



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 441 - April 2016



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



MR ROSS GROVE
Region President

MRS DEBBIE HOWLETT
Region Chair

MR NEVILLE HENDERSON OAM
Region Commissioner

Invite you to be present at the

**69th GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION
ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION**

Sunday 19th June 2016
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, 10th June 2016 to Region Office
Phone: 9639 2488 or Email: gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

Please see back page for reply slip.

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 am happy to confirm that the membership fee for 2016/2017 will remain the same at \$38.00 per quarter. The NSW Insurance Committee was able to obtain a reduction in the insurance portfolio premiums and in most instances the asset management fee invoices should be less than last year even though the value of the buildings has increased.

Included in this Bulletin is your invitation to our Annual Report Presentation (ARP) on 19th June 2016 at 2.30pm. Invitations have been sent to all our local Federal and State Politicians and Mayors of the local councils. We look forward to seeing you there.

Your group ARP should be scheduled and your District Commissioner and Region Office advised of the date. Please make sure your financial books have been audited and the required documents are available at the meeting.

We have recommended to the State Board that Councilor Ross Grove (Holroyd Council) be appointed as the Region President replacing Alan Overton AM. Ross has been a member of Scouting and a great supporter of our Region.

I am a member of the NSW Adult Recognition Awards Committee and we met recently to consider the nominations received from all regions in NSW. It was great to note that our citations were among the best written and comments were received about this. We are considering running a nomination writing workshop later in the year.

The section Region Commissioners and District Commissioners are currently conducting appointment reviews on leaders who are due for their three yearly review. This will be an ongoing process and Tony Dent will be overseeing the program.

Following our very successful Region Strategic Planning day on 6th March, our Region Leader Strategy, Geoff Henderson, has sent the 3 year Region Strategy Plan to those who participated on the day.

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

I look forward to catching up with many of you at some of your Group's and our Region ARP.

Until next timeCarry on Scouting.

Neville Henderson OAM JP

Region Commissioner

Email: rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au

THE PROCESS REQUIRED BY STATE OFFICE AND REGION TO HIRE OUT SCOUT HALLS

- 1) A **P2 form** is required for a short term rental and this form goes **DIRECT TO STATE OFFICE**. The recommended fee is \$25 to \$30 per hour for community hirers. It is Region policy that groups do not hire for birthday parties unless the hirer is a member of the Group and the Group Support Committee approves the hire. Also collect the fee with the application form.
- 2) A **P3 form** is required when the hirer requires a long term hire (lease normally up to 3 years). The form plus required documents are sent to REGION OFFICE for approval by Region Executive. The minimum recommended fee is \$25 to \$30 per hour but if a long term lease you may negotiate a weekly, monthly or annual fee. **A P3 requires the following for a lease to be produced:**
 - Cheque made out to Scouts Australia NSW Branch for \$90.00 for the cost of producing the lease
 - A current Insurance Certificate of Currency for a minimum Limit of Indemnity of \$ 10,000,000 and noting the Scout Association of Australia as an interested party. This is to protect Scouts NSW.
 - A certified copy of the driver's licence of the proprietor of the hirer or an office bearer if the hirer is an association.
 - If the hall is on council land a letter of approval from the council allowing the hire of the premises (not required for The Hills Council as we have their letter giving permission).

Once the above is received the proposal goes to Region Executive (3rd Monday of the month) for approval and is then sent to State Property Department for issue of the lease.

Trusting this will clarify the situation for everyone - Neville Henderson RC

TRAINING REPORT

Attention all Group Leaders! We have a new process for Introductory interviews.

Group Leader:

- Your first step is to ask the potential leader to get a WWCC (working with children check).
- Then print an A1 form and ask them to fill it in. This needs to be submitted to Bundilla as soon as possible (it can be done electronically).
- At this stage you should obtain an introductory interview kit from Bundilla. Ask your Group's PLA to conduct the interview and submit the L8 form to Bundilla.
- Hopefully this interview takes place soon after the A1 is submitted because as soon as the police clearance comes through the L8 is submitted and the new leader is logged on.

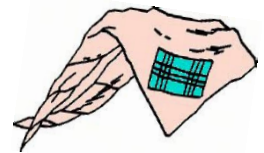
We are asking the PLAs to do the interviews so that the new leader and the PLA meet each other. PLAs are now required to be more proactive.

There will still be **Introductory interviews** at Bundilla on the **1st Thursday** of the month as I still have a number of groups for which she I am the PLA. If you are not sure who your Group's PLA is - please contact me.

During January and February we had a big push for all those people who were in the process of achieving their Wood Badge to finish the process. A big congratulations to all the following leaders who survived the pressure!



