



# Scouts Australia, NSW Greater Western Sydney Region 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Report 2017



Today's



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA

**Be Prepared...**  
\* \* \* for new adventure!  
\* \* \*

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



# Greater Western Sydney Region Team 2016-2017

REGION PRESIDENT	Ross Grove
REGION CHAIRPERSON	Debbie Howlett
REGION TREASURER	Paul Thompson
REGION COMMISSIONER	Neville Henderson OAM
DEPUTY REGION COMMISSIONER	David Stopps
DEPUTY REGION COMMISSIONER	Tony Dent
REGION OFFICE ASSISTANTS	Kim Harris & Wendy Dimmock

## Region Commissioners

RC JOEY SCOUTS	Brian Zarth
RC CUB SCOUTS	Anne Thompson
RC SCOUTS	Robin Garrett / Tracey Stopps
RC VENTURER SCOUTS	Aaron Wardle / Brian Nelson
RC ROVERS	David Twist
RC ACTIVITIES	Mark Fell
RC ADULT TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT	Kathy Cuneo/ Cassie Rec
RC COMMUNICATIONS & PR	Matt Thompson
RC INTERNATIONAL	Peter Nickl OAM
RC MEMBER SUPPORT	Carol Cope

## District Commissioners

DC BLACKTOWN	Ross Howlett
DC BLUE MOUNTAINS	Tony Dent (Acting)
DC HAWKESBURY	Phil Heinrich
DC HILLS SOUTH	Gavan Hall
DC HOLROYD	Ron Brown
DC PARRAMATTA	Tracey Hansford
DC PENRITH CITY	Steve Wallace

## Region Patrons

Julie Owens MP  
Federal Member for Parramatta

Ray Williams MP  
State Member for Castle Hill

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**Greater Western Sydney Region** incorporates all of the Baulkham Hills, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Holroyd, Parramatta and Penrith local government areas, as well as western parts of the Hornsby local government area.

# MINUTES FROM 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION

### Minutes of the 69th Annual Report Presentation of the Region Scout Council held at Bundilla Scout Camp on Sunday 19th June, 2016 commencing at 2.30pm.

PRESENT: Region President Ross Grove, Region Chair Debbie Howlett and others as per attendance book.

APOLOGIES: Read by David Stopps, Deputy Region Commissioner, and others as per attendance book.

MOVED: Jill Reardon    SECONDED: Gabie Thompson

WELCOME: Mr Ross Grove, Region President welcomed all those present.

PRESENTATION: To Zachary Redwood by Doug Menzies OAM, Chief Commissioner for NSW

ALAN OVERTON AM AWARD: Alan's history read by Tony Dent, Deputy Region Commissioner

#### 1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the 68th Annual General Meeting of the Region Council held on Sunday, 21st June, 2015 were circulated in the Annual Report and adopted.

MOVED: Neville Henderson    SECONDED: Anne Thompson

#### 2. ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

##### Financial Report

Mr. Paul Thompson, Region Treasurer

##### Annual Report

Mr. Neville Henderson OAM, Region Commissioner

MOVED the Adoption of the Annual Report and Financial Statement

Mr. Lyall Wood AM RFD, Chairman Scouts NSW Board

SECONDED the Adoption of the Annual Report and Financial Statement

Mrs Debbie Howlett, Chair GWS Region Executive

##### ADDRESS BY:

Ray Williams MP – Member for Castle Hill and Region Patron

Dr. Hugh McDermott MP – Member for Prospect

Councillor Jill Reardon – Representing Hawkesbury Council

Councillor Susai Benjamin – Representing Blacktown Council

Kerrey Williams – Region Manager, Greater Rivers Region

#### 3. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

REGION PRESIDENT	Mr Ross Grove	TRUSTEES	The Region Commissioner
REGION CHAIR	Mrs Debbie Howlett		Mr Peter Stieme
REGION TREASURER	Mr Paul Thompson		Mr David Stopps

MOVED: Patricia Shaw    SECONDED: Gavan Hall

#### 4. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF REGION EXECUTIVE

Mrs Jan Playford	Mr Michael Barton	Mr Peter Stieme	Mr Michael Majoors
Mr Lyall Wood AM RFD	Mr Glenn Duncan	Mrs Melissa Harding	Mrs Pamela Garske
Mr Paul Roach	Mrs Margo Dalziel	Mrs Patricia Shaw	Mr Peter Nickl
Mr David Stopps	Mr Craig Kennedy		

THE ADMINISTRATOR, CITY OF PARRAMATTA, THE MAYORS OF THE CITIES OF PENRITH, BLACKTOWN, HAWKESBURY, RYDE, BLUE MOUNTAINS, THE HILLS, HORNSBY, THE ADMINISTRATOR OF CUMBERLAND COUNCIL AND THE REGION COMMISSIONERS OF THE GIRL GUIDES WITHIN GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION.

MOVED: Tony Dent    SECONDED: Geoff McGrath

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

MRS JAN PLAYFORD..... HONORARY REGION COMMISSIONER, GWS  
 MR PETER NICKL..... REGION COMMISSIONER INTERNATIONAL  
 MR DAVID STOPPS..... DEPUTY REGION COMMISSIONER  
 MR PETER STIEME ..... DELEGATE PINNAROO SCOUT FELLOWSHIP  
 MRS MELISSA HARDING ..... DELEGATE BLUE MOUNTAINS SCOUT FELLOWSHIP  
 MR LYALL WOOD AM RFD ..... DELEGATE CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW FELLOWSHIP  
 AND CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW  
 MARGO DALZIEL ..... DELEGATE WARATAH ACTIVITY SCOUT FELLOWSHIP  
 MR PAUL THOMPSON ..... DELEGATE HOLROYD DISTRICT  
 MR MICHAEL MAJOORS..... DELEGATE PARRAMATTA DISTRICT  
 MR GLENN DUNCAN ..... DELEGATE PENRITH DISTRICT  
 MR CRAIG KENNEDY..... DELEGATE BLACKTOWN DISTRICT  
 MR PAUL ROACH..... DELEGATE BLUE MOUNTAINS DISTRICT  
 MS MICHAEL BARTON..... REGION ROVER COUNCIL CHAIR  
 MRS PATRICIA SHAW ..... EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER  
 MRS PAMELA GARSKE ..... MINUTE TAKER

MOVED: Aaron Wardle    SECONDED: Frank Barr

#### **DELEGATES TO NSW STATE COUNCIL**

THE REGION COMMISSIONER  
 THE REGION PRESIDENT  
 THE REGION CHAIR  
 MR PETER STIEME  
 MR DAVID STOPPS

MOVED: Tony Dent    SECONDED: Judy Barr

#### **ELECTION OF CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW MANAGEMENT BOARD**

DR ROBERT LANG ..... PRODUCER/DIRECTOR  
 MR LYALL WOOD AM RFD ..... CHAIRMAN  
 MR NEVILLE HENDERSON OAM..... DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR  
 DR JEANIE WOOD ..... SECRETARY  
 MR PAUL THOMPSON ..... FINANCE DIRECTOR/TREASURER  
 MR MATTHEW THOMPSON ..... MUSICAL DIRECTOR  
 MR TRISTAN HORNSTRA..... PRODUCTION DIRECTOR  
 MR PETER LEE..... TECHNICAL DIRECTOR  
 MRS JENNY WARDELL..... WELFARE DIRECTOR  
 DR KARINA WARDLE ..... MARKETING DIRECTOR  
 MR ADAM WARDELL ..... STRATEGY ADVISOR

MOVED: Lyall Wood    SECONDED: Brian Zarth

**4. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**

That the meetings of the Region Executive Committee be held on the 3rd Monday of each month except January commencing at 7.30pm and should that day be a public holiday, the meeting shall be the following night.

**MOVED:** Anne Thompson

**SECONDED:** Geoff McGrath

**9. ADDRESS BY** Members of Cumberland Gang Show

**ADDRESS BY** Mr Doug Menzies OAM, Chief Commissioner of Scouts NSW

**ADDRESS BY** Mr Kerry McGoldrick, Chair of Scouts NSW Board

Mr Doug Menzies OAM, also presented a certificate to Debbie Howlett for work done for State recruitment of General Manager and Chief Commissioner.

Mr. Ross Grove thanked everyone for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 4.05pm followed by afternoon tea provided by GUMNUT PATISSERIE AND PREPARED BY PINNAROO SCOUT FELLOWSHIP.

## REGION COMMISSIONER

It gives me great pleasure to present the 70th annual report of Greater Western Sydney Region. This is my seventh report as your Region Commissioner.

Our region consists of 44 Scout Groups, 5 Scout Fellowships and 10 Rover Crews. The Region operates with seven districts, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Hills, Holroyd, Parramatta and Penrith. We keep in regular contact with the State Members of Parliament, the Federal Members of Parliament and the various Mayors and a number of the councilors as they are the people who can help the region and groups.

Congratulations to Peter Nickl, Region Commissioner International, who was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 2016. It was a great recognition for over 50 years of service to scouting not only in GWS but also on the international scene. At the same time Frank Barr was also recognized for his service to many voluntary roles he holds with the Medal of the Order of Australian (OAM)

During the year unfortunately we had to fill four Commissioner roles. Kathy Cuneo (Region Commissioner Adult Training and Development) and her husband have moved to Perth and we wish them all the best for their new life on the other side of Australia. Cassie Rec has moved from her role as Region Commissioner Adults in Scouting to take over the vacant Region Commissioner Adult Training and Development as well as retaining the Special Needs role.

Due to ill health Robin Garrett resigned as Region Commissioner Scouts and has accepted an appointment of Honorary Commissioner assisting with Scouts.



Tracey Stopps has accepted the challenge to take over from Robin in the Scouting role.

Our Region Commissioner Venturer Scouts, Aaron Wardle accepted an appointment at National as International Commissioner and we wish him all the best in this new and challenging role. Brian Nelson agreed to step into the vacant position and we wish him all the best in this new role



Carol Cope has agreed to become Region Commissioner Member Support and we welcome her and back to the Region Team after a number of years at State. Lyall and Jeanie Wood have agreed to work with Carol as Region Leaders Member Support.

I mentioned last year that a number of leaders from Holroyd District had set up a development team aimed at increasing youth numbers in the district and supporting groups with diminished numbers. It is pleasing to note that this committee is still working towards their aims.

Once again we had a successful Adult Recognition Awards Presentation at Wentworthville Leagues Club in October with a record 250 people in attendance to see their friends, colleagues and peers recognized for their service to scouting. Thanks to our retired Chief Commissioner Doug Menzies, Region President Ross Grove and David Stopps for assisting with the presentation of the awards. We had 84 leaders and supporters receive awards in 2016. We have again booked the venue for our 2017 Awards Dinner on 12 October

To all the leaders and volunteer supporters who give so freely of their time to provide good scouting to the youth members, I commend you on your commitment to scouting. Whether you wear a uniform or not, your dedication and time given freely is what keeps scouting moving forward. We want you to know we couldn't do it without you.

We are also fortunate to have a treasurer as keen as Paul Thompson who keeps an eye on the finances and budget of the region; unfortunately however Paul has decided not to continue in the role and will be completing the appointment today. Thanks Paul for your excellent service to Scouting and GWS in particular. Furthermore I must recognize our Region Scribe Pam Garske who keeps a record of our meetings and our various delegates who regularly attend the

Region Executive each month. It is also a pleasure to work with Debbie Howlett our Region Chair who keeps our monthly meetings on track and is keen to keep an eye on the business of Region.

It is hard for the region to operate without the services of a team of exceptional leaders who are not only dedicated to their duties but perform at an unbelievably high level and give up so much of their precious spare time to “do their best”. Every section runs smoothly with many region activities geared to the age of the participants and please read the section reports showing how busy they have been during the past year. I don’t wish to single out any of the leaders but must note the contribution of Matt Thompson as our webmaster, keeping our information up to date and Anne Thompson who does a wonderful job editing and producing the Region Bulletin each month.

To Kim, our excellent Office Assistant, congratulations on seven years of dedicated service to scouting, the region and the groups. Wendy joined the staff during the year and I am sure you join with me in thanking them for the time they spend keeping the region running as efficiently as it does. They took over the administration for The Golden West Region last year and I know the groups in that region are very happy with their service. We couldn’t do without them as part of our team.

Finally, thanks to my deputies, David Stopps and Tony Dent, for the assistance they give me to ensure the region runs so smoothly. Good to know that I have good people to run problems past.

Until next time.....carry on Scouting.

*Neville Henderson* OAM  
Region Commissioner



## REGION CHAIRPERSON

2016 has been a big year in the Scouting calendar and no more so than in GWS. We started the year with the Jamboree and finished it with final preparations for the Cuboree, including a change in camp venue for the Region Jamborette, large numbers of youth members attending all of these events, regardless of the weather, all because of the great programming and offer of adventures that Scouting delivers courtesy of our dedicated leaders.



