



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 426 - November 2014



THE GWSR 2014 WATER SCOUTLYMPICS

Sunday 7th December 2014

ANGLE PARK, LAKE CHIPPING NORTON

9.00am till 3.00pm

Groups should come dressed (you will get wet!) to represent your selected country (real or imagined). Don't forget to bring your country of origin flag and your national anthem (on leader iPod or phone) to play when your country wins GOLD!

- Games and Races
- Only \$5.00 per person or \$20.00 for a family
- Kids under 5 free with paying parents. Grandparents are free with paying kids.
- Don't forget a hat and your Scout scarf, sunscreen, water bottle, towel, swimmers and river shoes (*River Shoes must be worn while in water or boats*).
- PFDs will be supplied to all participants while using watercraft.
- There will be a food stall selling drinks and hot food; otherwise, there are very limited BBQ facilities available.
- **CIRQUE DU SCOUT** performers will be the entertainment for the Closing Ceremony and running workshops for Joeys, Cubs and Scouts who want to learn some circus skills!



Please register using the **E1 Form** available from www.greaterwestscouts.com.au with payment to

Region Office by **Friday 21 November 2014**.

Further information is on the E1 Form.

Unfortunately we are unable to accept registrations on the day.

GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153

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

Phone: 9639 2488 **Email:** gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

I guess the highlight for me was the Adult Recognition Awards Presentation when 219 people attended and 58 people were recognised for their service to Scouting both as leaders and layside supporters. Well done to them and thanks to Kim and Maggi for the work they put in organising the event.

A number of successful promotion days have been held at Ringrose Public School and Greystanes Public School Fetes, Kings Langley Community Spring Fair, Holroyd Council Expo and Kym the mascot made an appearance at some of these functions and we also had the climbing wall at other events. Great publicity for Scouting and hopefully we will be able to recruit some new members.

1st Westmead Group also held an Open Day at their hall to celebrate their 75th Anniversary and I understand they had interest shown in joining scouts from a number of the people who attended. Congratulations to the Group on achieving this milestone.

Unfortunately I was unable to attend the Cub Baanya held at Bundilla as I was away that weekend but I understand that it was well attended and everyone had a good time. Once again a great effort by Anne Thompson and her team. One, Two, Three, Woof.

At the Chief Commissioner's Council held at the beginning of November it was agreed that this year the fee will remain the same as last year at \$36.00 per quarter, so groups can now set their fees for 2015.

There are a number of Queen's Scout Awards and Australian Scout Medallion Awards being presented in the next month so I will be very **busy attending these** functions and will report on them in the next Bulletin.

I am still waiting for a list from State Office of people who are eligible for nomination for the 2015 Adult Recognition Awards: once received, I will send it out to all Group Leaders. Please note that nominations are due in to Region Office by 27th January 2015 - email as a word document and if you wish to send them early please copy me in also. I will shortly send out details on how to complete a nomination.

If you wish to book a camp at Bundilla, please contact Region Office to ensure your preferred date is available. Once availability is confirmed by Region Office, you have 14 days to return the booking form with a deposit - otherwise the date will again become available and may be booked by someone else. Early bookings should be considered for Jamboree Shake Down Camps.

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

TRAINING REPORT

We are getting closer to the end of the year and before we finish the year, all Leaders must have completed the **BCORE WHS and BCORE CHILD** modules. All adults which includes Rovers and Fellowship members must complete the modules.

The options are:

- e-learning if you are already logged on
- sending in a L9 form and hoping to be logged onto e-learning in time
- or attend one of the sessions being run by the training team.

Session date

2:00 pm on Sunday 23rd November.

For those leaders who did advanced training in April, your certificate IV books should now be handed in so that you can receive your wood badge this year.

We have had a lot of trainee leaders complete their residential weekends recently. I would like to see them hand in the L10 In-service form as soon as possible to complete their training.

I am trying to organise level 1 Bushwalking courses for those Scout and Venturer leaders who need the extra qualification.

Congratulations to Nerida Ewings from 1st Ermington on being awarded her Wood Badge.

Kathy Cuneo RC AT&D

Email: training@greaterwestscouts.com.au



*Congratulations
and best wishes to*

Nerida Ewings VSL
1st Ermington

*who has recently earned her
Venturer Scout Wood Badge*

Bravo - Well done



CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW

Cumberland Gang Show in 2015
Applications closing Friday 28th November 2014

Why not encourage your youth members to extend their horizons in the Gang. There are opportunities for **all ages from Joeys to Rovers** and we welcome everyone to be involved.