Congratulations and best wishes to these Leaders who have recently gained their Wood Badge



Lisa Dent GL 1st Toongabbie - LOA

Elena Connor GL 1st/2nd Blacktown - LOA

Jodie Astley VSL 1st/2nd Blacktown - Venturer Scout

Jennifer Huthnance AVSL 1st Springwood - Venturer Scout

Timothy West SL 1st Hawkesbury - Scout

Fiona Sherwin SL 1st Sth Penrith - Scout

Julie Drinkwater ASL 1st Nth Rocks - Scout

Donnalee Wade CSL 1st/2nd Blacktown - Cub Scout

Charlotte Abnett CSL 2nd Kings Langley - Cub Scout

Kerri Lomas ACSL 1st/2nd Blacktown - Cub Scout

Benjamin Staples ACSL 1st/2nd Blacktown - Cub Scout

Stephen Furst ACSL 1st North Rocks - Cub Scout

Kasey Staples JSL 1st/2nd Blacktown - Joey Scout

Bravo - Well done!

Kathy Cuneo

Region Commissioner AT&D

Email: training@greaterwestscouts.com.au

CUB SCOUT REPORT

Our Region Cub Scout Birthday Bash to celebrate 100 years of Cub Scouts will take place at Bundilla on May 1 from 10am to 2:30pm. Registrations on the EMS have been slowly coming in but I would love to see many more. I know it is school holiday time and it is more difficult to contact parents so we have extended the closing date for another week - until Friday 22nd April. Please jump online and register your Leaders and Cubs - the E1s are not required until May 1, so this gives you more time to collect your paperwork. My team and I promise you a great day with lots of fun activities. Please note - there will be no climbing wall or flying fox on the day.

The annual **Youth Helper Course** will be conducted on **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. An L1 and Y9 is also required for this course - it will go on the website soon, but if you wish to register, just email me and I can forward these forms to you. We already have 8 applicants, so this course will definitely run. Don't miss out—register now.

The 6th NSW Cuboree will be held at Cataract Scout Park January 3 - 7, 2017. Cost \$300 for Cub Scouts and \$270 for Leaders, Scouts, Venturers and Parent Helpers.

Registrations for the 6th NSW Cuboree are now open!

Please see www.nswcuboree.com.au for all available information and to complete your application to attend.

Please use the next **261 days** leading up to Cuboree, to camp out with your Cubs as much as possible, so they will be equipped to cope with 5 days away from home, sleeping in tents and living out of a suitcase! The dates for **Shakedown camps** are on the Region Calendar - attendance at one of these is compulsory - please do not book any other activity on your District's set date.

Your DLCS or Seonee Leader will be looking for Pack Coordinators, Line Leaders and Cooks to make up the Cuboree Packs. Please let them know if you are interested in any of these roles.

The plans are looking good for the **State Centenary wide game** set for July 31 in Sydney. Our Region will be required to register their participation on the EMS, which will go live on the 2nd May 2016. This will give you plenty of time to organise your own E1 and register all participants. For further details please attend your District Seonee.

Congratulations to all the CSLs who have completed their Wood Badge requirements - wear your beads with pride, you have earned them and please encourage your fellow leaders to complete their basic training or to undertake their advanced training.

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



Owen Mitchell - 1st North Rocks
Chantelle Mackintosh - 1st Kings Langley
Mitchell Boulton - 1st Erskine Park
Ryan Wassell - 1st Hazelbrook

1-2-3 - WOOF!

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

REGION STRATEGY REPORT

Want to be involved in something special?

Want to help make Scouting in GWS even better?

I am looking for a team of people who want to join our 'Scouting Future' Team and help shape the future of Scouting in Greater Western Sydney over the next couple of years.

To get the most out of our merry band:

- There are **NO MEETINGS**, as all of the discussion will happen online.
- You decide how much time you have available. Contribute when you can.
- No experience required. All you need is an open mind and a willingness to share ideas; and
- You need a passion for Scouting.

To be involved, please email me at:

strategy@greaterwestscouts.com.au

Our working party will report back through the Bulletin throughout the year.

Yours in Scouting
Geoff Henderson
Region Leader - Strategy



CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW



Power Up – Cumberland Gang Show 2016 is well underway. The cast are having a fantastic time rehearsing the exciting songs, dances, and sketches that make up this year's show.

Bookings have opened and all tickets are on sale directly through the Riverside Theatre
riversideparramatta.com.au

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? Check out our website www.gangshow.asn.au and to find out about the special performances and show bags nights for Joeys, Cubs, Scouts and the special City Extra dinner offer for Venturers and Rovers.

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

Backstage Crew positions are now being filled for the 2015 show. There are many areas including: Catering, Wardrobe, Set Construction, Painting, Stage and other related departments. If you would like to be involved in behind the scenes please contact info@gangshow.asn.au

APPOINTMENTS LIST

1/3/2016 - 4/4/2016

APPOINTMENTS

CORNELL, Suzanne	RL (Comm) - DA	GWSR
NELSON, Brian	DVSL - DA	Parramatta District
WHITE, Rodney	LIC	1st Carlingford Scout Group

