



# The Bulletin

Issue 427 - December 2014



*May all the  
joys of Christmas  
fill your heart  
throughout the  
New Year*



**GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION OFFICE**

**6 Baden Powell Place, Winston Hills 2153**

**BUSINESS HOURS:** TUESDAY to THURSDAY 9AM TO 3.30PM, FRIDAY 10AM TO 4.30PM

**Phone:** 9639 2488 **Email:** [gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au)

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

## ***FROM THE REGION COMMISSIONER***

At the Chief Commissioner's Council held at the beginning of November it was agreed that this year the fee will remain the same as last year at \$36.00 per quarter, so groups can now set their fees for 2015.

I have had the pleasure to attend a number of activities and presentations for scouting awards and it has been a privilege to attend these representing GWS Region.

1). A combined night was held at 1<sup>st</sup> Erskine Park to see Amelia Leary receive her Grey Wolf Award. Well done to Amelia, her leaders and her family on this excellent achievement. On the night a Queen's Scout Award was presented to Hamish Edwards and this also is a major achievement for this young man. Well done Hamish.

2). The presentation day at 1<sup>st</sup> Ermington was something special with 2 Grey Wolf Awards to James Ryan and Bella-Star Avery, - Queens Scout Award to Rachel Ewings – Wood Badge Presentation to Nerida Ewings and a Special Service Award to Peter Barber. Well done to the recipients, their section leaders and families and the group.

3). I have been invited to assist in the presentation of the Australian Scout Medallion to Meaghan Smith of 1<sup>st</sup> Oakville Scout Troop at the group Christmas Party and I am looking forward to this immensely.

4). Unfortunately I have another engagement and was unable to attend the presentation of the Green Cord and Australian Scout Medallion to Cooper Vanderjagt of 1<sup>st</sup> South Penrith along with a number of Grey Wolf

Awards but I was represented by the Deputy Region Commissioner, David Stopps, on the night. Congratulations to the recipients.

5). I am looking forward to attending the auditions for the Cumberland Gang Show at Pennant Hills and know that we have some really talented youth in scouting and guiding and I look forward to seeing the show in July.

6). 1<sup>st</sup> Wentworthville conducted another promotion day at their hall and we hope to get more members for the group out of this event..

7). I had the pleasure to attend a farewell for Teresa and David Mort from 1<sup>st</sup> Carlingford as they are leaving the region and moving north. We wish them both well and look forward to catching up in future.

I am sad to announce that our Region Chairman, Geoff McGrath, is standing down from the Executive after many years of sterling service to the Association. I have told Geoff that any time he feels he would like to return there will be a position for him. We wish him all the best for the future

Matt Thompson our talented RC Public Relations and Communications invited me to see the new computer program for registration in relation of major region events. What a great job Matt has done to simplify registrations and he will be releasing this in the near future for your use.

The region is now the proud owner of a climbing wall, which is in need of a fair bit of work, and once it is up and running groups will be able to order the wall through us. If the GWS wall is booked groups will still have access to the state climbing wall.

The list of people eligible to be nominated for the Adult Recognition Awards in 2015 have been sent out to Group Leaders so if you want a copy see them. Nominations close on 27 January 2015 and you can either email them to Region Office with the heading ARA Award Nomination or email them direct to me on [rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au).

Thanks for your assistance and support over the past year and I look forward to working with you again in 2015. On behalf of the Region Executive, the Region Council and the Region and District teams I wish you a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year and from my family to yours I wish that you receive the joy and happiness of the festive season.

Until then....carry on scouting

**Neville Henderson OAM Region  
Commissioner**

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



## **Canyon Trips in 2015**

**8<sup>th</sup> Feb**

**Rocky Creek & Sheep Dip Canyons  
(Suitable for Scouts and Venturers)**

**1<sup>st</sup> March**

**Valley of the Waters & Grand Canyons  
(Suitable for Venturers)**

**5<sup>th</sup> July**

**Starlight Canyon  
(Suitable for Venturers)**

**Please check out the  
GWS Region Calendar for more details.**

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## VENTURER REPORT

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At the beginning of this month, Jarrod Mutton of 2nd Baulkham Hills departed for Denmark as a participant in the Scouts International Student Exchange Program (SISEP). Jarrod has swapped his summer holidays for the opportunity to join a host family in Denmark where he will attend a local school, participate in a variety of activities with the local Scout Group and celebrate a unique Christmas experience in the northern hemisphere winter. We look forward to hearing from Jarrod on his return next year to learn about his many adventures.

