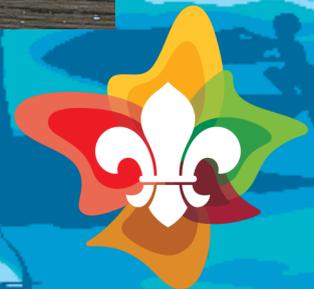




Sydney North Region Annual Report

1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025



Scouts
NSW



Scouts
NSW

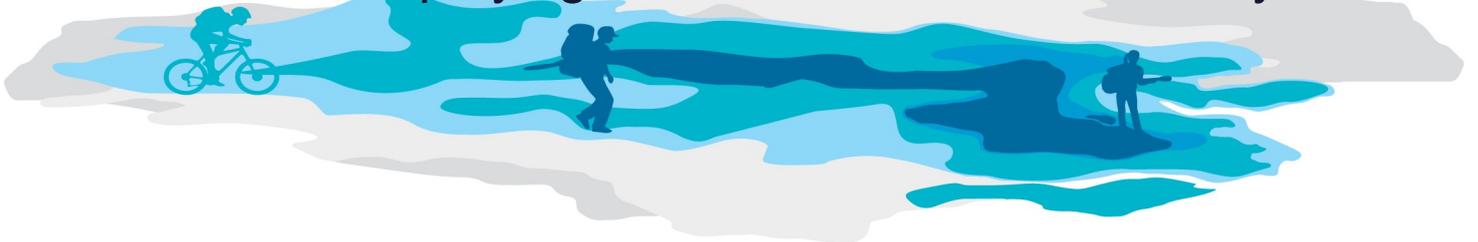
Vision

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



I commend to you this Annual Report of Scouting in Sydney North Region – as always, our young members have been able to take part in an amazingly wide range of activities throughout the community which will be of life-long benefit to them. While there is no doubt that for our young members and their parents the most important people in Scouting are the Leaders in their local Groups (and rightly so), this Annual Report provides an opportunity to recognise and thank the Leaders and supporters “behind the scenes” at District and Region levels who do so much to support the Groups and all the activities which our Youth Members enjoy.

This President's Note is where I can particularly offer the thanks of our community to Kerry Griffin, whose leadership as Region Commissioner for the past ten years has been so exemplary that the Chief Commissioner has purloined him for the State Team, tasked with advising, mentoring and assisting the many new Region Commissioners throughout the State. We are so fortunate that Dean Bassett has agreed to step up as our new Region Commissioner, which will ensure that Scouting in Sydney North will continue to thrive. My sincere thanks also go to Doug Menzies, who has retired from the honorary treasurer role. Doug's professional financial skills in combination with his long experience as District, Region and Chief Commissioner have been of great benefit to the managing of the Region's finances. A special welcome to Jimmy Zhang in this most important role as honorary treasurer.

I would also take this opportunity to thank:

- The entire team of Region and District Commissioners for their skilful support of our Groups and the Activity Teams
- Region Chairman Philip Cooper and the Region Executive Committee members for ensuring our finances and property issues are well-managed
- The Region Activity Teams – read on in this report and you will understand why we are so lucky to have these resources to support our young people
- Donna and Belinda in the Region Office, for their assistance to Leaders and layside supporters throughout the Region.

To all, Good Scouting for 2025-26

Dr Neil Mattes OAM
President - Sydney North Region



Chairman's Note

2024 has been a year of development with both Youth and Leaders with numbers increasing; 7.79% and 3.8% respectively. This is against a State increase of 9.0%. This is certainly encouraging, as it shows a partial catch up from the COVID period decline. However, over the decade it still indicates a slow decline in membership as a proportion of the NSW Youth population. It is also still concerning that Leader numbers are not increasing in line with Youth numbers. This points to a long-term difficulty in Group Management.

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 Dona Staff and Belinda Hose.

I would also like to thank Region Commissioner Kerry Griffin, later Dean Bassett, ably assisted by Deputy Region Commissioner Charles Turner. Kerry has now moved to take on a State Commissioner role. The Region Executive has also been well assisted by the Regional Treasurer Doug Menzies, later Jimmy Zhang. The Executive has been very appreciative of Doug's experience and wish him well as he steps back to enjoy a full retirement. I would also like to express my thanks to the other members of the Executive which included over this period, Region President Neil Mattes, Steve Tuffs, Philip Donald, Robert Rodgers, Mitchell Rath, Mitchell Stubbs, Kacie Turner, Aaron Kew, Tamara Dudfield, Kim Loane and Greg Barr-Jones.