Gang Show is a training activity, which concentrates particularly on providing training in **theatrical arts** activities, while teaching self-confidence and teamwork. As a member of the cast, it means huge fun excitement and pride in what you achieve, as you perform to up to 7,000 people over 8 days in the July school holidays. This fun extends to all performance and backstage areas, so no matter what YOUR talent, join the Gang!!!



AUDITIONS will be held on
Saturday 6th December 2014 between 9am and 5pm.
To complete your audition application, just log on to our website: www.gangshow.asn.au
and follow the 'Audition Now' link.

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

We also have teams who would love to visit your group, run a self-expression activity and tell you all about the 2014 show. For more information and to make a booking go to www.gangshow.asn.au



The cast of Cumberland Gang Show had so much fun performing at the recent **International Scout and Guide Fellowship Conference**. It was an amazing experience with the performance captivating a room full of Scouts and Guides from around the world. Well done team we are so proud of you.



Please support our generous sponsors!

CUB SCOUT NOTES

Congratulations to all the leaders and supporters who received awards in recognition for their good service, at the Region Awards Dinner on October 23 at Toongabbie Bowling Club. Thank you to our Region Commissioner, Neville Henderson OAM and his Team for organising such a marvellous night.

80 Cub Scouts, 16 Scouts and 25 Leaders took part in the annual **Cub Baanya** at Bundilla over the first weekend in November. Everyone had a marvellous time despite everything that mother nature could throw at us - heat, humidity, rain, thunder, lightning, strong winds and then a massive drop in temperature!

Thank you to my Region Team who helped organise the event for their Districts and ran the bases for the cubs. Thank you to the wonderful leaders who gave up their precious weekend to be with their cubs and ensured their safety and well being. Thank you to the wonderful Scouts who acted as PLs for the cubs and taught them the basics of safe camping.

Thank you also to the members of Westmead Pinnaroo Fellowship for once again running the Map and Compass base for us. And finally thank you to Jo Hillyard, CSL 1st Blaxland for specially coming in to run our 'indoor' camp fire. It was wonderful to watch everyone really getting into the singing and actions of some amazing songs. How lucky am I to have such a dedicated bunch of Leaders and Scouts to help bring this successful event together!

The **Region Seonee Calendar for 2015** is now available on the GWS website. Please take note of the dates before organising any Group or District events, to avoid any clashes with Region and State events. It is rather disappointing when some packs don't take part in Region activities - especially when a huge effort has gone into organising the event.

I would like to draw your attention to our special **Programming Night** on **Friday 27th February 7.30pm - 9.30pm** at **Bundilla**. This will be a perfect opportunity for new leaders to gain help with Programming and for more experienced leaders to perhaps gain new ideas and to share their knowledge and tips with other leaders. I can promise you a fun night, delicious supper, lots of ready made Programmes for you to use with your own pack and a chance to socialise with other CSLs in the Region - so please mark this in you diary and come and join us.

I do hope that the majority of Cub Scout Leaders have now completed the two new **Basic Core Modules - WHS and Scouting and Child Safe Scouting**. If you still need to do the modules, please log onto Scout Central asap - they don't take long to do and are most informative. They need to be completed by the end of the year.

This is my last Bulletin for the year, as Paul and I are heading off overseas for our long awaited holiday. Thankfully Suzanne Cornell has kindly offered to edit the December issue for me - so please email all your reports and articles to her by November 30 via webcontent@greaterwestscouts.com.au

My sincere thanks to the Region Seonee Team, for all their dedication, patience and support for the Cub Scouts and Leaders in their Districts and for me - I couldn't do this job without them!

Thank you to all the Cub Scout Leaders who do their best for the Cubs in their care, keeping them safe, running great Programmes, camps and activities, supporting their Groups, District Seonee, Region events and helping Cubs through their badge work and their Grey Wolf Awards. It takes dedication and commitment and a firm belief in Scouting to keep doing it week after week, year after year - while still trying to manage work and a busy family life as well!

Thank you to all the Youth Helpers and parents who do an amazing job of supporting the leaders and sharing their knowledge and skills with the Cubs.

Thank you also to our RC Neville Henderson and Deputy RC, David Stopps for their continued support of the Region's Cub Scouts and their Leaders - it is very much appreciated.

And finally thank you to Kim and Maggie who do such a great job in our Region Office and are always ready with a smile and an offer of help if needed.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone - keep safe and please return in 2015 to do it all over again!