This month we farewell several Venturer Scout Leaders in the Region who are departing their Scout Groups after many years of dedicated service. It is with great pleasure that I can report that all of these leaders have joined the Waratah Activity Scout Fellowship to continue their support of the Venturer Scout section and we look forward to welcoming them to various events in the future.

The Australian Venture is now only a few weeks away and very soon the NSW Contingent will be departing for Adelaide. I shall look forward to visiting our members during the event and wish every participant the safest of travels.

Interest in Region Hike 2015 is growing strong and I am looking forward to seeing a good turn up for this activity. This will be a great event to start the year and a convenient way to build up bushwalking experience in the Region. E1 forms are available from the Region website.

Of course, the summer holidays are another great time to get away and enjoy the outdoors. Bushwalking, camping and canoeing are all possible with a little planning. Venturer Scout Units in particular can take the opportunity for some extended camping and hiking activities.

Applications for the next New Zealand Venture – Inferno 2016 – will open on 1 February 2015. Places are limited – especially for the pre-tour, so apply early. Visit [www.nzv2016.com](http://www.nzv2016.com) to register your expression of interest.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and enjoyable summer holidays.

**Aaron Wardle RC Venturer Scouts**

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

**Mobile: 0421 076 497**



The 2014 Christmas badge  
now available for sale from the Scout Shop  
in Port Kembla for just \$2.50 each.

Don't wait, order now before we run out.

Email us at [sctshop@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:sctshop@nsw.scouts.com.au) or call us on  
**4274 1193** to place your Group's order.

### THE SCOUT SHOP

85 Wentworth Street  
Port Kembla NSW 2505

Phone: 4274 1193

Fax: 4274 6334

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

### OPENING HOURS

Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri 9am - 4.30pm

Thursday: 10am - 4.30pm

Saturday: 9am - 12pm

## REGION ACTIVITIES TEAM



It is hard to believe we are just about through another year and certainly big year of activities for the GWS Region Activity Team.

SIS Training has certainly been big on the agenda, and it is so good to see most of the Activities Team now qualified in one, two and even more of the various activity disciplines. Can I say thank you to the team, and in fact all leaders within the Region, who have made the effort to “re-qualify.” *I know it was frustrating to see fully qualified leaders under the old system, having to go out and “prove” their skills again! It affected us all ... from the RC Activities down!*

We ran a successful SIS RPL Course for all our “experienced flat water canoeists. Firstly at Bundilla covering the paperwork (...and there is lots of that!) followed by a practical day out at Macquarie Park at Windsor. Thank you to Stuart Cowen, our resident National Assessor, and David Walsh, Special Projects at Branch, who helped, and guided us through the process.

I have been involved in Scouting for quite a few years now, and it is always good for a “first” when it comes to Scouting activities. Spent a great weekend with the Venturers at my first Waratah! Held down at Bangalee Scout Camp (Nowra) which was also a first, where we ran an abseiling base. Big thank you to both Stuart Cowen and Dave (Macca) McKinley who helped out over the weekend. Also thank you to Neal Sullivan who helped out with the canoeing.

This time last year I spoke



*“You poke him in the back, while I hit him on the head!”  
...canoeing can be fraught with danger!*

about activities that need to be cancelled because of weather and adverse conditions. I know there is much planning which goes into all activities, and particularly Green Cord Hikes with the Scouts. Cancelling out can be a big call, but when it comes

to Scout safety, it is a call that needs to be made. Can I say thank you to at least 3 Green Cord Hikes I am aware of who needed to postpone due to extreme fire conditions.

I have far more respect to experience, to a group who cancels out, rather than a group who pursues

on regardless. In planning Green Cord Hikes, particularly during the summer months, encourage scouts to give themselves plenty of leeway, rather than leaving it till a week before their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The climbing wall has certainly continued to be popular on many activities to promote Scouting. We had it at Kellyville High Schools for a twilight market; the Wentworthville Scout Hall for a community Market Day and at Bundilla for a special

activities day, with students from Macquarie Uni, organized by Debbie Howlett.

