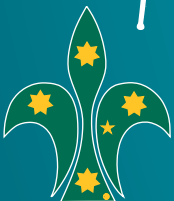




Scouts Australia - NSW
Greater Western Sydney Region
64th Annual Report
2011



Today's



SCOUTS
AUSTRALIA

Be Prepared...

for new adventure!

www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

BIG DAY IN

SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST 2010



The Big Day In held on 1st August last year was a great day for those who attended. Thankfully we had a fine day after all the rain during the weeks leading up to the celebration.

Cubs and Joeys were there in numbers with some Scouts also attending and they all had a great time with rockets and prussiking, slides and climbing wall. Thank you to the activity team that supervised these bases. Also thanks to Frank Barr who picked up the climbing wall and delivered it back to Pennant Hills. Rovers were there in strength and were a big help on activities, as were the Venturers from Ermington who ran the bacon and egg stand. Food was certainly in demand and well catered with many delicious morsels available for purchase on the day.

The science team had a busy day with a constant crowd at their activities. Joeys, Cubs and Scouts were wanting to try the selected examples from the science nights. The robot arm and remote control crane were popular with the younger Scouts, and the Jacobs Ladder arcs with the older Scouts. Viewing the circular distorted pictures in the cylindrical mirror was of interest to Cubs and parents alike.



The organising committee would like to extend a very special thank you to the following for helping to organise and support this Region event;

- The Leaders and their team of helpers who planned organised and supervised activity bases all day
- The Rovers, Venturers and Scouts who helped out on the activity bases and with security and who helped clean up at the end of the day
- The stall holders who supplied yummy food
- The parents, youth members and Leaders who came along to have fun and help their groups with the fundraising opportunity
- Kim and Maggi from Region Office for taking registrations and organising all the handouts
- Geoff McGrath and Paul Thompson for helping with the preparations and registrations
- Shirley Robinson, Sandra Parker and Tricia Shaw for assisting with registrations and badge sales
- Mr Alan Overton for kindly donating the Lucky Draw prizes
- Matt Thompson for the artwork, printing, badge design and great photos
- And especially to the big fellow upstairs for providing such a beautiful day .

Col Nicholas, Anne Thompson, Kathy Cuneo and Neville Henderson

Big Day In Organising Committee

CONTENTS

Big Day In Report	2
Minutes from 2010 AGM	4
Region Commissioner's Report	5
Region Financial Report	6
Bundilla Report	7
Region Office Report	7
Section Reports	8
Joey Scouts	8
Cub Scouts	9
Scouts	10
Venturer Scouts	11
Rovers	12
2010 Adult Recognition Awards	13
District Reports	14
Blacktown	14
Blue Mountains.....	14
Hawkesbury	15
Hills South.....	16
Holroyd	16
Parramatta	17
Penrith	17
Adult Training & Development Report	19
International Report	20
Activities Report	21
Bushwalking	21
First Aid.....	22
Cumberland Gang Show	23
Radio, Science & Technology	23
Scout Fellowships Reports	24
Black Horse Scout Fellowship	24
Blue Mountains Scout Fellowship.....	25
Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship .	25
Pinnaroo Scout Fellowship.....	26
List of Scout Groups & Rovers Crews.....	27

GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY REGION TEAM 2010-2011

Region President	Alan Overton AM
Region Chairman	Geoff McGrath
Region Treasurer	Lorraine Joiner
Region Commissioner	Neville Henderson
Region Office Staff	Maggi Roynon / Kim Harris

REGION COMMISSIONERS

Joey Scouts	Kathy Cuneo
Cub Scouts	Patricia Shaw
Scouts	Robin Garrett
Venturer Scouts	Aaron Wardle
Rovers	David Twist
Activities	Keith Travers / Mark Fell
Adult Training & Development	Ann Pounder
International	Peter Nickl

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Blacktown	Sandra Parker
Blue Mountains	Paul Roach
Hawkesbury	Mary Garrett (Acting)
Hills South	Gavan Hall
Holroyd	Ron Brown
Parramatta	Tracey Hansford
Penrith City	Rodney Lean



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.

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

**Minutes of the 63rd Annual General Meeting of the Region Scout Council held at
Bundilla Scout Camp on Sunday 20th June 2010, commencing at 2.30pm.**

PRESENT: Region President Alan Overton AM, Region Chairman Geoff McGrath and others as per attendance book.

APOLOGIES: As per attendance book.

Mr Alan Overton welcomed all those present.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting were circulated and confirmed as correct.

MOVED: Mr D Twist SECONDED: Mr K Travers

2. ADDRESS BY The Honourable Julie Owens MP Federal Member for Parramatta

3. ADDRESS BY Ray Williams State Member for Hawkesbury

4. ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Mr Neville Henderson, Region Commissioner

To move the Adoption of the Annual Report and Financial Statements

Mr Colin Nicholas
Honorary Commissioner

To second the Adoption of the Annual Report and Financial Statements

Mrs Lorraine Joiner
Region Treasurer

5. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

REGION PRESIDENT	Mr A Overton AM	TRUSTEES	Region Commissioner
REGION CHAIRMAN	Mr G W McGrath		Mr G W McGrath
REGION TREASURER	Mrs L Joiner		Mr E Norval
REGION MINUTES SECRETARY	Mrs P Garske		Mrs J Playford

6. ELECTION OF MEMBERS – REGION COUNCIL

Mr L Wood AM RFD	Mr P Stieme	Mr P Nickl	Mrs J Playford	Mr G McGrath
------------------	-------------	------------	----------------	--------------

7. ELECTION OF MEMBERS – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr L Wood AM RFD	Mr P Stieme	Mr P Nickl	Mrs J Playford	Miss L Thorn
------------------	-------------	------------	----------------	--------------

8. DELEGATES TO NSW STATE COUNCIL

Region Commissioner	Region President	Region Chairman	Mr L Wood AM RFD	Mrs J Playford
---------------------	------------------	-----------------	------------------	----------------

9. CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW MANAGEMENT BOARD

Producer/Director	Dr R Lang	Musical Director	Dr J Wood
Chairperson	Mr L Wood AM RFD	Technical Director	Mr P Lee
Secretary	Mrs M Matthews	Promotion Director	Mrs D Carroll
Treasurer	Mrs T Finch		

10. ADDRESS BY Mr Elston Hynd representing Mr Grant De Fries, Chief Commissioner of NSW

The meeting concluded at 3.10pm followed by afternoon tea provided by Pinnaroo Scout Fellowship.

REGION COMMISSIONER

It gives me great pleasure to present the 64th annual report of Greater Western Sydney Region. Our Region consists of 45 groups, 4 Scout Fellowships and 10 Rover Crews after 3rd Greystanes and 1st Penrith were put into recess during the year. We have continued to keep an eye on properties which do not have scout groups in them and have a number of community groups utilising these buildings until such time as we can reactivate scouting in these areas.

Our Region consists of seven districts, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Hills, Holroyd, Parramatta and Penrith. Unfortunately due to work pressures Rod Lean has resigned as District Commissioner for Penrith and will be missed. Thanks for the job you did Rod during your time in the position. I was pleased to welcome aboard Tracey Hansford as the District Commissioner for Parramatta and look forward to working with her in the future. I am currently talking to leaders in both Penrith and Hawkesbury in order to fill the vacant District Commissioner positions.

I was pleased to recently receive the member number statistics from state office as at 31 March 2011 and noted that our region numbers had increased by 74 (highest in the state) and even though we lost 12 leaders over the same period last year we were up in youth numbers. All sections excluding scouts increased in youth numbers but this is something that the leaders can be proud of. Let's hope next year we are again up in numbers and we can't afford to be complacent.

Unfortunately due to a change in the Caretakers Award and budgetary constraints we were forced to let our caretakers go but will be looking at a way to replace them at a cost which will fit under our budget.

The grant we received from the Federal Government has been fully expended and you will have noticed many improvements in the appearance of the property. The number of scouting and community groups using the camp site is increasing and we look forward to having a full camp on most weekends. We were also fortunate to receive a grant from the NSW Government for the updating of the kitchen facilities in the Brownsea Hut and we look forward to seeing this happen in the near future.



Our Regional Commissioner Activities, Keith Travers resigned at the end of 2010 after seven years in the role. I thank Keith for his service to activities and being part of my team over the previous twelve months. Mark Fell has taken over the reins and is now working hard with his activity leaders.

I have also enjoyed working with Geoff McGrath and his Region Executive team and was sad to accept the resignation of Lorraine Joiner as Region Treasurer after almost 5 years in the role. A big BRAVO to Lorraine for her great work. Thanks to Alan Overton our Region President and the other members of the Executive Committee for your support of Geoff McGrath and scouting in general.

In January 2011 I was invited to attend the opening of the Cuboree at Cataract Park and had an enjoyable day meeting and talking to leaders from our region as well as other leaders I had met over the years. From what I have been told the youth members thoroughly enjoyed the time they spent in camp and a big thank you to the leaders for their dedication to the children under their control.

It is hard to operate without a good team behind around you and my team is a special bunch of people who are dedicated to their duties, perform at an exceptionally high level and give up precious spare time to "do their best". Every section is running smoothly with various region activities geared to the age of the participants and you will see

from the section reports how busy they are. A special thanks to Matt Thompson who does an excellent job keeping the Region website up to date and also takes the minutes at our council meetings.