Anne Thompson (Wontolla) RC Cub Scouts
Email: cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au



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

Emma Merryfull - 1st Oakville
Sophie Fry - 1st Toongabbie
Skye Jardine - 1st Blaxland
Emma Cutbush 1st Toongabbie
Loren Green - 2nd Castle Hill
Alex Quan - 2nd Castle Hill

1- 2 - 3 - WOOF



FROM THE DEN OF THE REGION COMMISSIONER (SCOUTS)



Australian Jamboree 2016 (AJ2016)

As everyone is probably aware, we have our Australian Jamboree coming up in January 2016. Groups/Troops should have already started fund raising by now to help ease the costs for Scouts to go. Here is some information which I thought everyone may want to know. All of this information is also available on the NSW Contingent website:

<http://www.patroltent.com/PageD.asp?p=163&m=4>



Location and Dates

- AJ2016 this year will be in Sydney at Cataract Scout Park, Appin
- Arrival for us is the 2nd January 2016 and we leave on the 14th January. Opening Ceremony is the 3rd January with closing ceremony the 13th January. Market Day/Future Scout Day/Visitors Day will be the 9th January.
- Initial closing date is 16th March at the Region Office. Any applications received after this date will not be guaranteed a place in the same troop.

Applications received after the 14-June will incur a late fee of \$130. No applications accepted after 31-August.

Costs and payment schedules

SCOUTS \$1385

	<i>With Application</i>	<i>2nd Payment</i>	<i>Final Payment</i>
Payment	By Group Cheque to your Region Office by <u>March 16th</u>	By Group Cheque due at Contingent by <u>June 30th</u>	By Group Cheque due at Contingent by <u>August 31st</u>
Amount	\$825.00	\$290.00	\$270.00

VENTURERS/ROVERS/LEADERS/ADULTS \$945

	<i>With Application</i>	<i>2nd Payment</i>	<i>Final Payment</i>
Payment	By Group Cheque to your Region Office by <u>March 16th</u>	By Group Cheque due at Contingent by <u>June 30th</u>	By Group Cheque due at Contingent by <u>August 31st</u>
Amount	\$570.00	\$195.00	\$180.00

Eligibility

Scouts

- Must be a registered Scout Section member of Scouts Australia NSW at the time of application and through till 16 January 2016 (Please do not push Cubs into moving up before they have had a chance to achieve their Grey Wolf. If it is likely they will still be eligible for the next Jamboree in 2019 they should be allowed to finish Cubs and come up when they are ready).
- Must have the Pioneer Badge awarded before 15 October 2015.
- Have completed ten (10) nights under canvas as a Scout, at a Scout camp, with three (3) of those nights being consecutive. Camping with family, schools etc. will not be considered.
- Have approval from their Scout Leader (or Leader-In-Charge).
- Have approval from their Region Commissioner Scouts.
- Have approval from the Contingent Leader.
- Have consent from their parents/guardian.
- Not have had their 15th birthday before the opening day of the Jamboree, 3rd January.

Venturers (Junior Service Leaders)

- Must be a registered as a Venturer Scout member of Scouts Australia NSW at the time of application and through till 16 January 2016.
- Be 16 years of age before the opening day of the Jamboree.

- Have completed the Venturing Skills Award.
- Have a desire to provide service to Scouts.
- Be recommended by the Unit Council and Venturer Leader as being of excellent character, a good role model to Scouts and has the skills and abilities to undertake the activity (or other tasks) nominated on the application form.
- Have approval from the Contingent Leader.
- Have consent from their parents/guardian.
- Not have had their 18th birthday before the closing day of the Jamboree.

Please see the website for Rovers and adults eligibility.

Registrations

- Registrations are now open and accessible from the Contingent website.
- A red asterisk next to a field indicates it is a required field and must have information entered.
- Tabs across the top of the registration indicate additional pages which need to be completed and change depending on the applicant. Leader registrations will have extra tabs (pages) relating to them as leaders. As all the required information within these tabs is completed, the tab will turn to green.
- Once all information has been entered, the option to print the application will be available.
- Once the application is printed, all necessary signatures need to be obtained, including the Scout's signature, before being submitted to the next level.
- Photos will need to be uploaded to the application before you can print it as well.
- Two email addresses will be requested and must be correct as most communication will be via email.
- Leaders. Do not use your email addresses for the Scout's email addresses. If you have Scouts/Leaders etc. who do not have easy access to a computer, assist them to fill in their applications on yours or a Library computer and teach them how to get their own personal email address. With their own email address they can go to a friends or Library computer and look up their own emails. This may be the start for them to start accepting and using technology and be a little more independent. Email addresses for Scouts could be one that is their personal one and the second one being one of their parents.

