



# SYDNEY NORTH REGION ROVERS

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23



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## ***2022/23 Region Rover Council (RRC) Executive Team***

<b>Chairperson</b>	Daniel Hose (Normanhurst)
<b>Assistant Chairperson</b>	Kellie Chilvers (MCMK)
<b>Secretary</b>	Ashley Webster (Kissing Point)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sam Pitman (Turramurra)
<b>Public Relations</b>	Tom Bury (Kissing Point)
<b>Merchandise Co-ordinator</b>	Robert Sewell (Kissing Point)
<b>Activities Co-ordinator – Social</b>	Amelia Malone (Platabeen)
<b>Activities Co-ordinator – Adventurous</b>	Milly Raffle (Gordon)
<b>Venturer Liaison</b>	Ryan Saberton (Turramurra)
<b>Youth Liaison (<i>Vacant Position</i>)</b>	N/A
<b>Training Co-ordinator</b>	Kaitlin Strickland (Epping)
<b>Service Co-ordinator</b>	Patrick Dunstan (Kissing Point)
<b>State Rover Council Delegates</b>	Aaron Kew (Forest) Charlotte Mason (Gordon) Erika Otero (Yaralla) Kacie Turner (Forest)
<b>Regional Commissioner – Rovers</b>	Nick Buchner
<b>Assistant Regional Commissioner – Rovers</b>	Elyse Versace



Daniel Hose  
**Chair**  
Normanhurst Rovers



Looking back at the year that was I can honestly say that Sydney North Region Rovers have put their best foot forward in 2022-2023 and continued to buck the trend set by COVID. As we have emerged from the restrictions of lockdowns, all Crews have gotten out and about, and kept up the old tradition of "Rovers Do Stuff". As a member of the SNRRC Executive it is my pleasure to say it's been a fantastic year helping lead these Rovers in all things Roving and watching the Crews of this Region grow and thrive together.

First off it was pleasing this year to see many of the long-running activity staples of the Sydney North Region calendar returning - including Normanhurst's Magical Mystery Tour and Turramurra's Harbour Cruise, as well as the increasing numbers of weekend events and commitments including our Region Dinner, Kalang Kup, Roventure, Not-a-Moot and SNR Summer Moot. A big thank-you must go out to all the organisers and the Crews who undertook these events throughout the year for running such successful events. A particularly big thank you must go to Normanhurst and Yaralla, and Turramurra and Kissing Point Rover Crews for taking on the huge task of running last years and this year's Summer Moots respectively.



From all the positive feedback received it is clear that all Crews and their members pulled off some of the best Moots of the season and they were resounding successes. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Amelia Malone for running and organising just about every other Region event over the year, and for her tireless effort and promotions to ensure all events went ahead with almost all Crews participating in some way.

Activities weren't limited to just these major weekend events for Sydney North Rovers, as Crews continued to plan and do a variety of successful weekly activities over the year. While I would be here for days if I was to list them all, some of the highlights included paint and pets, wheelchair basketball, pub trivia, beach nights, paddle boarding, mountain biking, abseiling, and bouldering.

Sydney North Rovers also went further afield than just our Region, with our Rovers in attendance and making a positive influence at just about every Roving and Scout event in NSW, including other Region Moots, Dragon Skin, ScoutHike, ANZAC Dawn Services, State Rally, Gangshow - the list goes on. We also had around 60 Sydney North Rovers in the NSW Contingent that made its way down to the National Apple Isle Moot (AIM) in Tasmania at the beginning of this year.



Sydney North Region Rovers have continued their success this year with many of our members and Crews being recognised in the awards from all corners of Scouting including:

- Forest Rover Crew receiving a Quality Rovering Award
- Billie Moran, Sarah Berlecky, Kaitlin Strickland, Aaron Kew, Elyse Versace, & Daniel Hose receiving Rover Recognition Awards
- Forest Rover Crew receiving B-P Lodge Service Award
- Platabeen Rover Crew receiving B-P Lodge Encouragement Award

B-R-A-V-O-O and congratulations to all these recipients on your awards. They are truly well deserved, and you really make this Region proud with all your hard work. I am also pleased to have been able to introduce the Warawara award due to a kind benefactor who wishes to see the Rover section continue to grow and see Rovers get out and about on adventures. The Warawara Award serves as a replacement to the now depleted Balthasar Award and it is my hope that this award will continue to encourage and help SNR Rovers to undertake adventurous activities in Australia and around the world which they may otherwise not have been able to undertake.

On a sadder note, the overall numbers in Sydney North Rovers in many Crews have unfortunately declined slightly this year - to the point where even the long-standing Brush Park Rover Crew has been forced into temporary recess during the past twelve months. However, in other areas I'm pleased to report that Asquith have begun their sponsorship and are in the final stages of getting a new Rover Crew off the ground, while Lower North Shore District have a big group of Venturers who will be ready to move up this year and we are in the final talks to begin their own process of starting a Rover Crew.

As my term as Region Chair draws to a close, I would like to extend special thanks to the great executive team that was elected this year. Each one of you has done a fantastic job at your respective roles and, without all your support, things most certainly would not have run as smoothly as they have. Despite all the challenges, difficulties and craziness that were thrown our way your constant commitment, effort and determination have been instrumental in ensuring the successful year that Sydney North Rovers have had, and I cannot thank you enough for everything you all have done.



As we head into a new Scouting year, I hope that we have finally seen an end to the COVID lockdowns and restrictions, and that the enthusiasm and commitment of all Sydney North Region Rovers can continue to put the "out" in "Scouting" and show the scouting movement why Sydney North Region Rovers are the best in the world! I look forward to 2023 being even more successful and brighter one for all sections of Scouting and particularly Sydney North Region Rovers. B-R-A-V-O-O Sydney North for all your achievements in 2022 and let's bring on 2023!

Kellie Chilvers  
**Assistant Chair**  
MCMK Rovers



After 2 long years, we have finally had a year with no lockdowns, and very few restrictions on our Scouting activities. With Rovers finding their new sense of normal post-shut down, it has been great to see everyone getting out and about as much as they can, further cementing the fact that Rovers “do stuff”. I have seen first-hand the things that Rovers can and will do to make the most of whatever situation they find themselves in.

We have had a fantastic year, with all annual Region events returning, much to the Region’s excitement. Normanhurst’s MMT ‘Heist’, Turramurra’s ‘Cruising for a Bruising’ Harbour Cruise, Forest’s Monopoly Roventure and Claus for a Cause, are just a few of the events that we have been looking forward to amidst lockdowns. Moots have also returned with a bang, drawing crowds from both in and out of our Region. It’s great to see Crews supporting other Crews with attendance at these events.

In ‘New Crew’ news, some Asquith Rovers have been meeting with and learning from their sponsor Crew, Normanhurst Rovers. They are looking to open on their own in coming months, and we look forward to seeing what great things they achieve in their own right. The RRC is still in talks with the prospective Lower North Shore Rovers, who are keen to begin the process of getting this new Crew off the ground in 2023.

Special thanks has to be given to the other members of the 2022 SNRRC Executive, they have worked tirelessly to keep their various jobs going, and have been instrumental in the running of the Region, as well as their individual Crews. An extra special thanks goes to Dan Hose, Region Chair, who had put in countless hours and been the Region’s voice for various things throughout the year, thanks for pushing us all, and for putting up with me especially, we couldn’t have done it without you.

We have had a great year of Rovering, and further proven why we are the best region out there. To all the Rovers in our Region, keep doing stuff and showing the Scouting Movement why Rovers are so great!

Congratulations on another great year and bring on 2023!!

xoxo Kellie

Ashley Webster  
**Secretary**  
Kissing Point Rovers



Another year has passed, and we are rapidly shaking off the effects of Covid. In terms of secretarial changes, there haven't been many. It's been a mostly smooth year with people being prompt in sending in their reports on time. Were they consistent in formatting? Not at all. Were they spell checked or even vaguely grammatically correct? No. In the wise words of some old dude: it essssss what it essssss.

