



# The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 499 – August 2021



## JOTA-JOTI

OCTOBER 15 - 17, 2021



This year's event focuses on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and our role as Scouts in promoting peace, tackling inequality and protecting the environment.

Through **JOTA-JOTI** and **Scouts for SDGs**, we invite young people to discover and strengthen their competencies as active citizens for sustainable development and to take action in their communities through service actions to work towards achieving the SDGs.

The exciting JOTA-JOTI 2021 Programme features a variety of non-formal education activities involving Scouts and global partners, including workshops, global campfires talent shows, live shows, fun challenges and more!

Similar to last year, the JOTA-JOTI Live Shows will be streamed on WOSM's social media channels to offer more opportunities for young people and volunteers to connect, engage and be part of the fun.

Visit the website for full details on this year's exciting Programme.

<https://www.scout.org/jota-joti-2021-programme>



**GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE**

**6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153**

**BUSINESS HOURS: MONDAY to FRIDAY 9AM to 4.30PM**

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

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## REGION COMMISSIONER

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Hi Everyone

First off, I would like to congratulate the **62 recipients of Adult Recognition Awards** this year. These awards are announced on 1<sup>st</sup> August – World Scout Day each year for service above and beyond that expected of our Adult Leaders and Supporters. Each recipient this year is truly deserving of their award and should be congratulated.

We are planning to present the Adult Recognition Awards in a **ceremony on the 31<sup>st</sup> October at Bundilla**. This should be a fabulous afternoon that will have some catering and will be a great chance to catch up with fellow leaders from around the Region. Registrations are open on EMS [Events.greaterwestscouts.com.au](https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au)

In more good news, we have been awarded a substantial amount of money from the **Crown Reserves Improvement Fund**. This grant will see us able to carry out significant improvements to properties at Springwood, Lapstone, Glossodia, and Grose Vale and will be managed from the Region Office. This just goes to show that there is a wealth of Grants out there and with a little bit of effort, you can substantially reduce the financial overhead of managing your hall. I know that Wendy regularly sends information out to Group Leaders, and if you need assistance, please just ask!

Nominations are now open for the **2021 Alan Overton AM OAM Award**. Alan was a staunch supporter of Scouting in GWSR and before that the Cumberland Area for many years. This award is in recognition of the service he gave above and beyond to Scouting. If you know someone like this, please consider nominating them – information is provided elsewhere in the Bulletin.

Last month saw the kick-off of **Direct Billing** from State for Membership Fees. Like any new system, this is bound to have some kinks as we embed the system, but I ask everyone to get behind the new system and be supportive of the team getting it off the ground. If you need help, please reach out to your District Commissioner, State Office or our Region Office for assistance.

Thank You as always for everything that you do, and I hope to see you all soon.

*Dave*

David Stopps JP  
Region Commissioner  
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Mobile: 0472 688 766 (04SCOUTS66)



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## DEPUTY REGION COMMISSIONER - OPERATIONS AND YOUTH SAFETY TEAM

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Hey Everyone,

Congratulations to everyone who received an award under the **Adult Recognition Awards**. All the recipients are truly deserving of their recognition and provide a great service to Scouting. The operations team is working hard to create a memorable presentation ceremony in the grounds of Bundilla on the 31st October 2021. If you are interested in working on the team for this event, please get in contact with me and let me know.

As it is now past the 1st August, Scouts NSW has adopted the policy of only sending to **Scouts NSW E-mail addresses** for all Young Adult and Adult members. Over the coming weeks, Scouts will update all e-mail lists to reflect on this policy. I know several people are frustrated with having to adopt a Scouts NSW address, but the decision to adopt an e-mail system comes out of the need to be a benchmark child safe institution and out of the mandatory data breach legislation. If you have not yet set up your Scouts NSW e-mail account, please get in contact with [helpdesk@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:helpdesk@nsw.scouts.com.au) and do this as soon as possible.