Leader Information

- One of the biggest changes you will notice this Jamboree is that we will not have Service Leaders attached to Troops. This is a requirement of the Jamboree Organising Committee (JOC).
- Also there will be five Line Leaders per Troop instead of the previous four. We will have two Welfare or Health & Hygiene leaders per Troop.
- All Line Leaders will be required to participate in a Line Leader training course irrespective of how many Jamborees they have attended in the past.
- If a leader is going to the Jamboree for the first time, we encourage you to go as a Service Leader as Service Leaders serve as a major resource to the Jamboree and are desperately needed. Without them we cannot have a Jamboree as they provide a vital support not to mention providing the activities.

The Line Leader positions will be Jamboree Troop Leader, Quartermaster, Activities Leader, Health & Hygiene Leader.

Application Forms

- Scout Leaders and Group Leaders. As you receive applications, please go through them and make sure everything is filled out correctly, permissions are ticked and all signatures are on the forms before you pass them on. Any forms in a batch that are not complete, the whole batch will be returned to you for completion. We will provide a check list which you can use in your review process.

We are also asking that you not hold onto applications till you get them all in, but send in several small batches, with appropriate Group cheque, so that we can spread the load of processing all these applications across time.

Robin Garrett (Batman)- RC Scouts

Email: scouts@greaterwestscuts.com.au

VENTURER REPORT

Congratulations to **Rachel Ewings of 1st Ermington, Matthew Anderson of 1st Oakville, Mitchell Howlett of 1st/2nd Blacktown and Luke Bartlett of 1st Castle Hill** on being awarded their **Queen's Scout Awards** in the past month. It is great to see so many youth members across the Region being recognised for their extensive involvement in the Venturer Scout section.

Waratah 2014: Enter The Tahrdis was held at Bangalee Scout Camp earlier this month. Nearly 200 Venturer Scouts from across NSW attended the event with over 60 adults volunteering to assist in a tribute to Doctor Who. The great weather allowed teams to enjoy a wide range of activity bases earning parts to build their Sonic Screwdriver. A round of The Weakest Link, a lively auction and our disco entertained the crowds late into Saturday night. A last minute rush to complete the remaining activities on Sunday added to the excitement of the competition with the lead changing several times in the final hours.

We were pleased to welcome a total of 13 Scouts to the event this year who were all awarded their **Try Venturing badges** at the end of the weekend. The Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship also enjoyed the opportunity to invest their three newest members at the camp.

Waratah would never exist without the commitment of our Rovers, Leaders, and Fellowship Members to support the activity. Thank you especially to the GWS Rock Team for running our abseiling base and the SCAT Canoe Team for helping with the boating activity. I would also like to recognise the Waratah Organising Team that have spent many months working together to ensure the success of the event. Their efforts were demonstrated by the high quality activities on offer, the amazing three course Christmas feast for Saturday dinner, the early morning wake up calls, and the great campsite facilities that were enjoyed by all throughout the weekend.

Team 'Torchwood!' from 1st Kandos/3rd Bathurst is to be congratulated on **winning the Waratah competition for 2014. Second Place was awarded to the 'Techno Magicians' from 1st Illaroo and Third Place was awarded to 'Raxicoricofalipatorius' from 1st Ermington/1st Kellyville/Peel Valley.**

Finally, a reminder that **Region Hike 2015** is planned for **13-15 February 2015**. The E1 form is now available for download from the Region website and is also being distributed to all Groups in the Region. All youth members aged 13 to 17 years, and all adult members are invited to join this weekend. The **E1 form** provides details of a **Saturday start from Glenbrook Station** or a **Friday night start from Springwood Station** for those a little more adventurous. We look forward to a good attendance from every Scout Group at this event – encouraging everyone to get outdoors and enjoy some social bushwalking. No teams are required. Those participating will assemble in walking groups when they arrive and will be able to hike at their own pace. We will also have qualified walkers on hand to provide instruction on GPS, navigation, and other camping related topics throughout the weekend.

Aaron Wardle RC Venturer Scouts

Email: venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au

Mobile: 0421 076 497

**WARATAH 2014
1ST PLACE
TEAM TORCHWOOD
1ST KANDOS/3RD BATHURST**





WARATAH 2014



The 2014 Christmas badge now available for sale from the Scout Shop in Port Kembla for just \$2.50 each. Don't wait, order now before we run out. Email us at sctshop@nsw.scouts.com.au or call us on 4274 1193 to place your Group's order.