The major matters of operation for the Committee have been a focus on operating expenses and maintenance of Region properties. In order to assist the State organisation finances, the sale of the Region Office property on a long settlement contract was concluded. As yet, the State Service Centre has not indicated the development of any suitable replacement for this very important facility for the running of the Region. In addition, much effort and attention has been devoted to the operation, maintenance and future of Camp Ku-ring-gai. After an extended shut down period the Camp is now open for both Scout and commercial use.

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 - Sydney North Region

The graphic features a stylized landscape with mountains in the background and a body of water in the foreground. In the water, there are silhouettes of a person swimming and a person on a bicycle. The title 'Region Commissioner's Report' is written in a large, bold, green font with a black outline, centered over the water.

Region Commissioner's Report

As a newly appointed Region Commissioner this ARP provides me with an opportunity to reflect on the contributions of all those who efforts make Sydney North strong and resilient – both characteristics we hope to teach our young people.

From the Leaders in our Groups that strive to provide the best Scouting experience for the 4,300 Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers in their care. To the Leaders and supporters in the Region team who work so hard with advice, guidance, activities and skills. To our team of District Commissioners whose work is critical to Group success and the team of Regional Commissioners across our Youth Sections and in Training and Adult Experience, Activities, WH&S, Member Support, Issues Management, Diversity and Inclusion. The range and scope of their experience and contribution demonstrates what modern Scouting requires to function and to deliver for our young people.

Our Region is capable of supporting those thousands of young people on their individual Scouting journey. As Leaders we all know that any involvement in Scouting will make a difference to that young person. We have known this since 1907 but what we offer now is as relevant as it was 119 years ago – maybe even more so in our rapidly changing world.

Our office staff Donna and Belinda continue to provide support above and beyond expectations. “Call Region Office” is the three word magic answer to almost any question asked and, in our experience, no question every goes unanswered.

Our congratulations to all our young people who earned a Peak Award and to all Youth Members who achieved – no matter what the badge. Well done everyone!

Congratulations also to the 150 Leaders and supporters who were recognised for their exceptional service with an Adult Recognition Award in August last year.

Sydney North has been strongly supported by our elected representatives at local government, State and Commonwealth and I would like to acknowledge their support which sometimes goes unrecognised by the general public but which is greatly appreciated across the Region at all levels.

This year I would like to single out the service provided by our Rovers who have assisted the Region in many ways at our activity centre at Barra Brui, and our campsites Camp Ku-ring-gai and Camp Windeyer and in the past at Ingleside. As you may know Ingleside has been returned to State for disposal after many decades of use. In many ways its loss represents a turning point for Sydney North Region. It is now inevitable that we will have to continue to adapt and change and accept that things will not be the same as they were.

However – while change can be painful, we must never lose sight of why we all volunteer. If we do remember we can enjoy our time as Leaders and play a pivotal role influencing the lives of the young people in our care. Through them we can influence the future. Who knows - one of today's Joeys could be the person to find a cure for cancer or change the world for better. Even more importantly ALL our Youth Members will make our society a better place and this is only possible due to the time and commitment given by every Leader in the Region.

Dean Bassett
Region Commissioner Sydney North
Group Leader Normanhurst

Benowie District Report

Scouting remains strong in Benowie District although, as with many other Districts and Regions, some of the weaker Groups struggle to find adults willing to become Leaders.

Once again, I am extremely grateful for all of the dedicated volunteers without whom none of the great activities our Youth Members attend could be held. In particular, I wish to thank Lindy Muir who continues to put enormous energy and imagination into producing successful and attractive programs for our Joey Scouts and Michelle Dalmaris who has taken on the role of District Scout Leader with such an enthusiastic and inclusive approach, as well as thanking Cassie Donald, Region Cub Scout Commissioner for her continued support of that Section.

Joey Scouts participated in a great Fun Day at St Ives Show Ground , followed by a Camp Fire on 17 August and a Hoporee at Camp Kariong over the weekend of 28 and 29 September which was augmented by a contingent from the ACT.

As usual, Benowie District strongly supported Scouthike, with Leaders from 1st Hornsby Heights "Yarama", 1st Cherrybrook, 1st East Wahroonga, T-Rex from 2nd Normanhurst (and Venturers Ruby and Jess from Hornsby Heights Venturers) improving on their 2023 performance to take out the Gold Award for Best Base at Scout Hike 2024. Later in the year most Groups sent patrols to State Rally, but the highlight was the Jamboree where nearly 10,000 Scouts from all around Australia and the world participated in an often wet event at Maryborough in Queensland.

