



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 440 - March 2016



Holroyd DC Ron Brown and
Holroyd District Cubs and Scouts raise the
flag prior to the Citizenship Ceremony
on Australia Day.

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

I have had an interesting and busy month since the last report.

The work load of a Region Commissioner and Deputy Region Commissioner has increased and I have decided that I need an additional Deputy and have appointed the Region Commissioner Special Duties Tony Dent to the new role. Tony will be responsible for Groups and members and David Stopps will be responsible for properties and grants.

I had the honour of attending the Queen's Scout presentation for Lachlan Smith, Bailey Harris and Ben Kahane from 2nd Baulkham Hills Venturer Unit. This is a great achievement for the Unit and the Group. Congratulations to the recipients, their parents, the leaders and members of the Unit on achieving the three awards.

I had the pleasure to attend the Cub Leadership Course at Bundilla with over 50 participants. The young members appeared to be having a really enjoyable time and well done to Anne Thompson and her team.

After the Cub Course I called in at the first rehearsal of Cumberland Gang Show and it was great to see so many happy smiling faces. I look forward to the performances in July at Riverside Theatre.

The Venturers also held a Leadership Course and had over 20 in attendance and I had the opportunity to welcome them to Bundilla. Well done to Brian Nelson and the other leaders involved in the training.

Good to hear that Tracey Stopps the District Scout Leader from Hills South District held a Scout Leadership Course over the same weekend as the above courses. Well done to Tracey and her helpers.

We held a very successful Region Strategic Planning day on 6th March with 59 people in attendance. Thanks to Geoff Henderson, Region Leader Strategy, for presenting the Programme and to Lisa Dent and her team from 1st Toongabbie Scout Group for providing morning tea and lunch. Thanks to the attendees for giving up their day to participate in the workshops.

I have booked Wentworthville Leagues Club again for our Adult Recognition Awards and the date is **October 13, 2016** - so put this in your diary. Further details will follow in coming months.

Congratulations to Kim and Maggi on their six years of service in the Region Office. I don't know what we would do without them.

I look forward to catching up with many of you during this year.

Until next timeCarry on Scouting.

Neville Henderson OAM JP

Region Commissioner

Email: rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au

HOLROYD DISTRICT SCOUTS, GUIDES and ST JOHN CADETS RAISE THE FLAG ON AUSTRALIA DAY IN MERRYLANDS OVAL



Region Strategy Report Greater Western Sydney Group Forum

On Sunday 6th March, the best and the brightest of GWS Leadership came together at Bundilla to discuss Scouting in Greater Western Sydney in 2018. Sixty Group Leaders, Leaders in Charge, Section Leaders District and Region Leaders, workshopped some key issues that we need to focus the next couple of years to ensure our movement continues the journey from **Good to GREAT**.

Our three key areas of focus in 2016 are:

- Growth in Youth membership
- Growth in Leader membership
- Sustainable Funding for groups

Here is an example of some of the great ideas brought forward by the team. This is a business card that can be handed out to prospective members at events we attend.

A simple but effective idea.

Thanks to Ron Brown DC Holroyd District



In the next fortnight, further detail and the output from that meeting will be made available through your Group/District Leaders, so ensure you get a copy.

In the coming weeks, I will be setting up a **'Brains Trust' Group** across the GWS Region, to tap into great ideas that we are currently trying or that we haven't had the opportunity to try yet. There will be no meetings, this forum will be run online. Anyone interested can contact me at: strategy@greaterwestscouts.com.au

Yours in Scouting
Geoff Henderson
Region Leader - Strategy

CUB SCOUT REPORT

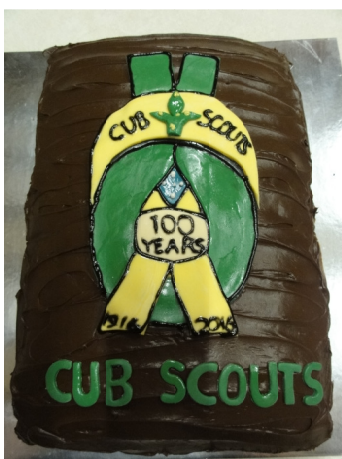
It is great to see many of our Cub Scouts and Cub Scout Leaders proudly wearing our special Centenary badge. All the badges have been distributed through the District Seonees and invoiced at \$1.10 each. Numbers were based on the information in Scoutlink on February 4, 2016. Of course as you invest more members you will need more badges. Please contact your DLCS or Seonee Leader to place an order for more badges.