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

Email: sctshop@nsw.scouts.com.au

OPENING HOURS

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

REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM

There have been some very busy leaders out there, judging by the number of E1 forms coming through at present. Trying to find a free weekend is becoming near impossible, without clashing with something already happening. *To me it's a sign of a very healthy Region, with lots going on.*

Just a refresher on the E1 forms:

Parts 1 & 2 are required for all activities away from your hall. If you are lucky enough to have a park next to, or in close proximity to your hall where you regularly do activities on a normal meeting night - you do not need to fill in an E1. In this situation the appropriate procedure is to make the parents aware that you do utilise the park, along with the hall, as part of your normal meeting night.

Part 3 of the E1 (*that's the one I call the "Insurance Policy"*) is required when:

The activity is **overnight** - *Standing camp, bush camp, sleeping in a hall, (Including Bundilla), wake-athons etc.*

The Activity involves **water** *Canoeing, sailing or any boating activity, (excluding commercial vessels), canyoning, liloing, snorkelling etc. Excludes swimming activities at a commercially run or private swimming pool or water fun park.*

The Activity involves **Rock** *Abseiling, Caving, Canyoning, Rock Climbing, Top Ropes etc. Excludes commercially run high ropes and indoor rock climbing centres.*

Any Activity with an **element of risk** *This would include day hikes in the mountains, mountain bike trips, activities requiring a fair degree of travel or any other activity which does carry a degree of risk.*

If you are unsure, please contact me either by email or phone (...or those over 30 who would remember "talking on the phone" ... it actually still works!). As I say - **"IF IN DOUBT, FILL IT OUT"**



Can I pass on my thanks to a number of people from the Rock Team who did a tidy up of the "Rock Store" and Bundilla. One of the challenges we now face in this age of safety and compliance is to ensure all our gear is to industry standard. This means we are regularly updating our gear, and discarding old equipment. Gone are the days where you could just pull a piece of 20 year old rope out of the store, wrap it around a tree and abseil off it.

Great night was had by all at the Annual Adult Recognition Awards Presentation Dinner. Congratulations again to Quentin Napier, Meredith Stewart, and John Leahey - all part of the Activities Team, who received well deserved recognition on the night.

Spent a great day with Greystanes Scouts at the Ringrose Ave Public School Fete. Unfortunately the climbing wall had been booked elsewhere so was not available on the day. Not to be beaten, Col Nicholas and his industrious team arranged for a 4.5m scaffold tower to be constructed, which we were able to abseil off. Lots of fun for lots of kids, and a great promotion day for Scouting. Big thank you to Frank Barr, who worked with me on the day.

Don't forget a date for your diary, Sunday 7 December 2014 for our annual **Fun Day on the Water** at Chipping Norton. We will have the circus team there showing off some of their skills along with (hopefully) the Climbing Wall along with canoeing and sailing. Great opportunity to make the day your Group Christmas Party.

Keep your eye on the Region website for more information.

Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities

Email: activities@greaterwestcouts.com.au



Photo Mark Fell

RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

JOTA'14

Glenbrook - The scout hall in Glenbrook Park was manned by nine Blue Mountains Radio Club members. Over the weekend 23 Scouts and 10 Leaders from Hazelbrook, Springwood, Cambridge Park and Blaxland attended. One Cub arrived with a Morse key he had made. One of the radio operators and he had a great time communicating with Morse code. The operator was very impressed! Scouts who attended completed the Skill section of the Communications Badge.

Glossodia - There were about 100 Scouts on site over the weekend, about 40 on Saturday. Most got to talk on the radio. Carl from the Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club, Used Echo Link for contacts to Canada and Malta, and IRLP to England.

Mt Keira - Karl Humphreys and I went with about 100 Penrith District Scouts and Cubs, Leaders and parent helpers to Mt Keira Scout Camp. The camp site is wonderful but radio reception woeful. Karl made do with local contacts and some help from the radio operator at the Girl Guide camp down the road. The Scouts had a choice of an *electronic dice* or *metal detector* kit. Three leaders 'Archi' Brett Graham, 'Rock' Robert Rigby and 'H' Tony Henry did a sterling job of helping each Scout successfully complete their kit.



Arcs & Sparks at Winston Hills

In October we visited Winston Hills Joeys & Cubs for an Arcs & Sparks night. The Joeys viewed magnetic fields with iron filings, its action through paper, plastic and Al foil; then played with the rotating magnetic wheel, magnetic construction links and magnetic darts. They even had a go on the Van de Graff generator which was sparking well on the night.

