



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 431 - May 2015



**THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA - NSW BRANCH
GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION**

MR ALAN OVERTON AM

Region President

MRS DEBBIE HOWLETT

Region Chairman

MR NEVILLE HENDERSON OAM

Region Commissioner

Invite you to be present at the

**68th GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION
ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION**

Sunday 21st June 2015 commencing at 2:30 pm

BUNDILLA SCOUT CAMP

6 Baden Powell Place, WINSTON HILLS

Afternoon Tea will be served at the conclusion of the meeting

Please RSVP by Friday, 12th June 2015 to Region Office

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

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

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

Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

My apologies for the lateness of my report holding up the issue of this Bulletin but I have been tied up with many issues. Apologies to Anne the Editor.

As mentioned in the previous Bulletin we are partnering the Salvation Army this year as the major Region service project for the Red Shield Appeal on 31 May 2015. Details have been sent to the Group Leaders about their local organiser.

Called in at Gang Show rehearsals the other night and the show is really looking good. Don't forget to buy your tickets as there are only 8 shows this year.

I hope you have all locked in your ARP dates with your Region Representative and a reminder that our ARP is on 21st June 2015 at 2.30pm for 3.00pm. Please put this date in your diary.

The 2015 Adult Recognition Awards Presentation will be held on Thursday 22nd October at a new larger venue. We are returning after many years to Wentworthville Leagues Club where we can cater for double that of the previous venue. Please put this date in your diary as bookings will open in early September.

I am looking forward to visiting the Jamborette again this year and meeting up with the Scout Leaders from the Region

Until next time...Carry on Scouting!

Neville Henderson OAM

Region Commissioner

Email: rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au

APPOINTMENTS LIST 20/4/2015 to 11/5/2015

APPOINTMENTS

BONE, Alan	LIC	1st Kellyville Scout Group
BURROWS, Noriko	ASL	1st Carlingford Scout Troop
DAVIS, Andrew	ACSL	1st Blackheath Cub Pack
DIXON, Rosie	AJSL	1st Kellyville Joey Mob
GAO, Mei	CSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>
HUGHES, Bernard	ACSL	1st North Rocks Cub Pack

TRANSFERS

BURROWS, Noriko	ACSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>	07/05/2015
DIXON, Rosie	Appt TL (J)	1st Kellyville Joey Mob	07/05/2015
GAO, Mei	ACSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>	07/05/2015

REGISTRATIONS

1ST SOUTH PENRITH VENTURER UNIT 30/04/2015

RESIGNATIONS

GOODWIN, James	Fellowship Member	Blue Mountains Scout Fellowship
HATCHER, Chloe	Fellowship Member	Blue Mountains Scout Fellowship
LI, Ang	Appt TL (C)	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>
MASSIE, Gary	SL	1st Balcombe Heights Scout Troop

CUB SCOUT REPORT

Congratulations to the 13 Venturer Scouts who recently participated in our annual **Youth Helper course**. It was terrific to meet such a delightful group of young people and my thanks to Shirley Robinson and Melissa Harding for helping on the course. I look forward to seeing the application forms for *Appointment as a Youth Helper*, arrive at Region Office very soon, so that their badges and certificates can be presented. I hope that the Venturers who were not helping out with the Joey Scout or Cub Scout section - have now volunteered their services to one of these sections. Youth Helpers are a rare breed in the GWSR and it would be wonderful to see many more appointed Youth Helpers - they are an invaluable resource for both the youth members and the leaders.

The **Gang Show** Cast and Crew are working hard to produce another exciting show for the July school holidays. This year the Joeys and Cubs have been invited to see the show on the 4th July at 2pm. It should be a great atmosphere with many young people in the audience. I would like to encourage all CSLs to organise a pack outing to Gang Show on July 4 - the E1 and further information is available on the GWS website. Anyone taking part in this special event, will receive a free limited edition souvenir badge! Please distribute the E1s now, so you can purchase your tickets soon.

