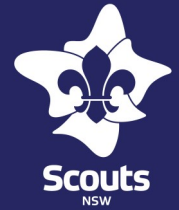




The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 491 - November 2020



Organisation and Information Handbook

The updated edition of the **Scouts NSW Organisation and Information Handbook (O&I)** is now available on the [Policies, Resources and Information](#) section of the Scouts NSW website.

All adults in Scouting are encouraged to read and refer to the O&I to ensure they are aware of, familiar with and abide by the rules necessary to fulfil their role in supporting Scouting. Read the O&I [here](#).

GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153

BUSINESS HOURS: MONDAY to FRIDAY 9AM to 4.30PM

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

Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

REGION OFFICE HOURS

The GWS Region Office is now open from 9.00am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.
Please give me a call on **9639 2488** before you call in to conduct business, as I do occasionally leave the office for lunch or to do the Region Banking etc.



Region Office will be closed from Thursday 24 December, 2020 to Monday 11 January, 2021.

Wendy Dimmock
GWS Region Office Manager

APPOINTMENTS LIST— GWS REGION

APPOINTMENTS & TRANSFERS

MCLELLAN, Fiona	From Trainee Ldr (G) To VSL-P	1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Scout Group 1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Venturer Unit
WICKS, John	From VSL-P To VSL-P	1st North Rocks Venturer Unit 1st Rouse Hill Scout Group
KASSIM, Soraya	From Trainee Ldr (S) To ASL	1st Winston Hills Scout Troop 1st Winston Hills Scout Troop
LEARY, Nerilee	From JSL-P To AJSL	1st Erskine Park Joey Mob 1st Erskine Park Joey Mob
TUCKER, Nicole	From AJSL To JSL-P	1st Erskine Park Joey Mob 1st Erskine Park Joey Mob
HAWKEN, Peter	From Trainee Ldr (CS) To ACSL	1st Ermington Cub Pack <i>Blaxland</i> 1st Ermington Cub Pack <i>Blaxland</i>

RESIGNATIONS

MACCOLL, Michelle	TL (G)	1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Scout Group
RODGERS, Rose-Maree	TL (S)	1st Oakville Scout Troop
UREN, Michelle	TL (V)	1st Glossodia Venturer Unit
BUCKMASTER, Dave	TL (CS)	1st Balcombe Heights Cub Pack
SATHARASINGHE, Kaushalya	TL (S)	1st Balcombe Heights Scout Troop

**PLEASE
NOTE**

Active Kids Rebate: Reminder to Parents

Time is running out to redeem the Active Kids Rebate Voucher 2.

It must be submitted by **18th December** so that it can be processed by the end of 2020.

For more information, go to:

<https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/activekids/>





Greater Western Sydney Region

Summer Scouting Fun Days

As you would know, 2020 has been a tough year for Scouting and with COVID-19 restrictions now starting to lift, we are looking to host a special event to celebrate everything that makes Scouting great. To be held between Friday 15th and Sunday 17th January 2021, the GWS Summer Scouting Fun Days will engage our youth and provide them the opportunity to get out of the house and get into Scouting this summer.

Over the three days in January, we are looking to start the new year with a bang, with **activities across TWO SITES** in Greater Western Sydney. The first site is centred around **Bundilla Scout Camp**, with many activity bases at Bundilla and the surrounding parklands of **Winston Hills and Northmead**. Whether it is swinging from cargo nets, or learning about science, there will be something for everyone. The second site will be held at **Lake Parramatta** for a fun filled water activities program.

Aimed at the Joey Scout, Cub Scout and Scout sections, these activities will be undertaken on a rotation system; will be carried out in a COVID-19 safe way and will be held in accordance with Health NSW and Scouts NSW policies.

To make this event a huge success, we need two things: Energised Adults to supervise and run activities and Excited Youth to have fun.

First, the Excited Youth. We know that generally over the December/January period we see higher youth member drop out rates as they start a new year. We hope that this event will keep up engagement and support higher retention of members as we start the new year. The youth will register for the specific day and session they wish to participate in and will undertake this activity in groups of 30 (4 or 5 patrols of 6 youth members), moving through the bases. As this is a Region event, their own Leaders will not be required to accompany them at these activities (unless there is a special circumstance that requires it). This will leave our section Leaders free to participate in the running of the event.

