



# The Bulletin

*Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region*

Issue 438 - December 2015



**MERRY CHRISTMAS and a  
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**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](mailto:gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au)

**Website:** [www.greaterwestscouts.com.au](http://www.greaterwestscouts.com.au)

## FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

Doesn't the year go quickly when you are having fun. It seems like only a few weeks ago that I was talking about the Jamboree (which was a year away) and now it is only a few weeks to go.

It is that time of the year again when nominations for Adult Recognition Awards are due and a list of eligible nominees has been sent to your Group Leader/Leader in Charge. If you wish to nominate a fellow leader or a layside supporter and need assistance contact your GL/LIC or your District Commissioner who will be pleased to help you. Nominations close at Region Office on 27th January 2016 at 3.30pm and must be emailed in Word format. If you are sending between 19<sup>th</sup> December and 26<sup>th</sup> January please send to me at [rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au) as the office will be closed and no one will be there to check the nominations.

At the recent Chief Commissioner's Conference the Region Commissioners were presented with the NSW Three Year Strategic Plan. This not only involves Region but also groups and we are holding a meeting of Group Leaders, LICs, Rover Advisors, Fellowship Chairs and Region Team on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2016 from 10.00am to 3.00pm (lunch will be supplied). Attendance is compulsory.

For those leaders and supporters who are going to the Jamboree for the first time I hope you have a great time and enjoy the experience; to the seasoned leaders and supporters I know you will enjoy your 10 days at Cataract Park. I will be attending on Super Saturday so if you see David Stopps and myself come up and say hello.

From my family to yours and on behalf of the Region Team and the office ladies I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year and look forward to seeing you in 2016!

Until next time (2016).....Carry on Scouting.

**Neville Henderson OAM**

**Region Commissioner**

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





**Please Note.....**

The Region Office will be closed from  
Tuesday 22nd December 2015  
until  
Wednesday 27th January 2016 inclusively.

Wishing you and your families a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year

Kim Harris and Maggi Roynon



The Scouts Australia NSW State Office will be closed from  
Thursday, 24 December 2015 until Monday, 11 January 2016.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday season!



## TRAINING REPORT

Congratulations to the following Leaders who have recently achieved their Wood Badge

**Tara Bonitz - 1st Kellyville Cubs**

**Zoe Stephens - 1st Carlingford Joeys**

**Lauren Massie - 1st Balcombe Heights Joeys**

**Matthew Vella - District Leader Venturers**

All those wood badge applicants who have done their training need to hand their Certificate IV books to me by 1st February as the system is changing.

At present we have 128 leaders in training in the Region. This is for basic training, not the advanced training. We have been instructed to get as many of them as possible signed off because once again the system is changing.

All leaders should look at their e-learning because of regular updates. Basic Navigation has been added to the Basic Core modules. The Bushwalking paperwork is now on line and just needs a weekend course to complete that training.

Please note we have a **Bushwalking Course** at Bundilla on the **13th and 14th February 2016** being conducted by Tristan Flores. This is an opportunity for those Scout, Venturer and Rover Leaders to obtain the Bushwalking qualification close to home. All applications should be on a L1 form and sent to State Office by **15th January 2016**. **The course number is 927 16 001.**

There has been a lot of changes to the training system in 2015 and there will be more! My thanks must go to Aafke Fatcher-Hall, Ann Pounder and the team of PLAs that have helped me manage all the changes and kept our Leaders up to date.

***Merry Christmas to all.***

**Kathy Cuneo**

**Region Commissioner AT&D**

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



### FIRST AID COURSES FOR 2016

To be held at 2<sup>nd</sup> Baulkham Hills Scout Hall on  
**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May and Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August**

An E1 will be available on the GWS website closer to the date.

### LEVEL 1 BUSHWALKING COURSE

**A bushwalking course for Venturer Scouts, Rovers and Leaders will be held at Bundilla Scout Camp on the 13th and 14th February, 2016**

**The cost of the course is \$65 payable to Scouts Australia.**

To apply for the course, please complete an L1 form (from the Scouts NSW website), attach payment and send to NSW State Office PO Box 125 LIDCOMBE NSW 1825 ***The closing date for applications is January 15, 2016***

The course is self-catered, camping overnight and BYO tent. Further details will be sent when your application is received. Course Leader Kathy Cuneo: [training@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:training@greaterwestscouts.com.au)

## JOEY SCOUT REPORT

I would like to thank you all for volunteering your time to Scouting this year. It's been a fantastic year celebrating 25 years of Joey Scouts, I hope you all of you, have had a great time.

