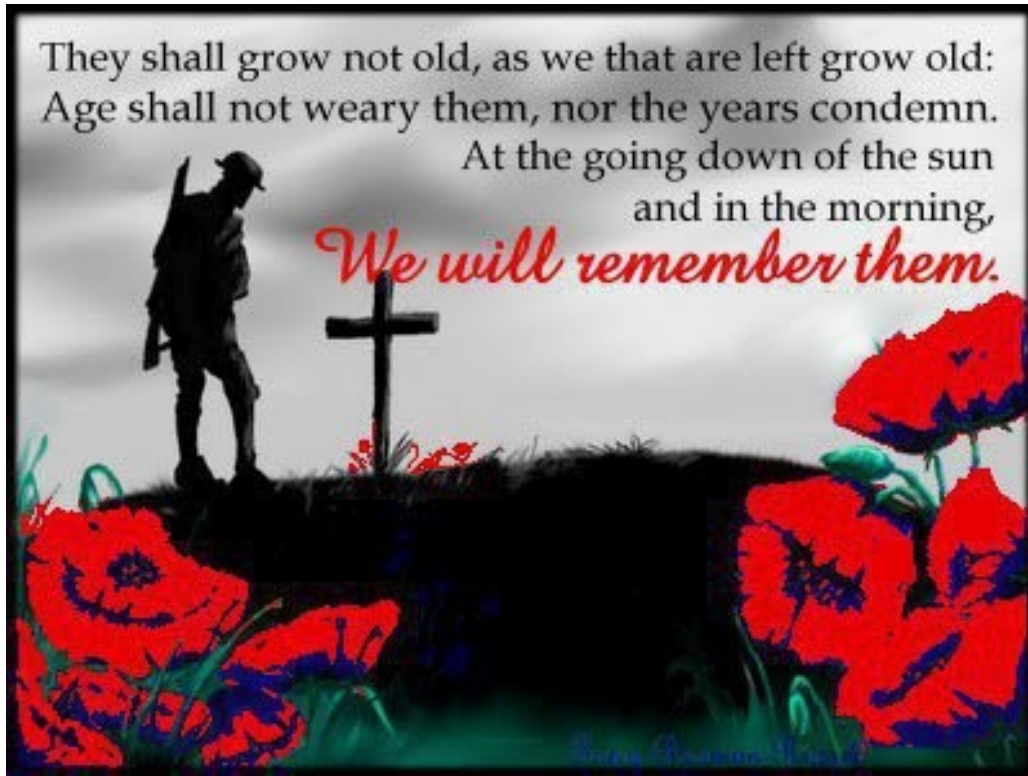




# The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 463 - April 2018



**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)

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## FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

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Neville Tomkins is advertising the Region Commissioner position which I am vacating, and we plan to announce the new incumbent at our ARP on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2018. If you are interested in submitting an application for the position, check out the notice from the Chief on the State website.

Don't forget that nominations for the Alan Overton Award are due to me at [rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au) by 1<sup>st</sup> May to allow the selection committee to consider the nominations.

Our Region Annual Report Presentation is on May 27, 2018 at 2.30pm and we would like to see a full room for this meeting as we have a number of politicians attending on the day. The meeting will be followed by our usual excellent afternoon tea.

The disabled friendly toilets are nearing completion and a special thanks to David Stopps for the project management on this project. They will be open for inspection at our ARP.

I had the pleasure to attend the rehearsal camp for Cumberland Gang Show over the weekend of 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> April and was thrilled to see the progress they are making. The first act was run through and looks to be an exciting show. If you know a cast member of Gang Show ask them about how to purchase tickets. The discounted tickets open on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018 so get in early to get the best seats. Any questions please contact [tickets@gangshow.asn.au](mailto:tickets@gangshow.asn.au)

Some good news. Thanks to your hard work our youth numbers increased by almost 5.98% in the past year but unfortunately our leader numbers dropped by 1.65% giving us a net gain of 4.19%. This was the 4<sup>th</sup> best increase in NSW. The State growth was 3.92% with a growth in youth of 4.98%. We can't afford to stop concentrating on recruiting and retention as our numbers could soon start to decrease.

