



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 501 – October 2021



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Don't miss out!

Register: <https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/481>

(See page 5 for the full Program)

GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

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COVID UPDATE

COVID-19 Restrictions

With the release of COVID-19 Stay at home orders, the COVID-19 restrictions have changed considerably.

All leaders are required to read the information provided on the Scouts NSW Guide to Coronavirus at <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/members-services/health-and-safety/scouting-guide-to-coronavirus/> to understand the current operating settings.

These settings are in force from Monday 11th October until NSW reaches 80% of 16+ Year Olds being fully vaccinated.

We must ensure that all members are being checked in and out in accordance with these settings and that we adhere to the settings as specified.

If there are any issues please reach out to your DC; to Steve Wallace or to the NSW COVID Committee

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



APPOINTMENTS LIST— GWS REGION

13/09/2021 TO 27/09/2021

APPOINTMENTS & TRANSFERS

VELLA, Matthew	From DVSL-DA To DVSL	Blacktown District Blacktown District
HOWLETT, Ross	From DC To Hon Commissioner (R)	Blacktown District Greater Western Sydney Region
OWEN, ANDREW	From ACSL To CSL-P	1st Castle Hill Cub Pack <i>Kookaburra</i> 1st Castle Hill Cub Pack <i>Kookaburra</i>

RESIGNATIONS

VELLA, Matthew	AVSL	1st Kings Langley Venturer Unit
FITZSIMMONS, Guy	CSL	1st Castle Hill Cub Pack <i>Kookaburra</i>
MILLER, Geraldine	ACSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>
SAVILLE, Daniel	Trainee Ldr (S)	1st Mt Druitt Scout Troop
MUTTON, Jarrod	ASL	2nd Baulkham Hills Scout Troop

REGION COMMISSIONER

Hi All,

Isn't it great to be outdoors again, and just in time for summer? While there is no doubt that we must live with COVID-19 for a time to come, and at times, there may be almost instant changes to what we are allowed to do, now is the time we can start looking forward again – to getting out into the bush and the community to do the programs that we do so well. Please remember to keep an eye on the state website and the NSW Government site for changes, and if you have any questions reach out.

Bundilla is open again for small group bookings. I encourage all groups to stay close to home in case something changes rapidly. Make sure you put your bookings in early for both this year and 2022 to make sure you get your preferred dates.

Speaking of properties, there is a big push at the moment for us to make sure every hall has completed their P10 form and Annual Fire Safety Statement (AFSS). These are required to be included each year in your ARP materials, and we need to make sure every property has one for the 2021 financial year. A copy of these materials is kept at the Region Office. If you are yet to do one, please get it done ASAP. It doesn't take too long to complete these forms. I was able to sit down and complete the plan for Bundilla in a couple of hours.

We are always on the lookout for ways to help Groups maintain their properties. Groups should keep an eye out for an email that asks you to consider what you could do to improve your hall. I strongly urge all groups to complete this task as you never know what will come out of it.

A huge congratulations this month go to the four finalists from GWS Region for the Scout of the Year Awards. GWS was lucky enough to have a finalist in each of the Joey Scout and Cub Scout sections as well as 2 finalists in the Venturer Scout section. You can read more about the finalists and what they were nominated for elsewhere in the Bulletin.

Finally, we would love to see photos of what your units are getting up to as we return to Scouting! Please upload them to the GWS Adults and Supporters Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/895424700657330> so that everyone can see the fun people are having! Until next time, stay safe, look after each other and have fun.

Yours in Scouting

Dave

David Stopps JP

Region Commissioner

David.Stopps@nsw.scouts.com.au

Mobile: 0472 688 766 (04SCOUTS66)



ADULT RECOGNITION AWARDS 2022

Hi Everyone,

It is that time of the year when we should start thinking about nominating someone for a 2022 World Scout Day Adult Recognition Award.

David will send out a list of eligible people in a short time, to Group Leaders and I would ask that you have a look at the list and select someone who deserves an award.

