



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 485 – May 2020



National Volunteer Week, is a time when we celebrate the contribution volunteering makes to our community and recognise the 3 in 10 Australians who help change lives and change communities for the better.

Scouts NSW has almost 4,000 adults who freely share their skills, abilities, life experiences, compassion, intellect and humour to make a difference to the lives of thousands of young people. From our adult leaders who show up week in week out to foster the development of our young people, to our supporters doing their bit to help our community, we thank you.

However small your act of kindness may be, the impact it has on the world is huge.

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

INSURANCE

There has been some confusion in respect of Insurance Cover on the following items and I hope the following will be of assistance to you.

TRAILERS are covered whilst contained on your Scout property as part of your *Contents Cover* under the *Property Insurance*. If cover is required for damage to the trailers whilst being used on the they should be insured under the Scouts NSW trailer policy at a low premium. To obtain cover contact james.goodman@nsw.scouts.com.au with your registration number and Scout group name. Some Comprehensive Motor Insurance Policies cover the trailer for a sub-limit but others only cover the Third Party Property Damage on the trailer. Bear in mind that most trailers are towed by volunteers who may not wish to claim against their policy because of excess or no claim bonus implications.

CANOES are covered whilst contained on your Scout property as part of your *Contents Cover* under the *Property Insurance*. They are also covered under the *Marine Transit Insurance* whilst being transported. If you wish to obtain cover under the *Marine Pleasurecraft policy* please contact james.goodman@nsw.scouts.com.au with canoe details, required sum insured number and Scout group.

MARINE TRANSIT INSURANCE covers goods whilst they are in transit (marine transit is an old insurance term but actually refers to insurance for goods that are in transit from one place to another by any means - i.e. road, rail, air post or sea). Scouts have declared '**camping equipment**' as the type of goods transported. A \$300 excess applies to Marine Transit claims.

INDUSTRIAL SPECIAL RISKS (ISR) or also known as *Property Damage Insurance* covers Scouts NSW property and is endorsed to provide for General Property:

GENERAL PROPERTY (PORTABLE EQUIPMENT) EXTENSION

With respect to any portable equipment including but not limited to tents and associated Scouting equipment, promotional banners, flags and stands, projectors, display boards, marquees, computers (including laptops, notebooks, tablets and palm pilots), cameras, mobile phones and other items of a similar nature - such property is covered at the Insured Situation and beyond the premises at the Situation to anywhere in

Australia including whilst in transit.

If you feel you have already insured your trailer or canoes through Scouts NSW please advise Wendy at Region Office and she will arrange to advise James.

Should you still have any enquiries please do not hesitate to email me with your questions.

Regards

Neville Henderson OAM JP
Honorary Commissioner (Region)
neville@greaterwestscouts.com.au

APPOINTMENTS LIST— GWSR

APPOINTMENTS

MILLER, Geraldine

From GL-P 1st Carlingford Scout Group
To AGL 1st Carlingford Scout Group

KENNEDY, Emma

From SL-P 1st Blackheath Scout Troop
To ASL 1st Blackheath Scout Troop

ROBINSON, James

From ASL 1st Blackheath Scout Troop
To SL-P 1st Blackheath Scout Troop

WHITE, Jessica

Crew Ldr (Appt)-P 2nd Baulkham Hills Rover Crew

RESIGNATIONS

KENNEDY, Dale Crew Ldr (Appointed)
Kings Langley Rover Crew (Group)

APPOINTMENTS LIST—THE GOLDEN WEST REGION

APPOINTMENTS

THOMAS, Sandie

From GL 3rd Bathurst (All Saints Cathedral)
Scout Group
To ACSL 3rd Bathurst (All Saints Cathedral)
Scout Cub Pack

RESIGNATIONS

BEST, Natasha Appt TL (C) 1st Grenfell Cub Pack



30 Years of Joey Scouts

Joey Scouts will be turning 30 in 2020 and to celebrate, there is a uniform badge that all Joeys and Joey Leaders can wear on their uniform!