The past year has seen many changes put into place, with the appointment of Neville Tomkins as Chief Commissioner Scouts NSW and the planned Youth Program Review underway. All these changes will impact on us all in many ways, new directions, strategies and programs, we all need to embrace them and charge forward as Scouting needs to be viewed as being transformational and sustainable to the youth of today.

GWS is in the nexus of a growing populous and we will need to capture these youth and their parents for us to be sustainable as a youth organisation for the future.

I thank you all for your ongoing contribution to the success we have achieved over the last year and together in GWS, we can achieve so much more for the youth of today, tomorrow and Scouting as a whole.

As BP said “There is no teaching to compare with example”

Let us move forward and show what we can at GWS do, not just for Scouting but the whole community!

Yours in Scouting

*Debbie Howlett*  
Region Chairperson

## REGION OFFICE

Kim has now completed seven year's of service in the office and was joined during the year by Wendy Dimmock. Even though we feel on occasions that we are overworked we really enjoy the challenges we face.

In 2016 year we took over the administration of the office work for The Golden West Region and this seems to be working particularly well.

In the past 12 months we have assisted with the Region Adult Recognition Awards Presentation Dinner, processed 91 nomination for the 2017 Adult Recognition Awards, completed received and verified the applications for the Joey Fun Day and the Cub Fun Day and around 1000 applications for the abandoned Region Jamborette and 600 for the second event in October 2016. These special events were in addition to processing the many normal region activities we handle during the course of our normal day. Thanks to Matt Thompson for the EMS registration system which is making the applications much easier to process.

The work load in processing membership forms never seems to get any less even with the introduction of the new Scoutlink computer system by State Office. Hopefully when it is fully operational and groups are responsible to manage their own records, then we will have more time to spend on other region matters.

Thanks to the visitors to the office and members of the region team who are patient when we are handling their enquiries, answering the phone or writing a receipt. It is nice to deal with pleasant people and make our job more enjoyable. We would ask that if you arrive at the office on closing time you understand that we may hurry you out as we have children to collect from school and take them to various scouting and sporting activities.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Adult Awards Presentation in October at Wentworthville Leagues and catching up on the latest news.

*Kim Harris & Wendy Dimmock*  
Office Assistants

## BUNDILLA SCOUT CAMP

It has been another big year at Bundilla with many groups, both scouting and non- scouting conducting camps, NSW Scout Board planning day, Insurance Committee Risk Day, funs days, motorhome rally and much much more.

There is a lot of interest from outside the scouting movement to use Bundilla as organisations get to learn the virtues of our wonderful facility so close to the city and transport. We get many more community groups than scouting groups even though our scouting fee is far lower than many other comparable camp sites.

We have been lucky enough to get a State Government Grant which will assist with the conversion of the old grey boy's shower block outside the Peter Waite Room into two disabled toilets and are looking to secure the remainder of the finances to complete this project in the current scouting year.

We have had a small State Government Grant which allowed us to upgrade some of our lighting and other projects and we look forward to more support in the coming twelve months.

The camp has been used by many groups from our region this year, some for the first time and they all commented on our excellent facilities. The Guides have also used our facilities on a number of occasions and have booked for a number of weekends in the coming year.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Bundilla Scout Camp in the future.

*David & Tracey Stopps*  
Camp Caretakers



## SECTION REPORTS

# JOEY SCOUTS

2016 has been an exciting year for the Joey Scout Section. This year we held the “Colours” Joey Fun Day, the first Cataract Woonona (Multi-Region Mob Holiday) and then there were many Hikes, Adventures, Mob Holidays and Group Family camps that included Joey Scouts.

The 2016 Joey Fun Day was a great success, we had 120 Joey Scouts celebrating a “Colours” theme over 9 bases. We had fantastic support from the Activities teams, First Aid, Cubs, Circus, Cumberland Gang Show and the Science team. The Joeys District teams also put on some fantastic bases. It was a massive packed day that ran very smoothly. A special thank you to Outback Steakhouse who sponsored our event by providing the most tender steak sandwiches, that will put any of our BBQ’s to shame. We had great weather and smiles all round.

This year we held our inaugural Cataract Woonona. This was run as a Joint Event with GWS, Hume & South Metropolitan Regions. The Theme was Bindi and the Chocolate Factory. We had 251 Joeys experience the Out in Scouting at Cataract Scout Park. Bases included, Flying Fox, Water Slide, Horizontal Bungee, Science (Water Rockets), Archery, Cumberland Gang Show, Cirque Du Scout, oompa Loompa Land, Bindi & the Chocolate Factory. A BRAVOOO goes to the Cataract Catering team, Cataract Scout Park team, GWS First Aid Team, Campbelltown Ghosts Joey Leaders for the Special Needs Sensory Base, and our International Team. A Special Thank you to Lionel Pascoe (RJCS-Sth Met) and Cathie Spiker (RCJS-Hume) who were awesome in helping to make this work. As a major event, it achieved its goals, Every Joey Scout that I met, were totally enthralled in the experience. Behind the scenes there were some challenges, some lessons



learnt and some systems that were stretched beyond what we expected. The 2016 Jamborette was washed out and was postponed, the new closing date clashed with ours and placed a massive burden on our region office. Special thank you to Kim & Wendy in the GWS Region Office. Lastly, thank you to Andrew Iverson for running the Coffee Van, much appreciated. Thank you to Matt Thompson for the Scout Events EMS, It’s a great resource, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Joey Scouts continue to be part of Cumberland Gang Show’s Comet Cast. The theme this year was “Power Up”. They ran 8 shows during the July School Holidays. It was great to see them supported by so many Joey Scout mobs sitting in the audience. Thank you to the Comet Commanders Narelle Sauerbier and Bec Shaw.



Greater Western Sydney is privileged to have a wealth of talented leaders in the Joey Section. These leaders are responsible for the professional programme that continues to attract new members into scouting. This year the Joey Section has recruited 224 new members to Scouting. That is a fantastic effort. But..... we still have a long way to go. Out of those 224 new Joeys, 46 have since resigned as well as 59 from 2015/16. On the positive side we have had 119 advance up to the cubs Section. This leaves us with 206 Joeys. That is up from 191 Joeys from last year.

This year we continue to recognise and invest in our leaders. I would like to Congratulate Jess White, Nerilee Leary, Vicky Ramsey, Geraldine Miller & Mark Mueller on Achieving their Certificates of Adult Leadership. We also have 6 Joey leaders working towards their Wood





Badge. Special congratulations to Joanne Chamberlain, Karen Fairall, Kylie Green, Margaret Preston, Helen Sara, Caroline Watts on being awarded the Meritorious Service Award. Congratulations also to Karen & Chris Cardona, Laura Crump, Alice Gravina and Zoe Stephens on receiving a Special Service Award.

In GWS, Joey Scouts enjoy a wealth of support from the Region Council, Region Executive and all the District Councils, I have been humbled to hear the positive attitude and encouragement we get from all of them. Thank you.

I would also like to give a big Hop Hop Hop to my Joey Scouts GWS Region Team, Leonie Plummer (Parramatta/Hills), Dianne Quan (Hills), Valerie Lockman (Blacktown/Holroyd), Caroline Watts (Hawkesbury), Sharon Zarth (Penrith). You have all been fantastic. You have all stepped up to the mark, and given me great confidence that the Districts are in good hands. I would also like to thank Jill Heath, our State Commissioner Joey Scouts. Jill has been a great supporter behind the scenes and despite being at the top, the creativity hasn't stopped and we look forward to next years NSW State Konara.

Finally a special thank you to all our Joey Leaders and supporters. Your tireless effort week in and week out is what makes all this work. I admire all the creativity and enthusiasm I see around our Joey Mobs. BRAVOOO!

Yours in Scouting

*Brian Zarth (Magpie)*  
Region Commissioner (Joey Scouts)



## Promise Challenge 2016-2017

**1st Balcombe Heights**  
Adam Hourihan  
Alexander Thompsett

**1st Cambridge Park**  
Lily Wylie

**1st Carlingford**  
**Pumindu Dias**  
Vicki Li

**Clara Matthews**  
**Jessica Schmitt**  
**Jamieson Songvilay**  
**Xavier Stephens**  
**Amia Tan**

**1st Dural**  
Lachlan Edwards  
Emily Symons  
Sarah Symons  
Kristina Taylor

**1st Ermington**  
Kaisei Doggett  
William O'hara

**1st Erskine Park**  
Dean Bannon

**1st Greystanes**  
Lorenzo Mercieca

**1st Hawkesbury**  
Patrick Boulos  
Tiffany Kent

**1st Kellyville**  
Luke Rudling

**1st Kings Langley**  
Tristan Roper

**1st Murray Farm**  
Niki Andepalli

**1st North Rocks**  
Huey Yin

**1st Oakville**  
Michael Botha  
Rhiannon Watts

**1st Winston Hills**  
Ryan Mardling  
Jordan Turner  
Mitchell Walker



# CUB SCOUTS

2016 proved to be a very busy year for the Cub Scout section as we celebrated our very special Centenary year.

## State Centenary Wide Game and Picnic in Sydney

On Sunday July 31, over 2,000 Cub Scouts and Leaders descended on the city of Sydney to celebrate our Centenary year. The weather was perfect and the Governor and his wife were charming hosts and made us all feel very welcome - it's not every day one gets to picnic on the lawns of Government House! Congratulations and thank you to Tricia Shaw, State Commissioner Cub Scouts, for organising such a successful and enjoyable Sate event.



## CS Leadership Course August 13

Sixty Cub Scouts participated in our final leadership course for the year. It was a very busy day - but as usual the Seeonee Team did a fabulous job of presenting sessions and running bases. Sincere thanks to the CSLs who volunteered their time to help us and to my husband Paul, sons Matt and Andy and Suzanne Cornell who kept us well fed throughout the day.

## Pre-Cuboree Camps (aka Shakedown camps)

Two big shakedown camps were held at Bundilla as preparation for Cuboree 2017. On September 10th & 11th, Blacktown, Blue Mts, Hawkesbury and Penrith Districts camped together and on September 17th & 18th, Hills Sth (3 packs), Holroyd and Parramatta (2 packs) camped together.

A huge thank you to Michelle McLean (Blacktown), Jo Hillyard (Blue Mts), John Aquilina (Hawkesbury), Ian Lutz, Richard Horman, Simon Edwards (Hills Sth), Trevor Fowler (Holroyd) Melissa McAulay, Andrew Selmes (Parramatta) and Rodney Pringle (Penrith) for taking on the most demanding role of Pack Coordinator. These leaders did an amazing job of organising their packs and gathering all the equipment together required for Cuboree.

My special thanks to Gabie Thompson and Melissa Harding who supported the Pack Coordinators and shared their knowledge and experience with them and also managed the pre-Cuboree camps while I was away on holidays.

## NSW State Cuboree

Our 6th NSW State Cuboree was held on January 3 to 7 at Cataract Scout Park. It was a wonderful way to bring our Centenary celebrations to a conclusion. The cubs had a marvellous time thanks to the mighty efforts of the CSLs, Cooks, Activity Leaders and Junior Service Leaders, who kept them safe, busy and well fed, despite the persistent rain, mud, heat and high humidity! Our sincere appreciation must go to Irene Kalsow and Tricia Shaw for organising such a huge, fun event.





### Cub Scout Leadership Course March 18

63 enthusiastic Cub Scouts attended our first leadership course for 2017. Despite the large number, the day went smoothly thanks to my wonderful Region Seonee Team and a cooking team from Pinnaroo Scout Fellowship. The cubs gave us some very good feedback during the various sessions and we will use this to organise training at District Seonees.



### Joey Scout Fun Day on May 15

Congratulations to Brian Zarth RCJS and his Team who organised another successful JS Fun Day at Bundilla. Shirley Robinson, Gabie Thompson and I ran a base with a Jungle Book theme. We appreciated the opportunity to talk to the Joeys and hear why they are looking forward to moving up to Cubs.

### Grey Wolf Awards

Congratulations to all 44 Cub Scouts who have achieved their Grey Wolf Award during the past year and well done to the Leaders who helped them achieve this award. The Cubs have put a lot of effort into creating some excellent resources for use in the Packs when running Jungle Book Programmes or instructing New Chums.

