



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 511 – October 2022



A very special day for Mr Geoff Henderson, the host of the Annual GWSR Awards Presentation at Bundilla on September 24, 2022.

Geoff received a Silver Wattle Award, his 15 Year Service Award and the 2022 Alan Overton AM Award.

Congratulations Geoff!

Photo: Proud Dad, Mr Neville Henderson, Mr Geoff Henderson and Mr David Stopps RC

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

IN THIS ISSUE

Page 3	DRC AT&D, Diversity & Inclusion
Page 4	Annual GWSR Awards Presentation
Page 5	Appointments List
Page 6	Region Activities Team
Page 7	Joey Scout Fun Day Science Base Mental Health 1st Aid Course
Page 8	1st Murray Farm - Cracker Carnival
Page 9	Science Report
Page 10	Cumberland Gang Show

PEAK AWARD

Australian Scout Award



BETHANY NICHOLAS

1st Greystanes

BRavo



JEFFREY FAIRALL

February 1955 – 15th October 2022

Jeffrey Fairall, has sadly been Called to Higher Service.

Jeff started out as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader with 1st Werrington Scout Group in 1992 until 1996, when he then transferred to 1st Cambridge Park Scout Group, staying on as the Assistant Cub Scout Leader until 1998. Jeff became the Cub Scout Leader in 1998, before taking on the Group Leader appointment in 2001 until 2004.

Jeff was appointed the District Commissioner with Penrith City District from 2004 to 2008 before going back to Group Leader at 1st Cambridge Park Scout Group for a year.

Jeff transferred Groups and was appointed as an Assistant Scout Leader with 1st Erskine Park Scout Group from 2009 to 2010, stepping into the Scout Leader appointment until 2011, when he transferred to 1st St Marys Scout Group as Assistant Scout Leader.

He concluded his Scouting career in 2013, after giving 20 years of dedicated service.

In 2003 Jeff was awarded the Silver Arrowhead. He attended the 20th Australian Jamboree in 2004, the 2nd NSW Cuboree in 2005 and the 22nd Australian Jamboree in 2010.



Our sincere sympathy is extended to Jeff's family and friends.

ADULT TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

During the last month, since we have gone to the online checklists, we are seeing a lot more Leaders completing their training to completion, and this also includes Wood Badges that are just needing that last bit of paperwork done!

Just make sure, before you submit the “on the Job” checklist, that your Team Leader is the correct person, and if it isn’t you can request a change before you submit.

Your Team Leader should be a fully appointed Leader for basic appointment, and they should hold a Wood Badge for the “on the job” Leadership, if they don’t hold a Wood Badge, then it can go to the next up.

Mandatory Units need to be renewed every 3 years, and WWCC every 5 years. You will receive more than 6 emails to your nsw.scouts.com.au email address. If you ignore it and don’t renew these, you will have your membership suspended and possibly be resigned.

If you aren’t receiving these emails, you should contact Region Office to get it corrected. The emails go to **ALL** Leaders, Rovers, and key Adults in Scouts NSW. Saying you didn’t receive them is no excuse, act on them to avoid the final action; resigning a Key Leader from your team, for example, the Scout Leader!

You need to have the Resignation of Appointment A4 **and** Transfer of Appointment A3 for the person who is going to fill the role even if it is only Temporary.

The reason being, that without a person to fill that role, they can’t be resigned, and the Group is still liable for their registration and their regulatory compliance. And they should be resigned before the end of March.

Tony Dent
DRC Adult Training & Development
tony.dent@nsw.scouts.com.au



DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

We receive many requests for information on how to support members with special needs; some of the information is available in the Diversity and Inclusion Policy documents on the Scouts NSW website, other information can come from resources such as Erica Dilworth our Region Leader Diversity and Inclusion.

If you have special needs members in your Group, every Leader should be doing their best to prepare themselves to support these people. Do not ignore them or tell prospective members that they won’t be taken into your Group!

The first point is that, Scouts NSW is a Inclusive organisation, we accept all who want to be members, and Scouts NSW encourages them to join our Groups without being singled out.