**Scouts NSW Direct Billing** has also now been launched, with the first invoices being sent out from the 15th July. All families and adult members should have received their invoices which if not paid, are now overdue. The system is new, so if you have any issues, please make sure you check the Direct Billing Website at <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/direct-billing/> or [e-mail.memberservices@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:e-mail.memberservices@nsw.scouts.com.au)

On the **COVID-19 front**, I have included the most recent update on how the restrictions impact our Region for this issue of the Bulletin. What is most important to the whole Region Team is the impact that these restrictions have on the wellbeing of our members. At the time of writing this article, almost half the Region is an 'area of concern'. We would really like to stress that if you are struggling, please reach out to a friend, family member or someone you trust and have a conversation. Please take care of yourself and your families.

*Until next time, Steve*

Steve (Turtle) Wallace  
Deputy Region Commissioner –  
Operations & Youth Safety.  
[steve.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:steve.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au)





# WORLD SCOUT DAY AWARDS

62 Adult Members of Greater Western Sydney Region have been honoured in the annual Adult Recognition Awards for Good Service; part of The Scout Association's observance of the founding of Scouting at the first Scout Camp held at Brownsea Island in the UK on 1 August 1907.

*Congratulations to all the recipients for 2021 and thank you for your continued commitment to Scouting!*



## SILVER KOALA

*Awarded for distinguished service to Scouts Australia as an Adult Member in an active Leadership role, for a period of around 14 to 16 years.*

**WATTS, Duncan:** District Scout Leader, Hawkesbury District



## SILVER WATTLE

*Awarded for outstanding service to Scouts Australia as an Adult Member in an active Leadership role, for a period of around ten to twelve years.*

**ASTLEY, Jodie:** Venturer Scout Leader-DA, 1st Erskine Park Venturer Unit

**BATH, Andrew:** Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Kellyville Venturer Unit

**CHAMBERLAIN, Joanne:** Joey Scout Leader, 1st South Penrith Joey Mob 'Jamison'

**FLORES, Tristan:** Regional Leader (Activities), Greater Western Sydney Region

**FRY, Michael:** Venturer Scout Leader, 2nd Baulkham Hills Venturer Unit

**LOMBARDI, Elena:** Regional Leader, Greater Western Sydney Region

**PRIEST, Tracey:** Group Leader, 1st Cambridge Park Scout Group

**SHAW, Jodie:** District Joey Scout Leader-DA, Penrith City District

**STEVENS, Jennifer:** Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Springwood Venturer Unit

**WALLACE, Kelly:** Trainee Leader (Joey Scout), 1st South Penrith Joey Mob 'Jamison'

**WATTS, Caroline:** District Joey Scout Leader, Hawkesbury District



## OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

*Awarded for outstanding service to Scouts Australia for a period of at least twelve years to non-uniformed Members and Supporters.*

**DUNCAN, Glenn:** District Delegate, Greater Western Sydney Region

**THOMPSON, Meagan:** Adult Helper, Cumberland Gang Show Scout Group



## MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

*Awarded to Young Adult Members, Adult Members and Supporters for meritorious or praiseworthy service to Scouts Australia for a period of around six to eight years.*