A special thank you to all the leaders and volunteer supporters for their assistance in providing good leadership and resources to our youth members. Whether you wear a uniform or not, your dedication and time is what keeps scouting going forward. We couldn't do without you.

In closing I would mention the passing of Andy "Jock" Walker in February and we will all miss his smiling face and Scouting stories. Thanks to the many members who attended his funeral.

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

Neville Henderson
Region Commissioner

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Scout Association of Australia - New South Wales Branch Greater Western Sydney Region Annual Report Cost of Operation Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

Last Year Actual \$		This Year Actual \$	This Year Budget \$
	Administration		
	<i>Income</i>		
1,134	Saleable Items Income	1,656	1,500
100	Donation and Grants	-	80
461	Sundry Income	889	-
<u>1,695</u>		<u>2,545</u>	<u>1,580</u>
	<i>Expenditure</i>		
60,374	Salaries and On Costs	41,397	44,921
2,306	Staff Recruitment	159	-
68	Awards, Badges & Scarves	685	500
-	Computer Expenses	315	1,080
3,083	Depreciation	3,057	1,417
(2,627)	Meeting/Award Dinner Expenses, net of receipts	1,433	2,980
185	Postage	1,080	550
2,966	Printing & Stationery	1,339	3,500
2,858	Repairs & Maintenance	691	2,310
1,061	Saleable Items Cost	778	600
275	Security of Premises	477	1,000
1,477	Telephone	2,380	2,196
6,328	Sundry Expense	3,676	420
<u>78,354</u>		<u>57,467</u>	<u>61,474</u>
<u>(76,659)</u>	Net Administration Cost	<u>(54,922)</u>	<u>(59,894)</u>
427	Development & Promotion	<u>(3,042)</u>	<u>1,710</u>
	Camps & Activity Centres		
12,313	Bundilla	<u>(8,999)</u>	<u>(31,464)</u>
<u>12,313</u>		<u>(8,999)</u>	<u>(31,464)</u>
	Scouting Activities		
421	RC Section - Joeys	2,613	220
(2,617)	RC Section - Cubs	129	50
10,077	RC Section - Scouts	10,305	280
962	RC Section - Venturers	2,986	(24)
(78)	RC Section - Rovers	41	(190)
3,892	RC Section - Activities	5,616	300
295	RC Section - Others	(1,375)	(180)
-	International Section	180	(180)
1,467	Gang Show	7,453	5,990
(140)	Districts	(380)	(630)
<u>14,279</u>		<u>27,568</u>	<u>5,636</u>
<u>3,043</u>	Leader Training	<u>117</u>	<u>(540)</u>
<u>(3,828)</u>	Property	<u>(5,023)</u>	<u>(2,319)</u>
<u>(50,425)</u>	Net Region Cost of Operation	<u>(44,301)</u>	<u>(86,871)</u>

Above summary is an extract from the audited accounts of The Scout Association of Australia, NSW Branch, for the year ended 31st March 2011

Lorraine Joiner
Regional Treasurer

Adam Buckle, CPA
Hon Treasurer, NSW Branch

BUNDILLA

Over the past twelve months a lot of time, effort and money has gone into the camp site to make it more attractive for potential hirers.

The last of the Federal Government Job Creation Grant has been expended with the following work completed;

- Internal painting of all the buildings excluding the Peter Waite Room, exterior painting of the Rotary Hut, the Gilwell Hut and the Residence.
- New Carpet installed in the Peter Waite Room, motel units, the residence and the boys dormitory, new vinyl in the kitchens in the Peter Waite Room and the Brownsea Hut and the residence. The floor of the Rotary Hut was repolished.
- Sewer replaced
- Air conditioning installed in the Rotary Hut, Peter Waite Room, office and in the loungeroom in the residence.
- Diseased trees removed and termite barrier installed around the brick building
- Termite damage in the Gilwell Hut repaired.

We are finding that the camp site is being booked on most weekends by scout groups, guide groups, schools, churches and other community groups. We also have a number of bookings during the week from commercial hirers and first aid courses.

This year we have had a number of people who were sent to us to perform community service and we have been lucky that these people took pride in their work and worked to upgrade the gardens.

Finally a big thanks to Geoff McGrath for all the maintenance work he does around Bundilla and for keeping an eye on other work that needs doing from time to time.



REGION OFFICE

In April 2011 Kim and Maggi celebrated their one year anniversary with the region and were proud that they were still sane even though they have been flat out during the year.

The realisation that this was not a lay back, coffee drinking position came in May/June last year when the deluge of paper generated by the Region Scout Jamborette hit the office. This was followed up in August with attendance forms for the Big Day In and then forms for various activities conducted by the Venturers and Activities Team.

Unfortunately due to budget constraints we had to say farewell to our office casual, Anne Thompson in September and thank her for the many hours spent helping on the many tasks we undertake.

Organising the Awards Presentation night held at Blacktown Workers Club in October was another huge undertaking with a record number of 187 attendees. Anne Thompson did a lot of the early work before she went overseas and we thank her for the assistance given in respect of the organisation of the dinner. The work involved prior to the event included collecting the fee, arranging the table seating and arranging for the awards to be in presentation order. A great success with many members congratulating us on the great night they had.

In February this year we had another record with 90 nominees for the 2011 Good Service Awards and this took many hours to enter the citations onto the computer. The task was achieved by the due date by the skin of our teeth.

As this report is being written it is again Jamborette time and this year there is extra work involved as it is a Cub Scout visit year. It is a pity that the leaders think that the closing date is the date that they have to deliver the forms to the office and not the month before when it would make our job easier.

Thank you to all the people who have made our first year so enjoyable and a particular thanks to Geoff McGrath who phones every morning to check on our health. We look forward to many more years with region.

Maggi Roynon & Kim Harris
Region Office Staff



SECTION REPORTS

JOEY SCOUTS

2010 was a year of growth for Joey Scouts in Greater Western Sydney Region. We welcomed the new mobs at 1st Quakers Hill-Doonside and 1st North Mt Druitt and we welcomed new Joey Scouts into the existing mobs. Many mobs reported a growth in numbers.

This growth was reflected in the attendance at the Joey Fun Day. A beautiful sunny day saw 156 Joey Scouts and 55 leaders participate in a "super Hero" themed event. Eighteen mobs were represented. This is an event that continues to grow each year.

The National Joey Scout program for 2010, Hands Across the Water, promoted contact between Joey Scout mobs and their counterparts in other countries. Our mobs made contact with Beaver colonies in a variety of countries and Kea clubs in New Zealand. Most of the mobs in the Region participated in this initiative where programs, photos, drawings and ideas were exchanged. One of the District Leaders in New Zealand sent a toy Kea (Koa Kea) to the State Office and I took it to visit as many mobs as possible while it was in our Region.

A State initiative for all sections was the Scouts in Action week and many of the Joey Scout mobs presented the programs and applied for the very large blanket badge. Congratulations to 1st South Penrith for receiving a prize (a first aid kit) in the photo competition that was run in conjunction that week.

Greater Western Sydney continued with the Trek About idea from 2009 where Joey Scout mobs are asked to do a nature hike of at least one hour to earn a blanket badge. This idea is very popular and as it is promoted on our website Joey Scout mobs from other regions are applying for the badge. The mobs were asked to choose a different walk from that done in 2009 so that the Joey Scouts had a different experience. A number of mobs tried walks in the Blue Mountains and two groups used Bundilla as a base and did a hike from there.

The Blue Mountains mobs were approached by the Blue Mountains T.A.F.E college to participate in an

open day at Euroka Clearing where T.A.F.E students were doing a practical assessment for their Outdoor Recreation course. The students ran a variety of environmental activities for the Joey scouts and it was described by Dean Maddock (JSL at 1st Blaxland Taipans) as a "win/win situation." The T.A.F.E students were able to see which activities were popular and the Joey Scouts were able to try new activities.

Mob holidays are now part of the Joey scout program.

They introduce Joey Scouts to sleeping away from home (in a controlled environment where a parent is still present). In 2010 mobs from the Penrith district visited the Yurt Farm at Goulburn where Joey Scouts from 1st South Penrith, 1st Cambridge Park and 1st Erskine Park enjoyed the "back to basics" atmosphere.

1st Winston Hills and 1st North Rocks took their Joey Scouts to the Australia Walkabout Park at Kariong where they camped overnight with the animals. It is always gratifying for the leaders when they can see the youth members enjoying doing something new and exciting.

Once again the older Joey scouts in our region worked hard at achieving the Promise Challenge badge. This is the highest award for the section and is done by the individual Joey Scout just before they are linked to Cubs. Twenty five Joey Scouts were presented with the award in 2010. Each Joey Scout must present their submission to the mob and some of the presentations were extremely interesting. There are some very proud parents and some very proud leaders in the Region.

The success of the Joey Scout section in 2010 can only be attributed to the dedication of the leaders. Thank you to them all for making the introduction to Scouting so exciting.

Kathy Cuneo

Region Commissioner (Joey Scouts)



CUB SCOUTS

What a great year! The highlight of the year for our Cub Scouts must be their attendance at the 4th N.S.W. Cuboree. What a wonderful time we all had attending the fun and innovative bases at Cataract Scout Park, where the theme was "Time Warp". Thank you to all our Activity Leaders, some of whom spent many hours in preparation for our great Magic Warp Base, to those who worked in other service roles and to our Line Leaders who prepared the cubs for a great camping experience. Well Done to Pack 213 (Blacktown District) who won the Good Camping award. I know there were many exhausted (but happy) leaders and Cub Scouts at the event's conclusion.

