



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 429 - March 2015



GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153

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

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Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

The year is shaping up to be a very busy time and I have a lot of appointments already penciled in for March. Invitations have come to attend Australian Scout Medallion presentations for Mitchell Gallagher from 1st Kings Langley on 10th March, Jordan Vella from 1st Grose Vale on 20th March and Queens Scouts Awards for Rose Mercieca from 1st Blaxland on 15th March, ASM for Elysia Higgins 1st Ermington and Byron Davis North Rocks on 26th March and Queens Scout for Mitchell Howlett from 1st/2nd Blacktown on 27th March. What an honour to be invited to these very important events.

Congratulations to Holroyd District leaders who have taken the initiative and set up a Development Committee to try and increase the numbers of youth in their district. Well done.

I had a meeting with the Salvation Army during the month and we have been invited to become a partner for the Red Shield Appeal on 31 May 2015. We have decided to make this our major service event for 2015 and I hope all groups will join in this fundraising day for our friends the Salvos - we will update you when we have further details.

All Adult Members, Rovers and Adult Helpers attending Australian Jamboree 2016 and Dragonskin 2015 must apply immediately and are required to complete the process of obtaining a Working with Children Check by 20 March 2015. Failure to obtain your WWC Clearance and provide it to Region Office for verification will prevent your participation in the event you may be applying to attend.

A meeting was held on 1st March at Ermington Scout Hall with over 100 interested parties present to protest the sale of the property by Sydney Water and the eviction of the group after 60 years of occupation. We will not let this go without a fight and you will probably hear and see more in the media unless we have a satisfactory solution and I will be writing to the candidates for the State Seat of Parramatta asking for their pledge of support.

I also had the pleasure to get out and about with Community Service and assisted at Kurrajong Scout Hall with graffiti removal. Quite an enjoyable day with some of the committee and parents

Congratulations to our office ladies, Kim and Maggi, on their 5 years of service. Well done ladies.

A quick note that Gang Show tickets are now available. Until next time.....carry on scouting

Neville Henderson OAM JP

Region Commissioner

Email: rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au

TRAINING REPORT

At the Commissioners' Conference earlier in the month, the training organisation was streamlined. Now the training team (including the PLAs) will concentrate on getting leaders trained to be leaders in Scouting.

Acquiring qualifications such as certificates II, III and IV can still be done through Scouting but will be handled by Stewart Bullivant who is now the Branch Commissioner for the RTO.

GWSR is now live on Scoutlink so all Group Leaders or administrators can now monitor the progress of leaders through basic and advanced training.

A reminder to all those applying for residential courses. You must have your application in by the closing date - earlier if possible, as the courses fill up quickly. You must have completed the on line training by that date. We had a number miss a out on a course in March because the number of participants was limited to 36!

Last year we had quite a number of people do the advanced courses. At present I am chasing a number of them to complete their workbooks so that they can be finalised. My aim is to have all 2014 trainees cleared before the next advanced course.

Kathy Cuneo RC AT&D

Email: training@greaterwestscouts.com.au



**Kangaroo Tent City & BBQ's
2/204 Walters Road
Arndell Park NSW Australia 2151**

HUGE WAREHOUSE CLEARANCE SALE

**Friday 13th March to Saturday 21st March 2015
9am to 5pm.**

Excess stock including display models, new and old models of tents, backpacks, outdoor furniture and BBQs etc.

Visit: www.kangarootentcity.com.au

PH: 4733 4111 Fax: 9676 8682

CUB SCOUT NOTES

Our **Programming Night** was held on Friday February 27 at Bundilla. 18 CSLs joined the Region Seeonee Team for what turned out to be a fun and informative evening. Thank you to all the Leaders who participated and thanks to my team for running the sessions and providing a delicious supper.

Our first **CS Leadership Course** will be held on Saturday 21st March. We have 53 Cubs registered - so it will be a very busy day for the Team and the Leaders who have volunteered to come and help us. Thank you to all the CSLs who organised to have the applications in before the closing date - it certainly makes my life easier.

The annual **Youth Helper Course** will be held on Saturday 9th May. This is open to all Venturers working with the Joey Scout, Cub Scout or Scout sections. The E1 is available on the website. Please make sure the form and money reaches the Region Office by close of business 1st May.

A invitation is extended to all Cubs Scout Leaders and Youth Helpers to attend **State Palaver** in Katoomba from Friday evening, May 22 to Sunday afternoon May 24. This will be a fun weekend and a wonderful opportunity to socialise with other Leaders and to gain ideas for Programming for your packs. Make sure you read the Invitation from 'Tricia Shaw, our State Commissioner Cub Scouts on page 16 for all the details. Don't miss the boat - applications close on the 6th May!

