



# The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 459 - November 2017



★ **Cumberland  
Gang Show**

**JOIN US ON STAGE IN 2018**

**FEEL  
THE  
BEAT**

Open to all active members of Scouting or Guiding,  
7 years or older by 1st July 2018.

Comet cast - a modified program gives an exciting taste  
of theatre for 7-9 year olds.

**AUDITIONS**  
**SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2017**  
**BETWEEN 9AM AND 5PM**

  [www.gangshow.asn.au](http://www.gangshow.asn.au) 

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

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

---

## FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

---

As you have probably read somewhere or heard some gossip that after the position was advertised and with consultation and recommendation from Anne Thompson - I have appointed Gabie Thompson (previous District Cub Scout Leader - Hills District) to assume the role of Region Commissioner Cub Scouts when Anne retires at the end of the year.

Gabie joined scouting in 2009 when she joined 1<sup>st</sup> Kellyville Scout Group as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader and transferred her appointment to District Cub Scout Leader in 2013. Congratulations Gabie and I look forward to working with you from 2018 forward.

Over the JOTA weekend I was lucky enough to attend the Hawkesbury celebrations and camp at Bowen Mountain. It was absolutely fabulous to see so many Joeys, Cubs and Scouts on the parade on the Sunday morning. The activities were also top class and special congratulations to Duncan Watts and his fellow leaders and team for giving our youth a great weekend.

I was invited to attend the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of the Scout Hall at 2<sup>nd</sup> Castle Hill and I was pleased to see the number of youth members and a few parents who attended. Well done to the organisers.

The list of people who have qualified by years of service for Adult Recognition Awards has been sent to the Group Leaders and the Region Team. Please lodge your nominations by email to me by close of business on Tuesday January 30, 2018 as they need to be vetted and approved by me prior to submission to State Office. Please note they can't be accepted after that time due to the short lead time to be submitted to the State Awards Committee. If you are in doubt on what the requirements are please do not hesitate to send me an email and I will respond (email: [rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au)).

I suppose most groups will be getting ready for Christmas close down and I would remind everyone that the Australian Jamboree is in South Australia in January 2019 so start planning your fundraising now.

Until next time.... Carry on Scouting

**Neville Henderson OAM**

**Region Commissioner**

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

### **Cumberland Gang Show – Feel the Beat 2018 - On line Applications closing soon – apply at [www.gangshow.asn.au](http://www.gangshow.asn.au) and follow the 'Audition Now' link.**

Time is getting short until auditions now - so encourage your members to join the Gang. There are opportunities for **all ages from Joeys to Rovers/Leaders** and we welcome everyone to be 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.

In 2018 our cast will be **Feeling the Beat** as they laugh along to our incompetent burglars, travel to Central Australia, Paris and even Mars and enjoy new, old and commercial great songs and sketches.

Being a member of the cast means huge fun, excitement and pride in what you achieve, as you perform to up to 5,000 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 will be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017 between 9am and 5pm**  
at Pennant Hills Scout Camp, Pomona St, Pennant Hills.

For more information or for late applications please contact Brian at [personnel@gangshow.asn.au](mailto:personnel@gangshow.asn.au)

We also have teams who would love to visit your group, run a self-expression activity and tell you all about the 2018 show.

**For more information and to make a booking go to [www.gangshow.asn.au](http://www.gangshow.asn.au)**

## GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION - APPOINTMENTS LIST

23/10/2017

### APPOINTMENTS and TRANSFERS

<b>DRING, Mark</b>	From Appt TL (JS) To JSL-P	1st Greystanes Joey Scout Mob 1st Greystanes Joey Scout Mob
<b>HOURD, Nicholas</b>	From VSL-P To AVSL	1st Castle Hill Venturer Unit 1st Castle Hill Venturer Unit
<b>LEGUIER, Jason</b>	From ASL To VSL-P	1st Castle Hill Scout Troop 1st Castle Hill Venturer Unit
<b>MCGINTY, Lachlan</b>	From TL (JS) To AJSL	1st Balcombe Heights Joey Scout Mob 1st Balcombe Heights Joey Scout Mob
<b>NICHOLAS, Brett</b>	From ASL To SL-P	1st Greystanes Scout troop 1st Greystanes Scout Troop
<b>SHEPHERD, Raymond</b>	From SL-P To ASL	1st Greystanes Scout Troop 1st Greystanes Scout Troop

### RESIGNATIONS

<b>DI SALVIA, Lesley</b>	ACSL	1st Greystanes Cub Pack
--------------------------	------	-------------------------

### DE-REGISTRATIONS

Hills South District      **3/10/2017**

### REGISTRATIONS

Hills District              **3/10/2017**

### 1<sup>st</sup> Greystanes Joey Mob Environmental Challenge

Over the past few months 1<sup>st</sup> Greystanes Joey Scouts have been working towards their Environmental Challenge Badge.