Badges cost \$2.20 each

Orders can be placed for your Group by clicking on the below link:

[ORDER NOW](#)

Badges will be distributed once payment is received.



ROVERS

Crew of the Month

Introducing Westmead Rover Crew!

Although the Scouting image is usually portrayed with hiking and knots (which they also love to practice), Westmead Rovers love to add their own personal twist to it. Whether it involves furthering one's career, hobby, or volunteering interests, Westmead dives into huge puddles four wheel driving, volunteering with the SES and Red Cross, leading younger sections, photography, and renovating local buildings.

Westmead Rovers make lifelong memories inside and outside of the Scouting community. Here are just a few reasons why their members love being a part of Westmead:

"I really appreciate there's a place I can just go and be myself with people, while doing what we want to do" - Rhys

"The best thing about Rovers is the exposure to new experiences in a supportive environment. One time we rescued a bird and even though we had never done it before we worked together to figure out what to do to help it" - Brittany

"My favourite thing about Rovers is the outdoor activities, like camping, 4wd, and hiking" - Wyatt

"Being able to make memories with my friends" - Jonathan

Westmead meets 7:30pm - 9:30pm on Monday nights at Westmead Scout Hall, 61a Good Street, Westmead.



Happy Mother's Day



On behalf of the GWS Rovers, we would like to wish all those Mothers who support Rovers and Rovers who are mothers themselves, a belated Happy Mothers Day! We hope you all had a wonderful day, thank you.



Scouting @ Home!

What has your Crew or Unit been up to during isolation?

- Nepean did an online show and tell and a movie night
- Westmead had an online baking night
- Kings Langley had an online service for ANZAC Day and a Bob Ross painting night
- Blacktown held their Round Table online and had a great time planning ahead for the rest of 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS



**The 2020 Annual Formal
Regressive Maccas Dinner
23rd May 2020**

Kings Langley Rover Crew

Get just a little bit fancy for some home made Big Macs in the first ever virtual edition of this much loved annual event!

The event will be live-streamed on YouTube - check out the event on Facebook for more information including some challenges to participate in the lead up to the event!

*Follow us on
Instagram*

@GWSROVERS

Follow us on our new Instagram page to keep up-to-date with all our activities! And don't forget to use the hashtag #gwsrovers so we can see what you've been up to!



No doubt like pretty much all of us, I am going a bit stir crazy at present with all these lockdowns and social distancing rules in place.

So rather than just sitting and moping around and basically achieving nothing, I have sent myself a bit of a challenge (with my good wife!) We plan to cover the whole of the Great North Walk as a series of day walks. End to end it is 260km, but further if you include the walk in & walkout bits (May need to do a couple of overnights, but that's OK). No real timeline set, and not going to do it in any particular order.

Spent a stunning autumn day doing the first bit from the Obelisk in Macquarie Place, for a short walk to Circular Quay, and a ferry ride to Woolwich. From there you basically follow the Lane Cove River through to the Lane Cove River Tourist Park (lunch stop), then continue up the Lane Cove River Valley past Brown's Waterhole, (basically my back yard as a kid growing up), finishing off at Thornleigh Railway Station.

It is a full day, covering just shy of 30km, excluding the ferry trip. Over the years I have covered most of the track from Thornleigh through to Somersby, but not this first section. I was amazed how good this bit really is. A great day of "exercise" and of course maintaining that "social distancing" stuff.

Also gave me something to add to my Activities Log! ...So how is your Activity Log going? ...Do you actually have one?

For anyone wanting to get any qualifications in adventurous activities, a log of what you have been up to, is a real must. Rather than having a separate log for each activity, I have combined it all on the one sheet, all as per example below (Fictional Activities).