Our Cub Scout Leadership Courses have continued to provide our young people the chance to develop leadership skills and share ideas with other Cub Scouts. This year saw the largest courses for some time, as pack numbers also grow. Thank you to Westmead Pinnaroo who has led the cooking team for these courses.

The Cub Leaders of the Region had the opportunity to attend Palanee (a fun night of programme ideas) with its Spy theme an enjoyable, but cold, evening of brilliant ideas was shared by all.

The Cub Scout section also contributed some fabulous bases for our Region Bid Day In at Bundilla. Everyone who attended had a marvellous time trying their hand at the bases provided by all sections. Thank you to everyone who made this such a successful celebration.

This year we tried something new for when we went on a "Parramatta Ramble". Despite the rain of the previous week and the week that followed, the day dawned clear and brilliant. Leaders were given directions with places to stop and view along the way, while the cub scouts completed questionnaires that helped toward their Local History Badge. The highlight of the day was the Lancer Barracks, as it was Boer War Day and the volunteers were only too happy to have the cubs visit. Cubs were able to play archaeologists at the Parramatta Heritage Centre as well as check out the displays. Well done Region Seonee!

The Districts too have been busy with Billy Cart Derbies, indoor rock climbing, Campfires, Hikes, Swimming Carnivals, Pack Holidays. It is also great to see districts involved in local festivals and events spreading the values Scouting has to offer everyone.



Congratulations to the following Cub Scouts who have earned the Grey Wolf Award – Wynona Robinson, Sienna Archer, Shannon Cattel, Kyle Nekipelov, Claire McKinnley, Mitchell Gallagher, Liam Eastwell, Lauren Parkes, Cooper Vanderjagt, Caitlin Davis, Bethany Mercieca, Eva Sherwin, Meaghan Smith, Aiden Bath, Angus Taylor, Harry Souter, Nicholas Ralston, Thomas French, Carmen Bagnulo, Matthew Carter, Tanaya Sloan, Jason Apap, Chloe Drinkwater, Matthew Hocking, Cameron Thompson, Amicus Majoor, Elysia Higgins, Madeline Botto, Nicholas Morley, Bryn Catlin, James Barton, Gemma White, Sally Richards, Ryan Lummis, Zachariah Hammond, Mia Maguire, Alexander Hill, Anusha Pillai, Nathan Bowden, Sean Turner, Furqan Chowdhury, Joshua Rec, Thomas Hrast, Melanie Hrast, Lucas Caine, Nicholas Hose, David Siriani, Kiara Garske... Well Done!

My thanks to the District Cub Scout Leaders (Melissa Clarke, Lorraine Shaw, Phyllis McAlpine, Andy Jenkinson, Anne Thompson and Chris Casley) our scribe Julia and Shirley Robinson & Charlene Bordley for their hard work and support this year.

Patricia Shaw

Region Commissioner (Cub Scouts)

SCOUTS

Our annual Region Jamborette in 2010 was very well attended. We were expecting low numbers being a post Jamboree year but we were pleasantly surprised with about 960 registrations. There were no major incidents and we provided 28 activity bases to keep the Scouts entertained. The Jamborette theme was "Wipeout Disasters" and the Jamborette Award was an engraved twist ball point pen which looked very nice.

In our debrief with National Parks we had a concern with the number of vehicles in the park, particularly the camping area. There were over 250 vehicles all weekend. We felt that these need to be in the designated car parking bays provided as well as a reserved area for all weekend parking. We also decided that with the toilet system overflow we get every year it is a health risk and we need to bring in additional self contained toilets/showers to supplement the existing system. The park is only equipped to handle 300 people.

The Region Scout Youth Council (SYC) is still operating though with not as much enthusiasm as we previously have had. We struggled to get people to attend the Region meeting and even the state SYC in November. We have now appointed someone to take responsibility for SYC who is also a member of our Region Mindari. His focus will be to get the District SYC's operating which in turn will feed the Region SYC.



Since May last year we have had three Scouts achieve the Scout Medallion with one whose project is completed and we are waiting on approval of his report. Another Scout is working on her project at the moment. We have had four Scouts achieve their Green Cords. Though our Medallion numbers are quite less the quality of projects for the Medallion coming out of our Region have been quite exceptional. The State Commissioner for Scouts is really impressed with our Scouts in what they are achieving. This past years Australian Scout Medallion recipients are:



Bravo to all.

Robin Garrett
Region Commissioner (Scouts)



VENTURER SCOUTS

The past year has continued to see another active calendar of events featuring many highlights. We have opened five new units at 1st/2nd Blacktown, 1st Castle Hill, 1st Glossodia, 1st Riverstone and 1st South Penrith "Nepean" and the Region has achieved three new recipients of the Queen's Scout Award. I would like to congratulate Sushen Gupta (1st North Rocks), Harry Provins (1st Westmead) and Oscar Sheppard (2nd Baulkham Hills) on earning their awards and I wish them well in their Rovering careers.

Waratah 2010: "The Van Arkle Affair" saw 173 Venturers from across the Region and beyond compete in an exciting and challenging spy thriller adventure at Cataract Scout Park last November. The weather was fine and hot and the cryptic clues flowed throughout the event. In a close competition, the Winners of Waratah 2010 were the "Nigerian Panda Confederacy" from 1st Emu Plains. The success of the event would not have been possible without the tireless work of Stephen Wallace and the rest of the Waratah organising committee. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the amazing efforts of the catering team who managed to serve over 1,300 meals during the weekend. Well done!

The hugely successful "Time Warp" Cuboree was held in January. A special thanks to all of the Scouts and Venturers who attended the event to ensure that the activities were a huge highlight for all of the participating Cub Scouts. GWS had the highest attendance of Junior Service Leaders of any Region with a total of 31 Scouts and 14 Venturers completing valuable service throughout the Cuboree. All of the packs and activity leaders remarked on the huge effort and determination by the Junior Service Leaders to make the Cuboree a warm and enjoyable experience for all participants and this was very much appreciated and applauded.

HONOUR BOARD Queen's Scout Award

Erica Barlow	1st Blaxland
Lachlan Hill	1st Blaxland
Sushen Gupta	1st North Rocks
Harry Provins	1st Westmead
Oscar Sheppard	2nd Baulkham Hills

Venturer Scouts from across the Region have stepped up to various leadership roles throughout the year. Representation at monthly meetings has continued to grow with a greater ownership of the program being a key objective for the section. We have maintained a presence at the NSW YACS and Angus Boxall of 1st Winston Hills Venturer Scout Unit was also appointed to the National Youth Council for the three year term March 2011 - February 2014.

On Australia Day, Mitchell Hodgson of 1st Ermington was announced by Parramatta City Council as the 2011 Young Citizen of the Year for his Service to the Parramatta Community. Matthew Knox was also recognised as a finalist nominee in the Young Citizen of the Year category. The contributions by both young men to Scouting and the community are to be applauded and their recognition is very deserving.

Our Region had a huge turnout at Dragon Skin again this year with 24 teams participating in the event and almost every unit being represented. Many of our teams achieved great success in the competition with teams from 1st Springwood, 1st Kings Langley and 1st North Rocks each scoring over 700 points. Several inter-unit teams again featured in the competition this year. Several Venturers were also able to visit the Royal Easter Show after getting home from Dragon Skin to assist with the Scout exhibit which was an impressive effort.

As we reflect on the year now gone, efforts are already directed to an even bigger year ahead. Our first ever Region Try Venturing Camp (Bud 2011) will be hosted in September, and the success of our Waratah event will expand to a state-wide format with Operation Dagnet set to run in November. Among other major events, our Region also has four youth members attending the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden in July and over 50 applicants to attend the Australian Venture in Tasmania next summer.

Without a dedicated team to facilitate this program, the growth in the Venturer Scout section that has been observed in the past 12 months would not be possible. I would therefore like to express my thanks and sincere gratitude to all of the leaders and supporters within the Region who have ensured that our program remains so successful.

Aaron Wardle
Region Commissioner (Venturer Scouts)

ROVERS

As we look to the future with the election of the new RRC Executive, it is nice to look back on another successful year for the Rovers of the Greater Western Sydney Region, with numerous milestones achieved.

We have been lucky enough over the past year to have 2 recipients in our Region of the Baden-Powell Scout Award, Chloe Hatcher from Blaxland following Method A and more recently Krissie Bredin of 2nd Baulkham Hills following Method B. We are enormously proud of their achievements and they are both most deserving of this award.

GWS Rovers have participated in many crew, district, region, state and national events over the past year; the 2010 Australian Jamboree held at Cataract, and the recent OzMoot held in Adelaide were definite highlights for those that attended.

Once again, our Region had a strong contingent of Rovers attend Dragonskin at Vulcan State Forest, with almost all of the VOC4 committee consisting of GWS Rovers. Merrylands Rover Crew won the prestigious 'Best Activity' award on VOC, which was most deserved for their hard work.



Our Region Moot, Gamer Moot, organised by Andrew Thompson and Kings Langley Rover Crew was well run and well attended. As it was won by Merrylands Rover Crew, they have their turn this year of presenting Sherwood Moot, which I'm sure will be a success!

