



**The Scout Association of Australia, NSW Branch
Greater Western Sydney Region**



Mr Ross Grove
Region President

Mrs Debbie Howlett
Region Chair

Mr David Stopps
Region Commissioner

Invite you to attend the

**76th Greater Western Sydney Region
Annual Report Presentation**

**Sunday 4th June, 2023
Commencing 2:30pm at Bundilla**

Dress: Full Scout Uniform (Members) or Smart Casual (Non Members)
Afternoon tea will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

Please RSVP by Friday 26th May 2023

gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

**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



ROBERT (BOB) GRINYER
July 1948 - 5th May 2023

In 1986, Bob was appointed as the Assistant Scout Leader with 3rd Merrylands Scout Group, before becoming the Scout Leader in 1991. Moving to 2nd Northmead Scout Group in 1995 Bob held the appointment of Assistant Scout Leader until 1996.

Bob continued his service to Scouting through District roles in Parramatta District from 1996 – 1997 before taking up a Region appointment as Regional Leader (Youth Program) from 1997-2003. Bob moved to Region Leader (Scouts) with Greater Western Sydney Region for a short time before committing long term as District Scout Leader with Holroyd District from December 2003 until October 2018.

From 2018 Bob was an Honorary Leader (District) with Holroyd District until his passing. He was also an Honorary Auditor for many Groups in the area.

In 1994 Bob attended the 17th Australian Jamboree. He was presented with 35 Years of Service in 2021 and acknowledged with a Silver Wattle in 2004.

His funeral service was held at St Stephen's Church, Merrylands, on May 12 and was also live streamed. In lieu of flowers, friends and colleagues were asked to consider a donation to Motor Neurone Disease NSW.

*Our deepest sympathy is extended to
Bob's wife, Sue
Children Kylie, Colin and Scott
Family and Friends.*



The Committee, Leaders, Parents and Youth of **1st Blackheath Scout Group** would like to acknowledge the many contributions of **Russell Brown (Rusty)** for over 20 years to our Group.

Russell is stepping down as Group Manager (the last one in NSW, we are told).

We thank him for his support, encouragement, mentorship and grant-writing prowess.

Our Group truly would not be where it is today without Russell.

GroupBuild Session for Group Leaders

Sunday 4th June 11:30am

Bundilla Scout Camp

Come along and find out about initiatives to help build sections, attract youth and leaders and build a sustainable group.

Open to all Group Leaders, Leaders in Charge, Rover Unit Chairs, Fellowship Chairs, District Team & Region Team.

Lunch included between Session and ARP

Register now

<https://events.nsw.scouts.com.au/event/1016>

Registration closes on Friday May 26, 2023

REGION COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Over the past month, we have continued to see many examples of young people being empowered through the Scouting program. Our dedicated volunteers have been working hard to provide high-quality experiences that develop skills, foster leadership, and encourage a lifelong love of learning and exploration.

It's always wonderful to see Scouts participating in their local **ANZAC Day** Dawn Services and marches - paying their respects to those who have served and sacrificed for our country. This is a tradition that is deeply ingrained in Australian culture, and it's wonderful to see our young people across the Region carrying on this tradition with such enthusiasm and reverence.

I have attended several **Annual Report Presentations** around the Region this month - it has been great to see groups showcasing all the amazing things they have been up to over the last year. It is also an appropriate time to reflect on the hard work put in by our Group committees. At 1st Westmead, I was honoured to present Juliet Rowe, Assistant Scout Leader, with her Gilwell Scarf & Wood Badge. Bravo!

The **Youth Program Refresher Workshop** at Bundilla was very informative. Huge thanks to Jeff Hook for facilitating and Wendy Dimmock for preparing a nice afternoon tea for the 16 participants.