At Palaver this year, there will be a display of some of the **resources** Cubs have created for their Packs as part of their **Grey Wolf** requirements. I am hoping to take a good representation of work from across the Region to add to the display. I would appreciate it, if you could start gathering these resources together, so I can borrow them for the weekend. Please make sure they are labelled so I can return them to the right Packs and give them to your DLCS/Seeonee Leader, who will pass them on to me. I will need them just one week prior to the State Palaver on May 22., thank you.

I would like to remind all CSLs planning a **Pack Holiday**, that I need a copy of the Programme (wet and dry), and the menu at least one month before the event. Lately I am finding out about Pack Holidays very close to the date or even after the holiday is over!

I also need all CSLs to submit their **Term Programmes** to their DLCS or Seeonee Leader asap - it will soon be time to submit the 2nd Term Programme.

This year we are looking at the **Desirable Standards** for the Cub Scout Section as established by Scouts Australia. I will make sure the standards are available on the GWS website, so that all Leaders are aware of

what is expected of them. If you are achieving the standards and running good Programmes, you will have no difficulty in gaining your **Commissioner's Challenge Badge** - a special badge just for Leaders.

Last year we gave out very few of these badges - not sure if it was because Leaders aren't aware of the badge or the standards weren't being met—hopefully it was due to the first instance.

Keep up the good work and continue to deliver good Scouting to your Cubs!

Anne Thompson (Wontolla) - RC Cub Scouts

Email: cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au



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

**Ryan Dring - 1st/2nd Blacktown
Iluka Jelley - 1st/2nd Blacktown
Tyrone Freeman - 1st QH/Doonside
Mathew Dixon - 1st Kellyville
Zosia Ellis - 1st Carlingford**

1 - 2 - 3 - WOOF

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

JOEY SCOUTS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Back in 1976 up around Newcastle there was a trial of a new Scouting section called Joey Scouts. The trial was run by Helen Strutt with the backing of the then Chief Commissioner Ron Pate and lasted for just a year. The idea disappeared for a while until a new trial was launched in 1990. The trial proved a success and then a major launch day was held in Tumbalong Park, Darling Harbour on 10th February 1991. The launch was attended by many Joey Scouts from trial mobs. A Special Birthday Cake was presented and jointly cut by Ben from 1st Penrith Joey Scouts and Jarrod from 1st Avalon Joey Scouts. Helen Strutt acted as MC for the event with guest speakers, Ron Pate (Branch Chairman), Dr Bruce Munro (Chief Commissioner) and Dianne Stocks (District Joey Scout Leader Blacktown). The Joey Scouts ran activities for everyone to see, craft, games and songs. The Official launch date for registration of Joey Scout Mobs in NSW was 1st July 1991.



Joey Scouts was designed as a training section for future Cubs and Scouts, keeping in mind that they were very early in their childhood development. This brought about the Mob Participation scheme where badges are done as a mob, until they are ready to link with cubs. At that stage they are ready to do the Promise Challenge, which is sort of an advanced pathway into cubs.

This year we celebrate Joey Scouts reaching their 25 year milestone, there are many different celebrations planned for across the country. The first item is our 25 year badge which has been approved for placing on the uniform (right side front, no higher than flag). These badges are available from your Wandarrah @ \$1.50 each. Other celebrations include;

- 1st/2nd week Term 3, all Joeys mobs will hold a **BP Big Party**
- **16th August** - all Joeys to meet at Scout Place, Circular Quay at 11am; from there they will move to the Opera House forecourt for a **Big Birthday Party** commencing at 12noon. This will be followed by a **BP Big Picnic in the Domain**.
- Special Souvenir - Scouts NSW to produce a **Joey Scout Pencil case** with a special 25 year embroidered message. (Details to come)

2015 Joey Fun Day - 17th May 2015 - Heroes & Villains

This has always been a popular event and this year it will be better than ever. We have the Flying Fox, Climbing Wall, Gang Show (fingers crossed), Cubs and Joey Districts all running bases; PLUS, we have Outback Steakhouse onboard to cook lunch for us. Please note that there is no special dietary requests for lunch as lunch has been donated.



E1 Activity forms have been circulated and can be downloaded from the Region Calendar. These forms need to be returned to the Mobs and then a Mob Registration form needs to be attached to the E1's and returned to the Region Office with the money by 4pm Friday 1st May. Cost is \$10 for Joeys and \$5 for Leaders/Helpers.

Please encourage your Joeys to come in Theme, but remember capes must be able to be taken off for the Climbing Wall. Please ensure all Forms are complete and if Parent Consent for Flying Fox and Rock Related Activities is not ticked, ensure that the parent realises what that means. This is a Region event, so please ensure that **EVERY** Joey in the Region has been invited.