Every Group received an **Invoice** with the original supply of Centenary badges and those invoice payments were due at Region Office by **March 4**. Very few of these Invoices have been paid! Can I please ask all Group Leaders and Treasurers to make their payments ASAP, thank you.

Another successful **Cub Scout Leadership course** was held on **March 5** at Bundilla with 49 Cub Scouts participating. Thank you to my wonderful Region Seonee Team, volunteer CSLs and Pinnaroo Scout Fellowship who worked hard on the day to ensure its success and thank you also to our RC for taking the time to visit us.

On **March 11** thirty seven Cub Scout Leaders spent an enjoyable two hours at Bundilla celebrating 100 years of Cub Scouting. I think we all got something out of the special Pack Meeting led by Jeff Hook CSL 1st Westmead and Leader Trainer, based on the teachings of our Founder, Lord Baden Powell written in 1916 and still very valid even to this day! Thank you to all the Leaders and special guests Tricia Shaw State, Commissioner CS and Carol Cope SC International, who took time out of their busy lives to join the Region Seonee Team; thank you to the team for organising the event and providing a nice supper and special thanks to Melissa McAulay CSL 1st Rydalmore, for creating such a lovely birthday cake for us to enjoy. It was wonderful to meet so many of our new Leaders on the night. I hope we all meet again at our CS Birthday Bash on May 1 at Bundilla.



Our Birthday cake created by Melissa.



We were privileged to be the first leaders to view the brand new State banner celebrating our Centenary.

Please don't forget our **Youth Helper Course** scheduled for **Saturday 14th May** at Bundilla Scout Camp. The E1 is available on the website— closing date is **Friday 29th April 2016**— cost just \$35 pp.

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



Jemma Ryan - 1s Kings Langley
Kera Merrington - 2nd Baukham Hills
Blake Wood - 1st Nth Mt Drutt

1-2-3 - WOOF!

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



**CUB SCOUT
LEADERSHIP COURSE
5TH MARCH 2106**





1st Kellyville Joey Scout Mob Holiday



Aboard the *James Craig*

What a weekend we had! We explored the museum, ships and sub and then went aboard the James Craig for such an exciting sleepover. Who would have thought that sleeping in hammocks would actually be comfortable?! Likewise who would have thought that work aboard the ship (scrubbing decks and hoisting sails) would put smiles on the Joey's faces.



HOLROYD DISTRICT CELEBRATES FOUNDER'S DAY

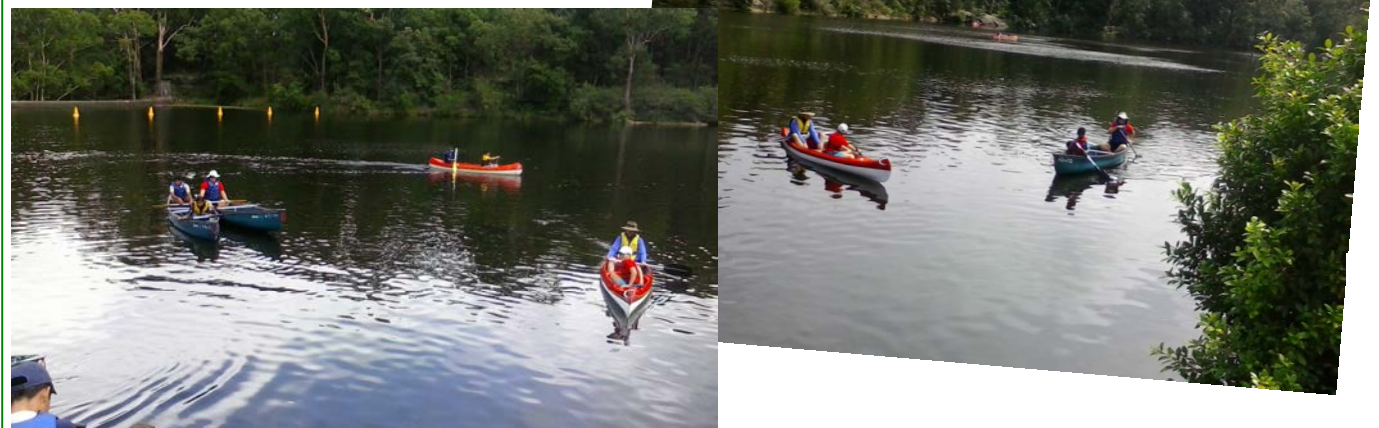
Holroyd District Scouts celebrated Founder's Day in a way which would have gained Baden-Powell's hearty approval - 'mucking about in boats' (as our Founder used to call it) on the beautiful Lake Parramatta. Combining canoes from different groups in the District the leaders were able to offer a great water experience for all those Joeys, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers who attended - and for some it was their first time in a canoe.