**ARROWSMITH, John Thomas:** Group Leader - P, 1st Grose Vale Scout Group

**BENNETT, Emily Jane:** Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Kings Langley Cub Pack 'Impeesa'

**BOULTON, David Mitchell:** Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Cambridge Park Scout Troop

**BURNS, David James:** Group Trustee, 1st North Rocks Scout Group

**CALAFATE, Anthony Cosme:** Scout Leader, 1st Kellyville Scout Troop

**CRAIG, Graeme Charles:** Supporter, Cumberland Gang Show Scout Group

**DYBALL, Richard Lloyd:** Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Winston Hills Cub Pack 'Boronia'

**GLANVILLE, Stevan Brian Albe:** Scout Leader, 2nd Northmead Scout Troop

**HEATH, Carol Anne:** Cub Scout Leader - P, 1st Hawkesbury Cub Pack

**HUGHES, Stephen Charles:** Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Ermington Scout Troop

**JEFFERIES, Paul John:** Regional Leader (Activities), Greater Western Sydney Region

**KIRKBY, Aline Louise:** Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Grose Vale Scout Troop  
**LeGUIER, Jason Robert:** Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Castle Hill Venturer Unit  
**McCREDDEN, Ann Margaret:** Venturer Scout Leader - P, 1st Ermington Venturer Unit  
**MOXEY, Paul Richard:** Assistant Scout Leader, 1st South Penrith Scout Troop 'Yee Na Pah'  
**NICHOLAS, Brett Colin:** District Scout Leader, Holroyd District  
**OWEN, Andrew James Robe:** Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Castle Hill Cub Pack 'Kookaburra'  
**PRANTS, Alar Peter:** Group Chairman, 1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Scout Group  
**REID, Renee:** Scout Leader, 1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Scout Troop  
**RIGBY, Robert John:** Cub Scout Leader - P, 1st South Penrith Cub Pack 'Panther'  
**WATSON, Emma Jayne:** Cub Scout Leader, 1st Carlingford Cub Pack 'Alleena'  
**WILSON, Laurence John :** Assistant Scout Leader , 1st North Rocks Scout Troop



### **SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD**

*Awarded to Young Adult Members, Adult Members and Supporters for the successful support, development or management of a Section or Formation, or for an intense contribution over a period of at least 12 months to the success of a major event or major activity.*

**ANTALA, Rachel:** Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Erskine Park Cub Pack  
**BISSON, Simone:** Assistant Joey Scout Leader, 1st Winston Hills Joey Mob  
**BLOW, Isabella:** Adult Helper, 1st Carlingford Scout Group  
**BRAGG, Stuart:** Scout Leader - P, 1st Ermington Scout Troop  
**CHAN, Chor Shing:** Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Balcombe Heights Cub Pack  
**CHENG, Chih-Ching:** Group Trustee, 1st Ermington Scout Group  
**COUNDRELIS, Richelle:** Trainee Leader (Venturer), 1st North Rocks Venturer Unit  
**COVENY-GARLAND, Dianne:** Cub Scout Leader, 1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Cub Pack  
**CRUICKSHANK, Matthew:** Venturer Scout Leader - P, 1st Balcombe Heights Venturer Unit  
**EDWARDS, Jonathan:** Joey Scout Leader - P, 1st Dural Joey Mob  
**GAIR, Peter:** Trainee Leader (Scout), 1st Castle Hill Scout Troop  
**HOWE, Richard:** Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Winston Hills Scout Troop  
**HUGGETT, Jason:** Group Secretary, 1st Ermington Scout Group  
**JIANG, Hong:** Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Castle Hill Cub Pack 'Kookaburra'  
**KAHN, Laura:** Cub Scout Leader, 1st Riverstone Cub Pack  
**LESSELLS, David:** Cub Scout Leader - P, 1st Balcombe Heights Cub Pack  
**LEWIS, Kevin:** Group Chairman, 1st Winston Hills Scout Group  
**LONGMUIR, Jordan:** Rover, 2nd Baulkham Hills Outdoor Rover Crew  
**MARSH, Gavin:** Group Trustee, 1st Ermington Scout Group  
**McGINTY, Lachlan:** Joey Scout Leader - P, 1st Balcombe Heights Joey Mob  
**MERRYFULL, Jodi:** Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Oakville Cub Pack  
**MILNE, Tony:** Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Blaxland Cub Pack 'Pukeena'  
**SEARLE, Timothy:** Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Venturer Unit  
**SYMONS, Karissa:** Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Dural Cub Pack  
**UNWIN, Elaine:** Joey Scout Leader, 1st Kellyville Joey Mob  
**XUE, Kai:** Assistant Joey Scout Leader, 1st North Rocks Joey Mob

*Bravo!*

**APPOINTMENTS & TRANSFERS**

<b>LOCKMAN, Adele</b>	AVSL-DA	1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne’s Venturer Unit)
<b>THOMPSON, Matthew</b>	From RC (CPR) To DRC	Greater Western Sydney Region Greater Western Sydney Region
<b>BARNES, Ken</b>	From AGL To GL	1st Grose Vale Scout Group 1st Grose Vale Scout Group

**RESIGNATIONS**

<b>GRAHAM, Brett</b>	Hon Leader (D)	Penrith City District
<b>ARROWSMITH, John</b>	GL-P	1st Grose Vale Scout Group
<b>KHOR, Yong Chen</b>	AVSL	1st Carlingford Venturer Unit



Sometimes, families find it is difficult to make ends meet and need a little extra support. The principles of Scouting ensure that we provide access to ALL young people – the **Family Support Fund** is a safety net for young people who would otherwise not be able to participate in the Scout Program.