Succession Planning

Technically speaking it is the Group Committee's role to recruit new leaders, but as Joey Leaders you need to be their eyes and ears at your mob meetings. Unless your mob has an excessive number of leaders, it's very important that you continually promote, encourage and use your fantastic powers of persuasion on those parents. Keep on involving them in everything you do. Don't let them just sit reading books/iPads - get them to help with craft, games and activities. Show them that when there are many, the work load is less. You all understand this; please don't leave it until the last leader is about to walk out the door.

GANG SHOW - Joeys Matinee Session - 4th July 2pm

This year, we are all going, yes that's right, let's all go and support the Comet Cast. Keep this in your Diary, an E1 form will be circulated and just like the Joey Fun Day, this is Region event, so we

expect **EVERY** Joey to be invited along. It's a fun show and a great way to congratulate all those Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Guides that have worked so hard all year to put this on for us.

Brian Zarth (Magpie) - RC Joey Scouts

Email: joeys@greaterwestscouts.com.au



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

- Alec Mitchell - 1st North Rocks
- Ethan Kang - 1st North Rocks
- Chloe Keaton - 1st Quakers Hill/Doonside
- Georgina Imogen Roper - 1st Kings Langley
- Tayliya Kyprianou - 2nd Castle Hill
- Ramez Razi - 1st Carlingford
- Steven Lin - 1st Carlingford
- Jasmin McKnight - 1st Carlingford
- Mackenzie Sherman - 1st Balcombe Heights
- Lachlan Milosh - 1st Oakville

HOP - HOP - HOP



Dianne Stocks cutting the cake following Investitures at 1st Kings Langley 5/12/1991

NSW Chief Commissioner, Dr Bruce Munro
Tumbalong Park 10/2/1991



The Chief Commissioner
cuts the cake with
Joey Scouts
Ben (1st Sth Penrith) and
Jarrod (1st Avalon)

**All photos courtesy of
Dianne Stocks**



VENTURER REPORT

Congratulations to Rose Mercieca on being awarded her Queen's Scout Award.

Almost 100 participants joined the **Region Hike** last month, including 21 adults from across GWSR and approximately 20 Scouts. Over 1,400kg was carried in back packs for the weekend and some 200 bacon and egg rolls were consumed on Sunday breakfast. The weather was a particular challenge with the overnight rain and the Glenbrook causeway being closed on Saturday hugely restricting our access to the camping ground. Our contingent of hikers on the three-day bushwalk also had to negotiate a 4 to 5 kilometre stretch of track that was actually underwater due to the flooded creeks resulting in a significantly harder journey than was originally planned. Nonetheless, all of the participants did extremely well to cope with the conditions. Many of the participants also completed their RPL documentation for the Bushwalking Level 1 qualification which is a great result for this activity.

Applications for the New Zealand Venture opened last month with all 550 places being filled in less than four days! A large number of Venturer Scouts from GWS have applied and will be looking forward to an amazing experience next summer.

For those that missed out on the New Zealand Venture and anyone else in the Region that may be interested, don't forget that there is a large range of other International activities available over the next few years. This information has also been updated on the Region website and was included in last month's Bulletin.

Mawson Scholarship in Leadership applications are currently open for 2015. Online applications are available at <http://registrations.international.scouts.com.au/>. Applications close on 27 March 2015.

Dragon Skin is fast approaching and will be returning to Penrose State Forest this year. Teams are encouraged to register as soon as possible. Every Unit in the Region should have at least one or two teams attending!

This year is our **10th Anniversary Waratah**. The theme this year is "**Revenge of the Wraith**". Congratulations to our team of volunteers that were elected to the organising committee last month. They have a lot of work ahead of them, and I am confident that this year's event will be the best ever. Applications open at the May RVSC and close on Friday 9 October.

Aaron Wardle RC Venturer Scouts

Email: venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au

Mobile: 0421 076 497



Be Prepared...
for new adventure!

**SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
MAWSON SCHOLARSHIP
IN LEADERSHIP**

The National Advanced Leadership Course for Venturer Scouts aged 15-17 years

Courses held in July and October Practical training in event management 24 youth members selected for each course

Visit <http://registrations.international.scouts.com.au> to complete your application

**2015 APPLICATIONS CLOSE
FRIDAY 27 MARCH**



REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM

Summer is just about over with the cooler weather not far away. One of the great things we have here in Australia is the ability to be able to enjoy most outdoors activities all year round.

Our bush walking team has been busy with another SIS Level One course run by Tristan Flores. This course is now part of leader training, giving all participants a good understanding in hiking, overnight light weight camping, communication equipment (which includes mobile phones), navigation equipment etc. Of course you do not become proficient at these skills without practising. Might sound scary to some. How about linking or networking (new buzz word) with a group who does have good bushwalking experience. It is amazing how much you can learn by getting out and doing it! Not to mention the confidence it creates.



There are some great places to hike, but with a bit of experience, there are some really great places to go!