The second point is that, a youth member who has been in a Group for sometime, should expect they can advance in that Group, unless there is no section for them to advance to.

If you need clarification please email Erica.Dilworth@nsw.scouts.com.au or myself.

Tony Dent
DRC Adult Training & Development
tony.dent@nsw.scouts.com.au



The 2022 GWS Region Awards Presentation

Congratulations to the organisers, recipients and presenters, and thank you to our special guests and Chief Commissioner Mr Neville Tomkins, who has supported our Region over many years.

Photos courtesy of Adele Lockman and Brendan Richards.

To see more, please go to <https://greaterwestscouts.com.au/gallery/index.php?category/7>



APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

BARR, Scott	From Trainee Ldr (S) To ASL	1st Hazelbrook Scout Troop 1st Hazelbrook Scout Troop
DRUMMOND, Kerica	From Trainee Ldr (CS) To ACSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i> 1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>
FRY, Michael	From VSL To RL (Activities)	2nd Baulkham Hills Venturer Unit GWSR
HENDERSON, Leah	From Trainee Ldr (V) To AVSL	1st Grose Vale Venturer Unit (TBR) 1st Grose Vale Venturer Unit (TBR)
LIDLAW, Keiara	From Trainee Ldr (CS) To ACSL	2nd Kings Langley Cub Pack <i>Waminda</i> 2nd Kings Langley Cub Pack <i>Waminda</i>
LAWRENSON, Anthony	From ASL To SL-P	1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Scout Troop 1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Scout Troop
McLEAN, Andrew	From SL To ASL	1st Erskine Park Scout Troop 1st Erskine Park Scout Troop
McLEAN, Julie	From AVSL To VSL-P	1st Westmead Venturer Unit 1st Westmead Venturer Unit
PEARCE, Samantha	From Trainee Ldr (S) To SL-P	1st Erskine Park Scout Troop 1st Erskine Park Scout Troop
UPTON, Suzanne	From Trainee Ldr (V) To VSL-P	1st Grose Vale Venturer Unit (TBR) 1st Grose Vale Venturer Unit (TBR)
YE, Changfeng	From Trainee Ldr (CS) To ACSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i> 1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>
ZHANG, Ting	From Trainee Ldr (CS) To ACSL	1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i> 1st Carlingford Cub Pack <i>Alleena</i>

RESIGNATIONS

ANDERSON, Gregory	Fellowship Member	Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship
ARTPAIRIN, Dawn	Trainee Ldr (CS)	1st Balcombe Heights Cub Pack
BARNES, William	Trainee Ldr (Region)	GWSR
COX, Kelly	Fellowship Member	Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship
GANE, Philip	Fellowship Member	Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship
HOLDER, Stacia	Trainee Ldr (CS)	1st Glossodia Cub Pack
HYATT, Paula	Fellowship Member	Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship
HYATT, Roger	Fellowship Member	Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship
KWOK, Ka Lai	Trainee Ldr (CS)	1st Balcombe Heights Cub Pack
LOCKMAN, Michael	Fellowship Member	Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship
PARSONS, Jessica	AJSL	1st Dural Joey Mob
PERCEVAL, Justin	Fellowship Member	Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship
SMITH, Rose	Fellowship Member	Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship
WARDELL, Adam	Region Leader	GWSR

REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM



While I much prefer to share with you, what the team has been up to over the last month, I do need to try and throw a bit of light in regard to the Bushwalking Policy, which understandably, is causing a lot of grief at present to many. While I am probably not supposed to say it, “I do share your frustration!”

Bushwalking is probably the one Adventurous Activity that most Leaders will have some level of “skill/qualification” in.

Let’s start with the tracks themselves.

Hiking tracks are now graded under the Australian Walking Track Grading System (AWTGS) giving a grading from Grade 1 (Easy) through to Grade 5 (Difficult). This track grading is provided by either a landowner, (e.g. NPWS or organisations like Wild Walks etc.) One of the drawbacks of this system, as far as Scouting goes, is that it is based on the general public (non-experienced bushwalkers).