I hope your ARPs are going well, as it is now time to get them up and running prior to the Region ARP. There was an error in the covering note to Groups about the Scout Group financial year, which should have been listed as January 1 to December 31. This has been updated. The rest of the document remains the same. The original link has expired. The updated ARP Pack can be obtained electronically via this **updated** downloadable link <https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/xl3GamMwMX>

I look forward to the next three months and don't forget, until then ... carry on Scouting

**Neville Henderson OAM JP**  
**Region Commissioner**  
**Email: [rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au)**

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## NEWS FROM STATE

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A new version of the A1 - Application for Adult Membership - Apr 18 is now available on the Scouts NSW website.

The significant change to this A1 form, is that it merges the A1 - Application for Adult Membership with the L8 - Introductory Interview Completion Report, so that new Adult Members who complete this application form DO NOT need to also complete and submit an L8 form.

ALL Scout Groups are to start using the new A1 form ASAP.

The previous version of the A1 form will be accepted for processing up till the end of May 2018.

Note that any Adult Applications received on the previous A1 form, WILL STILL REQUIRE AN L8 FORM AS WELL.

*Wanda Whittaker*

Member Services Coordinator, ScoutLink Support  
Scouts Australia NSW

### REGION COMMISSIONER GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY

Scouts NSW is currently seeking applications for the role of Region Commissioner for the Greater Western Sydney Region. The Region Commissioner is the key link between the Chief Commissioner and the delivery of the Scout Program at the Group level, as well as the support structures at the District level.

If you have a functional understanding of Scouting and the delivery of the Scout program, strong leadership, liaison and communication skills and strong team work skills – apply now!

For more information and to view the full Position see the Scouts NSW website.

This is a merit based selection process. Applicants must establish their claims against the selection criteria for the position. Three referees, including a young Adult, should also be identified.

Applications close 5pm Thursday 3rd May 2018. If you have any questions regarding the role please contact Deborah Howlett on 0407 410 088. Please send complete applications including referees to [deborah.howlett@mq.edu.au](mailto:deborah.howlett@mq.edu.au)

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# ***MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU***

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You are invited to attend:

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***GWS REGION PALANEE***

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**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018, 7.30pm to 9.30pm**

**Bundilla Scout Camp**

**6 Baden-Powell Place, Winston Hills**

**Cost: \$2.00**

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Palanee is a gathering of all Cub Leaders, Assistant Cub Leaders, Trainee Cub Leaders and Cub Youth Helpers, to participate in and experience a Cub programme prepared and delivered by the Region Seeonee Team. It is also a wonderful opportunity to meet with other Cub Leaders in the Region, to network, share ideas, ask questions, make new friends and catch up with old ones, have fun, laugh and to have a thoroughly enjoyable time.

You may have guessed, this year, the GWS Palanee theme is 'Space'.

Come dressed in Scout uniform, prepared to join in the fun and games of the night, followed by a cuppa, cake and chat.

RSVP: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018 (no E1 required)

Gabie Thompson, [cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au)

## **CUB SCOUT REPORT**

The past month has been very busy with a number of exciting activities, events, presentations and camps taking place in the Cub section across the Region. Over the last month, I have been very happy to have visited the following Cub Packs: 1<sup>st</sup> Greystanes, West Pennant Hills Valley, 1<sup>st</sup> South Penrith, 2<sup>nd</sup> Castle Hill and 1<sup>st</sup> North Rocks. It is very pleasing to see the wonderful programs that the Cub Leaders are providing for the youth. Each of the Packs I have visited have had good numbers in attendance, and the Cubs have been engaged and have had a ball. Thank you for being very welcoming to me and for inviting me along. I am looking forward to visiting many more Packs.

### **NSW Cuboree 2020 – Applications for GWS Region Roles**

Many of us feel like we have only just recovered from the Cuboree in 2017, however planning is now well underway for the next NSW Cuboree which will be held in January 2020. Last month, David Spear was appointed as the Cuboree Director. David has advised us that there will be a new approach to the event in 2020. To ensure we cover all of the operational requirements within the Region without over-burdening one person, there will be three (3) distinct management roles within the Region – Region Liaison Manager, Region Register and Region Activity Base Manager. Applications for these roles are now open. If you would like to find out more, feel like you have what it takes, would like to take on a new challenge, and would like to apply for one of these roles, please submit your application here: <https://form.jotform.co/80993610390863> by **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.**

### **Cub Scout Leadership Course**

On Saturday 24 March, we ran a very successful Cub Scout Leadership Course at Bundilla Scout Camp. We had 45 cubs attend on the day. Sincere thanks to all the leaders that helped out on the day; Michelle, Kelly, Stuart, Stephen, Melissa, Ian, Gavan, Andrew, Roz, David, Orson, Jakki and Tim. We couldn't have done it without you, hope you enjoyed the day.

