



# The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 475 – May 2019



CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW  
PROUDLY PRESENTS



## TOGETHER

RIVERSIDE THEATRES, PARAMATTA

12<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019

### PERFORMANCES

#### GILBERT CAST

FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 7:30PM  
SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2:00PM  
FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY 7:30PM  
SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2:00PM

#### SULLIVAN CAST

SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2:00PM  
SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 7:30PM  
WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JULY 11:00AM  
SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 7:30PM

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW.

A SPECTACULAR NEW STAGE SHOW BY THE SCOUTS AND GUIDES OF WESTERN SYDNEY, WITH A SPECIAL APPEARANCE FROM OUR LEGENDS OF OLD.

THE PERFECT FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT FULL OF SINGING, DANCING AND COMEDY.

#CUMBERLANDGANGSHOW    

GANG SHOW TICKET SELLER

### BOOK TICKETS

02 8839 3399 

IN PERSON AT THE THEATRE 

RIVERSIDEPARAMATTA.COM.AU 



GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153

BUSINESS HOURS: TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY 9AM to 3.30PM

Phone: 9639 2488 Email: gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

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## FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

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“You can’t understand someone until you’ve walked a mile in their shoes.” Unknown

It has been an interesting month, standing in for the Region Commissioner, with David and Tracey taking a well-earned break. I’ve had a real opportunity to get a closer look at the great work our Region is doing. With a number of new Joeys mobs in formation and also the possibility of the opening some new Venturer units, it’s great to see the start of a reversing trend and one we are keen to foster. Of course, these new sections need to grow to remain viable and this is the focus for these Groups this year. Good luck to them and remember that support is available from your District and Region leadership.

Over the coming months, we have a number of things on the calendar. We have our Annual Report Presentation set for 2nd June 2019 at 2.30pm at Bundilla, which is a great opportunity for the Region to acknowledge the progress we’ve made and to present the Alan Overton Award. This award is presented to an adult member who has given service to Scouting over and above what would normally be expected.

While we are on the topic of ARPs, it has been great to see these presentations being held across our Region. There are still some ARPs to be held and I’m looking forward to us finalising these very soon.

We also have Cumberland Gang Show’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary season in the July School holidays. Whilst always a great show, this year is shaping up to be a particularly special show. A great activity out.

One thing that does tend to take a lot of time is the chasing up of fees. We have spent a lot of time and energy chasing overdue fees in recent month. I ask our Groups to ensure that membership and asset management fees are paid promptly. The need for the team to chase money up from Groups takes time away from the reason we are here, and I’d rather focus on getting out to more activities, rather than chasing up money. I would ask that you focus on collecting fees promptly from your members and pay them promptly.

Finally, I would like to say thanks to the team for their support over this month. GWS Region has a lot of opportunities ahead, and without the strength of a great team, one person can’t do it alone. Having said that, I can’t wait until David gets back!

**Geoff Henderson**  
**Deputy Commissioner - Strategy & Development**  
Email: [strategy@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:strategy@greaterwestscouts.com.au)



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## CUB SCOUT REPORT

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### YOUTH HELPERS COURSE

On Saturday 18th May, we held a Youth Helpers course at Bundilla Scout Camp with 14 youth members participating. The day was jam packed with a mixture of fun and games together with instruction and learning. The feedback received in our review session was positive. Thanks to the team that assisted me on the day; including Damon Love - Region Leader Venturers, Ian Lutz – Assistant Cub Scout Leader and Jeff Hook - National Training Assessor. A lot of fun was had by all!

### REGION PALAVER

The Region Palaver ‘**Cub Scouts Outdoor Adventure**’ is being held on 1st June 2019, with applications closing on May 19. The Region Palaver is an informal and fun information and training day open to all Cub Leaders, Trainee Leaders and Youth Helpers. This year we plan to have guest speakers to discuss topics such as the new Youth Program and the Adventure Begins; tips on how to use the Region event registration system and CareMonkey; help and advice with basic training and advanced training (Wood Badge) and a presentation on Cuboree 2020. This is a chance to learn new skills or to polish up on old ones, share information, tools and resources and to meet up with old friends or to make new ones.

