

The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 416 - December 2013



GWS Region Office Christmas Closure

The office will close at

4.30pm Friday

December 20, 2013

and reopen

9am Tuesday

January 28, 2014

Mail can be placed in the red box on the gates of the main building as this will be cleared regularly.

ADULT RECOGNITION AWARD

nominations should be
emailed to:

gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

or

rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au

by close of business on

Tuesday, 28th January 2014



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

Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

This is the last Bulletin for 2013 and before I go any further I have to thank Anne Thompson for the excellent job she does in editing the 11 copies produced each year. I really don't know what we would do without her.

A reminder that you should be thinking about the Adult Recognition Awards and getting information on the nominees from Region Office prior to the 20th December 2013 when the office will close and not reopen until 28th January 2014 (the closing date for award nominations at Region).

Awards up to the Silver Wattle only require a citation whereas the Koala, Emu and Kangaroo (and the equivalent layside awards) require the nomination form and as we have not been given a new form please use the 2013 document and change the year at the top. For a person to be nominated for Silver Wattle and above the leader being nominated must hold a Wood Badge. Layside and fellowship members do not require a Wood Badge. All nominations are to be emailed to either to the Region Office gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au or to my email address at the bottom of this report.

I attended the auditions for the Cumberland Gang Show recently and was amazed at the enthusiasm of the young people trying out to become cast members. Best of luck to them all and I hope their efforts are rewarded with a position in the cast. Don't forget to purchase tickets to this excellent production when they become available and support the performing arts arm of Scouting.

To those leaders who are preparing for the Cuboree, I hope you have an enjoyable time and come back home totally exhausted. I will be an invited guest at the opening ceremony and I am really looking forward to being involved, even though it is only for one night.

David Stopps and myself interviewed Debbie Howlett recently and have appointed her to the role of Member Support and look forward to working with her in the future.

Also I have agreed with Matt Thompson our RC Communications and PR, to appoint Suzanne Cornell and David Shaw as Region Leaders on the Communications Team. Suzanne will assist Matt in keeping the Region website updated and David will assist Matt in the area of public relations. Thank you Suzanne and David for taking on these roles - welcome aboard.

As the year draws to a close I wish to thank all leaders, committee members, supporters and of course our youth members for their support in 2013. I trust you

will enjoy a well earned rest over the next six weeks.

To all our Scouting family, on behalf of my family and the Stopps family, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all in 2014!

Until next time...carry on Scouting

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



COMMUNICATION BREAKDOWN!

Good communication is essential for the smooth running of any organisation - everyone needs to be kept informed and up to date with all the latest news.

It is quite apparent that many of our Leaders, Youth Members, Supporters and Parents are unaware of the existence of the Region newsletter (The Bulletin) and the GWSR website!

The Bulletin is published monthly and is available on the **greaterwestscouts website**. You can also receive an email notification advising you that the new edition is now on the website. Just complete the signup form on the following page to be added to the Region Bulletin email list <http://www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/region/bulletin/subscribe>

The GWS Region website is packed full of information on people, groups and events (including Cuboree) and all the latest Scouting news . Make sure you visit the site regularly at www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

Please pass this information on to everyone in your Group or District. Let's put an end to the excuse: "I didn't know - nobody told me".

Thank you.



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

**Ethan Queree - 2nd Kings Langley
Reece Vane - 1st Blaxland
Kai Niskanen - 2nd Northmead
Bryce Nekipelov - 1st Toongabbie
Harrison Frost - 1st Toongabbie**

1, 2, 3 WOOF

CUB SCOUT NOTES

Wow - December already and just over three weeks to Cuboree! It has been a crazy year trying to organise the event, registering everyone, working out the Cuboree Packs, organising the activity base and shakedown camps and trying to keep everyone informed and up to date! Would you believe I am still receiving withdrawals, application forms, Independent travel forms and chasing up Cuboree payments?!

I must thank the Pack Coordinators for all their hard work and support with finalising their packs, organising all their gear and running shake down camps - not an easy feat - well done to you all.

