



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 486 – June 2020



Love Our Differences



“Scouts come from different backgrounds and cultures. This diversity is what makes us special. Our inclusiveness is something about which we should be very proud”.

Neville Tomkins OAM JP
Chief Commissioner Scouts Australia (NSW Branch)

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

APPOINTMENTS LIST – GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION

APPOINTMENTS

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| WALLACE, Stephen | GL-DA | 1st St Marys Scout Group |
| ABEYWARDANA, Chathurani | Trainee leader (G) | 1st Carlingford Scout Group |
| THOMPSON, Matthew | AGL-DA | Cumberland Gang Show Scout Group |
| LANG, Robert | RL (Act) GL | Greater Western Sydney Region Cumberland Gang Show Scout Group |

RESIGNATIONS

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---|
| HODGKINS, Graeme | Fellowship Member | Hawkesbury Black Horse Scout Fellowship |
| KENNEDY, Emma | ASL | 1st Blackheath Scout Troop |

APPOINTMENTS LIST - THE GOLDEN WEST REGION

APPOINTMENTS

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| ARNOLD, Gavin | DRC-DA | The Golden West Region |
| HINCHCLIFFE, Michelle | From DRC To RC | The Golden West Region The Golden West Region |
| WILLIAMSON, Benjamin | From RC To RC (Act) | The Golden West Region The Golden West Region |

RESIGNATIONS

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| GREGORY, Sue | Trainee Ldr (S) | 1st Portland Scout Troop |
| STONESTREET, Shirley | Hon Comm (R) | The Golden West Region |

ADULT RECOGNITION AWARDS PRESENTATION DINNER

As you are well aware the Covid-19 pandemic has put a hold on many gatherings and Scouting activities and we are not excluded from this process.

After discussions with David Stopps, I have arranged to have two dates reserved at Wentworthville Leagues Club to make sure we can allow as many people as possible to attend the Presentation Dinner.

Please put these dates in our diary and we will advise as soon as possible what date we are able to hold the dinner;

Thursday 15th October 2020 or Thursday 12th November 2020.

The awards will be announced on 1st August 2020 World Scout Day and we will advise when the registrations for the awards dinner will open.

Neville Henderson OAM
Honorary Commissioner (Region)





Ian Watt

15/8/1933 - 12/6/2020

It is with sadness that we advise of the passing of one of our long serving members on Friday 12 June after a long illness.

Ian joined the Scouting family in 1968 when his oldest son joined cubs at Hoxton Park. He was on the Committee until 1971 when the family moved to 1st Guildford West.

He was the district representative for the Guildford West Group before becoming the District Secretary of the Greystanes District Executive, a position he held for 16 years. Ian accepted the role of District Chairman and in 1992 was the first District Chairman of the merged Holroyd District Executive. He was also an appointed delegate to the Greater Western Sydney Region Executive.

Ian served on a number of District and Region Committees and he remained involved in Scouting until his retirement in 1998.

He was awarded the 'For Service Badge' in 1978; a 'Thanks badge' in 1982 & the 'National President's Award' in 1996 - which was presented to him by Governor General Bill Hayden for '30 Years of Service of an Exceptional Character'. On the occasion of his retirement he was honoured with a farewell dinner and a presentation to mark the occasion.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife Barbara and his family.



30 Years of Joey Scouts

Joey Scouts are celebrating their 30th Birthday and to celebrate, there is a uniform badge that all Joeys and Joey Leaders can wear on their uniform!

Badges cost \$2.20 each and will be distributed once payment is received.

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

[ORDER NOW](#)



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
SYDNEY

Message from

Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC
Governor of New South Wales
and Mr Dennis Wilson

As your Chief Scout, and as an Honorary Member of Scouts NSW, we are honoured to convey our thanks to all members of Scouts NSW for the qualities you have demonstrated during the unprecedented COVID-19 emergency that has faced our community.

We are extraordinarily proud to be connected to such an impressive youth leadership Movement. From the briefing your Chief Commissioner, Neville Tomkins, gave us recently, I know how incredibly proud he, too, is of all of you – Youth, Leaders and Supporters alike.

Not only have you demonstrated the courage, flexibility and resilience that are the hallmarks of Scouting, you have also shown enormous commitment by continuing to deliver and undertake programs enjoyed by thousands of young people and their families around New South Wales.

It has been inspiring to hear how Scouting has transitioned to virtual Scout Halls and ‘Scouting at Home’ adventures across New South Wales. Yet at heart, we know each of us looks forward to returning to outdoor education and shared adventurous experiences – and this time will come again.

For now, ‘Be Prepared’, stay safe and stay connected.

To all our Youth Members, Leaders and Supporters, we convey our personal thanks and the thanks of the people of New South Wales for the important role you play in our local communities – fulfilling the Scout’s promise – right across New South Wales.

Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC
Governor of New South Wales

Mr Dennis Wilson



I think we have bottomed out now with this COVID-19 and providing we do not go into a “Second Wave” things can only get better ...if ever so slowly!

With changes happening almost daily, by the time you read this, it is likely to be quite different to what it is currently, as I put “fingers to keyboard”

While the directive from Scouts NSW is, we can commence face to face outdoor activities, there is still many restrictions in place.