Westmead Rover Crew tendered and won the right to host Bushdance on behalf of the BRC. Stronger attendance at these events would be fantastic, but lets not detract from the few that helped make these worthwhile causes a success this year, thank you.

Our Region currently has 108 Rovers, with 10 active crews. While some crews are struggling for numbers, others are doing really well with 13+ members in 6 of our crews. A strong focus needs to be placed on crew development and Venturer recruitment this year if we are to turn around our declining numbers.

My congratulations goes to the new Region Chairperson, Liana Sedgers of 2nd Baulkham Hills Rover Crew. I'm sure you will do a fantastic job with the committee elected behind you, and I look forward to hearing about and witnessing your success over the coming year.

I look forward to celebrating with you all another successful year, and my final one, as a NSW Rover!

Yours in Roving,

Lauren Thorn

Rover, 1st Westmead Rover Crew
Region Rover Council Chairman 2010 / 2011

David Twist

Region Commissioner (Rovers)



2010 ADULT RECOGNITION AWARDS



SILVER EMU – for Sustained and Exceptional Service

HENDERSON, Neville	Regional Commissioner, Greater Western Sydney Region
MATTHEWS, Robert	Group Leader, 3rd Merrylands Scout Group
NICHOLAS, Colin	Honorary Commissioner (Region), Greater Western Sydney Region



SILVER KOALA – for Distinguished Service

APTHORPE, Michael	Venturer Scout Leader, 3rd Merrylands Venturer Unit
DAVIS, Caroline	Cub Scout Leader, 1st Murray Farm Cub Pack "Possum"
THOMPSON, Anne	District Cub Scout Leader, Holroyd District
YENDLE, Charles	Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 3rd Merrylands Cub Pack



SILVER WATTLE – for Outstanding Service

CASEY, Darren	Cub Scout Leader, 1st Whalan Cub Pack
FUTCHER-HALL, Aafke	District Leader (Training), Hills South District
MCDONELL, Todd	Rover Adviser (Responsible), 2nd Castle Hill Rover Crew
MCGRATH, Christine	Scout Leader, 1st Westmead Scout Troop
MUNRO, Stephen	Fellowship Member, Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship
POUNDER, Ann	Region Commissioner (AT&D), Greater Western Sydney Region
SOBOLEWSKI, Elizabeth	Group Leader, 1st Parramatta Scout Group
STIEME, Peter	Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Pendle Hill Cub Pack
TAMSETT, Lesley	Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Pendle Hill Scout Troop
TAMSETT, Peter	Scout Leader, 1st Pendle Hill Scout Troop
TWIST, David	Region Commissioner (Rovers), Greater Western Sydney Region



OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD – for Outstanding Service by Layside Members

JOINER, Lorraine	Region Treasurer, Greater Western Sydney Region
------------------	---



SILVER ARROWHEAD – for Excellent Service

FELL, John	District Scout Leader, Blacktown District
GARRETT, Mary	District Leader (Training), Hawkesbury District
JENKINSON, Andrew	Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 2nd Castle Hill Cub Pack "Nackara"
MORT, Teresa	Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Carlingford Venturer Unit
RIGG, James	Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Carlingford Scout Troop "Bartoo"
SHEPHERD, Raymond	Scout Leader, 1st Greystanes Scout Troop
THOMPSON, Paul	Region Delegate, Greater Western Sydney Region
VARCOE, Gary	Scout Leader, 1st Blaxland
WARDLE, Aaron	Region Commissioner (Venturers), Greater Western Sydney Region

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT – For Good Service

ANDERSON, Mitchell	Assistant Scout Leader, 2nd Kings Langley Scout Troop
ANDREWS, Mark	Assistant Cub Scout Leader: 1st Ermington
ANTALA, Stephan	Group Chairman, 1st Erskine Park Scout Group
AZZOPARDI, Françoise	Associate Leader (Group), 1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Scout Group
BELL, Dorothy	Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, 1st North Rocks Venturer Unit
BERGER, Pauline	Supporter, 1st Blaxland
BROWN, Russell	Group Manager, 1st Blackheath Scout Group
BROWNE, Lewis	Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, 4th Castle Hill Venturer Unit
DAINES, Dedre	Group Leader, 1st Whalan Scout Group
FENNELL, Pauline	Scout Leader, 1st/2nd Merrylands (St Anne's) Scout Troop
HOURD, Nicholas	Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Castle Hill Cub Pack "Kookaburra"
HUNTER, Robert	Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Ermington Cub Pack
LEACEY, Charles	Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Winston Hills Cub Pack "Boronia"
LEAN, Rodney	Assistant Group Leader, 1st St Marys Scout Group
LOCKMAN, Valerie	Assistant Joey Scout Leader, 1st Kings Langley Joey Mob
LUMMIS, Christopher	Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Ermington Joey Mob
MERCIECA, Merylese	Group Deputy President, 1st Blaxland
MUNRO, Peter	Scout Leader, 4th Castle Hill Scout Troop
PARTRIDGE, Kym	Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Winston Hills Venturer Unit
REC, Cassie	Joey Scout Leader, 1st North Rocks Joey Mob
ROSE, Gregory	Scout Leader, 3rd Merrylands Scout Troop
ROSS, Debra	Group President, 1st Blaxland
SARA, Helen	Joey Scout Leader, 1st Winston Hills Joey Mob
SAUERBIER, David	Fellowship Member, Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship
SPERINCK, Genna	Group Secretary, 1st Winston Hills Scout Group
WARDELL, Adam	Region Leader (Activities), Greater Western Sydney Region
WARDELL, Narelle	Fellowship Member, Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship
WILLIAMS, Brett	Group Leader, 1st Kings Langley Scout Group

DISTRICT REPORTS

BLACKTOWN

The District continues to grow with leaders and youth members. My team has also grown with John Hardiman joining us as District Leader for Training and Development. John has many years of Scouting as a group leader. Mark Fell our former District Scout Leader has moved into the Region Commissioner for Activities role. We will miss you Mark. Ross Howlett has taken on the roll of D.S.L Ross was the Scout Leader for Quakers Hill/Doonside for many years. Val Lockman is looking after the Joey section, so that gives Blacktown a full team.

Joey's

We now have 5 Joey Mobs in our district and other groups wanting to start up as well. The Joeys do many actives with their groups and district plus Region. They love Joey Fun Day and now join in with the Cubs on Billy Cart Derby Day. The Leaders and parents join in with all of their actives and have a lot of fun in doing so.

Cub Scouts

The Cub Section has had a full program with group, district and Region. There was a District Cub Scout Camp and Cub Day at the Jamborette. The Blacktown City Festival is popular with all sections marching and the Cubs singing as they march along. Another highlight is the Billy Cart Derby organised by Lorraine Shaw, they have groups come from other districts and regions. There is the District hike and many other things they get involved with for their badge work. On behalf of the many Cub Leaders and myself, we thank Lorraine for all her hard work and time she puts into Scouting.

Scouts

The Scouts had a very busy year, starting off with the Jamborette in June. There was a Scout Leaders Camp in August and a Jamboree reunion as well. A Leadership Course was run in September. A District Competition Camp was held in October. Two groups went to the Sirius Cup Camp in March and a Scout Hike was held in May. Thank you Dingo for all your hard work and I know Ross will follow in your footsteps.

Venturers

There are 5 units in Blacktown District now and Steve is working towards them all working together.

At Waratah 2010; The Van Arkle Affair- All 5 units participated with 1st Nth Mt Druitt taking out the Golden Wattle Award for Effort. The Venturers also took part in the Region Unit Management, Leadership and Initiative Courses. They did Rock craft and Canoeing as well. A District event was a Camp held at Camp Wyndeye in March. Congratulations go to Steve & Kelly on their forth coming Wedding.

Rovers

Rovers are a very busy section of Scouting, as well as doing what Rovers do, some are Leaders as well. Both Crews offer different actives and are increasing in numbers. Some are involved in the Gang Show and some are really talented. They must remember the younger members are watching them with admiration and to set an example at all times.

I wish to thank all the leaders in my district and hope you get as much enjoyment as I have over the years.

Sandra Parker

District Commissioner

BLUE MOUNTAINS

Blue Mountains District extends from Lapstone to Blackheath with Groups at Blaxland, Springwood, Hazelbrook and Blackheath. During the year a second Cub Pack and second Scout Troop was opened at 1st Blaxland and the Joey Mob re-opened at 1st Springwood. The Joey Mob proposed for 1st Blackheath did not eventuate. For the first time in several years our numbers decreased, youth by 7 and leaders by 4. Numbers currently are 295 youth members (including 15 Rovers) and 58 leaders.

Activities undertaken on a Group basis have included; Bike Hike, Family Camp, Leaders' Retreat, Springwood Foundation Day, Rhododendron Festival, Blackheath Wine & Food Festival, ANZAC Day and Vietnam Veterans Day. 1st Springwood also held an afternoon tea to unveil their new hall signage which was attended by the local Federal MP and past members of the Group.

Fundraising included sausage sizzles at Bunning and Coles/Kmart, Trivia night, chocolate drive, while 1st Blackheath received a grant to update their kitchen.

Joey's – All three Mobs have been active – activities included visit to Zoo, joint meetings, bushwalks, linking with community garden and participating in Clean up Australia day.

Cubs – Highlight of the year for many Cubs in the District was Cuboree in January, from all reports a great time was had by all. All packs have been busy with badge work and a wide range of activities. Two Grey Wolves were awarded during the year.

