



The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Greater Western Sydney Region

Issue 480 – November 2019



Fun and Games @ Pre-Cuboree Shakedown Camp

GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE

6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153

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

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

Website: www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER

First off, I would like to say thank you to David Twist for his dedication and service to Scouting. David has decided to stand down from his role as RC Rovers, which he has held for 12 years. That is some dedication. He has been a big part of my team and others before me. I hope you all join me in thanking him for his time to Scouting in GWS. This means I have another vacancy. Any interested person who would like to fill David's shoes as the RC Rovers please contact me

david.stopps@nsw.scouts.com.au

With Cuboree just around the corner I have been able to attend some shake down Camps. There were some happy youth and after only 2 days there were some very tired leaders. Please remember to make your packing list and check it twice; it is not like camping at Bundilla where you can run back to your hall to pick up the things you forgot!

By now your Group leader and DC and anyone on the region team would have received the list for nominations for next year's Adult Recognition Awards. Please ask them to share it with you. It is not up to them to nominate people, anyone can. Let's see if we can beat this year's numbers. Nominations close 31st of January. No exceptions! The citations are to be sent to neville@greaterwestscouts.com.au or Region Office or myself - **NOT** to State office as I must endorse all nominations first.

Rover Crews and Groups need to start thinking about their accounts. The financial year closes at the end of December. Your financial books need to be audited by the end of February. There is no reason this cannot be done. Just so we are all on the same page - if a group cannot do this there are two things that will happen. 1) Groups will not be able to do any fundraising at all and they will be suspended until they have their books completed. 2) This means no Scouting activities at all. All DCs are aware of this; if you have an issue then the time to talk is now - not in March next year!

Scouts NSW are now starting to roll out Office 365 and Scouts NSW emails are coming to all Group Leaders, Section Leaders, Group Chairs, Group Treasurers and Group Secretaries; please talk to

your DC if you are having any problems. You will have six months to login before you lose it for good. No other email is to be used in Scoutlink after this rollout.

We have also seen the rollout of the online forms. The response has been good; but I am seeing some groups not going into Scoutlink to endorse their new members, both youth and adults. Please go into Scoutlink and have a look at least once a week. I am not saying all groups but there are a number of them.

This means that no more paper A1, A2 or Y1 will be accepted at the Region Office. If submitted, they will be sent back to the groups; except for Rover Crews - they will still be using the Y1 and A1 forms until further notice.

David Stopps

Region Commissioner

Email: rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au

Mobile: 0472 688 766 (04SCOUTS66)



**Meet Max Henderson, a newly invested
Joey Scout in the recently formed
1st Grose Vale Joey Mob.**

Max is pictured with his proud Dad
Geoff Henderson DRC and his older brother.

APPOINTMENTS & TRANSFERS GWSR

BYRNE, Samuel

From Trainee Ldr (CS) 1st Blaxland Cub Pack *Keego*
To ACSL 1st Blaxland Cub Pack *Keego*

GRAHAM, Brett

From District Adviser Penrith City District
To Hon. Leader (D) Penrith City District

PILAWA, Michael

From Trainee Ldr (CS) 1st Blaxland Cub Pack *Keego*
To ACSL 1st Blaxland Cub Pack *Keego*

TAMSETT, Stewart

From Trainee Ldr (CS) 1st Blaxland Cub Pack
Pukeena
To ACSL 1st Blaxland Cub Pack
Pukeena

WINDERBANKS, Tracey

From Trainee Ldr (JS) 1st Blaxland Joey Mob *Taipan*
To JSL - P 1st Blaxland Joey Mob *Python*

RESIGNATIONS GWSR

BARNES, Kenneth

District Adviser Penrith City District

DEICHELMANN, Fiona

Trainee Ldr (S) 1st Dural Scout Troop *Giwang*

LEHRER, Olga

AVSL 1st Dural Venturer Unit

STOWELL, Andrew

ACSL 1st Toongabbie Cub Pack

KHOR, Yong Chen

GL - P 1st Carlingford Scout Group

THE GOLDEN WEST REGION

ANGELL, Sophie

From TL (S) 3rd Broken Hill Scout Troop
To ACSL 3rd Broken Hill Cub Pack *Thursday*

DART, Trevor

From CSL-P 3rd Broken Hill Cub Pack *Thursday*
To ACSL 3rd Broken Hill Cub Pack *Thursday*

MOLLOY, Kellie

From TL (CS) 3rd Broken Hill Cub Pack *Thursday*
To CSL - P 3rd Broken Hill Cub Pack *Thursday*



It is with sadness that the GWS Region Venturer team advise the passing of Margo Dalziel.