One this day we also ran a caving ladder climb, prussick rope climb and the always very popular Crate Stacking. Big thank you to Quentin Napier, Meredith Stewart, Neal Sullivan and Simon Edwards who all helped me out on the day.

Remember on all climbing wall activities, no thongs or crocs to be worn by participants while on the Climbing Wall. Some people also ask is there a minimum age to climb the wall? Simple answer is no! Just a





Students from Macquarie Uni showing how it is done, on the Crate Stacking.  
Photo Mark Fell

minimum size. As long as we can safety fit a harness on, you can have a climb. As to the other end of the scale there is no age limit. ...I do know of one Grandpa who is regularly up the wall..!

If you are booking the wall, we require an area of 10m in diameter, (That's not 10m<sup>2</sup>) on level firm (grass is fine) ground. We also need good vehicular access. The wall is 9m long from end to end, 2.15m wide and 2.8m high.

Being the last Activities Article for 2014, I know all

leaders and youth alike would join me in saying a huge thank you to the Activities Team. Whether it's canoeing, caving, canyoning, sailing, abseiling, or even up the climbing wall, you have all done a fantastic job in your help, support and passion.

May you all have a wonderful Christmas with those near and dear to you, and look forward to another great year of fun and adventure in 2015.

Mark Fell (DINGO) RC Activities

Email:

[activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:activities@greaterwestscouts.com.au)



## GWS Region Office Christmas Closure



The office will close at  
**4.30pm Friday  
December 12, 2014**  
and reopen  
**9am Tuesday  
January 27, 2014**

### ADULT RECOGNITION AWARD

nominations should be emailed to:

[gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au)

or

[rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au](mailto:rc@greaterwestscouts.com.au)

by close of business on

**Tuesday, 27th January 2014**



*Remember the wall doesn't bend in the middle, despite the fact it is actually easier to back than a box trailer.*

## RADIO, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Hazelbrook JOEYS

This Group has been difficult for me to get to in peak hour from Lindfield, as Karl discovered when he was delayed on the 'express way'. Sharon (Magpie) had requested a magnetics night.

I had recently bought a reproduction of a game I had when I was younger called "Amazing Robot". There are a number of category sheets of general knowledge. The 'robot' is keyed into the left side and rotated until his pointer rests on a question. You then answer the question if you can before lifting the robot and placed it on the right side mirror surface, where he gyrates around 'till he points at the correct answer.

It looks like magic but of course is based on a rotating magnet in the robot base aligning with a fixed magnet under the mirror. Sharon said her Joeys enjoyed the activity, and hopefully learnt a new fact or two, *pointed out* by the Robot.



### Arcs&Sparks at Cherrybrook

This is a big group of 35 Scouts, and I was a little apprehensive when neither Karl nor Ayla was available to help me, so I arranged a surprise end to the night.

It wasn't so long since we put on an A&S night for them, but luckily only a few senior girls had seen the last one and the rest had come up through cubs. Their Leaders divided them into 3 groups and they took two groups outside while I showed the remaining scouts Electrostatics and the Van de Graaff generator; then we swapped around.



I allowed time after the last group to show them the grand finale. Their hall has a side entrance about 3 x 4 meters which could be easily cordoned off to contain my **Tesla Coil**. This Group is not in our Region and hadn't seen (heard) it at our Jamborette, so you can imagine the consternation when I switched it on. I had bought along a burnt out fluoro' tube so the scouts could play 'light saber' while standing outside the barrier. Then we heard a couple of tunes through the sparks, punctuated with applause after each.



#### THE RADIO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM

John Leahy

[john.scoutleahy@gmail.com](mailto:john.scoutleahy@gmail.com)  
Home 4572-1549

Karl Humphreys

[ets0@bigpond.com.au](mailto:ets0@bigpond.com.au)  
(M) 0408 205 649

**Do you want to be famous?  
We have an amazing opportunity  
available to design the official  
AJ2016 Scarf.**

Imagine thousands of people wearing a scarf that you helped design! Every Jamboree attendee pack will contain an official AJ2016 scarf and with the media attention AJ2016 is expecting, your scarf design could be viewed by millions of people, from all over the world.

