss) on (02) 9845 8162 or  
Email: jodie.logan@sydney.edu.au

## TRAINING REPORT

### ATTENTION ALL GROUP LEADERS

There is some confusion about Leaders transferring to other sections!

The Leader applies for e-learning and once on e-learning they do the basic sectional techniques for the new section. Then they do the residential weekend for the new section and finally they hand in their in service for the new section. They do not have to do the core modules if they already hold a Certificate of Adult Learning.

**AT THIS POINT** a W3 is handed in to transfer to the new section. I am holding quite a number of W3 forms at the Region office because Leaders cannot be transferred until the training is completed. If a W3 has been sent to the State office it has been sent back to Region.

The leader will still appear on the Group census in their original section until the training is completed. If the leader is a JSL, CSL, SL or VSL and wants to move to another section then it is advisable to send in a W3 to transfer them to an assistant position in their original section. This means that someone else can be appointed to the JSL, CSL, SL or VSL position.

A Leader with a Certificate of Adult Leadership (CoAL) **cannot** be made a trainee Leader in another section. The CoAL does not state which section the leader is qualified in, so is an all-round qualification. The extra training in the new section is required so that the Leader follows Scout procedure. Procedure varies with the sections because of the skills, knowledge and maturity of the youth members.

Group Leaders are also asked to check which Leaders have been in training for a number of years and are not progressing. At the initial interview trainees agree to complete their training within 12 months. I know that this is not always possible but some progress should be evident. If a trainee Leader is not progressing then maybe a Group Supporter role is more appropriate. Remember the Group is paying fees for all trainee Leaders!

**Kathy Cuneo RC AT&D**

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

## A Budding Young Artist!

Owen Roberts a Cub Scout from 1st South Penrith - Panther Pack, recently presented a painting he had done, which won several awards at the Penrith Show. What an awesome painting done by someone so young. We look forward to seeing his future works.

**1-2-3-Woof!**

**Brian Zarth, Region Commissioner Joey Scouts**



## REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM

I was talking to a parent helper on a recent Scout activity. This person was of similar vintage to myself (quite young), and we were comparing what we got up to as kids, compared to what our youth get up to today. As kids we climbed trees, we built swings, we explored the local area, we caught eels and yabbies in the local creek, we took tadpoles to show and tell at school, and everywhere I went was on my Malvern Star Dragster complete with aissy bar and banana seat. *Yes, they were great times!*

How times have changed. Can't climb trees now without a harness; need a Certificate in Engineering to build a swing; a licence to catch fish; you will be prosecuted by the greenies for destroying the local ecology, by removing tadies ...and the Dragster...? *...well let's just say bikes have improved a bit since then!*

Scouting faces very similar challenges in what we can and can't do. Are you qualified to do this or do that? Unfortunately this is what we have now, and while it is easy to be critical of the system, it not going to change, and it's not just in Scouting that this is happening - it's at work, it's at school, it's everywhere!

What we need to do is to embrace the system. Do what we need to do to ensure that our youth, and not so young, are still able to experience real outdoor skills to become self-sufficient. Young people who can think on their feet, be confident in dealing with all types of situations, show leadership, and most of all have fun in doing it.

As part of the new SIS10 system in training in outdoors Skills adopted by Scouts Australia, one of the more important points to come out is the need to maintain a log book on our adventurous activities. While there are log books out there suitable for say canyoning, caving, bushwalking etc., there are not a lot around that can be used to cover all activities on the same format. The following is suggested layout which could be used. Along with noting an activity in your log, supporting evidence through photos, even A1 forms (for Scouting activities) can be used.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES LOG - Your Name										YEAR	2012
Activity	Year	Date	Description	Days	Nights	Time	Distance Km	Involved As	Verified	Signature	Comments
Bushwalking	2012	8-10 Jan	Boonin Station Vt to Bonython National Park	2	-		24km	Participant	John Smith	[Signature]	Leftive photos and notes of Bonython and Bonython National Park.
Camping	2012	25-Feb	Went to R. W. around R. G. S.			4 hrs	12km	Self	Wife	[Signature]	Fire and camp notes. Fun outside.
Caving	2012	14-Mar	Europa Cave Bonython Cave			3.5 hrs		Leader	Activity Leader	[Signature]	Good photos of the cave system.
Bushwalking	2012	2-4 Aug	Boonin Station to Bonython National Park	2	-		24km	Participant	Activity Leader		Fire weather, freezing and got two photos taken by my

Over the years it will become a fascinating read to go back and reminisce - bit like the old family photo album. And don't forget it doesn't just apply to Scouting type activities. A family hike, or that abseiling trip with a few mates, can also be included on your log. If you haven't started one yet, now would be great time.