**Register now to join us on the day at**

<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/228>

### PROGRAM IDEAS AND CUB BADGES FOR SALE

#### NEW LOGO - CUB SCOUT WOGGLES (\$3 EACH)

These new logo Cub Scout woggles are available to every Cub Scout and Cub Leader across Australia. Orders are to be placed by the Cub Scout Leader through your District Cub Leader to the RC Cub Scouts. Get your order in now while stock lasts.



#### STATE CAMPFIRE BADGE (\$2 EACH)

Cub Packs can earn the State Campfire badge by attending or holding a campfire, usually held in July or August, as a Pack or as a District activity. Orders are to be placed by the Cub Scout Leader through your District Cub Leader to the RC Cub Scouts. Place your orders now.

## CUBS CAMP OUT BADGE (\$2 EACH)

The Camp Out badge is a specialist badge developed to prepare Cub Scouts for camping. We encourage Cub Scout Leaders to motivate their Cub Scouts who would like to attend Cuboree to achieve this badge in preparation for the Cuboree. **Please note:** Cuboree WILL count towards the badge, however the Pre-Cuboree shakedown camp does NOT count towards this badge.

The requirements for the **Camp Out Badge** are:

- During a holiday period, pack a bag for the duration of four days and nights. The Cub Scout is to use only that gear over the four days.
- The Cub Scout should wash and dry their own crockery and cutlery during this period
- The Cub Scout is to be aware of the need for good hygiene, storing and packing clothes away neatly in their 'campout bag' and wearing appropriate clothing for activities (wearing enclosed shoes whenever possible.)
- Camp out at home either in the backyard or on the floor in a sleeping bag and learn to use their torch to get to the bathroom etc. in the dark.
- Attend one pack sleep-over.
- Attend a Pack Holiday/Camp and help prepare a meal.
- The Cub Scout is to demonstrate that they are able erect, dismantle and pack up a tent as the member of a team of Cub Scouts.
- The Cub Scout is to discuss with the Cub Scout Leader that he/she is aware of the need for everyone to carry out good hygiene ethics, eat healthy food, drinks lots of water and report any illnesses or injuries, whilst on pack holidays/camps.

Orders for badges are to be placed by the Cub Scout Leader through your District Cub Leader to the RC Cub Scouts. Place your orders now.

## NSW CUBOREE JANUARY 2020 'What on Earth?'

All Cub Leaders should be well aware that applications are now open for the NSW Cuboree being held from 5th to 9th January 2020.

Applications close at the end of this term!... so if you haven't done so already, please start talking with your Cub parents and ask them to register now to secure their place in the Pack.



Check out the website where you will also locate a copy of the monthly newsletter

<https://cuboree.nsw.scouts.com.au>

Don't forget to share this information with your Cubs, Scouts (over 13) and Venturers, Leaders and Parents.

**To apply for Cuboree visit:**

<https://nswscouts.eventsair.com/nsw-cuboree-2020/familyregistration/Site/Register>

## CUBOREE PROMOTION AND INFORMATION SESSIONS

How is your Group and District going with promoting NSW Cuboree 2020? Have you held a parent information night? In the coming month, information sessions will be held across the Region. Dates and venues to be arranged; bookings to be made on the Region event registration system. There will also be an information tent being set up at Jamborette for our Youth Service Leaders (Scouts over 13yrs and Venturers) and for our Service Leaders.

Yours in Scouting

**Gabie Thompson (Darzee)**  
Region Commissioner Cub Scouts  
Email: [cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:cubs@greaterwestscouts.com.au)



*Congratulations to Cub Scout*

**Nora Pilawa**  
1st Blaxland

*who has achieved her Grey Wolf Award*

**1 - 2 - 3 - WOOF!**

**Leader of Adults Basic Practical Supplement**  
**2 Saturdays 29th June and the 6th of July at Bundilla Scout Camp**

The Leader of Adults Basic Practical Supplement training is required for all Group Leaders or LIC, District Leaders, Region Leaders and Commissioners.

You must have completed e-Basic Core and e-Basic Sectional Techniques (Leader of Adults) eLearning modules BEFORE APPLYING FOR THIS COURSE.

<https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/event/leader-of-adults-basic-practical-supplement-day-1-of-2/>

**Basic Outdoor Skills**

**July 27, 8:00 am to July 28, 4:00 pm at Springwood Scout hall**  
**Cost: \$65**

This course is required for Scout, Venturer Leaders, Rover Advisors, and Rovers completing the Wood Badge training program. Also recommended for Joey, Cub and LOA Leaders.

