



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 517 - July 2023



Flying high at the Jamborette!

GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

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PEAK AWARDS

BP AWARD

Warren Davey

1st Cambridge Park

AUSTRALIAN SCOUT AWARD

Sullivan Harris

2nd Baulkham Hills

GREY WOLF AWARD

Tiffany Gale

1st Toongabbie

Ella Wilkinson

1st Blaxland

Alana Kokay

1st Winston Hills

JOEY SCOUT CHALLENGE AWARD


Charlotte Harwood

1st Cambridge Park

Oliver Wicks

1st/2nd Merrylands

Congratulations to all our Awardees



REGION COMMISSIONER

Hi Everyone

I hope you have enjoyed the break that the July school holidays have provided us and are now ready for some exciting times over the next six months of Scouting!

Of course, before the holidays, there were some amazing activities happening, as well as Brett and his Team delivering the 44th GWS Region Jamborette at Cataract. I managed to make it out for a visit on the Saturday and once again was amazed by the variety of activities on offer from Venturers, Rovers, Leaders and Helpers. This year, the team tried a few new things and Brett has assured me that there will be a substantive review to ensure that we continue to develop and grow Jamborette for future years.

During the holidays, the Cumberland Gang Show took to the stage for its 2023 Season—Ignite! This talented group of actors, singers and dancers and performers once again provided a bumper two hours of entertainment, and the entire cast and crew should be praised for the energy, passion and commitment that they pour into the show. I know I certainly enjoyed it and have had nothing but great comments from other theatre goers as well

As the next term comes in, the focus of many sections turns towards the Cuboree, to be held at Cataract in October. This event will take up much of the Cub Scout section's time over the coming months, as those critical final plans are put in place; shakedown camps occur and then five days exploring the world, ably supported by a cast of Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Leaders who will make this an amazing event.

Also on offer, is the unique experience for camping at Government House in Canberra. This national event is for Scouts and above, to camp on the grounds of Government House and explore Canberra. Applications close at the end of this month, so for more information, visit <https://scouts.com.au/event/ggcamp2023/>

By the time that our next Bulletin comes out, we will have been told who the recipients of the 2023 Adult Recognition Awards are. My congratulations go to each of the Awardees who will find out by mail, very soon.

Finally, I need to inform everyone that Brian Nelson, our Region Commissioner (Venturer Scouts), has made the decision to step down from his role, effective as of the end of Term 2. I would like to thank Brian for his leadership of the section over the past six years, it has certainly kept Venturers Strong and Active - to the point I can never keep up with what they are doing! Brian will

still be a member of the Region and we will be advertising his role shortly. In the meantime, Damon Love has agreed to step up as Acting RC (Venturer Scouts) for the duration.

Until next month

Dave

David Stopps JP
Region Commissioner

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Mobile: 0472 688 766 (04SCOUTS66)



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Assistant District Region Commissioners

Dynamic and inspiring leaders are needed for the voluntary role of Assistant District Commissioner across all Districts within the Greater Western Sydney Region.

Success in this role will be dependent on the Assistant District Commissioner working closely with the District Commissioner, Region Commissioner, Deputy Region Commissioners and other members of the Region team in the delivery of the Scout program; the provision of a safe environment for all members and the continued growth of the organisation across the Region.

If you are a youthful, energetic, self-starter who can lead a team of like-minded individuals, has excellent organisational skills, and a strong passion to help deliver Scouting, then we want to hear from you!

Applicants from all age ranges, backgrounds and experience are encouraged to apply.

Applications must include:

- A current resume, including details of professional and relevant Scouting experience.
- A statement (Essay or Bullet Point) addressing the Key Selection criteria and Skills & Personal Attributes (max 1000 words).

Applications close 10th August 2023
and interviews will take place in September.

For a position description, including Key Selection Criteria, please email

Steve Wallace
Deputy Region Commissioner – Operations
steve.wallace@nsw.scouts.com.au

Hi Everyone,

A Range of Topics this Month...