Just before lunch the group of over 50 people gathered to remember the impact of Scouting on people's lives and to express gratitude in a special service. The sun shone, the water glistened and after lunch everybody jumped in the lake for a great swim together. It was a wonderful District event.

Jeanie Wood GL

1st/2nd Merrylands 'St. Anne's'

Email: halfmerrylandsgroup@gmail.com



TRAINING REPORT

A reminder to all Scout Leaders, Venturer Leaders and Rovers; in order to do the level 1 Bushwalking course - there are e-learning modules that need to be completed first. They are on the adventurous activities part of e-learning. An RPL process is available for those Leaders who have done a number of bushwalks and have kept a log of their activities. The RPL paperwork is obtainable from the GWS training team.

For those Leaders (particularly section leaders) who want to do advanced training - the modules are on your site at Scout Central. The Wood Badge project is still to complete the assignments as you go through the modules so that you have a booklet to hand in when you have finished. Your Group PLA will be able to help with any questions and another source of support is your Region section leader. Please use these people as a resource.

Kathy Cuneo

Region Commissioner AT&D

Email: training@greaterwestscouts.com.au

TELSTRA ROPE and POLYPROPYLENE ROPE RESTRICTIONS

Doug Menzies Chief Commissioner

Scouts Australia

In January 2016 an incident occurred in Queensland involving Telstra type rope resulting in a range of injuries to young people. While the activity was at a Queensland Scout facility it did not involve any Scouts. Telstra rope, sometimes called Parramatta rope due to its blue and yellow colouring, is more appropriately known as a polypropylene, or plastic rope. Other variations of this type of rope are generally available in a range of sizes and colours at hardware stores.

Workplace Health and Safety Qld (WHSQ) has investigated the incident and has provided advice to Scouts Queensland on the appropriate use of this type of rope. The primary concern is its use on 'weight bearing' objects. As a result of this advice Scouts NSW has now placed similar restrictions on the use of polypropylene ropes.

This type of rope is not to be used for any activity where there is a likelihood of any major weight bearing being placed on the rope. Examples of this include (but are not restricted to):

- Rock activities
- Pioneering towers
- Flying fox construction
- Scaffolding
- Securing of large items that may become wind affected (e.g. jumping castles, pontoons, tents, dining flys etc.)

The rope is suitable for use on minor weight bearing activities. This includes:

- Clothes lines
- Camp gadgets
- Boundary fencing between campsites
- Low level pioneering projects (e.g. tables, chairs etc. used on
- General knot tying and games
- Securing of small items where there is no likelihood of those items being affected by large wind gusts

Guidance to assist members in determining the appropriate rope for activities can be found in the following available documentation:

- ◆ Fieldbook for Australian Scouting 2008 Chap 18
- ◆ Pioneering Principles John Thurman 1962
- ◆ Pioneering Projects John Thurman 1961

If you have any questions please direct them to Warren Goodall, Chair of the ScoutSafe Committee.

REGION ACTIVITIES REPORT

I have a problem at the moment!

It is mainly caused by not enough weekends in a year; and to add to it *“the great weather we have here in Australia for outdoor activities!”* There is so much happening on the activities front at present; and with a number of weekends having two, three, or even more activities all happening at the same time, there has been some criticism. But it all comes back to my first problem...! *And not to mention a very active Activity Team as well!*

Tristan Flores has been out and about running another very successful Level One Bushwalking Workshop at Bundilla. These are a great opportunity for particularly newer leaders to learn some really good outdoor skills in a very much practical way. This was the same weekend as State Council up at Pennant Hills, where I was able to catch up with all my counterparts from around the state, and to compare notes, so to speak!



Ross Smith, who looks after our **canyoning** trips spent a very enjoyable day at **Death Trap Canyon**, (*just tell mum it's called Flower Pot Creek, or something nice like that!*). While to some it may seem very strange to see bushwalkers parading through the bush in full wetsuits, there is a very good reason for doing so. That water can be icy cold, even in the middle of summer.

Photo courtesy Ross Smith

Tracey Hansford, our Water Activities Coordinator, along with a number of other leaders ran a very successful **Cub Canoe Skills Day at Lake Parramatta**. While we had upwards of 60 cubs in attendance, we were able to break them up into smaller groups, and by doing a rotation of activities, we were able to ensure a safety of numbers in the water. It was great to see the young cubs learning some basic skills in canoeing, along with self-rescues and 'T' Rescues which they all had a go at.