Cub Day at the Jamborette, Bents Basin , Sunday 7th June. Don't miss out on this great day out with your Pack. On-line applications close on Friday 22nd May. Cub Scouts registration fee \$5.00, CSLs free. For more information, E1 form or to register for the Cub Day @ Jamborette 2015, please visit the website.

State Palaver will be held in Katoomba, next weekend, May 15 to 17. We have 20 participants from GWSR - this is a really low number and quite disappointing and I would be really interested to find out why not more of our CSLs are attending. Please supply feedback to your DLCS at the next District Seeonee. To those Leaders who are going - thank you, and I am certain you will gain a great deal from the experience - have fun and keep warm!

Grey Wolf Awards - some of the recent applications for this award are being sent in very close to the Cub Scout's 11th Birthday! Please endeavour to have your cubs complete the requirements in good time, so that they have the opportunity to receive the award and wear it with pride as a Cub Scout and not after they have gone up to Scouts! Just a note about the resources the Cubs are creating for use in the Pack. The resource should be the work of the Cub Scout, not their parents and should be retained by the CSL for teaching Jungle Book in the Pack. The resource should also be on display in the hall, when the Grey Wolf is being presented. I am often told it is at home and can never understand why - it is meant to be kept by the CSL, not returned to the Cub Scout.

Congratulations to Brian Zarth, RCJS and his Team on a great **Joey Scout Fun Day**, Heroes and Villians! The Joey Scouts had a wonderful day and enjoyed our Firefighters Base and we enjoyed our free steak sandwich for lunch. My thanks to Shirley Robinson, Gabie Thompson and Michelle McLean for all their help on the base. A full report on the day in next month's edition.

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

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



Neleh Price - 1st/2nd Merrylands
Madison Harris - 1st Oakville
Samantha Harber - 1st Oakville
Jack Hirst - 1st Blaxland
Aaron Harmeling - 1st Kellyville
Patrick Henson - 1st Castle Hill

1 - 2 - 3 - WOOF!

REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM

The weather may be cooling down now, but the activities are certainly not, with a lot still happening around the Region. I know of a number of groups who took advantage of the Easter Break with various hikes and camps all happening. The Scouts from 1st Kellyville spent a really enjoyable Easter honing their canoeing skills up at Camp Windeyer, across the river from Crosslands.

The real Activities highlight for the month was our Caving Weekend organized by Meredith Stewart down at Wee Jasper. An absolute top weekend with over 70 participants including some 'Scout Cavers' from South Australia, who were most impressed with what we can offer.



**Some young Scouts
all geared up
and
enjoying the 'Maze'.**



While most of the caves are classed as horizontal, a few of us headed out after dinner on the Saturday to do the more adventurous Punchbowl Cave. This involves a 35m abseil down into the bowels of the cave, and then on to explore a number of huge caverns, which make up this spectacular cave system. Of course what goes down must also come up, with a rather strenuous 35m caving ladder climb back out.

**What a great way to spend a Saturday night!
David (Macca) McKinley in a bit of a squeeze!!
Photos: Mark Fell**

The Activities Team is now the proud owner of a **Cherub Sailing Boat**, which has been kindly donated to the Region Team from a retired "sailor" who lives in Castle Hill. We have done a bit of a reshuffle of boats and boat trailers at the Boat shed to fit it in. I know Neal Sullivan, one of our keen sailors, is just itching to take it out for a bit of a spin!

***A Cherub Sailing Boat in Action.
Photo: Courtesy of the Cherub Australia.***



Looking forward to our next **Abseiling** workshop on the weekend of **May 23 & 24**, with a **theory night** on the **20th May** at Bundilla. Full details are on the Region Website.

I had the opportunity to help out recently at a working bee down a Cataract, in readiness for AJ2016. Yes, things are well and truly happening in preparation for what is going to be a really spectacular Jamboree.

Don't forget just as a warm up to the Jamboree, we have our **Region Jamborette** coming up on the June Long Weekend....**come and say G'day to the Activities Team!** We will have canoeing on the dam; the climbing wall out in the lower paddock; the Science Base and radios in the Education Centre, along with the Gang Show Base; and the always popular Flying Fox.