We started 2015 with 189 Joeys and we now have 232. This does not happen without Joey Scout Leaders presenting great programs and challenging their Joeys to be the best they can be. You should all be proud of what we have all achieved together.

I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year. Please be careful on the roads, have a good rest and return fully charged for the new year.

To those that are volunteering at AJ2016, I hope you have an awesome adventure.

I look forward to working with you all in 2016.

In the meantime, on the next page is an excellent piece of writing that I found on Facebook and I think should be compulsory reading for all Joey Leaders, to help them reach out to those Joeys that appear to be challenged, but need our wisdom most.

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



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

**Dylan Skinner - 1st Carlingford**

**Damien Yap - 1st Carlingford**

**Jordan Lo - 1st Carlingford**

**Edward Nguyen - 1st Carlingford**

**Bailey Murray - 1st Erskine Park**

**Rishi Mayur - 1st Carlingford**

**Indunil Mendis - 1st Carlingford**

**Carson Chow - 1st North Rocks**

**Jandiga Holmes - 1st Winston Hills**

**Ananta Herman - 1st Carlingford**

**Lachlan Leong - 1st Murray Farm**

**Madeleine Phillips - 1st Greystanes**

**Liam Meddens - 1st Oakville**

**Owen McDonald - 1st Oakville**

**Patrick Dooley - 1st Balcombe Heights**

**Max Ryan - 1st North Rocks**

**Charlotte Stockford - 1st Winston Hills**

**Riordan Pearce - 1st Erskine Park**



**HOP - HOP - HOP**

“For the last 25 years, I have worked with kids. Kids with autism. Kids with behaviour disorders. Kids with learning disorders. Happy kids. Angry kids. Sad kids. And for the most part, they fall into one of three categories: The flames, the flickers and those whose flames have been snuffed! And of those whose flames have been snuffed, the one thing they have in common is that they do not have hope and purpose.

These are the kids who are sad and angry on the inside. But on the outside they look defiant, rude unfriendly and lazy. They are difficult to work with, because you are struggling to rekindle something in them that has died.

But their misbehaviour is communication. And Anger is just Sad's bodyguard. So if you listen closely enough, you can hear the sadness in their behaviour. These kids aren't able to rekindle their own flames. They need someone to help them discover hope and purpose. And the only way to do that is to develop a genuine relationship with them, even when you are frustrated beyond belief.

So the next time one of these kids is driving you to drink... Have the drink, the Xanax, whatever..! I'm joking. But really. - remember the saying... The kids who need the most love will ask for it in the most unloving of ways. Try not to strangle them. Try not to yell. And maintain your own flame in the process”.

**Tori Nave Kelly (Miami, USA)**



**2015 South Australian Silver Jubilee Hoporee.**

**21st - 22nd November 2015**

**Woodhouse Scouting Activity Centre**

Last month I was privileged to be treated like a VIP at the South Australia Hoporee. I was there to see what we can learn from their experience. To start with, South Australia no longer have Regions; they have larger districts that report directly to State. When I organised our GWS Woonona (Region Mob Holiday) I tried to make it a combination of a Joey Fun Day while keeping the *Mob Holiday* feel and experience. The Hoporee appears to be like a Jamboree downsized to a large Joey Camp complete with ID Cards, Online registration, Stage with entertainment, sub camps, a complete sites & services team, Golf Buggies and Porta Loos!

All the districts were divided into 5 separate sub camps and each one was given a different colour polo shirt. Each sub camp organised their own catering.

Activity bases were organised by SA Fellowships, SA Branch Youth Council, Cubs, Activities and then combined District run bases. Entertainment included a few songs by the Adelaide Gang Show, Zumba and a Magician. Activity bases included: Sideshow alley, Explorers, Hi Ho Silver, Activities, Science, and the popular Minions base. A couple of Joeys went missing and they were found back at the minions base! Joey Scouts were scheduled to be at each activity base for 1 hour, with 4 x 15 minute activities within each base. All in all it was a fun weekend that I and my family will never forget.

**Brian Zarth**  
**Pete Beaumont**  
**SA Branch Commissioner**  
**Joey Scouts**  
**Sharon Zarth**  
**L to R**





## VENTURER REPORT

We have reached the end of another very busy year and I would like to thank everyone for their support in having completed a bumper year of activities.