Photo Courtesy Mark Fell

While on water activities, we have just purchased 4 x single seat sit on top Kayaks (Ex AJ2016) for the Region Team. Certainly ideal for our younger youth members who often find the larger Canadian type canoes just that bit too big to paddle.

Paperwork: We have had a bit of a falling down on the paperwork process for Region run activities.

It's not that the paperwork procedure has changed! It's just sometimes we need a bit of a reminder on the process. All the E1 forms and monies for a Region Run activity must be submitted to Region Office and not the Activity Leader. The reason being is that the girls in the office can monitor the numbers, and advise the Activity Leader when they have reached the cut off.

We all must ensure the E1 forms are correctly filled out, prior to being sent through to Region Office. This includes all required signatures, particularly from parents, and that all the relevant boxes (swimming, water activities, rock activities etc.) are ticked. One area that is often missed is the Membership Number. There has been a lot of wasted time chasing up these missing items.

As a rule, if a participant does not have the correct paperwork, they should not do the activity, as we do not have reasonable parental consent that the youth member can do this or that activity. I have told my team that all E1 forms and information for a particular Region Activity must be on the Region Website at least one month prior to the activity. If we can all do our bit, it will certainly make it easier for everyone concerned.

One planned activity coming up which I will mention, is an overnight **Canoe Adventurer Trip** on the first weekend in **April**. The plan is to paddle from Wisemans Ferry and up Webbs Creek, as basically as far as you can paddle (7-8km), bush camp on a property the night (have permission already,) and returning back to Wisemans Ferry the

next day. Details are on the Region Website. Being the type of trip it is, numbers will be limited. This trip is designed more for those with a higher level of canoeing proficiency.

Ok, time to get out and do stuff, and please remember to ensure all the paperwork is correctly filled out. Appreciate your help!

Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities

Stage Manager CGS

Email: activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au

GWS Region Bushwalking Team School Holiday Bushwalking Camp

Thursday 21st to Sunday 24th April

Blue Mountains National Park: Katoomba Station to Megalong Valley then Coxs River Loop via Confluence of Jenolan and Coxs River.

This is a four day skills hike for adventurous Scouts and Venturer Scouts operated by the Region Activities Team. The purpose of this hike is to put skills into practice. The route involves some steep climbs, descents and easy grade river crossings.

The Kanangra-Boyd Wilderness is among the largest and most rugged wilderness areas in New South Wales. Situated to the south of Katoomba in the Blue Mountains and the Kanangra-Boyd National Parks. This hike offers an entry level wilderness experience.

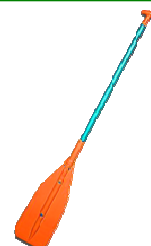
E1 form and further details are available at <http://www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/activities/bushwalking>



OVERNIGHT CANOE ADVENTURE TRIP

**The Region Adventurous Activity Team are running an
Overnight Canoe Trip**

2nd - 3rd April 2016



This trip is designed more for Leaders, older Scouts and Venturers who do have a reasonable skill level in **flat water canoeing**. Because of the nature of this trip, **numbers will be strictly limited**.

Heading out from Wisemans Ferry, we will be going upstream into Webbs Creek, where we will continue upstream basically as far as we can go (7 - 8km). At this point we will set up camp and bush camp (no dunnies and no plugs for hairdryers)!

Next day we strike camp and head back down basically the same way we came, but continuing on past Wisemans Ferry towards Gunderman, before returning to Wisemans Ferry. For a bit of extra excitement we plan to do a short night paddle, which can be quite challenging and lots of fun.

We will be using the Region Canoes, however participants can bring their own canoes if suitable. You will be carrying all your own camping gear, food, water, etc. Recommend dry bags. Broad brim hats and life jackets and water shoes (not crocs) are mandatory. **Activity Leader is Mark Fell (Dingo)**



CUB SCOUT CENTENARY WOGGLES FOR SALE

A unique, limited edition woggle to celebrate our Cub Scout Centenary has been released for sale at just **\$1.50 each**. The embroidered badge is on a black band with easy Velcro fastening.

If you would like to purchase this special woggle please contact Anne Thompson RCCS cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au

CUB SCOUT SAVES YOUNGER BROTHER USING CPR LEARNT AT CUBS

The following is reprinted with the kind permission of The Hills Shire Times following an interview with Jennie Page CSL 2nd Baulkham Hills and reporter Bev Jordan.