Catering for all the hungry Cubs and Leaders was well under control as usual by the Pinnaroo Scout Fellowship Team under the guidance of Tricia Shaw and Peter Stieme - thank you for giving up your Saturday to ensure we were all fed! The Cubs participated enthusiastically in all the sessions and activities, and gave us some very good feedback in our Forum session and 'review' of the day.

### **Joey Scout Fun Day**

The Joey Scout Fun Day was a huge success on Sunday 25 March 2018. The Cub section ran a Space themed base - my sincere thanks to Ian Lutz and Michelle McLean for helping on the day. The Cubs had a 'blast' investigating 'moon rocks' and identifying planets of the solar system.

**Gabie Thompson (Darzee) RC Cub Scouts**

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



### **Youth Helper Course**

**Saturday 26th May 2018**

9am to 4pm

Bundilla Scout Camp

The Youth Helper Course is for all Venturers, Scouts and Youth Helpers over 14½ years, assisting in the Joey, Cub or Scout sections.

**Cost: \$40.00**

Lunch Morning and Afternoon Tea supplied

**Registrations open now and close Friday May 11, 2018**

Register on the region EMS now

## Cuboree 2020 - GWS Region Roles:

### Region Liaison Manager

#### Role Description:

- Is a member of the Camp Chief's Directorate Team
- Is the go-to person for all strategic, operational and logistical information for the Region
- Works with, but is not also, the Region Activity Base Manager
- Works with, but is not also, the Region Registrar
- May be the Region Commissioner Cub Scouts if they are not also the Region Activity Base Manager or Region Registrar
- Represents the interests of all Cub Leaders, members and parents in the Region to the Cuboree Organising Committee via the Camp Chief
- Approves all attendees from the Region
- Ensures all attendees from the Region are suitably supported with a local contact and support person in the lead up to and at the event, including Cubs, Junior Service Leaders, Service Leaders and Parent Helpers. This may include providing specific and identified appointed adults to provide this service for different types of attendee.
- Supports the Logistics, Support & Admin and Infrastructure team on operational matters such as buses, local support issues, camping allocations, marketing & communications and similar tasks by linking those directorates with the local members and families in the Region

### Region Registrar

#### Role Description:

- Is a member of the Admin Manager's Team
- Is the go-to person for all registration, payment and membership qualification information for the Region.
- Works with, but is not also, the Region Liaison Manager
- May be the Region Commissioner Cub Scouts if they are not also the Region Activity Base Manager or Region Liaison Manager
- Uses the Cuboree On Line Electronic Registration system (OLEMS) to ensure attendees accurately and fully complete all requirements of registration, qualification and payment to attend the event
- Manages any paperwork associated with the registration and payment by attendees
- Works with the Finance Manager's Team to ensure all payments and any expense claims for the Region are handled efficiently and correctly
- Provides technical support to attendees in how to register
- May choose to attend the event in another role or just provide support outside of the event.

## SHOALHAVEN GORGE OVERNIGHT CANOE TRIP 14TH - 15TH APRIL 2018

### Bryan Hall's Journey to become a Canoeing Guide

On April 14 & 15, a group of experienced paddlers made up of youth members and leaders from GWS Region went for an overnight journey up the very popular and scenic Shoalhaven Gorge. The Paddler's Guide to NSW says; "There's something very special about Shoalhaven Gorge; a communion with nature that rejuvenates your spirit and makes your heart sing."

Bryan Hall, an experienced Kayak Guide, prepared and ran this journey for his SIS Guide level practical under the direct supervision of Ben Gross, GWS Kayak Guide and indirect supervision of Tracey Hansford, GWS Water Activity Coordinator, Kayak and Canoeing Guide.

The participants departed from the GWS Boatshed Seven Hills at approximately 7:45 am Saturday 14 April. The drive to Tallowa Dam took almost 3 hours inclusive of a fuel and separate food stops.

The Paddler's Guide to NSW says "The feeling of anticipation starts building before you even see the water. Driving down Tallowa Dam Road from Kangaroo Valley you catch glimpses of the magnificent escarpment that lines Shoalhaven Gorge and you know it is going to be an awesome adventure."



The group departed Tallowa Dam in canoes at approximately 11:30 am. Headwinds were significant and made paddling difficult and at times threatened to tip craft over, so extra weight was added to the front for better stabilization in some boats.