From our Energised Adults, we are looking for Leaders, Fellowship Members and Rovers, to support the running of this fantastic event. Whether it is running an activity or being a COVID-19 Marshall, we have many roles available to help the youth members have a great time. We will also be looking for keen Venturers to help run some of the activities. You also don't need to be there for the whole three days; you can choose which days and times you are available for.

Activities are likely to be running over two sessions during the day, between 8.00am and 4.30pm.

So we can plan for the best event possible, we are now asking Leaders, Fellowship Members and Rovers to complete the following 2 minute survey to give us an idea of the adult support we can expect for this event, and the types of activities that our Leaders, Fellowship Members and Rovers may be able to run. We are not asking you to sign up now, just to give us an idea of whether this event is of interest to you.

To take the survey, please click here now, or copy and past this link to your web browser:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RG7GRZR>

More information will be available in the coming weeks prior to registrations opening.

We look forward to hearing from you soon. Thanks for your time and thanks for your support of our great movement.

Geoff Henderson

Deputy Region Commissioner: Group Support & Development

Geoff.Henderson@nsw.scouts.com.au

Office 365 for Scouts

I hope you are all starting to actively use your Scouts NSW email address in your regular group/team communications. If you see someone not using their Scouts NSW email to communicate with you, please help us by giving them a gentle reminder to start using it.

Remember, our goal is to have all GWS members actively using their Scouts NSW email address by 1st December 2020. If you are one of the **264 members** that have not activated and started using it, please do so ASAP. The welcome/activation emails were resent a couple of weeks ago.

If you didn't receive your activation email; if you are having issues setting up your email or the initial password is not working, please raise a ticket with Scouts NSW IT Helpdesk:

https://scoutsaustraliansw.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=360000146091

The rollout of Scouts NSW email addresses and Office 365 (O365) to Adult members holding key leadership appointments is to fulfil compliance obligations around information and data security, child protection and centralised communications. **For more info, visit** www.nsw.scouts.com.au/o365

Matt Thompson

RC Communications & PR

matt.thompson@nsw.scouts.com.au



While lots of people are saying, ***“Can’t wait until 2020 is over...!”***, can I quietly suggest that come 1st Jan 2021, this COVID-19 thing is not going to suddenly disappear! ...Vaccine or no vaccine!

As a Scouting community, and as we have already shown in so many ways, we need to ***think*** differently; we need to ***do*** differently; we need to be able to ***adapt!*** There will be challenges! There will be difficulties! But is that not what being a scout is all about. Facing up to the challenges in front of us. Being resourceful. Thinking outside of the triangle.

Activities is no different. There are many challenges we are now facing. Just how can we do this or that, while still complying with the various restrictions that are now upon us. *I know I have been caught up with incorrect interpretations of “rules” of what we can or cannot do!*

I am pleased to say that a few things have not changed. The fat bit of a paddle still goes in the water; gravity still has a significant bearing on ascending the climbing wall, or even how quickly you go down an abseil line.

While on Abseiling our Rock Team have been back out just hanging around. They spent an enjoyable time up the mountains, doing what they do best! Unfortunately, it was a bit of a wet weekend, so they had to cut their time short.

So let us all just keep doing what we do!

Mark Fell (Dingo)
RC Activities
Assist. Technical Director - Cumberland Gang Show
Mark.Fell@nsw.scouts.com.au



THE GROUP SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Hi Everyone,

The Group Support and Development team have been busy this month, focusing on three major areas: recruitment of key roles to support Groups; activities to retain members and activities to support recruitment.

Following an extensive search and interview process, it's great that I am now able to confirm;

- Jodie Astley as District Commissioner – Blue Mountains and Penrith City. Jodie brings many years of experience to this important role and is looking forward to working closely with the Group Leaders across these two Districts.
- To support Jodie in undertaking this role, I am pleased to advise that Kelly Wallace has agreed to undertake the role of Assistant District Commissioner – Penrith City; bringing together this team will ensure Groups in Penrith are well supported.
- I am also pleased to advise that Bryn Catlin has agreed to join as Assistant District Commissioner – Blue Mountains. Well known through the Blue Mountains, Jodie and Bryn will ensure that Groups in Blue Mountains are well supported.
- Tim Uidam as Region Leader – Group Advocate. As Group Leader at 1st Balcombe Heights, Tim has firsthand knowledge of the challenges that Scout Groups face. He is looking forward to working with Group Leaders to raise issues within GWS Region and NSW Branch, championing for resolution in support of Groups.

