

# Sydney North Region Annual Report 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024







#### **Vision**

Through fun and friendship, Scouts NSW will inspire and create resilient young people and adults, by developing skills for life and contributing to our community.



#### **Mission**

Scouting develops and empowers youth by gaining life skills and a value system, based on the Scout Promise and Law, building a better world and playing a constructive role in society.

## President's Note

It is my pleasant duty to commend to you this Annual Report of Scouting in the Sydney North Region of Scouts Australia for the year ending 31 March 2024. The report presents a brief snapshot of the wide range of activities enjoyed by the young people in our Joey Units, Cub Units, Scout Units, Venturer Units and Rover Units over the past year. A fundamental feature of Scouting for all age-groups has always been, and continues to be, "learning by doing", particularly through adventurous outdoor activities, and this provides amazing opportunities for our members to develop the interests and skills which will help them become the next generation of our community's leaders.

While there is no doubt that for our members and their families the most important people in Scouting are the Leaders in their local Groups, our Annual Report provides an opportunity to recognize and thank the Leaders and supporters "behind the scenes" at District and Region levels who do so much to support the Groups and the specialist activities which our young members enjoy.

I would particularly like to thank

- · Region Commissioner Kerry Griffin and his team of Region and District Commissioners, whose main focus is on helping our Groups to most effectively and efficiently provide the Scout programs to our young members
- The Region Activity Teams which are the key to enabling our members to safely enjoy activities including abseiling, rock climbing, canyoning, bushwalking, first aid, snow sports, water sports, flying fox, JOTA/JOTI, and environment
- · Region Chairman Phil Cooper, Treasurer Doug Menzies and the Region Executive Committee members, who continue to ensure that the Region's finances and property issues are well-managed
- · Donna and Belinda in the Region office, who not only provide administrative support to Leaders, Commissioners and layside supporters throughout the Region, but are also our indispensable interface with the administrative team at State Headquarters.

I strongly encourage you to read the report cover-to-cover – I'm sure you will find it time well spent.

Dr Neil Mattes OAM Region President



2023 has been a year of re-acquainting members with many of the outdoor activities that had been cancelled or restricted during the COVID period. Despite this the Region has still suffered a small decrease in the number of youth and Leaders. It is particularly concerning that the largest decrease has been in the number of Leaders. Without Leaders if is not possible to successfully run a Group, let alone grow one.

I take the opportunity to thank our administration staff. The administration of Sydney North Region is an enormous task, and we were well assisted by Donna Staff and Belinda Hose.

I would also like to thank the Region Commissioner Kerry Griffin, ably assisted by Deputy Region Commissioners Charles Turner and Quentin Amos; later Dean Bassett. The Region Executive has also been well assisted by the Regional Treasurer Doug Menzies, whose knowledge and experience are indispensable. The Executive is very appreciative of the experience of our long-standing Region President Neil Mattes. The Committee also comprises DC's Steve Tuffs, Philip Donald and Robert Rodgers, RC Scouts Mitchell Rath and Rovers Chairperson Kacie Turner; later Aaron Kew.

The major matters of operation for the Committee have been the organisation and maintenance of Region property. In order to assist the State organisation finances, several properties no longer used for Scouting purposes have been handed to the Branch. In addition, much effort and attention has been devoted to the operation, maintenance and future of the Ingleside Scout Camp. After considerable effort by Randall Jones the Exec Committee reluctantly concluded that the cost to renovate this facility was well beyond its ability to generate a viable return. This camp has been returned to the State Branch.

Lastly and most importantly, I would like to thank all the Leaders in the Sydney North Region for their continuing service to youth of our Region. Without this dedicated group of Leaders, we would not have a successful Scouting Movement and we are greatly appreciative of their efforts.

Philip Cooper OAM Region Chairman

## Region Commissioner's Report

It is with pleasure that I present to the community, Scouting Friends and Supporters, the Sydney North Region's Annual Report of events of the past year.

It was good to see District and Region events taking place.

Major events such as ScoutHike and the Region Cub camp were well attended.

The changes in the appointments to the Regional Team since our last yearly report have been with the retirement of Quentin Amos, Dean Bassett was appointed Deputy Regional Commissioner, Elyse Versace to Regional Commissioner Rovers and Nick Buchner to Deputy Regional Commissioner Rovers Jim Baldwin to Regional Commissioner Joeys.

One of the ideals of the Scout Movement is to develop Leadership in our youth members. In providing Scouting to our youth, all our experienced Leaders can and do perform a most valuable role by encouraging new younger Leaders to take up the Leadership challenge and help develop the youth of future years. The Mentoring role of our more experienced Leaders is a critical role in the renewal process of our Leaders and therefore, the future of our Region.

I must also thank the support and positive encouragement given by our various local Members and Mayors. We look forward to an even closer association between Scouting and our community, often represented by our local Members and Mayors and the events organised by them. A Scouting presence at various events hosted by our Mayors helps to put Scouting back into the minds of our community.

To all the hard working members of the Region Team, many thanks for your continued support and efforts during the year. The many District and Region events held over the year demonstrates your devotion to Scouting.

To the Region Office Team, Donna and Belinda thank you for your support. Without your help and advice, much of our results would not have been achieved.

To our President, Neil Mattes, my Deputies Charles Turner and Dean Bassett, the Treasurer Doug Menzies, the Chairman Philip Cooper and the Region Executive thank you for your guidance and continued support throughout the year.

My final thanks must go to all those uniformed and non-uniformed Supporters in the Groups who give freely of their time, knowledge and enthusiasm. Without these dedicated, hardworking people, the excellent Scouting provided to the youth of our Region would not be possible.

Kerry Griffin Region Commissioner

### Benowie District Report

The Scouting year 2023/2024 was a largely positive one for Benowie District.

At the start, I thank all of the dedicated volunteers, leaders, parent helpers, Rovers and Venturers who put in their own time to make Scouting in such an enjoyable experience for all our youth members and who find joy in the friendships they develop working alongside one another at various events from sausage sizzles and working bees and Group camps up through District campfires and camps to larger events such as ScoutHike, Dragon Skin and Cuboree. I am particularly grateful for those who put in so much extra time assisting run District Events: in the Joey Scout section Lindy Muir (Joey Scouts); in the Scout section Mary Page (who recently retired ) and Michelle Dalmaris; and Cassie Donald, the Region Cub Scout Commissioner who has been instrumental in organising out Cub Scout section.

Thanks to the Lunar cycle, there were 2 Easters this Scout year (7 to 10 April 2023 and 29 March to 1 April 2024). While we had successful District Scout camps at Crosslands Reserve on each of those weekends, the premier event on that weekend is Dragon Skin, won on both occasions by 2nd/3rd Pennant Hills! Congratulations to Scott Romanis and his fellow high achievers. It was also very pleasing to see participation from Benowie Venturers increased from 3 teams in 2023 to 7 in 2024.

As usual, Benowie District strongly supported ScoutHike 2023, with "The Greatest Showman" Activity base run by Hornsby Heights Yarama, Cherrybrook and East Wahroonga taking out the Silver Award.





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A week later, 2nd/3rd Pennant Hills was in the news again, celebrating 100 years of Scouting. It was a great evening, bringing together many former leaders and others from the community.

The highlight for the Cub Scout section was Cuboree, held from 29 September to 3 October 2023, providing a fantastic program for those youth and leaders who attended.

Later in the year, Normanhurst celebrated its (slightly delayed) 90th anniversary, with that group continuing to go from strength to strength.

Most of our Groups continued to get out and about enjoying camping, hiking and other activities, and while East Wahroonga has successfully recommenced a Cub Unit, unfortunately, due to leader transfers and retirements, 1st Waitara has, for the moment gone into recess, although planning is underway to restart the Group in the near future.

Finally, I wish to thank Donna Staff and Belinda Hose in the Region Office, as well as the other leaders and Commissioners in the Region who have been so helpful and supportive during the year.

#### Robert Rodgers District Commissioner Benowie



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## Garigal District Report

It gives me great pleasure to present the 2023 Garigal District Report.

The 2023 Calendar year saw us all enjoy Scouting in and out of the hall.

Over the 12 months, I saw units of all sizes, out and about, enjoying everything Scouting has to offer.

The number of activities available to our members outside the hall is endless. I've heard the stories about our youth members and Adults bushwalking, abseiling, caving, sailing, flying, 4 wheel driving, climbing, canoeing, skiing, surfing, cycling, shooting, on the flying fox, camping and more.

Inside the hall - there's so much to do - rope work, cooking, concerts, badgework, patrol based games, concerts and craft.

Congratulations to the Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers who achieved their PEAK awards. BRAVOOO to the Leaders who received awards and thank you to the Leaders that celebrated milestones of service.

Thank you to all the Leaders, Adult Helpers, Parents, Carers, Helpers and Supporters who have made Scouting a success. Each of you play a part in continuing to ensure Scouting is FUN and challenging.

To the Pouch, District and Zone Leaders - Jim, Lynne and Dave - thanks for your support.

A HUGE thanks to Donna and Belinda at the Regional Office for answering my questions, providing advice and making sure stuff gets done (you may see me more often soon).

Personal highlights were attending the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea and battling extreme heat, monsoons and a typhoon. Also in charge of food distribution for 3,000 people at the NSW Cuboree was a lot of fun......

