



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 489 - September 2020



Cub Scouts Cameron, Jareth and Hugh
from 2nd Castle Hill Cub Pack proudly display their
Grey Wolf Award certificates before cutting their very special cake!



GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153

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

Please note change to office hours until further notice.

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

Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

APPOINTMENTS LIST – GWS REGION



APPOINTMENTS & TRANSFERS

KOP, Craig	Trainee Ldr (S)	1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Scout Troop
MacCORMICK, Andrew	Crew Ldr (App)-P	Hawkesbury River Rover Crew (Group)
WINGFIELD, Jenny	GL-P	1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Scout Group
BONITZ, Tara	From CSL To ACSL	1st Kellyville Cub Pack <i>Zazu</i> 1st Kellyville Cub Pack <i>Darzee</i>
BURAKOWSKI, Michelle	From Trainee Ldr (S) To ASL	1st Kellyville Scout Troop 1st Kellyville Scout Troop
CALAFATE, Anthony	From ASL To SL	1st Kellyville Scout Troop 1st Kellyville Scout Troop <i>Screaming Bush Turkeys</i>
FORD, Kathleen	From AJSL To AJSL	1st Port Macquarie Joey Mob 1st Hawkesbury Joey Mob
GRAVINA, Alice	From ACSL To CSL-P	1st Kellyville Cub Pack <i>Darzee</i> 1st Kellyville Cub Pack <i>Darzee</i>
RICHARD, Christopher	From Trainee Ldr (CS) To ACSL	1st Ermington Cub Pack <i>Blaxland</i> 1st Ermington Cub Pack <i>Blaxland</i>
SARRAMI, Pooria	From Trainee Ldr (CS) To ACSL	1st Murray Farm Cub Pack <i>Possum</i> 1st Murray Farm Cub Pack <i>Possum</i>
WARDLE, Aaron	Hon Comm (R) RA (Not Rsp)	Greater Western Sydney Region Hawkesbury River Rover Crew (Group)
WHIDDON, Andrew	From ASL To ASL	2nd Castle Hill Scout Troop 1st Yass Scout Troop

REGISTRATIONS

1ST QUAKERS HILL-DOONSDO VENTURER UNIT

RESIGNATIONS

BOWDEN, Dharma	AVSL	1st Carlingford Venturer Unit
BRYANT, Andrew	T/L (JS)	1st Murray Farm Joey Mob
CHEN, Lijuan	T/L (JS)	1st Murray Farm Joey Mob
CONNOR, Glenn	T/L (Region)	Greater Western Sydney Region
CORBETT, Rita	T/L (D)	Blacktown District
MacCORMICK, David	T/L (R)	Hawkesbury River Rover Crew (Group)
MASTERS, Nicola	T/L (CS)	1st Blaxland Cub Pack <i>Pukeena</i>
PELLEY, Grant	CSL-P	1st Kellyville Cub Pack <i>Darzee</i>
SAUNDERS, Luke	Reg Adviser	Greater Western Sydney Region
ZARTH, Brian	RL (JS)	Greater Western Sydney Region
ZARTH, Sharon	DL (T)	Penrith City District

7:51



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MENTAL
HEALTH
FIRST AID



Scouts NSW

Are you interested in becoming an accredited Mental Health First Aid Instructor? The second round of expressions of interest is now open! Over half of the available positions to become a MFHA Instructor were filled in the first round, so spots are limited.

To learn more about this fantastic opportunity and to submit your expression of interest, click here: <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/about/positions-vacant/>

If you have any questions, email mhfa@nsw.scouts.com.au. Successful applicants will be registered for Mental Health First Aid training in early 2021.

Scouts NSW's photos in Timeline Photos · 1 hour ago

Bugs at 1st Kings Langley Cubs

30 Cubs at once! That sounds like a lot. 'Right' said Brendan 'we'll have 15 to start first and 15 an hour later'. "And invite some Joeys as well"? I asked. 'Sure can'. And that's how it happened, the Cubs were great and the few Joeys were..... bewildered!

The bug did its job and the Cubs were excited to see the 'Glow Germs' in the dark, Some even saw the germs after two sessions of cleaning – "See, you forgot to wash the back of you hands, so you're still infected."

The Cub Leaders were kept busy refilling the basins, mopping up spilt water and cleaning the whole hall by mopping with disinfectant between sessions. In fact they did such a good job that I even had time to take a couple of pictures, here they are.

And the new chum? He just knew that he was going to enjoy Cubs.

**John Leahy, Region Activities Leader -
Radio, Science & Technology**
john.scoutleahy@gmail.com



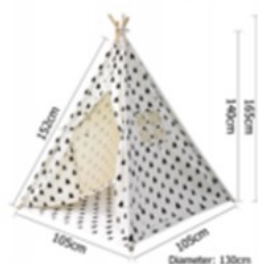
Oasis Sensory Kits

The GWS Region Joey and Cub sections are in receipt of two Oasis Sensory Kits, donated to Scouts by St Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies).