## Grey Wolf Awards 2016-2017



### 1st Balcombe Heights

Ashley Uidam  
Claire Jones  
Thomas Pinchbeck  
Anson Liu

### 1st Blackheath

Finlay Davis

### 1st Blaxland

Otto Timmins  
Ryan Taylor  
Lachlan Wheeler  
Max Klein  
Alexander James

### 1st Carlingford

Quinn Stephens

### 2nd Castle Hill

Sean Hodge

### 1st Ermington

TJ O'Hara

### 1st Erskine Park

Bowen Pearce

### 1st Glossodia

Cameron Luck  
Zane Tonitto

### 1st Greystanes

Monique Romer

### 1st Hawkesbury

Jon-Pierre Dagher

### 1st Hazelbrook

Benjamin Ellicott

### 1st Kellyville

Daniel Humphreys  
Jillian Harmeling  
Hannah Watkins  
Melissa Brooke

### 1st/2nd Blacktown

Madison-Lee Staples  
Edward Paul

### 1st/2nd Merrylands

Lochlan Muscat  
Ogadi Anugoh  
Vanessa Ozols

### 2nd Northmead

Evie Dean  
Michael Anderson

### 1st North Mt Druit

Blake Wood  
Luke Bonnici

### 1st Oakville

Thomas Dorne  
Liam Dorne  
Blake Mitchell  
Holly Merryfull  
Jack Miller

### 1st Parramatta

Laura Douglass

### 1st Rydalmere

Vera He  
Rebecca Edmonds  
Alexander McKeon

### 1st St Marys

Lisa Thornton  
Liam Spinks

### West Pennant Hills Valley

Scott Romanis



### Region Seeonee Team

Sincere thanks to my wonderfully talented and dedicated Leaders who work so hard to support their own Districts as well Region. They make my job a whole lot easier – I couldn't do it without them! Congratulations to Michelle McLean who received a Silver Koala in August '16 and Melissa McAulay and John Aquilina who received their CS Wood Badges recently – 1, 2, 3, Woof!



- Region Advisor - Shirley Robinson
- Blacktown District - Michelle McLean CSL 1st Nth Mt Druitt /Seeonee Leader
- Blue Mountains and Penrith City District - Melissa Harding DLCS
- Hawkesbury District - John Aquilina CSL 1st Glossodia/Seeonee Leader
- Hills South District - Gabie Thompson DLCS
- Holroyd District - Jeff Hook CSL 1st Westmead/ Seeonee Leader
- Parramatta District - Melissa McAulay CSL 1st Rydalmere/Seeonee Leader

THANK YOU!

In closing I would like to thank;

*Kim Harris and Wendy Dimmock* in our Region Office for all their hard work, support and friendship.

*David Stopps* Deputy RC for his continued advice and support

*Bundilla's Caretakers*, David and Tracey Stopps and their family for all their help with any events the Cub section hold at Bundilla.

*Paul Thompson* who is always on hand to lend support and encouragement

*Matt Thompson* who is crazy busy, but still makes time to help me with any IT problems and finally, my sincere thanks to our RC Neville Henderson for his continued support, the generous use of Bundilla for our meetings and activities and for visiting the Cub Scouts and their Leaders at Region events.

Anne Thompson (Wontoffa)  
Region Commissioner (Cub Scouts)



# SCOUTS

The biggest change this past year has been the change of Commissioners for the Scout Section. I have decided to stand aside to allow a younger person to take over with fresh ideas as well as my health reasons. Tracey Stopps is now in the role and I am functioning as Honorary Commissioner being an advisor to Tracey. I am completing this report for Tracey.

Our "Scouts in the Spotlight" Jamborette had to be postponed from the original date and place due to heavy rain and flooding which closed Bents Basin down the week before our camp. We managed to re-group for the October long weekend at Cataract. We are grateful to Cataract coming to the party and assisting us. Our numbers were not as many as we originally had due to other events and commitments but our numbers were still reasonable. There were about 600 camped altogether, around 300 less than usual. Most of the original planned activities still went ahead and we had a record number of them. The use of the Flying Fox at Cataract was very helpful as was the natural abseil wall on site. A number of activities closed early as there was not enough Scouts to occupy them. Probably one of the downsides was that Scouts had to do a fair amount of walking between the Flying Fox, Science & Technology and the rest of the activities located on Site 6. Another great thing enjoyed was the abundance of toilets and showers with no shower timer. We could get very used to this.

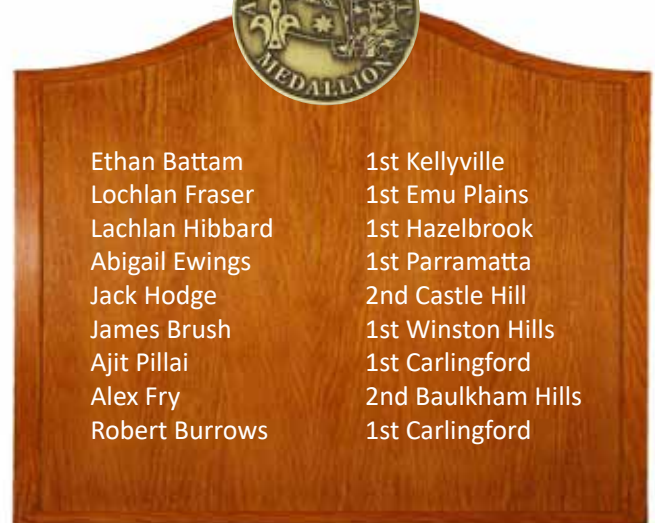


During the year, GWSR Scouts and Leaders took part in a number of activities both in and outside our Region:



Scout Hike in May and State Rally at Glenfield in August. Congratulations to 1st Balcombe Heights "Quantum State", 1st Glossodia "The Rick and Morty's", 2nd Kings Langley "The DeLoreans" who took out the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings in our Region. We had a record number of Patrols from our Region participate. We also saw quite a lot of Scouts and leaders assist at Cuboree in January and from all reports was very successful.

I'd like to recognise and congratulate the Scouts who have been awarded their Adventurer (Green) cords and the Australian Scout Medallion (ASM). As was seen last year, the quality of ASM projects has been remarkable as was the increased quantity. For the Certificate presentations just happened in April we had a total of 7 receive their certificates which is a lot more than we have had in the past.



B-R-A-V-O to you all!

Thank you to my team of Region and District Leaders who have supported and helped me in the last year and further. Congratulations and best wishes to Tracey now in the seat.

Yours in Scouting

Robin 'Batman' Garrett  
Former Region Commissioner (Scouts)

# VENTURER SCOUTS

The past year in the Venturer Scout section has seen many highlights achieved throughout the Region including a massive fifteen Queen's Scouts being awarded! BRAVOOO!



Emily Tyrrell	1st Glossodia
Jake Mountford	1st Carlingford
Stuart Mort	1st Carlingford
Jake Krnel	2nd Baulkham Hills
Saxon Krnel	2nd Baulkham Hills
Sienna Archer	2nd Baulkham Hills
Jarrold Mutton	2nd Baulkham Hills
Alexander Hourd	1st Castle Hill
Meaghan Smith	1st Oakville
Naomi Rowe	2nd Baulkham Hills
Ryan Barton	1st Castle Hill
Rosie Rodgers	1st Oakville
Benedict Cutts	1st Westmead
Jonathan Roche	1st Westmead
Sophie White	1st Carlingford

The number of Queen's Scouts this year is testament to the huge attendance seen at Region Courses recently. Applications often reach capacity weeks ahead of the closing date with 48 participants across two Initiative Activities last year, 34 attending our Leadership Course, 61 participants across two Unit Management Courses and 24 youth members across both Environment Camps.

Bryn Catlin from 1st Erskine Park, Aidan Bath from 1st Kellyville and Benedict Cutts from 1st Westmead were selected to attend the 2016 Mawson Scholarship in Leadership and represented the Region with great distinction.

Jordan Vella and Dylan McPherson from 1st Glossodia joined the Australian Contingent to the Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland during June.



Joshua Kahane and Damian Wysocki from 2nd Baulkham Hills and Billy Freeman, James Miller and Keighlyn Scott from 1st Oakville attended the State Venturer Environment Camp in July.

Jess Richards from 1st/2nd Blacktown represented the Region at the NT Venture in July.

17 Venturer Scouts from 1st Carlingford, 1st Kings Langley, 1st North Rocks, 1st Winston Hills, 1st/2nd Merrylands and 2nd Baulkham Hills performed onstage as cast members of the 2016 Cumberland Gang Show.

Wendy Sheppard from 2nd Baulkham Hills joined myself at the 7th International Finnjamboree in July. The event was a huge success with 17,000 Scouts attending from around the world.

Rat Skin 2016 was held at Wyangala Dam to the theme of "Rat Skin Does Rock-eee". Some of our Units attended the event running activity bases they had designed themselves. Several leaders also joined the competition with our highest scoring team from the Region reaching third place.



In October, over 100 Venturer Scouts from the Region volunteered at the rescheduled 2016 Jamborette with some excellent bases being organised for the event.

Congratulations to 1st Ermington and 1st Winston Hills on their "Venturer Wants a Voice" activity which was voted by the Patrol Leaders as the best activity base at the event.

Our largest ever Waratah was held at the Glenfield Scout Camp in November with 237 competitors and more than 50 supporting adults.



The Hunger Games theme proved a great success as teams enjoyed the Capitol Feast, and revelled in the competition. Congratulations to team "Rainbow Sparks" from 1st Dural on winning the event.



Six Venturer Scouts from the Region attended the "Everything is Possible" Jamboree in Thailand in December.



Venturer Scouts from 1st Westmead completed a challenging expedition in the Snowy Mountains in December reaching the summit of Mount Kosciuszko. The journey is part of their preparations to complete the Everest Base Camp Trek in Nepal in November 2017.



32 Venturer Scouts from the Region volunteered at the NSW Cuboree held at Cataract Scout Park in January.

Several members of the Region are preparing to attend the 10th VCP German National Jamboree and the 31st APR Jamboree in Mongolia in the middle of the year. The pre-Jamboree camp for Germany in January saw participants hike The Coastal Track in the Royal National Park during sweltering conditions.



Our Region rafting event in February was a huge success with over 100 Venturer Scouts building their own rafts and paddling down the Nepean River. The Mayor of Hawkesbury City Council, Clr Mary Lyons-Buckett, joined the participants on a stormy Saturday afternoon at Yarramundi Reserve and was very impressed by the diverse range of raft constructions. Congratulations to 1st Blaxland and 1st Glossodia for their award winning efforts on the weekend.



Members of GWS Region also attended the Scarf Up for Scouting project at NSW Parliament House on Founder's Day. The event was a great success with local politicians being presented with their very own scarf.



I would like to express appreciation to my team that have done such a great job in helping to manage the Region during the past twelve months. Matt Vella, Judy Barr, Shaun Lesslie and Brian Nelson each bring great experience and leadership to the Venturer Scout section, of which I am most grateful.

Thank you as well to every Adult Leader, Fellowship Member and Youth Member in the Region for joining together to ensure that everyone can enjoy the huge range of opportunities that continue to expand in the Venturer Scout section.

The past eight years in this role has been a great privilege and I am hugely proud of the achievements of each and every Unit during that time. I have enjoyed great friendships with adults and youth members across the Region and seen great progress as we continue to expand the Venturer Scout program. I have however accepted the national appointment of International Commissioner. I would like to thank the Region for their confidence in me over these past eight years and look forward to working with everyone again in my new capacity in the future.

I would like to congratulate Brian Nelson as the new Region Commissioner (Venturer Scouts). I know that he will receive great support in this role and I wish the Region every success in the future.

Aaron Wardle  
Region Commissioner (Venturer Scouts)



# ROVERS

It's been a big year for Greater Western Sydney Rovers!

We saw the successful running of GWS Survivor moot by 2nd Baulkham Hills Rover Crew, with great attendance from all region crews. Congratulations to 1st Blaxland/Kalangadoo on winning, we're sure you'll run a great Straya Moot in the coming year! Attendance at all moots, and also Dragon Skin, has been excellent, with a variety of crews making up the numbers each time.

A big congratulations to all the rovers that have participated in training, in Basic, Advanced, First Aid or Adventurous Activities courses. It's been a fantastic year in GWS for training as we've had a number of rovers been trained over the past year, with quadruple the number of rovers trained than in any previous year. We've have 19 Rovers and 2 RA's from 8/10 GWS crews attend basic rover training courses this year. Big congratulations to Baulkham Hills, Baulkham Hills (Outdoor), Blacktown, Blaxland/Kalangadoo, Castle Hill, Hawkesbury River, Kings Langley and Merrylands.



Service has been excellent in GWS this year, especially internal Service to Scouting. In particular, Nepean Rover Crew has spent many hours in the past 12 months finishing Site work at Cataract and running Jamborette and Dragon Skin VOC 4 with assistance from other GWS Crews. Crew activities have also been fun and diverse, with multiple intercrew activities occurring to establish better connections between all our region crews. Most crews have also done a great job interacting with their local venturer units and working on linking opportunities, with Rovers empowered to visit their nearby units directly.

We've seen positive growth in Greater Western Sydney Region Rovers in 2016, increasing from around 120 rovers over 9 crews to 140 rovers over 10 crews. We're



pleased to welcome 2nd Baulkham Hills (Outdoor) Rover Crew to the region, we're looking forward to getting outdoors and adventurous with you!

The Rover Council Executive Team have been great, staying accountable to each other and fulfilling goals for the region as a whole. We'd like to thank Twisty and Matt Lee for their excellent guidance, advice and support for all the region rovers over the year.