The Exec team has had the pleasure of seeing the return of Kalang Kup and Harbour Cruise. Between that and the many Moots on offer it's been a fantastic year on the social side. From what I've seen it's also been an incredible year for outdoor events. None of this relates to the secretarial role but alas, as is the curse of the sec role, I myself do not have a huge amount to report. I've enjoyed being part of the SNRRC Executive team for the first time and am sending forward a massive congratulations to whoever is secretary next year.

Any questions regarding the Secretary role going forward you can ask me, or the amazing Sarah Berlecky, or the fantastic Kacie Turner.

Sam Pitman  
**Treasurer**  
 Turramurra Rovers



Welcome to the Treasurers report for 2022. This report is primarily composed of tables detailing the finances for the year. Firstly, I'd like to thank the RRC Exec, and Unit Treasurers for their work through this year.

The RRC overall recorded a profit of \$165.12. The general funds account recorded a deficit of \$633.18 throughout this year. This figure excludes the Development Fund. Big thanks goes out to Rob (RRC Merchandise). Without his selling (and the Region purchasing Merch) there would be a significantly larger deficit.

Note: the statements below include the Development Fund.

**Financial Statements:**

<b><u>Statement of comprehensive income</u></b>	Jan 01 to Dec 31, 2022	Jan 01 to Dec 31, 2021
<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b><u>Calendar year 2022</u></b>	<b><u>Calendar year 2021</u></b>
Development Fund – Crew closure	\$916.05	\$406.70
Merchandise	\$750.00	\$278.00
MISC	\$146.00	\$0.00
Registration Fees - SRC	\$0.00	\$0.00
Registration Fees - RRC	\$3,958.96	\$0.00
Special Activity	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Activity - CRAP	\$5.43	\$67.03
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$5,776.44</b>	<b>\$751.73</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>		
Leader Costs	\$125.00	\$90.00
Major Equipment/Buildings	\$162.40	\$71.00
MISC Expense	\$343.58	\$480.05
RRC BBQ	\$127.55	\$208.25
Registration Fees (State Levy)	\$2345.98	\$0.00
Special Activity - CLBAM	\$746.52	\$500.00
Special Activity – Meeting prizes	\$49.27	\$0.00
Special Activity - MISC	\$128.74	\$938.38
Square Fees	\$0.00	\$0.34
Subsidies	\$1380.00	\$150.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$5409.04</b>	<b>\$2438.02</b>
<b><u>Net Income</u></b>	<b>\$367.40</b>	<b>-\$1686.29</b>



<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<b>Calendar Year 2022</b>	<b>Calendar Year 2021</b>
Cash - General Funds	\$23,687.92	\$24,321.10
Cash – Development Fund	\$26,847.85	\$26,049.55
Merchandise at cost	\$6827.00	\$4,720.00
Accumulated impairment of Merchandise	-\$560.00	-\$560.00
Accounts Recoverable	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$56,802.77</b>	<b>\$54,530.65</b>

<b>Cash Flow Statement</b>	<b>Calendar Year 2022</b>	<b>Calendar Year 2021</b>
<b>Starting Balance</b>		
Cash on hand	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cash – General Funds	\$24,321.10	\$26,369.29
Cash – Development Fund	\$26,049.55	\$25,642.85
<b>Total Starting Balance</b>	<b>\$50,370.65</b>	<b>\$52,012.14</b>
Gross cash inflow	\$7,557.66	\$1,689.50
Gross cash outflow	\$7,392.54	\$3,330.99
Net cash change	\$165.12	-\$1,641.49
<b>Ending Balance</b>		
Cash on hand	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cash – General Funds	\$23,687.92	\$24,321.10
Cash – Development Funds	\$26,847.85	\$26,049.55
<b>Total Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$50,535.77</b>	<b>\$50,370.65</b>

### **2023 Budget:**

The 2023 Budget for the year is provided below. The RRC levies should be adjusted at the end of year to cover the actual cost incurred. This years RRC Levy was set to \$2.34 per member due to the numbers of Rovers in the Region. This is likely a low estimate, however, may recuperated in future Levies if desired.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Estimated cost</b>	<b>Notes</b>
RRC Exec Name badges	\$180.00	Rounded 2022 price
RRC BBQs	\$150.00	Increased from 2022
RRC Meeting Prizes	\$50.00	Rounded 2022 cost
CLBAM	\$750.00	Based on 2022 amount
Roventure	\$450	Estimate
Region Service project BBQ	\$100.00	Allocated by working doc
RRC Annual report	\$90.00	Rounded 2022 amount
Leader fees	\$250.00	Total fees for 2 leaders
Gift to Auditor	\$75.00	As allocated
Scout-Hike subsidy	\$1,400.00	Rounded 2022 cost
MHFAC subsidy	\$150.00	Based on 2022 amount
Misc Expenses	\$100.00	Estimate
<b>Estimated RRC Income</b>	<b>\$3745.00</b>	

Tom Bury  
**Public Relations Co-ordinator**  
Kissing Point Rovers



We were finally able to get back to reality and have a year without lockdowns with the return of many events such as Moots, MMT, Harbour Cruise, Dragon Skin, Scout Hike and so much more!

This past Rover year, I had aims to use our social medias as a way to show off and promote what Rovers is about and how much fun it can be. We started off with the 'Meet the Exec' series which was aimed to help other Rovers from inside and outside of our Region to put a name to a face. While I feel like this worked well, it defiantly could have worked better and more efficiently.

While Instagram and Facebook are still the main focus of attention at the moment. We also started our own TikTok which I must admit, I'm have been terrible at, but still trying to learn as much as I can. A big thanks to people and Crews who I've basically stolen footage off to use for it. Even though Facebook is becoming more and more uncommon among the younger generations, I encourage your Venturers and anyone else who joins your Crews to sign up to it as that is where most of the important information comes through. Instagram and TikTok has been the place to just scroll mindlessly over the past few years with the younger generation so building a brand across both platforms is something I wanted to achieve this year. While I am happy with the brand we have continued to build over past year with Instagram, I believe TikTok is something that needs work on if we want to build and get noticed on that platform.

Speaking of brand building, we have had a really good increase in followers and people viewing our accounts on Facebook and Instagram since I took up the role. Over my term of being PR co-ordinator:

- We had 73 new likes on Facebook and 59 new followers on Instagram.
- In terms of Page and profile visits, we had a whopping 1,505 page visits on Facebook and 810 profile visits on Instagram.

Even if we only had 73 out of 1,505 liking our Facebook page, hitting 1,505 visits is amazing and it really shows how much effort we all do to ensure that the public get an understanding of what we as Rovers do.

At the start of the year, I used a free ad campaign that was available on the Sydney North Region Rovers Instagram page to help gain attraction. After the ad was up for 4 or so days, the stats were impressive and hit the targets I was looking for. After that, I proposed for the RRC to give the Crews \$30 to do their own ad campaign/s however they want. To date, I know of 1 or 2 Crews who have used either some or all of the \$30 given to them, with some Crews yet to use it.

It wasn't just our social media presence that was a focus this year. The traditional 'Compass' newsletter was also a focus. While I assume most Rovers do not read the newsletter, I know of leaders, parents and youth members in other sections who do read it so comprehensively showing off what the Region and each individual Crew does there is a good way to get attention of what we do.

While there are too many people to name, I would like to thank everyone who has supported me in this role. I have noticed a considerable change from holding a position at a Crew level and with it being my first

year on the RRC Executive, I feel like it has been a successful term. 2022/23 was definitely the easiest year in this decade so far. But regardless of that, it would not be the easiest year without every single SNR Rover and member for making it an easy year with their commitment and dedication to the Rover section. So, thank you for that. I would also like to thank the rest of the RRC Executive team for their overall resilience they've all shown in their respected roles and for their support towards me.

Keep those fun posts coming, I have loved sharing them with everyone. Don't forget to tag @sydneynorthrovers so that your post can be seen and then we can re-share it!