Margo was a Scout Leader and Venturer Scout Leader with 1st Kings Langley for over 20 years. Margo passed away on 25th October 2019 following complications from her battle with cancer.

Margo's scouting life commenced as a parent helper to assist her daughter Nikki, when she joined Scouts. Margo was quickly talked into joining as a leader to assist the Scout section during a period when the number of female leaders and youth was relatively low. She quickly earned a reputation as a strong but fair leader with a wealth of knowledge gained from her country upbringing.

She would often detail her experience as "the girl whose dad owned a garage" in country NSW and how she had to do things better than the boys! This resulted in her being highly skilled at ropes, knots and lashings and equally skilled at machinery.

She moved to become a Venturer Scout Leader following her daughter Nikki into the section and quickly became the section leader. She spent most of her time remaining as the section leader until December 2017. During this time, she supervised the progression of all 1st Kings Langley Queen's Scouts across the different evaluation schemes. She was willing to allow youth members latitude with their badge work provided they challenged themselves and pushed their limits. She was a firm believer that scouting was about building resilience in youth. Margo was known for her willingness to assist some of our most challenging youth at the time; to see the good and the need to build up our young people.

After leaving as a section leader Margo was a member of the Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship, assisting at Waratah events. She remained available to assist "her unit" at 1st Kings Langley at all times.

Margo's funeral was held on Friday 8th November.

She will be sadly missed.



DUAL CELEBRATIONS AT WESTMEAD SCOUT GROUP

On October 26th, Westmead Scout Troop recognised the awesome achievement of Jasmine Rowe in gaining her Australian Scout Medallion.

Jasmine joined Westmead Scouts as a 10-year-old coming across from Guides. During her 5 years with the troop she has hiked over 200 kilometers and camped over 100 nights. She attended the Australia Jamboree in South Australia as well as many Region and District events. Jasmine was on the GWS Scout Youth Council and attended the State Youth Council in 2018 and 2019 and the GWS Advanced Leadership Course in 2019.

For Jasmine's Leadership activity she managed the construction of a campfire circle at the group's headquarters which will be enjoyed by the Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers now and in the future.

Congratulations Jasmine, a very worthy recipient of the Australian Scout Medallion.



**Chris McGrath SL 1st Westmead
presenting Jasmine with her
Australian Scout Medallion badge.**



**Col Nicholas RC Special Duties
presenting Jasmine with the
special GWS Region ASM woggle.**

On the same day, Westmead Scout Group celebrated 80 years of Scouting at Westmead.

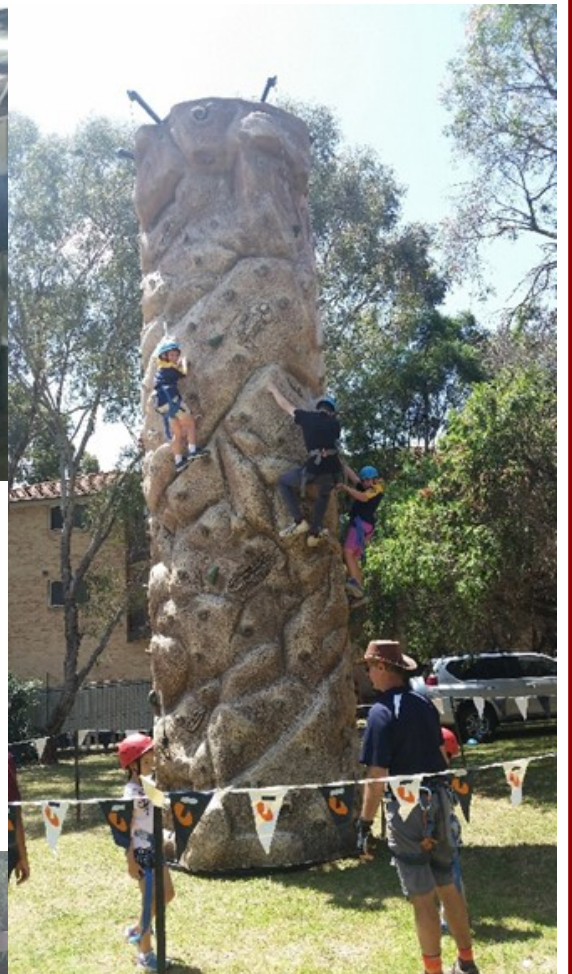
1st Westmead held its first Cub Pack meeting under a group of Melaleuca trees near Bailey Street, Parramatta Park and the Group was registered on 31st October 1939. Over 200 people attended the celebrations with former Leaders travelling from as far as Casino, Port Macquarie and from all over Sydney and surrounding areas. Many friendships were renewed and much laughter was heard as old photos were examined and many stories retold.