While not really part of activities, I would like to take this opportunity thank so many Scouts and Leaders who participated in various **ANZAC Day** events around the Region, as we remember and reflected on 100 years since the landing at Gallipoli, and indeed all who have served in the Australian armed forces over the years. It was certainly a very special day. **LEST WE FORGET.**

Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities

Email: activities@greaterwestcouts.com.au



Join us on a captivating adventure: from a Rio Brazil Carnivale complete with Latin dancing, voodoo dolls and a soccer tribute to Caesar in Egypt, from an incredible Steampunk sequence to Wizard Rock featuring Harry Potter, from a heart-warming salute to our lucky country and culminating in Swan Lake Ballet like you've never seen before!

2015 PERFORMANCES

Date	Time	Cast	Performance
Friday 3rd July	7.30pm	Gilbert	Evening (Red Scarf Night)
Saturday 4th July	2:00pm	Sullivan	Matinee
Saturday 4th July	7:30pm	Sullivan	Evening
Sunday 5th July	2.00pm	Gilbert	Matinee
Wednesday 8th July	7.30pm	Sullivan	Evening
Friday 10th July	7.30pm	Gilbert	Finale Evening
Saturday 11th July	2.00pm	Gilbert	Matinee
Saturday 11th July	7.30pm	Sullivan	Finale Evening

TICKET PRICING Children (14 years and under) \$21 | Youth (15-25 years), Seniors & Concession \$27 | Adult \$33

For any one performance: Family (2 adults 2 children) - \$102 or 10% group booking discount for 10+ (by phone/in person)

Transaction fees apply | To arrange special access at the theatre, please contact the theatre box office by phone

HOW TO BOOK

Tickets are purchased directly through the Theatre Box Office.

ONLINE: riversideparramatta.com.au

PHONE: (02) 8839 3399 during operating hours

IN PERSON: Riverside Box Office during operating hours
Cnr Church & Market Streets, Parramatta

Operating hours: Mon-Fri 9.00am to 5.00pm,
Sat 9.30am to 1.00pm and up to 1 hour prior to each performance.

DISCOUNTED PARKING valid after 6pm weekdays and all day weekends

Present your car park ticket to the theatre box office when attending a performance to receive a \$5 parking voucher for the Erby Place Carpark!

GANG SHOW TICKET SELLER

Name:



Have you got your tickets to see Gang Show yet?

With a cast of over 180 – **Reach For The Stars** is going to be fantastic! Performances are held during the July School Holidays at Riverside Parramatta.

Cumberland Gang Show 2015 is an experience not to be missed, two hours of live music, dance & comedy. Fun for all the family and entertainment for the whole group.

Bring your whole section to one of our special performances and every uniformed member will receive a FREE souvenir event badge - registration is necessary:

Joey's and Cubs – Saturday July 4th, 2:00pm

Scouts – Wednesday July 8th, 7:30pm

Venturers and Rovers – Friday July 10th, Dinner 5:30pm + Performance 7:30pm

More information available on our website - www.gangshow.asn.au

TRAINING REPORT

New leaders need a working with children check number before they can be added to the NSW Scout Link site. A copy of the letter from **WWCC** should be forwarded to the Region Office.

Those leaders doing **e-learning** need to finish the 10 basic core modules and the 4 sectional modules before applying for a course (using a L1 form). All applications must be in before the closing date - apply early to avoid disappointment.

UPCOMING COURSES

- **Joey Scout course** at Glenrock, closing date **10th July** (course date 8th & 9th August).
- **Scout course** at Cataract with applications due in by **26th June** (course date 25th & 26th July).
- **Venturer course** at Cataract with applications due in by 17th July (course date 15th & 16th August)

All Cub, Scout and Venturer Leader courses now require the leaders to camp, so a tent will be part of your equipment.

It is important to apply early, as once the course number has been reached no more applications will be taken.

Scout Leaders, Venturer Leaders and Rovers need level 1 bushwalking to complete their training. This is offered separately by Region training teams.

For those doing **advanced training**; you must complete all the advanced modules, both core and sectional before applying for the course. The next advanced course for all sections will be at **Pennant Hills** in **July** with applications closing on **12th June**.