My thanks also to all the Leaders and Parents who have volunteered as Coach Captains - another difficult job, but one I am sure they will manage splendidly. Just remember to remind parents to park well away from the pick up points and allow plenty of room for the coaches to park and board all the passengers safely.

Thank you to all the people who have volunteered to help out at Cuboree and I look forward to working with many of you on the GWS activity base or seeing you around Cataract. I hope we all have a great time (as well as the cubs) and that the weather is kind to us.

My sincere thanks to the team members of Region Seonee, for all their dedication, patience and support for the Cubs and Leaders in their Districts and for me - I couldn't do without them!

Sincere thanks also to all the Cub Scout Leaders who do their best for the Cubs in their care, playing by the rules, keeping the cubs and leaders safe, running good programs, camps, hikes and special events, supporting their Groups, District Seonee, Region events and helping Cubs through their badge work and their Grey Wolf Awards. You are amazing to keep doing it week after week, year after year! Where would Scouting be without such dedication and commitment?

A big thank you also to our Region Commissioner, Neville Henderson and his Deputy, David Stopps for their continued support of the Region's Cub Scouts and their Leaders - it is greatly appreciated.

And finally thank you to Kim and Maggie who do such a great job in the Region Office, fielding questions, helping us to organise courses and events and doing a hundred other odd jobs to keep things ticking over smoothly - all very much appreciated.

Merry Christmas everyone - keep safe and please return in 2014 to do it all over again!

Anne Thompson - RC Cub Scouts
Email: cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au



TRAINING REPORT

This month some very important decisions have been made. The most far reaching one is that from now on all trainees must complete their training within 12 months. This has always been in the mutual agreement but has not been enforced until now. The Chief Commissioner of New South Wales, Doug Menzies, has decided we have too many trainee leaders in our state.

So....anyone who was interviewed and commenced training before 30th June 2013, has until 30th June 2014, to complete their training. This gives those who need to do a sectional techniques weekend the opportunity to attend one.

RELEVANT COURSES NEXT YEAR ARE:

Joey Scouts and Cub Scouts

8th & 9th March at Pennant Hills

Scouts, Venturers, Leaders of Adults

15th & 16th March at Glenrock

Those trainees interviewed after the 30th June will be subject to the 12 month cut off - so discussion about availability of courses needs to be undertaken with your PLA. Those trainees not finished in time will be resigned and made group supporters.

There will no longer be a Certificate II, Certificate III or a Certificate IV in Frontline Management issued by Scouts Australia. Anyone in the process of completing these qualifications must have the booklets in to their PLA before Christmas.

There are plans to issue Certificate IV and a Diploma in Business course, later in 2014.

There has been a query about when to invest a new leader: Originally in the O&I it stated that a leader had to have completed all training before being invested. Although this is the case in some states, in NSW we can invest a new leader when they have been cleared and logged into the system. The O&I has been changed to reflect this. Trainee leaders will not be given the coloured epaulettes until training is completed.

Have a happy holiday!

Kathy Cuneo RC AT&D

Email: raining@greaterwestscouts.com.au



THE REGION OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
from **Monday December 23, 2013**
to **Monday January 27, 2014**

APPOINTMENTS LIST

11/11/2013— 2/12/13



APPOINTMENTS

SIMMONS , David James	Appt TL (S)	1st South Penrith Scout Troop <i>Gundooi</i>
PEARSE , Lawrence Christopher	Appt TL (R)	Hawkesbury River Rover Crew
HUGHES , Bernard Joseph	Appt TL (C)	1st North Rocks Cub Pack <i>Barloo</i>