TRANSFERS

BRIGGS, Michael	From AVSL To VSL	1st Brush Park 1st Ermington Venturer Unit
CONNOR, Glenn	From RA (Resp) To SL	Blacktown Rover Crew 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Troop
DAVIS, Sharon	From Appt TL (S) To ASL	1st Blackheath Scout Troop 1st Blackheath Scout Troop
DENT, Tony	From RC (SD) To DRC	GWSR GWSR
GARDNER, Andrew	From TL (G) To AGL	1st Blaxland Scout Group 1st Blaxland Scout Group
HENDERSON, Brett	From TL (G) To GL - P	1st Blaxland Scout Group 1st Blaxland Scout Group
HENRY, Anthony	From SL - P To SL - P	1st Emu Plains Scout Troop Emu Plains/Lapstone Scout Troop
ONG, Alexander	From AJSL To ACSL	1st Carlingford Joey Scout Mob 1st Carlingford Cub Scout Pack
REDWIN, James	From CSL - P To CSL - P	1st Emu Plains Cub Scout Pack Emu Plains/Lapstone Cub Scout Pack
ROMANIS, Evan	From Appt TL (CS) To ACSL	WPHV Cub Pack WPHV Cub Pack
SCOTT, Benjamin	From Appt TL (V) To TL (JS)	1st Winston Hills Joey Scout Mob 1st Winston Hills Joey Scout Mob

UNWIN, Elaine	From Appt TL (JS) To AJSL	1st Kellyville Joey Scout Mob 1st Kellyville Joey Scout Mob
WALLACE, Stephen	From DVSL To DC	Blacktown District Penrith City District
WILLARD, Rex	From ASL To SL-P	1st Toongabbie Scout Troop 1st Toongabbie Scout Troop

RESIGNATIONS

AZZO, Michelle	TL (CS)	1st North Rocks Cub Pack
BONE, Alan	ASL	1st Kellyville Scout Troop
EMERY, Andre	ASL	1st Westmead Scout Troop
HERMAN, Hendrikus	TL (G)	1st Carlingford Scout Group
HOSKIN, Karen	Appt TL (CS)	1st Parramatta Cub Pack
HUNT, Dylan	AVSL	1st Carlingford Venturer Unit
KOP, Craig	TL (S)	1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Scout Troop
MACKRES, Jacqueline	TL (JS)	1st Carlingford Joey Mob
MOAT, Graeme	ASL	WPHV Scout Troop
MOULDER, Rodney	Appt TL (S)	1st Blackheath Scout Troop
PORTER, Ben	TL (VS)	1st Westmead Venturer Unit
STANDRING, David	Appt TL (CS)	1st Winston Hills Cub Pack
SUDARSANAN, Adethya	Appt TL (S)	1st Parramatta Scout Troop
TYLER, Joanne	AVSL	2nd Baulkham Hills Venturer Unit
WATT, Adrian	GL- P	1st Blaxland Scout Group
WEISS, Maximillian	ASL	1st Whalan Scout Troop
WILLIAMS, Simone	CSL - P	1st Kings Langley Cub Pack
YAP, Kim	Appt TL (S)	1st Carlingford Scout Troop

DE-REGISTRATIONS

1st Emu Plains Venturer Unit
 1st Emu Plains Scout Group
 1st Emu Plains Scout Troop *Barindji*
 1st Emu Plains Cub Pack *Booragorang*

REGISTRATIONS

Emu Plains/Lapstone Scout Group
 Emu Plains/Lapstone Cub Pack
 Emu Plains/Lapstone Scout Troop

THE GOLDEN WEST APPOINTMENTS LIST 1/3/2016 - 4/4/2016

APPOINTMENTS

SPARGO, Jeffrey ACSL 1st Wellington Cub Scout Pack

TRANSFERS

COTTEE, Carol From Appt TL (CS) 1st Mudgee Cub Scout Pack
To CSL - P 1st Mudgee Cub Scout Pack

DOLLERY, Shane From ASL - DA 1st Wellington Scout Troop
To ASL 1st Wellington Scout Troop

GRAHAM, Cathy From Appt TL (JS) 1st Wellington Scout Troop
To JSL - P 1st Wellington Joey Scout Mob

LINCOLN. Bianca From TL (CS) 1st Mudgee Cub Scout Pack
To ACSL 1st Mudgee Cub Scout Pack

THOMAS, Kristal From ASL 3rd Bathurst All Saints Cathedral Scout Troop
To JSL - P 3rd Bathurst All Saints Cathedral Joey Mob

WORTHINGTON, Chris TL (VS) 3rd Bathurst All Saints Cathedral Venturer Unit
AVSL 3rd Bathurst All Saints Cathedral Venturer Unit

RESIGNATIONS

FURNER, Michelle JSL - P 3rd Orange Joey Scout Mob

ROBINSON, Thomas Appt TL (S) 3rd Parkes Scout Troop

Congratulations to Phil Nickl 1st Port Macquarie Sea Scouts who recently received his Queen's Scout Award. The 18-year-old is the third generation of his family to receive the award!

Phil's father Trevor Nickl was honoured with the award in 1983, and his grandfather Peter Nickl received the honour in 1960.