Greater Western Sydney Region has some high standards to achieve this coming year. We're looking to consolidate our growth and make sure it's sustainable into the future, with more work from our Venturer Liaison and Activities officers to create the first GWS Region Roverenture in many years. We're also keen to see more Rovers complete Advanced training and bring their leadership skills back to their crews. Service will be a region focus in the next 12 months, in particular Service external to scouting. GWS Region are also punching above our weight, with 5 members on the Branch Rover Council Executive, including Luke Saunders and Ayla Jones as Chair and Vice Chair, and Chris Ward, Rachel Ewings and Rachael Fulton also on the Exec. We'd also like to congratulate GWS' own Angus Boxall on his election to National Rover Council Chair – we're sure you'll do us proud!

*Ayla Jones*

Region Rover Council Vice-Chair 2017-18



# 2016 ADULT RECOGNITION AWARDS



## **SILVER KANGAROO – for Eminent Achievement and Exceptional Service**

DENT, Tony John ----- Deputy Region Commissioner, Greater Western Sydney Region



## **SILVER EMU – for Sustained and Exceptional Service**

HALL, Gavan Roger ----- District Commissioner, Hills South District



## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD – for Distinguished Service**

APTHORPE, Michael John ----- Pinnaroo Scout Fellowship

POUNDER, Ann Cheryl ----- Honorary Commissioner, Greater Western Sydney Region



## **SILVER KOALA – for Distinguished Service**

BARR, Judith Ann ----- District Venturer Scout Leader, Blue Mountains District

MCLEAN, Michelle Anne ----- Cub Scout Leader, 1st North Mt Druitt Cub Pack

STIEME, Peter James ----- Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Pendle Hill Cub Pack



## **SILVER WATTLE – for Outstanding Service**

ANDERSON, Andrew Nicholas ----- Leader In Charge, 2nd Kings Langley Scout Group

COFFILL, Linda Gillian ----- Scout Leader, 1st Grose Vale Scout Troop

HAYES, Elizabeth Ann ----- Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Parramatta Cub Pack

HOWLETT, Ross William ----- District Commissioner, Blacktown District

MCLEAN, Andrew William ----- Scout Leader, 1st Erskine Park Scout Troop

STOPPS, David John ----- Deputy Region Commissioner, Greater Western Sydney Region

THOMPSON, Matthew Carl ----- Region Commissioner (Communications & PR), Greater Western Sydney Region



## **OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD – for Outstanding Service**

PAYNE, Warren Allan ----- Formation Administration Officer, 1st Dural Scout Group



## **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD – for Excellent Service**

BATES, Raymond ----- Group Chairman, 1st Westmead Scout Group

BROWN, Greg ----- Group Treasurer, 1st Toongabbie Scout Group

CHAMBERLAIN, Joanne Debrah ----- Joey Scout Leader, 1st Kings Langley Joey Mob

DENT, Lisa Anne ----- Group Leader, 1st Toongabbie Scout Group

DEWHURST, Bradley Jason ----- Scout Leader, West Pennant Hills Valley Scout Troop

EWINGS, Nerida Elaine ----- Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Kellyville Venturer Unit

FAIRALL, Karen Ann ----- Joey Scout Leader, 1st Cambridge Park Joey Mob

FISHER, Joshua Duncan ----- Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st North Mt Druitt Cub Pack

GRAY, Faye Bernadette ----- Assistant Scout Leader, 1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Scout Troop

GREEN, Kylie Maree ----- Assistant Joey Scout Leader, 1st Kings Langley Joey Mob

HARRIS, Kim Elizabeth ----- Region Office Assistant, Greater Western Sydney Region

HENRY, Christopher John ----- Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Castle Hill Scout Troop

HOWARD, Clifford John ----- Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Granville Scout Troop

LESSLIE, Shaun Victor ----- Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Kellyville Venturer Unit

LUTZ, Ian Barry ----- Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Kellyville Cub Pack "Zazu"

MCKINLEY, David John ----- Scout Leader, 1st Kings Langley Scout Troop

PRESTON, Margaret Anne ----- Assistant Joey Scout Leader, 1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Joey Mob  
 SARA, Helen Lynne ----- Joey Scout Leader, 1st Winston Hills Joey Mob  
 SHAW, Mitchell Blake ----- Trainee Leader (Rover), Blacktown Rover Crew  
 SHEPPARD, Wendy Anne ----- Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, 2nd Baulkham Hills Venturer Unit  
 STOPPS, Tracey Kim ----- District Scout Leader, Hills South District  
 WATTS, Caroline Ann ----- Joey Scout Leader, 1st Oakville Joey Mob  
 WEST, Timothy Gordon Stenning ----- Scout Leader, 1st Hawkesbury Scout Troop  
 WOOD, Robert Clifford ----- Assistant Scout Leader, 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Troop



### **SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD – For Good Service**

ABNETT, Charlotte Kathleen ----- Cub Scout Leader, 2nd Kings Langley Cub Pack "Waminda"  
 ABNETT, David John ----- Group Treasurer, 2nd Kings Langley Scout Group  
 ALAMANGO, Kerrin Elizabeth ----- Supporter, Greater Western Sydney Region  
 ANDERSON, Gregory Luke ----- Fellowship Member, Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship  
 BARNETT, Matthew George ----- Group Treasurer, 1st Castle Hill Scout Group  
 BEARMAN, Jennifer Susan ----- Group Treasurer, 1st Greystanes Scout Group  
 BONITZ, Tara Janine ----- Cub Scout Leader, 1st Kellyville Cub Pack "Zazu"  
 BROOKS, Maryanne Irene Rose ----- Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Cub Pack  
 CARDONA, Christopher Gary ----- Assistant Joey Scout Leader, 1st Erskine Park Joey Mob  
 CARDONA, Karen Lee ----- Joey Scout Leader, 1st Erskine Park Joey Mob  
 CHEAH, Margaret Anne ----- Fellowship Member, Pinnaroo Scout Fellowship  
 CRUMP, Laura Kathleen ----- Assistant Joey Scout Leader, 1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Joey Mob  
 DAVIS, Elizabeth Clare ----- Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Winston Hills Cub Pack  
 DAVIS, Paul Philip ----- Scout Leader, 1st Glossodia Scout Troop  
 DE KONING, Henriette Annemarie --- Group Leader, 1st Glossodia Scout Group  
 FOYE, Cameron ----- Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Blaxland Venturer Unit  
 FREEMAN, Debra May ----- Fellowship Member, Hawkesbury Black Horse Scout Fellowship  
 GALE, Angie ----- Group President, 1st Toongabbie Scout Group  
 GRAVINA, Alice ----- Joey Scout Leader, 1st Kellyville Joey Mob  
 GREENAWAY, Sarah-Jane ----- Group Secretary, 1st Springwood Scout Group  
 HENDERSON, Geoffrey Robert ----- Region Leader (Strategy), Greater Western Sydney Region  
 HODGE, Helen Louise ----- Cub Scout Leader, 2nd Castle Hill Cub Pack "Nackara"  
 HOWLETT, Deborah ----- Region Chair, Greater Western Sydney Region  
 KINLOCH, Andrew Bruce ----- Group Chairman, 1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Scout Group  
 LAURENDET, James Anthony ----- Cub Scout Leader, 1st Hazelbrook Cub Pack  
 LLOYD, Leanne Margaret ----- Formation Administration Officer, 1st Kings Langley Scout Group  
 LOCKMAN, David Michael ----- Fellowship Member, Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship  
 LYTWYN, Deirdre Lorraine ----- Group Leader, 1st Granville Scout Group  
 MCDONALD, Ian Douglas ----- Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Blaxland Venturer Unit  
 MCDONELL, Alison ----- Supporter, Greater Western Sydney Region  
 NORTON, Gayle ----- Group Secretary, 1st Kings Langley Scout Group  
 ONG, Alexander Barong ----- Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Carlingford Cub Pack  
 OWEN, Carla Assistant ----- Cub Scout Leader, 1st Carlingford Cub Pack  
 OWENS, Julie ----- Supporter, Greater Western Sydney Region  
 PATTINSON, Ashley ----- Group Chairman, 1st Dural Scout Group  
 PRINGLE, Rodney ----- Cub Scout Leader, 1st Cambridge Park Cub Pack  
 RICHARDS, Brendan Charles ----- Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Kings Langley Cub Pack  
 SHAW, David Andrew ----- Region Leader (Communications), Greater Western Sydney Region  
 STEPHENS, Zoe Ann ----- Assistant Joey Scout Leader, 1st Carlingford Joey Mob  
 TRUSCOTT, Naomi Marie ----- Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Westmead Scout Troop  
 WALTERS, Ryan Andre ----- Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Carlingford Scout Troop  
 WARD, Kristine Fay ----- Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Hazelbrook Scout Troop  
 WELTON, Vicki Anne ----- Adult Helper, 1st Winston Hills Scout Group  
 WHITE, Rodney Kelvin ----- Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Carlingford Venturer Unit  
 WILLETTS, Carolyn ----- Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Hazelbrook Venturer Unit  
 WILLIAMS, Raymond Craig ----- Supporter, Greater Western Sydney Region  
 WOODLEY, Mathew John ----- Assistant Scout Leader, 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Troop

## ADULT TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

The training team of GWS is made up of a small group of enthusiastic Leaders, who all have several roles in Scouting. Together with the NSW Scouts Training Team they facilitate section training, adventurous activity training, electives, and other development opportunities for Leaders across GWS and the state. This small group of dedicated volunteers represent so many years of experience in Scouting, skills and knowledge.

In the past 12 months 36 GWS Leaders completed training to receive a Certificate of Adult Leadership, including 5 Joey Leaders, 19 Cub Leaders, 9 Scout Leaders, 1 Venturer Leader, 1 Rover, and 1 Region Leader. A further 6 Leaders completed advanced training and have been awarded the Wood Badge. Congratulations to all these Leaders. Thank you for the commitment you have shown to training!



### GWSR 2016-2017 Wood Badge Recipients

#### Cub Scout Section

David Boulton, 1st Erskine Park  
Melissa McAulay, 1st Rydalmere  
John Aquilina, 1st Glossodia

#### Scout Section

Andrew Whiddon, 2nd Castle Hill

#### Venturer Scout Section

Jeffrey Lehrer, 1st Dural  
Michael Fry, 2nd Baulkham Hills

This year we said a fond farewell to Kathy Cuneo. Kathy has given 18 years of service as a Leader in GWS including Assistant Cub Scout leader, Joey Scout Leader, RC Joey Scouts, RC Adult Training and Development, PLA and Assessor. Her dedication to training and ability to motivate others has created a great training environment in GWS. We wish Kathy and Graham all the best in their new adventure in Perth.



Thank you to all the training team and Personal Leader Advisors across GWS who have delivered training, mentored new Leaders, followed up, attended meetings, chased paperwork, and created a great learning culture in GWS.

This year in GWS the team will continue to support training and development across the Region. We look forward to supporting the new Basic Outdoor Skills requirement and continuing to mentor Leaders as they work towards their Wood Badge.

*Cassie Rec*  
Region Commissioner  
(Adult Training & Development)



## COMMUNICATIONS & PR

The last year has been a very busy one for my team;

- maintenance of and content updates to Region website, Region Calendar and Region Directory
- updates to Region email distribution lists
- management of social media for Region pages
- promotion of Region events and activities
- design and reproduction of Region Annual Report

In addition to our other responsibilities, I have been devoting much time to the further development and enhancement of our 'Region EMS' (Event Management System) - [www.events.greaterwestscouts.com.au](http://www.events.greaterwestscouts.com.au).

In August 2016, I demonstrated the EMS administration functions to our Region Activities Team. The system was well received and now in 2017, we have seen almost all Region team members begin using the EMS to manage their courses, events and workshops.

Of course, with any new online system there are improvements that can be made. I continue to receive feedback and make tweaks to the system to make it easier for everyone, leaders, participants, event organisers and the Region Office. A recent improvement was the introduction of electronic signatures into the E-Permission forms for Jamboree 2017. This will save leaders and Region Office having to collect 1,000+ printed forms for this event. If all goes well, we will roll out this feature to other Region events that require E1 information from participants prior to the event.

I would like to extend my thanks to our Bulletin Editor, Anne Thompson for all the hard work and many hours she puts into collating articles and publishing our monthly newsletter - please make sure you all read every edition! My thanks also to our Website Content Editor, Suzanne Cornell for all her help with keeping our website and Region calendar updated, and thanks to David Shaw for his ongoing support and assistance with communications.

My thanks to all our amazing leaders for their continued support and dedication to Scouting in our Region. Please keep up the great work! Our youth members thank you for your service.

*Matt Thompson*  
Region Commissioner  
(Communications & PR)



## INTERNATIONAL

The last year once again has seen our Region involved in various International events and activities.

The International Team mounted displays/activities at the following events:

- Region Jamborette
- 2nd Muswellbrook 100th Anniversary Cub Scouts
- Canberra Group 100th Anniversary Cub Scouts
- Joey Scouts Woonona (GWR & SMR)
- 6th NSW Cuboree



In addition our Region had members in attendance at the following International events:

- National Jamboree Iceland
- National Jamboree Finland
- Friendship Jamboree Thailand
- 21st National Jamboree New Zealand
- Scout International Student Exchange Program England and Denmark

The Friendship Jamboree in Thailand had 26 members from our Region attending.