Before you can be accepted onto the Basic Outdoor Skills Residential Weekend, you must complete the e-Learning component BEFORE APPLYING FOR THE COURSE.

You will also need to download the Basic Outdoor Skills Assessment of Proficiency workbook, as you will need this on the course.

This course is a self-catering course and leaders will need to bring their own hike (light weight) tent.

<https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/event/basic-outdoor-skills/>

**Mental Health First Aid for Youth**

**Course 1: Saturday 29th June and Sunday 30th June 9:00am - 4:30pm at Bundilla Scout Camp**  
**OR**

**Course 2: Saturday 13th July and Sunday 14th July 9:00 - 4:30pm at Bundilla Scout Camp**

**Non Scouting Members (GST incl) \$250.00**

**Scouting Members (GWSR) \$160.00**

- **Please note:** This is the South Coast and Tablelands event system not GWS, so you will need to register at: <https://events.sctscouts.org.au/>
- Please see brochure on next page for further information.

Cassie Rec (Gecko)  
Region Commissioner Adult Training & Development  
Email: [training@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:training@greaterwestscouts.com.au)



# YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COURSE



## This 14-hour YMHFA Course teaches adults how to provide Mental Health First Aid to adolescents

*Mental illnesses often start in adolescence or early adulthood and it is important to detect problems early to ensure the young person is properly treated and supported. The YMHFA course teaches adults who have frequent contact with adolescents, such as parents, guardians, school staff, sport coaches and youth workers, how to assist adolescents who are developing a mental health problem, experiencing a worsening of a mental health problem or in a mental health crisis.*

### What is the Youth Mental Health First Aid course?

The Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) course is based on international MHFA Guidelines. These Guidelines were developed using consensus of mental health consumers, carers and professionals from English-speaking developed countries.

#### Course Content

The YMHFA course teaches adults how to assist adolescents who are developing any of the following mental health problems, experiencing a worsening of an existing mental health problem or in a mental health crisis:

#### Developing mental health problems

- Depression
- Anxiety problems
- Eating disorders
- Psychosis
- Substance use problems.

#### Mental health crises

- Suicidal thoughts and behaviours
- Non-suicidal self-injury
- Panic attacks
- Traumatic events
- Severe psychotic states
- Severe effects from alcohol or other drug use
- Aggressive behaviours.

**Participants will learn about adolescent development and the signs and symptoms of mental health problems, how and where to get help and what sort of help has been shown by research to be effective.**

### Course Format

This is a 14-hour course. The delivery format is flexible. Course participants receive a copy of the YMHFA Manual to keep and are eligible to become an accredited Mental Health First Aider.

### Where can YMHFA courses be held?

The course can be conducted wherever a YMHFA Instructor can travel. If extended travel is required, the instructor's travel expenses may also need to be met (to be negotiated with the instructor). MHFA courses for members of the public are advertised through the MHFA website.

### Finding a YMHFA Instructor

You can find MHFA Instructors in your area on the MHFA website and contact them directly about conducting a course for your organisation, workplace or school. Instructors set their own fees, so we recommend you contact several local instructors for quotes. *All instructors of this course are trained by MHFA Australia.*

### Who can attend a YMHFA course?

Any interested adult, particularly those who work or live with young people, can attend. We do offer a separate course which teaches adolescents how to provide mental health first aid to their peers, the teen MHFA Course. *See below.*



### Become an Accredited Mental Health First Aider

Participants who complete this training are eligible to complete an online Accreditation Assessment in order to receive a Mental Health First Aider Certificate of Accreditation valid for 3 years.

### Other MHFA courses for helping young people

#### teen MHFA for Years 7-9 and Years 10-12

How a young person can assist a peer, in three 75 minute interactive classroom sessions. teen MHFA can only be delivered in schools or clubs where Youth MHFA training has already been rolled out.

Note: The information provided in MHFA courses is for general mental health first aid only and is not intended to be and should not be relied upon as a substitute for specific professional medical advice.

[www.mhfa.com.au](http://www.mhfa.com.au)

## FROM THE SCOUT DEN

I'm on holiday to Alaska and the USA from May 3 for a month. I will have emails but my timings will be out as they are about 17 hours behind Australia. Please be patient with enquiries. Please contact the Region Office or Robin Garrett (Hon Commissioner GWS) for anything urgent.