Each kit which comes in a large suitcase and contains 13 items: tepee tent, tangle therapy toy, fiddle cushion, spiky flashing ball, weighted turtle, water timer, ear muffs, 2 fun cushions, throw blanket, and 3 books.

The Oasis Sensory Kits provide activities that stimulate senses through touch, smell, taste, movement, balance sight and hearing. These kits will be made available for use for Joey and Cub Units at a Group activity/event, District activity/event, and at Region activities and events. If you'd like to borrow one of the kits for use at a Group or District Joey and Cub event, please email me: gabrielle.thompson@nsw.scouts.com.au

Sensory Oasis Inventory



- Teepee
- Tangle Therapy toy
- Fiddle cushion
- Spiky Flashing ball
- 1.2kg Weighted Turtle
- Water Timer
- Ear muffs
- 2 x fun cushions
- 3 x books
- Hand sanitiser and wipes



Please note some colours and designs may vary

30 Years Joey Scouts – Uniform Badge

Don't forget to order your 30 Year Joey Scout Badges. This is a uniform badge that can be worn on your uniform. Stocks are limited, please get your order in now! To order badges for your Joey Mob, click here:

ORDER NOW

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=S7vnQHd2UEyys2vwJ_MecdRsKOf2rZ5MnnMd3DTzmeZUMFc3WTc0OVICQ1gwTERNSkhYVkfESEdZMC4u

Gabie Thompson (*Darzee*)
Region Commissioner Joey Scouts
Email: Gabrielle.Thompson@nsw.scouts.com.au



30 Years of Joey Scouts Badges

Limited stock remaining!

Joey Scouts turned 30 in 2020 and to celebrate, there is a uniform badge that all Joeys and Joey Leaders can wear on their uniform!



Badges just \$2.20 each

Orders can be placed for your Unit by clicking on the below link or QR code:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=S7vnQHd2UEyys2vwJ_MecdRsKOf2rZ5MnnMd3DTzmeZUMFc3WTc0OVICQ1gwTERNSkhYVkfESEdZMC4u


An invoice will be issued and badges will be posted when paid.




Joey Scout Postcard Exchange

The 30 Year Joey Scout Postcard Exchange will see Joey Units create and swap 30 postcards with 30 different Joey Units from across the State. This program aims to assist Joey Units with promoting their local area, Unit adventures and much more.

- The postcard exchange will take place from 1 October 2020 - 31 March 2021.
- Postcards can be hand drawn or created online using programs such as Canva, an online graphic design program <https://www.canva.com/> or Word, PowerPoint etc.
- Each Joey Scout within the Unit could design a postcard, depicting their Scouting adventures over the past few months. The ways to create the postcards and the opportunities to showcase your local area is endless!
- To register to participate in the program, complete this [online form](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=S7vnQHd2UEyzs2vwJ_MecXO2kcvhMWVfHctorJMN-nVURVA5NVVZSTROMDIQT1gzVFJFOEJSUK5RWi4u):
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=S7vnQHd2UEyzs2vwJ_MecXO2kcvhMWVfHctorJMN-nVURVA5NVVZSTROMDIQT1gzVFJFOEJSUK5RWi4u
- **Registrations will close on 1 October 2020, so get in quickly!**
- There is a badge which can be purchased at the time of registering. An invoice will be issued for payment and badges posted once Payment has been received.
- Details of other Joey Mobs participating in the program will be shared so you know who to swap your postcards with around NSW.
- Please ensure the Unit Coordinator uses their @nsw.scouts.com.au email address when they register.



NSW Joey Postcard Exchange



What is the Postcard Exchange?

Joey Scouts is celebrating 30 years of Scouting in Australia in 2020. In honour of this, NSW Joey Scouts are hosting a Postcard exchange. This exchange will see Joey Units swap 30 postcards with 30 different Joey Scout Units. This could be virtual or physical postcards.

How does it work?

Joey Scout Units will be asked to complete an online Registration Form ([Click Here](#)). This form captures:

- the Coordinating Leader's details,
- the participating Region and Group details,
- the number of participants – including Leaders (to identify number of badges needed)

This form will be open until Friday 25th September. Once all submissions have been collected, a list of participating Joey Units and their Coordinator's emails will be shared via email to those other participating Units. This will enable direct communication and swaps between the Coordinators to share with their Joey Units. Please note: No Youth Members information will be collected and at no point should Youth Member information be shared during this exchange.



Coordinators should work with their Units to contact 30 other participating Units and arrange for postcards to be exchanged either virtually or through postal addresses. Once Units have sent and received 30 postcards to 30 DIFFERENT units, the Coordinator can present the Joey Postcard Exchange Badge to each participant.