ScoutHub

ScoutHub is well and truly now live! A huge thanks to everyone who has worked within the Region to ensure that groups are setup and ready to take registrations. The system is now live and we can see the benefits that this will bring.

It is important to note, that from this point forward, if a member is not registered in ScoutHub then they are not registered.

All youth, leaders, adult members, Rovers, and adult helpers must be registered in ScoutHub before attending their first activity or meeting.

Remember that if a new youth member (under the age of 18) wishes to join your Group, they can register at your group website. All members over the age of 18 must register from <https://www.scoutsnsw.com.au/registration> where their WWCC and Police Checks can be conducted before they are added to your group.

2023 ARPs & Paperwork

There are several groups who have not met their 2023 ARP Commitments. There is a mandate to hold these in April each year, and for items to be outstanding is not acceptable, as it places the entire organisation in jeopardy, including our ability to fundraise.

Accordingly, with the support of the Region Executive, I have directed the Region Office to not honour any requests for Fundraising Certificates or Hall Hire Licences for these groups. If groups do not resolve outstanding issues by the 1st July, I will be looking to take further action. It is unfair to those groups who have done the right thing to be penalised by those that have not.

Stocktake

Part of the Annual Processes we need to do, is to provide a list of equipment and approximate replacement value. Why wait until next year and then rush to get this done? You can do a stocktake at any time of year, and provided you keep a good record of what you have and the replacement cost, then it should be easy to pump it out come March.

Mandatory Online Training

As part of our ongoing measures to ensure that we are making sure we provide a safe and protective

environment for our youth members, it has now been called out that all members of the organisation, over the age of 18 need to complete the mandatory modules Child Safe Scouting and WHS for Scouting. This includes Adult Helpers, Committee Members, Rovers, Leaders, and Fellowship Members. **These modules must be completed by the 18th August 2023.**

Expression of Interest: Assistant District Commissioners

Finally, you will see elsewhere in the Bulletin, I have put out an Expression of Interest for Assistant District Commissioners. If you feel you can provide something to the team – please reach out to discuss it with me. I encourage anyone, who has ever thought about making a difference or “stepping up”, to apply; while experience can be an advantage, we are also looking for some new youthful, energetic people to help continue to build up GWS Region.

That is it from me for this month, as always I am here to help – so please reach out.

Steve

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



WORLD SCOUT SCARF DAY

1ST August 2023

World Scout Day is an opportunity for past and present Scouts and supporters of Scouts to wear their Scout scarf in celebration and recognition of their involvement in the largest youth organisation in the world.

This day is aligned with the first day of the first Scout camp in 1907 on Brownsea Island, England.



Robert Baden Powell with future scouts.

SCOUT REPORT

Jamborette is done and dusted for another year and what a great weekend it was! I had been a little apprehensive that we were due for a wet one but my fears were misguided. A huge thank you to all the leaders, Ventures, Rovers and helpers that worked tirelessly over the weekend to deliver a great Jamborette. Last but not least thank you Scouts for making the most of your Jamborette!

The **Jamborette Gateway** competition was once again hotly contested. Congratulations to the winners.

The Themed Gateway 1st Hawkesbury

Traditional Gateway 1st Kellyville

Scouts' Choice 1st Dural

The VIKEA Base was voted Best Activity

During the Jamborette we held our Region Scout Youth Council. I would like to introduce your **GWSR SYC Executive for 2023-2024**

Chairperson: Ethan Bertie - 1st North Rocks

Assistant Chairperson: Amelia Morgan - 1st Castle Hill
Secretary: Abbegayle Rye - 1st Cambridge Park

The first duty of our newly elected SYC was to select a theme for Jamborette 2024. Our theme is: **"Greatest Hits of the 20th Century"**. I am sure there will be lots of fun to be had with this theme.

For the first week of the July school holidays I had the pleasure of once again, attending Cumberland Gang Show. What a performance! Ignite was a great show. The cast and all the backstage support did a fantastic job. A special shout out to all the Scout section cast.