Other International items of interest occurring during the past twelve months were as follows:

- NSW International Friendship Team ran several International Showcases with Venturers from our Region presenting on their experiences at overseas International Events.
- Our Region has been involved with the Scout International Student Exchange Program both in participating and home hospitality.
- Assisted with presentation at 1st Winston Hills to Scouts Venturers and Leaders interested in attending the 31st Asia Pacific Region Scout Jamboree to be held in Mongolia.

- We had Leaders from Hong Kong, Canada and New Zealand visit during the year.
- Bundilla hosted a Group of Japanese Scouts and Leaders for a short stay, which they thoroughly enjoyed.
- Arranged consignment of old Scout uniforms for Vanuatu, which we have been involved in for some time.

During the year we had two Venturers receive the International Explorer's Award - Mitchell Gallagher 1st Kings Langley Venturer Unit and Jarrod Mutton 2nd Baulkham Hills Venturer Unit.

Our Region received a donation of 36 hard drive units from Fairfield Public School to use with JOTI/JOTA in our Region.

The continued support, assistance, commitment and encouragement from members of our team is very much appreciated, for without such support we would not have achieved so much.

In closing and on behalf of the International Team I would like to thank Neville Henderson and all the Office Staff for the support and assistance given to us in achieving what we have in our Region for International Scouting.

*Peter Nickl*  
Region Commissioner (International)



*The Australian Contingent to the  
Finland National Jamboree*

## MEMBER SUPPORT

Following the outcomes from the Royal Commission Scouts Australia, New South Wales have set up Member Support Teams across the State.

I am please to advise that the Greater Western Sydney Region now have a team to assist anyone with special support matters.

The team consists of three experienced members who are available to support youth members, leaders and parents through difficult times.

Contact can be made through our Region Office staff when the necessity arises.

*Carol Cope*  
Region Commissioner (Member Support)

## STRATEGY

It has been another challenging and fulfilling year for Scouting in GWS Region, and I have had the opportunity to get out and about at a number of activities in 2016.

The role of Region Leader, Strategy is to take on Strategic aspects of our Region organisation, to assist in delivering our goals, and with Scouting numbers stable across NSW, we need to grow in order to contain our costs, and to encourage life experiences for our members. Following the completion of the NSW Branch Strategy for 2016 – 2018, GWS Region has started a process to deliver our part.

I have had the opportunity to meet with the new Chief Commissioner, Neville Tomkins, a few times this year, to gain an understanding of where he sees Scouting in NSW moving forward into the future. This has already started with the announcement of the new Branch structure and the initial appointments being made, with more to come as he positions us for the future. Neville has reached out to youth members quite often to better understand their needs and allow their voice to be heard in the future design of our movement.

### NSW Branch 7 Strategic Priorities

Over the next couple of years, NSW Branch have committed to addressing 7 strategic areas of concern to improve Scouting across NSW and GWS Region will be doing their part to support for a stronger Scouts NSW;

- Membership Growth;
- Further Building Trust;
- Positive and Enabling Culture;
- Active Youth Engagement;
- Enhanced Child Protection;
- Stronger Community Engagement; and
- Financial Sustainability.

### NSW Branch Goals

By the end of 2018 Scouts NSW aim to have;

- A child safe environment;
- 16,000 Youth Members through the delivery of vibrant, effective and consistent youth programs;
- 800 new Leaders through Recruitment;
- Financial break even across all operations;
- Lower administrative workloads/processes through smart use of technology; and

- Complete business plans (including maintenance plans) for all Scout properties.

By delivering these goals, we will achieve our vision for Scouting, to be seen as the pre-eminent youth organisation in Australia. We engage and inspire young Australians to develop confidence, resilience and leadership.

### Boy Scouts of America

In October last year, I had the opportunity to drop in on Boy Scouts of America whilst I was in San Francisco. It was an extremely interesting meeting with Dylan Hendrickson, Golden Gate District Director, to understand how Boy Scouts of America operates. During our meeting, we had the opportunity to discuss funding and recruitment ideas, and with 10% growth in member in the Golden Gate District last year, we have a lot we can learn from their methods.



### GWS Region Focus

Finally, in 2017, GWS Region will continue to focus on three key areas;

- Growth in Youth membership
- Growth in Leader membership
- Sustainable Funding for groups

Delivering these three things will set us up for success in the years to come. It won't be an easy road, but one we need to follow. With a committed Region, passionate about Scouting, we will continue to see grow across GWS and a more fulfilling experience for our members and supporters.

“Look wide, even when you think you are looking wide, look wider still”

Lord Robert Baden-Powell

Yours in Scouting

Geoff Henderson  
Region Leader (Strategy)



## ACTIVITIES



This year the Region Activities Team has continued in its quest to provide a huge opportunity for both youth and adults alike to experience some great life skill activities. Would you believe there are now nearly a dozen separate activity disciplines, which come under the Activities banner, at GWS Region.

We have one of the strongest Rock Teams in the State, led by a very experienced team. Stuart Cowen, ably supported by David (Macca) McKinley have led numerous abseiling workshops and trips throughout the year, which are all well attended. They have also run a number of successful Top Rope Workshops, which is basically Rock Climbing on natural surfaces.

We are also the biggest user in the State of the mobile climbing wall, which is a great promotional tool for Scouting, particularly at community events.

Equally as strong is our very dedicated caving Team lead by Meredith Stewart. The caving weekends to both Wee Jasper and Bungonia are almost legendary, with some participants coming from interstate to be in attendance.

Canyoning is certainly not for the faint-hearted, and we are so fortunate to have Ross Smith as our Canyoning Guru, who has lead numerous Canyon trips over the year. While some canyons are simply classified as “walk through” others can involve multi-pitch abseils down large waterfalls with very cold water. But where they are all similar, is in the very unique environment and scenery they offer.



Water activities have always been big in our Region. We are so fortunate to have such a variety of waterways within relatively easy reach. Tracey Hansford, a very experienced Kayaker herself, has continued in her role as Water Activities Leader with numerous canoe workshops and trips throughout the year.

Along with canoeing, Keith Travers has run a number of successful 5 day sailing workshops throughout the





year. This has introduced a number of youth members to learn the fundamentals of sailing, and to acquire a basic understanding on the concepts of wind and how to set a sail to catch that wind.

Bushwalking is another activity going from strength to strength, under the watchful eye of Tristan Flores. I have received so much positive feedback from people across the Region, on our bushwalking, and in particular the variety of walks on offer; from the simple but enjoyable day walks; to the more strenuous and exciting five day walks. One of the great “off shoots” of Tristan’s walking calendar, is the number of scouts now completing their Green Cord Hikes

Even the Flying Fox has had a big year with Quentin Napier at the helm. We have run the fox at a number of GWS activities throughout the Year. The big one of course was the Cuboree at Cataract, where the GWS Team ran both the onsite Fox, as well as our own Fox, over the four days.

One of the biggest challenges we face with the fox, is whether supposedly new regulations are going to make it too prohibitive to actually run. That would be a sad day, as the fox is such a popular activity with youth (and adults) alike.



Of course activities are not limited just to outdoor adventurous skills. We are very fortunate to have people like John Leahy, who runs our Science base. This is very unique base and John has a wonderful gift of being able to demonstrate the wonders of science, chemistry, physics and electronics in a very much, hands on practical way. Whether its Joeys, Rovers or even Leaders, it is always fascinating to all.

In this day and age of computers, is very easy to communicate with virtually anyone around the world.

Our Radio Base lead up by Karl Humphries, has a real passion for radio communication equipment, and which is not always computer based. Karl is also very experienced in “SPOT” technology. This is a GPS tracking tool used particularly in bushwalking, allowing people at home to track location of walkers at any one time. It also has a facility to allow for basic messaging communication.

Jumping off a cliff on your first abseil can be quite scary. Standing on a stage waiting for the curtain to rise on opening night is also just as scary. Of course I am talking about Gang Show, which is also part of the Activities portfolio. Gang Show is not just eight performances run over the July school holidays. Gang Show is a journey.



It starts where people learn to work in a team together. They learn skills; they practice those skills; they keep practising those skills, and become very good at it. They combine those skills with others, and together create something very special.



The Circus Team is another activity which requires some very dedicated practice. (and I don't mean clowning around!) Overseen by Mitchell Hodgson, the Circus Team provides opportunity to learn some of those amazing skills you see at the circus, and also in street theatre, from juggling to riding a unicycle.

One of the real highlights this year for myself, was the establishment of a Rover Crew dedicated to Adventurous Outdoors activities. This has been nearly 3 years in the making. Many of these Rovers have been a huge support to the Activities Team, particularly in abseiling & caving, and with youth on their side, they will not only be a huge asset to the Activities Team, but they will also benefit personally in their own journey through Rovers.

Can I say thank you to the whole Activities Team. Thank you for your passion, thank you for the so many hours you each contribute to Scouting. Thank you for your uncompromising attitude to safety, in all your endeavours. And of course, thank you for the fun.

We do have lots of Fun!

*Mark Fell (Dingo)*  
Region Commissioner (Activities)



## CAVING *News from Underground*

We have had another busy year of caving in GWSR. The Caving workshops at Bungonia are where Venturers and older Scouts who have already learned abseiling can come and learn basic caving skills. Return trips allow them to increase their caving and ropes skills and explore new caves. Some continue their learning experience, coming back as "team" members who help teach new cavers the ropes.



Our courses at Bungonia have not been so well-attended; part of the reason is that planning is required on the part of participants, so that they have already completed their abseiling skills before they come caving. Stuart Cowen is in the process of training a large group of abseilers, so we hope to have a busy workshop at Bungonia in September.

Our trips last year were to Timor Caves in May, and beautiful Colong Caves in November. We endeavour to run one trip to a cave that does not require permission, allowing us to take as many people as possible, then one that requires a permit, which limits our numbers somewhat but allows us to visit more inaccessible systems.

Caving activities cannot be run without a team of keen, knowledgeable Cavers. I would like to thank the Caving Guides, David McKinley, Tallia Joel, and Paul Jefferies. We also have a few Leaders who come along who are very helpful. Thanks especially (but not exclusively) to Jason Edwards and Clinton Stewart. Many of our Venturer team have moved on to Rovers but still come caving. Some of these are very close to becoming Cave Guides.

Two of our team members visited Mole Creek caves in Tasmania with SUSS in January. It is wonderful to see people who learned their skills with GWSR Caving going on their own adventures. Jordan is now the President of SUSS but still finds the time to cave with us, allowing an exchange of skills and knowledge between the two groups.

Caving is great fun, and a unique way to explore our environment. We learn geology, teamwork, rope skills, and friendship. We look forward to seeing you underground sometime.

*Meredith Stewart*  
Caving Coordinator

# BUSHWALKING

GWSR Bushwalking has experienced significant growth over the past 12 months. This growth has been one of the focus areas in terms of our development. Thank you to our regular and casual members for their patience during these upgrades of our procedures which are in place to manage larger groups on region hikes.



We have built up quite a lot of momentum in the past 12 months. After review of participant numbers and trends throughout 2016 we announced as from March 2017 we would be operating a monthly practice hike to cater to the demand, this included an entry level hike every second month. Adventurous hikes appear a couple of times a year and enable us to access more remote and technically difficult routes. The majority of these adventurous hikes are operated in the Blue Mountains. Our practice hikes are held in the Blue Mountains, Royal National Park, on the Illawarra and Central Coast. Scouts often come to develop specific skills or develop their leadership. Venturers can shadow a bushwalking guide and start to accumulate hours.



We decided on the theme “The forgotten tracks around Sydney” for our 2017 program. These themed hikes are proving to be some of our most popular and offer the unique opportunity for participants to turn off the main trails and explore some of the less used, disused and forgotten tracks. These often involve more navigation and encourage exploration. We are seeing more and more Venturers coming to be involved and offer their assistance on the practice hikes which is outstanding.



In 2016 a young member of our team was nominated by NSW Branch to comment as a Subject Matter Expert on the draft version of the Outdoor Adventure Skills (Bushwalking) for the YPR. This national document is a continuum of proficiency statements and skill requirements which are displayed as we learn based on plan, do, review. I am informed it was a real highlight for this young member to be involved in the future planning of activities.

Another avenue of growth is our presence on social media, we have found this technology to be a most useful tool and enables us to share our experiences and promote bushwalking to a wide audience. We moved to Scout Event in early 2017 and are experiencing the benefits of this online booking system.

Basic Outdoor Skills replaced Bushwalking Level 1 and Common Core and contains 5 additional e-learning modules. After completion of the 10 e-learning modules trainees can either attend the BOS practical supplement or those with previous outdoor experience can apply for ROP through region.

Congratulations to the participants for your achievement. Thank you to the volunteers who made it possible. Come and see us on one of the region hikes or follow us on facebook.

Tristan Flores  
Region Leader (Bushwalking)



# CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW



2016 was our 47th season and was very successful with a continuation of the new staging and technical enhancements. The theme of the show was Power UP and was made up of a great mix of new and old original material and commercial songs.