The Joey Postcard Exchange Badge (\$2.50 per badge) is available for each participant, including Leaders. Upon registration, each Coordinator will be asked to register the number of participants (badges needed). An invoice will be issued for payment. Once payment has been received, we will request the postal address from the Coordinator and will post the badges to you.

Postcards

Each postcard should promote your local area, your local wildlife, a Unit adventure, your Unit in Lock-down or fun. Postcards can be purchased, handmade or created electronically using Canva or other programs online. The possibilities are endless and up to each Unit to decide how they would like to create their postcards. Your postcard could simply be a photograph and story in a document, emailed to the recipient.

The Postcard Exchange will take place from 1 October 2020 – 31 March 2021



GWS Region Cub Youth Council

On Wednesday 26 August, the Region held the first of its online Region Cub Youth Council. We had 13 Cub Scouts and 6 Leaders from right across the Region join the Teams meeting for the Cub Scout Council.

GWS were tasked with a very important job from the State Commissioner, to review the current Commissioner's Challenge and to redesign it so that it can be relaunched to all Cub Scout Units across NSW. The Cubs were very excited and enthusiastic.

It was very rewarding and encouraging to hear the youth members design their own Cub Scout Challenge and discuss what they wanted to have included.

The time passed so quickly, that before we knew it, it was time to end the meeting. Feeling that they had not completed the task (they also wanted to design the badge that goes with the challenge), they quickly decided that they wanted to meet again the following week on 2 September to finish off their discussions.

The following week, we again met on Teams. First of all, we reviewed the details that had been decided on the previous week. The Cubs decided on a couple of changes and clarification to how activities could be done with Covid-19 restrictions. They also shared their badge designs and ideas. Some were hand drawn, some were designed online. All were fantastic and had a similar theme.

All the work completed was compiled into a proposal which has now been sent off to the State Commissioner to share with the Cub Commissioners from each Region.

The Cubs that participated were so very proud of what they had achieved. Details of the Cub Challenge are expected to be approved and published in early October. Well done to all!

Cub Scout Leadership Course

Applications are open now! The next CS Leadership Course has been scheduled for Sunday 15 November 2020. This course will go ahead regardless of Covid-19 restrictions. It is hoped that this course will be held at Bundilla, we are carefully monitoring the situation and will, if necessary, be able to hold the course either locally in a district or online. Applicants will be notified ahead of the event. Numbers will be limited so register now:

<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/272>

Bushwalking

The GWS Bushwalking team have reviewed the Bushwalking calendar for the remainder of the year. To keep up to date with the changes, please check out <https://www.facebook.com/gwsrbushwalking/> or get onto the GWS Event Management System (EMS).

Thank you to Tristian and the Bushwalking team for supporting the Cubs with these walks.

Gabie Thompson (Darzee)
Region Commissioner Cub Scouts

Email: Gabrielle.Thompson@nsw.scouts.com.au



***Congratulations to the following Cub Scouts
on being awarded the Grey Wolf Award***

Jeong Soo Baker
2nd Northmead

Olivia Cleaver
1st Grose Vale

Well done and One, Two, Three, WOOF!

ONE OF THE REASONS WE DO WHAT WE DO!

Bruce Roberts ACSL, 1st Granville

A letter from a very proud Cub Scout mother.....

Not sure if Taonga has informed you about this already, but I am very proud of him and he needs to be celebrated. Do they get a badge for such bravery?

During the school holidays Taonga performed an act that saved his little brother Taona's life. Taona was choking to a point we had to call an ambulance. Taonga helped me administer back blows to his brother and we managed to dislodge some hard plastic from his throat. The object caused damage to his throat and blood started coming out of his mouth.

When the ambulance arrived Taonga gave a detailed account of what had happened to the ambulance officer; because of this the officers were able to locate where the plastic piece had come from - it happened to be from a takeaway container! After the fact Taonga said to me that he remembered learning how to administer back blows from scouts.

Thanking you, Maria

FAILURE TO LAUNCH

The end of August found us at 2nd Baulkham Hills for a Pyro Rocket night. There were 15 Venturers so we had to have two passes of the case filling process.

We were one team member down on the night, so were a little rushed at the end. I always check every rocket before we go out to the oval, just to pick up obvious mistakes (for safety reasons). The fact that I picked up a couple of miss-assemblies, made me a little concerned (if they missed 'that' point, what else had been missed)?

Anyway, Parents were arriving, so out we went. Safety glasses on; Leather glove on; Butane flame at arms length; crouching low - check! - IGNITION.....Nothing, just spluttering. Oh well, I expect a failure or two.

After the fourth identical failure to launch in a row, I was worried. Had I made up the mixture incorrectly? Were the cases defective? The burning looked like the mixture had not been compressed, but how could that be?