For the second week of the holidays I was off to Jindabyne to the Alpine Activity Centre for the NSW State Alpine School with ten other GWS participants. The first two days were spent on the Perisher Nordic trails polishing up our skiing skills and then we were off for a three-day/two-night expedition.

We skied or snow shod out to the Paralyser Valley and set up camp for two nights. It was a fantastic week and there was ample opportunity to progress through the alpine outdoor adventure skills and for the older

participants to gain alpine qualifications. It was a fantastic week and I would encourage anyone with an interest in alpine activities to come along next year.

Jamboree on the Air and Internet JOTA/JOTI is coming up in October (20th-22nd). This year we will be combining with Hume Region to run a camp at Glenfield Activity Centre for Scouts and above. Come along for a weekend of fun and Hi Tech! The activity will be opening soon on Scout event.

This wraps up what has been a very busy and productive couple of months of Scouting. **State Rally** is almost here and I am looking forward to reporting on what I am sure will be a great event next month.



Brett Nicholas
Region Commissioner Scouts
Brett.nicholas@nsw.scouts.com.au



VENTURER REPORT

I would like to congratulate **Lachlan Chen** from 1st Castle Hill, **Kieren Bragg** from 1st Ermington and **Thomas Hinchcliffe** and **Max Coundrelis** from 1st North Rocks, on achieving their Queen's Scout Award.

No, that isn't a typo - the **Queen's Scout Award** is back. This is an interim move until Royal assent has been given for the King's Scout Award. So for now all Venturer Scout Peak Awardees have been recorded as Queen's Scout Awardees. Thanks to all awardees for their patience.

July school holidays means only one thing - Gang Show. We have a number of Venturers who perform in either the Cumberland Gang Show or Hornsby Gang Show. By now, the seasons are over and I know both shows went very well. Congratulations to all.

Planning is complete for this year's **Endurance: Leadership & Survival** activity being held for Venturers in the Blue Mountains National Park on **18-20 August**. **Registrations** are open and will **close Saturday 5th August**. The activity is built on the Venturer Initiative Course, and is placed to function as a Personal Development and Leadership Activity. Details can be found on the Event Management System.

We will be holding a **Youth Council** meeting early in Term 3 - stay tuned for information on the meeting.

Finally, many of you will know that after five years, I have decided to retire from the RC Venturer Scouts role. Damon Love has agreed to act in the role until the end of the year.

I want to thank my team - Matt Vella, Erica Dilworth, Andrew Cross, Damon Love and our youth representatives, Breanna Fisher-Dietsch and Mikayla Mercieca for their help and support. I will continue in Scouting with the Waratah Fellowship and as an Activity Leader, so I look forward to seeing you in the future.

All the best.

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



GG's CAMP 2023

September 24 – September 29, 2023

A once in a lifetime opportunity to camp with our Chief Scout at Government House Canberra!

Experience the thrill of a lifetime at GG's Camp 2023, to be held at the magnificent Government House, nestled in the heart of Canberra.

GG's Camp 2023 will see one of the first major events fully aligned to the new program. Activities are based around Challenge Areas, Outdoor Adventure Skills and Special Interest Areas. Participates, Assists and Leads will be built in and Scouts will have the opportunity to Plan> Do> Review> their experience as a whole, as well as each activity. Every element of the program will be adventurous, challenging, inclusive and fun!

Scouts will be encouraged to jump in as they tackle six days of incredible activities. The Camp program incorporates a mix of onsite, offsite and evening activities with something on offer for everyone.

Embark on an action-packed program where adventure knows no bounds. From high ropes courses to canoeing on picturesque Lake Burley Griffin, the opportunities for adrenaline-pumping activities are endless.

Immerse yourself in team-building activities and forge lifelong friendships with fellow Scouts from all over the country. With the added bonus of exploring the rich history and culture of Government House, this camp promises unforgettable memories and an adventure like no other.