Scouts NSW are in the process of rolling out **ScoutHub**, our new membership system. We are excited about the potential of this new system to enhance the Scouting experience for both new members, existing members and our volunteers. Thanks to our early adopters, champions and groups for attending training to help prepare your groups for this changeover. More information will be sent out from Scouts NSW in early June to all leaders, supporters and youth members/parents ahead of Trek 2 starting on 1st of July 'Hub Day'. If you have any questions or feedback, please ensure you send it to scouthub@nsw.scouts.com.au

Congratulations to **Kings Langley Rovers** for running a successful Formal Regressive Macca's Dinner to help raise important funds for Ronald McDonald House. Several crew members should also be thanked for assisting the Region with an important clean-up project at Wentworthville Scout Hall.

We are now more than half way through rehearsals for this year's **Cumberland Gang Show**, Ignite! - it is going to be a cracker of a show. It would be wonderful to see you and your groups come along to support our

135 Scouts and Guides performing on stage at Riverside Theatres, Parramatta in the July school holidays. Book tickets at www.tickets.gangshow.asn.au

A reminder that on Sunday 4th June at Bundilla, we have our **Group Build** session at 11.30am, and our **Region Annual Report Presentation** at 2.30pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

I would like to sincerely thank Steve, Mel, Tony and Mark for all their advice and support over the last month while I filled in for Dave. I am very thankful for the opportunity and am lucky to have such a strong and supportive Region team.

Matt Thompson
Acting Region Commissioner
matt.thompson@nsw.scouts.com.au



GWSR SCIENCE TEAM

The Science Team visited 1st Hazelbrook Joeys, Cubs and Scouts this month and rolled out an innovative cross section program encompassing two of our popular themes. The meeting started with Joeys and the Glow Germs program and ended with Scouts exploring Friction.

Many groups have enjoyed the Glow Germs program which was inspired during the COVID pandemic, but as germs and bacteria are always with us an exploration of hand washing is always a good idea with Joeys and Cubs.

The Joeys embraced a rubbery and somewhat comical toy germ as they willingly infected each other with invisible powder which magically glows when ultraviolet light is shined on it - lo and behold the invisible germs are visible!

Then on to trying to wash it off. We try water, and water with soap but with these Joeys, and a few minutes later Cubs, they took multiple attempts to rid their hands of the glowing germs.



When the Joeys had finally cleansed themselves, they moved to another base to make some slime. The Cubs took over from them and they were also soon infected with the glow germs and tried to wash them off. Wondering which section did the best job of hand washing? Why not invite us to experiment on your Joeys and Cubs?

Scouts were spared the germs. It is scientifically proven, that attempting to clean Scouts is a challenge not easily conquered, so the Scouts explored friction! Dragging each other around the hall on progressively less labour-intensive devices, plain wooden board, sled with runners, sled with wheels and then Cubs and Scouts enjoyed riding the low friction hovercraft. This has proven to be a favourite for many meetings.



The Hazelbrook night ended with the Scouts attempting to provide some Egyptian style reduced friction locomotion using broomsticks and the wooden sled. They were challenged with teamwork and coordination as they tried to move a Scout, perched on the sled the length of the hall using the broomsticks as rollers under the board. Sounds easy... it isn't.

Remember your Science Team during your next programming meeting.

If you would like the science team to visit your Group you can contact us here
john.scoutleahy@gmail.com or
andy.jenkinson@nsw.scouts.com.au

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



2ND CASTLE HILL SCOUTS

Inaugural

MINI FETE

EVERYONE WELCOME !

LEGO Display & Competition

Origami Class

Origami Craft Stall

Sausage Sizzles

Drinks

Lolly Guessing Competition

Lolly & Sweet Stall

Plant Stall

Cookbook

and many more!

SATURDAY 20 MAY 2023

10AM TO 4PM

2 ROWALLAN AVE, CASTLE HILL



GWS REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM



Any Adventurous Activity we do does require a bit of planning! Have we got the right gear; how much food do we need; are our maps all good; have we done all the right paperwork (that's an adventurous activity in itself), and have we let the appropriate people know!