**Phil Nickl with his proud family - grandfather Peter, mother Helen and father Trevor.
Photo courtesy: Port Macquarie News April 17, 2016**



21ST NEW ZEALAND JAMBOREE

29/12/2016 - 7/1/2017

Applications are now open via <https://registrations.international.scouts.com.au>

Australian applications close at the end of May 2016.

Further applications may be accepted after this date depending on flight availability

Don't delay your application this will be a unique and unforgettable experience.

The Australian Contingent attending the Jamboree will participate in three day “**shakedown**” activity in **Christchurch** commencing on 26th December 2016; this is compulsory even for those who are approved for independent travel. It is not unusual for some travel to commence on Christmas Day

We are putting together a very exciting **Post Jamboree Tour** of the South Island which is often described as all the world's scenery in one place. It's not just snow covered mountains, you will find yourself in New Zealand's adventure capital Queenstown and the great South Land. Numbers are limited for what will be a very popular tour. The Post Jamboree Tour will commence on January 7 and end on January 15, 2017.

The Australian Contingent Fee is \$3040 Australian* for Scouts and \$2620 Australian* for Venturers, Rovers, Leaders and Adult Helpers. The cost of the Post Jamboree tour is expected to be an extra \$1000 to \$1200 Australian. This is inclusive of all accommodation, meals, transport and activities. A fee schedule and details on where to send your application will print with your application and will soon be available on the Contingent website.

*An \$800 airfare allowance (ex Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane) is included for the international travel component of the journey. Please note that airfares fluctuate in price and may be more or less than the allowance. The final payment of the Australian Contingent Fee will be adjusted according to your location to determine the price you will pay. Domestic airfares for flights connecting to the international flight have not been included in the Contingent Fee, so are therefore an additional cost that will be notified on case by case basis depending on domestic departure location.

HOW TO APPLY

Please complete all sections of the Participant Application via the online applications system, submit online and print the application. Follow the link via Australian Contingent website www.auscontingentnz21.com.au

Ensure that parent (s) or guardian (s) sign all relevant sections (Rovers and Leaders sign for themselves)

Obtain the required approval signatures as follows:

Scouts	Scout Leader and Group Leader
Venturer Scouts	Venturer Leader and Group Leader
Rovers, Leaders, Other Adults	Group Leader or appropriate Commissioner/Manager

Forward the signed **Participant Application Form** (to the Contingent address by **31st May 2016**):

Australia Contingent to 21st New Zealand Jamboree

89 Kitchener St

GARRAN ACT 2605

Note: Adequate time should be allowed to obtain the required signatures.

Late applications may be submitted, however attendance at the Jamboree cannot be guaranteed because of the need to finalise arrangements, and placement in a Jamboree Troop will become progressively more difficult throughout the year. Late applications may incur a late fee yet to be determined and airfares may also increase.

VENTURER REPORT

I would like to congratulate **Callum Firth from 1st Glossodia** on recently completing his **Queen's Scout Award**.

In February we held a very successful **Region Social Camp and Surf Carnival** at Glenrock. Great weather made for an enjoyable weekend. Our Surf Carnival was a popular feature in the program and saw a close competition.

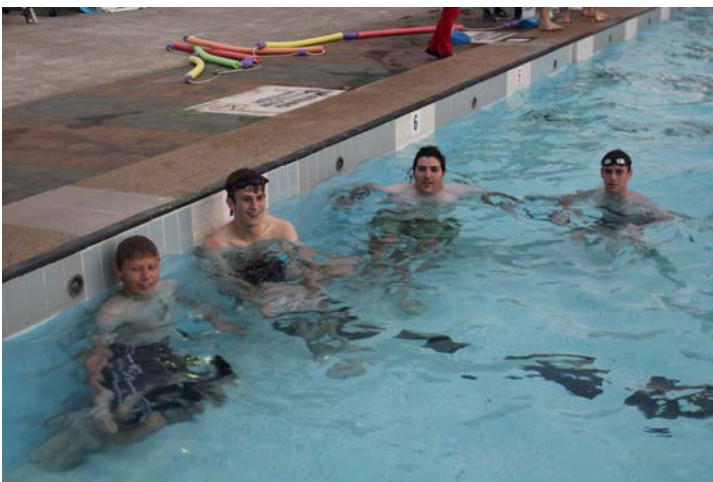
The winners were:

- **Beach Sprint = Darius Cutts, 1st Westmead**
- **Beach Relay = 1st Westmead**
- **Swim Race = Malachi Henderson, 1st Blaxland**
- **Swim Relay = 1st Carlingford**
- **Beach Flags = Aidan Hall, 1st Westmead**

Surf Carnival at Glenrock



25 Venturer Scouts attended the **Unit Management Course** last month and we have another 60 participants registered for our **Initiative Course** in May. This is the first time we are attempting two Initiative Courses on the same weekend and a great testament to the growing enthusiasm in our Units across the Region.



I have visited a large majority of the Units in the Region during term one and am very pleased with the active programs on offer to our members.

I also managed to get to the Holroyd District Swimming Carnival and was delighted to see such a great turnout from the Venturer Scout section.