This has been an extremely exciting adventure for the Joey Scouts which included an outing to the Bird Discovery Centre at Sydney Olympic Park; learning how to bird watch and then participating in the National Aussie Backyard Bird Watch Week.

The Joey Scouts had to look out for all the different birds they could see in Greystanes; these included Magpies Cockatoos, Galahs and Mynas.

**Congratulations to Chelsea, Leonardo, Leo Youssef, Sienna, Oliver, and Alexander.**

**Mark Dring (Dingo) JSL**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Greystanes Joey Scout Mob**



## CUB SCOUT REPORT

**Cub Baanya** was held on **October 28 and 29** at Bundilla. Registrations were very slow coming in and many arrived long past the closing date! For awhile we thought it would have to be cancelled but in the end we had 55 Cubs, 15 Leaders and 14 Scouts in attendance. Sincere thanks to my Seeonee Team who worked hard to bring everything together and organised some excellent bases; to the Leaders who gave up another of their precious weekends to camp with the cubs and the Scouts who did a grand job of looking after the cubs in Patrols and giving them a little insight into what Scouts do. Special thanks to members of Pinnaroo who came in to run the Holroyd Mapping and Compass Base for us - very much appreciated.

Once again I would like to encourage all CSLs to attend their **District Seeonee** meetings every month. If you are the Akela of your pack and cannot attend please ensure you send a full report to your DLCS or Seeonee Leader - either by email or with another leader who is attending.

Congratulations and best wishes to Gabie Thompson, who will be appointed as the next RCCS in January 2018. I am certain Gabie will make an excellent RC and with your ongoing support will do bigger and better things for the Cubs and their Leaders in GWSR. If you have any suggestions or ideas for future events, please let your Seeonee leader know, so they can be passed on to Gabie.

There are quite a number of outstanding payments for Grey Wolf Awards. Please make sure you hand in the \$10 with each application or add a copy of the receipt for EFT payments.

**Anne Thompson (Wontolla) RC Cub Scouts**

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



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

**Madelyn McCabe - 1st Ermington**

**Laura Henderson - 1st Grose Vale**

**Isabelle Phillips - 1st Greystanes**

**Tanushal Mani - 1st Parramatta**

**Christian Lahood - 2nd Kings Langley**

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

### TRY CUB SCOUTS BADGE

The Try Cub Scouts Badge is available to all Joey Scouts from the age of 7½ years, to encourage them and be part of the linking process to the Cub Scout section.

#### **Requirements for the Try Cub Scout Badge**

The Joey Scout is to attend and participate in a Cub Scout activity at Group, District or Region level. The aim is for them to learn the theme of the Cub Scout section and get to know other Cub Scouts.

For this occasion, the Joey can be without a parent, but it would be preferred if their Joey Leader or Assistant are present.

This badge can be worn on their uniform until they receive their Link badge.

Badges are available from the RCCS and Port Kembla Scout Shop.

**Jill Heath**

**NSW State Commissioner Joey Scouts**

**Scouts Australia NSW**



## SCOUT REPORT

We had 16 Scouts registered on the **Region Basic Scout Leadership Course** on October 27 - 29 at Bundilla. The weather was kind to us and cleared up for most of the weekend. I would like to thank the leaders that presented sessions - the course could not run without you!

So thank you Robin Garrett, Veronica Brogden, Diana Bogueva, Christine McGrath and Ayla Sloan. Thank you also to Blacktown Rovers for catering for the course over the weekend! Your service was greatly appreciated.



I was lucky enough to get to Bowen Mountain and Ringrose Public School for JOTA/JOTI - I didn't get to see any Scouts at Bowen Mountain as they were all off geocaching at the time but I do believe they all had a great time. They even included a visit from the observatory! The scouts and cubs in Holroyd were having fun talking to scouts from all over the world, playing Minecraft and using the radios.

I was also able to get to 1<sup>st</sup> Springwood's Centenary celebrations. There is a lot of history in the group and I was able to meet past leaders who still have an interest in Scouting and although I couldn't stay for long - from what I saw everyone was enjoying themselves.

