



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 447 - October 2016



Congratulations Rob!

Dr Rob Lang, Cumberland Gang Show's longstanding Producer/Director was recently inducted into The Association of Community Theatre's Hall of Fame in recognition of exceptional service to community theatre. The inauguration took place at the Association's annual conference on the October long weekend.

Well done Rob - an outstanding achievement!



The 2016 Inductees with Nancye Hayes AM

GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153

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

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

Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

What a wonderful night at Wentworthville Leagues Club when we presented over 70 Adult Recognition Awards to those leaders and supporters who were recognised in the World Scout Day Awards on 1st August. Over 250 people attended to support the recipients. A special thanks to Kim and Wendy, Matt Thompson for the Programme and photos, Rob Lang for assisting with the photos, Geoff McGrath, Tony Dent and the citation readers and the presenters. I was disappointed that a number of people registered for the night but did not attend and also did not have the manners to advise that they weren't coming. We will be invoicing the Group for the costs the Region incurred.

I visited the Region Scout Jamborette on the Sunday and met as many leaders as possible. I took the opportunity to talk to a number of the Scouts as well and they seemed to be enjoying themselves. I also received an email from the Chief Commissioner, Neville Tomkins, congratulating Robin Garrett, his team and Leaders, Venturers and Rovers on an exciting activity.

Congratulation to Megan Smith from 1st Oakville on achieving her Queen's Scout Award and I look forward to attending her presentation. I have also been invited to be part of the presentation to five Venturers from 2nd Baulkham Hills in early November. This is an excellent result for the unit which has produced eight Queen's Scouts this year!

The two Cuboree Shake Down Camps were held in September at Bundilla and I spent time at both camps talking to the leaders and some of the cub scouts. Not long now until the Cuboree in January. I am looking to attend the Opening Ceremony and spending the day with Greater Western Sydney packs.

I was disappointed to hear that in another region they have been accepting Joeys at 5 years of age and younger. Just a reminder that youth who join Joeys must be at least 6 years of age. This would cause problems for the group, in respect of insurance, in the event of an injury to the underage youth member. Please check with the Joey Leaders that they do not have any underage youth in their mob.

Until next timeCarry on Scouting.

Neville Henderson OAM

Region Commissioner

Email: rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au



Tony Dent, Dave Stopps and Tracey Stopps receive their awards from Doug Menzies and Neville Henderson.



Hi All,

It has been six months since our first strategy day at Bundilla where 60 of our Region, District and Group Leaders came together to look at the GWS strategy over the next 4 years. Since that first meeting, we have been busily working through the final drafts of this strategy and engaging Neville Tomkins (the new Chief Commissioner) to ensure our strategy integrates with NSW Branch 7 Strategic Priorities.

Below is a sneak peak at the Draft GWS Region Strategy for 2017 – 2020.

In the December Bulletin, I hope to share with you the final approved strategy and the plans for Scouting in GWS Region for the next 4 years. Remember; ***If you fail to plan, plan to fail.***

How we will deliver on NSW Branch Seven Strategic Priorities



Scouts NSW Vision

To be seen as the pre-eminent youth organisation in Australia. We engage and inspire young Australians to develop confidence, resilience and leadership.



In the next of our 'How to' series, we look at [How to Prepare Youth for Linking](http://www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/region/resources/promotions). This guide can be found at;

<http://www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/region/resources/promotions>

Other great guides include;

How to Plan for your Group

How to Recruit Youth Members

How to Recruit Leaders

Got a good recruitment story? Got an idea for a great 'How to' article'?

Please let me know: strategy@greaterwestscouts.com.au

This month I am off to San Francisco and am dropping in on a local Scout Group to talk about Scouts in Australia and learn about Scouts in America. Whilst there, I am also hoping to pick up some tips on how they approach Recruitment and Fundraising in the San Francisco District.

Keep Scouting

Geoff

CUB SCOUT REPORT

PRE-CUBOREE CAMPS

Congratulations to everyone who attended the two pre-Cuboree camps in September. By all reports you managed very well, despite the inclement weather, small sites and some very inexperienced campers! Thank you for some beautifully decorated shields, which will be used to decorate the GWS Activity Base. If any packs still have their shields, could you please arrange to deliver them to me via Region Office or your Seeonee asap - thank you. Thank you to David Stopps and Tony Dent for visiting the campsites and giving valuable feedback to the Pack Coordinators. Special thanks to Gabie Thompson and Melissa Harding for managing the camps in my absence.