Neville Tomkins, the Chief Commissioner of Scouts NSW, said “Scouts is a fully inclusive organisation. It aims to provide youth from different backgrounds with lifelong skills from the world renowned Scout Program. “Youth and young Leaders from financially disadvantaged backgrounds have a lot to gain from our program. This includes leadership and team building skills, as well as personal confidence, resilience and self-reliance,” Neville added.

“To ensure youth from families of financially disadvantaged backgrounds or who are experiencing financial stress can participate fully in Scouting, we have established a Family Support Fund. This Fund will help youth members with the purchase of their Scout uniform; the membership fees and the cost of outdoor activities such as camping, bushwalking, rock climbing, and adventurous pursuits.”

“The Family Support fund initiative will help develop young people to be better citizens of the local, national and international communities regardless of their background,” Neville concluded.

The Family Support Fund was established by the Chief Commissioner, Neville Tomkins OAM, JP in 2017. The Fund aims to assist current and prospective youth members to afford the cost of Scouting. Assistance is limited to those families, youth and young Leaders in genuine need of financial assistance.

Grants can be requested for any young person, **aged 6 to 18 years residing in NSW**, and will assist with membership fees, uniform and activity costs for up to 12 months.

Grants are also available for **Rovers and trainee Youth Leaders** who are not yet financially independent and in genuine need of financial assistance.

To find our more about the Family Support Fund, please visit  
<https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/familysupportfund/>



## COVID UPDATE

The NSW Government has announced it will be extending the Stay-at-home orders for Greater Sydney including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong, and Shellharbour for a further 4 weeks. Additionally, there are further restrictions announced for the Local Government Areas of Cumberland, Parramatta, Blacktown and parts of Penrith City.

### *What this means for all groups in GWS Region...*

- Face to Face Scouting remains suspended until at least Saturday the 28th of August 2021. This includes weekly meetings, activities both in and outside of the hall, camping, hiking, courses, Group Councils and Group Support Committee Meetings.
- Groups should work towards online meetings and programs in a manner that works for each unit. Unfortunately, unlike last year, it is not possible to deliver packages to unit members houses unless it is by e-mail or Australia post.
- Hall Hirers should consider their own situation and seek independent advice. Hall Hirers will be liable for any breach of the NSW Government Public Health Orders.
- We encourage all leaders to continue to have their District/Region training sessions online.
- You must not visit the GWS Region Office or Bundilla in person. If you require the services of the Region Office, please reach out by phone **(02) 9639 2488** or [gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au)
- There are additional rules around the construction, renovations, repairs, maintenance and cleaning of our halls and activity centres. If you are not sure of the rules as they relate to you, please reach out for clarification as every situation is different.

**While it is not mandated, it is a suggestion that each unit programs to be online until Saturday the 28th August and then from this point have both online and in-person programs set up to run.**

We would also love to hear how you are going - please let us know by return email or by our survey link at <https://forms.office.com/r/8paVUDh8wY>

### *Most importantly for all our members...*

- The physical and mental well-being of all our members, supporters and the communities in which we operate is of paramount importance to GWS Region.
- If you are struggling (and not just with Scouts), please reach out and talk to someone - be it your partner, a friend, a colleague, your GP or a professional service.
- The NSW Government maintains a list of services around employment, mental health, finances and more at <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>
- There is a great well-being seminar for Venturers, Rovers, Adult Members and Supporters at <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/managing-mental-health/> on how you can manage your mental health.

The whole region team thanks you for your support in continuing to deliver Scouting to GWS during this outbreak, regardless of your own personal circumstances. I know that from speaking to some Leaders that there is concern about the potential drop in numbers. All I can say is that after the lock-down last year, GWS surged forward to be in a stronger position than we were before the COVID pandemic began in Australia. If we persevere, we will come out of this stronger again.

As always, please continue to seek information from the **NSW Government site** at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19> and the **Scouts NSW Guide to Coronavirus site** at <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/members-services/health-and-safety/scouting-guide-to-coronavirus/>

Please continue to take care and please, reach out if you have any questions, concerns or even just need to vent or talk.