The requirements now, are that the leader must complete the certificate IV book (this will undergo a name change soon) and in the 4 months following the course - develop one element from that booklet and present a quick talk about that element to their sectional district meeting. This used to be a 10 hour project but is now just expected to be a program or resource developed to help your section.

Also during the 4 months, your commissioner or district leader should be visiting your section and assessing whether you have benefited from your advanced training. Once your assessment and your workbook are handed in you will receive your Wood Badge. For those who wish to receive a certificate IV in Frontline Management your booklet gets handed in as part of your portfolio that must be submitted.

All leaders doing any of the adventurous activities, which includes first aid and those wishing for qualifications from the VET side of Scouting must have a USI (Unique Student Identification). This can be applied for on-line and is used for all applications for recognition of training.

Kathy Cuneo RC AT&D

Email: training@greaterwestscouts.com.au

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

**SJW
2015**

SCOUT JOB WEEKS

This annual event is a proud Scouting tradition and NSW Scouts will once again show their community spirit by lending a hand in their local communities and undertaking various jobs for a just reward.

Scouts have the opportunity to learn new skills, interact with people in their local neighbourhood and raise funds for their Scout Group.

All money raised can be used to update equipment, refurbish Scout halls and help fund future Scout activities.

Scout Job Week is the time to step up and be an active citizen in your community.

Visits Scouts NSW website and register your interest!

RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Rockets at Parramatta and Wentworthville Scouts

The plan was to make pyro rockets in the hall with 25 Scouts. This involved 8 Scouts making rockets in the hall and the rest launching water rockets on the oval across the street. Then bringing another 8 to the hall until we had finished. I left Karl to make the rockets, while I set up the water rockets and shuffled groups back and forth.

Scout Leader David was testing the strength of the water rockets by pumping them up to 90psi. They certainly flew higher, but also managed to lose a fin from a couple of the rockets.

Towards the end of the night they had completed about two thirds of the pyro rockets, then it was out to the oval to let them off. I can remember 2 or 3 good flights including one by a tall girl Scout from Wentworthville and one that shot horizontally overhead at four meters, but the rest aren't worth talking about.

David (the Count) Meyers was more upbeat and thought that about half were successful, and I would like to believe that. With careful assembly there should be 90% success rate, for a sense of achievement to the evening.

After a week of wet weather, the last night of April was also predicted to be wet but fortunately the rain held off until we were leaving at 9:30pm.

Here are a couple of pictures of the 'fail to launch' as I saw them. One burning through the side and the other three frames from a movie showing what happens when the top is not sealed adequately.



A "Smoker"



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**

BUSHWALKING COORDINATOR REPORT—TRISTAN FLORES

It certainly has been an active start to the year for bushwalking, best described as a rollercoaster ride of adrenaline for those involved. It can be said that bushwalking can take you to some beautiful places that roads cannot. Often the most beautiful places are challenging to reach but can provide the most satisfaction. If you are prepared to extend the effort you can experience the rewards.

The summer period can be an ideal time to service gear prior to the autumn and winter bushwalking seasons. Many people often ask why a great deal of bushwalking takes place in the cooler months. Some reasons may include snakes being less active, lower wildfire risk, lower day temperatures and water availability.



I would like to report on some recent bushwalks. I was impressed by these Scouts and their safe approach to unfavourable weather conditions. Leesa Horton from 1st Hoxton Park completed her Green Cord hike from Blackheath to Mount Victoria through the Grose Valley in February. Leesa experienced a number of challenges on her journey which included operating in a remote area, negotiating slippery, waterlogged and somewhat overgrown tracks, as well as extremely wet conditions. Leesa's patrol pulled together and found solutions to the challenges they faced. The rain eased as they neared Mount Victoria!