All participants from Scouts to Rover Scouts will camp together in Units, supported by adult Leaders. Units will camp together, eat together, and support wellbeing together. Joey Scouts and Cub Scouts will join for One Program Day, September 27, to experience the adventure together.

For full details or to register, go to

<https://scouts.com.au/event/ggcamp2023/>

Applications will close on July 30, 2023.

Science at Jamborette 2023

Plastic Recycling was our main theme at the new location in the Commonwealth Building.

Karl had the Scouts sorting the identifiable plastic waste into bins by their Recycling Number. He then showed a plastic shredder and plastic extruder making 1.75mm diameter filament for a 3D printer. Karl also had his latest continuous belt 3D printer, turning out Minecraft woggles for the Scouts.

In the case of unidentified plastic types, I showed plastic sorting by flotation in clear liquids. I chose four plastics with non overlapping density ranges and put them in Water (density =1).

- Polystyrene and Polypropylene floated while Poly Carbonate and PET sank.
- The *floaters* were put in a water diluted Methylated Spirits solution (density 0.8) where Polypropylene (PP 5) floated and Polystyrene (PS 6) sank.
- The *sinkers* were put in Glycerine (density 1.3) where Polycarbonate (PC 7) floated and PET (1) sank.

This base also demonstrated making things Invisible by putting them in liquids of the same Refractive Index as the objects. In this case *Water Beads in Water* and a *Glass Beaker in Peanut Oil*.

Andy ran a base where recycled containers played games:

- a sand filled *PET bottle Pendulum* made patterns of overlapping sand ellipses
- a *Soda can stacking challenge* (the best was 9), complicated by a balance stick on the top can.



For those Scouts who just couldn't get enough Science, I demonstrated some LASER objects at the dark end of the hall:

- Blue clouds and green laser hologram star pattern, Disco projector.
- Home made circular pattern generator from laser pointer and rotating mirrors.
- A glass, red Helium/Neon gas LASER tube.
- A laser projector that scanned an image of a keyboard onto the table and allowed you to type into a tablet.
- A laser game for two players involving 45° reflective and half silvered beam splitters with the object of arranging the mirrors to hit and remove your opponent's piece when the laser button was pressed. But be careful: If your own piece was hit by mistake, that was removed as well !



We had a Venturer Helper on the weekend who ably organised the Scouts and marked their base cards.

A few Scouts found us on Saturday, and a steady stream on Sunday and Monday. I put that down to the change in location, and the fact that we weren't labelled as 'Science Base' on the site map.

**For an interesting but different night,
book the Science Team.**

Time tested (18 years) and proven programs.

Email:

Andy Jenkinson: Andy.Jenkinson@nsw.scouts.com.au
or John Leahy: john.scoutleahy@gmail.com

John Leahy

Science Activity Leader

john.scoutleahy@gmail.com



GWS REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM

There is one Scouting activity that would just not be right if it was not COLD!
Of course I am talking about the **Region Jamborette** over the June long weekend at Cataract.

What a great weekend! It is the one event of the year where every activity run by the Region Activities Team is in action, except water activities. Bit chilly for that!

This year was particularly special. Most of my Team Leaders didn't do a lot, and as for me, well I did even less! Might have clocked up a few K's on the bike, but that was about it!

No, I am not losing it, and neither are my Activity Team Leaders. Did you notice, that basically all the adventurous activities were being run by the Rovers. This is the new generation of the Activities Team. Most of them have come through Scouts and Venturers; all have high levels of skill and experience in Outdoor Activities; and best of all they all share that same passion to get out and do stuff! I would like to acknowledge all those who helped out over the weekend. You all did a fantastic job!

The only scary thing for me, apart from going down the fox in the complete dark on the Saturday night, was, that most of the Rovers were not even born when I attended my first Jamborette, up at Bents Basin, as a slightly younger Scout Leader!