The aim of the journey was to reach Fossicker's Flat, some 15km upstream. Unfortunately, the group continued to paddle against significant winds and at times white capped water and some intense wind squalls; but thanks to the decision to make this an

experienced paddler's journey, all participants were sufficiently skilled to remain safe throughout the journey.

Due to the high winds, the group decided to camp in a good clearing on the northern bank of the Gorge approximately 5 km downstream of Fossickers Flat - stopping at approximately 3 pm. There are periodically a number of campsites suitable for small parties along the route to Fossicker's Flat. Saturday night was characterised by quite strong winds - perhaps 80 or even 90 km/h at top of the Gorge. Boats were moved away from the river and camp sites were well sheltered.



Ben on Tallowa Dam

On Sunday morning the group had breakfast and paddled back to Tallowa Dam in moderate to strong gusts at times, with the temperature dropping considerably from Saturday's peak. The leaders inspected the Fly Land campsite before the final crossing of Tallowa Dam. It is a neat tidy small flat ground camp with area for a dozen or so people.

Everyone had a great time with the paddle concluding with a return to Tallowa Dam about 12:30 pm Sunday.

#### **Risk Evaluation:**

The guides: Ben Gross (Canoeing), Bryan Hall (Kayak) and trainee Guide Helen Anderson noted that there were many dead trees in the water presenting a navigation hazard which is quite avoidable by appropriate steering and attention. Many banks have much dead wood in them which can make exiting craft at the shore a little problematic at times.

#### **Bryan's final note:**

The winds were substantial and hence the decision to not allow inexperienced paddlers turned out to be a

good one. We all returned to Tallowa Dam in good order and condition with no capsizes - despite some significant gusts at times. I went for a deliberate swim on Saturday and the water was mild to cool suitable for a swim to cool off.



Based on the success of this trip and that the participants all commented on the magnificent scenery along the way, GWS Water Activities are planning another foray into the South Coast and Tablelands Region. This will be a one way trip and open to participants with a SIS Level 2 qualification or Scouts with a Level 2 Scout qualification.

#### **Further Exploration**

Proposed one way trip commencing Kangaroo Valley (Hampden Bridge) and paddling down past Bendeelah Recreation Reserve (7 km) to camp at Bee Hive Point (14 km) on Saturday evening before proceeding to Tallowa Dam (21 km) then a possible lunch at Fly Land campsite before returning the 500 or so metres upstream to the Tallowa Dam exit point.

If you would like to join the GWS Region Team on our next adventure, please email an **Expression of Interest** to Tracey [parramatta@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:parramatta@greaterwestscouts.com.au)

**Sincere thanks to Bryan Hall, Ben Gross and the Paddlers Guide to NSW, for information provided and to Libby Gross for the beautiful photos.**

Tracey Hansford DC Parramatta District  
Email: [parramatta@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:parramatta@greaterwestscouts.com.au)

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## **FROM THE SCOUT DEN**

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Registrations are now closed for the 'Introduction to Scouting' camp coming up in May for all 10½ year old cubs and new scouts. We have a total of 62 people registered (with some missing out). The closing date was extended by a week and was advertised and open for over two months. The camp is aimed to help scouts gain their Scoutcraft badge and parts of the Pioneer Badge. It will be held at Bundilla and we will need the help of older scouts to run bases and be patrol leaders. The camp is a Scout Medallion Leadership activity and will be run by the Region Scout Youth Council with the help of Region Leaders.

Registrations for **AJ2019** are still open but there is no guarantee that you will be camping with your troop. This is an awesome event that everyone should experience if they can. There is help out there for the cost: Contact Wendy White or the Receptionist at NSW State Office to have one of their packs sent out to a particular family who may need some assistance with sending their Scout to AJ2019. The closing date for the funding assistance applications is **15 June 2018**.

As you all are aware - the **41<sup>st</sup> Jamborette** is coming up. Yes it will be at Cataract again. This year the theme is '**Time to Fast Forward**'. Registrations are open soon and the closing date has been moved to **27<sup>th</sup> April 2018**. There will be no early bird registrations. All 10½ year old cubs will be invited to camp for the whole weekend as a '**Try Scouting**' event. So cubs need to keep an eye out for their invitations in the mail. Even with the age changes for Cubs and Scouts they can still go as 'Try Scouting'

**Scout Hike** is coming up in August and will be held at Cataract with a few changes this year. Our RAC is **Witches and Wizards** and will host some amazing activities. Camping will be standing but with the reintroduction of the weigh system - it will be a light weight camp. You will also have the freedom to move about the bases and RAC as you wish but you will need to check in at each. I'm excited to see our activities come together. Hopefully there will be more districts participating this year with the new changes.