I had the honour of attending the **Australian Scout Medallion ceremony at Luna Park** last month. We had the most awardees we have ever had; 12 attended from GWS. With 55 awardees from all over the state, it was a fabulous day. Congratulations to:

Cassandra Fry	2 <sup>nd</sup> Baulkham Hills
Phoebe Hendricks	2 <sup>nd</sup> Baulkham Hills
Angus Redman	1 <sup>st</sup> Grose Vale
Iluka Jelley	1 <sup>st</sup> Kings Langley
Ashleigh Southam	1 <sup>st</sup> Toongabbie
Isabella Coundrelis	2 <sup>nd</sup> Northmead
Lauren Morden	1 <sup>st</sup> Castle Hill
Lachlan Watts	1 <sup>st</sup> Hawksbury
Alexander Quan	2 <sup>nd</sup> Castle Hill
Thomas Marston	1 <sup>st</sup> North Rocks
Hannah Wilson	1 <sup>st</sup> North Rocks
Mitchell Stockford	1 <sup>st</sup> Winston Hills
Samuel Szatmary	2 <sup>nd</sup> Northmead



You are all more than worthy of this award and I am amazed at the variety of the activities you all lead.

**B-R-A-V-O-O-O!!!!**

## JAMBORETTE

At the time of writing this report we have 875 registrations for Jamborette. There could be more by now! I am thankful to all those who got their registrations in before I left for my holiday. You all made it easier for the people I have left in charge in my absence mainly;

Robin Garrett [garrettrj@churchofjesuschrist.org](mailto:garrettrj@churchofjesuschrist.org)  
Steve Wallace [commissioner@penrithcityscouts.com.au](mailto:commissioner@penrithcityscouts.com.au)  
and the Region Office [gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au)

If you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact them.

Please, now follow up on your parents to finalise their e-permissions and payments. Get your base risk assessments and applications in to Robin Garrett & Fiona Sherwin [tinonee.scouts@outlook.com](mailto:tinonee.scouts@outlook.com) as they are in charge of base placements and risk assessments.

## SCIENCE PROFICIENCY WORKSHOP

This is the first of three Proficiency badge workshops which will assist the Scouts to achieve each of the three Proficiency badges. At the conclusion of the three workshops, the Scout has the opportunity to do the assessment for the Amateur Radio Foundation License. Successful achievement will entitle the Scout to wear the special Amateur Radio Badge on their uniform.

The Amateur Radio Foundation assessment is a formal qualification issued by the ACMA. Topics covered in this workshop will include; basics of radio waves, how they travel and how the sun (space weather) can affect radio waves. There will be a little bit of theory however we have structured the workshop to include lots of practical experiments. Some of these include constructing antennas, exploring the radio frequency spectrum using different radios and learning the basics of radio direction finding.

This event is a residential weekend starting at 8am Saturday morning 25th May with overnight accommodation in tents provided by the Scouts or their home troop. Meals will be provided from morning tea on Saturday and conclude with lunch on Sunday. The event concludes at 2pm on Sunday 26th May. Cost for the weekend is \$55 for Scouts and \$25 for Leaders, which includes camping and meal costs. This will need to be paid to the GWS Region Office via an invoice sent out upon completion of the registration in EMS.

**Payment is required before the event start date.**

**Registrations close 4pm Friday 18th May 2019**

**Register at**

**<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/224>**

## STATE RALLY

State Rally is also looming ahead. Get ready for a weekend of **Thinking Outside The Box!** That is the theme for this year's State Rally coming up on the **2nd to 4th August** at **Cataract Scout Park**, and you're invited to join in!

There's really no telling what ideas and things Scouts will get up to over the weekend as they navigate through award scheme activities and challenges put on by our Venturers, Rovers and Adult Leaders. State Rally night life is another thing to look forward to with inflatable objects, movies, fire and Discos set to keep everyone busy.

Everyone will come away with so many good memories. Our Scouts and Venturers might even be that little closer to their next badge or challenge area.

There is an **early bird discounted price** if you register and pay **before 6pm on June 30**. Patrols with all members registered and paid for by this time will also receive additional **Early Bird Points** giving them a head start in the competition.