Stuart Cowen and his team ran a successful abseiling workshop; with a theory night at Bundilla; followed by a day at Bowen Mountain, and a second day at Yellow Rock, where both leaders and youth could put their skills into action.

Not to be out done, Ross Smith ran an equally successful canyon day trip to Rocky Creek. Can create quite a stir to the untrained eye, seeing people bushing walking with wetsuits and helmets on. Certainly a welcome accessory once you hit that water ...*even in the middle of summer!*



Abseiling, probably not for the faint hearted, but certainly generating lots of renewed interest.

Was it "that cold", or maybe Parramatta DSL Clinton Stewart, has just stood on one of those big freshwater yabbies! The joys of Rocky Creek!

As most of you would probably know, GWS has a dedicated Circus Team, which are very much a part of the Activities Team, and specialize in learning and perfecting (*that takes a little bit longer*) some real circus skills including juggling, Diabolo, Hoopla, Unicycle (*just staying upright is a skill in itself, let alone trying to ride one*). The Circus Team meets regularly on a Tuesday night at Bundilla, and is keen to start holding open nights for older Scouts (13+) and Venturers. For further information please contact Mitch Hodgson mitchellh1995@yahoo.com.au



Our Sailing Team, led by Keith Travers, is running a series of sailing workshops over three separate weekends at Lake Chipping Norton. Come for one day, or both. Great opportunity to learn some of the fundamentals of sailing. Details and E1 forms are all on the Region Website. We are fortunate to have a number of sailing craft in our region, and are equally fortunate to have a number of "sailors" willing to teach us some great skills.

Cumberland Gang Show has just kicked off its 46th Season with **"REACH FOR THE STARS"**

Rehearsals now under way for what promises to be one of the biggest seasons Gang Show has ever done. ***Now don't tell anyone I told you this, but I believe the "Swans" are back this year!*** And I am not talking about a football team. Some of you may know what I am talking about. For those who don't, why not organize a theatre party with your Scout group, work colleagues, neighbours, sporting group, church group, knitting group, and find out for yourself! Go to www.gangshow.asn.au/ for full details.



There is so much we can offer. You are never too old to learn a new activity skill. Perhaps you had a skill, a passion many years ago, and put it in the closet! Time to perhaps open the closet...? ***So how young are you?***

Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities

Email: activities@greaterwestcouts.com.au

DON'T SELL OUR KIDS FUTURE - SAVE ERMINGTON SCOUT HALL



Like many Scout Halls - 1st Ermington Scout hall is on land that is not owned by Scouts NSW.
Our hall sits on land owned by Sydney Water.

1st Ermington Scout hall has been on this site for over 50 years.

Over the last 10 years thanks to grants from the NSW Government, Parramatta City Council, Club Grants (Parramatta Leagues Club), and countless fundraising BBQs by Ermington Scouts, the hall and grounds have undergone some fantastic improvements to ensure that it is a great community resource.

Upgrades have included a deck at the side of the hall, a new kitchen and bathrooms, security fence, installation of a garage and laying of turf, water tank, solar panels, shelving in the Venturer den, hall floor sanding and resurfacing and new floodlights on the flagpole.

At the end of January 2015 we were advised by **Sydney Water** that this site is surplus to their needs and that they will be terminating our licence and selling off the land to developers.

Ermington Scouts has started a **Don't Sell Our Kid's Future - Save Ermington Scout Hall campaign**. Our goal is to ensure that the land can be preserved for community use. Should our campaign be unsuccessful and we are unable to reverse the decision by Sydney Water, under the terms of our licence we must return the site to vacant land. All structures and fencing on the site would need to be removed.

Thanks to GWSR for their support of this campaign. We held a Community Meeting at the hall on Sunday 1st March. It was great to see past and present members of Scouts, and the community come along to the meeting and pledge their support to help us in this fight.

We have the support of John Alexander MP Bennelong, Geoff Lee MP Parramatta, James Shaw NSW Labor Candidate, and Parramatta City Council.

- **We have set up a face book page and invite you and your friends to like our page;**
www.facebook.com/SaveErmingtonScoutHall
- **For more information on how you can help visit our website:**
www.ermingtonscouts.asn.au

Up coming Canyon Trips (further info available on the GWS website)

5th July	Vertical Canyon (Juggler)
16th August	Vertical Canyon (Tiger Snake)
4th September	Scout Canyon (Birrabang and Dargans Creek)
5th - 6th December	Canyon Camp (Bowens Creek and Whungee Wheengee)

RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Hover night at Glossodia

- Here are some shots of other activities on our hover night.
- Experiencing the force of friction, not just the energy required to move something, but the greater energy required to get it moving. The cubs work their way from sled to rollers to wheels.
- Looking at other ways to reduce friction including magnetic levitation, wings, fixed and rotating, air pressure hover craft.
- Experiencing centripetal / centrifugal rotation force (that which tends to throw you off while spinning).
- What happens when the floating object you are riding needs to stop (you just keep going in a straight line if the Leader holding the rope doesn't pull you up).