Venturers from Asquith, Normanhurst, Hornsby Heights and Berowra participated in a successful Trivia night in October.

At a Group level, there was continuing success in Youth Members achieving their Peak Awards in all Sections as well as Leaders achieving their Wood Beads. Among many highlights was attending a presentation to recipients of Joey, Cub, Scout and Venturer (x2) Peak Awards with Normanhurst Group.

I do wish to mention the well deserved Silver Kangaroo presented to Brian Engert (Kiap) who commenced his Adult Scouting Journey with 1st Harbord Cubs in 1970 and has provided nearly 50 years' service with 1st Berowra since commencing there in 1976. Brian continues to assist, currently in the role of acting Chairman of the Group Supporters committee!

Finally, I wish to thank Donna Staff and Belinda Hose in the Region Office, who have been so friendly and patient in providing support to me and many other Leaders during the year!

Rob Rodgers
District Commissioner - Benowie



The title 'Garigal District Report' is written in a large, bold, green font with a black outline. It is set against a background of a stylized landscape with blue water, a grey mountain range, and a small blue silhouette of a person climbing a rock face.

Garigal District Report

It gives me great pleasure to present the 2024 Report for Garigal District.

The 2024 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, 4WDing, 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 those Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers who achieved their peak awards. BRAVOOO to the Leaders who received recognition awards and thank you also to those who 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.

Also a big round of thanks to Donna and Belinda at the Region Office for answering my questions, providing advice and making sure stuff gets done.

Personal highlights during the year were attending the 10th Sri Lankan and 12th Taiwanese Jamborees.

One thing in particular is that we all need to work harder in attracting Youth Members and adults to our 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

On behalf of the Ku-ring-gai District I would like to thank the Leaders and Adult support members who step up for weekly Section meetings, Group meetings and weekends to support the Youth Members to maximise the opportunity Scouts provides. It was great to see a number of Leaders and Adult support members recognised for their dedication receiving awards for services to Scouting. These Leaders in turn are supported by Regional and State teams in activities including Bushwalking, Rockcraft, Snowcraft, Water based activities, Gang Show and more, all adding to the comprehensive opportunities for learning and adventure.

Region and District events such as ScoutHike, Dragon Skin, Roventure, Sirius Cup and various District camps have been well attended by Youth and adult members alike. These activities, apart from being great fun, are an opportunity to 'learn by doing' as the Youth work toward their milestones and Peak Awards. Congratulations to all the Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers who attained their Peak Awards over the past twelve months. . These are wonderful achievements and will be remembered throughout their lives.

The West Pymble Scout Group, lead by Mike Foreman, continue to run the important Anzac Day Memorial Services at Bicentennial Park, West Pymble with the support of Youth Members from other Groups in the District and it attracts more than 500 members of the public. The 1st Turramurra Scout Group, lead by Denise Temisgian and Julie Commins, manage the services at the Rotunda at Wahroonga Park and at Turramurra Memorial Park. These Groups and their volunteers do an outstanding job remembering and supporting the veterans and proudly representing Scouts NSW.

The 26th Australian Jamboree (AJ2025) was a great success giving the Scouts the opportunity use and develop the skills they had been learning over a number of years. Importantly, Scouts that missed the last Australian Jamboree (6 years ago) and had subsequently moved up to Venturers were given the opportunity to go to AJ2025 to experience the event that they otherwise would have missed out on. I know that they greatly appreciated this opportunity.

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 and unwavering support. Scouting in the Ku-ring-gai District, as with all Districts in the Sydney North Region, is in a solid position moving into 2025.

Geoff Vaughan
District Commissioner - Ku-ring-gai



The graphic features a stylized background of a coastline with a person swimming and a person on a bicycle. The title 'Lower North Shore District Report' is written in a large, bold, green font with a black outline, centered over the image.

Lower North Shore District Report

Firstly, a big thankyou to all our fantastic Leaders at 1st Balmoral, Cammeray, 1st Clifton Gardens, 1st Greenwich, 1st North Sydney, 1st Northbridge, 1st Mosman, 3rd Mosman Bay, 1st Sailors Bay, 1st Willoughby and 2nd Willoughby who do so much to provide Scouting to the Youth Members in Joeys, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers within our District. Many of these Leaders also enthusiastically participate in a wide range of District, Region, State and National activities. Scouting in the Lower North Shore is also fortunate to have many on our Group Committees and other supporters who with our Leaders freely give their time, effort, skills and active involvement to bring the benefits of Scouting to our Youth Membership – we greatly appreciate all you do.