One thing in particular is that we all need to work harder in attracting youth members and Adults to the movement.

We need to continue to grow Scouting and promote it to the community as one of the largest and most successful youth organisations in the world.

An invitation to a friend to join us in the hall or come along to an activity could be the first step for someone who needs the fun and adventure that awaits. Along the way, they may just find that a new life begins.

In closing, I hope you'll continue to have fun and enjoy Scouting to the fullest.

#### Tom Miles

#### **District Commissioner Garigal**

## Ku-ring-gai District Report

This past year was full of great activities for the youth. Although still feeling the ongoing impact of the covid pandemic with respect to youth numbers and adult volunteering, the District held many activities that were enthusiastically embraced by the youth and leaders.

The delight that the youth approached their activities, meetings and events was palpable and their enthusiasm infectious. Events such as Cuboree, ScoutHike, Dragon Skin, Roventure, Sirius Cup and District camps were well attended by the District and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

These activities always help youth attain their badges and awards and it was a pleasure to see many attain their peak awards across all sections. Congratulations to all the Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers who attained their Peak awards during the year. These are wonderful achievements and will be remembered throughout their lives.

Unfortunately, numbers continue to be impacted. In some areas, numbers have been maintained but in other areas numbers have been reduced. This applies to youth members, leaders and adult helpers. The District is committed to reinvigorating the Programs and is actively searching out new youth and adult members. Groups are engaging parents through family camps, family fun days and other activities.

The Kui-ring-gai Scouts continue to run the ANZAC day Memorial Services at Bicentennial Park, West Pymble; The Rotunda, Wahroonga Park; and at Turramurra Memorial Park. These services are always very well attended with the Bicentennial Park service attracting more than 500 members of the public. The West Pymble and 1st Turramurra Scouts Groups do a wonderful job supporting the Veterans and proudly representing Scouts NSW.

On behalf of the District, I would like to thank the youth members for their enthusiasm in participating in the various activities offered. And to the Leaders for their unwavering support and dedication to the youth. And to the Support Committees who continue their work supporting their Groups to deliver for the youth members.

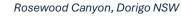
A special thank you to the SNR Adventurous Activities Team, led by Wes Leverton and his highly qualified team. They offer many opportunities for our youth members, and some very enthusiastic leaders, to go abseiling, canyoning, caving, rock climbing, skiing and various water sports to name a few. Their expertise and unwavering support is really appreciated.

A sincere thank you to the Sydney North Region Commissioners, leaders and support staff, with special thanks, as always, to Donna Staff and Belinda Hose at the Region Office for their wonderful support! Scouting in the Ku-Ring-Gai District is in a strong and vibrant position moving into 2024.

#### Geoff Vaughan District Commissioner Ku-Ring-Gai



Nymboida River



Sea Cave, Wallarah National Park



I will start the Lower North Shore (LNS) report by acknowledging the contribution of our wonderful volunteer Leaders who have contributed so much to the fun, achievements and development opportunities enjoyed by our youth members over the past year. Across the District our Group Support Committees and Adult Helpers also made significant contributions to the success of their respective Group.

On behalf of the Region, all LNS youth members, and personally, I thank each one of our Leaders, Committee members and Adult Helpers for your efforts in our Groups - 1st Balmoral, Cammeray, 1st Clifton Gardens, Greenwich, 1st Mosman, 3rd Mosman Bay, 1st North Sydney, 1st Northbridge, 1st Sailors Bay, 1st Willoughby and 2nd Willoughby. Without your valued contributions Scouting would not be available for our youth members.

In addition to their regular weekly Group meetings many LNS members have enthusiastically participated in activities including youth Leadership Courses, Sailing, Canoeing, Sailboarding, Bush walking, Anzac Day Ceremonies, Group and section camps, Flying, Ski Trips, Abseiling, Caving, Cub District camps, Scout District camps plus Region, State and National activities. Some of the larger events LNS members have attended in the last year include the 25th World Scout Jamboree in South Korea, Sirius Cup, Dragon Skin, Roventure, ScoutHike, State Rally, The Governor Generals Camp held in the grounds of the Governor Generals residence, Canberra.

We all were pleased to see Cuboree returned to the Scout calendar with a change of date from January to September 27th to October 3rd after bush fires cancelled the last Cuboree and Covid delayed resuming this long standing popular event. LNS members from various Groups attended and enjoyed Cuboree 2023.

Congratulations to 1st Northbridge on their Centenary in 2023. Many Leaders from LNS help make ScoutHike 2024 a success running bases or working on the Sleep Point 2. 1st Northbridge and 1st North Sydney worked together to run base 22 and came second when the base marking was tallied.

We are looking forward to the Australian Jamboree (AJ2025) next January in Maryborough Qld and Groups are engaged in upskilling Scouts and ensuring the newer Scout section members have sufficient camping experience to easily handle the length of the event (Jan 5th – Jan 15th).

I look forward to continuing working with the LNS team in the coming year.

Steve Tufts
District Commissioner Lower North Shore

## Moocooboolah District Report

Joey numbers in Moocooboolah have increased a little this year, six active units, Beecroft, Epping, East Ryde, North Ryde, Meadowbank and Roselea.

Cub numbers stable, with thanks to Stephen Rooke still doubling up as DCSL and ACSL at Eastwood Marsfield, doing well at energising units to attend District and Region events, and a successful Cuboree.

Mitch Leggo and Geoff Ward continue to share the DSL role, maintaining Scout numbers in the low 200s in the District. Good turnout at Scouthike and State rally, good to see the camping and hiking experience coming back into practice.

Venturers have actually increased numbers, now just above 70 total, with Roland Simpson overseeing 1st Brush Park, with almost a quarter of that total. Beecroft, East Ryde, Epping, Putney and Roselea, making up the rest. Eastwood Marsfield looking to open a Venturer Unit mid 2024 too, great news. That is from only 4 units in the District 5 or 6 years ago. 2 new units in groups immediately neighbouring the District too in that time too. (Boronia and Tamborine Bay) The numbers of Venturers continuing to Rovers is still disappointingly low though.

Camp Windeyer bookings a bit lighter than expected, looking forward to canoe storage being built this year, and thanks to assistant wardens Barbara Fenwick, Neil Carey and Paul Dadd. Please get your groups to utilise it. Patrols hiking on the Great North Walk can camp at a similar cost to Crosslands Reserve, and be in a safer environment.

#### Cameron Jessep District Commissioner Moocooboolah



### Northern Beaches District Report

All Groups in the District again put a lot of effort into bringing adventurous activities to their members. Over the two years since Covid the numbers have only dropped slightly to 456. With regular leader and youth meetings the Scouting challenge was delivered.

The Joeys meet in several groups and the numbers go up and down depending on the time of year. This section turns out to be a good introduction to Scouting and many stay on or come back a little later. Thanks to our dedicated Joey Leaders there is always an adventure for nights or the weekend

Since 2022 the District Cub numbers have dropped from 200 to 150 despite the fact we have many good leaders and programs. Cubs are such an important section for feeding into Scouts so much effort goes into planning and the activities. Thanks to Jonathan Wood and the leaders who met regularly to map out plans for the Cubs.

Scouts saw their numbers increase over the last two years to 122 which meant that many Scout Units had viable numbers and good patrols. These Scouts were active at ScoutHike, District camp, State Rally hiking and the JOTA camp at Terry hills

My thanks to Tom Miles and Colin Turner for their unending efforts in running the Mindari and District Scouting activities.

Venturers numbers remained the same as last year at 57. They were off to Dragon Skin, Roventure and as always helped out at ScoutHike, and JOTA. My thanks to

Dave Norris team for make many of happen.



and his helping to the activities The section courses in Leadership, Management, Environment, Boating, 1st Aid & Abseiling again gave the Scouts the opportunity to test their knowledge and leadership skills. This is such an important area of Scouting and it was good to see everyone's involvement.

Congratulations to our Annual Leader Awards recipients for services to Scouting over an extended period. District Joey Leader Jim Baldwin. Fairlight Manly Barbara Campos & Rich Mills. 1st Beacon Hill David Greenhalgh, Gary Stewart, Paul Manning. 1st Elanora Heights Emma Allen & Michelle Caterick. Mona Vale Gavin Clarke. Cromer Dee Why Jonathan Wood & Kerrin Cassidy.

My thanks to all our leaders, parents and the Region team for the many volunteer hours they have given to Scouting in such a wide range of nights, weekends & weeks for Scouthike, Jota, Sirius Cup, Dragon Skin, Roventure, Anzac Day, fun days, community and group events, fundraising, leadership, environment & canoe courses, Anzac Day, fun days, District camps, citizenship presentations & hall maintenance days.

Finally my thanks to Councils, State and Federal Governments and the business community for their help with encouragement, donations and fundraising.

Yours in Scouting

#### Phil Donald District Commissioner Northern Beaches



## Turrumburra District Report

Turrumburra District continues to be a strong District in Sydney North Region, with groups continuing to offer varied and interesting programs, and participating in the many Region and State activities.

The major events for 2023 kicked off with World Scout Jamboree, held in Saemangeum, North Jeolla, South Korea in August 2023. While it wasn't quite the Jamboree that everyone expected, I was proud of the resilience shown by both the youth members and adult leaders that attended.