CUBOREE

Just 79 days to go to the commencement of Cuboree and still so much to do! Many people have Submitted their forms online - but I have yet to receive these forms and in some cases, the payment. Please finalise your applications now and send all paperwork to Region Office.

Just because you have completed your application on-line and submitted it, that does not mean that is all you have to do! You need to hit the **Print** button and print out your application. You then need to read through it carefully and sign wherever they ask you to. You then need to obtain the signatures required on the last page. Once you have done this, send the form to Region Office. Please do not email it, a hard copy is preferred with clear signatures. Don't forget that payment needs to be made on-line with a credit card or attach a Group cheque. Over the past few days it has surprised me the number of people who did not know they had to print out their forms. I have been writing the "How to" Instructions in The Bulletin for many months now and it is also on the GWS website as well as on the actual form.

The saddest thing for me is when a leader or parent tells me that they do not know what The Bulletin is or that they are unaware that our Region has its own website. It is no wonder that people have no idea what is happening in the Region and then complain when they are too late to apply for an activity or course. Please let everyone in your Group know what is available to them, to keep them informed and up to date and how and where to access these options.

Please log back in and check your application forms. Have you been allocated correctly? If not, let me know. Update your Medical form or any other information that may have changed since you first applied. ID's will be printed soon - so check your photo and update if necessary.

Applications for Day Workers are now open and able to be completed in the on-line Application system.

Coaches are being organised now; Coach captains have been allocated and departure locations will be announced very soon.

Don't forget to encourage your parents and leaders to log back in - hit **Merchandise** - and they can pre-order any of the Cuboree souvenirs. The souvenirs will be given to the Pack Coordinators for distribution. Others who are not in a Pack can collect their own from the Cuboree Shop.

Just one of the great souvenirs that can be pre-ordered! A full set of Cuboree badges in a shield collage (11 in total) just \$30. Don't miss out on yours - order today.



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



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

**Ryan Taylor - 1st Blaxland
Otto Timmins - 1st Blaxland
Ashley Uidam - 1st Balcombe Heights**

1- 2 - 3 - WOOF!



Catching up with a friend



Camp cooking



Pre-Cuboree Camp #2
Photos: Gabie Thompson



Cub Scouts' Own – indoors due to the rain!



Craft



Chief Commissioner eating breakfast with the Cubs



Enjoying a quiet moment!



VENTURER REPORT

I would like to congratulate **Naomi Rowe from 2nd Baulkham Hills** on recently completing her Queen's Scout Award.

Congratulations as well, to all of the Units that attended Jamborette and delivered such great activity bases for the Scouts. The new Chief Commissioner of NSW visited Cataract on Saturday and was especially impressed by the range of great activities that were designed and run by our Units. This is a great tribute to the enthusiasm on display from all of our Venturer Scouts that volunteered to help at the event. It was also great to see each of the Units interacting with the local Troops and getting to know the older Scouts.

Neville Tomkins also encouraged each Youth Member to participate in his **Chief Commissioner's Challenge** by recruiting four new young people into Scouting. Those who are successful at completing this goal will receive a special award to be worn on the uniform. I look forward to as many Venturers as possible in the Region receiving this award over the next 12 months. Congratulations to 1st Ermington and 1st Winston Hills who joined together to run the base **Venturer Wants a Voice** - which was voted by the Patrol Leaders as the best activity at the Jamborette!

A new V1 Form has been published featuring a WWCC requirement for Examiners that are not Scouting members. Any new Examiners that are proposed from outside of Scouting will need to enter their WWCC on the new forms. All Units are asked to distribute the new form to their youth members for reference.

Scouts NSW is once again accepting new registrations for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. All information is on the Scouts NSW website or available as a download from the Region website. Enquiries for the Award may be sent to dukeofedinburgh@nsw.scouts.com.au.

There are now three Positions Vacant in the Venturer Scout section as follows:

- District Leader Venturer Scouts (Blacktown/Holroyd)
- District Leader Venturer Scouts (Penrith/Hawkesbury)
- GWS Coordinator for Duke of Edinburgh

Any expressions of interest, please contact Aaron.