The first ever practice journey for GWS departed Heathcote Station on the first weekend in March. Nine Scouts from 1st Dural and two activity leaders set off for Karloo Pool. In two patrols we negotiated the side of Karloo Spur and overgrown tracks of Kangaroo Creek using topographic maps, compasses and an eTrex10. The Scouts enjoyed a swim before heading up to the rock platforms on the ridge and down to Uloola Falls for an overnight camp. The next day involved walking the Uloola Firetrail to Waterfall Public School via Memorial. It was the first overnight hike for a number of Scouts. An outstanding effort. Thank you to David Sirianni and Nathan Mepstead for their leadership.

Congratulations to Scouts Jordan Vella and Dylan McPherson from 1st Grose Vale who completed their Green Cord hikes in November and March. Jordan's Patrol travelled south to the Royal National Park while Dylan headed west to the Wild Dog Mountains.

Matt Kean, Member for Hornsby announced in February that the NSW Government is funding the new Calna Creek Bridge. The new \$250,000 bridge will be built at the same location on the Great North Walk. The bridge will be installed by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service this year. Whilst the bridge is built the walks in the area have reopened with a wet crossing downstream of the old bridge. It is only passable at low tide.



A recent situation highlighted the effects that fatigue and dehydration can have on our ability to make clear decisions. It also reinforced the importance of ensuring our Scouts are trained never to leave their hike packs unattended on or off tracks. We should always have our hike packs on our person so that in the event of an emergency we are adequately prepared.

Our next practice hike will be held on June 27 & 28 in the Blue Mountains from Govetts Leap to Blue Gum Forest for Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Leaders.

The hike is suitable for entry level participants, details are available on the Region website.

CALLING FOR HELP DURING OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

In my Scout bushwalking role, I am often asked about the implications of calling for help during an outdoor activity. Specifically, a number of people have expressed concern at the costs of a rescue initiated by a 000 call or a PLB/EPIRB activation being recovered from the caller and/or the person/persons rescued.

I have recently made enquiries and the official word is there is no such cost recovery mechanism in place in NSW. A little internet research soon indicated why. Places that have implemented such a policy soon found it created more issues than it solved. These included people not calling or calling for help too late, refusing to use the rescue services and hiding or simply giving a false name to avoid the bill. The policy also confused the often cited “good Samaritan” law when a person acting in good faith by calling for help for someone else, could be billed for it.

This does not mean, of course, we have a blank cheque to call for help any time we feel like it. As Scouts, we should always act responsibly and try and do the right thing after careful consideration. We ask our youth members to operate in environments we describe as unfamiliar and challenging. In a (hopefully very small) percentage of these, things will not work out. Should they not, the leader should be free to consider the external rescue options without the burden of costs.

Before activating a distress beacon or calling 000, careful consideration should be given to all options. If deemed necessary, act promptly and prepare to pass on any information that may be required. Carrying a GPS equipped PLB/EPIRB with current registration is highly recommended. If calling for help using 000, have your location, party size and nature of emergency worked out before the call. Ask for police (no injury) or ambulance if a casualty situation. Be prepared to give details of the problem and answer any questions as calmly and concisely as possible. Do not try and offer a solution (we need a helicopter etc.). Follow the directions given and you will be looked after by a very professional organisation dedicated to keeping you safe.

Rescue facilities are a great backup and should only be used when things go wrong and all other options have been exhausted.

Frank Barr

Branch Activity Leader



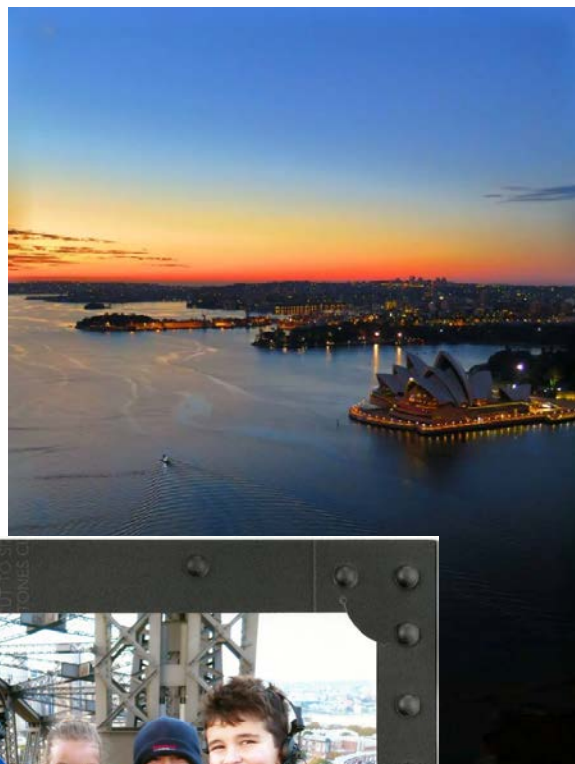
**A Joey Scout from
1st Hawkesbury
Scout Group at an
ANZAC Day
Ceremony.**