Holroyd District Swimming Carnival

Dragon Skin was held in Belanglo State Forest over Easter. I would like to recognise the many Leaders who volunteered their time to assist on the BOOTS Team, First Aid and running Activities at the event.

Our highest ranking teams in the Region this year were:

- **Power Rangers, 1st Kings Langley (35th = 733 pts)**
- **Sparkle Friends, 1st/2nd Blacktown (45th = 704 pts)**
- **Tradie Ninjas, 1st/2nd Blacktown (70th = 633 pts)**

Lastly, it has been a privilege to work with **Steve Wallace** over the past 7 years as District Leader Venturer Scouts for Blacktown. All of the Units wish him well in his new role as **District Commissioner for Penrith City**.

Aaron Wardle RC Venturer Scouts

Mobile: 0421 076 497

Email: venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au

KINGS LANGLEY ROVER CREW

ANNUAL FORMAL MCDONALDS DINNER

on

SATURDAY 7th MAY 2016

from

6:30pm to 10:15pm

All Venturers and Rovers are invited, must be at least member age for Venturers.

DRESS CODE - FORMAL

\$3 FOR CHARITY - WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE DOOR

Please see our event on Facebook for further details.



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

CUB SCOUT

CENTENARY WOGGLES

FOR SALE

A unique, limited edition woggle to celebrate our Cub Scout Centenary available 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

These will also be available at our Birthday Bash on May 1 at Bundilla



REGION ACTIVITIES REPORT

It has certainly been a big month of activities, as we get in the last of the warmer weather before the coolness of autumn sets in.



Our caving team, under the watchful eye of Meredith Stewart, spent a great weekend down at Bungonia exploring all that is underground. Great opportunity to hone their skills in readiness for our Caving Proficiency Weekend, being held at Wee Jasper. This is always a popular weekend, where we are expecting over 60 participants.

David (Macca) McKinley, Paul Jefferies & Jordan Fenech doing a bit of a pose, underground at Bungonia.

Our Bushwalking team have been out and about with an overnight hike up in the Bouddi National Park on the Central Coast. A great week was had by all. Big thanks to Tristan Flores for organising it and making it all happen.

.....Is that Matt Harris ensuring that tree doesn't fall down on the resting hikers?



I had the opportunity to attend one of Ross Smith's Canyoning trips, along with Venturers from 1st Oakville. It was a really fantastic day. We did Twister and Rocky Creek Canyons both of which are quite spectacular, and great 'introduction' canyons. The Venturers, along with Rose Smith their Venturer Leader, should really be congratulated on their enthusiastic approach to the whole day. Big thank you to Ross for running the day, and to Quentin Napier, who also helped out on the day.



Tracey Hansford ran a very successful Joey Cub Canoe Fun day at Lake Parramatta, which I had the pleasure of attending. Again with big numbers in attendance, we ran a number of differing activities on the day which worked really well.

Thank you to Keith Travers John van den Burg and Bryan Hall who helped out on the water during the day. We also had the opportunity to take a couple of the new sit-on top kayaks, recently purchased, for a bit of spin.

Verdict? Lots of fun!

(I would love to take one out for a bit a splash in the surf, but I might have to do that on the quite)!



With all the Region Activities happening at present, and with big numbers of participants in attendance, this has shown up some weaknesses in our current paperwork system. This has been making things difficult for both Kim and Maggie in the Region Office. While we are looking at better ways we can do this, there are some things which we all can do now, which will be a huge help.

As I mentioned last month, please ensure the E1 forms are fully completed by all participants before sending them through to Region Office. Many come through without membership numbers, correct boxes not ticked, and other details missing. This takes the ladies so much extra time to follow up on.

Whether we like it or not, the E1 forms are there for our legal protection. It is just one of those things that just have to be done correctly. If we could all just make that little extra effort, that will be a great help.

Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities

Stage Manager CGS

Email: activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au

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

0411 326 021

gwssnowtrip@gmail.com





GWS Region Bushwalking Team

Scouts, Venturers and Adult Members can practice their bushwalking skills, develop confidence, meet people and see the national parks around Sydney.

E1 forms and further details are available at

<http://www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/activities/bushwalking>

Please note.....

- Day hikes are suitable for active and older Cub Scouts.
- Cub Scouts can attend Ghost Trains Tour at Helensburgh.

Activity	Dates	National Park	Description	Grade
Coxs River Bushwalk	21, 22, 23 & 24 April	Blue Mountains	Katoomba to Megalong Valley then Coxs River Loop	Med/Hard
NEW Day hike Sphinx War Memorial	28 May	Ku-ring-gai Chase	North Turramurra to Mount Ku-ring-gai via Bobbin Head	Medium
Ghost Trains Skills Hike	2 & 3 July	Garrawarra SRA	Helensburgh to Waterfall via Camp Coutts	Entry Level
NEW Day hike Narrabeen Lakes	23 July	Narrabeen Lagoon State Park	Jamieson Park, Berry, Middle Creek and Bilarong Reserve	Entry Level
Wollangambe Crater Bushwalk	27 & 28 August	Blue Mountains	Sandham Road to Wollangambe Crater	Med/Hard
Great North Walk Mooney Mooney	30 Sep, 1 & 2 Oct	Brisbane Water	Somersby Store to Kariong	Medium
NEW Christmas hike North Era	19 & 20 Nov	Royal	Otford to North Era via Garrawarra Farm	Medium



These two scanned photos of are of my mum and her grandparents at the Sphinx War Memorial over 60 years ago! I have not yet been to see the Sphinx so am looking forward to it.