Again, thanks everyone for a fantastic year. Here's to an even better 2023/24!

Cheers!

Tom Bury

Robert Sewell  
**Merchandise Co-ordinator**  
 Kissing Point Rovers



Merch sales have been good this past year with a wide variety of sales across the board. With the first full year without any lockdown, I have been able to bring merch to a wide variety of Rover events, with special mention to National Moot in Tasmania where, while I wasn't able to be there personally, we sold a large quantities of Rover bumper stickers to participants from all over the country. Personally, it's been great to see so many of these stickers continue to be sold and they remain our highest selling item of our collection. It also never fails to make me smile when I see one out in the wild, on a passing car, an eski or wherever one decides to randomly pop up. Plans are also in the works for more merch to be released in the future whether I myself or whoever takes the role for 2023-24 get to announce it I look forward to seeing yet more variety to our stock.

I look forward to what the next year holds for the exec of SNR and I wish them all the very best for the future.

-Rob

**Table 1: Current inventory numbers**

Item	Quantity
Grey SNR T-shirt S	11
Grey SNR T-shirt M	14
Grey SNR T-shirt L	34
Grey SNR T-shirt XL	30
Grey SNR T-shirt 2XL	11
Grey SNR T-shirt 3XL	6
Red Polo Shirts S	9
Red Polo Shirts M	1
Red Polo Shirts XL	3
Red Polo Shirts 3XL	3
Red Polo Shirts 10	4
Red Polo Shirts 12	4
Red Polo Shirts 14	13
Red Polo Shirts 16	14
Rover Lanyards	13
Rover Bumper Stickers	1637

**Table 2: Sales numbers between Feb 24th 2022 & March 12th 2023**

Item	Qty sold	Price EA.	Total
Grey SNR shirts	27	\$10.00	\$270
Red Polos	4	\$15.00	\$60.00
Rover Bumper Stickers	98	\$3.00	\$294.00
Rover Lanyards	18	\$7.00	\$126.00
Total sales for period	147		\$750



Amelia Malone

**Activities Co-ordinator – Social**

Platabeen Rovers

Wow, what a year. The 2022-23 Region Social Activities calendar was certainly jam packed but lots of fun! As a Region we successfully ran, attended and enjoyed several Sydney North events, State and interstate events, along with other inter-Region events too.

The year started with an awesome turnout from Sydney North at state events - Dragon Skin and ScoutHike in Belanglo State Forest. At Skin our Rovers put on some awesome activity bases for the Venturers and really bought the energy to VOC 2 as well as ran Sleep Point 6 at ScoutHike.

Noot Noot Winter Summer Moot was also held early on in the year and was such a success. Awesome to see so many SNR Crews in attendance at Kariong Scout Camp (over 100 Rovers in attendance), enjoying various activities during the day as well as a good boogie and chill around the fire in the evening.



Throughout the year, SNR Rovers were well represented at an array of interstate events. A group of SNR Rovers joined hundreds of Victorian Rovers at Mudbash - the original Rover motorsport event at Mafeking Rover Park in Victoria. Mud, crazy vehicles, fires, axe throwing, jam donuts, archery, and lots more... an all-round good time was had by all. In addition, 60 odd SNR Rovers attended

Apple Isle (or Tasmania Moot) for the 22nd Australian Rover Moot! The Rovers participated in a ray of expeditions around the island, ranging from 4WD, diving, sailing, canyoning, hiking, caving, white-water rafting, hiking and more!

SNR bought back Kalang Kup this year, a fun, social, and totally non-serious inter-Crew sports comp. This year the Region participated in round-robin Netball, with the winning Crew taking home the Kup trophy, a very attractive addition to the Rover Den! Lots of fun and a little friendly competition was had by all, with an amazing turnout from the Region.

This year's SNR Roventure saw 100 odd Rovers and Venturers from across Sydney North Region take part in a weekend event at Camp Courts, Waterfall, as Rovers and Venturers camped and competed together. Bonding time, crazy activities such as archery, an escape room, an obstacle course, weapon and armour making, followed by night entertainment was just the beginning of an awesome weekend.



SNR "Dwayne 'The Moot' Johnson" was another hugely successful SNR Moot this year with around 150 Rovers from inside and outside the Region coming together to participate in a range of activities during the day and dancing into the night. Another amazing weekend!

Last, but not least we can't forget the Annual CRAP Region Dinner. SNR Rovers had an amazing night and another fun year of ROSCARS. Had an awesome turnout from the Region and it was a great way to celebrate a fabulous year - congratulations to all the winners

- **Most Improved Crew:** Kissing Point Rovers
- **Most Outstanding Crew:** Yaralla Rovers
- **Most Outstanding Rover:** Amelia Malone - Platabeen
- **Best Service Activity:** Region Service Project 2021/2022 Bush Regen - Presented to Billie Moran
- **Best Activity:** Kalang Kup - Present to Amelia Malone

It has certainly been a wild but wonderful year, and I can't wait to see what bigger and better social events lie ahead for SNR Rovers in the year to come!!!

Milly Raffle

## Activities Co-ordinator – Adventurous

Gordon Rovers

The 2022-2023 year saw a major increase in adventurous activities, with several units upskilling members to a level of trained participant and guide in rockcraft sports. It's been great to see more Crews embracing the outdoors and starting to run trips of their own.



2022 started off with an influx of rain putting a spanner in the usual canyoning adventures. Despite the difficulties, rovers from Gordon took the opportunity to upskill in whitewater and high flow canyons taking on some of the most difficult canyons in the Blue Mountains and Katoomba areas. On the drier side of things, the start of the year saw six Rovers from Kissing Point and Gordon complete their rigging and rescue abseiling course which is a major step towards completing their assistant guide qualification.



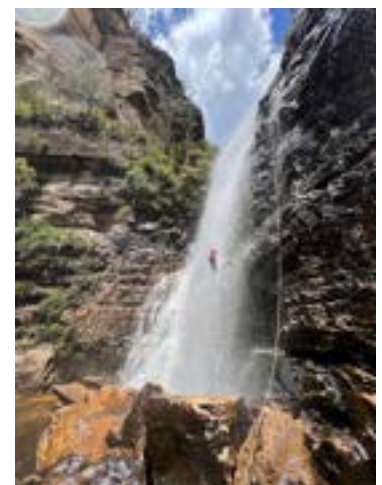
Over April, the rains died down and several Crews took the opportunity get outdoors. Crews went camping, swimming, hiking, canyoning and Whitewater kayaking. Over this period, many Rovers were being introduced to outdoors activities for the first time and continued that momentum into winter!



After two years of lockdowns preventing access to the snow, Sydney North Rovers made the most of the epic ski season. Crews from all over the Region organised Crew camps and headed to the slopes for some down-hill skiing and snowboarding. Rovers from Gordon and Turramurra also tried their hand at cross-country on a beginner's trip lead by Harry Day. Later in the season, Charlotte Mason lead a beginner mountaineering trip to Blue Lake which saw participants learn to ice climb, traverse glaciers, complete crevasse rescues and for a couple of Rovers, complete their first nights of on-snow camping.



Over the summer, the canyoning season resumed with several rovers from Gordon boosting their skills completing the trained participant canyon course. With Apple Isle Moot around the corner, Rovers from Platabeen needed to boost their canyoning skills and Gordon Rover Luke Barnett needed to complete a canyon guide assessment. In a perfect opportunity to complete both tasks, Luke Barnett ran a trip for Platabeen to Macquarie Pass, a fun canyon full of jumps, slides and abseils.



Apple Isle Moot saw roughly 60 Rovers from Sydney North head to Tasmania. Tasmania is Australia's adventure capital and as such Rovers completed expeditions in canyoning, jetboating, mountain biking,

4wding, hiking, rafting or caving. It was great to see so many Rovers experience adventurous activities for the first time and come back with new found love of the outdoors.