Once the Jamborette is over I normally have a bit of a break for a few weeks from the "outdoor stuff," and spend a bit of time with some "indoor stuff"! More appropriately known as Cumberland Gang Show.

It certainly "IGNITED" the stage down at Parramatta Riverside, with another spectacular season!

Mark Fell (Dingo)
RC Activities
Stage Manager Cumberland Gang Show
Deputy Chair CGS Management Committee
Mark.Fell@nsw.scouts.com.au



2023 CAMPFIRE SWAP BADGE

A great way to commemorate your annual winter campfire event!

8cm x 8cm embroidered badge
(not to be worn on the uniform)

\$2.50 each

Available from Scout Shop

<https://scoutshop.com.au/>



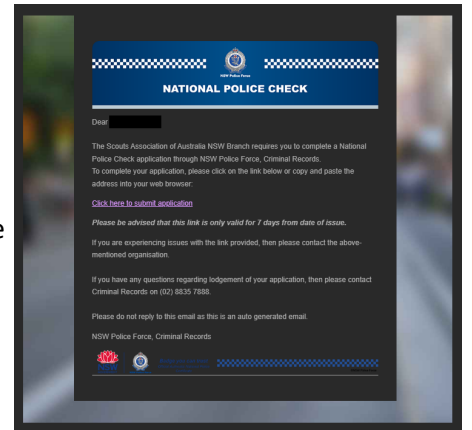
Photos courtesy of Mark Fell





Spotlight On...

National Police Checks



A number of leaders have been in contact recently about an email they have received that looks potentially like a Spam or Phishing attack. This email has come from the address NSW Police Force Community Portal <no-reply@police.nsw.gov.au> and has the subject of application for National Police Check. It looks similar to the pictured image.

What is This?

This is a request from Scouts NSW via the NSW Police Force (NSWPF) to conduct a National Police Check on you as a leader or adult member of the organisation. A check is done when you first join and then usually every 3 years or when you attend a major event.

Is This Important?

YES! A National Police check at regular intervals is part of your agreement as a member of the organisation. If you do not complete the form within 7 days (NSWPF rules, not ours) then the link will expire. If you don't complete the check, your membership may be suspended or terminated.

I've Never Had One Like This In The Past

In 2022, the NSW Police Force changed how it managed Police Checks. Prior to this, Scouts NSW would submit a list to NSWPF and they would carry out the checks in the background. Today NSWPF ask you to log in and confirm your details as part of the check.

What Do I Need To Do?

Click on the Link in the email and complete the required details. When you submit the form, it will send the information to the NSWPF to conduct the check.

I've Done That, But Haven't Heard Anything Back

That's a good thing - it means that your check returned "No Disclosable Outcomes" or in general speak, nothing to worry about. If there was something on your check that we were concerned about, a senior member of Scouts NSW would contact you to discuss the issue.

How Can I Confirm This is Not A Phishing Exercise?

There are a couple of things you can check to make sure the e-mail is legitimate. First off, look at the address the e-mail came from. NSWPF emails will always come from no-reply@police.nsw.gov.au. When you hover over the link, it will always contain the address portal.police.nsw.gov.au (This may be surrounded by a number or random characters as it is passed through Scouts NSW Mimecast Link Protection). Also be on the lookout for any spelling errors or badly formed English. A Legitimate check will always look similar to the image above.

If I am In Doubt?

Drop an e-mail to memberservices@nsw.scouts.com.au and they will be able to advise if they have requested a check on your behalf.



Scouts
AUSTRALIA

1st Murray Farm 50th Anniversary

Sunday 23rd of July, 2023

2:00pm-4:00pm

11 Haines Avenue Carlingford 2118

Come meet our Joeys, Cubs & Scouts!
Participate in fun activities and enjoy
reflecting on our history with the
memorabilia on display.

Gold Coin Donation for Afternoon Tea

All Welcome, we'd love to see you!

For more information please contact
belinda.turco@nsw.scouts.com.au



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.

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

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