March found many LNS Groups enjoying either camping for the weekend or day tripping to Balmoral for Sirius Cup. Saturday morning the Scouts competed in the canoeing events followed by sailing races in the afternoon. Sunday began with the Iron Man races followed by the Cub canoeing and more sailing events.

A number of Lower North Shore Venturers and Leaders had a great time participating at Dragon Skin and backed up two weeks later to assist at Scout Hike.

As usual in a pre Jamboree year, there was very strong District support for one of our Region's premier events, the annual first weekend in May pilgrimage to a State Forest for Scout Hike. Scouts enjoyed camping at the sleep points, catching up with friends and participating at the many and varied activity bases. The creativity and resourcefulness of the Leader teams in setting up marvellous activity bases in forest is amazing.

Many other Leaders did a sterling job helping in various capacities including some on the Forest HQ team and others like Matthew Brownlie and his team running Sleep Point 2.

In addition to the above, the District also actively participated at other larger events such as State Rally and more locally in successful Group and District events/activities including Anzac Day Ceremonies, Group Camps, District Camps, Sailing and Canoe training, Youth Leadership Courses, Adult training Courses for Leaders and Supporters, Group revenue raising activities such as Fertiliser Drives and Christmas Tree sales.

While doing the above and more, the Groups continued to run their many and varied regular weekly programs for our Joeys, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers while preparing for AJ2025.

In January 2025 the Australian Jamboree (AJ2025) was held in Maryborough Qld. Those LNS Scouts, Venturers and Leaders who attended greatly enjoyed the event, increased their resilience and skills returning with memories that will last a lifetime. Many LNS and other Sydney North Leaders attended in numerous capacities with roles in various JOC Teams, the NSW Contingent team, and many Line Leader roles in the NSW Units. 1st. Willoughby was LNS's largest Group representation at this Jamboree. It was led by Adam Parker who attended his first ever Jamboree in the challenging role of Unit Leader.

Steve Tufts
District Commissioner – Lower North Shore

Moocooboolah District Report

Joey numbers in Moocooboolah stable, six active Units, Beecroft, Epping, East Ryde, North Ryde, Meadowbank and Roselea. Lyn Mann taken on the DJSL role.

Cub numbers stable, looking for a Leader to take on DCSL role, with Stephen Rooke retiring. Thanks Stephen!

Mitch Leggo working hard in the DSL role, maintaining Scout numbers in the low 200s in the District. Good turnout at Scouthike and State rally, camping numbers still a bit lower than pre covid, but improving. A special thankyou to Leasa Clark, SL at Ryde, for supporting the Units of Meadowbank (1 Leader in training) and Putney (GL looking after Scout Section currently).

Venturers have actually increased numbers, Brush Park going strong, and also Eastwood Marsfield after only a year or so in operation, Mark Lim the driving force there, as well as freely giving of his time as a bushwalking and Rockcraft Guide. Beecroft, East Ryde, Epping, Putney and Roselea in the mix too, and Ryde likely to open a Venturer Unit in the next few months. Still a disappointing number of Vens moving onto Rovers.

Camp Windeyer bookings are still light, surprising with the temporary closures of Mt Keira and Camp K, and the loss of Ingleside. Many thanks due to Alice Martin, JSL at North Sydney, for organising some working bees. Looking forward to construction of new pontoons and gangways being installed, hopefully in time for spring camping. Thanks to assistant wardens Barbara Fenwick, Jen McMahon, Neil Carey and Paul Dadd.

Please get your Groups to utilise the site. We can pickup patrols hiking on the Great North Walk from Crosslands Reserve, and have them camp in a safer environment.

Cameron Jessep
District Commissioner - Moocooboolah



The title 'Northern Beaches District Report' is written in a large, bold, green font with a black outline. It is set against a background of a stylized beach scene with blue water, a sandy shore, and silhouettes of people swimming and surfing.

Northern Beaches District Report

2024 was a year of renewed energy and engagement across the Northern Beaches as Leaders and Units continued to re-establish their regular programming. The sense of normalcy returned with enthusiasm, marked by a wide variety of adventurous activities that kept both Youth Members and families engaged with Scouting.