I still have some of the **power banks** left from last year. If anyone would like some please let me know - \$10 each

Remember to keep an eye on **PatrolTent** – things are changing all the time! YIS

Tracey Stopps (Wiangi) RC Scouts  
Email: [scouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:scouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au)

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## APPOINTMENTS LIST - GWSR

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### APPOINTMENTS

<b>GALE, John</b>	From RA (Rsp) To RS (Not Rsp)	2nd Baulkham Hills Rover Crew (Group) 2nd Baulkham Hills Rover Crew (Group)
<b>BURROWS, Noriko</b>	From SL To AVSL	1st Carlingford Scout Troop <i>Bartoo</i> 1st Carlingford Venturer Unit
<b>GARDEN, Belinda</b>	From ACSL To ACSL	1st Cambridge Park Cub Pack <i>Koala</i> 1st South Penrith Cub Pack <i>Panther</i>
<b>KAHN, Laura</b>	From ACSL To CSL-P	1st Riverstone Cub Pack 1st Riverstone Cub Pack
<b>KATSIKAROS, Kaliop</b>	From TL (S) To ASL	2nd Northmead Scout Troop 2nd Northmead Scout Troop
<b>WHITE, Jessica</b>	From AJSL To AJSL	1st St Marys Joey Mob 1st Cambridge Park Joey Mob

### RESIGNATIONS

<b>FRYER, Marie</b>	Trainee Ldr (CS)	1st Balcombe Heights Cub Pack
<b>SURESHKUMAR, Sivaja</b>	Trainee Ldr (S)	1st Balcombe Heights Scout Troop
<b>WOODFORD, Andrew</b>	Trainee Ldr (JS)	1st Balcombe Heights Joey Mob
<b>JACOBSEN, Steven</b>	AJSL	2nd Castle Hill Joey Mob
<b>LAM, Chin Fung</b>	Trainee Ldr (CS)	Western Sydney (BLIA) Cub Pack
<b>ROGERS, David</b>	Trainee Ldr (CS)	1st Castle Hill Cub Pack <i>Kookaburra</i>
<b>SIMMONS, Suzanne</b>	ASL	1st Oakville Scout Troop
<b>TSUNG, Cindy</b>	Trainee Ldr (S)	2nd Castle Hill Scout Troop
<b>WHITE, Rodney</b>	AVSL	1st Carlingford Venturer Unit
<b>DAINES, Dedre</b>	AVSL	1st Whalan Venturer Unit

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## APPOINTMENTS LIST - THE GOLDEN WEST

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### APPOINTMENTS

<b>ARNOLD, Gavin</b>	From Trainee Ldr (S) To ASL	1st Dubbo Scout Troop 1st Dubbo Scout Troop
<b>THOMAS, Sandie</b>	From ASL To GL-P	3rd Bathurst (All Saints Cathedral) Scout Troop 3rd Bathurst (All Saints Cathedral) Scout Group
<b>GEOGHEGAN, Nicholas</b>	ACSL	3rd Orange Cub Pack

### RESIGNATIONS

<b>KERSTEN, Sophia</b>	Trainee Ldr (JS)	3rd Bathurst (All Saints Cathedral) Joey Mob
<b>NICHOLS, Gregory</b>	Trainee Ldr (S)	3rd Bathurst (All Saints Cathedral) Scout Troop
<b>WALKER, Frederick</b>	ACSL	1st Mudgee Cub Pack
<b>LACEY, Zoe</b>	Trainee Ldr (S)	3rd Orange Scout Troop

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

# SCOUT SNOW TRIP

Come along and join us on  
**27-29 July 2018**

For an **AWESOME** weekend in the snow

## Included

- 2 nights at the Alpine activities centre
- 2 Breakfasts and 1 Dinner
- All transport from Sydney/Canberra including mountain transfers
- National park entry fees

**ONLY**



\$200



\*Plus Gear hire and lift tickets

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

For more information or to apply go to

[www.scoutsnowtrip.com](http://www.scoutsnowtrip.com)

[facebook.com/scoutsnowtrip](https://facebook.com/scoutsnowtrip)

Or contact

**GRUG**

0411 326 021

[gwssnowtrip@gmail.com](mailto:gwssnowtrip@gmail.com)





# GWS REGION ACTIVITIES

Squeezing in over last of the warm weather before the cooler months are upon us.