Having great people in these important roles is critical to supporting Groups in Greater Western Sydney. Congratulations to Jodie, Kelly, Bryn and Tim.

In the coming weeks, we will also be looking to recruit the role of District Commissioner – Blacktown, following Ross Howlett's decisions to step down from this role. I want to thank Ross for his many years of service and wish him good luck in his next Scouting role.

The team have also been busy, working with members of the Region Council on member retention ideas. You would have seen recently that we have committed to running the GWS Summer Scouting Fun Days across Bundilla and Lake Parramatta. This three-day event (15-17 January 2021) aims to have as many youth members participate and enjoy a range of outdoor activities. More details can be found in the Bulletin this month.

This month has seen record numbers of member enquiries as Covid restrictions reduce across NSW. Thanks to Mel Dimock for ensuring this information gets out to Groups to make the most of these opportunities.

As we approach the end of the year, I feel confident that we have the right team in place to support Groups in 2021. We have the right activities in place to support member retention and we have the right plans in place to support member recruitment.

Yours in Scouting

Geoff (Beatle) Henderson

Deputy Region Commissioner – Group Support and Development

Geoff.Henderson@nsw.scouts.com.au

JOEY AND CUB NEWS

2021 Joey and Cub Region Calendar

It is unfortunate that we have had to postpone or cancel a number of the fantastic activities and events we had planned for this year. The GWS Region Joey and Cub sections are currently putting together the 2021 Region calendar. We are hoping that restrictions may get better in the new year and are planning to hold a number of very exciting activities when they do.

The 2021 Region Joey and Cub calendar will be distributed once the dates are confirmed.

CUB NEWS

BIG CUB DAY OUT – ‘PARRAMATTA RAMBLE’

Traditionally, Scouts NSW have annually promoted Cub Scouts to participate in an ‘Out and About’ activity during fourth term. The idea is for Cub Units to go on an outing within their local community (or even further afield), and to consider using public transport. GWS Region had planned on having a ‘Big Cub Day Out’ in October this year, however due to Covid restrictions effecting participant numbers, the Region Seonee team have been working on how such an activity could be arranged.

We believe we have the answer with the **Big Cub Day Out – ‘Parramatta Ramble’**

Have a great day out exploring Parramatta and the local history, whilst Cub Scouts answer questions about the local history along the way. Each Cub Unit can select their own date and time to complete the activity and must arrange for their own E1 form (either on Operoo or paper based) and follow the Scouts NSW Covid safety guidelines (<https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/members-services/health-and-safety/scouting-guide-to-coronavirus/scouting-activities/#outdoorActivities>) in particular, groups must not have more than 30 participants and if the activity is further than 20km from your Scout hall, you must complete the Day Activities Request for Provisional Approval form (found on the above link). This activity is designed so that it can be done as a Unit or as a Patrol.

How will it work?

There are 4 starting locations to choose from:

- Town Hall Square
- Phillip Street Ferry Terminal
- Prince Alfred Park
- Bath House in Parramatta Park

Select your starting point, follow the instructions and answer the questions along the way.

- Take your time to stop at each location to read the background information and stories. Most stops only need a few minutes to read the information boards.
- The entire circuit is approx. 6 km. You should allow at least 2.5 to 3 hours to complete the whole circuit. Follow the circuit in an anti-clockwise direction as marked on the map provided.
- Choose a place to stop along the way for lunch and snacks at any one of the many parks you pass.
- Cubs and Leaders should wear full Scout uniform
- Cub Scouts who complete this walk and the activity questions, will have completed Section 2 of the Local History Badge (of the old program) or will have participated in a Community challenge under the new youth program. Cubs could also count the kilometres walked.

Each Unit/Patrol that completes the activity, will receive a certificate of participation from the Region Commissioner Cub Scouts!