The name for Jamborette has been decided "**Time to Fast Forward**" and the badge design competition is open. So please get the scouts to send their ideas through as soon as possible. I have one entry so far! Entries close on December 15, 2017.

We have started a **competition** for the most creative place to hold a **Troop Council**. A photo of the Troop Council in that place is to be sent to me by 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. The prize is yet to be determined. This is an opportunity for those troops that do not run a troop council to get started. Please send in your photos - I have not received any as yet!

**Region Youth Council** will be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November in The Rotary Hut at Bundilla at 6.00pm. I expect the Region SYC Executives and representatives from each district to be there. Dinner will be provided.

**AJ2019** applications are open. The Jamboree will be held at The Bend Motor Sport Park in Tailem Bend. Districts have started holding their information sessions and I am available to attend these if anyone requires.

- Cost: Scouts \$1855 Leaders, Rovers Venturers & Adult Helpers \$1390
- Dates: January 4th-14th; Scouts are to arrive on the 4th of January and will depart on the 13th of January
- Super Saturday (Visitors day) will be on January 12th
- Scout age range - must be under 15 years as at 4 Jan 2019
- Applications open from 1 October 2017 via special "on line" web site.

The Youth Program is still being developed, but bicycle activities, cart racing and land yachting will feature on the V8 car racing circuit, with water activities on the nearby lakes, patrol activities at the Woodhouse activity Centre and a wide game in the city of Adelaide.

**Tracey Stopps (Wiangi) RC Scouts**

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



Having fun on the Basic Scout Leadership Course

---

## VENTURER REPORT

---

I would like to congratulate **Owen Astley from 1st/2nd Blacktown Venturer Unit** and **Rosie Rodgers from 1st Oakville Venturer Unit** on completing their Queen's Scout Award.

October is usually outwardly quiet as we prepare for Waratah, but there were still a few things going on...

1st Springwood Venturers helped with activities for the celebration of the Group's Centenary. Cubs and Joeys prussicking and sock wrestling were the most popular activities. Congratulations on a wonderful community achievement.

Hawkesbury City Mayor, Mary Lyons-Buckett was special guest at 1st Glossodia's successful fundraiser at Macquarie Park Windsor for the Venturer Unit's trip to the Kungsleden (The King's Trail) in Sweden. Dinner was prepared and served by the Venturers and there was an array of donation attracting activities to make sure you left with empty pockets! Well done, all.

1st Westmead were also fund raising for their trip to Everest Base Camp in November with a special screening of **Mountain**. At the end of the movie, a video prepared by the Venturers, was shown, of their preparations for their upcoming trip.

Looking forward to reporting back on Waratah next Month.

**Brian Nelson (Sparky) RC Venturer Scouts**

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

### PARRAMATTA DISTRICT JOEY SCOUTS FIRST MOB HOLIDAY

30 excited Joeys and 34 parents and Leaders from 1st Carlingford, 1st Ermington, 1st Murray Farm, 1st North Rocks and 1st Winston Hills all spent a great weekend together at Camp Ku-ring-gai, training to be Park Rangers.

Although the weather wasn't what we had hoped for, it didn't stop the Joeys from getting out and trying all that was offered. They made their Ranger jeeps, cooked damper on an open fire, participated in a water bug survey, hunted for insects, joined in on an obstacle course with real rope bridge and swing, made leaf lanterns and pine cone animals as well as bird feeders. A camp fire was fitted in with marshmallows toasted on the fire before the rain returned. They loved the water fight (in the rain) and really enjoyed the Hungry Hungry Hippos game the most. We even managed a walk with our raincoats on (Mums and Dads with umbrellas) to the giant tree growing out of the rock before a scavenger hunt back to the hall.

Everyone was kept well fed and warm and snug in their beds at night. Some even braved the weekend by camping in their tent. We had so much fun that we have planned one again for next year. The other great aspect was the gaining of a new Joey Leader for North Rocks.

Thanks to the Leaders from all the Groups for your help in running a fun weekend for our Joeys and giving them a taste of real Scouting.

**Leonie Plummer**  
District Joey Scout Leader



## ROVER REPORT

November - it's the best month of the year (for me personally at least). Since we last sent an update, Rovers from the Region have been up to all sorts of shenanigans! We celebrated Halloween with super spooky activities; the creepiest being just how many of our Rovers attended the Advanced Practical Supplement Course at Pennant Hills. Six of the Rovers were from GWS, making up half of the Course!