Visitors enjoyed the Climbing Wall, Jumping Castle, Memorabilia display and the activity bases run by the four Scout patrols.

We are all looking forward to the next 20 years!

**Christine McGrath SL
1st Westmead Scout Troop**

1st Westmead's 80th Birthday



Congratulations

CUB SCOUTS



NSW Cuboree 2020

There is now less than 50 days to go!

SHAKEDOWN CAMPS

On 25-27 October, the six Cuboree Units (273 people) from GWSR who are camping on the Emerald Sub Camp, held their pre-Cuboree 'Shakedown' camp at Bundilla. The following weekend, 1-3 November, the remaining six GWS Cuboree Units (246 people) who are assigned to Ruby Sub Camp, had their turn.

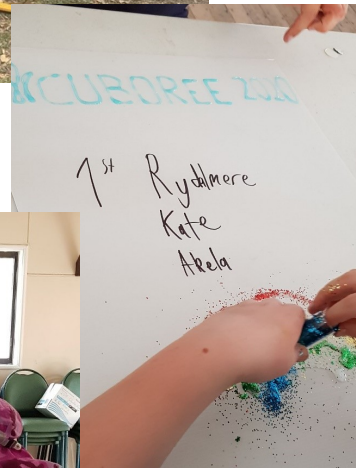
All Junior Service Leaders and Service Leaders assigned to the GWS Region Activity Base 'Polar Ecosystem' were also invited to attend an information session and to assist with the bases on each weekend.

We also held a **Region Cub Youth Council** on each of the weekends. It was great to get the Cubs to review the weekend and for their input to the activities and events for 2020.

All who attended had a wonderful time; meeting new people, camping out in tents and enjoying fun activities.

Both weekends had their own challenges and issues to overcome, however that is the purpose of the pre-Cuboree camps; to review and assess preparations, equipment, Leaders, Helpers and Cubs ahead of the Cuboree, so that any necessary adjustments can be made to ensure a smooth and enjoyable camp is had in January at Cataract.

Thank you to all Leaders that assisted me with the preparations and activities over the weekend, especially the Scouts and Venturers and Helen Hodge, Mariel Taylor, Andrew Selmes and Phirooza Battiwalla.



OUT AND ABOUT - 2019

October and November is 'Out and About' time for Cubs. A huge number of Cubs throughout the Region have had outings in the past month using public transport and getting out within the Community.

Blue Mountains District Cubs enjoyed a day out at Mt Tomah getting close to nature!



JOTA – CUBS & JOEYS

On Sunday 20th October, the Blue Mountains Scout Fellowship, together with the Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club, hosted the JOTA event for Cubs and Joeys. Fifty Cubs and 20 Joeys attended on the day and had a wonderful time.



To show their appreciation, a Cub and a Joey recently attended the Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club meeting to present a certificate of appreciation. Well done to all!

CUB SCOUT AWARDED THE FRED HOLLOWS HUMANITY AWARD

Congratulations to Zoe from 1st Blaxland for being awarded the Fred Hollows Humanity Award. This is a wonderful achievement, well done Zoe!



CUB CALENDAR - 2020

The Region Seenee Team have planned the Region Cub Calendar for 2020 in consultation with the Region Cub Youth Council. The dates and activities have been added to the Region event management system.