The show continued the new look with a large video screen, many personal head microphones and the orchestra at the back of the stage. This meant the cast were in closer proximity to the audience on the thrust stage.

The Comet Cast continued with young 7 to 9 year old joey scouts, cub scouts and the guiding equivalent performing in the first act.

We continued to be successful with the CD recording put down a month before the show with its enhanced audio. Once again this ensured the choral performance, supported by the orchestra, resulted in a great CD.

We retained the schedule of 8 performances and with matinees which continued to be popular. We were honoured by the attendance of the Governor and Mrs Hurley at our opening night and red scarf performance. A total of 4300 patrons attended our spectacular performances at Parramatta Riverside Theatre in the July school holidays.

We again experienced the yearly frustration of finding a suitable warehouse for the final rehearsals involving costumes, sets, the stage boxes and the orchestra.

The theme of the 2017 show is Live, Laugh and Smile. We were delighted to have over 200 applicants audition



for this season, a record. Again there is a great mix of new and old original material and commercial songs.

We have varied the schedule of performances to include an additional matinee on the Wednesday replacing the evening performance. This is a new venture of a midweek matinee.

We are continuing to conduct all the ticket sales through the theatre box office including reduced prices for early purchases. Concentrated marketing has continued to be focused towards Scouting leaders and Scouting sections.

The show maintains its mission to engender self confidence in all the Gang through the medium of performing arts.

We continue to rehearse at Crestwood High School with two weekend camps at Pennant Hills.

The first rehearsal camp has been most successful. The show is now in the final rehearsals prior to heading towards the season at Parramatta Riverside Theatre.

Finally the Management Board would like to thank all the cast members, volunteer crew members, parents and audience who help to make our show one of the most professional in Australia.

*Lyall Wood*  
Chairman



*In 2016, Dr Rob Lang, Cumberland Gang Show's longstanding Producer/Director, was inducted into The Association of Community Theatre's Hall of Fame in recognition for his exceptional service to community theatre.*



## FIRST AID

One could argue that First Aid is a skill set that every leader should have as it compliments the adventurous activities that our members are involved with.

Although any group can run a First Aid Course, in the past year the courses that I have hosted for the Region's Leaders, Rovers, Venturers and older Scouts have resulted in

- 113 people achieving their Provide First Aid
- 15 people achieving Remote First Aid

This is continuing with four Provide First Aid Courses and one Remote First Aid Course scheduled in 2017.

*John Gafe*  
First Aid Course Coordinator

## RADIO, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

A review of our activities this past year shows that on average we made evening Section visits once a month, thus keeping to my retirement aims. However with other Radio and Scouting commitments that doubled to two activities per month; my wife and I still managed to get in some trips and a cruise.

Murray Farm appear to be getting good value from us with a Light, Water Rocket and a Hover nights this year, thanks to their enthusiastic GL and section Leaders.



Karl Humphreys has trialed two 'Radio Skills' Saturdays for Scouts involving theory and practice in radio use. This should give them confidence to enjoy JOTA this year.

Karl and I maintain close contact with the **Amateur Radio** fraternity through the yearly Field day at Wyong and the Wireless Institute of Australia meeting. Karl organised discussions with them regarding JOTA on two occasions, to arrive at agreed operating procedures for the JOTA weekend.



This year's **Jamborette** at Cataract Park had us involving the Scouts with 3D Printing, Electrostatic Motors (including a reconstruction of Lord Kelvin's Water Drip Generator), and a demonstration of the Non Newtonian gyrations of Corn Starch (Oobleck) in a low frequency Woofer speaker.

We also attended, what I call, the **JOEY-ree at Cataract Park** at the end of October. Our site had two bases of Water Rockets, and a Disk Burst Rocket base. There was also a table of Joey friendly Science activities.

What a lot of Joeys from GWS, South Coast and Hume. They arrived in groups of 25 with parents and Leaders, and stayed for nearly an hour! We had a Venturer helper for the Water Rocket and a quiet Girl Guide who ably demonstrated the Science table.

By dividing them into four groups and circulating around the bases we maintained some sort of control. Usually I could show a parent how to work the water rocket, which freed me to sort out any problems at the other bases.

Brian Zarth provided a large area for the water rockets, and set the **Gold Standard for Leaders at Cataract Park** by providing us with free food and bunk-room accommodation!

Thanks to Karl Humphreys for his continuing commitment and enthusiasm in explaining and demonstrating the science of nature to our youth; to Section Leaders who arranged for us to reach as many youth as possible on the same night, and to the Leaders and Amateur Radio operators supporting JOTA in the GWS Region.

*John Leahy*  
Region Leader (Radio, Science & Technology)

## DISTRICT REPORTS

# BLACKTOWN

The year began with two troops attending AJ2016 at Cataract Scout Park, they were joined in the Troop lines with Scouts who had travelled from the United Kingdom.

All Groups participated in Clean-Up Australia Day in March providing a valuable learning experience to the youth and a valuable community service to the area.

There were many District activities held during the year in particular the regular attendance at the annual ANZAC day services, with Groups attending services at Blacktown, Rooty Hill, Riverstone and Sydney The Blacktown City Festival Street Parade was held at the end of May, despite earlier rain on the day the District was represented by all sections with 60 youth and leaders participating. In July the District also had many members participate in the Cumberland Gang Show at the Riverside Theatres in Parramatta.

The District Joeys attended the Joey Fun Day at Bundilla in May and participated in many activities in their Groups.

Region Cub Scout Centenary Birthday Bash was held at Bundilla in May they then enjoyed the Cub Centenary Picnic at Government House in July and the annual Billy Cart Derby on the Rooty Hill which was held in August. The Cubs then concentrated in getting ready for the 6th NSW Cuboree "Myths and Legends" held at Cataract Scout Park in January 2017.

Regular activities which the Scouts participated in were the Region Jamborette at Cataract Scout Park in October, having been postponed till then following the rain which closed Bents Basin on the long weekend in June and a Leadership Course was held in September. The Australian Scout Medallion was awarded to Chris Magro from 1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Scout Troop in April.

The Venturers participated in Dragon Skin over the Easter weekend and they then enjoyed the Waratah in November which saw them travelling by public transport to their forest location.

The Blacktown Rover crew which is based at 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Hall, have consolidated their numbers and are providing a valuable resource in leadership roles at Groups within the District.

Whalan Scout Hall had significant damage follow a storm in January and was out of service until May whilst repairs were being undertaken, fortunately they were able to meet with other Groups in the District during that time.

Steve Wallace stepped down from the position as District Venturer Leader to become the District Commissioner at Penrith, we wish Steve well in his future Scouting endeavours.

Sandra Parker our former District Commissioner became unwell and she has had to step down from attending Scout events.

April saw a mass exodus from the 1st Kings Langley Scout Troop with David McKinley "Macca" moving to the Region Activity Team, Craig Kennedy "Kaa" becoming the District Representative on the Region Council and Smokey retiring from Scouting. Between them they had given 32 years of service to Scouting. After many years of service David Corkery "Binji" from 1st Mt Druitt Scout Troop moved to the Central Coast and has taken on a new role in Scouting in that area.

Tracey Stopps left 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Troop to become the District Scout Leader in the Hills District which then saw Glenn Connor move from the Rover Crew to the Blacktown Scout Troop and Mitchell Shaw stepping up to become the Rover Crew Advisor. Trevor Saul resigned as Group Leader at 1st Riverstone Scout Group and we welcomed Richelle Coundrelis into the position and Corey Olufsen "Bob" from 1st Quakers Hill-Doonside moved to Rural NSW and resigned as Group Leader after many years of service to Scouting since being a youth member with the Group.

We had a number of Wood Badge presentations in 2016 with Lisa Dent from 1st Toongabbie being awarded hers in April and May saw six Leaders from 1st/2nd Blacktown completing their Advanced Training and being presented with their Wood Beads, they were Jodie Astley VSL, Elena Connor GL, Donna Wade CSL, Ben Staples ACSL, Kerrie Lomas ACSL and Kasey Staples JSL.

I would like to thank the District Leaders & Representatives and the Group Leaders for their hard work and support during the year.

Ross Howlett  
District Commissioner

# BLUE MOUNTAINS

2016 was a very busy year in the Mountains, and all of the Groups have been involved in all sorts of activities.

We started with the Jamboree at Cataract, and many of our scouts and leaders had a fantastic time, even with all the rain at the beginning, and eventually the sun came out to allow the Jamboree to finish spectacularly.

All groups had Founders Day activities ranging from Special Night activities to a Picnic at Govetts Leap Lookout, what a special view of the mountains it is for reflection.

With many of the Sections being involved in District Camps, Pack Holidays, District Hikes, District Canoe Days, District Swimming Carnival, and many more District activities the Groups have taken into their programs to allow every opportunity the Youth can have.

We have also seen an increase in membership, much of it because the Sections are involved in the community, and allowing the community to be involved in them at the same time. It has also brought the added benefit of New Leaders, and a number of Wood Badges being achieved by other Leaders.

The achievements of the District have seen a number of Promise Challenges in the Joeys Section, Grey Wolves in the Cub Section, Australian Scout Medallions in the Section, and a BP award for the Rovers.

It was very pleasing to see a good number of our Leaders recognised for their dedication to Scouting, by being awarded Adult Recognition awards, something that is always a surprise to the recipient and well deserved. This is a true statement that we do see what you do and appreciate you for it.

The Joeys had an Adventure to Cataract for the Tri Region Woonona, the weekend was a GREAT success and every Joey I spoke with had a story to tell of all the fun.

Venturers had Dragon Skin at Easter, with a number of teams being there to do what Venturers do, and to meet new friends, and to see old ones. This was followed up later in the year with Teams doing Waratah, the activity that you never know what it is going to be each year as there is always new ideas for Venturer Challenges.

And finally Cubs were to show they had what it takes at the 6th NSW Cuboree at Cataract, 4 days of activities,

Camping with nearly 2500 other Cubs from around the State, and having a go at all the challenges that make up such an event.

In closing I would like to thank all the Leaders, Supporters and Parents of the District, for without your support the life of Scouting would be very different in the District, we are often forgotten but do all we can to make it all happen. And to the many Youth in the District, we say to you, do your best, and everyone will see that you are the best kind of Scout there is, the Leader of tomorrow.

*Tony Dent*  
Acting District Commissioner

# HAWKESBURY

Youth membership numbers remain stable within the Hawkesbury District. On Average there was a slight increase of youth members within each Group notably 1st Hawkesbury Cub Pack doubled in members. Within the four (4) groups, including 1st Glossodia, 1st Grose Vale, 1st Hawkesbury, and 1st Oakville, there are a total of three (3) Joey Mob, four (4) Cub Packs, four (4) Scout Troops, and two (2) Venture Units, a Rover Crew, and the Black Horse Fellowship.

To start the year off, the district attended a Herpetologist night which saw a good representation from each section, but mainly Joeys and Cubs, and a Scout from South Penrith. The Scouts were able to pet / hold and learn about all sorts of reptiles including: snakes, goannas, tortoises, and a crocodile.

Unfortunately the star of the year planned water activities had to be cancelled due to poor weather conditions, this included the annual Raft building and race followed by various water activities to celebrate Founders Day.

All Groups attended the ANZAC Day March in Richmond and various ANZAC day Dawn Services within the District.

The District also had a great promotional Scout stand at the Hawkesbury Show where we received many enquiries about Scouting not only for the Hawkesbury District but also for across the Region. The District Scouts also took part in the Grand Parade, which received much support from the spectators.

Gang Show was represented by Youth members from 1st Grose Vale, 1st Hawkesbury, and 1st Oakville.

Joeys continue to rise in numbers within the three Joey mobs. The Joeys, who attended Woonona at Cataract, had a great time, made many new friends and enjoyed all the activities they participated in. There were a total of three (3) Joeys awarded their Promise Badge throughout the year.

The District Cub Scouts were kept busy throughout the year attending many events;

The District Out and About activity was to Barangaroo, which saw more than 60 participants attending.

36 Cubs attended the pre Cuboree shake down camp at Bundilla then participated in the 2017 Cuboree at Cataract, which was the Cubs highlight of the year.

Other District Cub activities included a BBQ and walk at Mount Banks and a Camp at Kariong.

There was many nights of interaction between the Groups which included combined nights between the Groups.

Six (6) of the District Cubs were presented with their Grey Wolf Award.

The Scout section had a busy year with numerous District and Region activities: Scout Hike, State Rally, District Rally, and Jamborette.

Each Group completed various Red, Blue, and Green Cord Hikes. There were numerous Hikes including; Canoe, Li-lowing, and Bush walking. There were many camps throughout the District: Survival, Surf, and Bush camps. 1st Oakville had a very successful Family Camp which saw over 100 people attend.

State Rally was well attended with Hawkesbury District running a successful base.

District rally was well attended and a great time was had by all.

The District Scouts attended Scout hike, where again Hawkesbury District leaders assisted with the hike.