Some Conditions;

- A leader or supporter must have been active for at least 3 years to be nominated for an award.
- A leader or supporter who has received a previous award must have completed a minimum of at least 3 years since that award.
- Nominations for Special Service, Meritorious, Outstanding Service and Silver Wattle Awards, need only a citation in word format of no more than 1500 characters.
- Nominations for Silver Koala, Silver Emu Distinguished Service, National President's and Silver Kangaroo Awards must have a citation (as in 3 above) plus the National Nomination Form (which will be supplied when received from National).
- All nominations are to be sent to me at neville@greaterwestscouts.com.au as a word document in case changes need to be made. If sent as a PDF, I will return it, as I am not going to retype any documents.

If anyone is interested in a citation writing workshop please advise me via email and I will arrange for it to happen.

The nominations are due with me by close of business on Monday 24th January 2022.

Yours in Scouting

Neville

Neville Henderson OAM JP

Neville.henderson@nsw.scouts.com.au

Hey All,

First off, a huge thank you to everyone who attended and provided feedback on our online sessions on Direct Billing and the COVID-19 Return to Face-to-Face Scouting. These sessions were scheduled at short notice due to the circumstances surrounding them and had good attendance from across the Region. If you would like to provide feedback on these sessions, please send it to steve.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au

At the time of writing this, it is Freedom Day! Scouts NSW have released their roadmap back to Face to Face Scouting. I strongly urge all leaders to visit <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/members-services/health-and-safety/scouting-guide-to-coronavirus/> & <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/> to understand what they can and cannot do under the roadmap at this point in time. It is expected that these settings will stay the same until late October, early November when NSW hits 80% fully vaccinated for over 16 year olds.

On **direct billing**; the State Office has aligned the next billing cycle (**Quarters 3 & 4 2021**) to members starting to receive their invoices for \$120 from the 11th October 2021.

Individual members will be able to elect to pay this amount over a payment plan. For groups that have collected their fees in advance, there is the option to transfer this amount to the state accounts. Please reach out to accounts@nsw.scouts.com.au for more information on this. I can commit that the information gathered as part of the Direct Billing sessions has been documented and provided to the State team for consideration.

Several groups have been asking about **property works** and how to carry out improvements on property. There are several policies that need to be considered when looking to carry out building works on your hall. The best advice that I can give is to prepare a submission to the Region Executive before you begin, and more detailed advice can be provided for you. No work should occur before getting a go ahead from Region.

One of the items in your **P10 form** is for a **pest inspection** to be carried out on your Scout Hall on an annual basis. From our Property Assessments earlier this year, it was an area that many groups did not do or were unaware of. If you are interested in being part

of a potential bulk request to getting a pest inspection done, and possibly lowering the cost, please let me know so that the Property Team can investigate.

The **Adult Recognition Award Ceremony** has been postponed to the first weekend of February 2022. This is due to the unknown restrictions at the time as well as a desire to focus on Groups getting up and running in Term 4. More Information will be available on this next month.

Many Thanks

Steve

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



SKILLED VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Do you think you know key Scouting Systems?

- **ScoutLink**
- **Operoo**
- **M365**
- **Terrain**

Are you able to lead a session 3-4 times a year to help teach new leaders about these systems and how to use them?

Then we want you!

GWS is looking for talented and tech savvy people with excellent communication skills to help compliment our existing Operoo and ScoutLink champions. If you are interested, please send an email to steve.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au with your name and experience.



JOTA/JOTI 2021 GWS Region

JOTA/JOTI this year will be mostly a virtual event where Scouts will join in for some activities over Zoom as well as linking in amateur radio operators for Battleship games; Scouting at Home challenges; pre-recorded and live stream video presentations; JOTI activities; international live stream and finishing off with a virtual Camp Fire.