I would like to congratulate **Lachlan Smith and Bailey Harris from 2nd Baulkham Hills on completing their Queen's Scout Awards.**

Applications for the 2016 Mawson Scholarship in Leadership are now open. There are two courses running in 2016 in NSW and WA. Online applications are available at <http://registrations.international.scouts.com.au/>. **Applications close on 18th March 2016.**

26 Venturer Scouts from the Region will be travelling to the 13th New Zealand Venture during the summer holidays. Joining over 600 other participants from Australia, this will be the largest Australian Contingent to travel overseas EVER. The activities in store will be simply huge and I know that the organising team has worked hard to ensure that everyone has an amazing time across the ditch!

We also have a further 21 Venturer Scouts volunteering at the 24th Australian Jamboree at Cataract Scout Park. This will be another great opportunity to showcase Venturing to the more than 8,000 Scouts that will be attending the Jamboree in January. I know that the Venturer Scouts will represent the Region well in their assigned roles.

*I wish everyone a very safe and enjoyable summer holiday and look forward to seeing everyone again in the New Year.*

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



### It's on again in 2016 - the 66<sup>th</sup> Sirius Cup Regatta 11th to 13th March 2016 Balmoral Oval, Balmoral Beach, Sydney



#### What is it?

A chance for Scouts, Venturers and Leaders to get together at a camp based around water activities. The Scout Groups camp on Balmoral Oval, just a hop, skip and a jump from the waters of Middle Harbour, as a tent city comes to life from Friday afternoon. Scouts come from all around including interstate, Lake Burley Griffin, Lake Ginninderra and Lake Tuggeranong from the ACT, from the north (Belmont North, Woy Woy), from the west (Penrith) and from the south (Gerringong).

#### More Details

The Sirius Cup Regatta is the premier Scout sailing regatta on the Branch calendar and it is held annually. There are 5 divisions of sailing races as well as;

- canoeing races for Cub Scouts, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Leaders
- rowing events
- iron man events for all-comers
- activities for the land lubbers
- evening entertainment

For more details, please visit <http://siriuscup.webs.com/> or Email: [siriuscup@yahoo.com.au](mailto:siriuscup@yahoo.com.au)

**Mark it in your diary now!**

## CUB SCOUT REPORT

Not long to go now until **Super Saturday (Visitors' Day) at AJ2016 on January 9**. GWS has 6 buses booked to take us to and from the event. Full details of departure times and locations will be emailed out to everyone who has registered. It should be a very busy, fun filled day. The Cub Scouts will be given Market Day dollars so they can participate in all the great activities the Scouts organise; they can visit the activity bases that will be operating - such as Australian Village and the mini arena entertainment; they can visit the Contingent HQs and perhaps add a few badges to their collections and finally they can be part of the celebration launch of the Centenary Year of Cub Scouts. Big day out - I'm sure they will sleep well on the bus going home!

If you are attending Super Saturday, which most probably will be a very hot day - make sure you use plenty of **sun protection, wear flat, comfortable shoes and keep well hydrated**. Cataract is a very large area, so there is lots of walking involved! Pace yourself! **DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR JAMBOREE eTICKET - the barcode will be scanned to gain admission to Cataract. NO TICKET - NO ADMISSION!**

Throughout 2016 there will be quite a number of events organised to celebrate our **100th Birthday** - a fantastic milestone and one really worth celebrating. Don't forget to attend Seeonee and keep an eye on the website for all the latest news re things happening in the Region and State.

We will also be very busy planning and preparing for the **2017 Cuboree** to be held at Cataract Scout Park from the **3rd to 7th January**. Your District CSLs and Seeonee Leaders will be looking for Leaders to fill important roles such as Pack Coordinators and Line Leaders and I will be looking for volunteers to help run the GWSR Activity Base. If anyone is interested in any of these roles, I suggest you speak up at your Seeonees. We need all CSLs to support this major event, to ensure all Cub Scouts have the opportunity to attend and ensure it's success.

As this is the final Bulletin for the year, I need to extend my sincere thanks to the **Team Members of Region Seeonee**, Shirley Robinson, Melissa Harding, John Aquilina, Gabie Thompson, Jeff Hook, Virginia Klomp and Michelle Mclean, for all their dedication, patience and support for the Cubs and Leaders in their Districts and for me - I couldn't do without them!

Sincere thanks also to all the Cub Scout Leaders who do their best for the Cubs in their care, keeping the cubs and leaders safe, running good programs, camps, hikes and special events, supporting their Groups, District, Seeonee and Region events and encouraging Cubs with their badge works. You are amazing to keep doing it week after week, year after year! Where would Scouting be without such dedication and commitment?