Speaking with our GWS Rover Council Chair and Vice Chair who completed the Course - we have determined that there is much more to learn after the BPS Course. They want to encourage as many Rovers as possible to finish their Basic Training. If you are interested in becoming the best Crew Leader you can be or pushing yourself to represent on the Region, State or National Councils, then it is vital that you complete the Advanced Training as well. So to all Rovers reading this - get your e-learning completed and let's be the number #1 Region in the State for training!

Crews have brought in the new month by commemorating Guy Fawkes Day; camping in the bush and just doing Rover stuff. We are super excited for **Waratah** which is just around the corner. The Leaders organising the event have put in many long hours of hard work and it is set to be a great weekend.

Then our next major Rover/Venturer activity is the **"How to Adult" Roventure** in February 2018. It's been some time since our Region has held a Roventure and we have been coming up with some brilliant activities for the Venturers to make it special. Venturers - don't forget to click 'attending' on the Facebook event 2018 Roventure "Life Skills"!

The best part about our Region is how our Crews love to hang out and bond with each other. 1st/2nd Merrylands Rover Crew has organised an Intercrew Putt Putt night and Holey Moley - it is going to be Ace. Blacktown Rovers have announced the 2018 GWS Moot theme: **High School Mootical!** Fetch me my Jimmy Choo flip flops, this Moot will be fabulous.

The 2018/2019 **State Rover Council Election** is on November 25 which is also the day Rovers from Westmead Crew are leave to climb Mount Everest! Good luck on your adventure team!! This really is a spectacular month; before we know it though the month will be over and we will find ourselves repeating Tyler, the Creator's lyrics, "Take me back to November, Take me back to November".



Clare Berkeley (DOB: 16th November)  
Email: [pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au](mailto:pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au)

Rovers having a laugh after completing the Advanced Course



## REGION ACTIVITIES

It has been a big month on the activities front, particularly with the generally good weather we have all enjoyed.

As part of our State Activities Council meeting at Pennant Hills, I ran a training course on the towing and set up of the climbing wall, which was well attended. Note the emphasis is on the towing and set up only, not the actual running of the wall which still requires an abseiling qualification at this stage. I am hoping to run another one again within our own Region, particularly when we get our own Climbing Wall finally up and running.

While on the Climbing Wall, a big thank you to David "Macca" McKinley who ran the wall at the Kings Langley Fair along with helpers from 1st Kings Langley.

Dodging showers, we managed to get most of an Abseiling Workshop in over a weekend. Day One saw us at Bowen Mountain until the rain moved in early afternoon. Sunday was looking promising at Yellow Rock before more rain put a stop to proceedings. Thank you to Stuart Cowen you ran the weekend, and kept everyone safe.



***Looks like a good spot to hang out!*** Photo: Mark Fell

The following weekend I ran an overnight Canoe Trip from Wisemans Ferry up Webbs Creek and return on the Sunday. We bush camped on a property, which one of the local farmers very kindly allowed us to utilise. We also did a night paddle which is always a great adventure, and experience for all. Even this far up the creek we soon discovered the effects of tides. One of the really good things about this trip was a number of participants had only recently earned their Level II in canoeing, where able to put their new learnt skills into practise.



***With keen eyes - it is amazing what you can come across while canoeing!***

Photo: Mark Fell

***A night paddle is always a great adventure.  
Time to raft up and gaze at the stars.***

Photo: Mark Fell



Tristan Flores our resident Bushwalking Guru has been busy with a number of hikes over the last few weeks. His latest adventure was an overnighter out to Gooches Crater via Wollangambe River, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Just a heads up for 2018. Keith Travers is running a **5 Day Sailing Workshop from the 10th to 14th January, 2018**. Details are on the Region EMS. Need to get in early as numbers will be limited!

OK time to get out and have some more fun...again!

**Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities**

**Stage Manager CGS**

**Email: [activities@greaterwestcouts.com.au](mailto:activities@greaterwestcouts.com.au)**



---

## **BUSHWALKING - TRISTAN FLORES**

---

A break in the hot weather enabled us to go ahead with our planned navigation skills from Bell to Gooches Crater on October 28 & 29. This route (approx. 16 km return) involved a fair amount of off track walking through some rugged and wild country. The rock formations and pagodas could be mistaken for a lost city on the distant horizon. It has a strong similarity to the Gardens of Stone National Park located further to the west.