Scouts only need to participate in at least one activity to qualify for the JOTA/JOTI badge. It is important to register so we know which group you are from, so we can advise your leaders that you have qualified for the badge which they can purchase for a small cost (\$2).

PROGRAM:

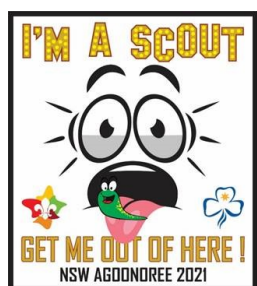
Saturday 16th October

- 9:00am Video Amateur Radio is National Parks (VKWFF) and Summits On The Air (SOTA)
- 9:30am *First Battleship Game* as well as a Scouting @Home activity "Build a Tent".
- 11:00am Official Opening address from the Governor General of Australia
- 1:00pm *2nd Battleship Game* as well as a Scouting @Home activity "Escape Room".
- 2:30pm Message from the Australian Base at Antarctica.
- 3:45pm Video on how to earn the Amateur Radio badge.
- 4:15pm *3rd Battleship Game* as well as Scouting @Home activity "Electrical Safety Challenge"
- 7:00pm 80m Amateur Radio network on 3.655MHz. Licensed operators and guest talk over radio.

Sunday 17th October

- 9:45am Wireless Institute weekly Sunday radio broadcast over the air and Internet
- 11:00am *4th Battleship Game* as well as Scouting @Home activity hosted by Hume Region
- 1:30pm Video presentation on amateur radio contests.
- 2:30pm *5th Battleship Game* plus Scouting @Home activity Virtual Campfire hosted by GWS & Hume Region.
- 4:00pm Close of JOTA/JOTI 2021

Register: <https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/481>



AGOONOREE @ HOME 2021

Since we can't have our camp this month, we are hosting a disability awareness activity that Scouts can do at home. Take some great pictures and then order your badge.

For full details and resources, visit

<https://agoonoree.2ndmortdalescouts.com.au/>

Please let me know if you need any support with any diversity and inclusion issues.

Cassie Rec

Region Commissioner Inclusion & Diversity

Cassie.Rec@nsw.scouts.com.au

VENTURER REPORT

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



Never expected to see this day arrive, but we are now out of lockdown and that opens up some opportunities to finish off the year with a bang.

The major activity we are planning, is of course Waratah. It is now up to the Units to get themselves organised and start registering. We have deferred the event to early December to clear the way for students doing their HSC.

Everything is progressing well, and provided we get enough people registering we are right to go. We have 11 Venturers from out of region registered so far, and a swag of Rovers and Leaders all readily to make it a success.

The other activity we are investigating is a level 3 cycling and level 4 mountain bike course in the lower Blue Mountains. We are planning to run this on November 6, the Saturday before HSC starts. This is an ideal opportunity to gain some additional skills for the Peak Award, and is a good way to clear your head after StuVac and before the exams start. Look forward to announcements for when we are ready to go.

We will be doing a reconn this weekend, and all being well we will be in a position to commit.

Looking forward to seeing you all in person!

Brian Nelson
Region Commissioner Venturer Scouts
Brian.Nelson@nsw.scouts.com.au



JOEY SCOUT REPORT

Hi Everyone,

How exciting is it to be out and about again!

I hope you are making great plans for the coming weeks and into next year – please don't forget, if you are doing something exciting, fun or unusual, or even if you would just like a visit, please us know and we will do the best we can!

Congratulations to **Kaysanne Lockman** from **1st/2nd Merrylands** for being named a **finalist** in the **2021 Scout of the Year Awards**. If you would like to know about the work Kaysanne did with Jump Rope for Heart, please visit the Scouts NSW Facebook page in the coming weeks, as they will be releasing information on all the finalists.

The Joey Scout section is looking for people who are good with technology and interested in help with the update of the Joey Scout Section on the Region website. The website will be the main hub for communicating in the Joey section. We are also looking for people to help with our Social Media pages which need a refresh as well. If you are interested, please let me know.