The Cubs explored magnetic fields created by voltage electric motors and the lemon battery, as well as how Electrostatics can move a Soda can, the Al foil leaves in the Electroscope, and even your hair if it is long enough!



THE RADIO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM

John Leahy

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ets0@bigpond.com.au

(M) 0408 205 649

Hills District Widegame 2014

Seven Patrols from Hills Sth District went on a photo hunt Widegame on Sunday the 2nd November and I think they may have had some fun and learned some things as well!
Here is a collection of some of the feedback I received from the PLs following the event.

Ian Shields (Kahn) DSL
Hills South District

This district event helped encourage us as Patrols to get to know each other better and also to get to know other members of different Scout groups within the district. Wide Game strengthened our ability to work together as a team to coordinate where we were going, how we were going to get there and what we had to find and do when we got there.

The clue sheet lead us from Parramatta Park to Central, Circular Quay, Darling Harbour, Town Hall and back Westmead. We had a parent supervisor along with us to help take photos of our Patrol as we collected the many different clues during the day.

We had to be creative and think outside the box to be able to achieve some of the photo clues.

It was great how members of the community reacted well to our requests to have photos taken with them to achieve a successful clue. Like, when we asked the ambulance paramedics if we could take a photo and they allowed one of our Patrol members to lay on the gurney.

A man walking up the street allowed us to take a photo with him because he had a Parramatta Eels jersey on and this got two clues marked off.

We took a photo with a street performer – who was painted in silver.

I got to sit in the driver's seat of a Jaguar car!

In the gift shop at the Maritime Museum we took a photo with a Bear which was dressed in Military clothing and then a photo with a Naval Officer in a poster.

Some highlights of our day out are shown in my photo collage. It was great to run into the other patrols and see how many clues they had got compared to us.

At the end of the day we arrived back at Parramatta Park and had a sausage sizzle. The clue sheets were tallied and my Patrol, the Scorpions came 2nd.

What a great day out!

A big thanks to Khan for coordinating the day and for the leaders and parents who helped us on the day.

BRAVO!!!!

Amy M



Wide Game! Wow! What fun! We had no idea of what we were in for but it involved train rides, meeting new people, McDonalds and running around in the sun. Our team worked amazingly well, using their initiative to come up with some very clever answers to our challenges. We didn't have time to get from the Harbour Bridge to Mrs Macquarie's Chair and then Darling Harbour so we had to figure out how to get a photo of us on top of the Harbour Bridge – without going there. We all sat on a railing, at Mrs Mac's Chair, and lined up the Harbour Bridge under our feet – brilliant! Our PL used his persuasive powers to get us all in the bridge of a River Cat for a photo opportunity with the captain. We went on to find celebrities and politicians in JB HiFi, George Clooney was even at Centrepont! Another box ticked and we ran off to find eels in Chinatown, a policeman and a feather. It was a real adventure and great to spend such quality time together.

Callum



The Hills District Wide Game was one of the most enjoyable activities we've done in scouting. We were able to see and do so many things in the one day. Our favourite part of the day was when we were able to go into Madame Tausaud's for free and to take a picture of a world leader. It was cool looking at all of the unbelievably realistic wax figures of people from all around the world. All in all, it was a really fun day and we would definitely do it again!

Jason



The most interesting thing that I thought we did on the weekend was meeting Peter Wynn a former Parramatta Eels player. One of the questions was to get a photo with an Eel and the special bonus was if ours was a Parramatta Eel! So when we got to Peter Wynn's store in Parramatta, we met him and had a photo taken with him and it was definitely the most interesting thing we did all day.

Ryan

1st Quakers Hill/Doonside Cub Pack's Great Cycle Challenge

The aim of the challenge is simple. Sign up, pledge the amount of kilometers you think you can ride in October and then ride, ride, ride! We had Cubs pledge to ride from 5km right up to 400km. Even Akela joined in with a pledge to ride 100km!

Next step was to get sponsors. The Cubs madly nagged Scout Leaders, friends, family and even went around to local business people asking for sponsorship. We made it into the local paper as well as being used by the Challenge to help promote the ride. We also organised a District Bike Hike & Halloween night to get extra funds. There were small incentives on the way, as in both Akela & our GL having three, yes three buckets of iced water poured over each of their heads once we achieved our fundraising goals!