“As you know Taylor and I are both Cub Scout Leaders and St John Ambulance Officers. As part of the cubs’ badgework, Taylor and I enlist the aid of a couple of the other members of our Division (ex Scouters) and provide the cubs with the First Aid training each year. According to their Cub Scout Record Book Cub Scouts are to be instructed on knowing what DRSABCD stands for and how to treat cuts, abrasions, a bleeding wound, heat related conditions, bites, burns and scalds and how to get help when needed.

Many years ago Taylor and I introduced additional skills into our first aid training of the cubs. I felt they were never too young to know how to perform CPR. Even if they couldn’t do it themselves because of their size. There was always the chance that they could instruct an adult should the need arise. At the very least I was hoping the knowledge would be retained in the memory banks should it be required. We also acquaint them with the Defibrillator and EpiPen. The EpiPen is very important as we have three cubs who must carry their EpiPen with them to all Scouting activities.

Over the years I have been questioned by numerous parents as to the merit of providing this additional first aid instruction to the cubs. I have always maintained that I was of the opinion that it was better for them to have the knowledge, whether they could put it into action at the time or not. With a recent incident I have been proven to be correct. One of my cubs, Zachary Redwood, was recently in a situation where he was able to call upon the skills we have taught him and saved the life of his younger brother, Ben. Zachary turned 9 last Saturday (12th March) and Ben is 3, I think (maybe 4). In the situation which presented itself Zach was able to remain clear headed (while his parents panicked) and performed CPR on Ben as we had taught him”.

This event has certainly changed the Redwood family’s view on Scouting. I have always struggled with making parents understand the worth of us teaching the cubs these skills while they are young and some too small to make a difference. As I say to these parents, “they won’t always be small”.

The incident unfolded as follows:

An email from Zachary’s father to Jennie Page CSL 2nd Baulkham Hills (Published with his kind permission).

“Our youngest son Benjamin accidentally ate a small sized Snickers Bar whilst at a birthday party. Initially Ben vomited up the peanuts which is a normal reaction to his intolerance. We are aware that Ben has an intolerance to peanuts and endeavour to make sure he does not ingest them. About half an hour later Ben started having trouble breathing. We thought he may have been having an Asthma attack but he did not respond to the Ventolin treatment. At this point we realised this was now an emergency situation and decided to rush Ben to hospital.

My wife, oldest son Zachary and Ben rushed to the hospital in one car while I followed in another. During the trip to hospital Ben stopped breathing, his lips turned blue, eyes rolled into the back of his head and he lost consciousness. My wife was distraught, stopped the car and called me as she was not sure what to do. Zach who had been provided with First Aid instruction at Cub Scouts by his Leaders, who are both St John Ambulance Officers, starting performing CPR on Ben as he had been taught to do. After a few minutes some colour returned to Ben’s face and lips and he regained consciousness!

We then continued to the Children's Hospital at Westmead. My wife and I were both very distressed. At the hospital Ben was placed on a breathing assistance mask and given adrenaline. We were advised by the doctors that Ben had an Anaphylactic reaction to the peanuts he ate and that he was very lucky that we had taken early action to get him to the hospital and that Zach was able to perform CPR on him.”

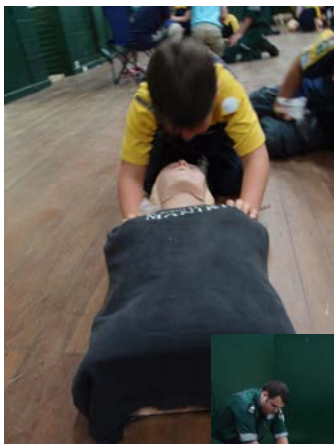
Note from RRCS:

This is a wonderful story with a good outcome, thanks to the training Zach received in his Cub Pack.

Congratulations to Jennie and Taylor Page, dedicated Leaders and St John First Aiders - how wonderful it must feel to know that what we teach our Cubs really does sink in and comes in very handy in an emergency situation!

1—2—3 Woof to Zach, Jennie and Taylor

Some photos from one of our past First Aid nights. Two members from our Division (Hills) both ex Scouts, joined Taylor and I in instructing the Cubs - Ben Irvine was a Scout at 2nd Baulkham Hills and Gavin Purse was a Scout at 2nd Castle Hill.



CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW

Cumberland Gang Show has started rehearsing with a fantastic workshop day.

We have also welcomed the Comet Cast who had a great time joining in rehearsals for the first half of the show.