GWS REGIONETTE

In 2020, the Region will hold its first ever **GWS Regionette**! This whole Region camp will be open to all Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and their families. Further details and registration are found on the Region Ems system. Discuss this with your Cub Units and Group Councils and ensure you get your registration in.

Yours in Scouting,

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



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

Ben Atkinson
2nd Northmead

Zac Gale
2nd Northmead

Jacob Merryfull
1st Oakville

1- 2 - 3 - WOOF

SCOUTS

Ok Term 4 is almost over!

Planning should be taking shape for 2020.

JANUARY

First on the list is **Cuboree 2020 'What on Earth'**. I look forward to seeing most of you there. It is shaping up to be the biggest and best Cuboree to date! You won't believe the activities we have instore for you all!!

FEBRUARY

Next is our **Region Mindari Camp** being held January 31 – February 2, 2020. This camp is for all Scout Leaders, Assistant Scout Leaders and Scout Leaders in training. It will be a laid back, relaxing training camp. Register at : <https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/258>

APRIL

Australian Scout Medallion presentation
(date to be confirmed).

MAY

Then there will be **Scout Hike** May 1 -3, 2020 for more information go to:
<http://www.scout hike.com/online/default.asp>

JUNE

As usual the June long weekend is our Region Camp June 5 -8 at Cataract. This year's theme is '**Kingdoms and Empires of the Universe**'; some districts have chosen their theme already but here are some more suggestions:

- Plant Kingdoms
- Animal Kingdoms
- Microscopic Universe
- Coral Kingdoms
- Empires of Ice
- Golden Kingdoms
- Egypt's Golden Empire
- African Kingdoms
- The Seven Kingdoms
- Roman Empire

- Khmer Empire
- Hittite Empire
- Kingdom of Camelot
- Kuba Kingdom
- Parallel Universes
- Online Universes

Just to name a few!! Registrations will be open shortly. So be prepared! Don't leave things to the last minute! And be prepared for a few changes! It will be the biggest camp to date.

AUGUST

Next we have **State Rally** from Friday 31st July to Sunday 2nd August. The theme will be set at the next SSYC.

OCTOBER

JOTA/JOTI will be held over the weekend of the 16th October

NOVEMBER

Our **Advanced Leadership Course** will be held on 30th October to 1st November.
Then **Waratah** for the older scouts and leaders will be on the weekend of 14th November.
Parramatta District will be holding their **Wide Game** on November 27.

***So please remember to put all these dates
in your planners.***

If any troops/units need extra help to run nights, please don't be shy in asking for help. We love to help out. If you need someone short notice, please call me – If I can't make, I'm pretty sure I can find someone who can. We all know what it's like to be short handed and we understand how things just happen.

Tracey Stopps (Wiangi)

Region Commissioner Scouts

Email: scouts@greaterwestscouts.com.au





YOU ARE INVITED TO THE REGION MINDARI CAMP

WHEN: 31ST JAN-2ND FEB 2020

WHERE: BERRIMA SCOUT CAMP

WHO: ALL SLS, ASLS AND TRAINEE SLS

COST: \$25 NO CATERING \$50 CATERING

WHY? This is a training weekend during the day then a more relaxed social evening. It will cover your training requirements for the year and help with networking, planning etc.

Sessions may include:

New Program—What it means for scouts

Construction

Social Media

Mental Health

Woodbadge Ideas

REGISTER @ <https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/258>

There is a creek so bring some swimmers.



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
1ST GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGIONETTE AND
THE 43RD GWSR JAMBORETTE

WHEN: 4TH - 8TH JUNE 2020

WHERE: CATARACT SCOUT PARK

WHY: We are inviting all members of Scouts
(Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rover,
Fellowship & Honorary) of GWS to attend
AND their families!

Register for your whole group and families at:

<https://events.greaterwestscouts.com.au/event/259>

Note: Venturers and Rovers will be camped on their own sub camps as per normal Jamborette.

Fellowships and Honorary Members have the opportunity to bunk.

All others will camp together as a group in their district areas.

Activities will be supplied in sections. All districts are to supply 2 bases per section (2x Joeys, 2x Cubs, 2x Scouts). **All** Venturers are expected to work on/run bases. Rovers are (as usual) to work on security and/or run bases or go as line leaders.