The 1st Glossodia and 1st Oakville Venturer Units continue to grow. Apart from the regular hikes and camping trips, they have carried out and attended a wide range of activities including; Scout Hike and ran a base, Dragon Skin, Waratah, organised a base at Jamborette.

The Venturers also participated in the Regions Raft along the Nepean / Hawkesbury River.

We saw two (2) Venturers receive their QS award, Meaghan Smith 1st Oakville and Emily Tyrell 1st Glossodia.

Blackhorse Fellowship continues to fundraise throughout the year and helping out the District where they can. They provided District shirts for all the Cubs and Leaders who attended Cuboree, they also organise the Hawkesbury Show site, without their support we would not have a Stand at the annual Show.

Although we are always looking for more leaders our Leader numbers have been stable. This year saw six of our Leaders receive Special awards.

1st Oakville: Caroline Watts JL - Meritorious Service

1st Glossodia: Henriette de Koning GL - Special Service  
Paul Davis SL - Special Service

1st Grose Vale: Linda Coffill SL - Silver Wattle

1st Hawkesbury: Tim West - Meritorious Service

Fellowship: Debbie Freeman - Special Service

Through very active Parent Support Committees, all Groups had a successful year in Fund raising with activities including: Helping out at the City to Surf Marathon, Bunnings BBQ, Firewood Raffles, Rotary Raffles, Power Boat Races, Plant Sales, All Holden Day, just to name a few of the Fund Raising activities.

I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to all the Leaders and Parent Support Groups for the hard work they do to ensure scouting life is enjoyable and fun for the youth members. I would also like to thank the parents of the district for their efforts when called upon to help out especially at fund raisers.

I look forward to the next 12 months, working together with the Leaders, Parent Support Groups, and Parents to make Scouting attractive to all.

*Phil Heinrich*  
District Commissioner

# HILLS SOUTH

2016 commenced with a large contingent of scouts and leaders descending on Cataract Scout Park for another Jamboree, which started with a drenching and finished in fine weather. Everybody that when had a great yet exhausting time.

Many activities were experienced by all the scouts that attended. The Hills provided enough youth to fill 3 troops.

The other highlight of the Jamboree was future scout day when cubs & joeys and their families got to experience the jamboree, the result being the population of the campsite doubled from 10-11,000 people to well over 20,000. Although it meant a lot of walking, the visitors had a great time and left exhausted but happy.

Joeys under the guidance of our DJSL – Leonie Plummer have prospered over the year of 2016. They experienced a lot of interesting and varied activities through great programming. They have attended the Region Joey Fun Day and the Region Joey Camp. The joeys have been working towards their Buddy & Promise badges. Third term saw the opening of a new Joey Mob at West Pennant Hills Valley with the youth showing a lot of enthusiasm.

Cub Scouts in the Hills have continued strongly. The cubs are working well on their badge work with many achievement and boomerang badges being earned. There have been a number of Grey Wolf awards earned in 2016:

Kera Merrington	2nd Baulkham Hills
Jillian Harmeling	1st Kellyville
Daniel Humphreys	1st Kellyville
Ashley Uidam	1st Balcombe Heights
Claire Jones	1st Balcombe Heights
Thomas Pinchbeck	1st Balcombe Heights
Hannah Watkins	1st Kellyville

The cubs have also enjoyed a successful District Camp and have participated in all District and Region activities. Good programs by leaders have provided the cubs with a variety of activities throughout the year. The leaders under the guidance of our DCSL – Gabrielle Thompson have done a wonderful job. This can be seen in the way the cubs keep coming back for more.

The Wombat Challenge Trophy went to 2nd Castle Hill for about the 3rd year running. This years theme was the Centenary of Cubs / World Friendship. A big 1, 2, 3

Woof to all the leaders and to Gabie.

At the end of 2016 plans were underway for the 2017 Cuboree where the Hills looked as if they would fill 3 packs.

Scouts in the district have been very busy. They have been out and about. The activities have not stopped since returning from the Jamboree. Under the guidance of our DSL – Tracey Stopps and the scout leaders, the scout section continues to thrive. There have been many combined nights between groups and joint activities. They have participated in District, Region and State activities including leadership courses, State Rally, Scout Hike, Jamborette and Jamboree with a special mention to 1st Balcombe Heights for doing very well at State Rally.

An ASM was presented to Ethan Battam – 1st Kellyville who also earned his Green cord. Thanks also to our DA Brian Roberts for all the work has done with many of the groups.

The Venturer section continues to grow in the District with the reopening of 1st Dural Venturers, initially meeting with 1st Kellyville but soon after they were meeting independently. The section continues to work well and support the younger sections as well as having a lot of fun with various adventurous activities. The section has kept me busy with Queen's Scout interviews. The interviewees have presented a wide variety of activities and projects for their awards, which has kept me intrigued. I am pleased with the enthusiasm they have shown in achieving their Queen's Scout award. Queen's Scout awardees:

Jake Krnel	2nd Baulkham Hills
Saxon Krnel	2nd Baulkham Hills
Naomi Rowe	2nd Baulkham Hills
Sienna Archer	2nd Baulkham Hills
Jarrold Mutton	2nd Baulkham Hills
Ryan Barton	1st Castle Hill
Alex Hourd	1st Castle Hill

There was also a good turnout from the District at Dragon Skin over the Easter long weekend so a big BRAVO to DVSL – Shaun Lesslie and his team of Venturer Leaders.

Leaders have done well this year with 1 Venturer Wood Badge completed by Jeffrey Lehrer, 1st Dural and a few more nearing completion. Leaders were also well represented at the Adult Recognition Awards.

Special Service awards to Matthew Barnett, Tara Bonitz, Alice Gravina, Helen Hodge & Ashley Pattinson.

Meritorious Service awards to Brad Dewhurst, Nerida Ewings, Chris Henry, Shaun Lesslie, Ian Lutz, Wendy Sheppard & Tracey Stopps.

Outstanding Service award to Warren Payne.

Silver Emu to Gavan Hall.

To the leaders in the district, I give a big BRAVO to you all. Thanks for giving up your valuable time to help guide and shape the youth members within your charge and for providing exciting challenges for them. I know that seeing the youth achieve their goals is very rewarding. Also a big thanks to your families for their support and for allowing you the time for scouting.

The groups continue to support local events such as the ANZAC marches throughout the district at three locations. The efforts of all groups and their participation in a wide variety of activities show that scouting is alive and well in the Hills district. To Kellyville congratulations on your 70th celebrations.

And finally to my team Leonie (DJSL), Gabe (DCSL), Tracey (DSL), Shaun (DVSL), Aafke (DL AT&D), Brian (DA), GL's and LIC's – thank you for your support over the last 12 months.

*Gavan Hall (Wombat)*  
District Commissioner



## HOLROYD

Congratulations to Benedict Cutts and Jonathon Roche on achieving their Queen's Scout Awards, well done and I wish you both well on your next endeavour, climbing to the base camp at Mt. Everest.

Congratulations also to all those youth members who achieved excellence in their badge work, there were numerous, Grey Wolf Awards and Australian Scout Medallions.

To those members, both uniform and layscale, congratulations, on your recognition at the Adult Awards for 2016, eleven members in total were applauded at the awards ceremony for their continued support to the Scouting Movement.

During 2016/2017 both the Leaders and the Youth members have attended various courses and activities during the year, for the Youth Members the most memorable would have to have been the Cuboree at Cataract Scout Camp.

Holroyd District Scouts once again participated in the many events at Holroyd during the year, they assisted in the raising of the Australian National flags at both the Citizenship Ceremony at Merrylands and again in the afternoon at the Australia day celebrations at Merrylands Oval, during this event they also held an information and recruitment stall.

Holroyd Leaders also held information stalls at two other events in the Holroyd LGA during the year with varied results in their recruiting efforts.

To all the Leaders of this District please accept my thanks for your continued good work that you have put in to maintain the level of scouting being achieved in this District.

*Ron Brown*  
District Commissioner

## PARRAMATTA

2016-2017 was a bit of a roller coaster year for Parramatta District. A number of Groups suffered sections collapsing through loss of leaders or loss of youth members. Other groups, which have struggled for years, finally found their feet and experienced solid growth under the stewardship of some new and exciting Group Leaders.

The year opened with the Joey and Cub Fun Day on the Water which was well supported by the District Leaders and youth members. It was a great day at Lake Parramatta with the Activities Team putting on a great day out for the young ones and their parents.

Many Groups attended the Parramatta Anzac March in 2016. There were a record number of Joeys, Cubs, Scouts Venturers and Rovers with many parents and Leaders in attendance.

Favoured events by the older sections in the district's Groups were Dragon Skin, Scout Hike, and Jamborette. For the younger sections the Tri Region Joey weekend, Joey Fun Day and the Cuboree were the highlights. Cub Scouts enjoyed visiting "Davo's House" for the Governor's Picnic celebrating the Centenary of Cub Scouts. All sections enjoyed the 2016 Cumberland Gang Show and many of the District's youth members were active in the cast.

The opener for 2017 was the Swimming Carnival. With a win at the carnival, 1st Ermington Scout Group was all conquering with the District Competitions with the Group winning all 4 of the District trophies up for grabs, something they claim is a 1st in many years.

We said farewell to some District stalwarts with Alan Spowles, 2nd Northmead SL "Skip", stepping back from active service. We hope Alan will return to take on a mentoring role for Scout Leaders and Troops wanting to learn Campcraft skills.

We congratulated many youth members for achieving the highest section awards. Bravo to them all.

In 2017 all groups are working towards achieving their targets for recruitment and retention under the State Strategic Plan. Every month the District Council will review the membership numbers and support each other with developing solid recruitment and retention strategies.

*Tracey Hansford*  
District Commissioner

## PENRITH CITY

It has been an exciting year for Penrith City, with a strong focus on coming together as a district and showing the local community that Scouting is alive and well.

Our Joey Scout section is small but has been participating in many local activities such as Flip Out, The Skate Park and working between the mobs on their buddy badge. Unfortunately, we have had to make the hard decision to recess 1st St Marys Joey Scouts but will looking to revive the mob in the near future. Many thanks to Sharon Zarth for co-ordinating the Joey Wandarrah.



The focus for the year in the Cub Scout Section was of course Cuboree. Cubs from every pack attended this fabulous event in January and had the time of their lives. A huge thanks to all the leaders who helped run the district pack and to co-ordinator Rodney Pringle. Of course this isn't the only activity the cubs undertook with Out and About activities, Grey Wolf Awards and many pack outings occurring throughout the year. Mel Harding and the team run a fabulous program and should be congratulated.



Scouts never seem to stop with district hikes, leadership courses, camps and activities happening all the time. Many of the troops have also been making use of the local area, such as canoeing on the Nepean River, a big highlight for many of the Scouts in our District was a trip to the Friendship Jamboree in Thailand over December. The Scout Youth Council (SYC) plays a big part in delivering the program within Penrith City and are a great testament to Youth Led, Adult Supported activities. Jamborette 2.0 was a highlight for all of the troops, occupying a massive campsite and running a bumper activity. A big thanks to Andrew McLean for running the Scout Mindari.



It is getting harder and harder to track what our Venturer Units are getting up to with both units seeming to be out of the hall more than in it. Canyons, Caving Trips, Hiking Journeys, Canoeing Activities, Rafting, Night Walks, Camps, it never seems to end. Our units ended up placing well in both the Region Waratah and State Dragon Skin activities. We were lucky enough to have one Venturer – Bryn Caitlin from 1st Erskine Park be selected to become a Mawson Scholarship in Leadership recipient and many of our Venturers have also been involved in service and community awareness activities. Thanks to Judy Barr for all her support and assistance with the Venturer Scout Section.



Nepean Rovers continue to provide quality Roving with service to the district and region as well as at Jamborette and running Dragon Skin VOC 4. The members of this crew are always out and about having fun in social activities, service activities and the outdoors. The crew won Olympic Moot earlier this year and also put on an amazing 'Not a Bushdance' activity. A strong emphasis has been placed on recruitment in the last year and the crew continues to grow from strength to strength.

As a district, we have continued to grow with a strong presence at the inaugural River Festival running the climbing wall and making our presence known. With over 20,000 attendees, this was a great chance to get out in the community.

Founders Day saw Penrith City introduce a Family Picnic at Euroka Clearing in Glenbrook. This day saw all sections come together and run a short scouts own followed by a lunch, cake and a number of games. This day was seen as a great success and will be repeated in 2018 as a camp.

Unfortunately, we have made the decision to recess Lapstone/Emu Plains Scout Group due to a lack of numbers. The group has been struggling for some time and we have been unsuccessful in reversing their fortunes. On the plus side, we have seen a surge in numbers at 1st South Penrith Cubs and we have started laying the groundwork for a new pack to meet later in the week, expanding our offering in the local area.

With great programs running in all our groups, the focus for this year is on recruitment and retention, continuing the work of our Join Scouts Program and community engagement with such activities as Relay for Life, JOTA and a city-wide wide game on the program for this year.