I am more than happy and would encourage Scouts back out on day hikes or even bike riding. Fairly easy to control, both in numbers and with Social Distancing. Just need to ensure any other protocols which may come into play, are observed. With a bit of care (and if you do not mind the cold), canoeing and kayaking day trips may also be able to come back onto the agenda!

Unfortunately, activities like Abseiling, Canyoning, Caving, Climbing Wall, and even the Flying Fox are still a “no go” and will remain so until a relaxation on Social Distancing rules are implemented.

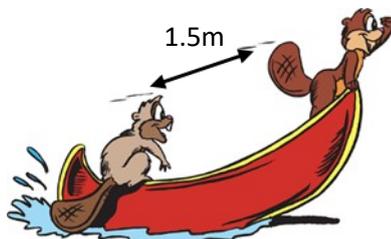


There are some great memories of the Flying Fox over the years, especially at our Region Jamborettes at Bents Basin

While mentioning the Flying Fox, a new Fox policy is close to being completed by State, to ensure we are following the very latest in industry standards. I can proudly say that GWS has been very much involved with this process. The challenge here has always been to ensure absolute safety in all aspects of building and running a fox, and at the same time ensuring the economic viability of the required equipment and compliance.

Here’s hoping we see the fox continue for many years to come!

Mark Fell (Dingo)
RC Activities
Assist. Technical Director - Cumberland Gang Show
activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au
Mark.Fell@nsw.scouts.com.au



BUSHWALKING

Region hikes will return for limited day walks from 5th July. Camping is not currently available.

Capacity will be either 10 or 20, dependent on current restrictions inclusive of activity team.

Guides will refer to a COVID 19 Safety plan with the aim of providing a safe environment for members.

Physical distancing and non contact will be observed at all times.

Guides will carry a supply of cleaning products.

Day walks are running during the July school holidays on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays aimed at Cubs Scouts & Venturers. Times are generally 9am to 4pm except for Sun 5th July which has an 8am start.



Great North Walk

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Sunday 5 July | Woolwich to Lane Cove | Approx 20 km | Entry level |
| Tuesday 7 July | Lane Cove to Thornleigh | Approx 17 km | Entry level |
| Friday 10 July | Thornleigh to Asquith | Approx 15 km | Medium |
| Sunday 12 July | Asquith to Mount Kuring gai | Approx 20 km | Medium |
| Tuesday 14 July | Mount Kuring gai to Cowan | Approx 17 km | Medium Hard |
| Friday 17 July | Cowan to Brooklyn | Approx 15 km | Medium Hard |

Registrations

<https://www.events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/>

Tristan Flores

Region Leader Bushwalking

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

ROVERS

Crew of the Month

Introducing Nepean Rover Crew!

Nepean are a crew that truly embody the Rovering motto of "Service". Whether it be at Cataract, Camp Coutts or renovating their own hall and den, Nepean gets in and gets it done without seeking reward.

Recently, Nepean have been staying incredibly active online practicing Scouting @ Home in ways that allow them to stay safe yet still connected as a crew. Some activities they have been up to include online card and video games, as well as a "Surprise" Night in which their Crew Leader dropped off & arranged for a mystery bag to be picked up and had them open it over video chat - the bag included NRC engraved cookies and games.

Here's some of the reasons why Nepean's members love being involved in Rovers and their crew.

"My favourite thing about Rovers is meeting new people and making new experiences with friends" - Will

"We all get along, have a good friendship with one another and are always able to have a couple of laughs" - Jarrod

Nepean meets at 6pm on Sunday nights at Penrith Scout Hall on Lethbridge St, Penrith.



The World Scout Moot that was set to be held in Ireland in July 2021 has also unfortunately been postponed one year to 2022. While many Rovers are disappointed about the postponement, one positive is that now there is more time to save for what is shaping up to be a fantastic international event!

Return to Face-to-Face Scouting

I am sure everyone is looking forward to seeing each other after a long, long few months of social isolation. With the restrictions being lessened, it is time to start getting the crews back together for those activities I am sure you have all been missing.

However, Covid-19 is still a very real threat to the health and safety of our Scouts. Because of this, we want to ensure that everyone can still have a great time together. All we ask is that your Crew follows the NSW Covid-19 guidelines.

This means keeping group sizes small, not sharing personal equipment, and keeping physical contact to a minimum. Keep hygiene products nearby and make sure to sanitise the shared equipment before and after use.

We hope you all stay safe and enjoy seeing everyone's faces once more.

Connor Kennedy, Region Activities Officer

Follow us on
Instagram

@GWSROVERS

UPCOMING EVENTS



Unfortunately due to current Covid-19 event restrictions, Kings Langley Rover Crew has made the decision to postpone their hosting of our Region Moot, "Cartoon Mootwork" until August 2021.

BUZZ HERE FROM THE SCIENCE TEAM.



Since we are not visiting your group right now I thought I would write a bit about the activities I get up to outside of Scouting that keep me busy, interested and developing new skills to bring to Scouting.