We found remnants of track and rock cairns in places. Crossing the Wollangambe River also known as Snake River across a fallen tree was a highlight, so too were the bright clusters of Waratah flowers. We forgot to refill our water at the river; fortunately for us it had rained a few days earlier and we found some pools of water on the rock platforms. Our compasses experienced what we thought was magnetic interference on the main ridgeline. We are not really sure what was causing this but considered perhaps it could be iron related minerals in the rocks. We crossed paths with a group of three bushwalkers who were also in search of Gooches. We reached the rim of the crater with plenty of daylight to spare. It was a comfortable night in the cave.

Congratulations to the Scouts from 1<sup>st</sup> Carlingford, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baulkham Hills, 1<sup>st</sup> Westmead and 1<sup>st</sup> Winston Hills who completed the memorable journey. For three of these Scouts, Martin Hendricks, Oliver Cooper and Aamir Moonim it was their first overnight hike. Even for a guide it was tough, so these boys should be super proud. A special mention and thank you to Lachlan Cooper, Mitchell Stockford and Daniel Cooper for their support.

**Join us for our Christmas and end of year Region Hike on December 9 & 10.** We are walking along the coast on the Grand Pacific Walk from Royal National Park to Wollongong Harbour. What a beautiful walk to finish up for the year. We hope you can make it! <https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/50>

**Tristan Flores - GWSR Leader Bushwalking**

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





# HOLROYD DISTRICT JOTA/JOTI 2017



Above Left: JOTI @ Holroyd District

Above Right: Here is a blast from the past JOTA in 1989 Greystanes District, Western Sydney

Left: Holroyd District Scouts launched Minecraft



Below Right: Opening Ceremony for 1<sup>st</sup> Greystanes, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Merrylands and 1<sup>st</sup> Westmead



# MT EVEREST



The Journey so far..

**BE PREPARED**



## 1ST WESTMEAD VENTURER UNIT

1st Westmead Venturers are embarking on the adventure of a lifetime to Mt Everest Base Camp on 25th November 2017. It will be the first time that an Australian Venturer unit has tackled this unique challenge.

It is an adventure that will take "our breath away!" The expedition and preparation activities is being led by Aaron Wardle (Scouts Australia International Commissioner).

The trek will involve walking at altitudes of up to approx 5545 metres above sea level and it will be demanding trekking, with the possibility of extreme variations in temperature. The Venturer Unit has prepared a solid training schedule in preparation of the Trek. This has included doing a least 3-4 day trek per month—involving around approximately 60km per trek. To-date training hikes have included 4 days Kosciuszko National Park; 4 days Budderwang National Park; 3 days Newnes; 3 Days Washpool National Park; and 3 Days Kanangra Walls to Katoomba and more.

Preparation has also involved sessions of walking, jogging, swimming, 5km runs, circuit training and riding to increase aerobic fitness of the participants. Members have also sought the advice of health professionals at the Children's Hospital Institute of Sports Medicine (CHISM) in Westmead and attended training session at Peak Altitude Training in the city to simulate altitudes from 3800m to 4500 metres to prepare themselves for the journey to high altitude.

Recently the Venturers organised a Fundraising screening of 'Mountain' at Parramatta Riverside Theatres. Mountain is the dazzling documentary and exploration of our obsession with mountains. Christopher Fias-ayon Venturer Scout and cinematographer made his debut in the film industry with the launch of his two Everest Base Camp Trek Training short films at Parramatta Riverside Theatres. Congratulation Chris for making it to the big screen.

To follow the journey of a lifetime, like us on our

1st Westmead Everest Base Camp Trek Facebook  
@EverestBaseCampTrekWestmead .

Please consider our go fund me fundraising campaign at  
<https://goo.gl/6w1duY>



Find us on  
**Facebook**

1st Westmead  
Everest Base Camp  
Trek

@EverestBaseCampTrekW  
estmead



Thank you to Julie Overton AJSL 1st Greystanes for these two articles.

**Making everything easier!**

**GWS ROVERS  
PRESENTS**

# **HOW TO ADULT FOR GWS VENTURERS**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

GWS Region Rovers are hosting a Roventure for all Greater Western Sydney Venturer units.



**Date:** 23-25th February 2018

**Location:** Kariong Scout Camp  
More information to follow!

**Roventure, v. [ro-ven-cher]**

A weekend camp where Rovers and Venturers take on various activities as mixed teams to win.

## **THE BULLETIN**

The Bulletin is edited and published for the general information of members in the Greater Western Sydney Region.

The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the GWSR or Scouts Australia.

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

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

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

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