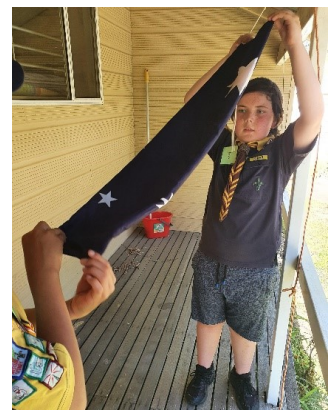
An email will be sent out to all Cub Leaders with the Instructions, a copy of the Map, the Question sheet and the Answers sheet (for the Leaders) for them to print out and take on the walk. There will also be an option to complete the questions on a smart device, should a Leader wish to do so.

All you need to do is set the date and off you go!

CUB SCOUT LEADERSHIP COURSE

On Sunday 15 November, we held the last Cub Scout Leadership Course for 2020. We had 30 Cub Scouts on the course with 8 Leaders assisting with presenting the content. Due to the number of Cubs and in line with Covid restrictions, the course was split into two and was run from two different locations. It was a very hot and tiring day, but the youth members all enjoyed their day. Thank you to all Leaders for their assistance on the day and those that helped with the preparations in the week leading up to the day; without your assistance, activities like this would not be possible.

The next Cub Scout Leadership Course is planned for February 2021.





Activity bases at the
Cub Scout
Leadership Course



Jason Zhu from 2nd Castle Hill being presented his
Grey Wolf Award.



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

JASON ZHU
2nd Castle Hill

GRACE DUNLOP

ISABELLA BEHARRELL
1st South Penrith

HAYLEY TONITTO
1st Glossodia

COOPER BUDIN
1st Oakville

MORGAN RZASA
ANRUI ZHU
1st North Rocks

MITCHELL NASH
1st Hawkesbury

GRACE KOKAY
1st Winston Hills

Well done and One, Two, Three, WOOF!



**Congratulations to the following Joey Scouts on
being awarded the Promise Challenge Badge**

ANGUS HOULISTON
1st Oakville

PRADHYOT NARASIMHA
RIKI ZHANG
JERRY YE
1st Carlingford

Well done and Hop, Hop, Hop!

Gabie Thompson (Darzee)
Region Commissioner, Joey and Cub Scouts
Gabrielle.Thompson@nsw.scouts.com.au



Community Building Partnerships (CBP) 2021

Opens – May 2021 (exact dates to be confirmed)

Closes – June 2021 (exact dates to be confirmed)

What are CBP grants?

The NSW Government uses the CBP grants to invest in infrastructure projects that deliver positive social, environmental and recreational outcomes, while promoting community participation, inclusion and cohesion. Every Scout Group/property is eligible to apply.

How much can I apply for?

Applications can range from \$2,500 to \$150,000, though the average amount is between \$10,000 to \$30,000. Each state electorate has \$330,000 to allocate. State MPs decide projects in 90% of cases, so fostering good relations with your MPs will help your case and partial contributions are looked upon favourably.

What does the CBP fund?

The CBP funds a diverse range of activities each year in the following categories:

- construction of new community infrastructure – e.g. a new hall or shed
- the refurbishment, repair and maintenance of existing community infrastructure – e.g. a new hall roof
- the purchase of capital equipment with a minimum values of \$2,500 – e.g. a trailer

What doesn't the CBP fund?

Events, workshops, operating costs, DAs etc.

How long do I have to complete the project?

Projects must be completed within approximately 18 months. Failure to complete the project within this timeframe will make Scouts NSW ineligible for future funding.

What documentation do I need to provide?

- **Quotes:** 1 quote for applications under \$5,000; 3 quotes for anything above \$5,000. Exceptions will be made for applications from rural or regional areas
- **Optional extras:** Photographs, Letters of support (e.g. from hall hirers, local council)

Anything else I should know?

- Some projects require Developmental Approval (DA). This must be approved and provided to the CBP department BEFORE funds are released. The costs associated with a DA must be covered by your group. Every DA must go through the Scouts NSW Asset Committee and requires the signature of the CEO prior to submission
- Consent from property owners (e.g. Crown Land, local Council or the Department of Education) are required for halls not owned by Scouts NSW and funds will not be released until this approval has been received by the CBP department. It is the responsibility of groups to seek this approval.
- Each application should include 5% on top of project costs to cover Scouts NSW administration fees. These fees will help to cover the salaries of the Scouts NSW employees who administer these grants and process invoices.

Crown Reserves Improvement Fund (CRIF) 2021

Opens – June 2021 (exact dates to be confirmed)

Closes – July 2021 (exact dates to be confirmed)

What is the CRIF?