<https://nswscouts.eventsair.com/state-rally-2019/registration/Site/Register>

Tracey Stopps (Wiangi)  
Region Commissioner Scouts

Email: [scouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:scouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au)



In this year's show **50 YEARS TOGETHER**, more than 180 Scouts and Guides aged seven to adult will perform 2½ hours of live, fast-moving, musical comedy theatre. It's packed with loads of fun, fantastic sets and colourful costumes and is perfect family entertainment full of singing, dancing and comedy. There's even live music from a 20 piece orchestra and a special appearance from our 'Legends' cast who return to the stage. This year will again include the 'Comet' cast comprising Joey Scouts and Junior Guides aged seven to nine years old who have the opportunity to join the other cast members on stage.

There are over 2,000 costumes and around 25 complete set changes! Cumberland Gang Show takes over 5000 person hours of cast rehearsals from March to July, plus over 8000 hours of set, costume and technical preparation to give you an indication of just how well this show is produced.

The first Gang Show was produced in **London in 1932** by a Scout named **Ralph Reader** who raised money for a swimming pool. Performers including Peter Sellers, Dick Emery, Tony Hancock, Harry Secombe and Max Bygraves were involved in the Gang Show early in their careers, and they were instrumental in building the Gang. They began a tradition which is still going strong today across the UK and Europe, North America, Asia, New Zealand and Australia.

What's so remarkable about Gang Show? This theatrical masterpiece also has a hidden side. It's actually about training young people in the performing arts; about building their self-confidence and showing them how

to succeed through teamwork; it's about how leadership, hard work and determination can be combined to achieve one's wildest dreams; but most of all it's about showing young people what they can achieve when they work together!

So please join us at Parramatta Riverside Theatre in the July school holidays for a fun day out and show your support for our wonderful Scouts and Guides. All Ticket prices and special deals are listed on the website. The premium VIP Package even includes a back stage tour.

To book your tickets, call **Riverside Theatre Parramatta** on **(02) 8839 3399** or book online at

[www.riversideparramatta.com.au](http://www.riversideparramatta.com.au)

**Early bird prices apply until June 30, 2019  
don't miss out!**

- Friday 12th July 7:30pm – **Red Scarf Night** (Gilbert)
- Saturday 13th July 2:00pm – Matinee (Sullivan)
- Saturday 13th July 7:30pm – Evening (Sullivan)
- Sunday 14th July 2:00pm – Matinee (Gilbert)
- Wednesday 17th July 11:00am – Matinee (Sullivan)
- Friday 19th July 7:30pm – **Finale Evening** (Gilbert)
- Saturday 20th July 2:00pm – Matinee and **Seniors High Tea Promotion** (Gilbert)
- Saturday 20th July 7:30pm – **Finale Evening** (Sullivan)



## VENTURER REPORT

My apologies for missing the last two reports.



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

### February

Josh Kahane - 2nd Baulkham Hills  
Ajit Pillai and Harrison Blow - 1st Carlingford  
Aidan Rowe - 1st/2nd Merrylands  
Chloe Lawler - 1st Dural

### March

Kaitlin Strickland - 1st North Rocks  
Jarrod Matthews - 1st South Penrith

### April

Ewan Huthnance - 1st Springwood  
Cameron West - 1st Glossodia  
Ben MacCormick - 1st Blaxland  
Gabrielle Milne - 1st Oakville

Our **March Unit Management Course** was full with Venturers from GWS and other regions including Canley Heights, Yaralla, Kotara and Goulburn. We also had attendees from the newly formed 1st Balcombe Heights Venturer Unit.

A highlight for April was the inaugural **GWS Cuborette**, where four Venturers and 23 Scouts attended as Youth Service Leaders. Pleasingly, a large number of these Scouts are looking forward to linking up to their nearest Venturer Unit.

We also welcome three new Units that are in the process of starting up - **1st Toongabbie, 1st Balcombe Heights, and 2nd Kings Langley**. At the same time 2nd Blacktown have gone into recess - we thank the leaders Jodie Astley, Kelly Wallace and Robert Wood for their service. I hope they will be able to continue to be involved in Scouting in the future.

Over Easter, **Dragon Skin** saw magnificent weather and a great attendance from GWSR. Great effort this year with top 30 placings to **1st Oakville, 1st Ermington and 1st/2nd Merrylands**. Two Venturers from **2nd Baulkham Hills** teamed up with a team from **Wyoming** to come in **2nd overall** - a mighty effort and well done.