**Steve Wallace DRC**



## ALAN OVERTON AM OAM AWARD

The Alan Overton AM OAM Award is presented each year to the Adult Member (Leader, Supporter or Fellowship Member) who continues to go above and beyond delivering Scouting within GWS Region.

The Award is named after Alan Overton AM OAM who is a long-standing member of Scouts NSW and was both the President of Greater Western Sydney Region from June 1994 and the New South Wales Branch Vice President from July 1999 until his retirement in 2016.

Nominations are now being sought for Candidates for the 2021 Alan Overton AM OAM Award. Nominations should be in the form of a one page citation showing how the candidate has provided service to the Region and abide by the following rules:

1. This is a Region Award, not connected with the Adult Recognition Awards.
2. Leaders, Group Support Committee members and Supporters can be nominated by their peers.
3. The person nominated should be over 18 and have held an Adult or Supporter appointment within Scouts NSW.
4. It is expected that the person nominated would be someone who has given service to Scouting over and above what would normally be expected.
5. **Nominations should be with the Region Commissioner by the 1st of October 2021.**

A committee consisting of the Region Commissioner, an Honorary Commissioner and a person invited by the Region Commissioner will assess all nominations.

The Awardee will be announced at the Region Award Presentation on the 31st of October 2021. The Awardee will have their name recorded on the perpetual trophy and will also receive a replica trophy.

All nominations and enquiries should be sent to  
[David.stopps@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:David.stopps@nsw.scouts.com.au)

## JOEY SCOUT REPORT

Hi Everyone!

**Survey:** Thank you to everyone who has completed the Joey Scout Section Survey. The Survey is still available to complete at <https://forms.office.com/r/5v3gDB6RP4> I will be closing this in the next couple of weeks though, so this is your last chance to be heard on this survey. The information from this survey will help me to understand the needs of the section and help me set our priorities moving forward.

**Scouting@Home:** How is everyone going for Scouting@Home? I know that sometimes it can be quite hard working with Joeys online and if you need some help, please let me or your district leaders know.

Below are some links that I have found to help with games and activities below. There are also lots and lots of ideas on the Joey Scout Resources Facebook Page. We are looking to update the website with some up to date information and content and hopefully this will be ready soon.

<https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/things-to-do/scoutinghome/>

<https://scouts.com.au/blog/2020/03/27/scouting-home/>

[https://www.richmondscouts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Langford-Village-Games\\_and\\_Activity\\_Ideas.pdf](https://www.richmondscouts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Langford-Village-Games_and_Activity_Ideas.pdf)

**Joey Scout Fun Day:** We have started putting together ideas and activities for 2022 and one of these activities is the Joey Scout Fun Day. As a Scouting@Home activity, we will release the theme at the end of this month and will be having a badge design competition for all Joeys to design a fun event badge. Please keep an eye out for an email with further instructions.

**Joey Scout Team:** Part of my plan for Joeys is that we all work together as one big team with everyone contributing to running a great Joey Scout section! While we all have our own units (even I get back to my unit when I can), and we have an amazing group of District Joey Leaders, we are looking for leaders to help run events, act as contact points for districts where we do not have a DJSL or even just contribute new ideas and programs based on achievement pathways to our resources. If you are interested, please reach out and let me know.

I will be joining in on Wandarrahs in September, to start meeting people and getting to know everyone.

I hope that you are all keeping safe.

**Kelly Wallace (Kanga)**  
Region Commissioner Joey Scouts  
[Kelly.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:Kelly.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au)



## CUB SCOUT REPORT

With Scouts in Action Month almost behind us, it's time to think about how we, as individuals, as families, as communities, as Scouts, can continue to make a difference and contribute towards the global Sustainable Development Goals. Which goal, or goals, will you look to for your next inspiration?

Perhaps you would like to look into Life Under Water or Life on Land - places such as marine centres, aquariums and zoos are running online programs and broadcasting from different areas of their facilities whilst we cannot be visiting.

Maybe you are more interested in food waste, or responsible consumption? The opportunities are endless - all it might require is us to make a concerted effort to change one behaviour, do one thing differently, more efficiently.