We have many Leaders within the Region who have a lot of bushwalking experience, and as such, what could be considered as a Grade 5 to a novice, may in fact be a Grade 3 to a more experienced hiker.

The below table provides you with how a track is rated (Novice level)

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
Distance	Up to 5km	Up to 10km	Up to 20km	N/A	N/A
Gradient	Flat	Gentle Hills Gradient less than 1:10	Short steep hills May exceed 1:10 (or 10% or 5.7 degrees) for short sections but generally no steeper than 1:10.	Very steep May have arduous climbs and steep sections. May include long steep sections exceeding 1:10	Very steep & difficult May have very arduous climbs and steep sections. May include long steep sections exceeding 1:10
Path Quality	Flat even surface suitable for wheelchair users with someone to assist.	Formed track with a compacted surface	Formed track, may have a rough surface, some obstacles	Rough track with many obstacles	Rough unformed tracked
Marking Quality	Obvious and regular track marking	Obvious and regular track markings	Obvious but spread-out track markings	Sparse and not obvious track markings	No track markings
Steps	No steps	Occasional steps	Many steps	N/A	N/A
Remote	Medical Assistance less than an hour away	Medical Assistance less than an hour away	Medical Assistance around an hour away	Medical Assistance more than an hour away	Medical Assistance more than an hour away

Under the AWTGS, most of the Great North Walk is now Grade 4 & 5, very much restricting what was always popular with Scouts for day & overnight hikes, particularly between Thornleigh and Brooklyn. (Over the years I have done countless hikes with Scouts in this area). It is a similar situation with many walks in the Blue Mountains.

So where do we go from here?

Let me start by reminding all of us that we have ‘a duty of care to our youth members’ in

Protecting their safety; Guiding their growth and development; Informing them and their guardian/s of risks.

Keeping the above very much in mind, if you have regularly taken youth members on hikes, whether day or overnight, and are looking at planning a trip, which you have previously done (or very similar to); complete all the required paperwork, including Risk Assessments etc. and send it through to myself.

I will then work with you, and if need be, seek the help of others, to ensure that all the required boxes have been ticked and that we are indeed showing a duty of care to our youth members; and then, satisfied that everything has been done, I will allow the activity to proceed.

I would also encourage all leaders, who do have a current qualification in Bushwalking, to seek out what you need to do to upgrade your qualifications. A good start to achieving this, is an activity log of hikes you have done over the last 3 years.

There is still a lot of change happening in this area, but it is my hope that a workable system will be put in place, recognising skills that many of us already have, and that ‘*common sense*’, and a ‘*sense of safety*’, will always prevail.

Mark Fell (Dingo)

Region Commissioner Activities

Deputy Chair – CGS Management Committee

Mark.Fell@nsw.scouts.com.au

JOEY FUN DAY 2022

Andy and Karl had left NSW for the school holidays, so it was up to me to run the Science base at the Joey Fun Day this year.

I knew that 1st South Penrith had a large paddock available, so I packed Water Rockets (if it was fine) and a box of science exploratory bits, if we had to be inside.

It had rained the week before, but Sunday 25th September was a fine sunny day, so I set up the water rocket launcher not far from the 'rocket fuel' tap on the Scout hall. Now all I had to do was survive the day!

My luck was high, as two South Penrith Venturers volunteered to run the base for me. They did an excellent job of involving the Joeys to fuel the rocket, attach it to the launcher and assisted with the pumping on the tyre pump as the pressure neared 200kPa.

Thanks guys, your effort allowed me to soak up some much needed Vitamin D, and also talk to Leaders who accompanied the Joeys about the Science Team, and how we could assist them to put on a science night at their hall.

John Leahy

GWS Science Activity Leader

john.scoutleahy@gmail.com



**MENTAL
HEALTH
FIRST AID**
Australia

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COURSE

November 12 & 13, 2022

**1st South Penrith Scout Hall
Glenbrook Street
Jamisontown**

Positions are limited to 16 people - Cost: \$150

This course is open to Rovers and Leaders.