With the mighty Rick Jamieson still in recovery mode, I am very pleased to welcome Stuart Cowen to the Rock Team. Stuart will be mainly looking after the abseiling. Stuart is highly skilled Leader with a real passion for Abseiling, and will be a great asset to the whole team.

I spent an enjoyable morning out at St Marys South Primary School where the Scouts and Cubs from 1<sup>st</sup> Marys were running both the climbing wall and some real fun Scouting type games and challenges. A big thank you to Ken Barnes and his team for their effort in promoting Scouting in the local area.

A few of us (who all still remember the Dragster) are off to Rat Skin for a weekend of activities and skill, with a bit of bribery and corruption thrown in. Run by Golden West Region, this is where the Venturers run activities for the Leaders. This year we have 4 teams from GWS competing. We took out 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> last year so we are in pretty good stead for another successful year!

Let's continue to get out there and have fun, and be activity safe....*so does that mean another Risk Assessment?*

**Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities**

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



A young cub from 1<sup>st</sup> St Marys enjoying the challenge of the 'maze'.  
Photo: Mark Fell

## CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW



This year, Cumberland Gang Show was all about **Believing**, and with its fantastic video screen, new audio design and up-to-date Programme of commercial and Gang Show songs, many believed it was the best show ever.

Bravo to Matthew Thompson who won the 2013 Rodney Award for 110% effort. I'm sure you will all agree, he gives that in all aspects of his Scouting life.

### Auditions are now open for 2014. Applications close on Friday 22nd November 2013.

To complete your audition application, just log on to our website: [www.gangshow.asn.au](http://www.gangshow.asn.au) and follow the 'Audition Now' link.

For more information or for late applications (which may be accepted) please contact Lorraine Shaw at [personnel@gangshow.asn.au](mailto:personnel@gangshow.asn.au) or call 0425 318 952

### Cumberland Gang Show Visits

It's always great to introduce new aspects of Scouting to your youth members. Cumberland Gang Show teams would love to come and run Self Expression activities and tell you all about our show. We have teams available to visit all sections throughout September, October and November.

To make a booking go to [www.gangshow.asn.au](http://www.gangshow.asn.au) or ring **Jeanie Wood on 9636 2731**



### SCOUTS AUSTRALIA NSW BRANCH 1ST NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES

10am 13th January to 3pm 25th January 2014

### CATARACT SCOUT PARK

For all active Venturers, Rovers and Leaders who have been hogging the flying fox activities at the Jamboree and dream about abseiling, rock climbing, bushwalking and canoeing - now you can do what you love and take on a career where you can actually get paid for it!

This exciting twelve day camp will cover activity streams like bushwalking, abseiling, canyoning, caving, canoeing, kayaking, sailing with some possible options; or a more concentrated stream involving just one or two activities. This will allow you to not only do what you love, but get nationally recognised qualifications for it!

This is an exciting time for Scouting, with it leading the way in the outdoors while complying with current industry requirements. Gain nationally accredited qualifications in Outdoor Recreation - Certificate II, III, or IV in Outdoor Recreation, depending on your current skill and previous history. This also has the potential for future employment in the outdoor industry. This initiative, developed by Reg Williams, Chief Commissioner of Australia, aims to increase the number of adventurous activity guides and instructors nationally and to provide career pathways for Venturers and Rovers.

**Cost:** \$1,150 (includes food, use of activity gear and equipment, local transport to and from activity venues) plus cost of your own transport to and from the school.