Activities outside of Scouting (Family hikes etc.) can also be included, as long as you can put a name in for verification. While I do have a signature column, I rarely fill this in as I generally only keep a soft copy (on the computer). I have Activity Logs going back quite a few years, and they are certainly an interesting read, not to mention a great reference tool to go back to.

If you haven't already, it is just something a bit worthwhile to do, as we ever so slowly we come out of this COVID19 Lockdown!



Mark Fell (Dingo)
Region Commissioner Activities
Assistant Technical Director CGS
Mark.Fell@nsw.scouts.com.au

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES LOG - YOUR NAME								YEAR	2020		
Activity	Year	Dates	Description	Days	Nights	Time	Distance Km	Involved As	Verified	Signature	Comments
Kayaking	2020	26-Jan	Nepean River Penrith	1			26	Family	Wife		Tench Park up into Glenbrook Gorge & Return. Incl. stops for a swim
Hiking	2020	8-Mar	Spit- Manly - Nth Head- Spit	1		7.5hrs	30	Family	Wife		Full day hike. Great weather. Light weight day pack. Drank 2.5ltrs water
Canoeing	2020	14-Mar	Overnight Canoe Trip	2	1		28	Guide	Course Leader		Wisemans Ferry to Upper reaches of Webbs Creek, Camp night and return next day. Light Weight camping. Total of 6 Youth & 3 leaders in attendance
Abselling	2020	22-Mar	Abseil Proficiency Badge	1		6 hrs		Participant	Course Leader		Yellow Rock Demonstrated basic setups, using a variety of descending devices
Caving	2020	29-Mar	Caving Weekend Wee Jasper	2		12 hrs		Participant	Course Leader		Did 12 x single pitch abseils (total 120m) 15 participants in total
4W Driving	2020	13-Apr	Jenolan State Forest	2		16 hrs	85	Guide	Course Leader		5 x caves in total. 3 x caves requiring abseiling, including setups Total of 5 people in attendance
											Demonstrating basic Hill Climbs, water crossings & variety of recovery devices Standing camp over night. 6 vehicles and 6 participants in total

JOEY AND CUB NEWS

It has been very encouraging to see so many Units (Mobs and Packs) offering fantastic opportunities, challenges, tasks and programs for Joeys and Cubs to participate in Scouting during self-isolation and social distancing.

Earlier this month, I attended the State meetings for Joeys and for Cubs. I found them to be very productive meetings where we discussed a number of topics which are included in these reports.

I also attended the first of the Scouts NSW Live Event (webinar) series on the use of O365 and Teams. I strongly recommend joining them. For those that missed it, a recording will be available on the website to watch, where you can also register for others in the series.

AWARDS, LINKING, INVESTING AND BADGE WORK

It has been reported that some Units have decided to hold off on presenting badges, particularly Peak Awards, as the leaders would prefer to hold a big Group celebration. We all agreed that a big celebration is the best way to acknowledge the achievement, and a lot of fun, however, please consider the youth member that has achieved the award.

They should be included in the planning of the presentation, including when and how. Joeys and Cubs can be very imaginative, and I am sure a special online/vertical presentation could be arranged. Although restrictions are slowly being lifted, it could still be many months before a large Group celebration can occur. We all know kids love getting badges, please do not deny them this. Perhaps you could hold an online presentation now and a Group celebration later when restrictions are lifted.

We also discussed youth members that are ready to link to the next section, or new youth members not yet invested. These too should not be delayed. Two or three months is a long time for an 8 year old to wait. Again, be imaginative, think outside the box, consult with the youth member and with the Unit Council. Have you held joint section nights or multi section meetings? You could even hold joint Group or District meetings.

If you are unsure or need some help or guidance, please reach out to your District or Region Section leaders to assist you.

PEAK AWARD COMPLETION FORMS

The forms for the Promise Challenge Award and Grey Wolf Award have changed on the Scouts NSW website. Please insure you use the current form. For those on the new Youth Program, please use the form located on the pr.scouts website.