Joey Scouts and Cub Scouts continued to serve as a strong entry point into the Scouting journey. Their Leaders and District Leaders provided a wide variety of activities throughout the year, fostering adventure and curiosity in our youngest members. Highlights included:

- Canoeing days run by the Northern Beaches Water Activities Team
- Bouldering and indoor rock climbing at local venues
- Fishing expeditions on Narrabeen Lakes
- Swimming at local pools
- Bushwalking through nearby National Parks

These activities not only kept them active and learning but also created valuable first memories of outdoor adventure.

Scout numbers remained stable throughout 2024, with strong engagement across the Units. Scouts participated in major State and District events, including Scouthike, District Camp, State Rally and Jamboree On The Air (JOTA)

These camps played a key role in leadership development, with Scouts learning essential skills in planning, food preparation, camp setup, and activity coordination. The impact of experienced Patrol Leaders was especially evident, boosting the overall morale and confidence of the Units. A special thanks to Tom Miles and Colin Turner for their leadership and guidance throughout these activities.

Venturers had a strong showing in 2024, taking part in high-profile events such as Dragonskin and Roventure. They also played a key role in supporting younger Scouts during Scouthike and JOTA, passing on their knowledge and reinforcing the Scouting values.

We also mark the retirement of long-serving Venturer Leader Dave Norris this year. His dedication and mentorship have been invaluable, and we extend a heartfelt **Bravo to Dave for his many years of service.**

A major focus in 2024 was on training and qualifications for Leaders, especially in Adventurous Activities. Ensuring our adult members are up-to-date and confident in their skills remains a priority, as this directly benefits the safety and quality of Youth programming. Courses offered across the District included Leadership and Management Environmenta, boating, First Aid and Abseiling. Participation was strong, and it's encouraging to see so many Scouts and Leaders taking advantage of these development opportunities.

We were proud to see many of our dedicated Leaders formally acknowledged in the annual awards for their service to Scouting. The hundreds of hours they contribute to planning, programming, and mentoring Youth make a profound impact. Their commitment ensures our young members are equipped with skills and experiences that last a lifetime.

On behalf of the Northern Beaches District, I extend my thanks to all our Leaders, parents, and the Region team for their tireless volunteer work during weekly meetings, weekend camps, and major Scouting events. Also, thanks to our local Councils, State and Federal Government representatives, and the business community for their generous support through sponsorships, donations and ongoing encouragement your contributions embody the true spirit of Scouting and ensure its continued success for generations to come.

Phil Donald
District Commissioner - Northern Beaches

The graphic features the title 'Turrumburra District Report' in a large, bold, green font with a black outline. The text is set against a stylized background of a blue lake with a person in a blue kayak. In the background, there are grey silhouettes of mountains and a blue sky with white clouds.

Turrumburra District Report

The Turrumburra District continues to be a vibrant and collaborative community within the Sydney North Region. We have made significant strides in innovation at our combined District council meetings, leveraging the experience and leadership within both Turrumburra and Lower North Shore Districts. Our District councils are dedicated to not only imparting crucial information from Regional and State levels but also to supporting Group Leaders with a monthly learning focus.

Our District has been proactive in enhancing processes to reduce the burden on both Leaders and Group support committees. This initiative will extend into 2025 with a project aimed at streamlining the P10 process by centralizing test and tag, pest inspections, and fire inspections. A pilot project will be launched in Turrumburra and LNS in 2025. Looking ahead, Groups are eager to better support their committees, particularly their treasurers, through simplified financial reporting.

During our meetings, we have actively shared the 'secret sauce' of our larger groups, offering valuable tips to emerging Groups. These enriching discussions will continue into 2025. One of the key factors contributing to our District's success is the camaraderie among our Leaders, including the sharing of Scout-related humour.

We are delighted to acknowledge the numerous Adult Recognition Awards received by our dedicated Leaders in Turrumburra. Their exceptional service has truly gone above and beyond. A special mention goes to Steve Le Monic for his outstanding service as LIC at 1st East Roseville, after 16 years of dedicated service in various roles. We warmly welcome Russell Smith into the role.

We have also celebrated several peak awards presented to Youth Members within our District, a remarkable achievement across multiple Groups! This reflects the high quality of the programs offered within our District. Congratulations are due not only to the Youth Members but also to the groups that have supported them. To this end, special mention goes to Kim Loane who has actively supported, and remotely supervised a number of peak award adventurous journeys across the combined Districts. Kim was also recently awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship for his contribution to Scouting.