This momentum continued with the Region canyon course seeing Rovers from Gordon and Platabeen help lead 8 parties of Venturers and leaders through some of the Mt Wilson Canyons. It's been a great year of upskilling and adventure and I can't wait to see the adventure that 2023 hold!



Ryan Saberton  
**Venturer Liaison Officer**  
Turramurra Rovers

This year has been a great year for both Rovers and Venturers. We pulled off an amazing Roventure, hosted by Epping. This year, Roventure was the first time in two years where it was held in a weekend format.

Asquith Rovers have gotten underway, meeting regularly with Normanhurst Rovers as their sponsor Crew.

Dragon Skin in 2022 was also a fantastic success with a lot of Venturers who participated in their first Dragon Skin, as well as Rovers organising and pulling off some amazing bases.

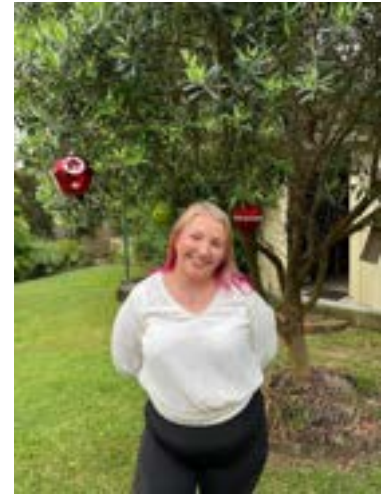
The biggest struggle at the moment is the linking rate between Venturers and Rovers. I think that is something that should be explored more at both a Crew and Region level.



Kaitlin Strickland  
**Training Co-ordinator**  
Epping Rovers

Unfortunately, I was unable to be a very active Training Officer this year due to me moving and living 7 hours away. However, Units were still able to reach out and contact me if they had any training related questions.

In collaboration with Nick and Elyse, we were able to revamp the “plan” section of the training system to become Unit Leader. This was so Units were able to ask trainees questions regarding their Unit and be able to link their knowledge back to the Rover Section.



I hoped that a few more people would reach out if they had questions regarding training. But a lot of Units seemed to have the hand of the new training system and didn't need too much guidance.

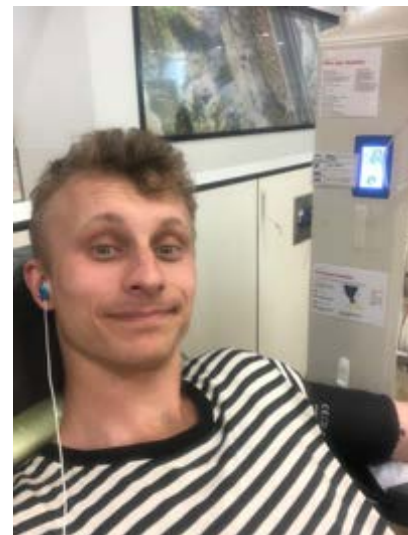
It was good to see Units encouraging members of their Unit to go and do their training and didn't not need too many reminders to get peoples training up to date. This shows that there has been a relatively smooth transition to the new system.

I hope the new RRC team are just as willing and motivated as this team has been, and I wish the best of luck to the incoming Training Coordinator.

Patrick Dunstan  
**Service Co-ordinator**  
Kissing Point Rovers

Congratulations to an awesome year of service. Even though we had a slow start, we really picked it up toward the end and topped it with an extraordinary turnout and results from the Region Service Project and the Lifeblood Challenge.

When I took on this position, my broad goal was to do what I could to make sure that Rovers get the fullest and best experience from Rovering, which I believe that service can be a big part of. This is because it can teach you a lot about yourself and others, it can improve your own confidence and resilience, as well as improve the lives of those you're serving.



On the flipside, without positive reinforcement, people will often burn-out or tire quickly when incessantly asked to give more when they feel have little to give. The emotional fatigue of the past few years was unnotedly a factor affecting service this year. I was conscious of this, and tried to balance signs of appreciation for what people have given while also challenging them with a new service opportunities when they arose. The was a balance I worked very hard to get right through my communication.

### Key events and attendance:

	Activity	Attendance/Units	
25 April	ANZAC Day Dawn Service	Broad attendance from all Units	
26-28 <sup>th</sup> August	Oxfam Trailwalker	10	Normanhurst and Platabeen
17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> September	The "Bobbo"	4	MCMK, Kissing Point, Turramurra
5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> November	Region Service Project	50	All Units in attendance

## Lifeblood Challenge

1<sup>st</sup> Sept – 30th Nov

- Final results:
  - 25 whole blood
  - 43 plasma
  - 68 total donations. No. 1 Region in the country for donations!
  - 204 lives were saved by our efforts!

We've saved 204 lives with 67 total donations - 15 more than Melbourne, in second place. I was unable to access records pre-2018, but from then I cannot find another year Sydney North has won the lifeblood challenge – so it looks like this is a first for us. Congrats everyone! Three of our Units placed in the national top ten, awesome work Kissing Point, Normanhurst and Yaralla... and well done to everyone who contributed - we should be so very, very proud of ourselves!

## Region Service Project at Ingleside Scout Campsite

5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> November

In November, we saw around 50 Rovers representing every Crew in the Sydney North come to Ingleside Scout Camp for a 2 day working bee – and we made a real difference!

We went above and beyond what was expected of us and were receiving mountains of praise even before the second day. Randall Jones, Regional Commissioner for Activities Centres, extends his personal thanks to each Rover who attended for their time and the results achieved, as do I.



## Rover Wardens at Ingleside Scout Camp

In 2022, the Rovers of Sydney North have surprised many by enthusiastically answering a call for help from the management of our oldest and most cherished Scouting facilities. In October, a vote was put to Sydney North RRC whether we would supply a rotating team of Wardens to Ingleside, and was accepted by an overwhelming majority. This sits within a recent trend of Current and Ex Sydney North Rovers showing leadership and taking responsibility for Scouts many sites and assents in and around Sydney.

For more details, and for most current Ingleside warden roster, see here:

<https://sydneynorthscouts.com/sections/rovers/useful-links/>

## Lessons and Suggestions

This role is about more than meeting a quota, it's about being a motivator. Learn the personalities, strengths and priorities of units and their leadership, and to keep this in mind. Do not leave bulk of organising to three weeks before an event. This was a mistake I made for the "Bobbo", which I think hurt the numbers we got in the end.

The most reliable Crews who attended the Region Service events were also the ones which I had a good relationship with their Crew Leader or Service Coordinator. This suggests to me maintaining that good relationships are key to motivating people.

It's important to accept that sometimes external factors will mean you have to adjust your expectations. The emotional fatigue of the past two years surely had an influence on service from Crews this year, and this is understandable. While participation was initially low, the success of the Service project has me optimistic for the future. Thanks to every Crew Leader and every Rover who supported me this year in my efforts to drive service, as well as every Rover who volunteered their time to represent the best of Rovering to the community.



Nick Buchner

**Regional Commissioner – Rovers**

Rovering is described as *“a brotherhood of the open air and service”*, and the past year certainly saw Sydney North Rovers emerge from the restrictions of lockdowns and get back to business.

On top of a vast selection of weekly meeting night activities, there has been a pleasing level of weekend activity at the local level, including a range of camps, 4WD trips, boating weekends, canyoning, abseil trips, kayaking, roadtrips, and more.

Service continued to play its important part. Individual Crew service activities included support for Oxfam Trailwalker, the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic, building animal shelters in local bushland, Plant a Tree Day, fundraising for Bear Cottage, and maintenance jobs at Scout facilities. As a Region, support for ANZAC Day, and grounds maintenance at Barra Brui hall continued. Sydney North also made an outstanding contribution to the National Rover Plasma Challenge, making the most donations of any Region in Australia.

Our annual Region Rover Service Project was well planned and executed, with Rovers descending on Ingleside Scout Camp for a weekend that saw many projects completed, including bush regeneration, path construction, and stump removal. Continuing involvement with Ingleside is assured, with Rovers taking on a rotating monthly roster for warden duties.