Don't forget about the **Joey Scout Fun Day Badge Competition** which closes at the start of December. I am looking forward to some great designs around the Earth Tribe.

A huge thank you to everyone who came to our special **Wandarrah** last month. It was great to see so many people interested in Joeys and helping us push the section forward. Please don't forget I am looking for Joey Scout Leaders to be contact points in Blacktown (to help Michelle) and Hills Districts.

Thanks

Kelly

Kelly Wallace (Kanga)
Region Commissioner Joey Scouts
kelly.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au





**Joey
Scouts**

Joey Scout Fun Day Join the EarthTribe! Badge Design Competition

**Joey Scout Fun Day is back in 2022 and we want you to
design the blanket badge!**

The theme for the next Joey Scout Fun Day is Join the
earthtribe and is built around the World Scout Earthtribe
Initiative.

(Check out <https://scouts.com.au/what-we-do/international/earthtribe/>)

Your badge must:

- Be inline with the theme!
- Not mention a location or year.
- Be sent to Kanga (kelly.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au)
 - Be received by the 5th December 2021



earthtribe®

CUB SCOUT REPORT

With the months of August and September now behind us, and the weather continuing to improve, I would love to encourage you to progressively expand your engagement to outdoor activities. Whether this is continuing to utilise the online format, with members sharing their adventures with family, or as we look to commence meeting again, we have all been in lockdown for the better part of the last 3-4 months, so get out and embrace the outdoors!

Whilst out and about, think about what you can do to improve the local environment – whether this is through minimising your impact or through collection of rubbish. Clean Up Australia Day might run in March, but there is nothing to stop you cleaning up your neighbourhood year-round. Equally, if you are exploring along the waterways, consider how you could ensure these are clean for others to enjoy.

JOTA/JOTI is nearly upon us – if you haven't made plans, share the event details with your Cub Scouts and they *might* be able to join in, even from their own homes. The weekend will kick off with an address from the Governor General on Saturday morning.

Cub Scout Leadership Courses are planned to go ahead in November at Bundilla. The team is working on an online version, should we need to cancel at short notice, but otherwise, **registrations are open** for both Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th November.

Saturday:

<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/357>

Sunday:

<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/489>

Finally, please save the date for our **Region Cuborette** in 2022 – this will be Friday 25th till Sunday 27th March at Camp Ku-ring-gai.

Until we can meet again – safe Scouting, and to those who can now enjoy some additional freedoms, please keep safe! Remember some of us will struggle to re-integrate into society for various reasons, and there may be periods of anxiety in the coming months as we continue to adjust to the new normal.

Emma

Emma Watson
Region Commissioner Cub Scouts
Emma.Watson@nsw.scouts.com.au



SAVE THE DATE

REGION CUBORETTE 2022

Friday 25th March – Sunday 27th March 2022

Theme: 'Welcome to the Jungle'

More details, including registration, will be released in November

If you are interested in taking on a management role at the event, please contact Emma via email

emma.watson@nsw.scouts.com.au

DESIGN A BADGE

Every great Scout event has a badge to help us remember it! We are calling for submissions/suggestions for the badge for Region Cuborette.

The theme is 'Welcome to the Jungle'.

Artwork can be submitted via:

<https://forms.office.com/r/TyRXtmTcHH>

Submissions are due by Friday 12th November

Depending on the number of submissions, we may seek popularity to select the successful design.



GREY WOLF AWARD

HANNAH PILAWA
1st Blaxland

AMEESHI WESUMPERUMA
1st Ermington

NIKHIL SRIRAM
1st Westmead

Congratulations. 1.2.3. Woof



Kaysanne Lockman

SCOUT of the Year



Poppy Brown



Thomas (TJ) Furness



Ashleigh Southam

GWS Region would like to congratulate our 4 Scout of the Year finalists for 2021.