Cuboree was held for the first time in 6 years in October 2023, having moved from its traditional January timing. The event was well attended by the District, and by all accounts was a roaring success.

To finish up the year, a number of Scouts from the District attended the NZ Jamboree in Mystery Creek, Hamilton. The attendees were able to bring in the new year at a Scouting activity! I think learning to drive an excavator was a highlight for many!

Region events, including ScoutHike were very well attended, both by youth members and adult supports and leader. A huge congratulations to Matthew Brownlie for his excellent leadership of Sleep Point 2 for so many years.

At a District Level We also held a very successful District Cub Camp in February 2023, with the youth members having significant input into the theme (Roald Dahl) and activities that were run.



Leaders have continued to upskill, with a number achieving Wood Badges this year. A big shout out to the team at 2/3rds Lindfield who had 6 leaders achieve this level of training this year.

I'd also like to congratulate the following leaders and adult supporters who were recognised in the 2023 Adult Recognition Awards: Silver Koala: Carolyn McGregor (1st Lane Cove), Outstanding Service: Paul McGregor (1st Lane Cove); Silver Wattle: Kim Loane (1st Tambourine Bay); Meritorious Service Award: Neil Carey (1st Boronia); Dee Cleworth (Roseville); Jennifer St Quintin (1st Lindfield); Graeme Steverson (1st East Roseville); and Special Service: Graeme Clare (1st East Roseville), Cristina Esperanza (Roseville), Karen McPherson (1st Tambourine Bay), and Sara Micevski (1st Hunters Hill).

It has been pleasing to see how well Groups in the District have been working together and supporting each other, as the number of adult volunteers continues to be a challenge. Several groups have developed buddy Group systems to join in activities hosted by other Groups in the District. This allows the Groups to continue to provide excellent programs despite low leader numbers.

I'd like to thank all of the leaders and group support committee members for the wonderful work they are doing in our District, and look forward to working with you in 2024.

#### Belinda Butcher District Commissioner Turrumburra



Making friends at WSJ2023



Roseville Scout Group being hosted by Northbridge for a canoeing

### Activities Report

The activities space has seen great progress with over 900 individual activity qualifications issued during the last year. Sydney North Region now has over 35 appointed Activity Guides across a large range of activities with a pipeline of more in progress. Congratulations to all of those people who have completed training and paperwork to attain their activity skills qualifications. All leaders should be looking to achieve one or more activity skill qualifications to remain compliant with our policies and to ensure an active outdoor program for our youth.

Whilst there are many changes occurring the activities area we have continued to provide a range of skills development options along with a range of outdoor activities for our youth. At the State level our Guides have assisted running Summer Alpine School, Winter Alpine School and bushwalking courses. At Region level we have run Abseiling, Canyoning, Caving, Rock climbing, Canoeing & Bushwalking and Cross country skiing adventures. I acknowledge the large amount of time and work all of our activities leaders have freely given to ensure that we continue to provide a large range of safe activities to all our members. Once again I say a big thank to all of the people involved.

I encourage all members who are getting outdoors and taking part in their chosen activity fields to continue to develop their skills and then have those skills recognised with formal qualifications (TAFE Certificate II, III or IV in Outdoor Recreation).

Finally our Region Activities hall has undergone a range of work over the last 12 months with new electrical mains, new electrical switch board, drainage works, landscaping, weed and pest removal, driveway regrading and finally asphalting of driveway and car park. A special thanks to Chris Stanley for all of his hard work ensuring our contractors completed the works to our specifications, for his oversight of the projects and for completing the required reports.

#### **Bushwalking:**

Bushwalking is a core area in "The Program" for our youth and will continue to be a basic skill requirement for all youth and their leader.



We encourage all adults to achieve a bushwalking qualification. For more information please contact the Region Commissioner Activities.

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#### Abseiling:

Abseiling Skill days for Venturers, Rovers and Leaders, were run within the Region. The venue is either Wahroonga Rocks or Lindfield Rocks. These days are aligned with the SIS Training package and Harry Day, the Abseiling Co-Ordinator would love to talk to you about your abseiling wish list. Along with our basic Safe Participant Course we also running Rigging and Rescue course for members wishing to move to Guide level in Abseiling.

The Region runs Scouts only abseiling days approximately 8 times a year at Lindfield Rocks. Scott Osborne the Co-Ordinator continues to do a fantastic job of encouraging out youth participation. He runs one, two or three, 2-hour sessions depending on bookings, during the day and each youth member will do a minimum of five abseils in complete safety. Aside from this groups around our Region continue to offer some really fun adventures and abseils challenging our youth.

#### Caving:

Caving has been up and running as usual with a number of Region trips to Bungonia Caves, Wee Jasper Caves and a few other places. It's always a fun adventure getting down and dirty exploring underground and again join one of our trips to build your skills or work towards getting qualified.



#### Canyoning:

Canyon has quickly grown to be one of Regions most popular activities. We have had over 120 participants attend our Region canyon adventure weekends over the last year. With our Region vertical skills development program along with a number of our Region Canyon Guides attending the New Zealand Canyon festival this activity is only set to get more popular. There is always plenty happening with our Rovers hitting some of the more difficult canyons in NSW and Victoria.

A big thank your to Craig Stanfield and Shane Miller the Canyoning Co-Ordinator's who lead an enthusiastic band of dedicated and highly skilled canyoners.



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#### **Rock Climbing:**

Thomas Judge took on the role of Climbing Co-Ordinator and with the assistance of Adrian Kladnig has run basic rock-climbing skill weekends and skill days in the Blue Mountains and other environs. This year Scout climbers visited cliffs in the Southern Highlands, the Watagans, Nowra, Blue Mountains Arapiles and the Grampians in Western Victoria.

Indoor climbing is still very popular.

Cubs and Scouts can take part and build up their skill levels as a prelude to Venturers by going indoor rock climbing. Remember that Scouts do not have to be qualified to use climbing gyms.

#### Flying Fox:





The Flying Fox Team is back and operational. The team ran a training day in June 2023 to upskill staff and train new people. The team ran one of the two mobile foxes at Cuboree in October 2023. The SNR team with the South Coast team put through over 1500 youth and adults on the 2 mobile foxes over a 3 day period. The next event was the Region Cub camp at Camp Kuring-Gai in early March 2024 with a large number of youth getting a real buzz from zooming down the hill.

We are on the hunt for more people to assist us so if you are interest get in touch with the Region

Commissioner Activities Wesley Leverton or David Lister who as the Flying Fox Co-Ordinator.

#### First-Aid:

The Regions First Aid Team has provided a range of opportunities for our youth and leaders to gain first aid training and qualifications. We are currently using a range of external providers to provide the training. I would encourage every member of the Scout Movement, young or old, to keep their First-Aid skills up to date. Whilst there are other first aid providers please give first preference to our first aid team who provide first aid support to many of the large events run within our Region and further afield.

#### **Cross Country Skiing:**

There were plenty of opportunities to cross country ski in 2023. The Region held a basic XCD weekend in July and XCD camping weekend in August. There was also the State Alpine School in July 2023 as well.

2024 will again see us hitting the cross country ski-ing trails running basic cross country ski skills weekend and overnight camping and survival skills in the snow weekend. See the SNR website for more information.





#### Water Sports (Canoeing, Sailing, Swimming & Snorkeling):

There have been many water activities happening across our Region with Canoeing, Sailing, Swimming, Surfing, Snorkeling and even some diving. A group of youth and leaders achieves water skills qualifications (canoeing/kayak flat water, canoe/kayak white water, river crossings, basic water rescues) at the NSW Summer Alpine School in January 2024. Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Leaders have all enjoyed the activities on offer.

If you have a training need then please contact the Region Commissioner Activities to discuss further.

#### Water Sports (White Water Kayaking):

David Fisher and his Team have run White Water Kayaking courses training Venturers, Rovers and Leaders how to safely negotiate everything up to Grade 2 white water. The course uses Penrith lakes white water course as an introduction weekend followed up by a weekend of real river White Water Paddling.



#### Cycling:

Many groups have been cycling for years but cycling has been brought into the adventurous activities qualification framework. We are getting large numbers of people looking to get qualifications and this is great. If you have not started work on this then please contact the Region Commissioner Activities. Cycling is proving to be one of our most accident prone activities probably because the youth are in charge of how fast they go. With cycling please ensure you do complete a risk assessment, activity notification for and provide a briefing to youth about safety.

#### **Environment:**

The Environment Team led by Kathy ran a number of events during 202 providing opportunities for our youth to learn about the environment. We will continue to have our youth visited places of interest both within and outside our Region and help our youth members to learn more about how to navigate through the bush in an environmentally friendly way, maximising their bush experiences.



#### Jota/Joti:

The Radio Team encouraged our Regions Scouts and Guides to join together for a weekend of radio and internet fun, where they contacted other youth members from all over Australia and around the world. The Team will also run special nights at your Unit location, electronics, radio and computer skills amongst other topics can be organised for you, contact Glen Satchell.

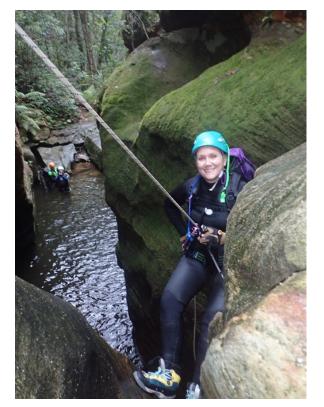
A big thanks also to all the Activity Team Co-Ordinator's for their dedication and

hard work throughout the year. Every member of our Activity Team loves passing on their knowledge and skills to all that take part in our activities. Congratulations to all the Team.