Please also make yourself familiar with the Peak Award Modifications for COVID-19 Period document mentioned in the last Bulletin and emailed out to all Leaders. No youth member is to be disadvantaged during the current restrictions. If you need any assistance or have any questions, please ask, I am more than happy to help.

STATE KONARA AND PALAVER 2021

A proposal was made to hold a joint State Konara and Palaver for Joey and Cub Leaders in 2021. Initial planning is underway. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions or would like to discuss further, please contact me. I will provide a further update in September.

CUB NEWS

CUBORNET (ONLINE) 2020

ACT Branch is holding Cubornet (Online) 2020 on the weekend of 5-7 June 2020. Scouts NSW is happy to promote this event and encourage Units to register.

Across the weekend there will be heaps of activities for Cubs to take part in and at night they can curl up in your own tent or pillow fort in their living room or backyard.

To participate in Cubornet, each Cub will need to register here: <https://sites.google.com/ed.act.edu.au/cubornet-2020/youth-participant-registration>

Leaders can also register here: <https://sites.google.com/ed.act.edu.au/cubornet-2020/activity-leader-registration>

The cost for the weekend is \$10 +postage and will cover the cost of a Cubornet Scarf and badge for each registered participant.



CUB SCOUT LEADERSHIP COURSE AND YOUTH HELPERS COURSE

The State Team is currently reviewing the course content for the Cub Scout Leadership Course and Youth Helpers Course to write a course that can be delivered online. Further information on this will be provided when available.

COMMISSIONER'S CHALLENGE

The State Team has reviewed the requirements for the Commissioner's Challenge. The content in the documentation is being updated and should be available by the end of the month. These details will be distributed when available.

OUT AND ABOUT

Out and About will be held in 4th term again this year. Please let you District Cub Leader know how many badges you would like to order so that orders can be placed by **1 July**. The cost has not been confirmed as yet, however it is usually \$2.50.

Yours in Scouting

Gabie Thompson (Darzee)

Region Commissioner Cub Scouts

Gabrielle.Thompson@nsw.scouts.com.au



Congratulations to the following Cub Scouts who have achieved their Grey Wolf Award

Erik Schwalbe
1st Balcombe Heights

Rhiannon Watts
1st Hawkesbury

Ryan Leedham
1st Hawkesbury

1- 2 - 3 - WOOF



JOEY NEWS

30 YEARS JOEY SCOUTS

A number of activities are being planned for the later part of the year for the 30 years of Joey Scouts, including: Postcard Swap, 30 hour Challenge 2021 and Region Joey Fun Day Celebrations. More details will be provided when available.

Don't forget to order 30 Year Joey Scout Badges. This is a uniform badge that all Joeyes and Joey Leaders can wear on their uniform. *To order badges for your Joey Mob, click here: [ORDER NOW](#)*

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=S7vnQHd2UEyys2vwJ_MecdRsKOf2rZ5MnnMd3DTzmeZUMFc3WTc0OVICQ1gwTERNSkhYVkfESEdZMC4u

GWS REGION BADGE DESIGN COMPETITION

We will be holding our own GWS Region Badge Design Competition! All Joey Scouts are encouraged to design their own badge. The badge should capture the *30th Birthday* theme and include the Joey Scout logo. The Badge design can be any shape, colour or design. Joeyes should be creative!

Entry is open to all Joey Scouts (sorry Leaders, this is a Youth Led, Adult Supported activity). Entries will be judged by Joey Scouts and the winner will receive a prize and have their design made into a collector's badge for all GWS Scouting members to purchase. This competition will close at midnight on **1 July 2020**.

Entries can be submitted here:

<https://form.jotform.com/GWSCubScouts/Joey-Badge-Competition>

COMMISSIONER'S CHALLENGE

This year's Commissioner's Challenge will be held for a 12 month period starting 1 July 2020 to 1 July 2021. Details on the Challenge and requirements are being finalised and will be made available soon.