Each finalist was nominated based on their contribution towards one of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The finalists from GWS Region are:

Kaysanne Lockman (1st/2nd Merrylands) in the **Joey Scout** section for her project promoting Good Health and Wellbeing. Kay spent over 20 hours skipping and rallied her community around her efforts to raise money for Jump Rope for Heart.

Poppy Brown (1st Carlingford) in the **Cub Scout** section for her work in Quality Education. Poppy created a set of 36 wood inlaid dominos for her school to encourage students of all ages to play together.

Thomas Furness (1st/2nd Merrylands) in the **Venturer** Section for his project in the area of Responsible Consumption and Production. TJ has a passion for improving his community through the use of Science and Technology. He designed and constructed a Hydroponic Sustainable Garden to both educate and engage members of his Group in the importance of sustainable gardening.

Ashleigh Southam (1st/2nd Merrylands) in the **Venturer** Section for her work on Partnerships to support the Goals. Ashleigh works hard in her community to bring people together for worthy causes. She has supported Clean Up Australia Day; is a Bushcare Volunteer; assists with First Aid at Community Events and is a mentor to new students who do not have an English speaking background.

Congratulations and Good Luck to all our Finalists!

The winners in each category will be announced at an Awards Celebration held by State in February next year.

BRAVO

SCOUT REPORT

Welcome to Term 4!

Term 4 will hopefully resemble what our Scouting used to be before Covid-19 hit. We will still be under restrictions but if we all follow the directions and regulations we can all enjoy Scouting. All Leaders should be well aware by now what the rules and regulations are. If you aren't then please contact the Region Office or myself for clarification.

We have JOTA/JOTI coming up this weekend. Register at <https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/481> Scouts also need to register at <https://jotajoti.info> you will need to register as an individual. This register will allow you to participate in the broader international activities as well.

We have booked Berrima Scout camp for our Region Unit Council Camp. The event is open on our EMS:

<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/472>

This Camp is open to all PLs and APLs and of course Leaders of GWS. This camp is to kick start the new year with planning and socialising for Unit Councils within Units, Districts and the Region.

We are all in planning mode for 2023.

- **Region Mindari Camp March 4 - 6**
<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/458>
- **BSLC April 1 - 3**
<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/473>
- **Jamborette June 9 - 12**
'The Might of Mythology!'
- **State Rally August 5 - 7** at Cataract Scout Park
- **Advanced Scout Leadership Course**
September 17 - 19
- **BSLC October 28 - 30**
<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/474>

There is also a new initiative called **The Great SCOUTdoors** that has just opened on the EMS. <https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/463>

This initiative is open to all members and is a patrol based event. There are many activities for patrols to participate in.

Enjoy getting back into face to face Scouting where possible. I know we all need it.
Congratulations to all the Leaders who have supported the Youth and each other through the last term. You've got this now!

Yours in Scouting

Wiangi

Tracey Stopps

Region Commissioner Scouts



AUSTRALIAN SCOUT AWARD

BYRON GARDEN

1st South Penrith

BENARD KODSY

1st Blaxland

Congratulations



The Great SCOUTdoors is a Scouts NSW State-wide online Patrol based event full of challenges for Scouts of all ages including Leaders and Supporters.

To be held on the weekend of Friday 29th October through to Sunday 31st October 2021

The cost is \$10 per person in the Patrol.

Every participant will receive an event badge.

Registrations close Mon 25th Oct 2021 (5pm)

<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/463>



Attention all Scouts and Venturer Scouts

Are you born between 13/08/2005 and 01/08/2009? Then you are eligible to attend the **25th World Scout Jamboree in Korea** as a participant.

Venturer Scouts born prior to 13/08/2005, Rover Scouts and Adult Leaders can join the contingent as part of the service team; either as a member of the International Service Team or as a Leader in the Jamboree Units.

Applications to join the Australian Contingent are now open. For more details please visit:

<https://scouts.com.au/wsj2023>

GWS ROVERS

September really seemed to fly by this year.