#### Wesley Leverton Regional Commissioner Activities







### Adult Training & Development

Firstly, I would also like to thank Belinda Hose and Donna Staff at Region office for their ongoing assistance to enable me to function!

Also, my grateful acknowledgement to the Leader Trainers and Assistant Leader Trainers from the State training team and Sydney North Region for their time and commitment to the cause of training in Scouting. Without their selfless time and knowledge, our training could not happen.

Finding new leaders is an ongoing challenge and the demands of parents nowadays seem higher. Scouting is a workplace now and training our leaders is a continual process in order to make Scouting safe for our youth and enable our leaders to be qualified and confident in the delivery of activities.

However, the mandatory on-demand training for WHS and Child Safe Scouting is non-negotiable and must be completed every 3 years (soon to be 2 years). In the main, most leaders and adult supporters have been compliant; those members who (after several follow-up contacts) have chosen not to complete this mandatory training, have been resigned as members.

In December 2023, a new Childsafe 4-hour course was instigated by Scouts NSW Issues Management team. This ostensibly compulsory course is in addition to the existing mandatory on-demand Childsafe training. While Sydney leaders showed admirable & strong support in attending this course at a demanding time of year, it remains unclear whether this course will continue in the 4 hourly format.

During 2023 and 2024, a new course on Bystander Behaviour has also been instigated by Scouts NSW Issues Management team. This course is compulsory for Rovers and desirable for Venturers. The course focuses on the importance of raising awareness on why it is so important to be an active bystander. Provide safe strategies and practical guidance on what to do if you see or hear poor behaviours and how to avoid them.

With growing awareness of mental health in society and high leader interest, over the course of calendar 2023, we scheduled several courses for youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA). This Mental Health Australia sanctioned course equips adults who teach, care for and support young people, with the skills and confidence needed to recognise and respond to a young person experiencing a mental health problem or crisis. The courses are available in various formats, which are now being funded by grants and now formally administered by Scouts NSW:

- 2-day face-to-face courses;
- Blended online (7 hrs) plus 1-day face-to-face course;
- 4-hourly face-to-face re-accreditation courses for those leaders refreshing their qualifications every 3 years.

These courses have become a core leader development focus and continue to be very popular with feedback on usefulness of the course being most positive. I would like to thank the Scouts NSW MHFA Training team for their magnificent support as instructors too.

There has also been growing interest from leaders in how to manage/cope with Neurodiversity/All Abilities needs. In late 2023, we also trialled some workshops around Neurodiversity/All Abilities which had limited attendance, so we are looking into a different content delivery.

It is acknowledged that leaders are continually under time constraints and their capacity to allocate time to their training requirements can be squeezed. The ondemand (Scout Central) and face-to-face (residential) training programme is in place to enable adults to become competent and confident supporters of youth and as leaders themselves. A desire for learning, self-improvement and networking would be other motivations.

The aspiration is for trainee leaders to attain their Certificate of Proficiency after 12 months from becoming a member, and their Wood Badge leadership credentials within the next 12 months – a two-year timeline. Then there are other pathways to higher management and outdoor qualifications through Scouts Australia Institute of Training (SAIT), a registered training organisation. A measurable number of leaders are not progressing or completing their training to the desired level, and this continues to be actively followed up.

It is well recognized the residential training components are an important content delivery mechanism not just to enhance the on-demand training content, but for leader networking and learning in a group dynamic.

The reformatted residential training calendar for 2024 is aimed at providing sufficient courses and sites within logistical constraints to enable leaders to more easily attend face-to face training. For Sydney North leaders, there are courses now run alternately at Pennant Hills, Bundilla and Glenrock. To date, there seems to be improved & strong attendances.

There have been a further 15 Wood Badge Awardees over the period April 2023-March 2024. Congratulations to you all. BRAVO!

#### The Future

An ongoing objective is to remind Groups & leaders to maintain current contact details and to actively monitor Scouting correspondence. The time-cost in following up leaders for a variety of training issues needs to be contained because leader communication details and records are not being maintained adequately or on a timely basis.

This is absolutely necessary for the efficient follow-up of the mandatory training requirements for all Scouting adult members with the reduced 2-year accreditation.

An ongoing goal is to identify and appoint District and Region Leader Trainers to assist and shepherd leaders through their training programme. This is a pathway to roles as Assistant Leader Trainers and Leader Trainers for those interested.

Continuing the programme of leader development with youth Mental Health First Aid courses for adult leaders, Rovers and hopefully Venturers in the 2-day, blended and re-accreditation formats.

Furthering leader development training with a programme to assist leaders cater for and manage Scouting youth with neurodiverse needs in workshop and/or support group formats.

Improved communication concerning training awareness and course availability through such mediums as a dedicated Teams resource for GL; a repurposed SNR website page and the Compass newsletter.

Stephen James
Regional Commissioner Adult Training & Development



## Wood Badge Roll of Honour 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Thusitha Ambagaha Kanaththe Gamage 2nd/3rd Lindfield Joey Unit

Bryony Brennan 1st Cherrybrook Joey Unit

Tom Bury 1st Kissing Point Rover Unit

Michelle Dalmaris Benowie District

Adam Desmarchelier 2nd Turramurra Cub Unit

Paul Farrar 1st Frenchs Forest Scout Unit

Patrick Greer 2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Unit

Lily-rose Kraatzwest 2nd/3rd Lindfield Cub Unit

Kananga Rover Unit

Margarete Lindsay 2nd/3rd Lindfield Joey Unit

Toby Luck Yaralla Rover Unit

Anthony Mobbs 1st North Sydney Joey Unit

Annyce Pidd West Pennant Hills Joey Unit

Stephen Rooke Moocooboolah District

Nathan Shelton 2nd/3rd Lindfield Cub Unit

Cheuk Yee Wan 2nd/3rd Lindfield Cub Unit

## Diversity & Inclusion Report

First to introduce myself in case you did not know that SNR has a Regional Commissioner for Diversity and Inclusion. I cut my teeth as a Joey Scout Leader, moving on to District Leader and adding the role of Special Needs Representative, then Regional Commissioner to Sydney North, and a member of the NSW Special Needs Team. More recently the name of my role has changed to Region Commissioner Diversity and Inclusion, to better reflect the range of support roles I provide and Scouts Australia's adoption of a broader policy of inclusion. As your RCD&I, I am available for consults on issues that may arise for you in your Scouting. I can provide information, support and resources based on my 25 years of Scouting experience, along with training and work experience in disability and neurodiversity.

Most Groups and Districts in Sydney North Region are embracing inclusion and many of our Leaders have knowledge, skills and commitment to support inclusion of youth members with diverse needs. Our Region has examples of well-planned inclusion, not just at Group level, but at events such as District camps, ScoutHikes and Jamborees. Leaders need only ask their local team for assistance; if those leaders are unsure they will reach out to the District or Region Leaders for experienced advice.

With AJ2025 fast approaching I encourage you to Be Prepared early so that all your youth members and leaders can have an awesome time! Do not wait until Shakedown camp to discover likelihood of homesickness, sensory challenges, mental health problems or emotional regulation meltdowns, or to realise what needs to be put in place for disability access in a 10day standing camp. Reach out to myself or the AJ Contingent Team now, to find out about physical resources as well as strategies for managing unusual or unexpected behaviors.

Scouting is still one of the largest youth movements in the world and has been creating resilient youth with life skills, friendships, mentors and leadership skills for 117 years. Many of today's youth face challenges because of culture, religion, ethnicity, race, gender or neurodiversity. Scouting maybe the only place where they feel welcomed if they have been bullied or excluded based on their different appearance or different abilities. Scouting can be a good fit for these excluded people because we provide fun, flexibility, outdoor adventure, progressive achievement and opportunities for individual achievement without always needing to be competitive.

During my time as a leader I can think of plenty of examples of Scouting helping to build confidence and resilience in youth members:

"the shyest kid I've ever had in my Cub Unit" ...went on to become High School Captain.

Fussy eater with no other issues...parent attended first Cub camp as cook... that child is now a Cub Scout Leader.

Child with high level of anxiety...has now attended 4th Cub camp.

Autistic Scout with frequent meltdowns related to change of routine, loud noise triggers...attended Jamboree with noise cancelling earmuffs, a "thunder blanket" and a leader/carer to accompany patrol and support that Scout through fireworks (noise trigger) queueing for activities (monotonous complaints intolerable for other patrol members). Following the jamboree that Scout gave a slide presentation of their photographs from the jamboree.

Scout with physical and intellectual disability requiring assistance with showering at Jamboree. Their Unit was located near accessible ablutions block so that a leader (he chose familiar female leader) could shower him while a male leader from the Unit could provide 2 deep leadership.

Autistic Scout with significant social challenges involving delayed response time...reluctance to participate in activities due to extreme tiredness first 2-3 days so put on duty patrol and offered reading time, was encouraged to browse arena at night to take photos.