Scouts – One Scout, one Venturer and one Leader attended the New Zealand Jamboree and then staying on for a tour. Several troops participated in the 7 day camp held by 1st Springwood at Nord's Wharf in October. The District Camp, held at 'Glenroy' Hartley, was on a Pirate theme and was well attended with the District Shield being won by 1st Blaxland. A wide range of hikes, both day and overnight were undertaken by all of the Troops.

Venturers – There are 37 youth members and all units have been extremely active. Activities have included; helping at Region Jamborette, caving course, abseil and rock climbing courses, First Aid course, Unit Management and Region Leadership courses, Iron Chef night, camps at Newnes and the Snowy Mountains, helping at Ratskin while 5 Venturers attended the NZ Jamboree Reunion in Victoria.

Finally, my thanks to the District Leaders (Melissa Clarke, Frank Barr, Judith Barr) and to the Leaders and Parents who have supported the Groups during the year and for your commitment in bringing Scouting to the youth of the Blue Mountains.

Paul Roach

District Commissioner

HAWKESBURY

The Hawkesbury district consists of four groups nestled in the foothills of the Blue Mountains. In the recent past, there has been a rationalisation of the groups, with some closing and others amalgamating. The district is now in a strong position to move forward into the future.

All the groups in the district are reporting an increase in interest in the movement and therefore an increase in numbers. There are 6 sections represented in the district at present, ranging from Joey Scouts through to Rovers and Fellowship. This is by no means an accident. The district as a whole is very proactive in the area in putting the association into the public spotlight.

This year, the district held an open day in the local public park on Founders Day weekend to showcase

different activities available to members. The local agricultural show is a large event in the Hawkesbury Valley. This year, as in the past, the scouts have operated an information stand at the show. The members, both youth and adult, took part in the grand parade, which again put the movement on public display to a large crowd in the stands.

The cub section organised a district camp in June which had an environmental theme. It was well attended by all the groups. In January this year, the district had 42 cubs and 15 adults attend the 4th NSW CUBoree at Cataract Scout Park in Appin. The district also supplied 7 scouts and venturers to assist on activity bases for the cubs. They were a credit to the district and their leaders at this event. The district also supplied leaders to assist on the region cub leadership course at Bundilla in April. The district was also represented at the Cub Parramatta Ramble in 2010 with 18 cubs and various leaders and parents enjoying the day.

The scouts in the district are well represented at region and state events, with a local patrol finishing first in region at the state rally in August. The district ran an activity base at Scout Hike in 2010 with patrols from the district also competing. We successfully ran the basic scout leadership course in the district and also organised canoe courses as a district undertaking.

This year, the district has had two Australian Scout Medallion projects run, both successfully. The medallions will both be presented to the youth members at the region jamborette. This is a big effort for the scouts involved and shows the commitment to their scouting.

At the end of this year, the Venturer section will be sending youth members to the Venture in Tasmania. The scout sections have also commenced the information sessions relating to the scout jamboree in Maryborough in 2013. The numbers that have expressed interest so far are very encouraging.

The leaders in the district also give of their time for events run by region and state. The district supply two bases for the scout jamborette in June and usually supply a base for the state rally in August. This is a big effort for a relatively small team, but they all give that extra effort for the youth.

New leaders have signed up to eLearning this year and this method of training will prove very popular, with more adults joining the leadership team due to the ease of the new training.

Even with lack of all the permanent district leadership positions, the existing leaders have managed to build a great district team with a big commitment on the youth. The district will continue to grow and prosper in the future due to their resolve and passion.

Duncan Watts
Hawkesbury District

HILLS SOUTH

2010 started with a bang – AJ2010 at Cataract Scout Park. Hills supplied enough scouts for 2 ½ troops + extra leaders in both Line and Service roles. With the scouts and leaders having a very busy and mostly enjoyable time but very exhausting by the end. Everybody arriving home safe and sound and all the better for the experience.

Numbers in the district have remained fairly constant. Although like most districts, Leader numbers could be better. Even though there has been a small influx of new Leaders, more are urgently needed.

All groups have offered a wide variety of activities to their youth members with numerous camps and outings. There has been a good use of scouting activity centres and resources including Air Base, Radio & Science team and the Water Activities team. Programmes have been wide and varied. The youth have been kept very busy and have experienced many new activities and have been challenged well over 2010.

In regards to awards, numerous Joeys have completed their Buddy badge and their Promise badges. There has been an increase in the number of Grey Wolf awards in the cub ranks for the district in 2010. In Venturers, Matthew Mills was awarded and presented with his Queens Scout, with 2 coming up at the start of 2011.

Our District Leader ranks has increased with the appointment of Stacy Kempton as DSL in September and Andy Jenkinson taking on DCSL as of January 2011.

I cannot praise highly enough the work that each and every Leader in this district carries out in their role. They all work very hard to keep their charges entertained, educated and to experience the usual and the unusual activities that they would not ordinarily experience. SO a big BRAVO to all my Leaders and I hope they will continue to carry on their good work.

One additional award was the awarding of Eagle Scout to Ben Harper, a scout from 1st Castle Hill. A rare occurrence to someone outside America.

The end of the year saw the cubs preparing for the 4th NSW Cuboree with enough cubs for 2 packs from the Hills.

Gavan Hall
District Commissioner

HOLROYD

It is with regret that I start this report with the news, that 3rd Greystanes Group has been placed into recess and will be administered by Region Office pending the planned reopening in the near future. I would take this opportunity to sincerely thank Les McKinley, Alan Fawcett, Rhonda Fawcett, Allison Harris and Maureen Hannan for their continued support over the past few years in keeping their group in a viable position.

During this year two of our long time leaders have left the District for a “grand children” change in the Blue Mountains. I would say a special thanks to Peter (Trendy) and Lesley (Leura) Tamsett for all the time and effort you have given to Scouting, not only Pendle Hill but also to Holroyd and GWS as well, you will be missed, but I am sure that you not be away from Scouting for long.

During the past year the Scouts of Holroyd have participated in the Holroyd Festival Parade and ran an information stall on the day of the parade, raised the Flags at the Australia Day Citizenship Ceremonies at Holroyd Gardens, put on a display at the Australia Day Festivities at Merrylands Oval and held their Annual Swimming Carnival at Merrylands Pool. Congratulations to all leaders, youth members and parents who have assisted or have been part of these events, keep up the good work.

The level of achievements in badge work continues to grow in the youth sections, you all must be very proud of what you have achieved through the past year. Keep up the good work.

To my District Team and the section leaders of this district many thanks for your continued support and a big BRAVO to those Leaders who received recognition in last years World Scout Day awards.

Ron Brown
District Commissioner

PARRAMATTA

In March 2011, I was appointed DC for Parramatta, having been the 1st Ermington GL for the past 5 years and caretaking Parramatta for the past 18 months. Whilst sad to leave Ermington group, I know it is in good hands with a fabulous, committed Leadership team and a strong Group Committee.

Parramatta District has grown in leaps and bounds over the past 12 months. A number of the groups have experienced solid growth in both youth and adult membership. The 4 groups with 4 sections are all travelling very well this year North Rocks, Winston Hills and Ermington Groups are strong, with memberships consistently over 100 throughout the year. Carlingford is experiencing a temporary loss in numbers due to a large number of the first group of their Venturers turning 18 and leaving the group, but remains strong in the other sections.

Parramatta, Northmead, Murray Farm and Rydalmere are continuing to operate with only Cub and Scout sections which puts them at a significant disadvantage to build membership numbers and Wentworthville currently is running with a Scout Troop.

Most of the groups in the District have been very active at Group, District, Region and State level. The Annual District Founder's Day Swimming Carnival moved to a new date but was a fabulous success and great fun for the many Joeys, Cubs and Scouts participating in the races. Parramatta District participated in the following events Scout Hike, Joey Fun Day, Jamborette, the Amazing Race District Pack Holiday, Big Day In, harris Park community Film Festival, Drug Action Week, Youth Week, Anzac Day Services, Parramatta Council Community Consultation Days, Blacktown Billy Cart Derby, Waratah, Dragonskin, Sirius Cup, Air Activities, SWASH days, the Region Fun Day on the Water and many other local events. The Venturers from the district attended both SEAC events in 2010 at Ingleside and in Wagga. A Winston Hills and an Ermington venturer were invited to participate in the Youth Environment Forum on the James Craig and Angus Boxall (Winston Hills) joined the National Youth Council and took over from Mitchell Hodgson (Ermington) as the Venturer Region Rep on YACS. Parramatta sent 2 Mega packs to the NSW 4th Cuboree "Time Warp" for the time of their lives.

Parramatta District presented the innovative community engagement program "Scoutreach –

Learning for Life" for 10 weeks to students at Telopea Public School. Due to the hard work of youth and leaders from Ermington and North Rocks groups, the program was a resounding success and resulted in 7 young people from the Telopea area joining Scouts. The program could not have taken place, nor had the impact it did, without the weekly support from two Ermington Venturers, Matthew Knox and Mitchell Hodgson who week after week came after school to run various aspects of the weekly theme and engage with the older youth. Both of the Venturers were nominated for Young Citizen of the Year and the Scoutreach – Learning for Life program, for Community Project of the Year, in the Australia Day Awards 2011. The Parramatta District Scoutreach Group, youth and leaders alike, we were very excited on 26 January 2011, when Mitchell Hodgson was announced as the Young Citizen of the Year. We were even more surprised when the program was announced as the Community Project of the Year at the Australia Day Awards in Parramatta.