Between Region; enjoying nights between units and the online schedule that has become second nature to a lot of units, there was a lot going on!

A collection of units from Region gathered online for **Kahoot! trivia**, which saw teams compete for the highest scores possible (even when the questions seemed like something out of a fever dream).



Business was also taken care of at a **Region Rover Council** a few days after the social night, with discussion about **Waratah** cropping up as well (there's still time to register)!



Merrylands and Kings Langley both had their own **Bob Ross art nights** in September, unknowingly hosting them within days of each other (great minds think alike).

*At right: Ross himself
Below: Bridge on a River*

*Both courtesy of
Kings Langley*

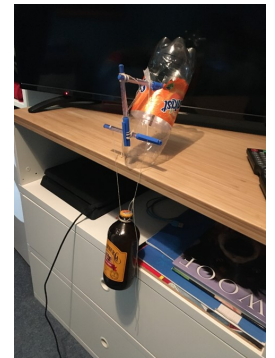
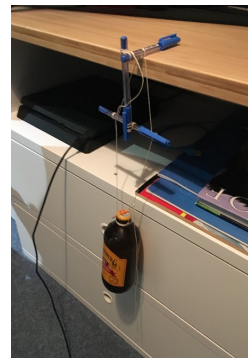


Snow Covered Mountain by a Merrylands Rover



Less Snow Covered Mountain by a Merrylands Rover

Kings Langley also held a **construction night**, where full bottles of soft drink or other heavy items could be suspended off the edge of a table using string and pens or pencils. Bonus points for suspending it from another bottle.



Until next time, stay safe and be creative!

Geoffrey Rickard - KL Rover Crew
PR & Internet Officer - GWS Rovers
Geoffrey.Rickard@nsw.scouts.com.au



BP AWARD

NAOMI DAVEY
1st Blaxland Rover Crew
Kalangadoo

Congratulations



2021

While at the time of writing we are all still in *lockdown*, by the time you read this, "**Freedom Day**" will have passed, and we will have finally had a chance to go and get a proper hair cut!

While there is still really nothing happening directly on the Activities Front, there is quite a bit happening behind the scenes.

A number of the team have completed some additional training on 'Releasable anchors', in relation to Abseiling. This was one of the required outcomes, of the investigation into the Abseiling accident, earlier in the year. Interestingly, it was something that GWS had already implemented quite some time ago, as part of our normal setup and training regime.

We are ready with plans in to play, to try and get Activities back up and running as quickly as we can. Still a little bit of discussion happening as to what we can actually do, in relation to the numbers, social distancing, one jab, two jab, or no jab scenarios.



The lifting of the lockdown, has allowed us to finally get back to the Riverside Theatre and "bump out" all the sets and equipment, which have been there lying dormant, since the end of June.

While we did not actually perform any shows, that does not mean this year was a failure. ***The actual performances are just the "icing on the cake!"***

We still *baked* the cake, with over 130 youth members, and a huge behind the scenes team. Gang Show is not just 8 x 2 hour shows. ***It is months of life skill training!*** It is learning to plan; sharing your skills; learning new skills; working together; dealing with challenges; then rising again! ***It is doing your absolute best!*** I know someone who often talks about giving 110%! I am not sure how that works mathematically, but we all get the idea!

We are hopefully coming out of what has been one of the most difficult periods of all our lives; and while there have been huge disappointments, with so much we simply could not do, I do really believe it has made us all stronger, perhaps even wiser.

*Let us now put this new found strength, and wisdom, into play. Let the **FUN** begin!*

Mark Fell (Dingo)
Region Commissioner Activities
Assist. Tech. Director - Cumberland Gang Show
Mark.Fell@nsw.scouts.com.au

Best of the Blue Mountains 2022

We currently have 3 hiking events open on Scout Event in December and January. **Tentative only dependent on safe weather and health requirements.** These may change to day only and we may cancel if not many participants.