First of all a few terms:

MAKER - is someone who enjoys making stuff with their own hands and not relying on others. Using what I have on hand or buying as little as possible for a project.

COSPLAY - is costume play, an activity of constructing a costume and emulating an entity from pop culture.

As you can guess I am involved in both, and the cool thing is that both of these activities involve applying Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).

I enjoy making stuff despite only doing Industrial Arts in year 7 to 10 at high school. A lot of my skills are self-learnt through experimenting and trying things. I did study Electrical Engineering, which is a good skill to have, and gives me my 'day job'.

Over the last 3 years I have been experimenting with all sorts of techniques and equipment, such as 3D printing, laser cutters, leather work and Blacksmithing, just to name a few. Basically I research the Web for help and started to experiment.

Most of my projects of late have revolved around making cosplay costumes. A few of you may remember my appearance at the Jamborette two years ago in my Lich King armour. The cool thing is there is no manual for making this stuff. I start every project without knowing every detail of what it will look like or how I will build it. There is something exciting about trying out a new idea or process and adapting it to create an object that has never been seen before. I reckon that if you are not learning something new every week, you're not exercising your brain enough.

I often have people come to me and say 'how did you do that'. My common answer is, "I had an idea and experimented". Some of my work resulted in objects so amazing that they have taken me to national comps and even won awards, been in ads and videos, given coverage in magazines and books, along with some fame in the maker and cosplay communities.

The reason I am sharing this is to possibly inspire others. Makers do not have to be costume makers like me; they can be into wood working, metal fabrication, cars, electronics, programming or music.

So how has the Virus shut down affected me? Not much really, I thought OK cool, more time to try new ideas and work on projects.

If you would like more info on any of this, feel free to contact me at: ets0@bigpond.com

Karl Humphreys
Science Activity Leader GWS
JOTA/JOTI Co-ordinator NSW Scouts



Arthis 'the Lich King' video game
World of Warcraft 'Wrath of the Lich King' ©
Blizzard Entertainment.

Winner of Super Nova best cosplay 2018.
Winterfest best male costume 2018.
Finalist Australian championships of
Cosplay Sydney 2018. Com costume.



Guardian (Warlock) Video game
Destiny 2 ©Bungee.
Finalist Super Nova 2019.
Finalist Australian championships of
Cosplay Sydney 2019, Com costume



Scouts in Action Month is back for its eleventh year and we are flying high!

2020 will see us take to the air in so many ways and will only be limited by the imagination of our youth supported by you!

We have been in lock down since March but things are slowly coming back to 'normal' if there ever will be such a thing as normal.

One thing for sure is that we will soon be back together again, down the hall or out and about and I am sure you are all looking forward to that.

Learning the theory of flight (so why do planes fly), making paper planes, flying a kite and hot air balloons are all part of SiAM2020.

There are so many ways we can take to the air; hang gliding, kite surfing, powered paragliding, gliding, microlight aircraft are all possibilities or you can really take to the skies with commercial flights either on a family trip or with other Scouts from your Unit at one of the Scout Air Activity Centres in your State/Branch.

For Flight Programme ideas and activities visit www.scoutsinactionmonth.com

Make sure you are counted this year.

Registrations are open for Scouts in Action Month 2020

To register your entire Group or individual Unit go to this link for Australian Groups

<https://www.scoutsinactionmonth.com/australian-scout-groups>

The 2020 Scouts in Action Month Badge

A simple design representing this year's theme featuring windows for each of the Units of Scouting.

Badges are \$3.50 each

<https://www.scoutsinactionmonth.com/2020-badge-order-form>



EXCLUSIVE DEALS FOR SCOUT FAMILIES

Join us this Winter at Scouts NSW Alpine Activity Centre Jindabyne - NSW Scout Members receive 25% discount on all accommodation and facilities.

Book Today! Book your accommodation between now and the end of June 2020 to receive your 25% discount. Bookings can be made up to and including 30 June 2021. The 15% deposit must be paid as per booking conditions to secure the booking with the 25% discounted rate.

Fred Read Cottages: Perfect for families and small groups up to nine people. The 2 Self-contained Cottages (Kanangra and Blue Gum) fit up to 9 people in each, with full family kitchen, free linen, BBQ on the balcony, with a view of Lake Jindabyne.

Tony Balthasar Lodge: Perfect for groups. Max booking of 50 people and minimum booking of 30 people. Self-catering commercial kitchen, dorm style living and can accommodate parties up to 50 with separate accommodation for adults. Mattress protectors provided on all beds, groups are to provide their own bedding (including bottom sheet) and pillows. Includes free use of Leaders lounge and drying rooms

Minimum Stays

Mid Week (Mon-Fri) 3 nights minimum

Weekend (Fri-Sun) 2 nights minimum

All accommodation is COVID-19 compliant and we provide hand sanitisers, soap dispensers, disposable gloves, masks and bacterial wipes to all groups across the site in line with NSW Health COVID-19 guidelines.

If your booking is affected by COVID-19 restrictions, Scouts NSW will fully refund your deposit or your booking can be transferred to a later date.

Book Now!

Email activitycentres@nsw.scouts.com.au or call

(02) 4631 6697 to secure your Scout Family bookings.





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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