Finally, we held our **May Initiative Course** in the Blue Mountains. Another well attended course with attendees from not only GWS but also Canley Heights and Yaralla, joining us again after they attended the Unit Management Course in March. We also had a

number of Venturers from Braidwood and Yass doing some serious driving to attend our course. Great to have Wayne and Neville from Braidwood helping run the course again. Thank you to the leaders who helped and especially Matt Vella who ran the course this time.



Brian Nelson  
Region Commissioner Venturer Scouts  
Email: [venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:venturers@greaterwestscouts.com.au)



### First Aid Course (HLTAID003 Provide First Aid)

This course is suitable for Work Cover, Venturer First Aid, Scout Blue & Green First Aid and pre-requisite for Remote First Aid.

2nd Baulkham Hills Scout Hall  
25 Jasper Road, Baulkham Hills

Cost \$55.00 for members - \$75 non-members  
Maximum 38 per class - book early!

22 June 2019

<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/194>

Visit the website for full details and further course dates.

# REGIONAL ACTIVITIES TEAM



There is one thing with all adventurous activities that you cannot do - and that is learn a new activity skill by E-learning. While I do acknowledge E-learning has certainly made training easier, I must admit I am not a great advocate of it.

A number of us spent a very enjoyable day of practical demonstration and honing our Abseil rescue skills. Run by Stuart Cowen, this involved training on hauling and lowering systems, if things do go a bit wrong. It also covers how to get around a knot and even swapping from one rope to another whilst abseiling down a cliff face. Certainly skills we hope we never have to use, but at the same time great skills to have ....just in case! And skills you simply cannot learn by looking at a computer screen!

The major Activity event for this month was the **Scout Caving Proficiency Badge** course held down at Wee Jasper, south of Yass. Always a great weekend, with over 50 participants in attendance.

The Scouts were split up into smaller groups, where they were able to explore a number of the horizontal cave systems (with all their twists and turns), and the odd "squeeze" just for fun!



Photo: Mark Fell



Photo: Mark Fell

After dinner on the Saturday Night, a number of us headed off for a bit more adventure; exploring Punchbowl Cave. This starts off with a 35m abseil down what can only be described as a big black hole. This is a great cave system with several large chasms and some really interesting formations. Of course, going down means you also need to come back up; and that 35m caving ladder climb back up certainly gives you a good cardio workout!

Huge thank you to Meredith Stewart and the team for a great weekend. It should also be noted that small team of Cavers from SA Scouts made the +1000km drive to join us. *"That's a pretty good indication on how good these weekends really are!"*.

I mentioned last month about an opportunity I had to participate in a Scout run 4WD accreditation weekend. A great weekend was spent down in the rugged Abercrombie National Park; where both Stuart Cowen and myself were put through our paces in regard to more serious off-road driving and vehicle recovery. This was a pilot course run by State, which in time may provide more regular courses and workshops focussing particularly on Rovers and Leaders alike, to learn that off-road driving is more than just parking a vehicle on the nature strip to wash it.

Don't forget to get in early with your tickets for **Gang Show**. Tickets sales have been the best in years with Finale Night and Red Scarf Night being extra popular; followed closely by the Wednesday Matinee show.

Other up and coming events on the Activity calendar include an overnight Canoe Trip down in Kangaroo Valley. May need my winter woollies for that one! And of course, the Region Jamboree.



**Mark Fell (Dingo)**  
**Region Commissioner Activities**  
**Email: [activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au)**