TRANSFERS

FURST , Stephen George	From Appt TL (C) To ACSL	1st North Rocks Cub Pack <i>Barloo</i> 1st North Rocks Cub Pack <i>Barloo</i>
MASSIE , Lauren Patricia	From Appt TL (J) To AJSL	1st Balcombe Heights Joey Mob 1st Balcombe Heights Joey Mob
PAGE , Taylor Mackenzie	From Appt TL (C) To ACSL	2nd Baulkham Hills Cub Pack <i>Rumbriah</i> 2nd Baulkham Hills Cub Pack <i>Rumbriah</i>
POLIS , Jonathan Mark	From Appt TL (S) To ASL	1st Kellyville Scout Troop 1st Kellyville Scout Troop
GREEN , Benjamin Peter	From Appt TL (V) To AVSL	1st North Mt Druitt Venturer Unit 1st North Mt Druitt Venturer Unit
SAUER , Rick James	From Appt TL (J) To AJSL	1st Kellyville Joey Mob 1st Kellyville Joey Mob
LIVINGSTONE , Jayson Todd	From Appt TL (C) To ACSL	1st Cambridge Park Cub Pack <i>Koala</i> 1st Cambridge Park Cub Pack <i>Koala</i>
WALLACE , Kelly Ann	From Appt TL (V) To AVSL	1st North Mt Druitt Venturer Unit 1st North Mt Druitt Venturer Unit
ARROWSMITH , John Thomas	From Appt TL (C) To CSL	1st Riverstone Cub Pack 1st Riverstone Cub Pack
BOXALL , Angus Gregory	From Appt TL (J) To AJSL	1st Winston Hills Joey Mob 1st Winston Hills Joey Mob
BOXALL , Gregory Bruce	From AL (JS) To AJSL	1st Winston Hills Joey Mob 1st Winston Hills Joey Mob
GROSS , Steve	From CSL To ACSL	1st Riverstone Cub Pack 1st Riverstone Cub Pack
WHELAN , Yumiko	From Appt TL (C) To ACSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i> 1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>

RESIGNATIONS

FAIRALL , Jeffrey Louis	ASL	1st St Marys Scout Troop
MCKENNA , Todd	Appt TL (G)	2nd Castle Hill Scout Group
STARR , Lorelle Tara	Appt TL (S)	1st St Marys Scout Troop
DALTON , Daniel Mark	Appt TL (C)	1st Dural Cub Pack
BORDLEY , Charlene Allanna	Region Adviser	Greater Western Sydney Region
FRANCIS , Belinda Joy	RL (S)	Greater Western Sydney Region
WELLS , Bruce Roy	AVSL	1st Kings Langley Venturer Unit

TRAINEE LEADERS NOT PROCEEDING

FELSINGER , Sophie Trainee	Ldr (S)	1st Murray Farm Scout Troop 01/09/2013
PEARCE , Anthony Trevor	Trainee Ldr (S)	1st Murray Farm Scout Troop 01/09/2013
O'CONNELL , Mark	Trainee Ldr (S)	1st Dural Scout Troop <i>Giwang</i>
BYRNE , Philip John	Trainee Ldr (CS)	1st Parramatta Cub Pack
BYRNE , Sarah Trainee	Ldr (CS)	1st Parramatta Cub Pack
COUGHLAN , Daniel	Trainee Ldr (CS)	1st Ermington Cub Pack <i>Blaxland</i>
SHERWOOD , Matthew John	Trainee Ldr (CS)	1st St Marys Cub Pack

CORRECTIONS

MARTIN , Linda Gay	From ASL To ACSL	1st Cherrybrook Scout Troop 1st North Rocks Cub Pack <i>Barloo</i> 25/02/2013
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Annual Fire Safety Statement and Deadline for Fire Safety Statements

WHAT IS A FIRE SAFETY STATEMENT?

An annual Fire Safety Statement is a statement issued by or on behalf of the owner of a building that:

- Each Essential Fire Safety Measure specified has been assessed by a properly qualified person and performs to the original standards: and
- The building has been inspected by a properly qualified person and all fire safety notices (applicable to fire) are displayed, all fire doors relating to exits, and paths of travel to fire exits, are not obstructed or impeded.

ISSUE OF ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY STATEMENTS

- The choice of the qualified person to carry out an assessment or inspection is up to the Group.
- The person who carries out an Assessment must inspect and verify the performance of each essential fire safety measure being assessed.
- Each year the group is to ensure that a new Annual Fire Safety statement is obtained within 12 months from the date the previous Fire Safety Statement was obtained.
- The Group is to prominently display the Annual Fire Safety Statement in the Scout Hall. Two copies must be forwarded to the Region Office.