Another one of the highlights of the year has been the establishment of a Rover Unit within our District, the first in many years. Groups are actively encouraged to refer their Venturers to this new Unit to ensure its continued growth and success. Special thanks to Elyse Versace, Emily Marsden, and Tamara Dudfield, along with Epping Rovers, for their support of the fledgling Unit. Venturer Units within the District are currently working with the Rover Unit to have combined nights to encourage linking from Venturers to Rovers.

We look forward to a productive 2025, filled with opportunities for our Youth Members, support for our Leaders, and growth for Scouting within our District.

Belinda Butcher
District Commissioner - Turrumburra

Activities Report

The activities space has seen many changes over the last 12 months. There has been greater emphasis on activity notification processes and ensuring that all Leaders are aware of the requirements and needs to lodge ANS forms. Sydney North Region has continued to work and train more Guides for both our Region and other Regions. Sydney North Region has been working with approximately 15 new Guides to get them ready for assessment. Some are now in the process of being assessed or just about ready to lodge for assessment.

It is important for all of our adult Leaders to gain activity qualifications at either Safe Participant or Trained Participant in the core areas of Bushwalking, Canoeing, Swimming and Cycling. At present we are below our target numbers of qualified Leaders. Whilst we have continued our education program across the Region we are moving to running more training in these core areas so we can hit our target of Leaders holding activity qualifications.

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.

The activities team has 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 and 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. Some of our activities have been over subscribed but capacity is restricting our ability to provide additional activities. Once again I say a big thank to all of the people involved.

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.



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 eight times a year at Lindfield Rocks. Roland Simpson the Co-ordinator continues to do a fantastic job of encouraging out Youth participation. He runs one, two or three, two-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. Our Region activity weekends have been booked out over the last 12 months so you need to get in early to book a spot. 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:

Canyoning has quickly grown to be one of Region's most popular activities. We have had over 150 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 getting out on adventures in Kanagra Boyd National Park. There is always plenty happening with our Rovers hitting some of the more difficult canyons in NSW and Victoria.

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



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.

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 has been a bit quiet this year but has assisted the South Coast team with a number of events. We are on the hunt for more people to assist us so if you are interested 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. They commenced running First Aid nights as part of our Youth night programs. These have proved extremely popular and have been subscribed to. The team has joined up with Royal Life Saving NSW to provide first aid training and our courses have had plenty of

participants. 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 2024. The Region held a basic XCD weekend in July and XCD camping weekend in August. There was also the State Alpine School in July 2024 as well. 2025 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 and Snorkelling):

There have been many water activities happening across our Region with Canoeing, Sailing, Swimming, Surfing, Snorkelling and even some diving. 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.

A big thanks also to all the Activity Team Co-ordinators 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



Wood Badge Roll of Honour

1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

Grant Raja Ratnam	Eastwood/Marsfield Cub Unit
Jin Takamura	North St Ives Scout Group
Catherine Foley	North St Ives Joey Unit
Caitlin Williams	West Pennant Hills Scout Unit
Samuel Marinovich	Brookvale/Curl Curl Cub Unit
Roland Simpson	1st Brush Park Venturer Unit
Jessica Lindsay	2nd Gordon/ 2nd 3rd Lindfield SWASH
Mathew Bennett	Normanhurst Joey Unit
David Hodge	Normanhurst Cub Unit
Martin Orzinski	North St Ives Scout Unit
Marian Vidal Fernandez	North St Ives Cub Unit 'Kangaroo'
Melanie Stray	1st Northbridge Scout Unit
Kim-Marie Davenport	Beecroft Scout Unit
Kin Chi Ling	Epping Scout Unit
Mark Lim	Eastwood/Marsfield Venturer Unit
Ingrid Chapman	1st Seaforth Scout Unit
Blade Puckeridge	1st Hornsby Heights Venturer Unit
Jimmy Zhang	1st Mosman Cub Unit
Marianne Worrall	1st Asquith Cub Unit
Melissa Puckeridge	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Koala'

Diversity & Inclusion Report

Most Scout Groups in Sydney North Region are proudly embracing inclusive policy. Our Region supports this with Diversity and Inclusion training and Mental Health First Aid Training sessions, although more is needed. Scouts Australia mandatory training has limited training modules on this and very little in electives and updates.