Aaron Wardle RC Venturer Scouts

Mobile: 0421 076 497

Email: venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au



Some photos from a recent Sailing workshop

Courtesy of Keith Travers

GWSR APPOINTMENTS LIST

10/8/16 - 26/9/16

APPOINTMENTS and TRANSFERS

CARLSON, Deborah	From Appt TL (C)	1st Kellyville Cub Pack <i>Zazu</i>
	To ACSL	1st Kellyville Cub Pack <i>Zazu</i>
WOOD, Robert	From ASL	1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Troop
	To AVSL	1st/2nd Blacktown Venturer Unit

RESIGNATIONS

BATTAM, Raquel	TL (CS)	1st Kellyville Cub Pack <i>Darzee</i>
SMART, Thomas	AJSL	1st Dural Joey Mob

The GOLDEN WEST REGION APPOINTMENTS LIST

10/8/16 - 26/9/16

APPOINTMENTS and TRANSFERS

DEVILLE, Deon	From TL (JS)	1st Mudgee Joey Mob
	To JSL-P	1st Mudgee Joey Mob
KING, Robyn	From JSL-P	1st Mudgee Joey Mob
	To AJSL	1st Mudgee Joey Mob

RESIGNATIONS

KENNY, Susan	JSL - DA	1st Mudgee Joey Mob
SMITH, Gregory	Appt TL (CS)	Cowra Cub Pack
SMITH, Maryanne	CSL - P	Cowra Cub Pack
TAYLOR, T'neel	TL (CS)	3rd Orange Cub Pack

THE RESOURCE BOOKSHELF

Contribution by Katherine Mahns

WE WANT YOU AS A NEW RECRUIT!

Are you ready to recruit? Now that the weather is warming up it is time to dust off those boots and get out there into your community and be seen. Remember November is also out and about month. It is a good opportunity between winter and summer sports to get in there and show youth and adults in our community what we do.

Term Program check up:

It is important to keep the activities in your section fresh and interesting. One guaranteed way of keeping things challenging is by reaching out to do something new. Make sure you attend your Seenees, Mindaris, Joey councils and Zone councils for sharing ideas and programs. So have a look at your term programs, does your term have:

- at least two nights out of the hall
- at least one weekend activity
- at least one activity that involves contact with your community
- hold at least one troop council or pack council and implement at least two ideas from the councils.
- hold a Bring-a-Friend night
- play at least one new game a night



Ideas to keep it fresh:

☺ hold a trivia night, be it with your section or group or a community event as a fundraiser, these nights are always fun and a bit of intersection rivalry is always a good way to bring a group together. Get together as a District and see which group can take out the trivia crown. Mixing the question time with some other challenges will break up the categories and give a challenge of a different kind. A 'minute-to-win-it' challenge makes a quick break and is quite entertaining.

☺ get to know all the local schools in your area. Make friends with the principals and get notices in the newsletters. If the school is have a spring fair, put together a stall with some simple activities making sure our neat and tidy uniform is in full view.

☺ get to know your local community nursing homes and put on an end of year show for them full of skits and songs.

☺ Halloween is coming up, so why not combine a dress-up night with a penny hike. While you are out and about in your neighbourhood, use the opportunity to give out not only candy but also recruitment cards with your details of meeting nights and contact details. Can't do Halloween then do the hike around the neighbourhood anyway dropping information cards in mailboxes as you go.

☺ A good night for a Bring-a-friend night is a well organised cooking night. Take the labels off some cans and have a mystery night, or a ready steady cook night with a bag of set ingredients. It is also a great night to include parents. In the younger sections, have parents help, in the older sections, have them as tasters and judges.

Area of Personal Growth:

The above activities all provide opportunity to grow in character by challenging all involved to better themselves. Social opportunities to work together with others well organising and developing effective programs and welcoming new members. All the while coming up with new ideas is developing one's ability to innovate and use information in new situations. This is all about what scouting is about developing in our youth members and offering adults to broaden their own skill base.

YES !!!

The NSW Scout Shop is alive and well! However, we would like you all to know that we are **not the on-line shop shown on Scout Central.**

- The NSW Scout Shop at Port Kembla is owned by Scouts NSW and all profits are used to support Scouting in this state.
- Our prices are exactly the same and we happily supply everyone's orders which can be placed over the phone, via email or directly over the shop counter at 85 Wentworth Street, Port Kembla.
- Orders can be placed every day of the week - however orders placed over the weekend will be processed and posted on Monday.
- Orders received Monday to Friday before 1 pm will be sent the same day. Anything out of stock will be placed on back order and supplied as soon as possible.
- Unlike the on-line store we do have Group accounts; so you do not have to pay before your order is supplied if your group has an account (unless you choose to do so).
- **Postage:** Effective from 1st October 2016, the NSW Scout Shop offers free postage within NSW (excludes express post).

Please support the NSW Scout Shop in Port Kembla which is open Monday to Friday 9 am to 4.30 pm staffed by our very capable volunteers and keep the profits in Scouting NSW.