Then came October when the Cubs began to ride their promised kms. They rode to the Scout hall, along the local bike tracks, the caravan park they were staying at during the holidays, around the Blue Mountains and even across the Sydney Harbour Bridge! They got extra kms on the clock during the District Bike Hike we organised. They did their Best and even better with ALL achieving - if not going over their goals by October 31st. And on top of this, they raised a total of \$4,386 for Childhood Cancer Research! Yes I am one VERY proud Akela!

We are still taking donations up until November 27th, just click on the Quakers Hill/Doonside link. <https://greatcyclechallenge.com.au/Teams/1stQuakersHillDoonsideCubPack>

Will they be doing it again next year? Yes I hope so, and so can your mob, pack, troop, unit or crew. Anyone can take part in this! <https://www.facebook.com/GreatCycleChallenge>

Lisa Nicholls (Akela) Ecstatic Cub Scout Leader
1st Quakers Hill/Doonside Cub Pack



APPOINTMENTS LIST to 20/10/2014



APPOINTMENTS

KHAN, Juanita Marilyn	Appt TL (G)	2nd Kings Langley Scout Group
FULTON, Rachael Claire	Appt TL (J)	1st Toongabbie Joey Mob
LOCKMAN, Katherine Mary	Appt TL (J)	1st Toongabbie Joey Mob
LEE, Monique Nellie	Appt TL (S)	West Pennant Hills Valley Scout Troop
LEHRER, Jeffrey Robert	Appt TL (S)	1st Dural Scout Troop <i>Giwang</i>
MACDONALD, Emma Jane	Appt TL (S)	1st Dural Scout Troop <i>Giwang</i>
SUDARSANAN, Adethya	Appt TL (S)	1st Parramatta Scout Troop
JACKEL, Erica Katherine	Appt TL (V)	1st North Rocks Venturer Unit

TRANSFERS

DAVIS, Elizabeth Clare	Fr Appt TL (C)	1st Winston Hills Cub Pack <i>Boronia</i>
	To ACSL	1st Winston Hills Cub Pack <i>Boronia</i>
ANG, Pei Feng	Fr TL (G)	1st Murray Farm
	To JSL	1st Murray Farm
HILTON, Scott	Fr ACSL	1st Kellyville Cub Pack <i>Darzee</i>
	To ACSL	1st Alcheringa Sth Met Region

RESIGNATIONS

POLLOCK, Fredrick William	JSL	2nd Kings Langley Joey Mob
APPS, Hayden	Appt TL (S)	1st Kings Langley Scout Troop
MEIN, Christopher	Appt TL (C)	1st Springwood Cub Pack <i>Tibrogargan</i>
SHANKS, Esther	Appt TL (S)	1st Hazelbrook Scout Troop

TRAINEE LEADERS NOT PROCEEDING

BRAID, Daniel Andrew	Trainee Ldr (CS)	1st South Penrith Cub Pack <i>Glenmore</i>
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SUPPORT FOR THE WATKINS FAMILY

When the Watkins' family home was hit by lightning on October 14, it was destroyed by fire, destroying all their belongings with it. The Watkins family, who have been very active members of the 1st Kellyville Scout Group for over four years and who are members of Cumberland Gang Show, had just returned home from a night at Cubs when the incident occurred.

The Scouting community have rallied together to offer the family assistance in their time of need. The 1st Kellyville Scout Group have supported the family by supplying them with new uniforms, badges and handbooks. The Cubs from the Hills South District donated two hundred and seventy five dollars. There have also been many other donations and support from Scouts ranging from badge collections to clothing and camping equipment.

At the recent Adult Recognition Awards presentation night, a bucket was passed around to collect donations. Six hundred dollars was collected on the night. Region Commissioner, Neville Henderson presented the donation to the family.

It makes you feel very proud to be part of a movement that cares so much for their fellow members.

Gabie Thompson DLCS - Hills Sth District





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JOTA/JOTI 2014 2ND CASTLE HILL SCOUT GROUP

Following the success of our inaugural JOTA/JOTI event last year, 2nd Castle Hill Scouts again ran this wonderful event over the weekend of the 18-19th October. The gentlemen from Hornsby and District Amateur Radio Club (HADARC) kindly volunteered to help us out this year and set up three radio bases. This year we invited the Joeys and Cubs to join us during the afternoon, whilst the Scouts were on deck until late at night on the Saturday.

All up we had 4 Joeys, 7 Cubs and 6 Scouts participate and they all enjoyed their time conversing on the radio or using internet chat with Scouts from all over the world. We hooked up with various groups from around Sydney and Australia such as Asquith, Kings Langley, Perth, Townsville, but of course the highlights were contacting scouts from far away such as Chile, Columbia, Cook Islands, Slovenia, Russia, Ukraine, Philippines, Canada, USA Cyprus and NZ to name just a few. We erected a world map and marked in which countries we had contacted and by the end of the night confirmed we had touched every continent except Antarctica and covered every time zone.