The CRIF provides financial support for the development, maintenance and improvement of Crown reserves. Any Scout Hall that is on Crown Land reserve or a Crown Land lease is eligible to apply.

How much can I apply for?

There is no set limit. Applications have ranged from \$5,000 to \$2 million. There is approximately \$16 million in the fund each year.

What does the CRIF fund?

The CRIF funds a diverse range of activities each year in the following categories:

- General development, maintenance and protection activities on any eligible reserve.
- Pest and weed projects on Crown land.

How long do I have to complete the project?

Projects must be completed within 12 months of receiving the funding. Failure to complete the project within this timeframe will make Scouts NSW ineligible for future funding.

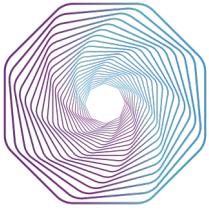
What documentation do I need to provide?

- **Quotes**, the amount of quotes needed depends on the amount of funding sought:
 - Up to \$30,000 – at least one written quote
 - \$30,001 - \$150,000 – at least three written quotes
 - \$150,001 or more – acceptable cost estimate and a commitment for procurement via a competitive public tender
- **Supporting financial information:**
 - Scouts NSW profit and loss statement
 - Scouts NSW balance sheet
 - Scouts NSW recent bank statement
- **Optional extras:**
 - Photographs
 - Letters of support (e.g. from the community, hall hirers, local politicians)
 - Business plans
 - Site maps

Anything else I should know?

- Acknowledgement of NSW Government funding is a condition of the funding.
- Only one application per reserve

More information can be found here – <https://reservemanager.crownland.nsw.gov.au/funding/crif>



NSW
CONTINGENT
AJ2022

AJ2022 It's Time to Register!

This event offers you a great opportunity to showcase the excitement of Scouting to youth and adult members alike, as well as adult supporters and of course, parents.

For those who've been before - you're in for a treat! There are heaps of new experiences coming your way.

There'll be overnight Expeditions - imagine 2 days of water activities, or honing your performing arts skills at a theatre.

There will be a wide range of new Activity Worlds, with something interesting for everyone to experience.

You could be abseiling one day and learning about robotics the next; then there's all sorts of water sports, as well as circus skills, virtual reality, woodwork and even Zen spaces for calm!

If you're a Cub Leader - you don't have to miss out. AJ2022 will launch ***CubJam*** - a special day for Cubs to have their very first taste of the Jamboree experience.

If you're a Venturer or Rover, there's plenty for you to enjoy as well. There'll be a special event for Venturers, and you'll have the opportunity to learn certified frontline skills that could be useful for your future careers.

Don't wait any longer. It's time to get your Expression of Interest in today! There's no obligation and no money required. We just need to know if you're keen, and you'll then be the first to hear when applications open next year.

Who is eligible?

It's important to use the NSW eligibility criteria as your guide, where we've clarified the guidelines for Scouts, Venturers, Rovers, adult Leaders and adult Supporters.

How can I promote the event to my Group?

On the website, you'll find:

- A full Information Pack for Leaders
- A guide on how to run a great launch
- An invitation template for your event
- A presentation for your event along with a video and posters for your Scout Hall
- Some useful Questions & Answers, information clearly defined on the website

How much is this going to cost?

The total cost of the Jamboree has two components: the Jamboree fee and the Contingent cost (different for each Contingent, depending on factors like transport etc).

The Jamboree fee usually increases by three years of CPI since the last Jamboree. (This could be 3 to 9 per cent.) For AJ2022, the Jamboree fee for Scouts has risen \$100 since AJ2019. For Leaders, who give up two weeks annual leave and spend months planning for their Scouts to go to the Jamboree, the Jamboree fee has been frozen at the AJ2019 cost; the same for Venturers and Rovers.

The NSW Contingent fee has been reduced from AJ2019.

- The cost per NSW Scout is A\$1,830
- The cost for NSW Service leaders is A\$1,265 (including adults, Venturers and Rovers).

When will applications open?

They'll open in the New Year. For now, just register your Expression of Interest, and we'll let you know where and how to apply in 2021.

If your question hasn't been answered on our website, email nsw.contingent@nsw.scouts.com.au

See you there!



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.

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