Experiencing Rotating Force



Karl explains Lift



Almost flying!

12/FEB/2015

1st GLOSSODIA HOVER NIGHT

THE RADIO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM

John Leahy john.scoutleahy@gmail.com Home 4572-1549

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

APPOINTMENTS LIST

3/2/2015 to 23/2/2015



APPOINTMENTS

Andrews, Mark	LIC	1st Ermington Scout Group
Burnside, Mark	LIC	1st Grose Vale Scout Group
Daines, Glenn	LIC	1st Whalan Scout Group
Dewhurst, Bradley	LIC	West Pennant Hills Valley Scout Group
Hall, Bryan	LIC	1st Wentworthville Scout Group
Henriksson, Philomena	LIC	1st Murray Farm Scout Group
Henry, Anthony	LIC	1st Emu Plains Scout Group
Howlett, Ross	LIC	2nd Kings Langley Scout Group
Huthnance, Jennifer	LIC	1st Springwood Scout Group
McGrath, Christine	LIC	1st Westmead Scout Group
McLean, Andrew	LIC	1st Erskine Park Scout Group
Mercieca, Joshua	Appt TL (J)	1st Blaxland Joey Mob <i>Python</i>
Myers, David	LIC	1st Parramatta Scout Group
Saville, George	LIC	1st Mt Druitt Scout Group
Soul, Trevor	LIC	1st Riverstone Scout Group
Staples, Allan	LIC	1st Castle Hill Scout Group
Tamsett, Peter	LIC	1st Pendle Hill Scout Group
Willetts, Carolyn	AVSL	1st Hazelbrook Venturer Unit

TRANSFERS

Burr, Sharon	From ACSL To ASL	1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Cub Pack 09/02/2015 1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Scout Troop
Connor, Glenn	From ASL To ?	1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Troop 18/02/2015
Ellicott, Sharon	From AJSL To JSL	1st Hazelbrook Joey Mob 09/02/2015 1st Hazelbrook Joey Mob
Ewings, Nerida	From VSL To AVSL	1st Ermington Venturer Unit 16/02/2015 1st Kellyville Venturer Unit
Fitzsimmons, Guy	From CSL To ACSL	1st Castle Hill Cub Pack "Kookaburra" 09/02/2015 1st Castle Hill Cub Pack Kookaburra
Hammond, Jamie	From CSL To ACSL	1st Hazelbrook Cub Pack "Cumbora" 09/02/2015 1st Hazelbrook Cub Pack <i>Cumbora</i>
Holman, Timothy	From Appt TL (J) To AJSL	1st North Rocks Joey Mob 23/02/2015 1st North Rocks Joey Mob
Horman, Richard	Appt TL (C) To CSL	1st Castle Hill Cub Pack <i>Kookaburra</i> 16/02/2015 1st Castle Hill Cub Pack <i>Kookaburra</i>
Joel, Tallia	From AL (G) From Appt TL (S) To ASL	1st Ermington Scout Group 05/02/2015 1st Ermington Scout Troop 1st Ermington Scout Troop
Klein, Kathryn	From Appt TL (C) To ACSL	1st Blaxland Cub Pack <i>Keego</i> 1st Blaxland Cub Pack <i>Keego</i> 19/02/2015
Laurendet, James	From ACSL To CSL	1st Hazelbrook Cub Pack "Cumbora" 09/02/2015 1st Hazelbrook Cub Pack <i>Cumbora</i>
MacCormick, Jane	From CSL To ?	1st Grose Vale Cub Pack 23/02/2015

O'Keeffe, Warwick	From VSL To AVSL	1st Winston Hills Venturer Unit 09/02/2015 1st Winston Hills Venturer Unit
Peirce, Kathryn	From JSL To AJSL	1st North Rocks Joey Mob 23/02/2015 1st North Rocks Joey Mob
Rigg, James	From AVSL To VSL	1st Carlingford Venturer Unit 09/02/2015 1st Carlingford Venturer Unit
Satharasinghe, Kaushalya	From Appt TL (J) To ?	1st Balcombe Heights Joey Mob 23/02/2015
Sauer, Rick	From AJSL To?	1st Kellyville Joey Mob 09/02/2015
Smart, Patricia	From ASL To SL	1st Hazelbrook Scout Troop 09/02/2015 1st Hazelbrook Scout Troop
Staples, Kasey	From JSL To JSL	1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Joey Mob 16/02/2015 1st/2nd Blacktown Joey Mob
Ward, Kristine	From JSL To AJSL	1st Hazelbrook Joey Mob 09/02/2015 1st Hazelbrook Joey Mob
Williams, Tiffany	From Appt TL (C) To ACSL	3rd Merrylands Cub Pack 23/02/2015 3rd Merrylands Cub Pack