*Photo courtesy of their
Facebook page.*

ANZAC DAY BRIDGE CLIMB

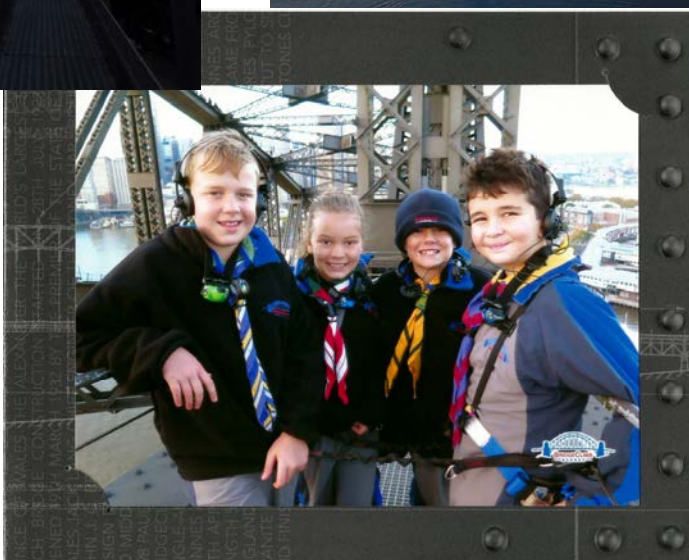
These four lucky Scouts were selected to attend a special ANZAC Day Dawn Service at the summit of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. These particular Scouts were chosen as Competition winners to represent Scouts Australia NSW, at this special event as they are all direct descendants of Gallipoli Veterans!

Michelle Sollom Public Relations
1st Winston Hills Scout Group



L-R

George Sollom
1st Winston Hills
Tanaya Pass
Budgewoi
Campbell Franke
Cobbity
Daniel Buttigieg
1st Kings Langley



1st Castle Hill Scout Group Turns 100 in 2015

We would like to invite everyone to our special upcoming event celebrating the Centenary of 1st Castle Hill Scout Group on Saturday 21st November 2015 at Rowallan Avenue, Castle Hill

We are looking for past cubs, scouts, leaders, committee members and Queen's Scouts. Anyone who was previously with the Group, please contact
Tracey Hourd

Email: hourd@bigpond.com or mobile: 0418 228 173



1st Castle Hill Troop 1949/1950

We have a Facebook group for the upcoming centenary which will announce more information as the day approaches. Please use this link to join the group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1560880024173247/>

BUNNINGS HELPS 1ST KELLYVILLE SCOUT GROUP

On Friday May 15, eight staff members from Bunnings, arrived to help renovate 1st Kellyville Scout Hall!

The team spent the day resheeting Den walls and painting. They supplied over \$1000 dollars worth of materials for the job and now the parents have the fun job of completing the final coats of paint.

A huge thank you to Peter, Dominique and the Team for their generosity and hard work.

***Tara Bonitz (Rikki) CSL
1st Kellyville***



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.

Articles and illustrations from The Bulletin (except for copyright items) may be re-used unaltered by other Scouting publications and credits shown.

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

Email : bulletin@greaterwestscouts.com.au



RSVP for Region ARP 21st June 2015

**Please tear off and return to Region Office
6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills NSW 2153
by Friday 12th June 2015**



Name/s

.....

.....

Accepts the invitation to attend the GWSR ARP

Declines with regret the invitation to attend the GWSR ARP