Yours in Scouting

Gabie Thompson (Darzee)

Region Commissioner Joey Scouts

Gabrielle.Thompson@nsw.scouts.com.au



VENTURER REPORT

It has been two months of Scouting@Home and everyone is itching to get back outside. Our Units are valiantly working to keep a program going!

I visited 1st Kings Langley this week that took us on a Wikipedia chase trying to link "Double Bass" to "Kanye West"; a penny hike that had us going down the wrong way on a Washington DC highway; Unit Council still managed to approve a V1 and we worked on a plan for a hike.

Based on discussions with my team and the number of photos on various Facebook pages, Zoom seems to be the application of choice for those meeting online, with a smattering of Teams. Here are some of the ideas that 1st/2nd Merrylands and 1st Westmead are using for their meetings:

- Debate night
- Pictionary using the whiteboard
- Scavenger hunt/challenge night
- Kahoot for quizzes
- Online games
- ANZAC Ceremony designed and run by the Venturers for our whole group
- Google Earth night (there are lots of quizzes and there's a *Where in the World is Carmen San Diego* game as well)
- Wikipedia night – everyone starts on one page and tries to get to a particular page, first person there is the winner
- Cake decorating challenge – Vennies teamed up, those who had prepared were instructed by those who weren't and teamed up to create an Easter cake
- Skills badge night for new members
- Environment badge work with a guest speaker
- Games night – hangman, charades etc.

The highlight for April would have to be ANZAC Day, with lots of people donning their uniforms, lighting a candle and observing a minutes silence at the end of their driveway.

I had an early appointment on the day that saw me driving down Castle Hill Road and it was very moving to see the number of people who were observing ANZAC Day. Before I left home I even heard someone playing the last post near my house.

Needless to say, there isn't much going on outside at the moment; and we have all found that the novelty of video meetings wore off long ago - but full marks to everyone for their resilience.

By a lucky chance, we managed to get a complete set of courses run except for Leadership before isolation started. My team of District and Region Leaders are currently working up a distance program for the Leadership Course. We will be moving it back a couple of weeks to give us time to prepare while also keeping it clear of studies. More on that to come.

At the same time, planning for Waratah is well underway with a launch meeting between the organising committee and leaders being held during the school holidays.

My thanks to all the Venturers and Leaders who have been putting in so much effort to keep Scouting alive.