RESIGNATIONS

Anderson, Kerrie	ASL	2nd Kings Langley Scout Troop
Broderick, Kenneth	SL	1st Blaxland Scout Troop <i>Dunphy</i>
Costello, Kevin	AL (G)	1st Parramatta Scout Group
Daines, Dedre	LIC	1st Whalan Scout Group
Darlington, Ryan	AJSL	1st Oakville Joey Mob
Darmody, Raelene	Appt TL (V)	1st Oakville Venturer Unit
Diaz, Keanii	ACSL	1st Oakville Cub Pack
Egberts, David	Appt TL (C)	1st Erskine Park Cub Pack
Flavell, Mark	ACSL	2nd Kings Langley Cub Pack <i>Waminda</i>
Frost, Jeanette	CSL	1st Toongabbie Cub Pack
Hewa Liyanage, Rasika	ACSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>
Hopkins, Bradley	Appt TL (V)	1st Oakville Venturer Unit
Hudson, Michael	AL (G)	1st Springwood Scout Group
Lansley, Stephen	Fellowship Member	Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship
Loveridge, Samuel	Appt TL (R)	Kings Langley Rover Crew
McGarry, Carol	AVSL	1st Oakville Venturer Unit
Mills, Warwick	ASL	1st Dural Scout Troop <i>Giwang</i>
Mort, David	VSL	1st Carlingford Venturer Unit
Mort, Teresa	AVSL	1st Carlingford Venturer Unit
Muir, Anne	JSL	1st Toongabbie Joey Mob
Nicholls, Lisa	CSL	1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Cub Pack
Richards, Michael	ACSL	1st Kings Langley Cub Pack <i>Impeesa</i>
Smith, Jessica	Appt TL (S)	1st Oakville Scout Troop
Thornton, Matthew	Appt TL (C)	1st Grose Vale Cub Pack
Tovkach, Leanne	AL (G)	1st Greystanes Scout Group
Turner, Tonya	CSL	1st Dural Cub Pack
Whelan, Yumiko	ACSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>

FORMATION REGISTRATIONS

Blacktown Rover Crew 18/02/2015
Blacktown Rover Crew (Group) 18/02/2015

Calling all **Scouts**, **Venturers**, **Rovers** and **Leaders**

SCOUT SNOW WEEKEND



Come along and join us on
24 – 26 July 2015
For an **AWESOME** weekend in the snow

Included

- 2 nights at the Scout Alpine centre
- 2 Breakfasts and 1 Dinner
- All transport including mountain transfers
- National park entry fees

ONLY



\$220



*Plus Gear hire and lift tickets

THAT'S THE SAME PRICE AS LAST YEAR!

Places are limited so book your seat NOW!

For more info checkout snowtrip.greaterwestscouts.com.au

Or contact
GRUG
0411 326 021
gwssnowtrip@gmail.com



19th Annual Christmas Carolling at The Willows Retirement Village

On November 24th 2014, 2nd Baulkham Hills conducted its 19th Annual Christmas Carolling at The Willows Retirement Village at Northmead. As in past years, we invited other Cub Packs from the Hills District to join us. On this occasion we were joined by 2nd Castle Hill and 1st Balcombe Heights cubs and leaders.

The cubs performed Christmas Carols, Camp Fire Skits , recited 'T'was the Night Before Christmas' and provided a musical interlude for the residents of The Willows. Cubs also purchase, with their own pocket money, small gifts which they hand out to the residents following the performance. The cubs mingle with the residents - chatting as they make their way around the room. As you will see in the photos we had quite a roll up of cubs and leaders to bring some Christmas cheer to the resident. As in the past the cubs were provided with a very nice supper by The Willows' Social Committee.

Next year we are planning on making the event bigger and better for the 20th Anniversary of our first carolling in 1995. Two cubs, one from the initial Carol Night (Taylor Page) and one from a few years later (Oscar Sheppard) are now attending as Cub Scout Leaders. Taylor has attended all 20 events! The Carolling night was first conducted by Jennie Page CSL of the then 1st Baulkham Hills Scout Group which was closed in 2000 due to the poor condition of their hall. Jennie and Taylor transferred to 2nd Baulkham Hills and continued the carolling tradition.

Jennie Page CSL

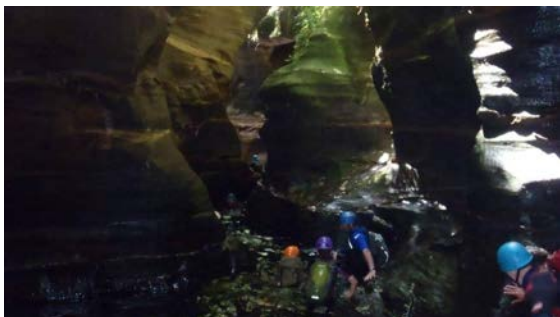
2nd Baulkham Hills 'Rumbriah' Cub Pack.