THE REGULATION

- A number of items are classified under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 as Fire Safety Measures e.g. Smoke Detectors, Emergency Lights and Signs, Fire Exits and Doors, Fire Extinguishers and Fire Hoses.

THE DEADLINE

- **The Chief Commissioner Doug Menzies has set the deadline for the Fire Safety Statement to be in at the Region Office by 31st December 2013. The date is final and any Group or hall that does not comply will not open their doors next year.**
- **What does this mean to groups? If you have a permanent hire they will not be able to use your hall. More important your Scout Group will not be able to meet until this Statement has been received.**

PROCEDURE AND OPTIONS

- Your group must obtain a Fire Safety Statement.
- The Region has obtained a quote from 5 Star Fire safety for inspection and certificate for Bundilla.
- Contact your own contractor.
- The important thing is get it done.
- If you sit back and wait and do nothing and do not obtain this document you will be **CLOSED**.

DETAILS OF OUR CONTRACTOR:



PO Box 345, Toongabbie NSW 2146

Email: peter.5star@yahoo.com.au Phone: 9609 7420 Mobile 0413 283 150

“What goes around comes around” or perhaps ***“practice what you preach!”***

Those who read my article last month would know I complimented a number of leaders who, in the interest of safety, have had to cancel activities in recent times, due to high risks with fire or weather.

I know how you feel, having just cancelled our annual Water Fun Day. Not because of weather as such, but due to extreme water pollution.***Ok, so now I have to face 300+ very unhappy participants. However, I would much rather face that, than 300+ cases of gastric or worse!***



Sometimes the water is just not suitable for swimming!

It is hard to believe we have just about finished off another year of Scouting. It has been a big year. As I read back over the monthly Bulletins and even eye over some of the many A1 forms I receive throughout the year, I am in awe at the time and dedication that so many Leaders have put into to making Scouting within GWS, what it is. In a world where the ***“in thing”*** seems to be the latest Xbox or Play Station game, or people walking around with a Rock Band surgically attached to their ears, it is so good that we can get kids (and ourselves) out and actually ***“do it for real.”***

And doing it for real - I spent an enjoyable afternoon on the water with 1st Hawkesbury practising their ‘T’ Rescues at Windsor. During the afternoon we were visited by Duncan Watts (1st Oakville) with a group of Scouts and Leaders, who had paddled down from Richmond. Great to see groups out doing stuff!



Tim West (Wombat) demonstrating the finer skills in T Rescue techniques.
Photo Mark Fell

The year has certainly had its challenges!

- The new SIS10 training for activities has still some things to sort out.
- Leaders stepping out of their comfort zone to take kids on an exciting new challenge.
- Leaders themselves, putting their hand up, to do that new course to increase their level of expertise.
- ...and the more recent challenges of the weather, if it wasn't a Total Fire Ban, it was flooding rain, ...or dare I say a river full of poop!
- Even Gang Show, with new and revamped stage, had many of us entering a new dimension of unfamiliar territory.

So how do we do it? How do we overcome these challenges?

Think about what we teach in Scouting. It's a Pack lead by a Sixer, it a Patrol lead by a Patrol Leader, It's a Unit lead by....! It's simply called TEAMWORK. It's all of us, working together, sharing our various skills, and rising to the challenges we face. I am sure I read somewhere recently about “Practise what you preach”...!

While on teamwork, I must pass on my thanks to the Region Activities Team Leaders for their huge effort over the last 12 months:

- * Meredith Stewart, who looks after caving so well, that we are getting enquiries from other Regions to come along on one of our caving adventures.
- * To Tracey Hansford who keeps our canoeing team afloat, despite being unwell herself and having a short bout in Hospital.
- * Our resident Science Guru, John Leahy, who entertains more youth over a 12 month period than all the other activities combined.
- * To Karl Humphries "*calling VK2SCJ do you have a copy*" ...our Radio man
- * and Quentin "*can't hold him down*" Napier, who would build a flying fox to the moon if he was allowed.
- * There are also many other leaders who have supported the teams of the year. And a lot of these are leaders are still very much involved with their own groups as well. A huge thank you to you all!