Many thanks as always, to everyone who has contributed to the ongoing high standard of Rovering in Sydney North and well done to those who received other achievement or recognition awards, or contributed to the successful organisation of events and activities.

Particular thanks to Daniel Hose, from Normanhurst Rovers, who took up the Chairman’s role and did a great job of leading the RRC Exec team... including picking up other’s jobs where they faltered! Also to Elyse Versace, who joined us from August as Assistant Regional Commissioner – Rovers. Elyse’s experience in Rover governance and her cool-headed approach are of great benefit in supporting the Region’s Rovers.

One area I challenge everyone in the Region to constantly work on is retention from Venturers. The number of Venturers moving up to our section is not what it could be, and the key is to regularly program joint nights and weekend activities with all linked Units. Venturers need to have seen enough of Rovers and mixed with them so there’s just no question of them not wanting to be a Rover!

I look forward to a good year ahead and working together with the new Exec and Elyse, to support the Rovers of Sydney North. It’s always pleasing to see a mix of experience and fresh enthusiasm in the elected team, and I’m sure the 2023/24 year will be no different.

Yours in Rovering,

Nick Buchner

Regional Commissioner - Rovers



Elyse Versace

**Assistant Regional Commissioner – Rovers**

After finishing up in Rovers at the end of 2021, I began 2022 as a Rover Adviser for Brush Park Rovers and have finished the year as the new Assistant Regional Commissioner - Rovers for Sydney North Region. I was honoured to be endorsed in this role by the Sydney North Region Rover Council in August and look forward to continuing to work with Nick Buchner (Regional Commissioner - Rovers) and the Rovers of Sydney North to serve this great Section in this great Region.



Having said that, it has meant my term has been a little shorter than everyone else's this year. Nevertheless, I have enjoyed watching Sydney North Rovers get more and more out and about as COVID (hopefully) becomes a distant memory. It has been fantastic to watch Sydney North Rovers take advantage of some incredible opportunities, with 60 heading down to the National Moot this year, Apple Isle Moot, engaging in some exciting expeditions, making some great new friends and undertaking their own exciting trips.

It was amazing to see a lot more of our events, that had previously been cancelled, returning to our calendars including Normanhurst Rovers' Magical Mystery Tour, Turramurra Rovers' Harbour Cruise, Forest Rovers' Claus for a Cause, our Sydney North Region Summer Moot - Dwayne 'The Moot' Johnson, run as a joint effort between Turramurra and Kissing Point Rovers, Roventure run by Epping Rovers as well as our other Region Rover events such as CRAP Region Dinner and Kalang Kup run by Amelia Malone from Platabeen Rovers. The Rovers involved and leading the teams organising these events should be commended on their incredible efforts as running events is not without difficulty and I imagine it to be even more difficult when such events have not been able to run for several years!

I am incredibly proud of Sydney North Rovers' engagement in training. The Scouting Management course run in November was dominated by Sydney North Rovers and Rover Advisers, eager to learn as well as share their own experiences and knowledge with others. I have no doubt these Rovers will achieve great things and am optimistic that we might see a few more Wood Badges in the near future!

As we look forward to 2023, I would like to thank the Region Rover Council Executive Team and all those who put their hands up to be Unit Leaders last year, your hard work is acknowledged and appreciated. I would like to also acknowledge the hard work of Daniel Hose, our RRC Chair who has led the team fantastically over the last 12 months. I wish the new Region Rover Council Executive Team all the best in their new roles and look forward to continuing to support them and the Rovers of Sydney North (if you'll have me!).

As always, if you have any questions or there is anything you need, I am only an email away!

Yours in Rovering,  
Elyse Versace

Assistant Regional Commissioner - Rovers







## Brush Park Rovers

### Unit Leader – Alex Simpson & Naomi Butler

The start of 2022 was a great time for Brush Park Rovers. We had just started with two new Rovers who were keen to see how the world of Rovering worked. As Rovers we were excited to serve the community around us by helping out where we could. We attended Dragon Skin with one of our Rovers helping on Epping Rovers' activity base, and another running the Administration Team for VOC 2. Our Rover Advisers were also helping out as Head of Activities for VOC2 and as part of the Catering Team. After Dragon Skin we moved our focus onto ScoutHike. We had one Rover running Administration for Sleep Point 6 while our Rover Advisers helped out at ScoutHike HQ. Brush Park Rovers also rolled up their sleeves and helped out at the Region Service Project at Ingleside Scout Camp.



Throughout our year we enjoyed joining with Yaralla Rovers as a way to connect with others locally. We enjoyed a trip away to the Blue Mountains where we explored the local tourist areas. To add to our trips for the year we attended Victorian Rovers annual Mudbash event, with Naomi taking on the role of Contingent Leader for NSW Rovers for this event. We enjoyed watching the car races, participating in activities for the open day and seeing friends from across the country.

Sadly, this year also saw us say farewell to two of our Rovers. We held two Bootings at Ingleside Scout Camp to celebrate Elyse and Naomi's time in Rovers. We also reflected on their many years of service and the contribution that both these amazing people have given to the Rover section.





This year we focused on making our weekly meetings fun and enjoyable for all. We enjoyed learning and expanding our skills through participating in these activities. Archery was a favourite for us along with our car maintenance night where our Rover Advisor Matt taught us how to change a tyre and check our oil among other things. We enjoyed spending time with our linking Venturer Units by doing bowling nights, Teach a Skill night and many more fun activities.



Despite a fantastic year and the best efforts of all involved, we have unfortunately had to make the difficult decision to place Brush Park Rovers into recess. We are happy to say that our two new Rovers will be continuing on in the Section and are looking forward to experiencing Rovers in a larger Unit. We hope the Unit will be able to come out of recess and restart next year when a larger group of Venturers move up into Rovers. In the meantime, and when the time comes, we will assist them in any way we can and wish the new Brush Park Rovers all the best!

Epping Rovers  
**Unit Leader – Caelan Irragang**

While it was great to have a year finally free of lockdowns, 2022 was still a very challenging year for Epping Rovers. We started the year having lost many of our members due to people moving away and some just moving on from Rovers. Despite this, we still managed to run two big events in the past year, these being our Centenary in April, and Roventure, recently in February. Running these events has been somewhat of a strain on the Unit, however at the same time, has helped us connect more and taught us valuable skills.



Activity highlights throughout the past year include, ice blocking, escape rooms, our (award winning) wine and cheese joint night, our gingerbread house fundraiser, wide games night with Epping Ventures and running Aerial Soccer for Beecroft/Pennant Hills Venturers. We also finally got to run our “Big Red Car Crash” activity at Dragon Skin. It was great to finally be able to go to Moots again, with at least one member of Epping attending almost every single Moot in NSW in the past year, including eight at GWS’s Boot Scootin’ Moot. Five of us were also lucky another to travel to Tasmania for Apple Isle Moot where we enjoyed a range of activities from hiking to 4WDing to swimming at beaches.



On the 30<sup>th</sup> of April, we celebrated turning 100 years old with our Centenary. Guest were able to look through hundreds of pieces of memorabilia before hearing speeches from several past members and other guests. It was a fantastic opportunity for our younger members to hear about the history of the unit and things we’ve done in the past that we can aspire towards doing again in the future. I’d like to give a massive thankyou to Wun Zee as the main organiser for this event who had been putting in countless hours ever since I joined the Unit in preparation.

In October/November, we farewelled a few longstanding members of the Unit, Lauren, Izzy and Tymon. I’d like to thank all of these people for their commitment to the Unit for the past 8 years, and especially Tymon for being Unit Leader for more than his fair share of terms. Tymon’s booting in November saw about 40 people of many different ages and units gathering at Cathedral of Ferns, Mt Wilson to celebrate his time in Roving.