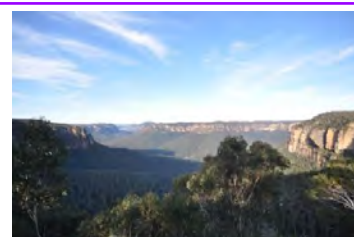
Thanks to everyone who helped make our second JOTA/JOTI a big success.

Ross Smith (Elmer) ASL 2nd Castle Hill Scouts



1st BLACKHEATH SCOUT HALL

2 Park Lane
Blackheath



1st Blackheath Scout Hall is located in the picturesque village of Blackheath and within walking distance of the railway station, shops and Blue Mountains National Park.

The hall is available for hire by Scout Groups and has separate male/female toilets and hot showers and a full kitchen. A gas BBQ can be supplied or a campfire can be used outside. The hall is adjacent to the Blackheath Oval and Park. Parking is available adjacent to the hall. Potential activities nearby include bushwalking, rock climbing, canyoning orienteering and horse riding.

For bookings, please contact Cheryl Kiely (02) 4787 7818

CANYONING CAPERS 5 - DEEP PASS AND RIVER CAVES CANYONS

Another canyon trip and another fabulous adventure for scouts from all across the Region. Late October is just perfect for canyoning, not cold but not yet too hot and we were blessed with absolutely brilliant weather for our trip to Deep Pass and River Caves Canyons on the Newnes Plateau. 12 scouts from Baulkham Hills, Castle Hill, Northmead, Hazelbrook and North Rocks along with 5 leaders and adult helpers assembled early Sunday morning for the trip up to the Zig Zag Railway and beyond. After negotiating the maze of fire trails to the Deep Pass carpark we made our way down to the camping area where we met up with Makka, Bundy and the scouts from Blacktown District, who were eager to join us on the trip.



The group made its way up the canyon, easily negotiating all the tricky waterfall climbs and log traverses, some of which required delicate footwork. There were a quite few slips and splashes but all were accompanied by lots of squeals, laughter and merriment.

We soon reached the exit point but rather than head straight up to the cars we decided to extend the fun and reverse the entire canyon which was quite exciting as it meant downclimbing some pretty challenging sections alongside beautiful waterfalls. The day was getting

hotter even in the canyon and it was very tempting to jump into the beautiful rock pools, however to my surprise everyone remained mostly dry. The canyon was brimming with wildlife a good indication of a healthy ecosystem and included small fish, frogs and several very large freshwater crayfish, a couple of which were having a rather serious conflict.

After walking back up the fire-trail and regaining the cars we enjoyed a relaxing lunch before heading off to River Caves Canyon. The trip out included a bit of excitement when one of the cars became heavily bogged in one of the water traps on the road. Fortunately, Jaffa's 4WD came to the rescue and easily popped the car out of the mire.



From the feature known as *Natural Bridge* Lachlan Hibbard (Hazelbrook), very competently led the whole group down the very overgrown trail to the start of the canyon. This is where the fun really began as many of the scouts especially Alex, Jeremy and Matt from 2nd Baulkham Hills were determined to get as wet as possible, which they did repeatedly.



It proved impossible not to get wet up to the chest in some of the sections but it was welcome relief from the heat of the day (after the initial shock of cold wore off!!) Although shortish in length, River Caves Canyon is quite spectacular and we spent some time taking in its beauty, including observing the shafts of sunlight penetrating the chasm. Although the exit is steep and the ridgeline a bit of a walk, the temperature had begun to drop and we made good time back to the cars in reasonable comfort.

A big congratulations to all the scouts who participated and a thank you to all the adults who made my day a breeze. **Here are a couple of quotes from the day:**

"Today was just awesome" Alex McKenna. "The best thing ever!! Loved squeezing through the canyon and getting wet in the freezing water" Lachlan Diego. "I was tossing up whether to come or not, but am so glad I did, as this was spectacular and great fun" Adult Helper

Ross Smith (Elmer) SL 2nd Castle Hill Scouts/GWS Rock Activities - Canyon Guide



THE BULLETIN

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The December issue of The Bulletin will be edited by Suzanne Cornell.
Please send all articles and reports directly to her by 30th November via
webcontent@greaterwestscouts.com.au