**For further details on this School please contact: your Branch Activity Leader responsible for adventurous activities or [adventurous.activities@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:adventurous.activities@nsw.scouts.com.au)**

#### 1st National School in Adventurous Activities

C/- South Metropolitan Scouts (Sue Morris)

1 Carrington Avenue

Hurstville 2220 Tel: 9570 4525 Fax: 9580 6286 or

**David Walsh** on 0411 501 400

## BE PREPARED TO GET CONNECTED DURING JOTA-JOTI 19-20 OCTOBER 2013

**56th Jamboree On The Air / 17th Jamboree On The Internet**



Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) and Jamboree On The Internet (JOTI) is an annual event in which Scouts and Guides from all over the world make contact with each other by means of amateur radio and the internet.

Last year's JOTA-JOTI included a special broadcast by Governor General of Australia, Ms Quentin Bryce AC, who recorded a message to Scouts and Guides in Australia for JOTA-JOTI. The address was broadcast on the radio or played to groups of Scouts and Guides at 1pm local time on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

The worldwide theme this year is **Let's Share**. Through JOTA-JOTI every Member of Scouts Australia can make friends, exchange stories, experience different cultures and have fun as part of the largest activity in world Scouting. JOTA-JOTI also gives youth members an awareness that they belong to a worldwide Movement.

Technical knowledge is not required to join in - just ask the right people to help you. Anyone with a general knowledge of computers can help you organise and run JOTI - all you need is a computer that's connected to the internet. To participate in JOTA you must have a licensed Amateur Radio Operator to assist you. There are around 15,000 of these in Australia, and your operator will provide all the necessary equipment and expertise. Why not contact your local Amateur Radio Club today?

No registration fees are required for your Group to participate, however we do ask that you register your event and participation to assist us in data collection and future JOTA and JOTI events.

Don't forget to order your JOTA/JOTI badge through The Scout Shop and Snowgum, to add to your collection. Set the weekend aside now in your Group and Section calendars, newsletters for more information, and if you have any questions email [strike@1steastgosford.com](mailto:strike@1steastgosford.com)

Register your Group or Individual participation here: <http://www.jotajoti.org>



**SCOUTING REALLY IS A  
CONTACT SPORT!**

## Phyllis McAlpine ACSL, 1st Hawkesbury Cub Pack

Phyllis McAlpine (Kotick) has just celebrated 55 continuous years of Cub Scouting, not only in, but across NSW and is still going strong! Over 60 people from the Region, Hawkesbury District and Fellowship joined Phyllis at a special dinner in her honour, where she was presented with a gift as token of thanks for her many years of service.

In 1957 Phyllis started Cub Scouting life as an ACSL at 1<sup>st</sup> Mortdale, then went bush where she spent three years at 1<sup>st</sup> Parkes and 2<sup>nd</sup> Parkes. In 1962 she moved to Yass and served two years with 1<sup>st</sup> Yass. Phyllis then moved back to the city where she spent nine years as an ACSL at 1<sup>st</sup> West Ryde before becoming a CSL and moving to 1<sup>st</sup> Windsor in 1973. From 1981, Phyllis spent the next 16 years at 1<sup>st</sup> Oakville as a CSL.

Phyllis then joined the Region team as a Region Adviser and the State Team as a PLA. Phyllis returned to the Hawkesbury as District Adviser then District Leader Cub Scouts until March 2013, when she joined 1<sup>st</sup> Hawkesbury as a ACSL. The 1<sup>st</sup> Hawkesbury the Cubs enjoy her wealth of knowledge about Cub Scouting and are mesmerised by all the stories she is able to recite, and enjoy the games and activities she presents.

Phyllis promotes Scouting wherever she goes and has helped many Cubs achieve their Grey Wolf Award. She still enjoys participating in all the Group, District and Region outings. Phyllis was awarded a Silver Emu for her outstanding service to Scouting.

Phyllis still lives a very busy life - volunteering not only with Scouting, but also with her church, The Children's Hospital at Westmead, and of course looking after her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Congratulations and sincere thanks to Phyllis (Kotick) and a big 1-2-3 Woof from us all.

Article and photos courtesy of Phillip Heinrich, DC Hawkesbury District



## BLACKTOWN DISTRICT BILLY CART DERBY DAY

**Sunday 18th August 2013**

Once again Blacktown District held their annual Billy Cart Derby at Morreau Reserve, Rooty Hill. The venue was perfect, the weather was warm and dry and the Joeys, Cubs and some very brave Leaders had a great time riding the billy carts down the mighty Rooty Hill! There were plenty of thrills and spills throughout the day, as well as great food and lots of fun.