From 24-26 February we ran Lord of the Rings themed Sydney North Roventure 2023, marking the return of the event as a camp, rather than a day activity. The event saw around 100 Rovers and Venturers gather at Camp Coutts for a weekend of activities such as archery, an escape room, swimming and a cardboard weapons battle. There was also plenty of chill-out time for Rovers and Venturers to hang out and get to know each other more, as well as the Saturday night party with DJs



Aidan and Jasper from Forest Rovers as well as our very own DJ Carmon. Roventure was a somewhat stressful event to organise due to our lack of experience running major events and not finding a Unit to joint-run the event like we hoped. It nevertheless came together in what turned out to be a fantastic event which was enjoyed by everyone I asked. I'd like to thank the whole Unit for putting the event on, in particular Wun for stepping in when I was having difficulties, ex-Rovers Tymon and Lauren, who helped out on the weekend, and Venturer Units, Easts Ryde, Boronia and Pennant hills, who did a fantastic job running/helping with activities. Best of luck to whichever Unit(s) run Roventure 2024!

Moving into 2023, we've had a major uptick in new member joining the Unit, with many more in the process of joining. This is very good given we've lost about 9 members in the past year and a bit for various reasons. We also recently invested our new Rover Adviser, Jason, into the Unit. The future is looking very bright and we are looking forward to being able to work on the Unit while enjoying Rovering without having any big events to organise.

I truly can't wait for the year to come.

Caelan



Forest Rovers

**Unit Leader – Emily Marsden**

Over the course of 2022 everyone at Forest agreed that our #1 goal was to make up for some lost time and get the most out of Scouting! We found ourselves attending countless events, joint nights with Venturers and other Crews, and fundraising/service activities over the course of the year, and from the get-go Forest found our weekends packed full of adventures.

Starting strong, we attended Dragon Skin where we had crew members on VOC 2's admin, comms, and sites and services teams as well as manning an activity base "Better Homes and Forests" which won the Pump Up the Jam VOC 2 award.

After just a few weeks, we jumped straight back into the Forests and attended ScoutHike 2022 – we yet again had our members split across both Sleep Point 6's admin team and activities. We are very proud of Ash Williams and Kacie Turner for stepping up into the Sleep Point Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator roles for ScoutHike 2022, these girls put their all into the event and ran Sleep Point 6 fantastically!

Unlike 2020-2021, this year we got to see a full Moot season and throughout the year we made it to quite a selection of NSW ran events – including: Noot Noot Summer Moot, Boot Scootin' Moot, Home Improvemoot, MMT, Harbour Cruise, Bush Dance, Mooters of the Caribbean, Mootcation and Dwayne 'The Moot' Johnson... we even won that last one, so look out for Summer Moot 2023!

Of course, we can't talk about moots without a mention to Apple Isle Moot – which all but two of our members attended! Seizing the opportunity, we headed down to Tassie on the boat to add on our own crew adventure to the end of the moot! While we were at national moot our crew got to explore Tassies greatest 4WD tracks, waterfall hikes, canyons, mountain bike trails, food & wine regions and much more!

National Moot was not the only time we headed interstate for an event with many of us eager to start off moot season early we headed to ACT Spy Moot early May, had an eventful June long weekend at Mudbash, enjoyed a weekend at Melbourne Annual Region Ball aka MARB and spent a sunny January weekend in Anglesea for Surf Moot!

In between all our busy weekends we made sure to keep ourselves busy during our regular meetings too! We learnt new skills from cross-stitching to hydro-dipping, expanded our knowledge of local organisations like the RFS and Beyond Blue and got involved with service activities along the way; ANZAC Day, building animal shelters around our hall, work at Ingleside Scout Camp and participating in the Rover Plasma Challenge to name a few.

This year Forest's Claus for a Claus had a fresh new look, with a new venue jumping into our line-up. We had yet another successful event, both a great end of year celebration and an amazing \$1400 raised for Bear Cottage. I would like to thank Jasper Van Elst, Zhaden Flynn and Ash Williams for all the hard work you put into making the event come to life, I can't wait to see what we can do this year (save the date -1<sup>st</sup> Friday of December!).

Finally, our crew was thrilled to be presented with a Quality Rovering Award and have Aaron Kew receive a Rover Recognition Award. As one of our hardest working Rovers, we are all very proud to see Aaron receive this award and very appreciative for the Crews nomination! Here's to another great year at Forest, I can't wait to see what we get up to in 2023!



2022-2023 was overall a good year for 2nd Gordon Rover Crew. We maintained a strong number of members, completed several service activities, linked with our feeder Units, had a great weeknight program and enjoyed many weekends of canyoning, abseiling and whitewater kayaking.

We started the year in a strong position after a large influx of members at the end of 2021. A highly active summer with lots of fun weeknight activities and canyoning trips meant that the Crew as a whole was highly engaged. Our epic summer culminated in an Easter whitewater kayaking trip at Barrington, attended by 17 crew members! This trip was undoubtedly the highlight of the year; the first two days were spent kayaking the somewhat-beginner-friendly Barrington River and the third day consisted of hiking around Gloucester Tops and tackling Gloucester Falls canyon for those more canyoning-inclined crew members. Evenings were spent enjoying some delicious meals, swimming in the waterhole near the campsite and chatting around the fire.



The 2022 canyoning season also finished with a bang – with Crew members enjoying a run down photogenic Whungee Wheengee canyon, as well as being one of the first groups to descend Box Creek canyon in Kanangra. Congratulations are also in order for Crew member Milly Raffle, who achieved her abseiling and canyoning guide qualifications after working towards them over the summer season.

In terms of inter-Crew relations, Gordon organised a weekend Crew camp with Hawkesbury Rovers in May where it was great to meet some new faces. We also enjoyed hanging out with Platabeen Rovers at Sydney North's Noot Noot Summer Moot.

Gordon Rovers certainly did not slow down during the winter season; while Crew member Charlotte went canyoning in Europe as part of her Balthasar Award, other Roversovers spent a weekend learning how to cross-country ski in the NSW Snowy Mountains. In August, lots of Crew members rugged up for a windy abseiling trip down Boars Head in the Blue Mountains, in which Jamie picked up abseiling faster than anyone I've ever seen! We even went back down to the snow at the beginning of September for a weekend of mountaineering at Blue Lake. Not only did we manage to do some ice climbing, Crew members were also trained in self-arresting using an ice axe and crevasse rescue.







In September, some of our Rovers joined the Gordon Venturers on an overnight hike to Wollangambe Crater, an activity that everyone thoroughly enjoyed. We also had a great time running weekday nights for our linked venturer units and are keen to do more activities with them this year.

Several crew members enjoyed a chilly start to the canyoning season, tackling three Blue Mountains canyons; North Bowens Lower, Butterbox and Arethusa, at the end of September. It has been great to see several crew members working towards their canyoning qualifications over the summer, with regular attendance at Region rockcraft training courses as well as many Gordon Rovers assisting on Region canyoning and abseiling courses.

For fundraising we ran a Bunnings BBQ in April, but are certainly keen to increase our fundraising efforts this year.

Gordon Rovers also completed a number of service activities throughout the year. We assisted the Region by painting the new deck at Middle Harbour Scout Hall and participated in the Region Rover Service Project at Ingleside which consisted of pulling a large number of stumps out the ground. Several Crew members helped in a region-wide bush regeneration effort at Barra Brui Hall, and we also set up aerial soccer at the Gordon Hall which was then used by all sections for their weekly activity night. The Rovers even had a fun but chaotic time assisting the Joey and Cub leaders run the activity for their sections.



Our most enjoyable weekday night activities this year have been indoor rock climbing, chilling at the beach, Radical Reels at the Orpheum and learning how to roll a kayak.

Overall, Gordon Rovers have had a great year full of exciting adventurous activities and fun Crew camps, arguably the two most important things for our current Crew members. But there are certainly ways to improve for next year, and I look forward to seeing what we achieve next. Here's to another awesome year in 2023!

This year Kananga started things off slow again with a couple online nights, before returning to in person meetings with a pool pizza party, a joint beach night and a Kai night (MasterChef). During this time, we would also attend Roventure: Monopoly and while we wouldn't win, we'd certainly have a great time, buying all the properties.