Leader with developmental delay, limited literacy...experience at camps, Region events, jamborees. Follows Scouting Method, offers good verbal instruction; earns respect and trust of youth members; shares knowledge in areas of expertise. Experienced and efficient in harnessing, unharnessing; inspires confidence in youth members. In evenings this Leader needs to be supported to socialise with Leaders rather than youth members who are closer to their social age.

During the past year I have provided some short training sessions for Leaders. These have been run in conjunction with Mental Health First Aid training courses in Sydney North Region. They have focused on Anxiety, ADHD, Autism and Positive Behaviour Support. My Sensory Kit goes with me to these courses for demonstration purposes. I have also assisted with operating Sensory Support Chill Spaces at Hunter and Coastal Corroboree and will expect to do so at the upcoming Jamboree.

Equipment to support youth and adult members with physical disabilities is also available through NSW D&I Team. Leaders and families may contact myself or Region Office to borrow Sensory Kits or extra sensory items, All Terrain Wheelchair/s white cane, earmuffs, books and other resources.

Sydney North All Abilities Scout Group continues to provide Scouting to members with significant ongoing support needs. Currently they meet weekly, alternating between in-hall, out of hall and on-line meetings. Formerly known as 1st Cromehurst Scouts, the group has been operating for 50 years. Planning is underway for their 50th Anniversary Celebration on 30th June.

### Beth Mitchell Regional Commissioner Diversity and Inclusion Sydney North Region Annual Report 2023/2024



#### Introduction

Tasman McManis has continued in his role as RC Issues Management with ongoing assistance from Viv Waddingham Professor of Clinical Psychology and Berowra Venturer Leader and Grace Johnson Rover and Venturer Leader in Training.

I would like to thank the team members for their assistance and support during the past twelve months and also thank Quentin Amos for his support and guidance as we seek to resolve these people issues. Quentin relinquished his Region role in October 2023 and will be sorely missed.

It is also important to thank Bill Barnes and Renee Jensen from State Office who have been very supportive in helping to try and resolve some of the thornier issues that have occurred in the last twelve months.

#### Issues Covered in the Period

During the reporting period the Issues Management team has continued to handle a broad range of issues.

These issues have mainly involved youth members with behavioural issues including:

Parents feeling that their child has been treated unfairly by leaders.

Issues with leaders and parents where a child attending Scouts is on the spectrum or has a disability.

Conflict resolution

Group mediation.

Inappropriate behaviour amongst Rovers

#### **Approach to Issues Management**

The approach adopted by Sydney North Region and the Issues Management Team is to encourage issues to be resolved at the section or group level as much as possible. Where this is not possible it is raised with the relevant District Commissioner. If the issue is proving more difficult to resolve, then it can be raised with the Region Issues Management team.

In some cases, the issue is raised directly with the State Office and on these occasions (depending on the nature of the issue), the State Office will encourage the Region to get involved and look to resolve the issue.

This has continued to be the approach adopted by both the Region and State Issues Management Teams.

#### **Conclusion & Recommendations**

On several occasions adults have become entrenched about their views/actions, refused to apologise about their behaviour and threatened legal action which has resulted (where they are in uniform) in them being dismissed from the movement.

As outlined in last year's annual report, an article was placed in Compass to provide background information about issues management to try and educate leaders and parents about the behavioural standards that are expressed through the Law & Promise.

We continue to recommend that Groups regularly remind leaders, youth members and parents of the Scout Law and Promise at weekly meetings and prior to overnight activities to reinforce the movement's expected behaviour standards. There has also been cooperation with the Region Rover Leadership Team to develop communication material to remind Rovers of the behaviour standards expected during events such as Moots, Dragon Skin and ScoutHike.

As outline last year's annual report, we have continued to have issues linked to youth members with disabilities. We have managed to introduce some initial information sessions for leaders to give them some coping options that may assist when working with these youth members. We are hoping that we can deliver these sessions on a more regular basis through 2025.

Tasman McManis Regional Commissioner Issues Management



### Joey Section Report

On a Region level, Joey Scouts have been relatively quiet this year. At the Unit level, there were 27 Joey Challenge awards.



The 3 Pouches each ran a campfire in August.

The North Harbour Scout Water Base, sponsored by the Eastern Pouch, held 2 Joey Scout Paddling Skills Days at Narrabeen in April and November.





The Eastern Pouch Joeys, were Out & about on a CBD Scavenger Hunt in May. Extra badges for Out & About and the Scavenger Hunt are available for purchase (\$3-00 each) at the Region Office.

The Eastern Pouch also ran a camp for Pirates at Ingleside Scout Camp in October.

Jim Baldwin Regional Commissioner Joeys Incoming





There were a lot of fun and exciting activities for the Cub units in Sydney North Region! It's great that the youth members have been keeping busy with a variety of activities both indoors and outdoors. Bike rides, bush walks, science nights, and halloween nights all sound like fantastic ways for the Cubs to learn and have fun. Some Cub units attended camps like Sirius cup and had a great time.

It's wonderful to hear about the group camps and exciting activities like campfires and canoeing days organized by the Activities team! Campfires are always a highlight of any camping experience, creating a warm and cozy atmosphere for sharing stories and bonding with fellow campers. Canoeing days sound like a fantastic way to enjoy the outdoors and learn new skills on the water. It's great to see such engaging and diverse activities being offered to the groups

It's wonderful to see so many youth members (84) of the Scouting community being recognized for their hard work and dedication. These awards are a testament to the commitment and passion that these individuals have for Scouting.

It was five days of exciting and challenging activities that the youth members and leaders experienced during Cuboree! Five days of fun-filled activities like snorkeling, chariot races, water slides, cave exploration, challenge valley, abseiling, and zip-lining must have created unforgettable memories for everyone involved. It's great to see such a diverse range of activities that push the participants out of their comfort zones and encourage teamwork and personal growth.

In February 2024 Sydney North Region Cub section held a Region camp at Camp Kuring-gai which 428 people (youth, leaders, adult helpers) attended. During the camp the youth members did a range of activities bases around some OAS skills and theme based Minecraft which the youth members and leader enjoyed. Some of the bases were canoeing, flying fox and many more. The best part was the wide game where the youth members, leaders and adult helpers built a catapult to fire wet sponges at each other, each Unit had boxes they could use to build a protection wall. Everyone enjoyed a ice block at the end of camp.

During the period of 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024, Sydney North Region Cub section put 185 youth members through Personal Development Courses aimed at challenging and increase the youth members leadership skills.

Congratulations to all the award recipients who were name on World Scout Day 2023 and thank you for your contributions to the Scouting Movement. Your efforts truly make a difference in the lives of young people and in strengthening our Scouting program. Here's to many more years of success and growth in Scouting!

#### Cassie Donald Regional Commissioner Cubs



The Sydney North Region Scout section continues to be an example of excellence in Scouting. Units have excelled at the activities they have been completely at a local level, with numerous weekend camps and weekly evenings being the backbone and core business of Scouts this year. The past year has seen many challenges but positive changes throughout the Scout section. It's great to hear stories of leaders pushing on through changes and challenges and adapting to a new way of doing things. The District Leaders continue to do a great job guiding and supporting the passionate and enthusiastic leaders that we are lucky to have here in Sydney North. Many groups are hard at work preparing for the upcoming Jamboree in QLD next January. Sydney North is once again sending the largest Contingent from NSW! Bravo!

Scouthike 2024 Tour of the Eras was a huge success! Over 800 eager Scouts and 450 passionate, Leaders, Rovers, Venturers and Adult Helpers finally descended upon a sunny Belanglo state Forest. The Scouthike Team, Sleep Point teams and Activity teams had been working tirelessly to ensure the weekend was fun for all. Many units extensively planned their activities delivered exception activities. Leaders delivered 29 varied and engaging activities that tapped into the many skills of their leaders and provided a variety of challenges from many areas of Scouting skills. Many Scout Patrols had interesting props and creative costumes to really bring the activity alive and show their enthusiasm. Congratulations to the teams who worked hard to achieve Silver and Gold, there was very close competition this year! Congratulations to all of the Sleep Point teams who supported and managed their 200 Scouts brilliantly, providing well set up Sleep points that helped the Scouts have a wonderful weekend. A big thank you to Forestry NSW who worked hard leading up to the event to ensure the forest was in as best condition it could be for us.

Sydney North continues to be a powerhouse and leader of Basic Scout Training courses, with 7 different courses training over 150 Scouts last year! A huge effort by each of the District Scout teams! District Camps, State Rally, Jota, , Canoeing and Swimming Carnivals, Cub-Scout/Scout-Venturer Link camps, Pioneering Camps and Scout Leadership Training were the other main 'above Unit' activities supplemented the many Unit initiated activities managed by our dedicated team of Scout Leaders.

Over the past year there has been a considerable number of completions of Australian Scout Awards, which have been presented across most of the Districts. All awards were completed at a consistently high standard which shows the high quality of Scouts that we have here in Sydney North and the skilled dedicated leaders that guide and encourage them. Great work done by their fellow Scouts, leaders and families who supported and helped them develop their skills. Over the past year there has been a massive 25 Australian Scout Award— the Peak Award of the Scout section were awarded, of which each Scout should be proud of their accomplishment. This is the highest it has been for many years!

Thank you for all your hard work and commitment you put into your Units, local camps, District, Region and State camps is absolutely invaluable and we would not be able to deliver such a high standard of Scouting in Sydney North without you!. Continue to be amazing leaders as you enthusiastically support the wonderful youth of the Scout section, which would not possible without all of the hard work, preparation and enthusiasm shown by our leaders in the Region and I look forward to working with each of you. Thank you!