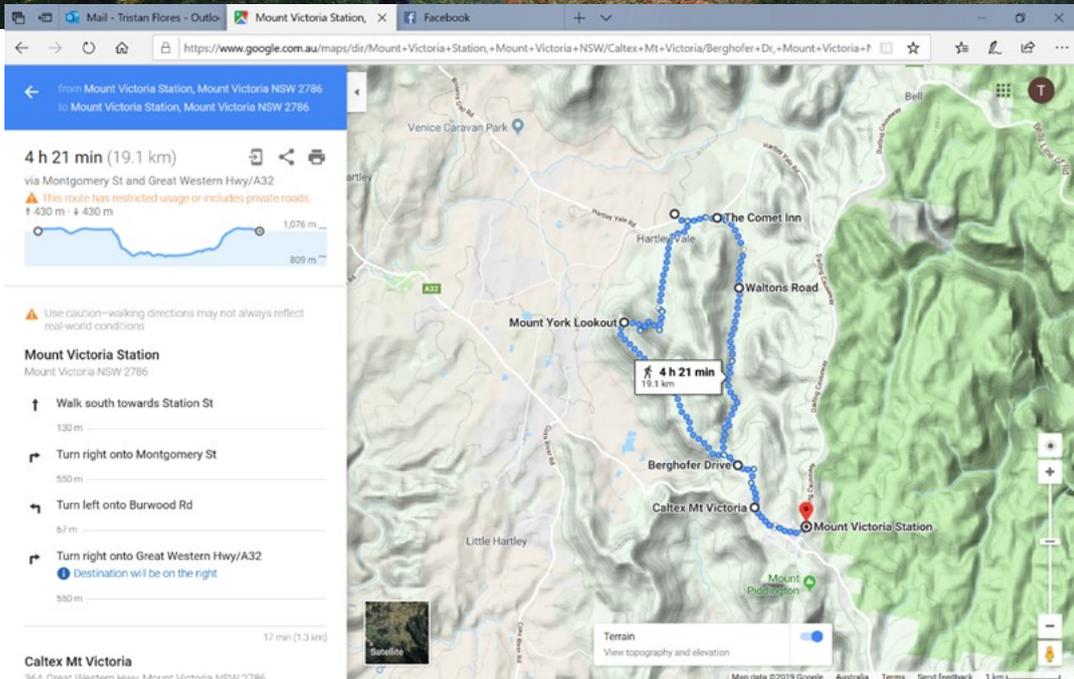
# BUSHWALKING REPORT

## Echo Point to Queen Victoria Hospital 13, 14 & 15 April

Thanks to all who helped with the Jamison Valley Practice. Ideal walking temps, and sensational landscapes throughout. We saw reminders of indigenous culture and European settlers in the Kedumba Valley. Well done to all participants, exceptional effort. We covered a fair amount of blue and green level navigation. It was certainly a challenging walk with many steep descents and ascents. Thank you to James for giving up some of his school holidays to help the Scouts develop their confidence. We shared our journey with many other like minded groups, individuals and national parks work crews. Thanks to Sean from Blue Mountains Maxi Taxi for your friendly and helpful customer service.

### Tristan Flores RL Bushwalking

Email: [bushwalking@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:bushwalking@greaterwestscouts.com.au)



# GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY ROVERS !

For those who don't know me - my name is Courtney Elliott and I am a member of the Nepean Rover Crew, and for the 2019/2020 Year I will be your new PR & Internet officer. That's me on the right, at one of my very first service weekends. A big thank you to Amber for all her hard work over the last year! BRAVO!



## St George's Day



A big thank you to those Rovers who took the time to head down to St James' Church in Sydney City to participate in St George's Day 2019.

# DRAGON SKIN 2019



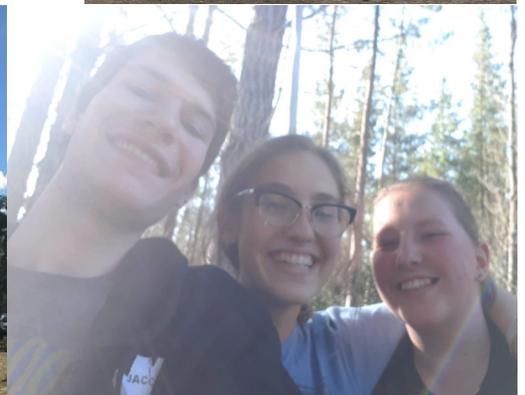
Well done to all 17 Bases from VOC 4 for this year's Dragon Skin!  
The VOC 4 theme was *The Kings of the Seas* and we had a variety of different activity bases which were both physically and mentally challenging!  
Please note we were very close to breaking our VOC 4's activity bases record!  
Maybe next year!

A big congratulations goes to the following teams on their awards...