Bookings have opened and all tickets for our July school holiday performances are on sale directly through the **Riverside Theatre**. Whatever you do, don't miss out on seeing the 2016 show where we **Power Up** with fun and energy. Why not book for a Group Activity?

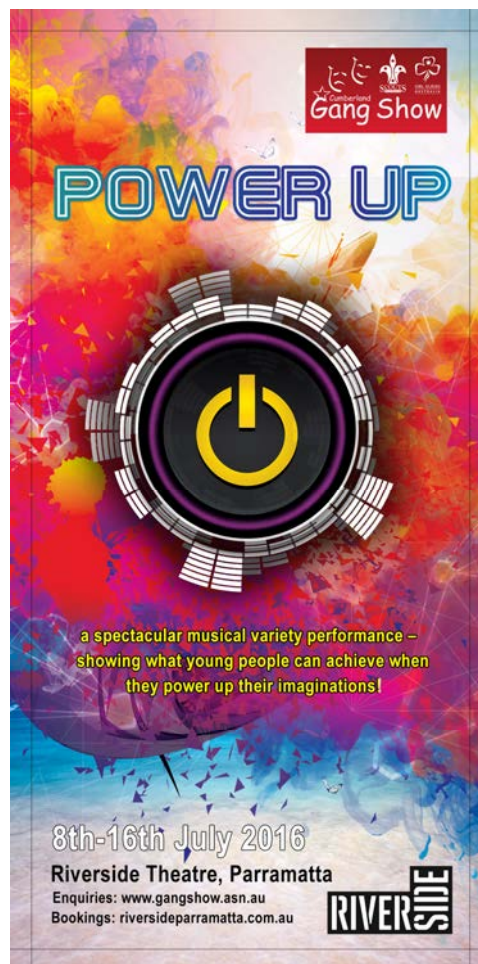
To book your seats, please go to:

www.tickets.gangshow.asn.au

Look on our website www.gangshow.asn.au and read about the special nights for Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers and take your Group along.

Workshops and visits to Groups are also available. Why not ask some of the Gang to talk to your youth members and run a couple of game? **To book go to:** www.gangshow.asn.au

Backstage Crew positions are now being filled for the 2016 show. There are many departments that need helpers, including; Catering, Wardrobe, Marketing, Set Construction and Painting. If you would like to be involved in behind the scenes; please contact info@gangshow.asn.au



Radio Field Day

Karl and I always attend the Wyong Amateur Radio Hamfest at the end of February, in uniform, to remind those who see us about JOTA. This year, although the bargains were fewer, there was one momentous meeting that made it interesting. This was a meeting of amateur radio operators involved in JOTA in the Sydney region and adjacent areas.

The meeting was chaired by a member of the St George Amateur Society involved in providing radios and operators for JOTA. Although the main concerns expressed were about A/R procedure, it was interesting to see the people involved, in say, the iconic Narrabeen Lakes JOTA and hear about their hectic weekend schedule and activities they provide for the Guides & Scouts.

Karl Humphreys, with his Scout Branch hat on, was able to answer questions on Scout JOTA policy and offer to communicate to Scouters the requirements of the A/R fraternity. One couple I recognised at the meeting were Winston Hills Guide Leader Norma and her husband, who I had seen operating during past JOTAs, as well of course, one of our own Blue Mountains Radio operators representing the club.

Speaking of 'the Club', I took my Tesla Coil to their Christmas lunch in December. They are still talking about the transmitter that radiates on all frequencies 'from DC to daylight', as they say. Here is club member Daniel trying out the 4 foot (fluorescent tube) light sabre.

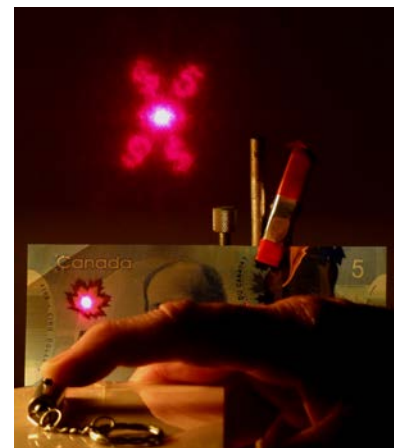


Money Secrets

Part of our 'Light Night' involves revealing the hidden features of money. Here we see a Chinese 5 Yuan note in natural light and part exposed to **Ultra Violet light** to show the '5' printed in UV ink. This allows merchants to check that the note is not a forgery, with a simple UV tube behind the counter.