We normally only run river trips during January with our experienced crew, however due to the gap in hikes this year we wanted to try and run some **entry level hikes**.

Sites were selected with bushfire safety in mind. We have direct evacuation by fire trail and or sealed road.

Our junior team is targeted to Cub Scouts and Scouts. Venturers, Rovers and Leaders can attend if available to support and walk with slow pace.

Evacuation:

Ingar Dam proceed to Bedford Creek or remain at Ingar Creek Dam

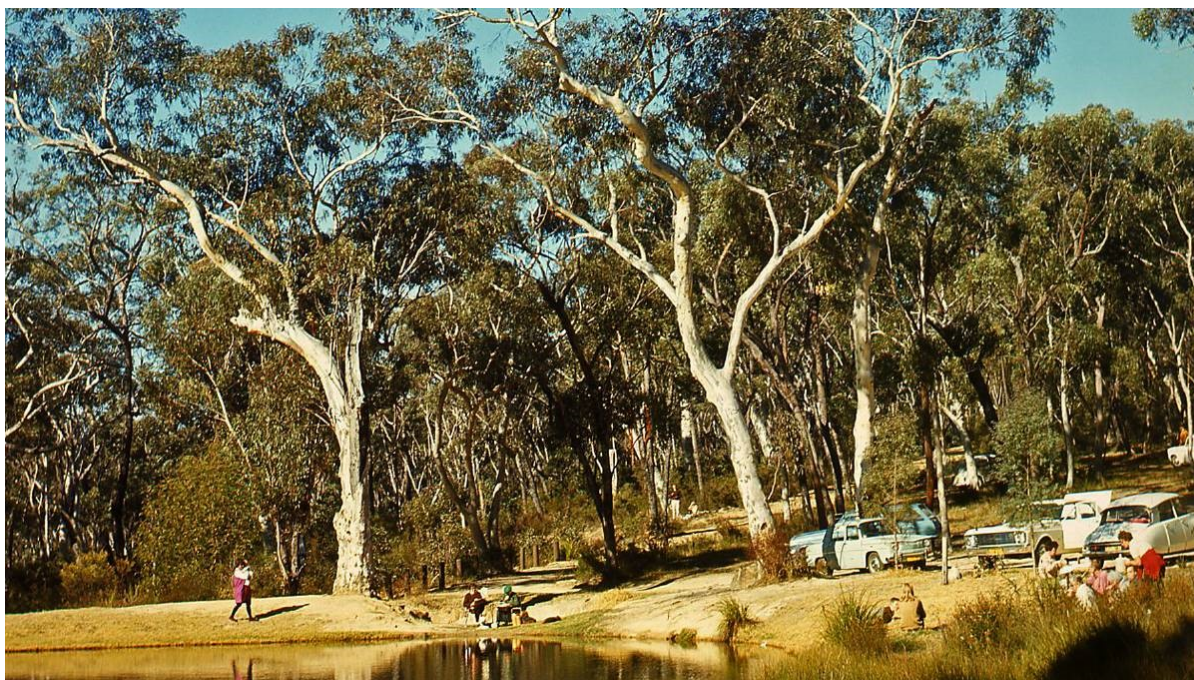
Hartley Vale proceed to Londonderry Reserve on River Lett

Faulconbridge remain at Grose River or return to Springwood High School

Ingar Dam overnight hike <https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/471>

Lawsons Long Alley overnight hike <https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/467>

Faulconbridge Ridge/Grose River overnight hike <https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/468>



Ingar Picnic Area Ingar Creek flows through this area into Bedford Creek.
Ingar picnic area was developed in 1960-61 by Blue Mountains National Park Trustees.

Photo: Local Studies Collection, Blue Mountains Library.

Kind regards,

Tristan Flores

Bushwalking Guide

Tristan.Flores@nsw.scouts.com.au

TECH STUFF

Scouts NSW Email Addresses

In 2020, Scouts NSW introduced Scouting Email Addresses for all members over the age of 18.