I am conscious that if you are anything like me, online-fatigue has set in. If you are struggling with Scouting online ideas, why not take a look at the past and upcoming Scout Quests, hosted by Scouts Victoria - <https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/activities-events/events/scout-quest/watch-our-past-events/>



*Chat with Jack Swift Paralympian.*

Watch our chat with Paralympian, Paratriathlete and health advocate, Jack Swift who became a 400 metre runner and first represented Australia at the 2011 IPC Athletics World Championships in New Zealand just two years after taking up the sport.

[scoutsvictoria.com.au](https://scoutsvictoria.com.au)

These sessions are great to watch in your own time, and then organise short discussions or get photos of members doing some of these activities afterwards.

Remember, many people are at capacity with their screen time, and need to be able to engage in their own time. Others don't like being in the limelight - they would rather participate but not be constantly called out to contribute. Doing things like microwave Oreo muffins whilst everyone is on a device in their own kitchen, able to participate but not scared of being asked to speak, might get a greater attendance than reporting back on what they have achieved in the week since we last met.

I have enjoyed watching the Olympics over the last month and am eagerly anticipating the Paralympics. Not to lessen the athletic feats that may be great, but I am far more interested in the teamwork, sportsmanship, and camaraderie that we can draw inspiration from. Former Scouts Australia member,

decathlete Cedric Dubler is a great example of this. If we can all be a little like Cedric, and work together to support each other, then we too can achieve great outcomes.

*Stay safe! Emma*

Emma Watson  
Region Commissioner Cub Scouts  
[Emma.Watson@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:Emma.Watson@nsw.scouts.com.au)



### SCOUTS IN ACTION MONTH

Scouts in Action Month this year is going to extend beyond just August so we can continue supporting the SDGs (Scouts for Sustainable Development Goals) through the SDG Challenge.

The SDGs give us key focus areas that we can explore and address to improve environmental, social and economic sustainability for people around the world.

For more specific information about the SDGs and to register your Group or Unit go to the Scouts in Action Website <https://www.scoutsinactionmonth.com/about-the-sdg-s>



#### 2021 Scouts in Action Month Badge

The 2021 SiAm Badge is a simple representation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

You can order your badges by clicking on this link [2021 SiAM Badge Order Form](#)

### SAVE THE DATE: 20th March 2022

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Hazelbrook Scout Group is turning 100!

1<sup>st</sup> Hazelbrook Scout Hall, Railway Parade, Hazelbrook

#### We'd like your help to:

- Share your photographs, memorabilia and stories about 1<sup>st</sup> Hazelbrook.
- Spread the word to previous Scout members.
- Join our Planning Committee.
- Help locate the time capsule from the 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration in the 1970s – do you know where it is? Do you know what is in it?

*If you'd like to be involved, please email*

[1sthazelbrookscouts@gmail.com](mailto:1sthazelbrookscouts@gmail.com)

Facebook: 1st Hazelbrook Scouts - 2022 Centenary

## VENTURER REPORT

I would like to congratulate the following Venturers on achieving their Queen's Scout Award.



It has been a very quiet month in lockdown again, so there isn't a lot to report. I am encouraged to see our Venturers still meeting with quite a few working around the situation to progress their program. Our leadership team are working on two items for the rest of the year.

The Venturer Scout Leadership Course is planned to be fully online this year. This is proving to be quite a challenge to get the material in a form suitable for online format and we are planning an online day later in the month to complete the course work. We thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we do our best to deliver the best opportunity we can for our Venturers.

Waratah is the other event, planned for mid-November in Vulcan State Forest near Oberon. The Waratah activity is a reprise of the popular Dragnet chase format which we have used a couple of times. Planning is well advanced and we have just had a meeting with Venturers from around the Region to get some ideas on a theme and game play for the weekend. I am pleased to say we had some terrific ideas which we are looking forward to using. I feel confident NSW will be in a position to be able to run the event as we planned and I'm looking forward to getting out into the bush again after a difficult 18 months.

I would like to thank my team of Iluka, Evan, Matt Andrew, Erica and Damon for all their support and enthusiasm. Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

**Brian Nelson**  
Region Commissioner Venturer Scouts  
[Brian.Nelson@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:Brian.Nelson@nsw.scouts.com.au)



## SEEKING YOUR KIND DONATIONS

In January 2015 Nathan was an active member of Greater Western Sydney Region and a Venturer Scout Leader with 1st Springwood Unit.