#### Mitchell Rath Scouthike 2024 Coordinator Regional Commissioner Scouts









### Venturer Section Report

The 2023-2024 year for Venturer section in Sydney North was a year packed full of Local and International Events, showing that the impact that COVID had on not only Scouting, but the world has finally passed, and allows for fantastic adventures to take place!

We also had 16 Venturers Achieve their Queen Scout Award in which is up from the numbers we had last year and a fantastic achievement, their names and groups are noted later in this report

KISC100 & WSJ2023 – On An international event Level, In 2023 there were multiple major events but two notable ones made up of Venturers and Scouts who embarked on different adventures, many from our Region. The first was KISC100 in which Scouts from Across Australia went to celebrate Kandersteg International Scout Centre's (KISC) Centenary as a permanent mini-Jamboree.

The Second one was the 25th World Scout Jamboree in South Korea. This event brought together over 50,000 Scouting members from all over the world, for a Jamboree on a scale which many would have never attended



On a more local level, Victoria Ran an event at the start of 2024 called Venture24 - Sydney North Region had 23 Venturers representing 13 Units from Sydney North among the 850 participants. Running for up to 14 days, Venture24 consisted of a whole range of offsite expeditions, followed by six days based at Lardner Park, east of Melbourne. This was in place of National Venturer events not happening.

Expeditions included hiking the high country in NSW and Victoria, diving in Townsville and Fiji, Melbourne Adrenaline tour, caving, 4WDing, cooking, performing arts, mountain biking, and exploring Queenstown in NZ

Dragon Skin 2024- This year numbers at Dragon Skin once again rose again after last year with nearly 800 Venturers in attendance, showing that the attendance in the event is on the rise. 2nd/3rd Pennant Hills took out first place again for the 2nd year in a row with team Banana Buddies on 1360 Points. A special mention to 2nd – 4th place which were also Sydney North Teams, with 1st Turramurra Team "2nd Place" on 1336 points coming in Second, 1st Tambourine Bay's Team "Picnic Pixies" on 1223 Point coming 3rd and 1st Turramurra Team "Itchy 4 Skin" on 1202 Points coming 4th.

#### **Liam Painter Regional Commissioner Venturers**





It's always pleasing to look back on a busy and active year for Sydney North's Rover section. Units have been out camping, 4WDing, canyoning, caving, skiing and just having an all-round good time. Our Region's Moot and Roventure were well run and supported, as were a number of other RRC-sponsored activities such as the Kalang Kup sports comp and CRAP Rover Dinner.

As the traditional core of Rovering, service activities continued to play their important part. The Region's Rovers gave their support to ANZAC Day, grounds maintenance at both Barra Brui activities hall and Ingleside Scout Camp, and a notable contribution to the National Rover Blood Drive, making the largest number of donations of any Region in Australia for the second year in a row. For the annual Region Rover Service Project, our Units collected 51 completed handbags for the charity Share the Dignity's "It's in the Bag" appeal, supporting women in need. Individual Unit service activities included assisting with Oxfam Trailwalker, the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic, maintenance jobs at Scout facilities, and support for a variety of local charities.

We continue to be proud of Sydney North Rovers' engagement in training. This year also saw two of our Rovers complete their Advanced Leadership Training and receive their Wood Badge... congratulations to Tom Bury of Kissing Point Rovers and Lily-rose Kraatzwest from Kananga Rovers.

2023 saw the establishment of our new Warawara Award, to succeed the Tony Balthasar Achievement Award. After enabling 27 outstanding Rover adventures over 36 years, the Balthasar fund had depleted to almost nil. The Warawara sustains the legacy set by its predecessor, enabling Rovers to undertake an adventure, but now in teams or individually, and within Australia or overseas. Our huge thanks go to former Rover Adviser Malcolm Yates for generously providing the award's funding, and our congratulations to the inaugural awardees, Emily Marsden and Daniel Atkinson, from Forest Rovers, and the 2024 awardee, Ash Williams, also from Forest Rovers.

Having returned from studying in Townsville, Elyse has taken up the RC-Rovers role, with Nick swapping to Assistant RC-Rovers, after 32 years as our Region's Rover Commissioner. Nick will be working closely with Elyse over the next 6-12 months, to pass on his knowledge and facilitate a smooth handover, whilst also continuing to support our Rovers.







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While there is no doubt Sydney North Rovers continue to do amazing things and have incredible adventures, there is no denying our numbers could be boosted by improved recruitment and retention. Rovers do a lot to present themselves to the younger sections, however can only do so much. We also depend on Leaders in all sections and Groups to reference Rovers and encourage their youth members to be enthusiastic and expectant about the section that awaits when they turn 18. Whether a member passes through all the earlier sections or can be inspired to return to Scouting after high school, Rovers offers unique opportunities that can benefit all young people.

We look forward to the year ahead and 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 very much appreciated. We wish Aaron Kew and the 2024/25 Executive team all the best in their new roles and look forward to continuing to support them and the Rovers of Sydney North.

Kacie Turner
Region Rover Council Chair
2023 - 2024

Nick Buchner

Regional Commissioner 
Rovers

Outgoing

Elyse Versace

Regional Commissioner –

Rovers

Incoming



Sydney North Region Annual Report 2023/2024

# Joey Scout Challenge Award



Aaron Li

**Amelie White** 

Ava Verity

**Bjorn Mcquilty** 

Elizabeth Temisgian

Elizabeth Watson

Flynn Fuerbach

Frederick Schlecht

Hannah Jacobs

Harrison Ho

Harry Baldwin

Harvey Jackson

**Jack Borrington** 

Lachlan Dimmock

Lachlan Harney

Lara Wald

Nattanop Khosirayothin

Nethumi Gamage

Oliver Iles

Rian Kapila

Ryan Cui

Sebastian Wiegold

Sophia Han

Theo Law

Tristan Yau

Wolf Zandberg

Yuet Yee Choi

North St Ives Scout Group

1st Allambie Heights Scout Group

1st Turramurra Scout Group

Normanhurst Scout Group

1st North Turramurra Scout Group

1st Allambie Heights Scout Group

1st North Sydney Scout Group

1st North Sydney Scout Group

1st East Ryde Scout Group

1st East Ryde Scout Group

North St Ives Scout Group

Normanhurst Scout Group

1st North Turramurra Scout Group

**Beecroft Scout Group** 

1st Berowra Scout Group

1st North Turramurra Scout Group

1st East Ryde Scout Group

2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group

1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group

1st North Sydney Scout Group

1st East Ryde Scout Group

1st North Turramurra Scout Group

North St Ives Scout Group

1st East Ryde Scout Group

North St Ives Scout Group

1st Allambie Heights Scout Group

2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group



Adam Robson Adele Jiang Adrian Gaebel Aidan Chen Alicia Lai Alistair Chan Alwyn Cui

Andreas Mathisen Hermosilla

**Angus Clark** Archer Chapman Ashton Kophamel Atticus Oplinger Benjamin Zeller **Bonita Willis** Carly Davenport Chikabelle Sano Clive Brennan Connor Eden Daksh Nair

Darcy Hannon Dylan Vanderklauw

**Edward Grinham** Elizabeth Millar

**Elodie Naudet** 

Emlyn Surjadi

**Emma Coombes** 

Eric Shi

Evin Premachandra

Finn Williams Fox Cuthbert

George De Sacadura

Hamish Smith Hannah Rooke Hayden Tsim Hayley Au Helen Yao Isaac Hudson Isaak Leo

Jackson Hicks James Buoro

Jayden Lan

1st Sailors Bay Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group **Epping Scout Group** 

1st East Ryde Scout Group 2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group 1st Mosman Scout Group

1st East Ryde Scout Group 1st Balgowlah Scout Group West Pymble Scout Group 1st Seaforth Scout Group

West Pennant Hills Scout Group West Pennant Hills Scout Group

1st Asquith Scout Group 2nd Turramurra Scout Group **Beecroft Scout Group** 

1st East Ryde Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group 1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group

1st Waitara Scout Group 1st Bayview Scout Group 1st Gordon Scout Group Cammeray Scout Group

1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group

West Pymble Scout Group North St Ives Scout Group

1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group 1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group

1st Bayview Scout Group 1st/2nd Harbord Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group 1st Brush Park Scout Group Eastwood/Marsfield Scout Group

West Pymble Scout Group **Epping Scout Group Epping Scout Group** 

1st East Ryde Scout Group West Pymble Scout Group

1st Collaroy Plateau Scout Group

1st Roselea Scout Group Cammeray Scout Group

Joseph Rafferty Joshua Blinstrub Julian Hollis Justin Lane

Kaiden Shad-Sharpe

Kate Burns
Kieran Ling
Koji Takamura
Kwok Pan Hu
Lachlan Jerrems
Larry Lynch
Lena Falster
Lola Fuerbach
Lucas Ripamonti
Marcus Liu
Mark Sushkin
Matthew Arblaster
Nicholas Pedrosa

Nina Botes Oliver Lim Oliver Rose Oscar Han

Poppy Braybon Davis

Quinn Jones
Roslyn Zhang
Ryan Moghadam
Samuel Mills
Sarah Mclean
Selena Siu
Shanhaozhe Xu
Thiasha Edirisinghe
Thomas Woodhouse