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

And finally thank you to Kim and Maggie who do such a great job in the Region Office, helping us to organise courses and events and doing all those things that keep our Region running smoothly - all very much appreciated.

Merry Christmas everyone - keep safe and please return in 2016 to do it all over again!

Anne Thompson (Wontolla) - RC Cub Scouts

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



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

**Shannon Battam - 1st Kellyville**  
**Sharmaine Jagers - 1st Kellyville**  
**Jake Spinks - 1st Erskine Park**  
**Declan Vane 1st Blaxland**  
**Kayla Mills - 1st Rydalmere**  
**Jack McShane - 1st Rydalmere**  
**Ryan Cusack - 1st Carlingford**  
**Max Coundrelis 1st Riverstone**



**1-2-3 - WOOF!**



## VOLUNTEER POSITION VACANCIES

*Interested in Graphics or Web design?*

*Enjoy flexibility and social interaction?*

*Want to gain more experience in the field?*

A number of exciting opportunities have become available to join the Cumberland Gang Show (CGS) Web/Graphics Team. For those unfamiliar, CGS is a training medium in the performing arts for young Scouts and Guides. You do not need to be a member of Scouts or Guides to help in these roles.

### GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

We are looking for several creative and enthusiastic volunteers with a good understanding of designing for print and web mediums. Applicants must have working knowledge of Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign); good eye for colour, fonts and formatting and create designs to suit style, page layouts and print requirements.

### WEBMASTER

We are looking for an experienced and enthusiastic individual with a good understanding of designing and management of websites. Applicants must have working knowledge of content management system JOOMLA. This role involves managing website security, updating web content and managing our online photo shop.

### WEB/GRAPHICS TEAM LEADER

We are seeking a tech savvy, self-motivated individual with strong graphics and web design ability. Reporting to the Marketing Director, this role requires; creativity, understanding of colour and form, ability to meet deadlines, good communication skills and ability to manage a team of volunteers.

A wealth of other positions of varying types and time commitments are also available within our marketing teams such as publicity assistant, customer service, creative writing, photography, event coordination and administration.

**For further information or to express interest please contact: [karina@gangshow.asn.au](mailto:karina@gangshow.asn.au)**

**Karina Wardle  
Marketing Director  
Cumberland Gang Show**



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY FIVE DAY SAILING WORKSHOP

16th April to 20th April 2016

Learn how to handle a sailing boat - Knotting - Navigation - Teamwork  
Workshop will be limited to 10 participants only - cost \$20 pp each day  
E1 and details will be available on GWS website nearer to the event.

## TWO DAY SAILING WORKSHOPS

6th & 7th February, 13th & 14th February and 27th & 28th February 2016

Closing date one week prior to each workshop.

*For further information please contact: Keith Travers*  
Home: 9632 3341 Email: [keith.travers@optusnet.com.au](mailto:keith.travers@optusnet.com.au)



1st Murray Farm enjoyed their sailing workshop and are eagerly looking forward to another one!

*Photos courtesy of Grace Ang CSL, 1st Murray Farm*

## RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Electrostatics at 2<sup>nd</sup> Castle Hill Scouts

Twenty plus Scouts and just me - so we divided them into three groups and rotated through half the program. A good mix of older and younger Scouts (one was a Cub about to go up), helping each other understand, what to them, was new and exciting.

Only one Scout had seen a Van de Graaff at school and knew what it was capable of - now he and the rest could get 'up-close and stung' by it. In the hair raising department the girls were tops with their dry long hair, but even some of the boys managed some elevation, as seen in the photos.

A human body insulated from 'ground' by a plastic chair acts as an accumulator of charge by adding to the area of the bowl on top of the generator. This results in a hotter (current) arc. I put out a couple of extra plastic chairs, and it wasn't long before (with the help of their younger Leader) there was a line of Scouts standing on chairs and plastic drums, experiencing some substantial zaps!



#### THE RADIO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM

John Leahy

john.scoutleahy@gmail.com

Home: 4572-1549

Karl Humphreys

ets0@bigpond.com.au

Mobile: 0408 205 649



### NSW 3 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN MEETING

Bundilla Scout Camp

**SUNDAY 6TH MARCH 2016**

**10:00 am to 3:00pm**

**For all Group Leaders, Leaders In Charge  
Rover Advisors, Fellowship Chairs and the Region Team**

Lunch will be supplied.

**Attendance is compulsory - please put the date in your diary now.**

---

## REGION ACTIVITIES REPORT

---

I really cannot believe the year is coming to a close with Christmas just around the corner!