➤ **Why Was This Done**

This was done to ensure that Scouts NSW met the expectations covered by:

- Australian Privacy Laws
- Expectations out of the Royal Commission
- Mandatory Data Breach Legislation

The introduction of email addresses also presents a more professional image and centralises communications across the organisation. With your Scouts Email address, you'll know that all communications are coming to a secure, central point that you can access from anywhere and on any device.

➤ **Who Gets an Email Address**

All Uniformed Members over the age of 18 as well as Group Committee Members and District Delegates receive an email address.

➤ **Can I Forward my Address**

It is against Scouts Policy to auto-forward your address.

➤ **Can I use my mobile phone to access my Scouts NSW email?**

You may be able to use your mobile phone to access your Scouts NSW email, however as an organisation we do not provide support for this feature.

➤ **How do I reset my Scouts NSW email address password?**

Passwords can be changed or reset by going to www.office.com and clicking on the "can't access your account?" link. For more info, please visit <https://scoutsaustraliansw.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360035363232-How-do-I-reset-my-Scouts-NSW-email-address-password->

➤ **What If I am having trouble activating my Account?**

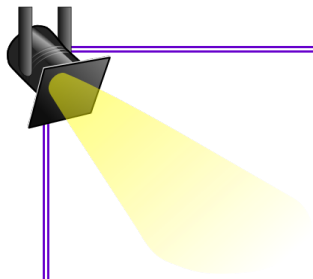
If you are having trouble activating your account, please contact helpdesk@nsw.scouts.com.au

➤ **What If I refuse to use my Scouts Email Account?**

Scouts NSW has made the decision to no longer respond to personal email addresses from our members. If you email us from a personal account, we will respond to your Scouts NSW account only. Scouts Email Lists will also be gradually transitioned to this as well, with all private Region email lists already adopting this policy.

We will be building on these Tech Stuff articles each month to help Leaders understand the tools, obligations and options available for using Scouts NSW systems.

Next Month -> Signatures and Contact Lists.



Spotlight On....

Annual Formation Stocktakes

All Groups, Districts, Sections and Region should carry out an annual inspection/stocktake of gear to:

- Ensure that all gear is in good repair and fit for purpose.
- Make a wish list of what gear needs to be replaced in the coming year.
- Track down or write off any gear that is missing, partially complete or beyond repair.
- Update the Group Asset Checklist which determines the value of Assets the Group has and impacts the Insurance Premium to the Group for the coming year.

When should we do a Stocktake?

The best time to do a Stocktake will vary from Group to Group. Some groups will feel that it is best to do at the end of the year when things are quiet; while other groups will plan to do it around winter months when the gear is not being used as much – it all depends on your Group's activities and interests!

What do we include in the Stocktake?

From a financial viewpoint, the Stocktake should include anything of value that the Group would need to replace if the Hall was to suffer irreparable damage such as fire. Don't just limit yourself to outdoor equipment, but think about things such as Flags, First Aid Kits, Technology, Kitchenware and Tools such as Lawn Mowers etc.

From a practical viewpoint, you should look at all material and equipment in your hall. Make sure that any equipment that is regularly used is not damaged and that no gear will cause injury to members.

How do I record my Stocktake?

Different groups record it different ways. The best thing to do is to make sure you record it in a digital file such as excel or word and store it on your Groups SharePoint Hub so that many people can access it. Scouts NSW provide an excel file on the online forms page called a P8 (Old Format) that can be used.

How do I report my Stocktake?

In March each year, you are required to report your P8 as part of your Annual Reporting Period paperwork. This is reported via an online P8 form and is processed by Region.

If I don't need this until to March, why tell me now?

In 2022, we will be working hard to help groups make sure they meet all Annual Reporting Period requirements. As stocktakes can take some time and thought to plan, we wanted to make sure groups had as much time as possible to think about this.

If you have an idea on a topic for a spotlight on... article, please email :

steve.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.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 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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