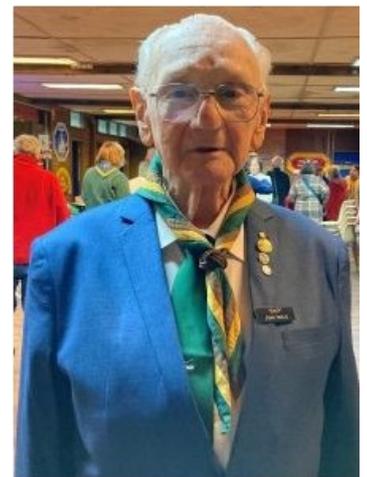
Our Founder encouraged inclusion of Youth with disabilities in the language of his time. During my time in Scouting there has been a steady increase in numbers of Youth and adults with disability and diversity in the Scouting movement despite a decline in quality training and systematic support for Leaders. This decline in support is of greater concern given the leadership expectations on Youth in the Youth Led Adult Supported policy. John Inglis, a former NSW Branch Commissioner for Training, provided regular training sessions and resources on disabilities, autism and behaviour support for Leaders. He passed on many of his resources and support materials to the NSW Special Needs Team and continues to mentor and offer consultation to his fellow members in Gamarada Fellowship.

The NSW Special Needs Team is no longer receiving formal support within the current Scouts NSW Structure but some remaining members are continuing to have informal contact. The Team formerly organised an annual Special Needs Training Conference as well as the popular yearly inclusive NSW Agoonoree Camp. Neither of these have resumed since COVID.

Fortunately, Sydney North Region is committed to increasing Leader support and appropriate training. Leaders are still using their Sensory Kits and updating them with replacement pieces and additional items. As well as being used within Groups, sensory materials are being used at events such as Scout Hike and District Camps. At AJ2025 there were sensory materials in use at Units, Sub Camp Chill Zones, Medical Centre and NSW Contingent HQ. Even the stressed Health and Wellbeing Leaders made use of a few of the fidgets from the HQ Sensory Kit.

Sydney North All Abilities Scout Group is still in operation after 50 years! The Group celebrated their 50th Anniversary last June with 60 past and present members and supporters. The Group's Founder, John Inglis, attended and was presented with a 64 years' Service Award. All current members received Years-of-Attendance Certificates from the Group, with Matt having notched up 30 continuous years!

Beth Mitchell
Regional Commissioner - Diversity and Inclusion





Issues Management Report

Introduction

Tasman McManis has continued in his role as RC Issues Management with on-going assistance from Viv Waddingham Professor of Clinical Psychology and Berowra Venturer Leader.

I would like to thank Viv for her assistance and support during the past fourteen months. It is pleasing to report that the team has only handled a limited number of issues over this period.

It is also important to thank the State Office and Bill Barnes for his support in helping to try and resolve some of the thornier issues that have occurred in the last twelve months. Sydney North has also been able to assist the State Office as an independent third party to help investigate issues in other Regions.

Issues Covered in the Period

During the reporting period the Issues Management team has mainly handled the following types of issues:

- Parents feeling that their child has been treated unfairly by Leaders.
- 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.

Conclusion and Recommendations

We hope that the reduction in the number of issues raised with the team this year reflects improved skills in handling disagreements at the Section, Group and District levels.

Where an issue arises, the introduction of a “cooling off period” followed by an apology will often resolve the issue and reduce the likelihood of any escalation.

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.

Tasman McManis

Regional Commissioner - Issues Management

Work Health and Safety Report

Being on the Region Property Team is rewarding team to be on. One of the roles on the Property Team is to check and close off on P10s - The Scout Hall Inspection Checklist.

The hall inspection check is a part of the Groups ARP requirements as well as a requirement for applying for a Grant.

When completing the P10 the Groups must upload:

- Fire Safety Statement and Certificate of Compliance
- Electrical Inspection Report (Test and Tag)
- Latest Pest Inspection Report
- Latest version of Emergency Plan
- The P10 is an excellent way for Groups to maintain their halls.

We have found that halls which have not had a regular pest inspection which could have a very expensive repair bill if there is termite damage, Below are photos of a Region building with Termites, The bill treatment bill was over \$5000.00.



Being Regional Commissioner WHS is also rewarding job which helping Groups and Leaders with Incidents, Near Misses, Injuries and Illnesses Reports as well as Activity Notifications forms.

One of the main issues people encounter when completing online forms is uploading all the necessary paper work and forms as attachments like risk assessments, Witness reports and or Hospital reports.

When an incident does occur follow up is always advisable by the reporting Leader and a follow up is also done by the WHS Commissioner.

Even though you think the Incident is minor it is best to complete the form because down the track there could be a issue. There have been issues where a Scout member had minor incident which was later found out broken limb. With all the needed forms being filled out when the minor incident happened it means there is less scrambling for information when the issue gets escalated and makes it easier for everyone involved.