His world changed on the 30th January when he suffered a massive brain aneurysm. In hospital for 14 months and his rehabilitation progress continues today defying all expectations!

Nathan's strong will and determination to recover has never wavered. His passion for Scouting continues; he has since joined the Blue Mountains Fellowship and has recently attended the 43rd GWS Jamborette.

His latest personal challenge is to take part in the Blackmores Sydney Family Fun Run on Sunday the 19th September 2021 - a distance of 3.5km from Milsons Point to the Conservatorium of Music.

Nathan will endeavour to push himself in his wheelchair and walk short distances across the Sydney Harbour Bridge with the help of his Exercise Physiologist and family!

Nathan would like to take this opportunity to raise funds for a ramp for the 1st Springwood Scout Hall. This will make the back yard wheelchair accessible so that he and all Scouting personnel can continue to enjoy Scouting activities in the mountains.

**Please support Nathan in his endeavour.**

Donations can be made through the website  
<https://www.mycause.com.au/p/253834/nathan-crosses-the-bridge-to-build-a-ramp>

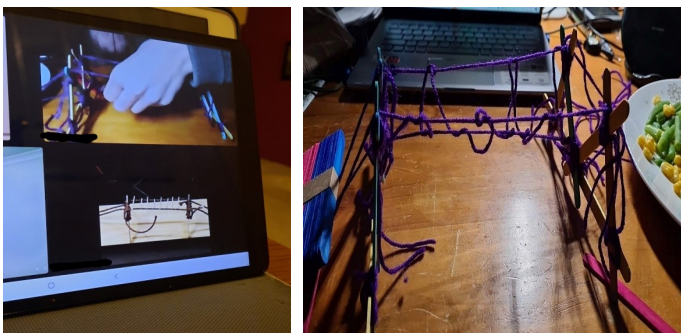
*Thank you*



# GWS ROVERS

July was a month full of online meetings, be it for Region Council or for a variety of challenges to try at home.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Baulkham Hills Rover Unit** gave bridge building a try, making small bridges at home as part of a construction night.



In other creative pursuits, **2<sup>nd</sup> Castle Hill Rovers** held a Bob Ross night, giving happy little trees a friend or two.



**Kings Langley Rovers** performed a few experiments at home with a science night; making lava lamps, crushing cans with pressure, protecting eggs from falls and making water rise due to pressure changes.



**GWS Rovers** recently held crew council over teams, discussing events that occurred in July and Regional events that we hope may go ahead later in the year!



So until next time, stay healthy and curious.

Geoffrey Rickard - KL Rover Crew  
PR & Internet Officer - GWS Rovers  
[Geoffrey.Rickard@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:Geoffrey.Rickard@nsw.scouts.com.au)





2021

***We are in challenging times!***

But I am not going to go on about that, or what we can't do! Everyone else has got that covered pretty well!

I have always been a bit on the active side, so I guess that is *why I do what I do!*

Over the last few months, my wife and I have spent a lot of time just walking around our local area. All within 5km radius of home, and yes, wearing a face mask, so all in full compliance.

We have discovered some really great bush trails and paths (yes, even around Quakers Hill). With a keen eye, we have seen numerous birds and owls, and even a few Ring Tail Possums. Down along the creeks we have seen Eastern Long Necked Turtles, numerous species of Frogs, and a number of rather large Freshwater Eels. We also often see rabbits and foxes, but being introduced, they don't count.

Back at home, I know many of you have discovered the joys of sitting around and enjoying the warm glow of an outdoor fire pit in the backyard. How about going one step further to hone your outdoor cooking skills. If you stuff it up, it is only the family that will complain! *...and if you really stuff up, there is always Uber Eats to fall back on.*

OK we are not sharing these times with our Scouting mates, but that does not mean we have to go into hibernation. Life is too short for that! As a Scouting community, we need to lead by example. We need to show that there is still much to enjoy, even during Lockdowns.

Taking the time to listen to the noises of the bush, watching that Kookaburra eyeing off a lizard for dinner, or even sacrificing a few snags on a fire.