Congratulations to Alison Sullivan, DLCS Blacktown and her team for organising such a successful, well supported District event.



Report and photos courtesy of Paul Castro, 1st Emu Plains Scout Group

**1st Ermington Venturer Unit presents...**

# **FAMILY TRIVIA NIGHT**

**From 6.30pm for 7.00pm start  
on Saturday 12th October 2013**

**1st Ermington Scout Hall  
Cnr Bartlett St and Kissing Point Rd Ermington**

# **REVERSE**



**13 ½ year old+ Scouts—  
attendance is part of  
Try Venturing Badge**



**Cost: \$5 per person  
or \$20 for family**



**Bring gold coins for  
games during the night**



**Bring the family (kids welcome) for  
novelty games, prizes and fun!**



**Tables of 6-8 - can be  
made up on the night**



**Prize for best  
“reversed” dress**



**BYO nibbles, cans soft drink—\$1.50  
Tea and coffee provided**

**For further information or bookings contact:**

**Nerida Ewings 0431 556 413**

**[venturers@ermingtonscouts.asn.au](mailto:venturers@ermingtonscouts.asn.au)**

## ERMINGTON CELEBRATES

### by Sandy (Perry) Knox AVSL 1st Ermington

On 27th July 2013, Ermington Scout Group celebrated 60 years of Scouting at Ermington. 1st Ermington would like to thank all the youth members, Leaders - past and present, parents and community members that attended the celebration - it was great to welcome you to our Scout Group on the day and be able to acknowledge the achievements of the Group over the years.

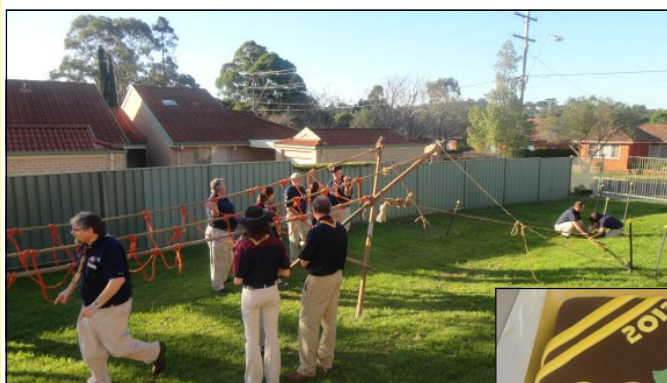
The last ten years has seen Ermington grow in leaps and bounds. In July 2003 we had 25 youth members and 9 Leaders. We had one Cub Pack and one Scout Troop. Fast forward to 2013 - we now have a Joey Mob, two Cub Packs, a Scout Troop and a Venturer Unit—a total of 96 youth (plus some new chums still to be invested) and 19 Leaders! This growth in large part is due to the tireless recruiting efforts of Tracey Hansford, Group Leader at Ermington between 2006—2011, and now District Commissioner for Parramatta District.

Ermington has undergone significant renovations to the Scout hall and grounds between 2007—2013, due primarily as a result of several grants. These improvements would not have been possible without a large degree of parent support—many parents helped with the improvements over the years—they would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of Peter Hodgson, Robert Hunter and Michael Majoor.

#### **Major renovations and improvements included:**

- 2007 - deck added to the back of the hall
- 2008 - water tank installed
- 2008 - internal walls changed to create new kitchen, Venturer den, table storage and storage room
- Dec 2008 - kitchen installation
- Jun - Jul 2009 - concrete laid for garage and garage constructed
- Oct 2009 - grass laid on driveway
- May 2010 - fence erected
- 2011 - 2012 - bathroom renovation, chair storage and attic space
- 2012 - solar panels installed
- 2012 - shelving in Venturer den
- Mar 2013 - hall sanded and re-surfaced

On the day we also held a **Queen's Scout Award Presentation** (the first at Ermington), to **Mitchell Hodgson**. The sections put on some great activities for all to participate in, the highlight being the rope bridge. Thanks to Clinton Stewart (Gecko) DSL Parramatta and Bryan Rigg (Silverfox) ASL 1st Carlingford, for their assistance with the rope bridge.



The beautiful cake created  
by Josie Botto



## **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.

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