Please submit the base applications to rcscoutsgws1@gmail.com

GWSR JOTA 2019 REPORT

At Scheyville the main youth that came were those who had received their Foundation licenses. Karl came to our opening parade and he and Brett presented their Amateur Radio badges. We had a total of 17 youth over the weekend plus three youth and a leader from the Western Sydney BLIA sponsored group.

On Saturday we got hit with very high winds, with gusts up to 61kmph at one point, which blew off some flys and flattened a couple of tents but we had no real damage. Sunday was a good day on the radio and after the morning WIA broadcast, each of the licensed Scouts got to give their feedback using their own call signs. The Scouts also had some fun taking a walk around the park in two or three groups keeping in touch with each other using some small handhelds. We set up a Fox which a group located. We also listened to some Amateurs chat to each other over an amateur Satellite.

All in all it was a good weekend, in spite of our low numbers.

Robin Garrett (Honorary Commissioner Scouts)

A total of 68 youth (43 Cubs, 21 Joeys, and 3 Scout Helpers) attended JOTA at Glenbrook on Sunday with everything going very well. The Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club members provided 8 activities including HF and 2 Meter Radios, Morse Code demo, Secret writing and Code Wheel, and making an LED kit with a 9 volt battery.

Here is a comment from the secretary of the club: "It was an excellent day all round. I was struck by the politeness of the children and their great 'radio manner'. I gave them simple instructions and they followed them very, very well. When asked 'what is your favorite subject at school'? they answered 'maths and science' - surely a hopeful sign for the future of radio, science and technology!"

And from one of the other club members: "I saw kids sending Morse to each other and the 'receivers' proudly exclaiming the received letter. Some were saying: "It's my turn", "I want a go."

Some parents had difficulty getting their kids to leave the activities to go home.

Mary-Jane Allan (Blue Mountains Scout Fellowship)



This year's Christmas badge is now available for purchase from the Scout Shop for just \$2.50 each plus postage.

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



REGIONAL ACTIVITIES TEAM



"...it's only two hours a week, I was once told!"

Let's just say this month has been a trifle busy with Region Activities.

All kicked off with a one-day canyon trip to River Caves Canyon, located in the south west corner of the Wollemi National Park. Finishing off the day with a bit of a gander into the Wolgan View Canyon, which is more a dry canyon.



With the warmer weather now very much upon us, the Water Activities Team ventured out doing a 20km canoe trip up the Hawkesbury/Nepean River from Macquarie Park in Windsor, to the Yarramundi Bridge. Led by Ben Gross, they even continued a bit further upstream past the bridge, in what Ben described as some great country to see.

Our rock team were also out and about with a two-day abseiling workshop at Bowen Mountain and Yellow Rock. Part of these workshops include a theory night at Bundilla, so when we get out into the field, we can get straight into the real fun stuff. Completion of this workshop is also designed to allow participants to go on both canyoning and caving trips, which often involve abseiling skills.

I had the pleasure to attend the 1st Westmead 80th Birthday celebrations, and for something completely different, I ran the Climbing wall; which I must say went really well. 1st Westmead is very much a Family oriented group; and it was quite inspiring to hear the stories of how the group has evolved, over the last 80 years, to where it is now.

When it comes to **promoting** Scouting, I think we can all have a look at how **Penrith District** do it!

Using the **Penrith REAL Festival** as its base, the whole District came together in support of the event, and to showcase what Scouting is all about.

The Region Activities Team, with huge support from the District, ran a Flying Fox (with a scaffold tower erected by council); the climbing wall; and just for that extra bit of fun, crate stacking as well. It was a hugely successful time, running through until 10.00pm on the Saturday Night.

I did hear there were literally 100s of names taken down, from people and families, all interested in joining up and getting involved.



That same weekend also saw our rock team out again with another Abseiling Proficiency Badge Course being run on the Sunday, at Pennant Hills. The only really issue with this is that it does put a strain on the availability of gear and equipment, but I see that as a good problem to have!

And it not slowing down as we head into Christmas! Up and coming activities included an overnight canoe trip into the upper reaches of Webbs Creek; a Caving weekend up to the lesser known Timor Caves (near Scone); a number of overnight Bushwalks, being run by Tristan Flores; a

couple of one day Sailing Workshops, run by Keith Travers; and just so we don't get bored, a weekend Canoeing Workshop at Swansea.