It will be hard to top that in the 2011-2012 year, but the District is made of pretty stern stuff and by working together as a team, presenting quality Scouting to young people, the way forward is clear. I hope to continue the Scoutreach project and present it in another part of the District. We are also having talks with both the Region Venturer and Rover Commissioners to help the District work towards the formation of the Parramatta District Rover Crew, which we hope will become a reality in the next 12-18 months.

Many thanks must go to all the District's Leaders, Committee Members and Supporters without whom, the District could not continue to grow and develop.

Tracey Hansford
District Commissioner

PENRITH

My term as District Commissioner was as short as it was challenging and rewarding.

The district was rather fragmented when I took the reins as District Commissioner in March 2010, which led me to set a goal to bring the district back to a single cohesive unit. It was pleasing to see my goal was growing towards fruition as the groups started exhibiting signs of gelling together again.

The year has been full of ups and downs. As one group thrives another looks to close. We also lost a dear and long serving member from the District with the passing of Graham Brown (aka Eagle) from 1st Erskine Park.

Like every DC I have had to sit before leaders to discuss less than desirable performances and chat with disgruntled parents. One group has also expressed a feeling of having a Captain-less ship that seems to be fragmenting the group.

There have been claims put forward of membership scalping of existing and potential members within the district. This matter has been passed onto the RC-GWSR for further review.

More recently I have received the unfortunate word that 1st Penrith (one of the longest serving groups in the district) look to be closing their doors as their membership has dwindled to an unsustainably low level. Pleas to other groups in the district to merge temporarily have gone unanswered. 1st Penrith has advised unless their request for assistance is answered they will not be forming a committee for the next Scouting year. Sad to hear, but if they can't attract membership there is no other foreseeable alternative.

All efforts to date to get 1st Emu Plains back into a premises within the suburb have met with failure. Subsequently they will relinquish the use of the Glenbrook hall and move temporarily to Lapstone, with the longer term plan to get back into a premises within Emu Plains.

On a more pleasant note I have been privileged to have been an invited guest to a number of achievement awards including Joey Scout Promise Challenge Badges, Cub Scout Grey Wolf awards, Group anniversaries, Paul Hennessy's (1st Erskine Park) Leader's Diploma presentation, Stephen Antala (Group Chairman – 1st Erskine Park) Good Service Award presentation and my last privilege, interviewing Miles (1st Emu Plains) for his Queen Scout award. I was also privileged to be invited to the Penrith Rotary Club's Sept meeting as a guest speaker to talk a little about the History and Principles of Scouting.

The District has been active in attending various community events such as community festivals, ANZAC commemorations, McHappy Day, also attending major events such as JOTT, JOTA/JOTI, Jamborette, CUBoree, Dragon Skins etc.

St Marys & South Penrith Scout groups have been fortunate enough to separately secure a number of grants to aid in necessary building works or for the purchase of hall equipment.

With recent shift in responsibilities at my workplace I have had to stand down as the District Commissioner as I am not able to give the position the time it needs and deserves. I have not left the movement but merely transferred my appointment to a less demanding role.

In closing I would like to thank all the District Leaders (within and outside Penrith District), Group & Section Leaders within Penrith, plus Kim & Maggie at Region office

for all their assistance for the past 12 months. I would also like to thank Neville Henderson for his guidance as my team leader and other RC's who provided assistance &/or guidance within their areas of expertise during my tenure as the District Commissioner. I would also like to wish all within Penrith District all the very best for the next and subsequent years to come.

Rodney Lean
District Commissioner



VALE ANDREW COLIN WALKER
8th May 1929 - 8th February 2011

Andy Walker began his lifelong association with Scouting as a Cub Scout. He often regaled young members with tales of gaining his King's Scout Award, telling them that he was so old that, "Queen Elizabeth was only a Princess" when he passed his final test. His adult career in Scouting began in 1951 when he joined 2nd Abbotsford Scouts as a Scout Leader. He grew up into an Assistant Senior Scout Leader at 1st Blacktown in 1964 and remained in that Group until 1970 when he became the Group Leader of the newly formed 1st Winston Hills Scouts Group. Andy remained in this role until 1976 when he joined the old Tartoola District as a District Leader.

He moved around the Cumberland District in various roles, and eventually joined the State Team as an Activity Leader from 1984 until 1988, when he returned to Tartoola District. From 1990 -1992 Andy returned to 1st Winston Hills as Group Leader then transferred into the DC Parramatta District role until 1994. He retired to be the Parramatta District Secretary 1994-1996 and accepted an Honorary Commissioner role in 1996.

Andy loved being around the young people of GWS Region and even up until recently was a valued member of the GWS Region Science Team in an active role as the Mad Scientist, cooking pizza and biscuits by sunlight. He judged the Cub Scout Cook Off in 2009 and was a frequent visitor to Groups whenever he was able to attend.

Andy achieved his GL Woodbadge in 1973 and was awarded the Silver Kangaroo in 2004. Andy will be sadly missed by young and old alike.

Tracey Hansford

ADULT TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

Once again our team were kept busy with courses and helping our Leaders through their training at Basic and Advanced level. My thanks go to all who assisted me throughout the year - whether it be as a PLA, Assessor, ALT, LT, presenter or mentor. Your dedication to the role is very much appreciated.

Our team continues to increase, improving the assistance to all Groups and Districts. Thank you to my very dedicated and diligent team - Region Leader AT&D Adam McLean, District Leaders AT&D John Hardiman (Blacktown), Frank Barr (Blue Mountains), Mary Garrett (Hawkesbury) and Aafke Futch-Hall (Hills South District).

PLA meetings were held regularly each term updating training and introducing e learning. The PLA meeting is important to the role to ensure that all PLA's are kept informed and up to date on forms and the needs of the Leaders they are assisting. Aafke ensures all PLA's are emailed and kept up to date. Thank you Aafke for taking on this role and managing it so efficiently.

Our approved flexible courses continued in the Region. Thank you to Adam McLean who is now co

ordinating these courses. Thank you also to Jeff Hook and Frank Barr for their excellence as Course Leaders and Terry Darragh who assisted in helping out as a Course Leader. You are much appreciated by me and the participants on your courses.

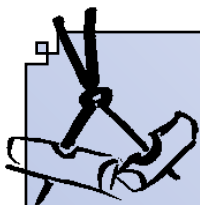
A big thank you to GWSR Rovers and Gavan Hall, who did an excellent job of catering for all the various courses.

Some of our Wood Badge holders are now presenting on courses and doing an excellent job. They have not only helped on our flexible courses but also on courses run in other Regions. Thank you for all the time and effort spent in preparing and presenting your sessions.

E Learning

Our team are now all logged on - PLA, Assessor, ALT and LT. All agree what a fantastic tool it is and how informative it has been. The first of our Leaders are now logged on and we look forward to see their progression through the modules of Basic Training and then onto Advanced Training.

The year proved challenging and I expect that the next 12 months will be even more challenging as we deal with change, but I know how supportive everyone is and feel confident that the change will be implemented smoothly.



GWSR 2010-2011 Wood Badge Recipients

Joey Scout Section

Dean Maddock, 1st Blaxland

Cub Scout Section

Jodie Green 2nd Kings Langley

Rishae Bowen, 1st Toongabbie

Lillian Ewe, 1st Nth Mt Druitt

Sandra Knox, 1st Ermington

Honni McLennan, 1st Blackheath

Alison Sullivan, 1st Quakers Hill/Doonside

Jo Hillyard, 1st Blaxland

Caroline Watts, 1st Oakville

Scout Section

Leisa Threlfo, 1st Cambridge Park

Tracey Stopps, 1st/2nd Blacktown

Glenn Connor, 1st/2nd Blacktown

Stuart Cohen, 1st Balcombe Heights

Stacey Kempton, Hills South District

Venturer Scout Section

Stephen Wallace, Blacktown District

Activities

Allan Mason, GWSR

Group Leader

Neal Sullivan, 1st Quakers Hill/Doonside

Leader of Adults

Aafke Futch-Hall, Hills South District

Aaron Wardle, GWSR

Adam McLean, GWSR

There have been some sad moments during the year and Andy Walker's passing was one of those moments. Andy helped so many Leaders and I am sure that many of you have fond memories that you can reflect upon.

To all the new Leaders - I hope you enjoy your time with our wonderful Scouting family.

I cannot finish without saying a big thank you to Maggi and Kim in our Region Office, who are always so helpful and obliging in dealing with the mammoth task of training requirements. It is very much appreciated ladies.

Wood Badges

Our State report indicates that 105 Wood Badges were awarded in NSW in the 2010 Scouting year of these 20 were awarded in GWS Region. Congratulations to the Leaders who were awarded their Wood Badges throughout the year.

Ann Pounder

Region Commissioner
(Adult Training & Development)

INTERNATIONAL

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

- Regional Jamborette, Bents Basin
- 22nd World Scout Jamboree (Sweden) promotional day, 1st Penrith
- Big Day In, Bundilla
- 4th New South Wales Cuboree, Cataract Scout Park

Greater Western Sydney Region had members in attendance at the following International events:

- Boy Scouts of America National (Centenary) Scout Jamboree
- Aaron Wardle Region Commissioner
Venturers Contingent Leader
Mitchell Howlett 1st Quakers Hill/ Doonside
Benjamin Harper 1st Castle Hill
- 13th World Scout Moot Kenya
Matt Lee 1st Blaxland/ Kalangadoo Rover Crew
- 19th New Zealand Jamboree
Twelve Leaders and Youth members in attendance

- 39th World Scout Conference Brazil
Peter Nickl Region Commissioner International

In addition to the above I also participated in Scouting Activities in England following my time in Brazil.