It is all part of the planning process!

Some of us can do it all just about with our eyes closed, but to me, that is really only part of the story. It is when our highly organised plans don't go to plan, as such!

It is when something comes up, while out in the field, that is going to mean a significant change to our plans. An unexpected weather event; a significant injury or illness (maybe drinking that creek water was not such a good idea)! It is in these situations, and in how we respond to the situation at hand, which shows a real maturity in planning.



A recently planned Venturer hike in the Mountains, is a great example. One of the participants became quite ill, meaning changes to the initial plans, to deal with the situation at hand. Did those Venturers "fail" because they had not met that particular hike criteria? In my eyes not at all. A situation arose, and they had to deal with it. The end result was everyone arrived back safely, including the one who was sick.

I have seen this happen on a number of occasions, and sometimes youth members seem to handle these situations better than us adults!

I did an overnight hike a few years ago, planning to attend the ANZAC Day Service at Splendor Rock. Track conditions were particularly challenging, meaning we could not reach our planned destination, and had to find a clearing where we could set up camp for the night. Early the next morning we were woken to the sound of a bugle playing the Last Post, from across the valley. Yes, a change in our plans, but with the end result being really quite special!

While on planning, I had a recent meeting at Cataract Scout Camp, in readiness for our up and coming Region Jamborette. I am pleased to say all the Adventurous Activity bases will be happening as per normal! I was getting a little nervous that with all the new changes happening, we would be greatly restricted to what we could actually run (Tiddly-Winks does get a bit boring after a while)! It was certainly encouraging, and in many ways a real compliment to the Activities Team that we can basically run everything as we have always done, with safety as our number one priority!

There have been a few changes and improvements happening at Cataract since our last Jamborette, but you will just have to wait and see...!

Look forward to catching up at the Jamborette. ...providing all our plans go well!

Mark Fell (Dingo)

RC Activities

Stage Manager – Cumberland Gang Show

Deputy Chair – CGS Management Committee

Mark.Fell@nsw.scouts.com.au

BUSHWALKING YOUTH SUPPORT

On Friday 14th April, we met at Carlons to resume remote area bushwalking after nearly 3 years of environmental impacts! I am inspired by the initiative and motivation of the Scouts and Venturers who lead and navigated their way to the summit of Cattle Dog Ridge.

Despite bushfire overgrowth which impeded access to Knights Deck, the journey was a highlight of the year and shows that the spirit of the pioneer bushwalkers continues even today. Thank you for the opportunity to be involved. Thank you to Frank Barr and participant families for supporting us with transport.

July School Holidays

Following the reopening of the Mount Solitary route on Thursday 27th April, we have relocated our July bushwalks from Grose to Jamison/Kedumba - the first week of the school holidays.

Sunday 2nd July & Monday 3rd July: Practice overnight Katoomba Golf Club to Ruined Castle campsite and return

Tuesday 4th July: Rest day at home

Wednesday 5th, Thursday 6th & Friday 7th July: Practice three day Katoomba Golf Club, Katoomba to Hordern Road, Wentworth Falls via Ruined Castle campsite, Mount Solitary and Kedumba crossing.

Capacity of 16 on each. Option to join for one hike or both.

Guide will be Tristan Flores Cert IV in Outdoor Leadership

For full details and registration go to <https://events.nsw.scouts.com.au/event/1028>

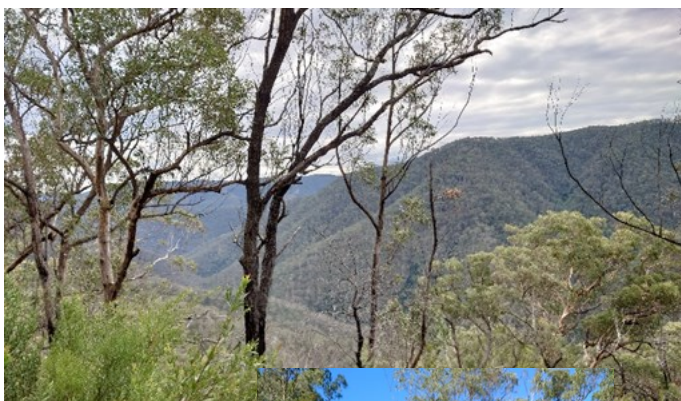
Registration closes on Friday, June 30, 2023