BYO Lunch, Morning Tea & Cup.

For further information and to register, please go to

<https://events.nsw.scouts.com.au/event/723>



Saturday
17th September, 2022
2:00pm - 8:00pm

1st Murray Farm Joeys, Cubs, Scouts and Leaders helped their namesake last month by lending their hands and feet! Murray Farm Public School held its famous Cracker Carnival, on 17th September 2022, after it was last held in its 47th consecutive year on 1st June 2019. As Group Treasurer and Convener of the Cracker Carnival, I asked our Group for support and they were marvellous! I'd like to acknowledge:

Games Co-ordinator - Joey Leader Penguin (Mika Kaneko) So many obstacles were overcome to host the event, including cleaning and assessing the school's games that had provided fun for kids, whilst fundraising at the Carnival over many years – 12 in total! Penguin organised a working bee at the school with Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Leaders and Parents to get all the games ready a month prior to the event date. On Friday she co-ordinated their set-up and facilitated operation on the day, recruiting youth, leaders and parents to assist. This was her first year in this role, and she did a wonderful job!

Fishing Game – Scout Leaders Drop Bear (Helen Moore) and Artemis (Emily Henriksson) Organised our Scouts in shifts for this game throughout the Carnival, and spent the whole time there themselves – fantastic effort!!

Prizes for Games – Joey Scout Leader Lorikeet (Vicky Wang) This is Lorikeet's third year in the role, and she does a great job organising everything ahead of time and setting up on the day. She was also great support for Penguin to learn the ropes and is forever reliable with a friendly smile and kind words for all.

Event Photographer – Cub Scout Leader Panda (Brendan Yau) skilfully captured over 400 photos and culled it to 139 of the best – brilliant job. Again there for the event's duration, we look back on these and remember the great time had by all.

Our GL Magpie (Jenny Liles) and the many youth, leaders and parents who volunteered on the day – the success would not have been possible without you!

We are still working out final figures, but financially this will beat 2019 by a long way. The day itself was beyond our expectations for both attendance and revenue, \$126,326 was taken in that 6 hours of trading, up from \$80,000 in 2019!! Most astounding was that 566 volunteer shifts of 2-hour duration were filled across Friday, Saturday and Sunday to hold the event, this excludes the 25 committee members that were area co-ordinators who spent most of the 3 days there in full (myself included!). Massive community building with wonderful memories created is the real success here – thank you to 1st Murray Farm for your support this year and in the many past, and thanks to the Scouting movement for the scaffold of building valuable community partnerships.

Belinda Turco, Treasurer 1st Murray Farm



SCIENCE TEAM REPORT

The past month has seen the GWS Science Team out and about visiting Groups.

Ermington Venturers had a fun evening handcrafting small **Pyro Rockets** at their hall. This activity, is suitable for Venturers and Rovers and involved the assembly of the small skyrockets on the hall floor. The Science team supplied the paper casings, but some care was needed to pack them with the mixture! After a lot of tapping in the fuel with rods and hammers, everyone's rockets were ready for fuses and sticks.



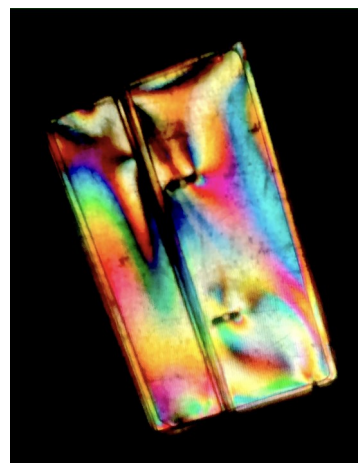
After a quick photo to commemorate the construction, we set off on foot to the local park which was going to act as our launch ground. With the launch tube in place and suitable protective goggles and gloves on each intrepid Venturer, they lit the fuse of their rocket with anticipation of a glorious flight. Not unlike a real experimental rocket program the results were mixed. Some flew up high into the sky with a trail of sparks showing the ascent in the dark night. A couple disintegrated on the pad, one launched and few ricocheted sideways off the grass! All in all, a great evening.