Another country's notes had short lines of different coloured UV ink scattered over the surface. This could allow an automatic sorter to quickly stack notes into denomination bins.

The second example is a Canadian \$5 with a clear maple leaf containing a **hologram**. When a simple laser pointer beam is shone through the patch, an image of two \$5s is projected onto a surface!



Bathurst Cubs

Paul Hennessey was a Cub Leader at 1st Erskine Park and has now moved to 3rd Bathurst Cub Pack. He remembered my Cub Morse code kit and asked me to supply some to his Cub Pack in Bathurst. The pictures show Paul and his new Pack doing a code night, and some of Cubs putting the kits together.

My electrical Cub kits were unique in that no soldering was involved, just nails and hammers. A long and short flash send the code, and allowed two groups of Cubs on either side of the hall to concentrate on the light they were decoding.



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

PENRITH DISTRICT LIGHTWEIGHT HIKE CAMP

Around 24 Scouts and 7 Leaders from **1st St Marys, 1st Erskine Park and 1st South Penrith Scout Troops** attended the Penrith District Lightweight Hike Camp, held in the Blue Mountains National Park on February 27 & 28.

The Scouts participated in a 4km hike into the Euroka clearing and rotated through a number of bases to earn some proficiency badges. They also enjoyed a game of soccer and cricket.

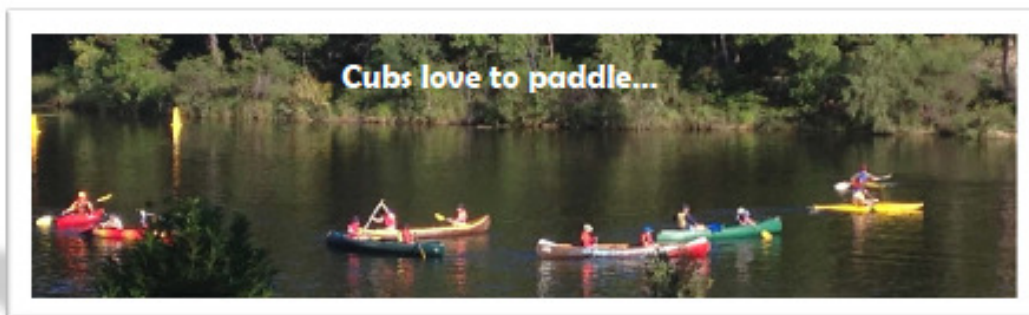
They met some interesting wildlife but the homemade pizza straight out of the gas oven was a definite highlight of a very successful weekend!





Cubs ♥ Canoeing

Helen Hodge - CSL, 2nd Castle Hill Cub Pack



All of this brilliant fun took place on Lake Parramatta on Sunday 28th February at the GWS Region Cub Canoe Skills Day.

Tracey Hansford and her team deserve a huge **1-2-3 WOOF** for making this event possible and demonstrating so clearly the value of learning by doing.

Check out the Region Activities calendar at www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/activities/calendar for more opportunities to get out and learn, do, ♥ something.

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

SCOUT SNOW WEEKEND

Come along and join us on

5 – 7 August 2016

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
\$190*



*Plus Gear hire and lift tickets

THAT'S CHEAPER THAN LAST YEAR!

Places are limited so book your seat **NOW!**

For more info checkout snowtrip.greaterwestscouts.com.au

Contact
GRUG

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gwssnowtrip@gmail.com





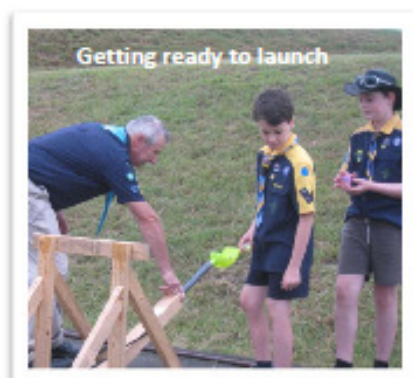
Founder's Day + Scout Museum = FUN, FUN, FUN

Helen Hodge - CSL, 2nd Castle Hill Cub Pack

Loads of fun was in store at the Australian Scout Museum, Newington Armory when 2nd Castle Hill Cubs arrived to participate in a Founder's Day Morning Tea on Sun 21st Feb. The wonderful members of Scout Fellowship who manage the Australian Scout Museum had set out a variety of outdoor games and activities for joeys, cubs, scouts and other visitors to enjoy as well as a delicious array of homemade cakes, scones and slices and other yummy treats.