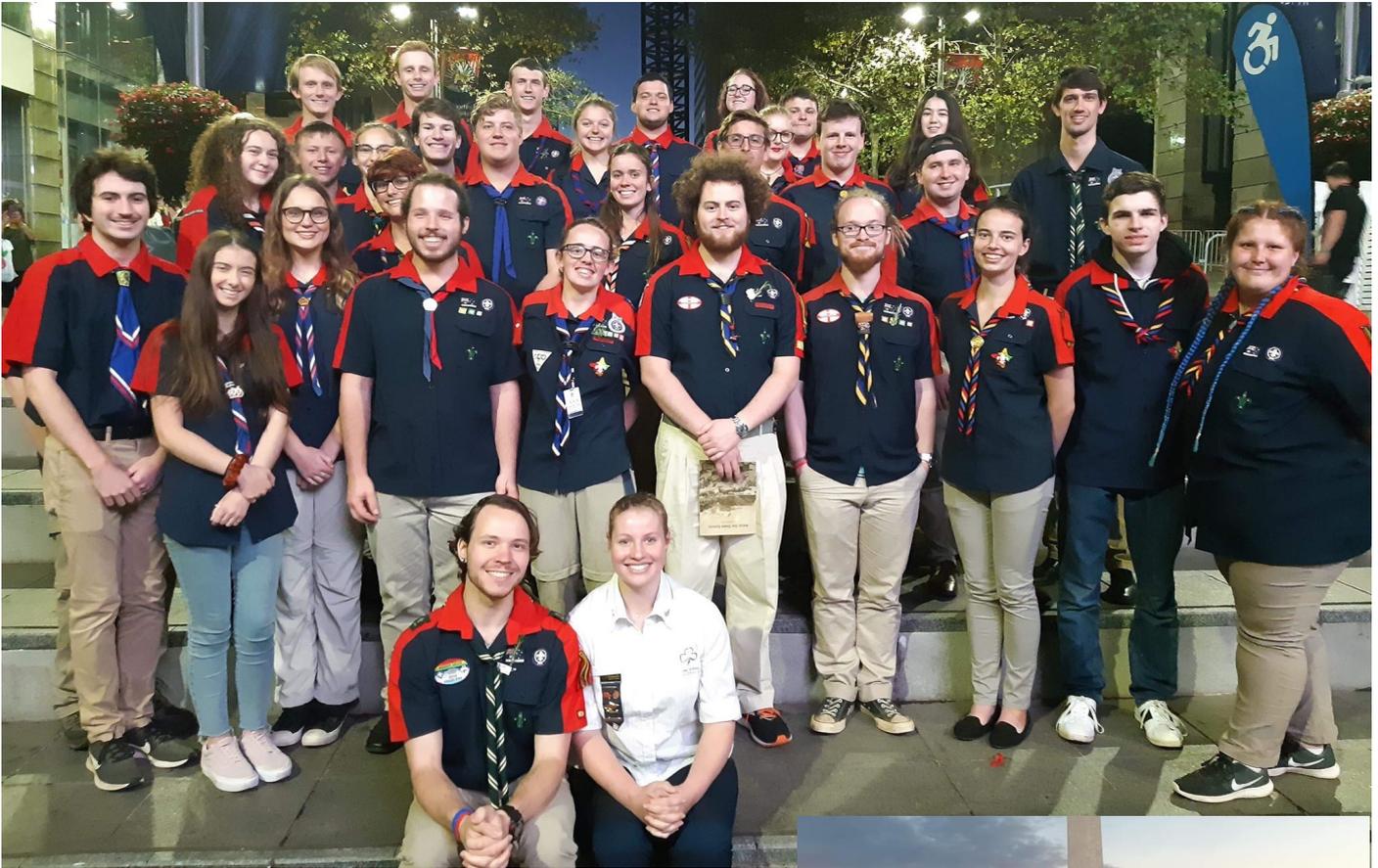
**401 Under The Cover Of Darkness - Best Theme**

**414 Spanish Treasure Defence - Best Base on VOC awarded by VOC 4**

**417 Under The Sea - Best Base on VOC 4 awarded by HQ**



# ANZAC DAY 2019



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**GWSR RRC Meeting - Wednesday 5th June 2019**

**GWS Jamborette "A Day in the Life of your True Self"**

**Friday 7th June 5pm - Monday 10th June 3pm, Cataract Scout Park**

**Groovin' the Moot (Merrylands Rover Crew)**

**Friday 16th August - Sunday 18th August, Camp Ku-Ring-Gai**

PR & Internet Officer, GWS Rovers Email: [pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au](mailto:pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au)



## **THE BULLETIN**

The Bulletin is edited and published for the general information of members in the Greater Western Sydney Region.

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