All the Activity Teams have been out taking advantage of the warmer weather with lots happening. Our caving team, always looking for another hole to explore, managed to squeeze (no pun intended) another weekend trip down to Bungonia Caves which they all enjoyed. Caving in GWS has certainly gone from strength to strength and I do thank Meredith Stewart and the whole team of intrepid Wombats for their great effort this year.



The Water Activities Team has also been busy. Mid November saw a Canoe Workshop down at Lake Parramatta on the Saturday, followed by a paddle on the Sunday from Putney Beach up on the Parramatta River. This was highlighted by a visit, organized by Tracey Hansford, by a Canoeing World Record Holder, and a 2012 Canoeing Olympian. Both ladies were able to demonstrate some great skills. *"And I guess with those types of qualifications, you are not going to get much better coaching than that!"*

Not to be out done, we had a group of Cubs out for a day on the water also at Lake Parramatta. We were able to go through all the basic canoeing skills and rescues, which the cubs certainly enjoyed. Their skill level in paddling around in circles was excellent ...perhaps a bit more practice on the straight line stuff ...but a great day of lots of fun!



**Photo: Mark Fell**

The Abseiling Team, under the watchful eye of Stuart Cowen, rang another successful weekend up in the Lower Blue Mountains. While to the untrained eye they may look like they are just hanging around, the fact of the matter is, they actually are!

But there is a lot of other stuff they do in between, that does require a good level of skill and discipline. Like caving; like canoeing; we are so fortunate to have a great team of highly skilled abseilers, and certainly thank them all for their great effort this year.

Photo: Stuart Cowen



I had the pleasure of attending the 100 year Anniversary for 1<sup>st</sup> Castle Hill Scout Group, running the climbing wall on the day. The organisers had worked so hard for this day, and it really was a special time. We did have a bit of a hiccup with a supposedly double booking on the wall, but after a few quick phones calls and a “*bit of a realignment of the planets*” - all was good!

Had a bit of an incident this month with a Rover Crew from another Region, doing a weekend activity in the Blue Mountains. All was good, except they forgot to notify anyone of their safe return, prompting calls to the local Police. Unfortunately I did not have any paperwork on the Activity, so couldn't really tell the Police anything!  
***Let's not lose this opportunity to learn something here!***

- Please ensure you do notify the relevant people of your safe return, particular on overnight and high risk activities (they are the ones with the Part 3)
- On these activities please ensure the relevant people, including myself, do get a copy of the E1 (especially part 3). It means if things do go a bit pear shaped, we can provide good helpful information to the relevant authorities. ***Remember part 3 is the Insurance Policy I have often spoken about!***

While on E1 Forms just another quick note. While I am flattered to be nominated as a first or second emergency contact, it would be good to contact me first to ensure I am actually around at the required time. I am occasionally let out and often go places and do stuff where I am not easily contactable!

It was with sadness that I accepted the resignation of **Neal Sullivan from the Activities Team**. Neal was one of the few skilled sailors within the Region; He also has qualifications in Canoeing, and Bushwalking, and was part of the Flying Fox Team. Prior to joining the Activities Team, Neal was Group Leader with 1<sup>st</sup> Quakers Hill Doonside, a position he held for quite a few years. We do thank Neal for all his dedication and effort and wish him the very best in his further pursuits.

In closing for 2015, can I say a very sincere thank you to everyone one who has helped and supported the Activities Team over 2015. It has been a great year! Hope you all have a wonderful Christmas with your families and a very Happy New Year.

Like many of us, I am going to take a couple of weeks annual leave; pay to go on some big Scout camp for 10 days with 10,000 screaming kids; in blistering heat; running on about 4-5 hours of sleep a night!.....Can't wait!

**Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities**  
**Stage Manager CGS**  
**Email: [activities@greaterwestcouts.com.au](mailto:activities@greaterwestcouts.com.au)**



## CANOE COURSE - Tracey Hansford DC Parramatta District

A group of keen GWS Scouts, Ventures and Leaders took to the water over the weekend of 14th & 15th November to earn their Scout canoeing qualifications. On Saturday at Lake Parramatta, the Scouts learnt basic paddling skills and techniques of how to manoeuvre a boat. They all did very well and were ready to take on a bigger challenge the next day. To earn their Scout Section awards, after learning and practicing the basics, the participants take part in a canoeing journey. Traditionally Scouts use Canadian Canoes on their trips. To add some variety to the workshops, PaddleNSW came along to Putney Beach on the Parramatta River on Sunday so the Scouts could "test drive" sit on top kayaks and get to meet and chat with some of our local legends in paddle sports.