Morning Tea began with a short story about Baden-Powell and everyone joining in to sing "I've got that B.P. feeling" which got us in the mood to celebrate B.P.'s birthday.

The cubs enjoyed viewing the displays inside the museum and threw themselves into all the outdoor activities. Air propelled water rockets were a huge hit. At one point in the morning there were two teams of water rocketeers firing across a field at each other accompanied by plenty of laughs and happy shouting. The sight of plastic bottles shooting off and landing at the feet of some unsuspecting leaders or whizzing over their heads was great fun to witness.



Another big hit also involved water. This time it was water balloons being launched from a pair of very sturdy catapults. A pack of willing helpers operated the catapults and replenished the "ammo" while others manned the landing zone eager to try and smack the incoming projectiles with a bat before they crashed to the ground. Each successful hit was met with enthusiastic cheering from the crowd.

The cubs also tried their hand at the huge water drums. What a brilliant idea!

All the children delighted in getting wet and also trying to get each other (and leaders) as wet as possible too. Good old fashioned FUN was enjoyed by everyone.

After packing up the equipment and picking up all those smashed water balloons we bid farewell to the lovely people at the Australian Scout Museum and wandered next door to the fantastic Blaxland Riverside Park. The cubs spent the next hour or so happily exploring the climbing walls, slides, towers, swings, cargo nets and so on in the immense playground.

If you are looking for a great day out, plan your visit to the Australian Scout Museum and Blaxland Riverside Park. You'll be glad you did.

Learn more about the Australian Scout Museum at: www.heritage.nswscouts.com.au



australian
SCOUT
MUSEUM



A Perfect Cub Pack Holiday @ Wonderful Woy Woy

Helen Hodge - CSL, 2nd Castle Hill Cub Pack

Blue sky and blue water set the scene for 2nd Castle Hill Cub Pack's holiday at Woy Woy in February. Our accommodation was the superbly renovated 1st Woy Woy Sea Scout Hall. This 5-star hall is one that you'll wish you could call your own. It is ideally located on the water's edge of Woy Woy Channel and is a short walk to everything you need.

Tranquil, warm water just a few steps from the hall was the perfect place to enjoy a Saturday morning swim. Some cubs enthusiastically excavated the small sandy beach, determined to create impossibly tall castles or delightfully deep holes.



Canoeing near the Scout Hall

Fishing at Woy Woy Tidal Baths



To our good fortune, the extremely active Woy Woy Sea Scouts were running a sailing course from their hall that afternoon and generously allowed us to use their beautiful canoes. With experienced Woy Woy leaders on hand along with our own, the cubs were able to enjoy the fun of canoeing. An unexpected and absolutely wonderful treat!

Later on Saturday afternoon we strolled to Fisherman's Wharf (an easy 10min walk) to buy bait for the cubs to try their hand at fishing from the walkway that surrounds Woy Woy Tidal Baths. Some were fortunate enough to catch a fish or two and had the option of kissing their prize before releasing it back to the water.

Our Sunday morning activity was a ride on the "Saratoga" ferry from Woy Woy across the channel to explore the shoreline of Davistown. We had not ventured far when one of our leaders discovered an army of soldier crabs. The cubs were fascinated by the sight of hundreds of tiny crabs moving in unison across the mud flats. It was a delight to see these and other marine creatures in their natural habitat. This holiday was full of surprises that have created many happy memories.



If you'd love a Perfect Cub Pack Holiday, contact KylieAnn "Selkie" Scott, the amazing group leader at 1st Woy Woy Sea Scouts, and book your weekend now!

Email: selkie@woywoyseascouts.com.au

Mob: 0438 987 783.

To view photos of their beautiful hall, go to www.woywoyseascouts.com.au and click on Hall Hire.

Meeting a soldier crab



Scouts Australia, NSW

Riverina Region,
Cabramurra Scout Hall @ 1488m ASL



Cabramurra 1488m - 2016 Bookings Open!

June to September 2016 bookings are now being accepted — \$50 per person for a two night weekend (arrive Friday evening, depart Sunday morning). A minimum of 16 guests is required to ensure we cover costs. Mid week available by arrangement.

Our new kitchen and floor were suitably bedded in last season and we've now added a couple of minor improvements including some kites on site for those quiet times!! Next big job will be new 'wet area' partitioning – anyone with thoughts or contacts – please let us know. Check us out on Facebook for updates including working bees, etc.



Bookings to
Adrian van Werven
Phone 02 6953 8375
or
vanwerven@bigpond.com

THE BULLETIN

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

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

Email : bulletin@greaterwestscouts.com.au