In March, we held our AGM once again, this time filling the role of Public Relations, and throughout the year, our PR man, Max, would continue to grow our online presence. Nathan would once again take on the Unit Leader position with Lily taking on the Assistant Unit Leader position, intending on becoming our next Unit Leader.



In April we'd see the return of Dragon Skin and ScoutHike since the pandemic, which Kananga attended both of. We'd pull out all the stops to create a successful base for Dragon Skin using all our gazebos, we had worked hard to purchase and assisting to run the bases on ScoutHike.

In May we'd attend Sydney North's Noot Noot Summer Moot, coming in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the in-



Region section. We'd also have some fun playing life-sized football and going abseiling.



Throughout the next couple of months, we wouldn't have any camps, just a full program, including Pasta Art, Bowling and Axe Throwing. That is until we had Elyse's booting in mid-July. For most of Kananga this would be their first booting ceremony they will have attended.

We'd then have two new Rovers join off the street, and just in time to attend Boot Scootin' Moot, with another member who had missed out on Noot Noot, making this their first moot too. During Boot Scootin' all of them would end up going for a chilling swim in the Hawkesbury River.



Kananga would continue to meet weekly having some more creative and fun nights, including Gnome Painting and a Giant Food Scavenger Hunt, bringing us to October, where we'd say goodbye to Will on his 26<sup>th</sup> birthday with a karaoke night in the city.

We would finish the year off right, with a Crew Camp that had been postponed too many times finally happening, inviting all the current and ex Kananga Rovers, also getting to try out our Bell Tent for the first time since the latest lot of Rovers came up from Venturers.

We'd also attend CRAP dinner, Claus for a Cause and finish the year off by completing our month of service, mowing Barra Brui.



Overall, a very successful year and a lively last night in Rovers for Will. In the new year, we aim to link some more of the older Venturers into our Unit and continue to grow. We also plan to look joining the community and starting some fundraising. Good luck everyone in 2023, Kananga are definitely looking forward to it.





Kissing Point Rovers  
**Unit Leader – Robert Sewell**

2022-23 saw Kissing Point give everything they had into the Crew and Rovering, with this year being the first full year back in Rovers with no lockdowns or online meetings the Crew jumped into everything the Rover section had to offer.

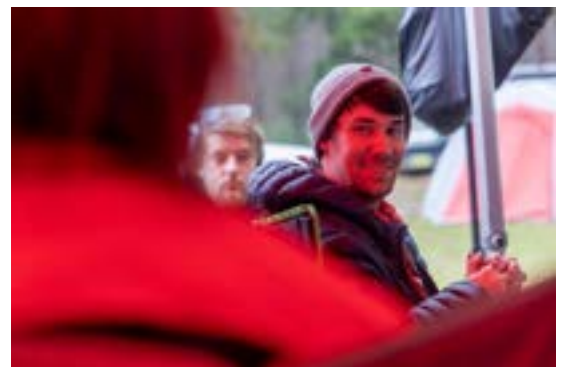
We got up to countless shenanigans over the year whether we were learning something with our forbidden science nights, building something with the younger sections of Scouting in construction nights, destroying something in deconstruction night or doing something active whether at the climbing walls, go-cart track or roller rink, Kisso always remembers to have fun at all times. We also made the most out of every event that came our way with the ever-legendary events of MMT, Harbour Cruise, and many, many Moots all having at least one of our members there to enjoy. We even sent Rovers interstate to Apple Isle Moot to see... well, Apple Isle (also known as Tasmania).



Speaking of Moots, Kisso, alongside our sister Crew up the road, Turramurra, combined our powers and created and ran SNR's Summer Moot 2023, also known as "Dwayne 'The Moot' Johnson". A journey that began after Noot Noot Moot the previous year, and everyone was put to the task of creating the best Moot possible. A goal that we believe we smashed out of the park.

With all the fun and games that Rovering offers, we can't forget our history to service. Over the last year, Kisso visited blood donation centres continuously giving SNR a good push into the leader boards of the Rover Blood Drive and ultimately, saving lives.

In the numbers department, Kisso is proud to say our numbers have gone up by at least 50% in the last 12 months welcoming 5 new members into our fold with many more to follow. We also sadly said goodbye to good friend and valued member of the Crew, Lachlan Painter with his booting back in August of 2022. It was a lovely weekend with many a friend and family member joining in the festivities, telling of stories and celebrating the 8 years Lachlan has given to his Rover career. We wish him all the best for his future and hope to see him around in the years to come.



As 2023 gets on and the Rover year restarts, I hope we can look back to everything we as a Crew have achieved over the last 12 months. I am immensely proud of each and every one of you. I look forward to what the future brings for Kisso, its members, and also Sydney North Region and Rovers as a whole. May each and every one of you aim for the moon in your ambitions and know that even if you don't quite make it you will end up among the stars.

That's all from me, here's to Rovers and remember...

Life is always better with a bit of tongue

Rob Sewell signing off.





We began the year with another great Crew camp at Jervis Bay over the Australia Day long weekend. We enjoyed dolphin watching, pub dinners, the carnival and spending time on the beach.

We finally had an entire year without any lockdowns, this meant we were able to get back to our normal Scouting activities. This year we enjoyed paintballing, murder mysteries, painting, ninja warrior, and many other amazing nights!

Throughout the year, we have welcomed Dan, coming from Normo Rovers. We were also able to invest our newbies from last year and make them official members of our Crew! However, we have lost a few Crew members in Sabrina, Griffin, Claire and Gemma. We also said goodbye to Jeremy, although we are looking forward to seeing him on his return from his European adventure.



We managed to fit some service into our program this year, participating the Region Service Project, as well as helping with the City2Surf, IronMan triathlon and the Bobbo. We also marched in the ANZAC Dawn Service. We raised some money for our Crew by organising catering for the Region Girl Guide camp.

One of the big passions within the Crew is Hornsby Gang Show. Some of our Crew members are involved in some aspect of the show – that being as cast members

performing on stage, being part of the production team or multiple areas in the backstage department. Through Gang Show, we are able interact and build relations with other sections of the Scouting Movement, teach the youth members in many aspects of stagecraft and technical behind the scenes skills. We were very excited to see 2022's show 'In Technicolour' back after two years without a full season!



Dragon Skin was back, and this year MCMK ran 'I'm a Vennie Get Me Out Of Here', where the Venturers used their acting skills to navigate a variety of challenges throughout the base.

We went on our first Snow Camp, organised by Georgia. We had a great time in Perisher, and it was some of our Crew's first time seeing snow! We had a great week and all upped our skills. We also had a weekend camp at Glenrock Scout Camp. Despite the rainy weather, we enjoyed a swim and some mini golf!

We loved being able to participate in some events run by the other Crews in our Region this year. Normo's MMT, Turrumurra's Harbour Cruise, Normo and Yaralla's Winter Summer Moot and Forest's Claus for a Cause, where we won best dressed group for the third year. We also had a great day at the Kalang Kup, where we took home the win, and the huge cup!

We have been maintaining our relationships with other Crews and sections, we invited Kissing Point to Axe Throwing, we joined MCMK Vennies for a bowling night, and we ran a 'Survivor' night for Berowra Vennies.

We have had a great year of Rovering and can't wait to see what next year throws at us!



Normanhurst Rovers  
**Unit Leader – Billie Moran**

In our first year uninterrupted by covid, Normo lived up to the now gone (but not forgotten) Rover motto of Rovers Do Stuff! In 2022-23, we threw ourselves into every area of the program and many, many great new memories were made!