Bravo to all the Cub Scouts and Leaders who took part in this wonderful event for the village residents. What a beautiful way to do Community Service.



Canyoning Capers – Twister and Rocky Creek

At last after a very wet summer, the conditions were perfect for our first canyon trip for 2015; little recent rain and a forecast of a sunny day in the high 20's. 13 scouts from Baulkham Hills, Castle Hill, Kings Langley as well our regular canyoner from Hazelbrook (Lachlan Hibbard) along with 8 leaders and an intrepid parent assembled early Sunday morning at the Zig Zag Railway. Our mission for the day was to complete both Twister (commonly called Sheep Dip) and Rocky Creek Canyons in the day.



Following our briefing at the Rocky Creek carpark we quickly set off for the start of Twister canyon. There is no mucking around with Twister, it is wetsuits on and then straight into an icy cold pool. That first "freeze" is always the worse bit and there were lots of screams echoing back up the canyon as one by one we all jumped in. Not sure whose was the loudest, the scouts, Meredith's or mine! But you soon get used to it and besides it's a great alternative to bushwalking in 30 degrees heat!

Although only a short canyon, Twister is jam packed with numerous jump-ins (up to 2m high) and slippery dips which make it very exciting. The last jump is a bit intimidating as it is into a pool perched on the side of a wall followed by a slippery down-climb. Everyone made the jump safely with only one needing a short shove to get down (and it wasn't Meredith!). We then headed down the creek to the start of Rocky Creek. On the way we encountered a huge bearded Dragon basking in the sun on a rock right across the path.

Morning tea was had at the start of Rocky Creek canyon, before we plunged off the 3m waterfall at the start and began our traverse of this deep dark and beautiful canyon. The first section continues the excitement with a couple of tricky water chutes and climb downs to negotiate before another big slide into a large pool. The canyon then becomes dark and constricted with several long cold swims. One of the great sights was watching 20 red, white, blue and orange helmets bobbing along in the water in between the narrow walls of the canyon.



The canyon ends at the junction with Budgery Creek and is followed by a very pleasant creek walk for about an hour to the exit point. The scouts were all on the lookout for yabbies which were reasonably plentiful. After lunch we headed up the exit gully for the final challenge of the day – a 20m easy but exposed rock climb up one of the huge pagodas that are common in this area. All the scouts scrambled up without any help other than a belay from Makka & Meredith. We finally arrived back at the cars at 5pm which made it a reasonably long but very satisfying day.

It was fantastic to watch a group young people getting out into quite a wild area and pushing themselves physically and mentally as well as having heaps of fun.



Finally a big thank you to all the adults and especially Makka, Meredith, Clinton and Matt, Phil & Steve for all their assistance in getting the Scouts through the canyon safely.

Here are a couple of quotes from the day:

"I couldn't wait to canyon again and today was the best yet" - Jeremy Farrell

"Twister is the best canyon by far" - Alex Fry.

"You're not going to make me jump down that!!!" - Meredith

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

THE LINK BADGE AND ADVANCEMENT PROCESS

There are a number of arguments about the link badge, and the same arguments also come up about the advancement process. In truth, whilst the Link Badge is a process for youth members to prepare for advancement to the next section, it is not exclusively the only process. There are a number of other badges that also allow opportunities for trying out other sections.

The Link Badge is important, as it has its initial start in the next section, so an advancing youth member can make the promise reaffirming during the advancement ceremony; whereas a new chum off the street has to do their initial start in the first 4 to 6 weeks, allowing them to make their promise on investiture.

The Link Badge can be started in that period 6 months before they have to advance; they can actually finish the link badge and have it presented, even before they plan to advance to the next section, They could finish the link badge and still stay in the section for a month or more before they advance to the next section.

Like all badges - there is the supervising Leader and the examiner e.g. for the Link Badge from Cub Scouts to Scouts - the Cub section Leaders are the supervising leaders and the Scout Section leaders are the examiners. This is because the last requirement of the badge is for the Cub to go back to the Cub Pack and tell the pack what they have done with the Scouts and what they have learned about the Scout Section. Once the badge requirements have been completed, the CSL (no the SL) presents the badge to the Cub Scout. It is one of the few badges that can be worn on a youth members uniform for the rest of their Scouting life (as a youth member).

Another myth surrounding the Link Badge is the Leader's level of expectation of a young member. Joeys don't necessarily need to know everything about BP, but only that he is someone whom they will learn more about later on in Cubs. Cub Scouts do not have to know the Australian Scout Law, word for word - it is something they will learn during their time as a Scout. Look at the wording - it is very broad to allow the youth member to be encouraged to take the next step up. The firm knowledge requirements are to be found in requirements for the other badges of the award scheme for each section.