The Scouts and Venturers were given a demonstration on how to paddle a kayak by Anjie Lees (24 hour paddling world record holder) and Jo Brigden-Jones (Australian canoe sprint representative and 2012 Olympian). They all picked up the different paddling technique really quickly. The canoe guides, workshop participants, Anjie and Jo then set off down Parramatta River for a 10km paddle. Half the group were in canoes and half were paddling the sit on top kayaks. The journey took the paddlers from Putney to Ermington. A lunch stop, rest and stretch was needed by all. The scouts swapped around boats so they all had a chance to paddle a kayak or canoe. The return journey back to Putney was tough as the wind picked up creating choppy water. All the Scouts handled the conditions very well. As we arrived back at our base, many of the Scouts were pretty tired from their long paddle. Each of the Scouts was rewarded with a Scout canoe qualification. Most of the Scouts participating did enough paddling to achieve the requirements for their Pioneer or Explorer Water Activities badge. They now need to finish off by learning a few knots back at their section meeting.

Two Venturers who are keen to complete their SIS qualifications in Canoeing and Kayaking came along to the workshops and demonstrated skills in both canoe and kayak. Mikalya Ozols and James Dakkache are undertaking their SIS qualifications to assist their Group 1st /2nd Merrylands to run more canoeing activities for their Members. Mikayla is showing great talent in a kayak and since this weekend has been attending a number of GWS Canoe Workshops as an assistant. She has also developed sufficient skills to try out a K1 sprint racing boat with great results. BRAVOOO!

It was great to see the enthusiasm from the Scouts to try new things, work together and help each other out. Many of them showed solid interest in paddling and we hope to see them doing some more paddling with their Groups. For those keen to develop their kayak paddling, they could contact PaddleNSW to find out information about joining a local paddling club to further develop their paddling skills and to continue to have fun out on the water. Contact PaddleNSW [www.paddlensw.org.au](http://www.paddlensw.org.au) for details of local kayak clubs or have a chat with me if you see me around.

Please contact Tracey Hansford [parramatta@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:parramatta@greaterwestscouts.com.au) for information on upcoming water activities in Summer/Autumn 2016.



Photos: Keith Travers



**APPOINTMENTS LIST**  
**30/11/2015 - 18/12/2015**

**APPOINTMENTS**

**HUDSON, Garry** Fellowship Member Hawkesbury Black Horse Fellowship

**TRANSFERS**

**ANDERSON, Helen** From Trainee Leader (V)  
To AVSL 1st Oakville Venturer Unit  
1st Oakville Venturer Unit

**ANDERSON, Andrew** From DSL  
To Trainee Ldr (G) Blacktown District  
2nd Kings Langley Scout Group

**GREEN, Benjamin** From AVSL  
To AVSL 1st/2nd Blacktown Venturer Unit  
1st Hazelbrook Venturer Unit

**LEHRER, Jeffrey** From Appt TL (S)  
To VSL - P 1st Dural Scout Troop *Giwang*  
1st Dural Venturer Unit

**MASSIE, Lauren** From JSL - P  
To JSL 1st Balcombe Heights Joey Mob  
1st Balcombe Heights Joey Mob

**SOLLOM, Grant** From ACSL  
To ASL 1st Winston Hills Cub Pack  
1st Winston Hills Scout Troop

**RESIGNATIONS**

**DIXON, Rosie** AJSL 1st Kellyville Joey Mob

**KEEN, Samantha** Appt TL (C) 1st Kellyville Cub Pack *Darzee*

**LEE, Monique** Appt TL (S) West Pennant Hills Valley Scout Troop

**SHAW, Martin** Region Adviser GWSR

**SULLIVAN, Neal** RL (Act) GWSR

**WILLIAMS, Brett** Region Adviser GWSR

**Please can we remind everyone concerned, that the invoices for Q4 Jan 2016 will be available to access on Scoutlink from 1st January 2016.**

**These invoices won't be sent out to you. It is up to the Group to access their own Invoice and make payment.**

**Please make sure your youth membership information is up to date by 31/12/2015.**

## 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](mailto:bulletin@greaterwestscouts.com.au)**

### **Please note**

**There is no January issue of The Bulletin  
All submissions are due by January 31 for  
the February 2016 issue.**

**Thank you for all the reports, great photos and interesting articles  
that you have sent in throughout the year.**

**Merry Christmas from the Editor.**