Tristan Flores
GWS Bushwalking Coordinator

CANYONING CAPERS 2016 - Ross Smith (Elmer) GWS Canyon Guide

Wow, have we been busy in the early part of 2106. Here is a sample of the GWS Region canyoning adventures.

Death Trap Canyon (February 2016)

Death Trap canyon – what an awesome name for a canyon!!! It's a wonder any parents let their children come along! This canyon trip was aimed at Scouts with loads of canyoning and abseil experience - as the last drop is 30m abseil down a gentle waterfall into a huge pool.

Aby led by Makka, about 10 Scouts from 2nd Baulkham Hills and 2nd Castle Hill along with Jake and Lachlan from 2nd Baulkham Hills Venturers headed off on a beautiful Feb morning for this adventure. Having not been through here before, we had some navigation challenges to overcome early on, as the track soon gave way to a full on scrub bash until we hit the creek, or what may be better described as a swamp.

The swamp soon formed into a canyon and we were into a great series of jump-ins and slides. The big bowls filled with water are awesome and could be very tricky to get out of if the water levels were down. The final abseil proved challenging for many of the Scouts who were unaccustomed to the slippery conditions in the waterfall.

A subterranean scramble ensued followed by some further scrambling through to the end of the canyon. Finding the exit proved to be somewhat tricky as this canyon is rarely used. Despite the fearsome name all the scouts had a fabulous time and got to experience their first vertical canyon.

We had planned to complete Dargans Creek canyon in the afternoon, but ran out of time, so we headed to Chifley Dam for a well-earned swim instead. The Scouts and Venturers had a brilliant time testing themselves to leap off the varying levels off the 12m cliff into the water and using the huge Tarzan swing. Check out the video clip on the Rock Activities Facebook page. One of the veggies even free climbed the sheer cliff that rises straight out of the water.

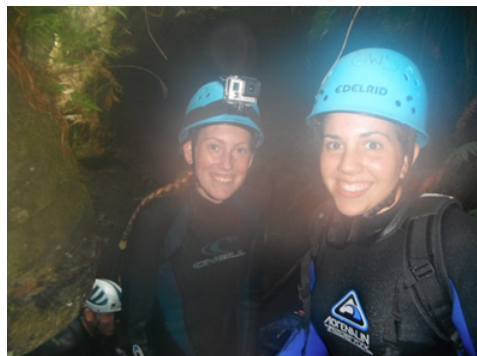
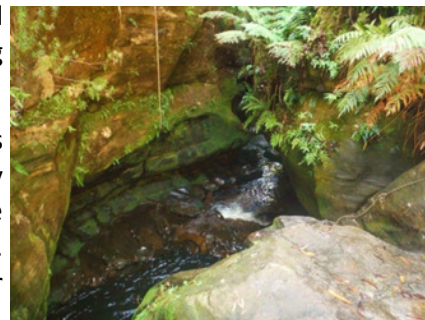
Thanks to Makka for leading the group along with Eric, Lachlan and Jake (Tarzan Swing King!!) for their help with the Scouts and making it a fun and safe day.



TWISTER & ROCKY CREEK (MARCH 16) - Ross Smith GWS Canyon Guide

Mid Autumn is the best time to canyon as the water has usually warmed up a bit and the summer rains have replenished the levels in the canyons. The Oakville Venturer Unit approached me last year to put on a canyon that would test them and hopefully create an ongoing interest. I chose Twister and Rocky Creek as the combination provides a fantastic introduction to canyoning (without the complication of abseiling) as well as being quite beautiful.

Seeing that we were blessed with the company of the Region Activities Commissioner (Mark Fell), I took the opportunity to use this trip to formally launch the GWSR Canyoning Team (The Yabbies) - as we had most of the foundation members along (Quentin Napier, Jake Krnel and Lachlan Smith). Wazza also joined us for the first time and provided much help and new ideas for the canyon.



Jake and Lachlan led the team down to the canyon and after a quick briefing we were into it. Twister canyon is fabulous with its numerous jumps and slippery dips. Wazza pointed out a couple of new (and much higher) launch points for some of the jump-ins which even had Quentin shaking in his boots. VSL Rose, was probably the only team member who showed some trepidation with the jumps but soon got into the swing of things.

We soon finished Twister and headed down to the start of Rocky Creek for morning tea. Being a very popular canyon you get to see lots of groups of

various degrees of competence and preparedness – one such group included a young lady wearing only a tank top and shorts; we later encountered her at the end of the canyon rather cold and upset with her boyfriend who had convinced her that it wasn't that cold!!