There are also a number of leaders who work very much behind the scenes:

- * Mick Fry, with his professional expertise in anything to do with ropes, has been a huge support with SIS10 training and compliance with the Activities Team.
- * Keith Travers, who has spent countless hours over the year doing maintenance and repairs on all the Regions watercraft.
- * I must mention the terrific support that both Kim and Maggie in the office, have given me over the year. Thank you to you all.

Of course there has been some sadness over the year with the Activities Team with the passing of Rick Jamieson. However I am sure he would be proud to see the continuation of his mighty legacy. I am sure many are looking forward to a break to recharge those batteries ready for the next challenge. In between all that, I am off to a big Cub Camp at Cataract - something to do with keeping control on activities for 3,000+ Cub Scouts. That might be a challenge too!

I do hope you all have a wonderful Christmas, get lots of presents, and are looking forward to a great Scouting year of fun and adventure in 2014.



Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities

Email: activities@greaterwestcouts.com.au

RACHAEL NICHOLLS - CUB SCOUT

1ST QUAKERS HILL/DOONSIDE SCOUT GROUP

Back in October - nine year old Rachael Nicholls from Quakers Hill Doonside Cub Pack, decided to take part in the inaugural **Great Cycle Challenge**. The aim of the challenge was to help raise money for the Children's Medical Institute to help them develop treatments and find a cure for childhood cancer.

All Rachael had to do was to decide on how many kilometres she would challenge herself to ride throughout October and how much her fundraising goal would be. She decided 250kms would be her riding goal and \$250 her fundraising target! From here she set about letting everyone know about her challenge. She began by writing on her Mother's Facebook page asking for donations. Then on the 1st October when the challenge began she started on her journey to complete her 250km goal.

Throughout October Rachael, with her father, would ride at every possible moment to reach her 250km goal. She would ride anything from 13km after school, up to 30km on a Saturday or Sunday morning at sunrise. She made up flyers and visited all three sections in her Group to encourage them to donate to her cause and also placed posters up around the hall.

By the end of October, Rachael had smashed both her riding and fundraising goals! She rode a total of 331.5kms and raised a total of \$621.

Congratulations Rachael - 1, 2, 3, Woof!

[https://greatcyclechallenge.com.au/Riders/RachaelNicholls?
utm_source=share&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=gcc13_profile_share_ind](https://greatcyclechallenge.com.au/Riders/RachaelNicholls?utm_source=share&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=gcc13_profile_share_ind)

VENTURER REPORT

Waratah 2013 – The Amazing Race was a huge success last month with nearly 200 participants competing across Sydney and supported by over 90 adult volunteers.

Teams travelled from Circular Quay on Friday evening via Observatory Hill to Cockatoo Island for Friday night. Saturday saw participants travel to Woolwich, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Manly Beach, Sydney Olympic Park, Lidcombe and then on to Nurragingy Reserve overnight. Our final day featured Rooty Hill, Penrith, Glenbrook and Westmead on the way to the finish line at Parramatta Town Hall. Over 30 activities were completed with participants travelling a total distance of more than 300 kms using buses, trains and ferries.

All Units in GWS fielded a team during the event including a good number of older Scouts, as well as a team from NSW Girl Guides and teams from Hume, South Coast, South Metropolitan, Sydney North, and The Golden West Regions.

The Top 10 Results are listed below (Full results are available on the Waratah Facebook page).