The Science team enjoys presenting to different sections on the same night, often with Cubs first followed by the Scouts. This was how our meeting with **2nd Baulkham Hills Scout Group** unfolded. We had planned an outdoors evening but as the rain bucketed down a nice cosy **Light Night** was in order. This very popular program is tailored to Cubs and Scouts and begins with an investigation of how we see, as we disassemble a large model eye. Following that the Cubs and Scouts are divided into groups and discover how light travels and interacts with objects.

A popular base is **phosphoric screen and flash**. It never ceases to amaze how creative our youth members can be when it comes to making shapes with their hands and then seeing the image frozen on the screen after the flash.

Other bases investigate **transmission of light** through various materials and objects. There is a startlingly simple demonstration of persistence of vision, using a small slide projector and a plastic tube. A **plasma ball** is also a highlight.

Another base has interactive demonstrations of **how lenses invert an image**. RGB colour mixing is demonstrated and a spectacular display of **refraction of light** through plastic objects using polarizing sheets. Beautiful, coloured patterns that are reminiscent of rainbows change as the polarizer is rotated.



The meetings are rounded out with games involving **defending a flame and strobe light ball throwing**.

We are taking bookings for Terms 1 & 2, 2023. If you would like us to visit your Group please email

john.scoutleahy@gmail.com or
andy.jenkinson@nsw.scouts.com.au

You can find information about some of our tried and tested meeting Programs here:

<https://www.greaterwestscouts.com.au/activities/radio-science-technology>

We are also looking for keen, science minded leaders to help us out. If what you have read sounds like Scouting fun why not get in touch?

Andy Jenkinson
GWS Science Team
andy.jenkinson@nsw.scouts.com.au

Cumberland Gang Show is now taking cast registrations for 2023. Next year's show, Ignite, will be amazing and we extend an invitation to all youth members to join in the fun. Cumberland Gang Show is 2 hours of fast paced, live theatre featuring the Scouts and Guides of Western Sydney singing, acting and dancing. We have been training young Scouts and Guides in the performing arts for over 50 years and we can't wait to do it all again next year. We will distribute audition flyers and posters to all Scout Groups over the next few weeks and kindly ask you to share the information with your youth members.



IGNITE!

CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW 2023



JOIN US ON STAGE

REGISTER ONLINE NOW @ GANGSHOW.ASN.AU



AUDITIONS
3rd DECEMBER 2022



If you've got a creative side just **bursting to shine**, **come and join the cast** of the **2023 Cumberland Gang Show!**

Cumberland Gang Show is a fun and rewarding training ground for theatre and performing arts in the Scout and Guide Associations. Cast members gain confidence, pride, teamwork and performance skills over the four months of rehearsals and through performing to 5,000 people across 8 shows in the July school holidays.

Our **Junior Cast** is a modified program for our youngest cast members that gives an exciting taste of theatre with a reduced rehearsal and performance schedule. They are split into two casts, 'Gilbert' & 'Sullivan'.

Cumberland Gang Show is open to all active members of Scouts Australia or Girl Guides Australia, 8 years or older by 1st January 2023. If you are not an active member, we can help you join!



register online now @ www.gangshow.asn.au

CAST AUDITIONS will be held on **Saturday 3rd December 2022** between 9am and 5pm.

The audition process takes around 1.5 hours.

Applications close Sunday 27th November 2022. For more info or late applications, please contact personnel@gangshow.asn.au or phone Wendy on 0414 086 645.



#cumberlandgangshow #cgs2023



 **Cumberland
Gang Show**



GWS Region is proudly supported by



Order online at

<https://www.gumnutpatisserie.com.au/>

Find out the latest news at

<https://www.facebook.com/gumnutpatisserie.com.au/>

Visit the store at

Mittagong

Cnr Cavendish &
Dalton Sts

Bowral

Shop 7, Grand
Arcade, Bong Bong St

Berrima

Shop 1, Post Office
Corner, Hume
Highway

"Life's Short, Eat Dessert First"

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 : Anne.Thompson@nsw.scouts.com.au