After AGM we threw ourselves straight into final prep for Noot Noot Summer Moot with Yaralla. La Nina unfortunately had other ideas but after pushing the date back and a venue change, we pulled off a great event attended by Rovers from across NSW. Campers found penguins, crossed crevasses, and dodged (real life) thunderstorms! In amongst this prep, we



also organised our LIGHTS, CAMERA KATH AND KIM EXPERIENCE base at Dragonskin, with Venturers tasked with acting out iconic scenes from the show or making up their own. Many laughs were had, and it was great to see the return of skin. 2022 also saw the return of the MIGHTY Magical Mystery Tour, this year with a Heist theme. More than a hundred Rovers donned their thinking caps and balaclavas to steal bitcoin, cars, and gold bullion after following cryptic clues, culminating in a night of festivities at the Royal Capertee Hotel. Many thanks to everyone from the Region who



attended these massive events - we couldn't do it without your support and hope you had as much fun attending as we did running them.

We also did lots of great Wednesday nights, including netball practice, Halloween party, a metrogain, Wii Party, Boulderling, inter section and Region animal night, getting lost, Vivid, boot camp and many more. We also participated in lots of great camps and moots, including the annual Hottest 100 beach camp, winter camp at Random, Boot Scootin Moot and Dwayne "The Moot" Johnson. We also found time to do fundraising and uphold our commitment to service.



This year Normanhurst booted Donna and Cam, both of whom are keenly missed. We thank them for their tireless contributions to the Unit in their 8 years (!!!) as a Normo Rover. We also welcomed many new faces-lots of whom from the Asquith Venturers who we are mentoring to become their own Rover Unit over the coming year, very exciting!

Onwards into 2023 and beyond!





Platabeen Rovers  
**Unit Leader – Josie Butler**

Another great year in the bag for the Platabeen Rover Crew, and it was a big one! Not long after AGM, it was time for the first Dragon Skin since 2019, it was great to see everyone back in the forest and having a blast. Our base, 'Carried at First Sight' was finally able to be brought to life, and even managed to snag us the best base on VOC2 award! When not ensuring the arrival of the bride at their wedding ceremony, we got to have a great boogie on the dance floor to our own DJ Lib! Following up from Skin, we had ScoutHike only two weekends later. The Unit ran a Harry Potter themed base with the help of Collaroy Venturers, a fantastic opportunity for us to bond with our feeder Unit.



On ANZAC Day, Platabeen was privileged enough to spend the morning helping at the RSL ANZAC Village Dawn Service, it was great to be able to get back out into the community for this event. SNR Noot Noot Summer Winter Moot took place soon after. It was a super fun event spent hanging out with the Region. Over the June long weekend, the Crew drove down to Victoria for Mudbash. A great time was had watching the rallies during the day and dancing the night away! Another winter adventure was our Crew ski camp at Jindabyne and Perisher. A long weekend was spent

shredding the slopes of Perisher on skis and snowboards, Crew members learning to ski or brushing up on their skills. We also had some booted Rovers and myself head down to Bogong Rover Chalet for a Ski Week on the high plains with ex-Rovers from all over the country!

2022 saw Platabeen kick off their first annual trivia night. The event was 'Christmas in July' themed and we had a blast with a huge bunch of supporters down at Manly Surf Life Saving Club. We are looking forward to running the event again this year after the success of last year. The winter months kept coming with activities, and in August we had two Crew members competing in the Oxfam Trailwalker and a number of our members volunteering at the event into the cold night.

As more Region's events started kicking off again, the Crew headed to MMT and Harbour Cruise, where we had a blast in our banana suits and even won the best dressed Crew award! Our very own Amelia organised a fabulous day out on the netball courts. Our team of Platabeen members, old and new, made it to the grand final and put up a good fight to MCMK. We paired with Forest and Kisso to build a ramp at Ingleside Scout Camp for the Region Service Project. The Crews smashed out the construction and the path was looking amazing by the end of the weekend.



As the warmer months were starting up, we made our way out to Pittwater for an action-packed boating weekend. Lots of swimming, donutting and fun was had with the beautiful weather ensuring a fabulous weekend was had. To celebrate the year in Roving, we headed to the CRAP Region dinner and ROSCARS. It was great to see Amelia take home the Rover of the Year award AND the best activity award for running Kalang Kup! As 2022 drew to a close, we celebrated with our Annual Crew Christmas Party. This year we headed down to barefoot bowls for some friendly competition on the greens before some Secret Santa to bid the year farewell.

Just as the Christmas festivities were coming to an end, seven of our members headed down to Tassie for Apple Isle Moot! Ringing in the new year in style on the first night of the Moot, followed by a week of adventuring. Our expeditions saw Platabeen undertake a wide range of activities, including, canyoning, caving, mountain biking, 4WDing, rafting, jet boating, and much more, whilst also creating new friendships with Rovers from all over Australia. After an action-packed week at site, the Crew headed off on a week long road trip down the east coast of Tasmania. We were lucky enough to camp at some of the most beautiful camping spots, swim in crystal clear water, climb some mountains, and just explore all that Tassie has to offer.





Turramurra Rovers  
**Unit Leader – Sam Pitman**

2022 has been a year of many challenges for the Rover Unit. Big events are back on, our Dragon Skin base was a success, finally, we ran a joint Rover-Venturer trip, Harbour Cruise returned, and we ran a moot for the first time since 2018. These events would not be possible without the support of the Unit.

However, instead of simply listing these events we ran, or participated in, I would like to talk about the people that made them happen. First of all, without the outstanding effort put in by Ryan, the Dragon Skin base would not have been possible. The Venturer trip involved bouldering, abseiling and more at Mermaid pools, without Harry Day, abseiling especially would not be possible. Without the Rovers that showed up in support, the venturers would not have had this experience. I'd like to think it's a start towards the old Venturer trips returning.



Harbour Cruise was run by Ashley (now at Kissing Point), though a special mention goes to Mia and many others for the support provided throughout that event. I doubt it would have gone as well as it did without the additional help. Finally, Dwayne 'The Moot' Johnson was a raging success, where organisational and communicational lessons were learnt. The result of Dwayne 'The Moot' Johnson had emails arriving throughout the following week congratulating the Moot Team (and especially Moot Chiefs) on their incredible action despite the issues faced. I'd like to thank Kissing Point for dual running the Moot, Rob (Kissing Point) and Mia for their devotion to the Moot as a whole and the whole Moot Team.

2022 was the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Turramurra Rovers, the unit ran an event bringing old members together for an afternoon tea. This event culminated in the cutting of a cake between the oldest, and the newest member of the Crew. This event was a great success, and we all enjoyed the discussions with old members on the journeys they had during their time in Rovers.



Service throughout the year has been strong, with events such as the Bobbo Cycle Classic, ANZAC day, the Region Service Project, and others taking up the calendar. This year we had no bootings however several members moved on. We wish the best to Ashleigh, Ashley, Gabe, Monia, Callum and Grace. Some new members joined with Annabelle Ferguson being invested (finally!), as well as Patrick Kaesmrun. I'd also like to thank the RAs, Anna and Ian, for their help throughout the year, and to wish the Unit the best for the 2023-2024 year. This year has shown that despite our differences, Turramurra, as always, is a strong group of individuals, with different skills that build upon each other.

Yaralla Rovers  
**Unit Leader – Erika Otoro**

It has been a busy year for Yaralla Rovers.

Yaralla have attended a variety of events including Dragon Skin, Bush Dance, Boot Scooting Moot, Home Improvemoot, Mootcation, Claus for a Cause, Kalang Kup and many more.

We have also done a variety of interunit nights including an Escape Room with Brush Park, Tymon's Birthday Night at Epping and more. As well as spend time with our Vennies including cooking and fishing nights.

We unfortunately had one member leave last year due to moving down south and unable to commit to attend Rovers anymore.

Erika, Sarah and Wendy (our RA) also took part in the Rover Plasma Challenge and donated plasma several times throughout.

A big congratulations to Sarah for getting a Rover Recognition Award. We also booted Sarah and we are very grateful for all the time and effort she has put into Yaralla Rovers!

Yaralla also won the Most Outstanding Unit award at the ROSCARS! Thank you for the nomination!

We have also had a new Venturer come up and hopefully new member will be joining us, before Dragon Skin 2023!

We are looking forward to upcoming year of Rovering.















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