*....and did I mention walking is also a great way to keep fit, so we can get back out into the real bush again ...one day!*

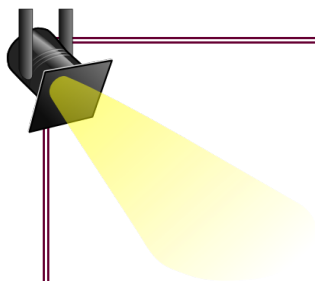
Please stay safe,

**Mark Fell (Dingo)**

**Region Commissioner Activities**

**Assist. Tech. Director - Cumberland Gang Show**

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## Spotlight On....

### DIRECT BILLING

#### What is Direct Billing?

Direct billing refers to the invoicing of the State Membership Fee directly to members of Scouts NSW.

In the past, members would pay their State Membership Fee (in addition to any local Group-level fee) to their Scout Group in either annual or quarterly instalments at the discretion of the Group. Scout Groups would then pay the State Membership Fee portion to Scouts NSW.

With direct billing, members themselves are able to manage their payment of their State Membership Fee in a simple, direct transaction to Scouts NSW. They are also able to redeem their Active Kids rebate vouchers with Scouts and have this credit automatically applied to their payment for the State Membership Fee in one simple process. For Scout Groups, this means less time administering the State Membership Fee and more time to focus on local Scouting operations.

#### When were/will the invoices be sent out?

The first invoice for Quarter 2 2021 (Jul-Sep) was sent out on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

The invoice for Quarters 3 & 4 2021 (Oct 2021 – March 2022) will be sent out on the 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2021.

The invoice for the full 2022 financial year will be sent out on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.

#### Where is my invoice sent?

Where your invoice is sent is based on your primary appointment (Main Role) in Scouting. For Joeys, Cubs, Scouts & Venturers, the invoice is sent to the top parent's e-mail address in ScoutLink. For Rovers, Leaders and Fellowship Members, if you have activated your Scouts NSW e-mail address, it will be directed there, otherwise to your personal e-mail address as per ScoutLink.

For more information on which e-mail address is used and how to maintain them, please visit

<https://scoutsaustraliansw.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/4406495140877-Which-Email-Address-will-my-invoice-be-sent-to->

#### How long do I have to pay?

Members have 30 days from the invoice issue date in which to pay the invoice or enter a payment plan. At 30 days, a reminder notice will be sent to any member whose payment is overdue. If after 7 days, payment has not been made, then the member will be resigned from Scouting.

#### What If I Want More Information?

This information is taken from the direct billing website at <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/direct-billing/>

As more guides are released, they will also be added to the Scouts NSW Knowledge Base at

<https://scoutsaustraliansw.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/categories/360005556652-Annual-Direct-Billing>

*If you have an idea on a topic for a spotlight on... article, please email :*  
[steve.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:steve.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au)



**The Scout of the Year Award** celebrates youth members in Scouting who have contributed exceptionally to Scouting and made a difference in their wider community.

Initiated by the [NSW State Youth Council](#) and developed by young people for young people, the award recognises the work youth members are doing to contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and encourages youth empowerment and advocacy at all levels.

#### **The Award...**

- Congratulates and recognises youth members who make a difference in their community and in Scouting
- Empowers youth members to further develop themselves and their community
- Raises the profile of Scouts NSW as a Youth Leading, Adult Supporting Organisation
- Inspires youth members to fulfil the purpose of Scouting: *'as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities'*
- Energises youth members to become *active citizens creating positive change in their communities and in the World*
- Raises awareness of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (Scouts for SDGs)
- Builds awareness of the Messengers of Peace program.

The award is presented at a Twilight Spring Celebration each year - an inspiring and exciting event that brings the community together to celebrate the incredible impact of young people in Scouting.

#### **Key Dates 2021**

**14 July** : Applications Open

**25 August** : Applications close and Selection Project Patrol commences deliberations

**13 September**: Final decisions by the Selection Project Patrol.  
Winners kept confidential until Awards Night.

**25 September**: Finalists notified

**20 November**: Awards celebration – Sydney

**For more information, or to nominate a Scout of the Year, please visit**  
<https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/scout-of-the-year-award/>

## 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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