We have four Youth members, two Leaders and two International Service Team (IST) members going to the 22nd World Scout Jamboree in Sweden during July/ August 2011.

Aaron Wardle Region Commissioner Venturers has been appointed Troop Leader of one of the four troops attending. This is the first time Australia has sent four troops to an overseas World Scout Jamboree.

We also had Groups involved with International Scouting as follows:

- 1st/ 2nd Merrylands Canadian Cub Scouts visit
- Blanket Drive for Scouts Mongolia
- Uniform Drive for Scouts Vanuatu

Had Leaders from New Caledonia, New Zealand, United States of America and United Kingdom visit during the year.

We have four members of our Region currently experiencing Scouting in United States of America, Switzerland and Dubai.

Finally, we assisted in dispatching three large consignments of Scouting equipment, uniforms, paperwork and books to Vanuatu during 2010-2011. Scouts Australia, New South Wales branch is responsible for Scouting in Vanuatu.

Without the continued support, assistance, commitment and encouragement from members of our team, we could not have accomplished the foregoing.

In closing, on behalf of the International Team, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Neville Henderson, Kim Harris and Maggi Roynon for the support and assistance given to us in achieving what we have in our Region on behalf of International Scouting.

Peter Nickl
Region Commissioner
(International)



ACTIVITIES

Having moved into the role as Region Commissioner for Activities at the beginning of 2011, It has been a real delight to be a part of such a dedicated team of people, who are not only skilled in their particular field, but have a great desire to share that skill with our youth. Every one of us is different; with differing abilities and interests. I certainly believe you would be hard pressed to find a person, young or old, who could not learn or experience a new skill, with what the Activities Team can offer.

Both Bowen Mountain and Yellow Rock were regularly visited by our Rock Team for abseiling, while Putney was a popular venue for our Canoe Courses. For those who like to get dirty, Wee Jasper was the place to be with our caving courses. Our Science base is a lot easier, as it comes to you, with bookings just about every week around the Region. From Arcs & Sparks, to Magnetics and even Rocket Launching, it is always a fascinating activity enjoyed by Joeys to Rovers, and may I suggest the leaders as well. Gang Show also comes under the banner of the Activities Team, and provides an opportunity for a multitude of experiences in theatre, from performing, to production, backstage, lighting, sound to costume design. Let me say there is as much adrenalin pumping at the start of each performance, as there is doing your first big abseil.

It would not be right for me to single out any one person for their effort, within the Activities Team. I would like to acknowledge the effort and dedication shown by all the leaders involved, and particularly to those leaders who also are still very much involved with their own local groups as well. There is one person however, I would like to acknowledge.

Mr Keith Travers was our Region Commissioner for Activities for many years. Keith stepped down from the role at the end of 2010. On behalf of everyone within Region, I would like to pass on our thanks to Keith for his dedication and effort over so many years. Keith's real passion was with the boating, and he is continuing to help out where he can.

Of course it is not just people that make the Activities Team what it is. We are privileged to have a large inventory of equipment at our disposal. From canoes to rock climbing gear and helmets, this equipment doesn't come cheap. Our continuing challenge is

to ensure we have the most up to date equipment available, to ensure we can provide activities which are safe, and comply or exceed recognized industry standards.

In my role as RC Activities I also receive copies of the Activity Notification Forms for the more adventurous type activities, which are organised, and run, at group level. It is a great encouragement to see such a vast array of activities happening. All I can say is there are some incredibly dedicated leaders within the GWS Region, committed to ensuring our youth get to experience some real life skills...that are not on front of a computer screen!

BRAVOOO to all! ...and as always, have adventurous fun, and be activity safe!

Mark Fell (Dingo)
Region Commissioner (Activities)

BUSHWALKING

A total of 57 certificates were issued this year with the details shown in the accompanying table. For youth members, only Scouts and Venturers are able to be issued with certificates under the bushwalking policy. Most certificates issued to Scouts are for their green cord hikes. Venturer bushwalks are generally to achieve the expedition badges.

We again recorded an increase in the total number of certificates compared to the previous year. This, hopefully, represents an increase in outdoor activity. There are still a number of groups with leaders or youth members not holding any current qualifications. Presumably they rely on other groups for leadership or simply miss out on the bushwalking side of Scouting.

To my knowledge, the GWS bushwalking activity was again undertaken in a 100% safe manner. We have a great history of safe outings and it is hoped this record stays intact in future years.

It may come as a surprise to some that the 'new' policy turned ten years old last year. It just seems like yesterday that traditional Scouting was turned on its head with the introduction of 'rules' that, according to some, would prevent outdoor activities from taking place and take away our fun. History has shown that it has not occurred and outings are still very much part of Scouting and conducted in a safe, supervised manner by those that wish to do so.

On the subject of changes, we are currently going through another qualifications upgrade with a new system to convert over to standard Levels 1, 2 and 3 in place of the current preliminary leader and leader system. This time next year and our policy first introduced in November 2000 will indeed be the old one. For those interested, the new one is on the Scout web site at: http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/images/stories/Bushwalking_Activities.pdf

Our very own GWS bushwalking PLB has had many outings during the year and covered many hundreds of kilometres. Fortunately all have been in vein and our unit is still intact and on standby for the next trip. Incidentally, I was invited to visit the factory where they are made during the year and was quite impressed with standards and quality control. At my request, GME kindly supplied, free of charge, a working model that is identical, except for the fact it does not transmit a rescue signal. For others like me, you can satisfy your curiosity by setting it off. This allows us to observe what flashes and beeps, without the embarrassment of a helicopter hovering overhead.

During the year, Four GWS Leaders were fortunate enough to be included in a recent SRO training and assessment process for bushwalking qualifications. The modules completed are part of the National Outdoor Recreation Training Package SRO03. When implemented as part of Scout training, we will be able to obtain nationally recognized qualifications while completing Scout courses. This will enable those wishing to pursue formal qualifications with TAFE institutions to be accredited with modules completed in Scouts.

Part of the training was an overnight hike in Megalong Valley. The party of 7 spent a very pleasant night camp on the upper Breakfast Creek beside Narrow Neck. The day walking involved learning a whole new area of technology involving GPS units. GPS navigation is being used more and more as another safety aid to bushwalking and forms a component of the SRO03 package. The course was run by David Walsh (Assistant Branch Commissioner Adult Training and Development).

Looking forward to more safe and fun out and about adventures during the next twelve months.

Frank Barr
Region Bushwalking Activities Coordinator

Details of certificates are:

Appointment	Preliminary Bushwalking Leader	Bushwalking Leader	Bushwalking Instructor	Bushwalking Examiner
Scouts	5	12		
Venturers		6		
Rovers				
Adults	1	28	3	2
Total	6	46	3	2

FIRST AID

First aid team members continued to provide GWSR event first aid support at the Bents Basin Jamborette, Dragon Skin, the Fun Day at Winston Hills (Bundilla) and the Family Water Fun day at Chipping Norton.

Preliminary First Aid (PFA) and Remote First Aid (RFA) courses were run for GWSR members to supplement the Senior First Aid (SFA) Courses being run at Bundilla.

An article "Scouts and St John Team in Action", published in St John State News, regarding first aid team support for GWSR Scout Activities. This included several photos of team supporting the GWSR Bundilla Fun Day in August 2010.

GWSR Scout Web Site now has links from the First Aid (Activities) page to the Scout First Aid Team website and to the St John NSW site for the recent CPR protocol changes

Contact Allan Mason by email allan.vk2gr@gmail.com for RFA first aid course advice or event support.

Dr Josette Docherty and Allan Mason
Region First Aid Team



CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW

2010 was our 41st season and it was very successful with many patrons once more claiming it was the best performance they had experienced. The theme of the show was Project X for Xcitement. After our 40th season celebration in 2009, in which most items had been previously performed, we created 24 new songs and items written by a wider range of Gang members through our new Creative Team. The show included two items specifically written by one of our Guide members to celebrate the Centenary of Guiding.

Another success was the CD recording put down a month before the show. An enhanced audio recording process ensured the choral performance, supported by the orchestra, resulted in the best ever CD that we have produced.

Our season attendance was down on previous years with only 5600 patrons attending our 10 spectacular performances at Parramatta Riverside Theatre in the July school holidays.

Whilst the performance season was a great success, few would have realised that our 2010 season succeeded despite many handicaps. Our shortage of audition applicants reduced the competition for cast positions and the perceived need for commitment in attending all rehearsals. The other challenge was finding a suitable rehearsal and construction space. Once again we experienced the yearly frustration of finding suitable warehouses for set construction, set painting and the final rehearsals involving costumes, sets, the monolith and the orchestra. We appreciated the use of the 7th Parramatta Hall for Set Painting. We were fortunate to secure a pavilion at the Royal Agricultural Showground at the very last minute, after much bartering over terms and payments.

Our workshop teams continue to visit both Scout and Guide sections, running the program for the night and giving the youth members an insight to performing arts. Each team is made up of 3 – 4 gang members and the size of the groups varies between 15 and 30 youth members.