Then we had a partial success. Wendy's rocket rose slowly over our heads but landed a short distance away hissing angrily on the grass.

After that most of the rockets preformed as expected, rising rapidly to tree height, to the cheers of the Venturers. Phew.... we had picked all the duds at the beginning! What's the likelihood of that happening?

**John Leahy, Region Activities Leader -
Radio, Science & Technology**
john.scoutleahy@gmail.com



To see the actual launch, click on this link:

<https://youtu.be/3A3tfyM5Wbs>





One thing that has really impressed me with Scouts, is the way we have been able to adapt to the many changes happening around us, with this COVIT-19. Needless to say, it has certainly not been easy!

One great example of this is the way in which Scouts have been flexible in making changes to activities like Green Cord and Queen Scout Hikes, to ensure participants can still qualify, while at the same time satisfying the current COVIT-19 requirements. It has been a very tough year all round for all our youth, with major disruptions to schooling and cancellation of so many events. At least some things have still been able to happen!

On the Activity front, we are still very much in lock down. Our very popular caving weekend at Wee Jasper has been all but cancelled, not just because of Scouting restrictions, but also the cave systems we explore, are all still closed to the public.

With the warmer weather approaching, we are looking at some possible water activities kicking off, but again, it is all very much dependant what the next phase of restrictions may bring.

Unlike many groups who have been able to carry on in a "Virtual" capacity, it is a whole lot more difficult with Adventurous Activities.

On a personal note, I was recently dobbed in by one retired RC GWS, who will remain nameless, to do a more "light-hearted" interview on ABC Radio with Sarah Macdonald on "Camping!" With the current restrictions with travel, there are many "newbies" heading out into the bush to go camping. The scary thing is they actually got me back a week later to do another interview on camp cooking!

While not necessarily a promotion for Scouting as such, I was able to give a bit of a plug for "Dingo's Damper" on national radio! so that was pretty cool!

Mark Fell (Dingo)

RC Activities

Assist. Technical Director - Cumberland Gang Show

Mark.Fell@nsw.scouts.com.au



ROVERS

Crew of the Month

Introducing 1st Blaxland Rover Crew 'Kalangadoo'!

1st Blaxland Rover Crew 'Kalangadoo' or BK for short, is the most western crew of GWS, located in the foothills of the beautiful Blue Mountains. They are a diverse bunch of fun, quirky and go-getting individuals who always strive to embrace their catch-cry 'Just Kalangadoo it!'

While the way BK runs may have been changed due to recent restrictions, the crew's calendar has still been just as jam packed! Over the past few months, they have embraced the Scouting @ Home movement - running weekly online activities including an online trivia night, a deep and meaningful table talk night, an acro-yoga night and a DnD night. More recently however, BK have been able to transition back to face to face scouting. Activities included a Virtual Reality night - where the crew enjoyed defending themselves against swarms of foes in slow motion, working as a team to diffuse bombs or just dancing around to songs in Beat Saber, of course followed by a visit to the pub for a pot and a parmi.

Here's some of the reasons why BK's members love being involved in Rovers and their crew:

"Rovers has been such a great experience for me, teaching me so many things and giving me so many opportunities. When I first joined BK I didn't know anyone but they were so warm and welcoming it was just so much fun to be around them. The Crew has seriously put in a lot of effort to be a welcoming and developing team that looks out for one another and if it weren't for their encouragement, I wouldn't be where I am today."
- **Kuzma**

"Through Rovers, I've got to do things I never would have done otherwise. I love how, whatever the challenge BK always jumps in head first and gets it done whilst always looking out for one another and having fun." - **Kara**

"Rovers is a second family who are always there to share in triumphs and sorrows, the biggest moments in life and those that aren't that great. I can always rely on my Rover family and I will always be there for them too." - **Naomi**

1st Blaxland Rover Crew 'Kalangadoo' meets every Sunday night 6pm-9pm at 2nd Glenbrook Scout Hall, Corner of Fletcher & Reading St, Glenbrook.



ROVER SCOUT UPSKILL



NYP Rover Scout Upskill sessions began on Thursday 10th September. Each week the session begins at 8:30pm. Check your scouts email or the NSW Rovers Facebook for more information on how your crew can access these valuable sessions for transitioning to the NYP.

Follow us on
Instagram
@GWSROVERS

GWS
ROVENTURE
2021
COMING SOON...





Thank you to everyone who has sent me good wishes for a speedy recovery after fracturing my right hip.

Your friendship and concern is greatly appreciated.

I am recovering slowly with the help of some wonderful physiotherapists.

Special thanks to my dear son Matt for editing the August Bulletin for me.

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 10th of each month and may be edited for clarity or to fit available print space. Anything received after the 10th will not be published until the following month.

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

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