To participate in creating history you just need to consider :

- The theme of AJ2016 is "Leap Into Adventure" and designs should represent this theme
- The colours purple, blue and orange form part of the AJ2016 logo and it would be great to see designs using these colours
- Entries will be accepted from all Scouting members – youth and adults
- Use your creative skills to design the scarf using whatever tools you like – both hand-drawn and computer generated images will be accepted
- The design must be your own work

Send your design as a .jpg to .pdf file to scarfdesign@aj2016.com.au.

Alternatively designs can be posted on A3 or A4 paper to: AJ2016 Scarf Design, AJ2016 Marketing, PO Box 125 Lidcombe, NSW 1825

Please note that entries received will not be returned

- All entries are to include your name, Scout Group, contact details (phone number and/or email address) and age for youth member entries. Adults do not need to submit their age.
- All entries to be received by **15th February 2015** where they will be assessed and finalists then announced
- The Jamboree Executive Committee reserve the right to modify submitted designs for scarf production purposes
- Once submitted, all designs become to property of the Scout Association of Australia
- Please forward any questions to scarfdesign@aj2016.com.au



**APPOINTMENTS LIST  
20/10/2014— 1/12/2014**



**APPOINTMENTS**

<b>AVERY</b> , Collette	ASL	1st Riverstone Scout Troop
<b>CARLSSON</b> , Deborah	Appt TL(C)	1st Kellyville Cub Pack "Zazu"
<b>KEEN</b> , Samantha	Appt TL(C)	1st Kellyville Cub Pack "Darzee"
<b>SHEPHERD</b> , Raymond	LIC	1st Greystanes Scout Group
<b>WILSON</b> , Chloe	Appt TL(C)	2nd Baulkham Hills Cub Pack

**TRANSFERS**

<b>ABBOTT</b> , James	Fr Appt TL(C) To ACSL	1st Grose Vale Cub Pack 1st Grose Vale Cub Pack
<b>ANG</b> , Pei Feng	Fr Appt TL(G) To JSL	1st Murray Farm Scout Group 1st Murray Farm Joey Mob
<b>BENNETT</b> , Grant	Fr Appt TL(G) To GL	1st Kings Langley Scout Group 1st Kings Langley Scout Group
<b>FLORES</b> , Tristan	Fr SL To RL(Act)	1st Blackheath Scout Troop Greater Western Sydney Region
<b>MITCHELL</b> , Paula	Fr Appt TL(J) To JSL	1st North Rocks Joey Mob 1st North Rocks Joey Mob

**RESIGNATIONS**

<b>APPS</b> , Haydn	Appt TL(S)	1st Kings Langley Scout Troop
<b>GILLARD</b> , Neal	Appt TL(C)	2nd Castle Hill Cub Pack "Nackara"
<b>KELLY</b> , James	AJSL	1st Quakers Hill-Doonside Joey Mob
<b>MEIN</b> , Christopher	Appt TL(C)	1st Springwood Cub Pack "Tibrogargan"
<b>MOULDER</b> , Kirsty	Appt TL(S)	1st Blackheath Scout Troop
<b>SHANKS</b> , Esther	Appt TL(S)	1st Hazelbrook Scout Troop
<b>SAYER</b> , Paul	AVSL	2nd Baulkham Hills Venturer Unit
<b>OVERLAND</b> , Thomas	Appt TL(C)	2nd Castle Hill Cub Pack "Nackara"

**FORMATION REGISTRATION**

1st Murray Farm Joey Mob

## JOEY SCOUT REPORT

### Long Term Plans and Term plans.

I hope everyone has there both of these plans sorted out by now for Term 1 2015. If not, then why not invite your District leader and even the RCJS to a planning meeting during the holiday break. Lets get our plans in place. This makes a huge difference to the running of your mobs and helps steer you down the correct path when it comes to the Areas of Personal Growth and the overall Joey Program.



Investiture of 1st Hawkesbury Joey Mob



1st Hawkesbury Remembrance Day

### Mob Meetings - [gwsjoey.org.au](http://gwsjoey.org.au)

If you change your mob meeting times, please let us know so that we can update our Mob Maps. They are all listed on the GWS Joeys website under "Joey Mobs". please let me know if your details need updating.

### Merry Christmas

On behalf of the Valerie, Leonie, and Myself, we would like to wish you all a Merry and Safe Christmas. Please be careful on the roads and have a lovely time with your families and friends, spare a thought or even a gift for those lest fortunate and be kind to each other.