1st	4 – Nifty Ninjas	1st Caringbah
2nd	28 – Ranger Danger	Kuring-gai Ranger Guides
3rd	19 – Mountain Jews	1st Westmead
4th	1 – Wardels Minions	1st Oakville
5th	13 – I’ll Get Back To You On That	1st Ermington
6th	32 – Valley Kids	West Pennant Hills Valley
7th	30 – We Want To Go Home	1st/2nd Blacktown
8th	5 – Steve	1st Springwood
9th	31 – The Knights Who Say Ni	1st Kandos & 3rd Orange
10th	38 – Shark Bayte	1st Blaxland

Waratah 2013 – The Amazing Race was proudly supported by Sydney Trains, Sydney Harbour Federation Trust, SWASH, Manly Council, Manly Surf Life Saving Club, Soka Gakkai International Australian Cultural Centre, Ruth Everuss Aquatic Centre Blacktown City Council, Coates Hire, Coles Supermarket, Kellogg’s, Museum of Fire and Parramatta City Council - without the support of all of these organisations, the event would not have been possible. Special congratulations to Matt Vella (Camp Chief) and his huge team for ensuring the race ran so smoothly.

The following **Rover Crews** were represented at the event: 1st Blaxland ‘Kalangadoo’, 2nd Castle Hill, Hawkesbury River, Kings Langley, 1st/2nd Merrylands, Nepean, 1st North Mt Druitt and 1st Westmead. The following **Scout Fellowships** were represented at the event: Pinnaroo, Cumberland Gang Show and Waratah Activity. To everyone involved, a job well done and we look forward to having everyone return for Waratah 2014 – Enter the Tardis!

On other news, **1st Riverstone** are reopening their Venturer Scout Unit after several months without any members.

Units are using the remainder of this year to prepare for our Region Social Camp in February and Dragon Skin over Easter.

We have a total of 19 Venturer Scouts and 8 Venturer Scout Leaders from the Region attending the **5th NSW Cuboree** in January. Our **Sub Camp 3 Online Blog** has been very popular.

And the next **Australian Venture** is also little more than 12 months away and further details about the NSW Contingent are expected to be released shortly.

And so after another hugely busy year, may I wish everyone a very safe and enjoyable summer holiday and I look forward to seeing everyone out and about in the New Year.

Aaron Wardle RC Venturer Scouts

Email: venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au

Mobile: 0421 076 497



Waratah 2013



INTERNATIONAL SCOUTING

Do you have youth members in your Group that have considered applying to an international Scouting event?

The next World Scout Jamboree will be held in Japan in 2015. Applications close on 31st March 2014.



23rd World Scout Jamboree

18 July – 13 August 2015

Kirara-hama, Yamaguchi City, Japan

Scouts and Venturers aged 14 to 17

Contingent Fee \$6,750

www.wsj2015.scouts.com.au

**What if your youth members are not eligible to attend the World Scout Jamboree in 2015?
Or maybe they would prefer attending a smaller event in another country?**

There is a sample below of some other international Scouting events available in 2014 that would be a great alternative. Visit www.international.scouts.com.au for more details of these and other exciting activities.

Don't forget that funding assistance may be available.

For more information, contact **Peter Nickl** Email: international@greaterwestscouts.com.au



5th Mongolian National Jamboree

2-8 July 2014

Scout Adventurer Camp, Batsumber, Tuv

Scouts and Venturers aged 12 to 17



Together 2014
creating a better world
Luxembourg - Centenary Scout Camp

Luxembourg National Centenary Camp

17-26 July 2014

Luxembourg

Scouts and Venturers aged 12 to 17



28th Icelandic National Jamboree

20-28 July 2014

Hamrar Scout Centre, Akureyri

Scouts and Venturers aged 12 to 17



9th German (VCP) National Jamboree

6-15 August 2014

Münsingen, Germany

Scouts and Venturers aged 12 to 17

RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Maker Faire

Karl and I displayed the Science Activity at Sydney's first Maker Faire, in the Powerhouse Museum on December 14. There were about 60 groups displaying everything from electric cars to electric clothing, as well as 3D printers, Robots, Drones, and the more traditional paper and textile craft.

In our area there was a school group designing video games with Flash, UNSW students making quadcopters, PHM staff running Slime making classes, and gifted children groups doing paper folding, painting and music.

Karl displayed a number of portable transceivers, EPERBs and personal tracking transmitters and explained the specific use and benefit of each.