The first jump in Rocky Creek is a bit of a doozy, but we all made it down and then headed through what has to be one of the best canyon constrictions in the Blue Mountains. One of the features in the top section is the *Washing Machine* which is a small drop into a turbulent bowl of water; I made a complete meal out of my demonstration and ended up falling sideways into the bowl much to the amusement of the group. The group frolicked on the slippery dips and even found another big jump-in before heading further down into the canyon where the long tight swims are encountered.



We decided to reverse the canyon on this occasion, which means you get double the value and challenge, as getting up some of the small waterfalls is tricky. Coming back through the lower section was quite fascinating as there was a thickish mist or steam in the canyon which I have never seen before.

I have been through Rocky Creek dozens of times, but was surprised to be shown a fabulous little feature which proved to be quite a draw card for the Venturers. It is a small pool that has an underwater side entrance that you can *duck under* and swim through into another pool – thanks Wazza.



We completed the round trip in just over 6 ½ hours car to car and at the end there were loads of smiles and looks of achievement. Even Rose was still smiling.

Many thanks for Jake and Lachlan for their excellent leadership through the canyon. And many thanks to Quentin, Dingo and Wazza for your support and company. Here are a few of the quotes:

“ I am a bit sore today but I think that's because I'm not used to climbing up rock faces and I used muscles I didn't know I had!!”

“In all seriousness thank you for such an amazing day. I have to say it is one of the best things I have done in scouting over the last 10 years.”

“...parents all said their veggies raved about how good the canyoning was. Please thank Jake & Lachlan for their leadership and guidance, they both did a fantastic job.”

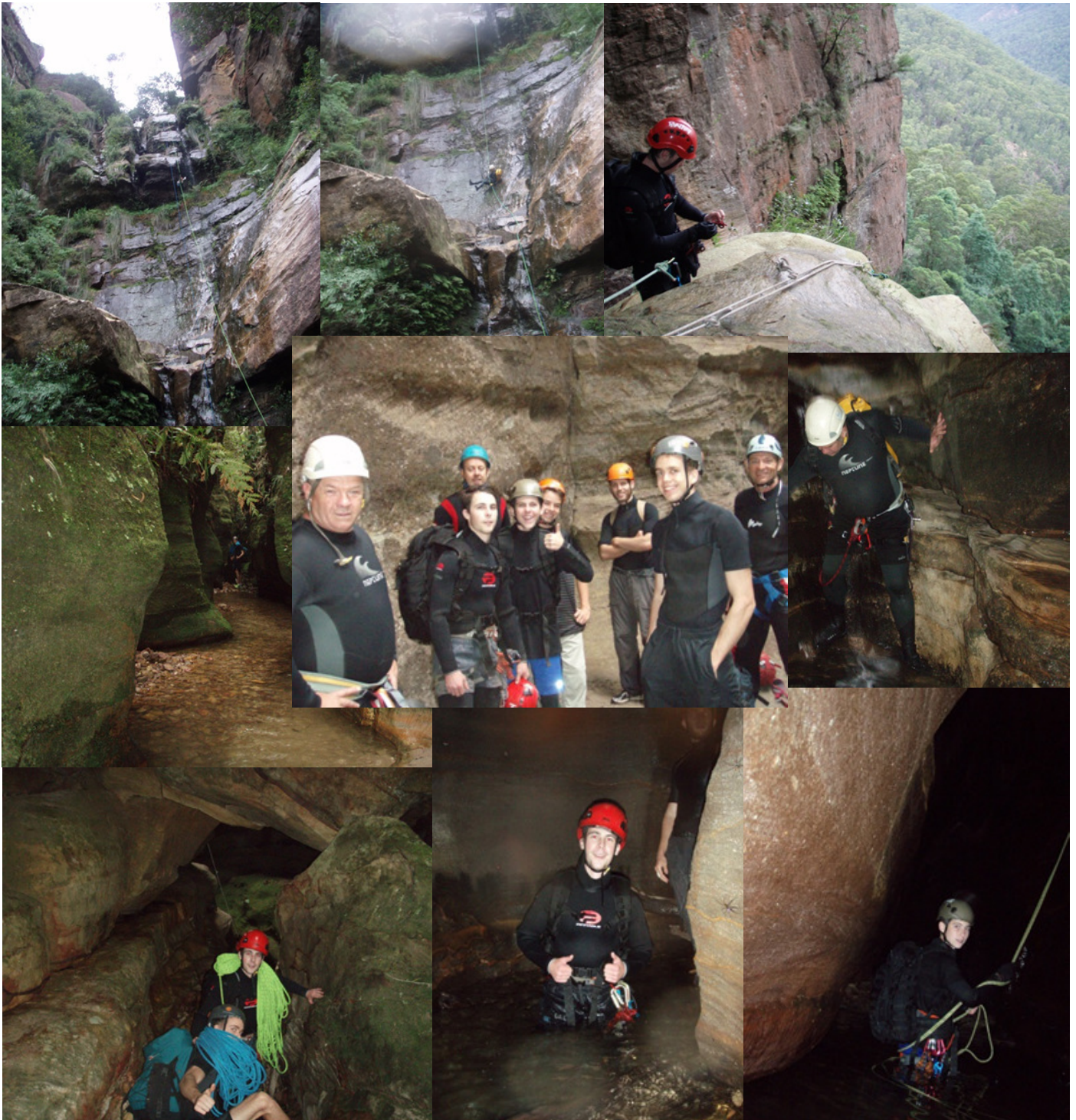
YILEEN CANYON (MARCH 16) - Ross Smith GWS Canyon Guide