What a great day that was had at the Joey Cub Water Fun day at Lake Parramatta. It was certainly an early start but with over forty canoes on the water along with 380 registered participants, it was going to be a busy day. But what a pleasure to be part of the action.



*Great day for a bit of a splash as well.*

Our wombats were also out having a bit of underground fun with a Caving workshop down at Bungonia.

Again, a big thank you to Meredith Stewart and her team for another one of those legendary caving weekends. Preparations are well in advance for our big Caving weekend at Wee Jasper, with 60+ participants registered.



*Cubs & Joeys heading off in all directions.*

Huge thank you to Tracey Hansford and her team for putting it all together, and a huge thank you to everyone who attended. You all worked in so well.



One of our famed Wombats, **Tallia Joel**, is heading off to the USA (North Carolina to be precise) working on one of the Summer Camps. Tallia is highly skilled in both caving and abseiling and has been a huge asset to the Activity Team for a long time.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Tallia, and great to see her put some of those skills into action.

We do wish her all the very best with this new adventure.

**Tallia Joel, off to Summer Camp!**

Tristan Flores lead another successful overnight hike up around Palm Beach (Summer Bay for all of you Home & Away buffs); camping overnight at the Basin, which is really a fantastic spot to camp on the western shore of Pittwater.

Spent a very enjoyable day with just over 20 Scouts at a level 1 Abseiling Workshop up in West Pennant Hills, run by David (Macca) McKinley.

In learning the basic skills in Abseiling, it almost requires a 1:1 ratio between leaders and participants. To better achieve this, we ran both a morning and an afternoon session with about 10 participants in each. Worked really well.



*Not the biggest of abseils, but it is learning by doing!*  
Photo Mark Fell

Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities

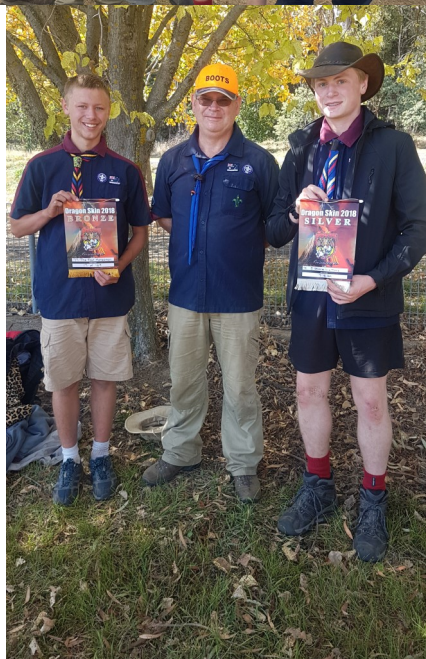
Stage Manager CGS

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

## VENTURER REPORT

Dragon Skin was held over Easter and we managed another great performance with 1st Blaxland coming in seventh and 1st/2nd Merrylands coming in 9th.

The weather was sunny and warm this year, due in part to the early Easter this year. Congratulations to everyone who participated.



School holidays have only just started, so the number of activities has slowed down a bit. I am pleased to see some challenging activities going on, including a K2K (Kanangra to Katoomba) Queen's Scout Expedition by 1st Blaxland and a community service trip to Vanuatu by 2nd Baulkham Hills.

I also participated in the GWSR Bushwalking's trip to do the Kiama Coast Walk with a group of Scouts, including some potential Venturers from 1st Blackheath. Perfect weather again! Thanks to Tristan for running these activities.

Term 2 promises to be busy again. Planning for the Initiative Course in May is well advanced and Region Jamboree is also coming up fast.

Brian Nelson RC Venturer Scouts

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



### Feel the Beat - Cumberland Gang Show 2018

170 Scout and Guide cast members,  
8 performances only, 2 hours of live theatre.  
Plan your outing now - get your tickets to the  
greatest show in town. Ticket details

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

Would you like us to come and visit your  
group? Contact us at

[workshops@gangshow.asn.au](mailto:workshops@gangshow.asn.au)

Want to get involved? Support teams now  
taking applications, great work experience  
opportunities for youth members 16 years  
and over. Contact us at

[info@gangshow.asn.au](mailto:info@gangshow.asn.au)

# 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.

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