A longer table displayed a few of our activity props including PET bottle environments, Water Rockets, a colour change chem. activity, a Theremin noise maker, flashing lights in eyes, floating magnets, mag-lev model, rising arc, robot arm models, and a selection of JOTA kits made over the years.

Most popular with the kids were the smoke ring blowing Zonker bucket and the Electrostatic Flystick.

I spoke to a number of parents asking whether we could visit their Group (mostly northern beaches) and which Group could they enroll their child in that does the science activity?

The backdrop to our display was a Scout banner and pamphlets available for enquirers.



THE RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM

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

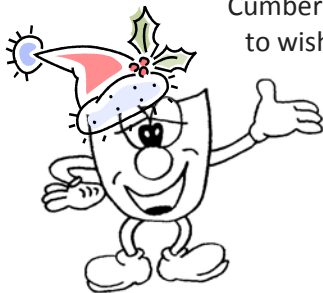


CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW

Imagine you have been on stage, having performed to thousands of people along side the great friends you've made in the Gang – that's what it means to be part of Cumberland Gang Show.

Our 2014 show is going to be a great one. There is lots of exciting new material along with as a mix of commercial stuff, both new and old. The Creative and Production Teams have been going all out to put together a terrific theatrical experience for everyone. Watch this space! Tickets will be on sale in early 2014. Whatever you do next year, make sure you see Cumberland Gang Show 2014 – *'Imagine'*.

Congratulations to all those who auditioned for the show. You'll have the time of your life with the Gang. If you have youth members who missed out on auditioning and would still like to be in the 2014 show please contact Lorraine at personnel@gangshow.asn.au or call **0425 318 952** and we will make special audition arrangements.



Cumberland Gang Show would like to wish everybody a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous and safe New Year

CAROLINE DAVIS (Akela) RETIRES FROM SCOUTING

(A view from the sideline)!

When Caroline and I first met and even when we married in 1974, I still did not quite understand her commitment to being a Cub Leader.

She had started in 1971 at 1st Ermington and retires in December 2013 as the Akela at 1st Murray Farm. Forty-two years of dedicated service during which time she has always looked forward to weekly meetings and camps.

Caroline's commitment to Scouting even saw her buy a maternity cub uniform in the late 1970's and wear it to weekly meetings with a 'packed' hospital bag in the boot of the car, just in case!

Some of Caroline's first Cubs would today be in their early fifties and I have known some adults stop her in a supermarket and say, "I remember you, thanks".

Since my early days of not quite understanding, I have grown to be full of admiration for Caroline's commitment and her dedication. I have seen hundreds of young people come into her Cub Packs and leave as better youngsters and with a lifetime of good memories. I am biased I admit, but she is the best Cub Scout Leader I have ever seen!

Peter Davis GL
1st Murray Farm



Today Scouts Australia has **52,000** youth members... in 1979 our youth membership was **114,500** (before the introduction of girls in the younger sections and Joey Scouts). To put this in perspective, today, the population of Australia is 23 million, in 1979 it was 14 million!

To remain attractive in a rapidly changing and evolving world requires Scouts Australia to regularly review the program provided to its youth members. It is now time to look at the totality of our youth program and that Australian Scouting meets the needs of our youth members, the wider community and our Mission Statement for the next 20 years.

This is a challenging and exciting adventure that **must engage the opinions of both Scouting and the wider community**. We promote to the community an image of adventure and fun but is that how we are perceived by the wider community today? **This is where Youth Program Review needs YOUR input!**

Systems are currently being set up to allow as many youth members and leaders to provide feedback, complete surveys and engage in the review. In a twenty first century world, technology is the key to communication.

www.ypr.scouts.com.au is your window to the review. Be prepared for some exciting and innovative debate and discussion as we spend the next two years moulding and shaping a dynamic youth program for the Scouts of not just today but the future as well. It will be ADVENTUROUS! **Have your say today.**



1ST NORTH ROCKS AND 1ST PARRAMATTA

PARRAMATTA HERITAGE WALK

Recently over 30 Scouts from 1st North Rocks and 1st Parramatta met up for a Heritage Walk of Parramatta. One of the Patrol Leader's organised the evening as part of the Citizenship Scout Award Scheme. Parramatta is the second oldest European settlement in Australia, and 1st Parramatta Scout Group is one of the original Scout Groups founded in 1908.