What is important is that the Age range for each section has an upper range:

Joey Scouts must be in Cubs by their 8th Birthday

Cub Scouts must be in Scouts by their 11th Birthday

Scouts must be in Venturers by their 15th Birthday

Venturers are no longer Venturers on their 18th Birthday and can't be invested in Rovers until their 18th Birthday (There can only be variation with agreement from a Commissioner for the section on a case by case basis) for example delayed learning etc.

Once a youth member has reached the upper age limit - they can no longer start the link badge, they have missed the window of opportunity, in which it is supposed to happen. They just move up to the next section, proceed like a New Chum and do the requirements for that Section.

Following my many years of Scouting, observing the various ways Advancement has been managed/mismanaged, it is important to ensure that all Leaders are aware that there is a National Standard available on Scout Central, which is available to all Leaders.

Tony Dent RC Special Duties

Act DC Blue Mountains

Act DC Penrith



The Link Badge for Cub Scouts through to Rovers



N.S.W. PALAVER 2015

All Cub Leaders and Youth Helpers are invited on board
Castaway Cruises
from 7:00pm May 22 to 2:00pm 24th May, 2015

Your tour will depart from the lounge at
KKC Conference Centre 'Mountain Camp'
Corner Cliff Drive and Violet Street, Katoomba

Tour cost - \$140

Closing date 6th May 2015

Dress for Saturday evening – Captain's Table (Vinnies Challenge)

Special limited edition Tour polo shirts available for \$30 each. These are a royal blue with an embroidered logo - NSW Palaver Castaway Cruises.

Please note that these shirts must be ordered before 1st May 2015

- You will need to arrive in uniform
- Bring suitable clothes including a sun hat for activities and personal items
- Bring pillow slip, sleeping bag and sheet or sheet set (a pillow and doona is supplied per bed)
- E1 and Polo shirt order forms are available from your DLCS/Seeonee Leader/GWSR website
- All payments may be sent to Patricia Shaw SCCS or made through the Region Office via Journal entry to Account: 15225/101/04/4384 (please ask for your name to be included). Cheques payable to Scout Australia NSW.
- Complete your E1 and Polo shirt order form and send to the Tour Director
- **Tour Director:** Patricia Shaw, 5 Bogan Street, Greystanes NSW 2145

I hope to see you ready to join in all the fun and games the tour team has prepared for you!

**Patricia Shaw
State Commissioner Cub Scouts**





PROVIDE FIRST AID COURSE

Saturday 7th May 2015 from 8:30am to 3:00pm

2nd Baulkham Hills Scout Group

Jasper Road, Baulkham Hills

\$55 for Scouting members \$75 for non members

E1 and payment due at Region Office by closing date 8th May 2015

- ◆ E1 available on GWSR website
- ◆ Bring \$2 for a sausage sandwich lunch (includes a drink). Morning Tea supplied.
- ◆ Bring your own water bottle
- ◆ Scouts over 14 years of age may attend
- ◆ All participants must provide a USI
- ◆ A pre-course workbook may be required - check the GWSR website for further information

USI (Unique student identifier)

If you do not have a USI, go to www.usi.gov.au to create your number.

It is very easy to create a USI, just answer the questions and have a valid ID handy, such as Australian passport, driver's licence, Medicare card etc. School students can use their parent's Medicare card to obtain a USI.

Your free USI is generated immediately.

Please send all enquires and payments to **Region Office 9639 2488** or gws-inbox@nsw.scouts.com.au

JOIN-IN-JAMBOREE 2015

2015 is the year of the 23rd World Scout Jamboree.

To celebrate this special event, **all sections** are encouraged to participate in the **Join-in-Jamboree program** and earn the souvenir badge.

Program resources are available from www.wsj2015.scouts.com/jij and groups can order their badges using the form available on the website.

There is also a certificate template available for Leaders to use for those that join the activities



CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW



You can purchase them in 4 ways:

Online: riversideparramatta.com.au

Over the phone: Riverside Theatre **8839 3399**

In Person: At the Riverside Box Office.

Through a Gang Member: If you know someone in the cast or crew, talk to them about booking seats.

SHOW DATES AND TIMES

Friday July 3	6.30pm
Saturday July 4	1pm and 6.30pm
Sunday 5th July	1pm
Wednesday 8th July	6.30pm
Friday 10th July	6.30pm
Saturday 11th July	1pm and 6.30pm

Two and half hours of action packed family entertainment - don't miss it - book now!

THE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is edited and published for the general information of members in the Greater Western Sydney Region. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the GWSR or Scouts Australia.

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

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

Email : bulletin@greaterwestscouts.com.au