Toby Coates
Tristan Cowie
Tyson Grace
Vardhan Bardia
Wai Pan Hu
Wayland Cain
Xanthe Jones
Yu Jia Teng
Zane Steinthal
Zen Hoi Chong
Zoe Desmarchelier

Zoe Tjoa

1st Balgowlah Scout Group **Belrose Scout Group** 1st Mosman Scout Group 1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group 1st Sailors Bay Scout Group Cammeray Scout Group 1st Collaroy Plateau Scout Group North St Ives Scout Group 1st Collaroy Plateau Scout Group 1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group 1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group 2nd Gordon Scout Group 1st North Sydney Scout Group West Pennant Hills Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group Eastwood/Marsfield Scout Group 1st Sailors Bay Scout Group 1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group Cammeray Scout Group 2nd Turramurra Scout Group Eastwood/Marsfield Scout Group 1st Northbridge Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group 2nd Turramurra Scout Group 1st Bayview Scout Group 1st Mosman Scout Group 1st East Ryde Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group Fairlight/Manly Scout Group 1st East Ryde Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group Normanhurst Scout Group 1st Sailors Bay Scout Group 1st/2nd Harbord Scout Group 1st Balgowlah Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group 2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group 1st Collaroy Plateau Scout Group 1st Northbridge Scout Group 1st Bayview Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group Cammeray Scout Group West Pymble Scout Group 2nd Turramurra Scout Group Normanhurst Scout Group

# Australian Scout Award



Aidan Edyejones Alexander Lim **Alexander Phillips Aristeides Dalmaris** Aron Ji **Brian Tsang** Campbell Girke Caoilainn O'neill Caspar Parekh Wilson **Charlotte Deane** Conor Kerr **Edward Chapman** Fife Crawford Hayden Smith Hin Wong Jake Lees Lachlan Coombes Lachlan Heath

Lachlan Molloy

Leo Fernandez

Oliver Pritchard

Samuel Pickard

Thomas Roussac

West Pymble Scout Group Eastwood/Marsfield Scout Group 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group 1st Berowra Scout Group West Pennant Hills Scout Group 1st Turramurra Scout Group 1st Brush Park Scout Group 1st Balgowlah Scout Group 1st Sailors Bay Scout Group 1st Forestville Scout Group 1st Turramurra Scout Group 1st Seaforth Scout Group 1st Bayview Scout Group West Pymble Scout Group West Pennant Hills Scout Group 1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group 1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group 1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group West Pymble Scout Group 1st Brush Park Scout Group 1st Lindfield Scout Group 1st Seaforth Scout Group 1st Sailors Bay Scout Group

# 

Adie Connor Aidan Petersen Alexandria White Alize Viner **Blair Crowther** Claire Kitching **Daniel Tompsett** Ella Pitman **Hunter Jackson** Jessica Lindsay Lucinda Baird Max Fisher Pippa Mckee Rafe Morcom Riley Clare Samuel Hosemans

1st Mosman Scout Group Normanhurst Scout Group 1st Allambie Heights Scout Group 1st Asquith Scout Group 1st Bayview Scout Group Normanhurst Scout Group 1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group 1st Turramurra Scout Group 1st Allambie Heights Scout Group 2nd Gordon Scout Group 1st Mosman Scout Group 2nd Gordon Scout Group 1st Collaroy Plateau Scout Group 1st Turramurra Scout Group 1st East Roseville Scout Group 1st Allambie Heights Scout Group





Daniel Hose Erika Otero 2nd Normanhurst Rover Unit Yaralla Rover Unit



Peter Rodgers 28/10/2023 Stephen Conwell 2/08/2023



# Congratulations to the following Sydney North Region Leaders and Supporters who have been honoured in the 2023 annual Scouts Australia Adult Recognition Awards

# Silver Kangaroo

Awarded for eminent achievement and exceptional service to Scouts Australia by an Adult Member in an active Leadership role, over a long period, in a number of roles at various levels within the organisation, or for a unique and highly valued contribution to the wellbeing of Scouting.



**Kerry John Griffin** 

Region Commissioner, Sydney North Region

# Silver Emu

Awarded for further distinguished service to Scouts Australia by an Adult Member in an active Leadership role, for a period of at least four or five years since the Award of the Silver Koala.



Charles Christopher Turner Deputy Region Commissioner, Sydney North Region

## Silver Koala

Awarded for distinguished service to Scouts Australia as an Adult Member in an active Leadership role, for a period of around 14 to 16 years.



James Eugene Baldwin Joey Scout Leader, Cromer-Dee Why Joey Scout Unit

Carolyn Rae McGregor Cub Scout Leader, 1st Lane Cove Cub Scout Unit

Thomas Brian Miles District Commissioner, Garigal District

# **Outstanding Service Award**

Awarded for outstanding service to Scouts Australia for a period of at least twelve years, to non-uniformed Members and Supporters.



Bryan Murray Mattes Adult Helper, Hornsby Gang Show Scout Group

Paul Francis McGregor Group Adviser, 1st Lane Cove Scout Group

## Silver Wattle

Awarded for outstanding service to Scouts Australia as an Adult Member in an active Leadership role, for a period of around ten to twelve years.



Lainie Anne Kalnins Assistant Venturer Scout Leader, Normanhurst Venturer Scout Unit

Richard Kim Loane Venturer Scout Leader, 1st Tambourine Bay Venturer Scout Unit

Mitchell Rath Regional Commissioner (Scouts), Sydney North Region

Sydney North Region Annual Report 2023/2024

## **Meritorious Service Award**

Awarded to Young Adult Members, Adult Members and Supporters for meritorious or praiseworthy service to Scouts Australia for a period of around six to eight years.



Jeffery Argent Assistant Group Leader, 1st Mt Colah/Mt Kuring-gai Scout Group

Simon Robert Batson Assistant Scout Leader, Epping Scout Unit

Naomi Butler Rover Adviser (Responsible), 1st Brush Park Rover Scout Unit

Emma Jane Campbell Joey Scout Leader, West Pennant Hills Joey Scout Unit

Neil Morrison Carey Group Leader, 1st Boronia Scout Group

Deirdre Joy Cleworth Assistant Scout Leader, Roseville Scout Unit

Michael Donald Foreman Assistant Scout Leader, West Pymble Scout Unit

Caroline May Ling Hoh Joey Scout Leader, Epping Joey Scout Unit

David Andrew Jones Scout Leader, Beecroft Scout Unit

Peter Charles Juchau Trainee Leader (Group), 1st Frenchs Forest Scout Group

Priscilla Jill Leguier Adult Helper, Hornsby Gang Show Scout Group

**Liam John Pullan** Provisional Leader (Region), Sydney North Region

Jamie-Leigh Ride Fellowship Member, Wallumetta Scout Fellowship

Jennifer Helen St Quintin Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Lindfield Cub Scout Unit

Graeme Thomas Steverson Venturer Scout Leader, 1st East Roseville Venturer Scout Unit

Samuel Anthony Van Dyke Adult Helper, 1st Meadowbank Scout Group

Elyse Versace Assistant Regional Commissioner (Rover Scout), Sydney North Region

# **Special Service Award**

Awarded to Young Adult Members, Adult Members and Supporters for the successful support, development or management of a Section or Formation, or for an intense contribution over a period of at least 12 months to the success of a major event or major activity.



Nicholas Anthony Aiken Assistant Cub Scout Leader, West Pennant Hills Cub Scout Unit 'Red Dogs'

Emma Victoria Allan Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Elanora Heights Cub Scout Unit 'Arunta'

Emma Louise Cabuil Cub Scout Leader, 1st Pymble Cub Scout Unit

Barbara Paz Campos Lepe Adult Helper, Fairlight/Manly Scout Group

Kerrin Elizabeth Cassidy Cub Scout Leader, Cromer-Dee Why Cub Scout Unit

Michelle Elizabeth Catterick Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Elanora Heights Cub Scout Unit 'Arunta'

Grahame Richard Clare Adult Helper, 1st East Roseville Scout Group

Gavin William Clarke Cub Scout Leader, 1st Mona Vale Cub Scout Unit

Melinda Anne Draper Adult Helper, Hornsby Gang Show Scout Group

Cristina Esperanza Group Secretary, Roseville Scout Group

Andrew Gordon Forsyth Assistant Cub Scout Leader, Normanhurst Cub Scout Unit

David Greenhalgh Scout Leader, 1st Beacon Hill Scout Unit

Mark Taras Grodzicky Group Treasurer, 1st Putney Scout Group

**David Heal** Rover Adviser (Not Responsible), Kananga Rover Scout Unit

Colin Malcolm Healey Assistant Scout Leader, Normanhurst Scout Unit

Sarah Simonne Jaffrey Provisional Leader (Scout), Normanhurst Scout Unit

Justin Mansfield Kingston Group Chairman, 1st Mt Colah/Mt Kuring-gai Scout Group

Wyn Lambert Group Leader, 3rd Mosman Bay Scout Group

Mark Sung Woon Lim Scout Leader, Eastwood/Marsfield Scout Unit

Paul Manning Joey Scout Leader, 1st Beacon Hill Joey Scout Unit

Karen Mary Mcpherson Adult Helper, 1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group