Phone **4274 1193** or email sctshop@nsw.scouts.com.au for all your badges, books, uniforms and all sorts of Scouting items. Please see the South Coast & Tablelands website to see the full listing.

**Yours in Scouting
Waveney Hextell Manager
The NSW Scout Shop Port Kembla**

Avalon - GWS Region Activity Base

PLEASE NOTE

All Leaders, Rovers, Venturers, Scouts and Parent Helpers who have registered for Cuboree and who did not record a job preference - have been allocated to the GWSR Activity Base.

**Please log back in to your online application and check on your allocation.
If you wish to change your role, please let me know ASAP.**

From the end of October, anyone not allocated will be automatically given a role, somewhere on the Cuboree site.

Thank you, Anne Thompson

REGION ACTIVITIES REPORT

The Activities Team has certainly been out this month, with something happening every weekend. Just as well we have 5 days between each weekend to recover. The month kicked off with the climbing wall being run out at Grose View Public School. Big thank you to Frank Barr who came to the rescue to run the day for me; as well as transporting the wall both to and from the activity.

The following weekend saw our Wombats back down at one of their favourite haunts, at Bungonia. It is so good to hear about our youth members getting out and experiencing the joys and challenges of caving. My wish is that in years to come the youth of today are able to take the next generation of young people out and allow them to also share these same experiences. Caving is unique in the sense that inside a cave with no weathering, virtually nothing changes.



If it is not down a hole, it's jumping off the side of a cliff. David (Macca) McKinley ran a successful abseiling day up at West Pennant Hills, ably supported by Stuart Cowen. With the popularity of our abseiling days, we break the day into a morning and afternoon session, where Scouts are allocated a time slot. Abseiling is a skill which does require a fair degree of one on one tuition, and doing it this way not only allows us to get through a good number of participants, but it also ensures those doing the workshop are receiving sound instruction.

That same day saw myself out at Rouse Hill Anglican College running the climbing wall for the Harvest Festival. Always a great day to promote Scouting into the local community. Thank you to Richelle Coundrelis from 1st Riverstone who helped out on the day along with some Venturers from 2nd Baulkham Hills.



Training is always a big part of being a leader whether on the lines, learning about adventurous activities, or how to organise a hall sleep over. I have said this before; there is one training weekend each year which is not on the training calendar. This training is not sitting in front of a computer screen with a coffee in one hand doing the latest riveting E-learning module. This training is actually in the field; with other leaders; and doing stuff...real serious stuff!

Of course I am talking about **RATSKIN**. Organised annually by Golden West Region, the weekend entails a series of activities run by the Venturers, who award points to the best team; with the winning team receiving the much coveted RATSKIN.

Congratulations to the GWSR Caving Team (Wombats) who, took out first place for 2016.
Great effort by all of you.

**Wok, Macca, Meredith, Diane & Jordan - all very proud winners of RATSKIN for 2016.
(Regarding the artwork? ...stick to caving)!**

Time to get out and have some more fun!

Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities

Stage Manager CGS

Email: activities@greaterwestcouts.com.au



2017 Cumberland Gang Show – Live, Laugh, Smile

On line audition applications closing soon - log on to www.gangshow.asn.au and follow the **Audition Now** link.

Why not encourage your youth members to extend their horizons in the Gang?
There are opportunities for **all ages from Joeys to Rovers** and we welcome everyone to get involved.

Gang Show is a training activity, which concentrates particularly on providing training in **theatrical arts** activities, while teaching self confidence and teamwork. Participation also satisfies elements of the badge system in every section. This is an inspiring badge activity that allows members to interact and make friends with people from different groups, areas and regions and be encouraged in their Scouting journey.

Being a member of the cast means huge fun, excitement and pride in what you achieve, as you perform to up to 7,000 people over 8 days in the July school holidays. This fun extends to all performance and backstage areas, so no matter what YOUR talent, join the Gang!!!

AUDITIONS are held on **Saturday 3rd December 2016** between **9am and 5pm** at **Pennant Hills Scout Camp**, Pomona St, Pennant Hills.

For more information or for late applications (which may be accepted) please contact:
personnel@gangshow.asn.au

We also have teams who would love to visit your Group, to run a self-expression activity and tell you all about the 2017 show.

For more information and to make a booking go to www.gangshow.asn.au



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

Email : bulletin@greaterwestscouts.com.au

THE SCOUT SHOP

85 - 87 Wentworth Street
Port Kembla NSW 2505

Phone: 4274 1193 Fax: 4274 6334

Email: sctshop@nsw.scouts.com.au

OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday: 9am - 4.30pm