While on Water Activities, I would like to acknowledge the wonderful work that Tracey Hansford has done as the GWS Region Water Activities Leader over a number of years. Tracey is stepping down from this role, to give her more time to concentrate on the many other facets of her Scouting journey, including Archery and Circus, so she will certainly still be very much a part of the Region Activities Team.

I would like to welcome Ben Gross on board as our new Water Activities Leader. Ben has already been very much a part of the water team and has certainly earned his stripes, with many day and overnight canoe trips under his belt.

"...and it's all only two hours a week...!"



Mark Fell (Dingo)

Region Commissioner Activities

Email: activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au

ANYONE FOR SAILING?

Location: Chipping Norton Lake, Angle Park, Homestead Drive, Chipping Norton

Sunday 17th November

Beginners sail day

Saturday 21st December

One day sailing workshop

Saturday 4th - 8th January 2020

5 day workshop for scouts, venturers, rovers and leaders



Please see the Region EMS for full details.

Expressions of Interest

We are looking for a female leader with her own car who would like to participate in sailing. We would provide all training. If interested please contact Keith Travers.

Keith Travers

Email: keith.travers@optusnet.com.au

ROVERS !

A MESSAGE FROM ONE OF OUR ROVERS TANAYA SLOAN

As apart of my Baden Powell Scout Award I have been running regular clean ups in the Greater Western Sydney Area. Working along side Clean Up Australia, the local councils and with the help of my crew, Blacktown Rovers, I have already been able to clean up some important areas in our region.

The environment is something I feel extremely passionate about, and keeping it clean is the best way to ensure our Earth stays beautiful for many years to come.

I would love the support of different crews and sections to come and support me on my journey. Clean Up Australia is generous enough to provide us with all the equipment needed, you just have to turn up!

If you come across any areas which you feel need attention in our region, let me know and we can organise our next clean up there.

For any questions or to book a day with Tanaya, please contact her at Tanayasloan2@gmail.com



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

OUT AND ABOUT

On the 3rd November 2nd Castle Hill Rover Crew went on a day hike around Manly Dam and made friends with some native wildlife!



DEN PROJECTS

As apart of his squire training, Wyatt from Westmead Rover Crew built a notice board for their den. A very impressive job from such a new rover!

CREW CAMPS

Every year Blacktown Rover Crew hosts a "Blacktown Goes..." camp. This time they went to the beach, well River. Alongside some members from Nepean and Baulko Outdoor they had a great time down at Cattai and took a trip to Windsor ice cream before heading home!



A MESSAGE FROM OUR REGION CHAIRMAN

It has been a great month for our rovers with a heap of inter-crew activities and social outings within crews. Our venturer interaction is also at a high, with many crews getting to know their venturers.

I would like to congratulate Melanie Dimmock, Amber Bolton, Gabrielle Fulton, Rachael Fulton, Ian Thomas, Benjamin Kuzma and myself for receiving NSW Rover Recognition Awards and for Christopher Ward for receiving the Stan Bales Award.

We will also be hosting a GWS Region Rover Awards Ceremony 'The Rovies' in February of 2020. Stay tuned for a night of fun!

Regards,

Timothy Gray

UPCOMING EVENTS

Trivia Night For A Cause

Saturday 23rd November - 1st/2nd Blacktown Scout Hall

NSW Rovers First Epic Scavenger Hunt - Colour

Saturday 30th November - Government House

Santa Claus Pub Crawl

Friday 6th December - Commissioners Steps

Abbotsford Rovers Presents: Holy Guacamole It's a Christmas Fiesta

Saturday 14th December - TBA

Lord Mayor's Picnic

31st December - Government House

PR & Internet Officer - GWS Rovers email: pr.internet@gwsrovers.com.au

A Note from the Editor

THE BULLETIN

There will be a December edition of this newsletter.

Please ensure all your articles and requests for publishing are with the Editor by December 10, 2019



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

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

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

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Please send all articles and photos direct to the editor:

Anne Thompson

bulletin@greaterwestscouts.com.au