What better way to start the Easter break than with a canyon!! Yileen Canyon is just off the Bells Line of Road near Mt Wilson and provides a fabulous action packed half day adventure. This trip was the inaugural GWSR Canyon Team's trip, and included 2 Scouts, a Venturers, a Rover and 3 other leaders mostly from 2nd Baulkham Hills. (Sadly Jake and Makka couldn't make it.)

Apart from being a very pretty canyon with a quite lengthy constriction, Yileen has two highlights: a tricky 7m jump-in (which the rest of the team made me do first!!!) then a heart stopping 55m vertical/overhanging abseil down the side of a waterfall. The top of this abseil is at a small stance at the break in the cliff line that overlooks the Grose Valley and provides a fabulous view along with really, really exposed atmosphere.

It was a fabulous day out with a great team, and we encourage all everyone to join one of our planned trips as soon as you can. So check out the Activities Calendar on the GWSR website or contact us directly if you want to take your troop, unit or crew out for a brilliant adventure.

Here is the classic quote of the day: "Wow, look how clean my gear is now. All that cave muck has washed off!"



3D Printer

I've been looking at 3D printers, both ready made and kits, for about 18 months. Not that I have anything urgent that I wanted to make on one; rather as a challenge to learn 3D designing and try the unique method of building that it makes possible. So I was rather surprised when ALDI offered a pre-assembled 3D printer at a competitive price. I looked up the specifications and brand name and found that it was a rebadge of a well known Chinese one. The construction, packaging and accessories were identical, and the comments and questions on its forum were positive, so I bought one.

In 1999 I made a flashing woggle with a plastic pipe fitting, a logic chip, 6 LEDs and two 3v cells. It worked OK but was complicated to make and used expensive (at that time) Lithium cells. To-day's microcontrollers are more versatile lower power, smaller, and run off 3 volts, so it is possible to make an interesting, surface mount, multi LED or sound or Blue-tooth module on about an inch (PCBs are still in inches) square board .

The green one on the right is my first attempt at 3D design and printing. It is a woggle chassis with a slot for a 1" square PCB and space to slide in 2x CR2016 or 1x CR2032 Li cells.

The range of filaments that are extrudible include: clear and clear coloured (for light pipes), conductive, and glow-in-the-dark, so the design possibilities are interesting



Chemistry Night with Murray Farm



First a largish group of combined **Murray Farm and Ermington** Joeys. Here I am showing them the cups of White Vinegar and Baking Soda (an Acid and an Alkaline), both clear solutions. They write their name with a cotton bud dipped in the bicarb. which will turn to red on the yellow paper, then with Vinegar on the red paper to show their name in yellow.

This is actually the second activity while we wait for the water to rise up the filter paper cone to separate the basic felt tip colours into their component colours (chromatography). I remembered just in time to remove the cones from their trays of water. The water continues to wick up another centimetre or two after it is removed.

The Cubs were next, a fair sized number comprising the above two Groups. We start with sugar decomposing with Sulphuric acid, which takes a couple of minutes (you can see it turning the nice white solid to black in the background), so I show Condi's crystals dissolving in water to give purple streamers. Then add Hydrogen Peroxide to change it to brown Manganese Dioxide then clear with Oxygen bubbles swirling around.

By this time the sugar is rising out of the beaker emitting steam and burnt sugar smells. The pillar of Carbon is about twice the height of the beaker and as brittle as honeycomb. Quiet a dynamic demonstration of chemical change and heat of reaction.





This photo shows a Sixer about to light a Magnesium wick in Zinc and Sulphur mixture for the final green flames and billowing yellow smoke end to the night.

All the Cubs are involved in feeling and smelling Sulphur and its plastic forms, as well as seeing each of the Elements and compounds, and smelling the gaseous products of reaction such as Sulphur Dioxide and Hydrogen Sulphide (rotten egg gas).

Leaders - Grace and Mellissa assembled a nice group to make our visit memorable and Grace took these photos to record the night.

Photos courtesy of Grace Ang JSL 1st Murray Farm

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RSVP for Region ARP 19th June 2016

Please cut off and return to Region Office
6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills NSW 2153
by Friday 10th June 2016

Name/s

.....

.....

Accepts the invitation to attend the GWSR ARP

Declines with regret the invitation to attend the GWSR ARP

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.

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

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