Tristan Flores

Regional Leader Bushwalking

Tristan.flores@nsw.scouts.com.au

The following photos contain landscapes impacted by bushfires, floods and sustained rainfall. Bushwalkers intending to access these areas should be prepared for increased difficulty, obstacles and significant overgrowth. Allow additional time and prepare for delays. Always refer to NPWS alert page before departure.



CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW

This year's show is going to be amazing. Our 135 cast members are all Scouts or Guides from Western Sydney and invite you to join them as they **IGNITE** the stage!

136 Scouts and Guides who are working hard to learn and perfect the songs, skits and dances in this year's show.

Ignite is a revue style show which means that every couple of minutes the scene changes and something new appears. Ignite is full of amazing dance routines, brilliant singing and hilarious comedy.

Our show performs annually in the July school holidays at the Riverside Theatre, Parramatta. This year you will see a wonderful mix of new material (written by our local team) and commercial songs, along with some Gang Show favourites. We invite all units, youth members, leaders and families to come along to this year's show and support the cast. Many units have youth members in the show and they particularly look forward to the support of their fellow unit members.

PERFORMANCE DATES

Wednesday 5th July 2023 at 7:30pm

Thursday 6th July 2023 at 11am

Friday 7th July 2023 at 7:30pm

Saturday 8th July at 2:30pm

Saturday 8th July 2023 at 7:30pm

(*including special backstage presentation - stay tuned for more details)

Sunday 9th July 2023 at 2:30pm

Free Gift for Youth Members:

All uniformed youth members attending a Cumberland Gang Show performance with their units will be eligible to receive a FREE gift! Register your unit and number of youth members attending by June 19th. Head to <https://gangshow.asn.au/performances/scout-guide-youth-offers> for more information

Get your tickets:

Organise your unit outing and secure your tickets through the Riverside Theatre:

Website: <https://riversideparramatta.com.au>

Phone: (02) 8839 3399

Email: boxoffice_riverside@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au



The Gang are busy rehearsing!

Assorted happenings in GWSR



ANZAC Day - 1st Blaxland Scout Group



Brendan Richards recently visited the headquarters of New Caledonia's Scouts and Guides.



1st/2nd Merrylands & 1st Greystanes @ Club Merrylands on ANZAC Day



Another successful Formal Regressive Macca's Dinner organised by Kings Langley Rovers



ANZAC Day - 2nd Castle Hill Scout Group



Brian Zarth, Ken Barnes & Christine McGrath at ScoutHub training.



Wood Badge Presentation for Juliet Rowe ASL 1st Westmead

2nd Castle Hill Joey Scouts

Our Joey Scouts have been kept very busy over the past year with outings, adventurous activities and special events, including outings to Fred Caterson Reserve, Heritage Park, the Opera House, the War Memorial and the Australian Museum ; bike and scooter riding at Crestwood Reserve; a Group Camp at Heathcote and ANZAC Day Family celebrations.

The Joey Scouts also enjoyed some adventurous nights including; swimming, cooking and campfire, indoor climbing at Peak Pursuits. Other night themes included, Care and Share, Promise & Law, Environment, STEM/Science experiments and combined meetings with the Cub Scout and Scout Units.

Carol Cope, L.I.C & Assistant Joey Scout Leader
Cindy Lu, Joey Scout Leader



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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.

Submissions are to be made by the **10th of each month** and may be edited for clarity or to fit available print space.

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

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