We started our walk at St Patrick's Catholic Cemetery. This Cemetery is the oldest Catholic cemetery in Australia. St Patrick's Cathedral is one of two Cathedrals in Parramatta, and Prince Alfred Park is where the first Mass was celebrated in Australia.

Next, we walked to the Female Factory. The Female Factory was designed by emancipated convict, Francis Greenway. The Female Factory is where unassigned females were sent in the Colony of New South Wales.

The Scouts then entered Parramatta Park to view some historical sites preserved in the Park. The Boer War Memorial is located on the high ground. This is significant to Scouts because it is the conflict Lord Baden Powell served in. The nearby Old Dairy is a rare surviving work cottage built by George Salter, who was an emancipated convict, between 1798 and 1805.

In 1822 Colonial Architect S L Harris designed a Bath House for Governor Brisbane which was built the follow year. Water was pumped to the Bath House through lead pipes from the nearby Parramatta River which was then pumped out and down to a duck pond on the slope below. Later the walls were removed and the building was turned into a pavilion.

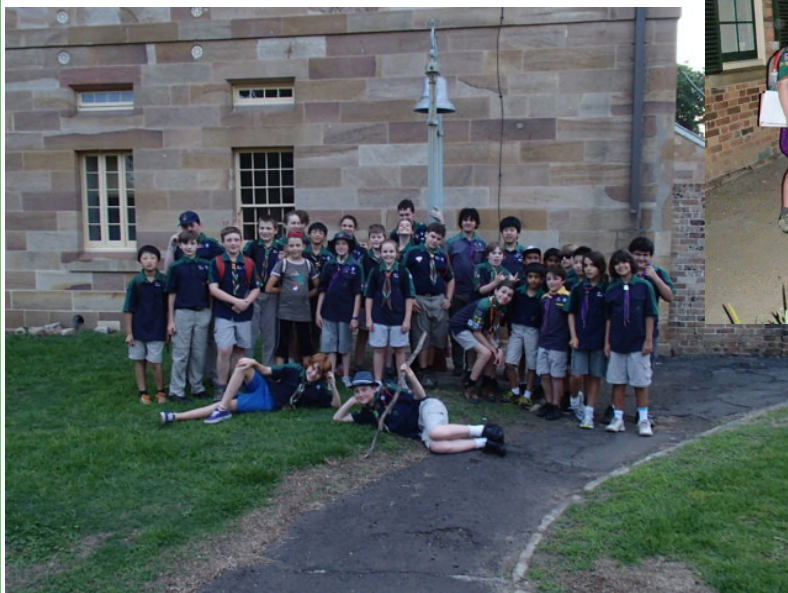
Old Government House was built by convicts in 1799 for Governor Hunter. It was occupied by the first ten Governors of Australia. The elegant appearance is largely thanks to Mrs Macquarie, who's husband, Governor Lachlan Macquarie, had a leading role in the development of Australia from 1810 to 1821.

I would recommend other Scout Groups consider visiting Parramatta to learn about the history of early European settlement in Australia.

Thomas Hrast APL

1st North Rocks Scout Troop

and Second Fleet Convict descendent, arriving Parramatta 1790



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 note that there is no January edition of The Bulletin.

Please submit all articles by January 31st 2014, for the February edition.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Editor.



POLICY AND RULES 2013

The 'rules' for Scouting have been updated, and the new 2013 edition of ***Policy and Rules*** is now available from your Scouting retailer. All Leaders should have access to a copy and familiarise themselves with the new policies regarding the code of conduct and management of adults.

Policy and Rules 2013 is available from your local Scouting retailer at the RRP of \$14.20. Look out for the e-book edition available from November 2013.

There is also an online version available on the [Scouts Australia website](http://www.scouts.org.au).