Thank you to all the leaders in our district who give so much of themselves to ensure our youth continue to have a great time.

*Steve Wallace*  
District Commissioner

## SCOUT FELLOWSHIPS

### BLUE MOUNTAINS

### SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

I am pleased to present this annual report of Blue Mountains Scout Fellowship activities.

The year in review has been active with a programme of service and social events performed by the Group.

The activities are:

**Meetings** (1 ARP & 4 General Meetings)

#### Service activities

- 25.04.16 Anzac March & Service
- 01.05.16 Cub Scout Fun Day Bundilla
- 15.10.16 JOTA 1st Glenbrook Scout Hall
- 20.11.16 Blue Mountains District Swimming Carnival

#### Social activities

- 16.05.16 Arms of Australia Inn Museum Emu Plains
- 16.07.16 Gang Show Riverside Theatre Parramatta
- 01.12.16 Christmas Party BBQ
- 04.03.16 Bushwalk Paradise near Linden – Cancelled due to rain

#### Membership

Membership remains at 10 members this restricts our ability to assist in some service activities.

#### Awards

Peter Tamsett 30-year service

Peter is congratulated and commended for his dedicated, committed service over thirty years – well done.

The Blue Mountains Scout Fellowship is a group of enthusiastic, committed people who embrace Scouting ethics, they are an excellent team to work with.

I have been privileged to serve the Group this year and look forward to be given the opportunity to serve again in the year ahead.

*Richard Mason*  
Chairperson  
Blue Mountains  
Scout Fellowship



### PINNAROO

### SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

This year again has been a busy one, with many of our members as well as being Fellowship members also holding positions within Scouting.

Some of the additional tasks that our members undertake are Region Executive scribe, assisting at a Cub Pack, help running a Scout Troop, assisting at the Region International base at the G.W.S Region Jamborette, obtaining equipment for the Region International team, helping at a Public School by implementing Cubbing ideas in a well being class for “problem students”, doing tasks for the Region Office when needed. We also at Christmas time purchased stuff to make small gifts to distribute at a local nursing home after we have exercised our vocal cords singing carols for the residents. In May members manned a collection point for the Red Shield where we raised over \$1000.00.

We this year also set up a small grant for the local Scout Troop to enable a Scout to attend a course to further or assist their Scouting.

The perpetual grant was named in memory of our immediate past Chairman Stephen “Archer” Shaw, a founding member.

Stephen or Steve to all who knew him was a Scouter through and through, who was always ready to impart his vast knowledge to anyone who needed help or just wanted to know something. Steve devoted a life time to Scouts and will be missed by those that knew him.

The social side of the Fellowship was some what curtailed this year for various reasons but members still managed to take in the sights of Vivid as well as attend a performance of the Cumberland Gang Show at the Parramatta Riverside Theatre and the show was given a huge thumbs up.

As Chairman I would like to thank all the members of this Fellowship for the continued devotion and hard work that each has contributed, I am very proud to be a member of this Fellowship.

*Peter Stieme*  
Chairperson  
Pinnaroo Scout Fellowship

# CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW

## SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

The membership of Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship has fallen over the past 12 months to 18 members. Fellowship member David Lockman passed away suddenly in July 2016 just after the Gang Show season. Other members have found health issues have made it very difficult to continue their membership. Whilst most of our members are involved in support of Cumberland Gang Show, we continually seek to expand our membership base. Our members have all met the requirement to attain a Working with Children Check and to have their approval number recorded on their membership record. Oversight of Scoutlink member records has been difficult as the Fellowship only has access to the records of members with a Primary Appointment to the Fellowship. The records of members with a Secondary Appointment can't be seen.

As well as participating in the 2016 season of Cumberland Gang Show, Fellowship members attended the Region Awards Dinner at Wentby Leagues in October and provided service to Blacktown District by catering for the District Billy Cart Derby at Rooty Hill on 21 August. Planning has continued for the support of the 50th Anniversary of Cumberland Gang Show in 2019.

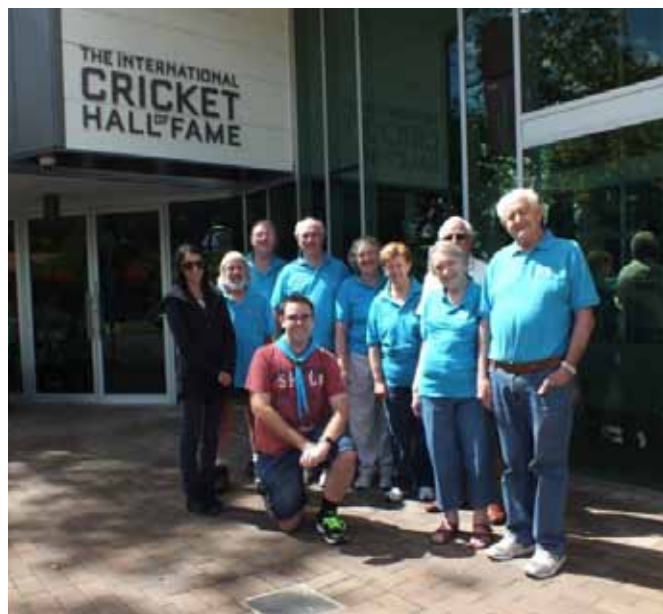
Our social program included a very well attended Ten Pin Bowling event at Villawood in May organised by our younger members; a successful show recovery dinner at the Campbelltown RSL Club in July; a most enjoyable weekend away at Nowra in September where we shared time with members of Shoalhaven and Blue Mountains Scout Fellowships; an enjoyable end of year dinner at Greystanes in November; a very pleasant dinner preceding our February business meeting and a successful evening of indoor bowls at Club Merrylands in March, once again organised by our younger members. Many of these activities included coffee breaks and sharing meals together. The outstanding success of our social program continues to be due to the planning and commitment of our social activities organiser, Adrian Wilson, ably assisted by his wife Evelyn, and our younger members organising our sporting activities. We are very appreciative of all their efforts.

Many of our members are also active in other scouting appointments in Groups and the Region. Some members provided support to the Region Jamboree, Cuboree 2017, and to Dragon Skin.

Our webpage is hosted by the Cumberland Gang Show Site and can be found at [www.fellowship.gangshow.asn.au](http://www.fellowship.gangshow.asn.au)

Special thanks to my fellow members of the Executive: Secretary Jeanie Wood, Treasurer Evelyn Wilson, Vice Chair Steve Munro and Activities Coordinator Adrian Wilson. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and have certainly ensured the great success of the past twelve months. I look forward to our Fellowship enjoying another exciting year in 2017-2018.

*Lyall Wood*  
Chairperson  
Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship



## ALAN CLIFFORD OVERTON AM

Alan Overton joined 1st Granville Cub Scouts as an 8 year old in early 1945 just before the end of World War 2. He continued to be a member of the association as a Scout, Senior Scout and Rover with the Group.

He has continued his association with 1st Granville for the past 71 years and is still a member of the Granville Old Boys which meet annually at the group headquarters in Glen Street Granville.

Alan was a mover and shaker in the construction of the 1st Mays Hill Scout Hall in Monterey Street South Wentworthville. He helped in fundraising and as an employee obtained financial assistance from James Hardie. When the hall was officially opened in 1976 by Alderman Devlin from Holroyd Council, Alan was the Group President. A plaque is still on the wall at the hall celebrating the opening even though the group has long since ceased to exist.

In June 1994, Alan agreed to take on the position as Area President of Cumberland Area (now Greater Western Sydney Region) and gave excellent service in the role until February 2016 when he retired due to ill health. In the past 22 years Alan has not missed seeing Cumberland Gang Show and is looking forward to seeing many more.

Alan had a soft spot for extension scouting he was responsible for the group starting in Arthur Street Granville and with the financial assistance of James Hardie and Parramatta Leagues Club he assisted with modification of the hall to take wheelchairs and make access easier for the scout members. Alan took on the role of Group Treasurer in 1997 and held that role for seven years.

As if he was not busy enough with his other community obligations, Alan became the New South Wales Branch Vice President in 1999 and held this position for 17 years before retiring in February 2016. He was elected as a Branch Life Councilor in 2004.

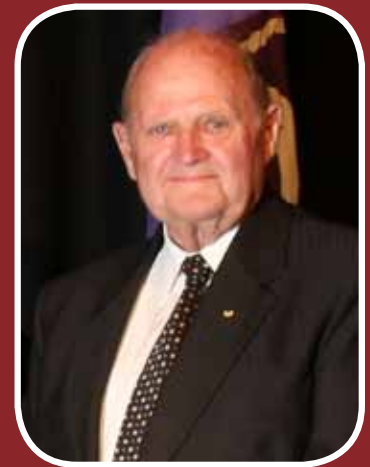
Alan was recognised for his services to scouting in 2004 by being awarded the National Presidents Award. He was awarded Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the Queen's Birthday Honors List in 1994 for "Services to the Parramatta Rugby League Football Club and to the Community". He was further honoured with an Australia Medal (AM) in the Australia Day Honors List in 2004 for "Service through a range of sports clubs and other Organisations".

His other great loves after Scouting is the Parramatta Rugby League Football Club (EELS) and Parramatta Leagues Club Limited where he was the President from 1985 to 2009 – 24 years.

At one stage, in the past few years, Alan was involved with 29 organisations and has been recognised with 16 awards from non scouting groups.

The Greater Western Sydney Region Executive Committee has decided to set up an award in the name of "Alan Overton AM" which will be awarded each year to supporters, committee members or leaders in GWS and can be nominated by anyone and a decision will be made by a committee of 3 people.

Thanks for your tremendous service to Scouting and we wish you well in the future.



## GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION

### Blue Mountains District

1st Blackheath Scout Group  
1st Blaxland Scout Group  
1st Blaxland Rover Crew "Kalangadoo"  
1st Hazelbrook Scout Group  
1st Springwood Scout Group

### Blacktown District

Blacktown District Rover Crew  
1st Kings Langley Scout Group  
1st Mt Druitt Scout Group  
Kings Langley Rover Crew  
1st North Mt Druitt Scout Group  
1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Scout Group  
1st Riverstone Scout Group  
1st Toongabbie Scout Group  
1st Whalan Scout Group  
1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Group  
2nd Kings Langley Scout Group

### Hawkesbury District

1st Glossodia Scout Group  
1st Grose Vale Scout Group  
1st Hawkesbury Scout Group  
Hawkesbury River Rover Crew  
1st Oakville Scout Group

### Hills South District

1st Balcombe Heights Scout Group  
1st Baulkham Hills Rover Crew  
1st Castle Hill Scout Group  
1st Dural Scout Group  
1st Kellyville Scout Group  
2nd Baulkham Hills Scout Group  
2nd Baulkham Hills Rover Crew  
2nd Baulkham Hills 'Outdoor' Rover Crew  
2nd Castle Hill Scout Group  
2nd Castle Hill Rover Crew  
West Pennant Hills Valley Scout Group

### Holroyd District

1st Granville Scout Group  
1st Greystanes Scout Group  
1st Pendle Hill Scout Group  
1st Westmead Scout Group  
1st Westmead Rover Crew  
1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Scout Group  
1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Rover Crew  
3rd Merrylands Scout Group

### Parramatta District

1st Carlingford Scout Group  
1st Ermington Scout Group  
1st Murray Farm Scout Group  
1st North Rocks Scout Group  
1st Parramatta Scout Group  
1st Rydalmere Scout Group  
1st Wentworthville Scout Group  
1st Winston Hills Scout Group  
2nd Northmead Scout Group

### Penrith City District

1st Cambridge Park Scout Group  
1st Emu Plains Scout Group  
1st Erskine Park Scout Group  
Nepean Rover Crew  
1st South Penrith Scout Group  
1st St Marys Scout Group

### Scout Fellowships

Blue Mountains Scout Fellowship  
Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship  
Hawkesbury Black Horse Scout Fellowship  
Pinnaroo Scout Fellowship  
Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship



Thanks to the many Leaders and Youth Members who contributed  
to the photography in this publication.

*Annual Report designed by* Matt Thompson



## THE SCOUT PRAYER

Almighty and everlasting God,  
 by whose grace Thy servants  
 are enabled to fight the good fight of faith,  
 and ever prove victorious,  
 we humbly beseech Thee,  
 so to inspire us,  
 that we may yield our hearts to Thine obedience  
 and exercise our wills on Thy behalf.  
 Help us to think wisely,  
 to speak rightly,  
 to resolve bravely,  
 to act kindly,  
 to live purely.

Bless us in body and soul  
 and make us a blessing to our comrades.  
 Whether at home or abroad,  
 may we ever seek the extension of Thy Kingdom.  
 Let the assurance of Thy presence  
 save us from sinning,  
 strengthen us in life  
 and comfort us in death.  
 O Lord our God, accept this prayer  
 AMEN



**Scouts Australia - NSW  
 Greater Western Sydney Region**

6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills NSW 2153  
 P: (02) 9639 2488 E: gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

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