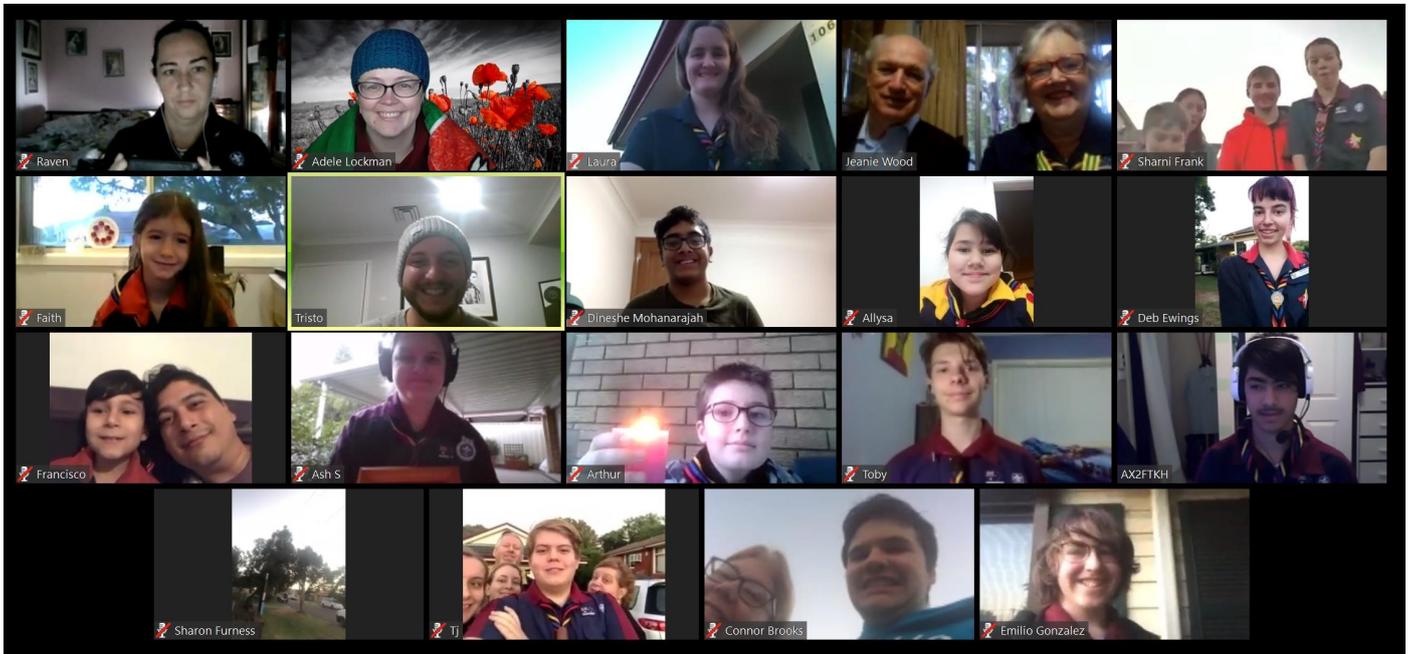
Brian Nelson
Region Commissioner Venturer Scouts
Brian.Nelson@nswscouts.com.au



Environment Activity



ANZAC Day, Kings Langley



ANZAC Day - 1st/2nd Merrylands



Queen's Scout reflection - Carlingford



Paper Cup Speaker

I got a cup speaker sounding with a 6mm magnet glued in the centre back of a paper cup and a coil of wire wound on a 6mm bolt with two washers, spaced 3mm apart, as a former. I purchased the 6x3mm magnets from the DAISO shop (Blacktown Plaza).

A couple of layers of sticky tape wound on the bolt between the washers will give a bit of clearance around the magnet.

I mounted the thread end of the former/bolt in a hand drill which was mounted horizontally in a vice, and turned the drill handle to wind thin enamelled copper wire to fill to the top of the washers.

Glued the coil to a short ice cream stick. I needed to try a few different cups to get the vertical spacing between the coil and magnet optimal.

A clear 'flimsy' cup with the right rim height, may be more sensitive.

In the final model the pop stick is coil down over the magnet and centred for clearance around the magnet. The stick is glued to the rim of the cup.

The speaker (or Mic) can then stand on pop stick + cup rim, which does not move, only the magnet moves inside the coil. This is the opposite way a speaker / earphone works.

It would also operate as a microphone. Use shielded wire to connect to an amplifier to avoid hum or interference pick up.

Could be used as an intercom with a simple amplifier and another cup speaker, or a siren/noise maker when driven by an oscillator. **Sounds like a good JOTA kit.**

John Leahy
Regional Leader (Activities)



**2020 Community
Building Partnership
Grants now open!**



The 2020 round of the NSW Government's Community Building Partnership Grants is now open!

The Community Building Partnership program is one of the best grants available for Scout Groups and Formations to assist with repairs and renovations to our buildings, and for capital equipment. If your Hall, Campground or Scout facility is in need of refurbishment, repairs or maintenance, this is a fantastic opportunity to make it happen.

Information on guidelines and how to apply are now available on Scouts NSW website: <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/members-services/grants-for-groups/community-building-partnership-grants/>

THE BULLETIN

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

The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the GWSR or Scouts Australia.

Submissions are to be made by the 10th of each month and may be edited for clarity or to fit available print space. Anything received after the 10th will not be published until the following month.

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Email : bulletin@greaterwestscouts.com.au