Season 2011 has been Unleashed with the first rehearsal in February held at Castle Hill High School. The day was run as a performing arts workshop/

fun day with a performance for the parents during the evening. This gave the parents a look at what to expect when the cast will Be Unleashed in July.

The two rehearsal camps have been held and the show is now in the polishing stage heading towards the performance 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



RADIO, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

This year saw the sad passing of Andy Walker in February, after a short battle with Legionnaires disease. Andy (with Colin Stevenson) was the initiator of this Activity, visiting Groups promoting Semaphore, Morse code, and Amateur Radio. I worked with them from 1997, promoting and organising exciting JOTA activities for Scouts in the GWS Region. Both were characters in the style of the traditional Scout Master. I miss their enthusiasm and dedication.

We also 'lost' another supporter in Bruce Arnsby. Bruce helped us on nights that didn't clash with his Scout night at 1st Kings Langley, or work roster; he retired from GWS scouting last December.

Lillian Ewe from Doonside Cubs has recently joined the Science team, and we are very happy to welcome her. I'm sure her interests and Cub training will enliven our programs and enrich the experience for the youth we visit.

This past year the Science Team has seen 1000 youth on our weeknight activities. I think this is a pretty good effort, for the second year in a row, all thanks to Leaders who organize for us to see two sections per night. I feel we are at our maximum capacity with this format (40 weeks x ~25 youth).

We have developed two new programs this year. Working in the Standards field with all the exotic equipment at my disposal, I felt it was required of me to find an interesting activity based on measurement. I have devised programs for Joeys and Cubs called 'Measure Up', which seem to work OK. Karl Humphreys also developed an activity night on 'Radio Operation' which we trialed at Blaxland Scouts with some success.

Our base at the GWSR Jamborette featured the high voltage Ionic Lifter, washers defying gravity by 'falling' up, Induction heater boiling water in a plastic ice crème bucket, and Karls 'Ambulance Dispatcher' comms activity with two way radios.

Thanks to Karl Humphreys, Bruce Arnsby and Lillian Ewe for their enthusiasm in expounding 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

Radio, Science & Technology Activity Leader



SCOUT FELLOWSHIPS

BLACK HORSE SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

At the close of the scouting year we had 15 members, 7 non leaders

Unfortunately during the year we lost Ian Cartwright as a member when he moved from Hawkesbury to Albury with his job. Ian was for many years the District Commissioner at Hawkesbury and a founding member of our fellowship and for a number of years our Chairman.

During the year we conducted the following activities;

- March 2010 at Cabbage Tree lookout - Invested all Fellowship members.
- April 2010 and 2011 – Hawkesbury Show - Fund and assist at Scout stand
- Sponsored 11 Cub Scout Leaders to Cuboree in January 2011
- Dinner with Blue Mountains Fellowship
- Oct 2010 – JOTA 2010 assisted with activities for day.
- Social Night Dinner every 2nd month.
- Feb 2011 Hawkesbury Founders Day - Organisation and running at McQuade Park, Windsor
- March 2011 Bunnings BBQ to fund raise as main fundraiser the Ute Muster was cancelled.

Upcoming activities for 2011:

- 29th May 30 yr Oakville Scouts Reunion
- July 2011 Organising Leaders bushwalk to Crawford's Lookout in Wollemi NP
- August 2011 Ute Muster

Robert McMaster

Chairperson
Black Horse Scout
Fellowship



BLUE MOUNTAINS SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

2011 marks the second full year of Blue Mountains Scout Fellowship and we are doing quite well. Our membership is quite stable, and we are experiencing slight growth. Our membership reflects a wide range of ages, which is very healthy. All age groups are comfortable with each other because we have previous section leaders coming together with their previous youth members.

Our finances are "a little in the black" which is all we need. What is more, we enjoyed the activity that raised those funds while providing service to the movement.

This second year has been about finding the right balance for us. The balance of how often we should meet; how often to have formal meetings/social outings/service activities. We have no template to follow and are staying flexible- we are enjoying that. The challenge for us is to keep the OUT in Scouting and to mix with youth members outdoors, during their activities. This is sure to keep us motivated.

One way for us to maintain our motivation and enjoyment is to not overcommit ourselves, individually. We have a large skill base and experience to draw from, so we are able to share the load. We hope that the leaders of GWS region learn to use us as a resource so we can help lighten their load.

In 2010:

Social activities included:

- Dinner at a restaurant in Springwood
- Reciprocal dinner with Blackhorse Fellowship in Windsor.
- Trivia nights at Cumberland Fellowship and Blaxland Scout Group.
- Attending Cumberland Gang Show.
- Christmas BBQ hosted by Jim and Marilyn.
- Flying at Camden Air Activities Centre.

Service activities included:

- Cuboree
- Renewal of Instructor and leader qualifications and assistance at courses for canyoning and abseiling.

- Attendance at various ANZAC Day services and marches including hiking with Scouts to Splendour Rock.
- Assistance at the region Jamborette, in particular assisting with the climbing wall.
- Catering for the leaders at the State Scout Rally.
- Assisting with JOTA.

In February 2010 we numbered 16, with 6 invested. We had 2 members resign and 3 members join. In February 2011 we number 17 (with 2 members yet to be invested) with another 2 people looking to join.

During the year we decided on a design for a badge to be worn on our scarf. This has recently been approved by the Branch Scout Fellowship Council and production will commence soon.

CUMBERLAND GANG SHOW SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship has continued to consolidate during the past twelve months with membership 22. While most members are involved in the cast and crew of Cumberland Gang Show, we continually seek to expand our membership base.

Our major activity in 2010 was a very successful trivia night in June which raised \$1150 for Careflight. As well as participating in the 2010 season of Cumberland Gang Show and conducting the Season reunion at Bundilla in September with an old style picnic and games, we also participated in the Regional Big Day In at Bundilla in August and attended Korimul Gang Show and the Regional Awards Dinner at Blacktown RSL.

Our social program included a May Ghost Tour of Old Government House Parramatta in May, a show recovery dinner in July, a minibus trip to Brooklyn for fish and chips lunch followed by a coffee cruise on the Hawkesbury River in September, an enjoyable, yet frustrating, tour of the Camden wineries in October, Christmas Dinner in November, our annual planning day picnic held at Campbell Hill Reserve in Guildford in January and a twilight Rivercat journey into the city for dinner in March.

Many of our members are also active in other scouting appointments. We have three members on the Executive of the Branch Scout Fellowship Committee. Some members provided support to the Jamborette and to Dragon Skin. Holroyd District members participated in the Holroyd Australia Day Celebrations, flag raising and Holroyd Festival parade.

The year saw several of our members recognised in the 2010 World Scout Day Awards. Jeff Harrison, Bob Matthews, Steve Munro, Val Lockman, David Saubier and Narelle Wardell were all recipients.

My special thanks to my fellow members of the executive: Vice Chairman Steve; Secretary Jeanie; and Treasurer Sharon. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and have certainly ensured the great success of the past twelve months. I believe our Fellowship will continue to enjoy another exciting year in 2011-2012.

Lyall Wood

Chairperson

Cumberland Gang Show Scout Fellowship

PINNAROO SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

We have spent another busy year with service activities and some time for fun.

This year we again put our catering skills to work cooking for a Japanese Scout Contingent visiting Australia, and at the Region Cub Scout Leadership Courses.

Other service to Scouting includes assisting the Bundy Club at Bundilla, serving afternoon tea at the Region AGM and billets for Japanese scouts. With the painting at Bundilla we cleaned, repaired and rehung the Woodbadge plaques in the Rotary Hut. We also had members working at G.W.S. Big Day In and Jamborette; the NSW Agoonorette and a member at New Zealand Jamboree. We collected a large number of blankets for Mongolia and took part in the World Scout Day collection for the Food for Life project in the African region.

1st Westmead benefits with assistance at the Cub pack, group committee and working bees. We

assisted with the cleanout of Toongabbie West Hall prior to it being rented to St. John's First Aid Team.

The NSW Cuboree saw members assisting with transport of equipment, working as activity leaders, pack leaders and in administration roles. Well done.

The community also saw us give service at Clean Up Australia, Red Shield Appeal and Bankstown Children's Festival. We also collected and donated groceries for Ronald MacDonald House at Westmead. We were also able to donate to the Heart Foundation Appeal.

We visited the Southern Cross Hostel to sing carols, entertain the residents and present them with gifts we had made to celebrate Christmas. It was great to be joined by the Venturers and Rovers from 1st Westmead.

Our social activities were lots of fun. We attended the Toongabbie Trivia Night, had our annual visit to the Central Coast, and went to opening of 1st Marsfield Hall. And although we had to postpone our Out and About activity we eventually made it to Newcastle where food was again high on list of priorities. We concluded the year with a Christmas get together.

Thank you to all who have made this year a great one. We look forward to another year of fun and service.

Stephen Shaw

Chairperson

Pinnaroo Scout Fellowship



THE GROUPS AND CREWS OF 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

1st Kings Langley Scout Group
1st Mt Druitt Scout Group
Kings Langley Rover Crew
1st North Mt Druitt Scout Group
1st North Mt Druitt Rover Crew
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 Castle Hill Scout Group
2nd Castle Hill Rover Crew
4th Castle Hill Scout Group
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



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 F: (02) 9686 2510 E: gws.region@nsw.scouts.com.au

www.greaterwestscouts.com.au