Sara Micevski Adult Helper, 1st Hunters Hill Scout Group

Ernest Richard Mills Iv Assistant Scout Leader, Fairlight/Manly Scout Unit

Amanda Mercedes Muxlow Assistant Group Leader, Hornsby Gang Show Scout Group

Adam James Parker Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Willoughby Cub Scout Unit

Grant Chandran Raja Ratnam Assistant Cub Scout Leader, Eastwood/Marsfield Cub Scout Unit

Matthew Rath Trainee Leader (Rover Scout), 1st Brush Park Rover Scout Unit

Stephen Alexander Rooke Assistant Cub Scout Leader, Eastwood/Marsfield Cub Scout Unit

**Kathleen Mary Smith** Group Secretary, Beecroft Scout Group

Gary Brian Stewart Cub Scout Leader, 1st Beacon Hill Cub Scout Unit 'Japara'

Jin Takamura Group Leader, North St Ives Scout Group

Daryl Soo Leong Tan Adult Helper, 1st Meadowbank Scout Group

Emma L Vozzo Provisional Leader (Cub Scout), 1st Allambie Heights Cub Scout Unit

Caitlin May Williams Scout Leader, West Pennant Hills Scout Unit

Jonathan Paul Wood Group Leader, Cromer-Dee Why Scout Group

Thomas Germanicus Zeller Cub Scout Leader, 1st Asquith Cub Scout Unit



Sydney North Region Annual Report 2023/2024

# Sydney North Team

# **Region Supporters Council**

#### Office Bearers

**Patron** Mr Matt Kean Member for Hornsby

Region PresidentDr Neil Mattes OAMRegion ChairpersonMr Philip Cooper OAMRegion TreasurerMr Doug Menzies OAM

Region Commissioner Mr Kerry Griffin

Deputy Region Commissioner Mr Charles Turner

Deputy Region CommissionerMr Quentin Amos (outgoing)Deputy Region CommissionerMr Dean Bassett (incoming)

**Rover Council Representation** Two representatives from the Sydney North Region Rover

Council

## Region Uniform Office Holders

Region CommissionerMr Kerry GriffinDeputy Region CommissionerMr Charles TurnerDeputy Region CommissionerMr Quentin Amos

Region Groups Representation Chairperson of each Group within SNR Group Leaders or Leaders

In Charge of each Group within Sydney North Region

# Regional Commissioners

Joeys ScoutsMr Dean Bassett (outgoing)Joey ScoutsMr James Baldwin (incoming)Cub ScoutsMs Cassandra DonaldIssue ManagementMr Tasman McManis

Scouts Mr Mitchell Rath Diversity and Inclusion Mrs Beth Mitchell

Venturer Scouts Mr Liam Painter WHS Mr Wayne Finch

Rovers Mr Nick Buchner Property Mr Gregg Barr-Jones

Adult Training & Mr Stephen James Members Support Mrs Faye Bowers

Development

Region Activities Mr Randall Jones Activities Mr Wesley Leverton

Centres

# Regional Commissioners—Special Duties

Mr Peter Thomson Mr Ian Bowers

Mrs Christine Morling Mr Stephen McCann

Mrs Sandra Southall Mrs Maureen Twin

Mrs Carol Lycett

## Assistant Regional Commissioners

Activities Adrian Kladnig
Activities Scott Osborne
Deputy Region Commissioner Mitchell Stubbs
Rovers Elyse Versace
Scouts Liam Pullan

#### **District Commissioners**

Lower North Shore Mr Steve Tufts
Benowie Mr Robert Rodgers
Northern Beaches Mr Phil Donald
Garigal Mr Tom Miles

Moocooboolah Mr Cameron Jessep
Turrumburra Dr Belinda Butcher
Ku-ring-gai Mr Geoff Vaughan

# Honorary Commissioners

Mr Barry Greenland Mr Carl Spinks OAM
Mr Craig Watford Mr David Cooley
Mr Ian Londish Mr John Tibbitts
Mr Paul McIntyre Mr Peter Navin

Ms Rhonda Christie Mr Rohan Reynolds

Mr Theodore Webb

# **Community Representatives**

The State Member of Parliament for Davidson The State Member of Parliament for Pittwater

The Federal Member of Parliament for MacKellar The State Member of Parliament for Willoughby The Federal Member of Parliament for Bradfield The State Member of Parliament for Wakehurst The Federal Member of Parliament for North Sydney The State Member of Parliament for Manly The Federal Member of Parliament for Berowra The Mayor of Northern Beaches Council The Federal Member of Parliament for Bennelong The Mayor of Hunters Hill Council The Federal Member of Parliament for Warringah The Mayor of Hornsby Shire Council The State Member of Parliament for Wahroonga The Mayor of Ku-ring-gai Council The State Member of Parliament for Epping The Mayor of Lane Cove Council The State Member of Parliament for Lane Cove The Mayor of Mosman Council The State Member of Parliament for Hornsby The Mayor of North Sydney Council The State Member of Parliament for North Shore The Mayor of Ryde Council The State Member of Parliament for Ryde The Mayor of Willoughby Council

# **Region Executive Committee**

**Region President** Dr. Neil Mattes OAM

**Region Chairperson** Mr. Philip Cooper OAM

**Region Treasurer** Mr. Doug Menzies OAM

**Region Commissioner** Mr. Kerry Griffin

**Deputy Region Commissioner** Mr. Charles Turner

**Deputy Region Commissioner** Mr. Dean Bassett

Elected members

The Hon Matt Kean State Member of Parliament for Hornsby

The Hon Julian Lesser State Member of Parliament for Berowra

Regional Commissioners

Mr. Mitchell Rath Mr. Philip Donald

Mr. Steve Tufts Ms. Elyse Versace

Region Rover Council

Region Rover Council Chair

**REGION TRUSTEES** 

**Region Chairperson** Mr. Philip Cooper OAM

**Region Treasurer** Mr. Doug Menzies OAM

**Region Commissioner** Mr. Kerry Griffin

**Chairperson Region Property** Mr. Gregg Barr-Jones

**Delegates to Branch Council** 

**Region Chair Person** Dr. Neil Mattes OAM

**Region Chairperson** Mr. Philip Cooper OAM

**Region Commissioner** Mr. Kerry Griffin

**Deputy Region Commissioner** Mr. Charles Turner

**Deputy Region Commissioner** Mr. Dean Bassett

Under 30 Ms. Elyse Versace



The financial year 2023/24 resulted in an overall operating cost of \$65,829 for the year against an operating budget cost of \$94,074.

The Region's properties resulted in an operating surplus of \$21,153 against a budgeted surplus of \$16,944.

Operation of the Region's three camp sites resulted in a surplus of \$17,949 which was better than budget largely due to better than budgeted revenue from Camp Kuring-gai. Ingleside Camp continued to be a drain on resources particularly as it has been closed since October 2023.

The core business of the Region is to provide Scouting activities and support for Groups which resulted in an operating surplus of \$23,601 which was \$10K over budget and can largely be attributed to the ScoutHike 2023 surplus of \$17K. All Scouting Activities, whether at Region or District level are required to achieve a minimum surplus of 10% which I am pleased to report was achieved with all activities conducted.

I would like to thank Donna Staff and Belinda Hose for their valuable help and support over the last twelve months. Thanks, must also go to James Goodman at the State Service Centre for his help and support.

Doug Menzies OAM Region Treasurer

# The Scout Association of Australia - New South Wales Branch North Sydney Region Cost of Operation for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Last Year Actual \$		This Year Actual \$	This Year Budget \$
	<u>Administration</u>		Ψ
	INCOME		
0	Membership Fees	0	0
2,740	Saleable Items Income	3,229	970
0	Sundry Income	0	0
0	Donations	0	0
0	Activty Fees	0	0
-3	Interest - Bank	0	0
0	AGM Fees	0	0
2,737		3,229	970
	EXPENDITURE		
100,923	Salaries & Oncosts	106,512	106,295
2,204	Awards, Badges & Scarves	5,019	600
99	Computer Expenses	380	0
0 0	Depreciation  Membership Fees	137	0
42	Bank Fees	84	48
40	Catering	46	120
0	Electricity & Gas	5,169	0
0	Meeting Expenses -net	132	300
91	Postage & courier	206	200
157	Printing & Stationery	2,390	2,200
116	Repairs & Maintenance	197	300
12,000	Rent and security of premises	12,652	13,000
1,649	Cleaning	1,215	1,980
0	Saleable Items Cost	0	400
1,771	Telephone internet	231	6,600
0	Staff Amenities	0	0
826	Sundry Expense	2,727	0
119,919		137,097	132,043
-117,181	Net Administration Expenses	-133,868	-131,073
-617	Development & Promotion	-422	-2,420
-5,280	Camp Ingleside	-8,209	3,495
-734	Camp Kuring-gai	24,668	273
2,221	Camp Windeyer	1,491	3,782
-3,793	Total Camps	17,949	7,550
35,176	Scouting Activities	23,601	13,855
1,219	Leader Training	5,759	1,070
11,327	Property	21,153	16,944
-73,871	Net Region Cost of Operation	-65,829	-94,074

# The Scout Prayer

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.

Strengthen us in life and comfort us in death.

Let the assurance of thy presence

O Lord our God, accept this prayer

Save us from sinning,

Almighty and everlasting God,



Amen