Brian Zarth RC Joey Scouts (Magpie)

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

Mobile: 0403 781 446



### 1st Hawkesbury Joey Mob Investiture

I had the pleasure of attending the investiture of a new Joey Mob at Australiana Pioneer Village last month. This coincided with a remembrance day service attended by 1st Hawkesbury and the local community. It's great to see the OUT in scouting in practice and in front of the local community. HOP HOP HOP to 1st Hawkesbury Scout Group.

### Barbara Fleming - Gone Home.

I attended the funeral of one of our fellow Scouters Barbara Fleming last Month. Barbara was RCJS for Hume Region, but had spent around 40 years as a leader in Joeys, cubs and Training. Many of you may have met her at this years Konara at Glenfield. She hadn't been well for a while, but she will be sadly missed by many of us in scouting. Her service was very well done and well attended by scouting people from all over NSW. Rest in Peace Barbara.



Barbara Fleming at the last State Joey Council—Sept 2014

**Congratulations to these  
Joey Scouts who have  
earned their  
Promise Challenge Badges**



Oliver Cooper - 1st Carlingford  
Elle Jessen - 2nd Castle Hill  
Krystal Jessen - 2nd Castle Hill  
Chloe Keaton - 1st Quakers Hill / Doonside  
Taliya Kyprianou - 2nd Castle Hill  
Mackenzie Sherman - 1st Balcombe Heights  
Thomas Wilson - 1st Quakers Hill / Doonside

**HOP, HOP, HOP**

It's on again in 2015...

## The 65<sup>th</sup> Sirius Cup Regatta

### What is it?

A chance for Scouts, Venturers and Leaders to get together at a camp based around water activities.

The Scout Groups camp on Balmoral Oval, just a hop, skip and a jump from the waters of Middle Harbour, as a tent city comes to life from Friday afternoon.

Scouts come from all around including interstate, Lake Burley Griffin, Lake Ginninderra and Lake Tuggeranong from the ACT, from the north (Belmont North, Woy Woy), from the west (Penrith) and from the south (Gerringong).

### More Details...

the Sirius Cup Regatta is the premier Scout sailing regatta on the Branch calendar and it is held annually

There are 5 divisions of sailing races  
Canoeing races for Cub Scouts, Scouts,  
Venturers, Rovers and Leaders  
Rowing events  
Iron man events for all-comers  
Activities for the land lubbers  
Evening entertainment



13 to 15 March 2015

Balmoral Oval/Balmoral Beach,  
Sydney

For more details, please visit  
<http://siriuscup.webs.com/>  
or email [siriuscup@yahoo.com.au](mailto:siriuscup@yahoo.com.au)

Mark it in your diary now!

## CHRISTMAS HAMPERS FROM THE JOEYS

1st Murray Farm Joey Mob was newly formed in mid 2014. The Joeys families provided some yummy Christmas items to make these delightful Christmas Hampers which were donated to the Salvation Army in Auburn for distribution to less fortunate families.

The group received this lovely note in response to their donation:

*I can confirm that I have received the Hampers that were delivered to The Salvation Army at Auburn this morning.*

*The Hampers look very nice and on the behalf of those who will receive them, I would like to thank those who donated the food and for the work the organisers at the 1st Murray Farm Joey Scouts have put into these donations.*

*I would like to assure all who have contributed to these Hampers that they will go to those who do not have enough Food this Christmas.*

*Again, on behalf of those who will receive the Hampers, many thanks.*

### Don Jenkins

Divisional Community Services Co-ordinator  
The Greater West Divisional Headquarters  
The Salvation Army



**THE REGION OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**  
from Friday 12th December 12, 2014  
to Tuesday 27th January, 2015

*We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season*

## **THE BULLETIN**

The Bulletin is edited and published for the general information of members in the Greater Western Sydney Region. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the GWSR or Scouts Australia.

**Submissions are to be made by the last day of the month preceding publication and may be edited for clarity or to fit available print space.**

Articles and illustrations from The Bulletin (except for copyright items) may be re-used unaltered by other Scouting publications and credits shown.

**Please note that there is no January edition of The Bulletin.**

**Please submit all articles by January 31st 2014, for the February edition.**

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Editor.**