Wayne Finch

Regional Commissioner - WHS

Joey Section Report



Joey Scout Units are arranged in three Pouches - Eastern (Garigal Lower North Shore, Northern Beaches and Turrumburra Districts), Western (Benowie and Ku-ring-gai Districts) and Granny Smith (Moocooboolah District). We have over 30 Joey Scout Units in the Region, following the commencement of 3 new Joey Scout Units – 1st Balmoral, 1st Cammeray and 1st Brush Park. Unfortunately, two Units – Brookvale Curl Curl and Cromer-Dee Why – have been unable to regroup after the Covid shutdown and are 'in recess' at present. Nevertheless, Joey Scout numbers have held up with approximately 350 Joey Scouts registered in the Region as at March 2025.

A persistent issue for the Joey Section is the recruitment and retention of Leaders. There are a number of Units with only one or two trained Leaders and therefore relying on adult helpers and parents. Of course, the assistance of Cub and Group Leaders, to provide Leader presence and program support is very much appreciated. The 3 new Units in particular have benefited by the Cub Leaders support, even running joint meetings as Joey Leaders are in training.

The list of Joey Challenge Award recipients shows that slightly over 10 % of Joey Members have achieved their peak award. A very loud BRAVO (or HOP HOP HOP) to these Youth Members, their Leaders and fellow Joey Scouts.

Regional events/activities have been somewhat subdued in recent years with events organized more on a Pouch basis. Wandarrahs have been poorly attended which has restricted the opportunities for networking and sharing of good ideas. The closure of Ingleside Scout Camp also limited the running of Eastern Pouch activities as Ingleside was the site of annual campfires and camps (Unit holidays).

A very successful Joey Fun Day was held at St Ives Showground on Sunday 1 June 2025. The theme was Wide Games and we had 8 activity bases including orienteering, obstacle course, relay races and firefighting. The Western Pouch held campfire in August and ran Hoporee in September. Paddling Skills sessions for Joey Scouts (OAS Paddling Stage 1) were held at Narrabeen Lagoon in November.

I send a sincere Thank You to all Joey Leaders, helpers and supporters who have given our youngest Members the funest year of Scouting experiences.

Jim Baldwin
Regional Commissioner - Joeys



Cub Section Report



The Cub Units in Sydney North Region have had an action-packed year filled with fun and exciting activities! It's fantastic to see our Youth Members staying active and engaged through a wide variety of indoor and outdoor experiences. From bike rides and bushwalks to science nights and Halloween celebrations, the Cubs have been learning, exploring, and having a blast every step of the way.

Many Cub Units also took part in camps like the Sirius Cup, where they enjoyed unforgettable moments and built lasting friendships. Group camps organized by the Activities Team were another highlight, featuring classic favourites like campfires and canoeing days. Campfires brought everyone together for stories and songs under the stars, while canoeing offered a thrilling way to build confidence and enjoy the great outdoors.

We're also proud to celebrate the achievements of our dedicated Youth Members. It's inspiring to see so many being recognized for their hard work and commitment to Scouting. These awards reflect the passion and perseverance that make our community so strong.

A special mention goes to the Cubs who attended the 2024 Governor-General's Camp. They had a wonderful time exploring the grounds and participating in a range of exciting activities.

In August, the Cub Section hosted an exciting Outdoor Adventure Skills (OAS) day that brought together Youth Members from across the Region. The day was filled with hands-on activities designed to build confidence, teamwork, and essential outdoor skills. Participants got stuck into preparing vegetables and meat, which they cooked on gas cookers, learning valuable camp cooking techniques. They also made damper, choosing between twisting it around sticks or baking it into loaves. The adventure continued in the bush, where Cubs constructed shelters using natural materials. These were put to the test with a splash of water to see how well they held up—much to everyone's amusement! To round off the day, the Youth Members practiced basic first aid skills, reinforcing their knowledge in a fun and practical way. The event was a great success, with all who attended having a fantastic time and walking away with new skills and great memories.

Between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025, the Sydney North Region Cub Section supported 48 Youth Members through Personal Development Courses designed to challenge and grow their leadership skills. This investment in our future Leaders is a testament to the strength and vision of our program.

Congratulations to all the award recipients named on World Scout Day 2024! Your contributions are deeply appreciated and make a meaningful difference in the lives of young people. Here's to continued success, growth, and adventure in the world of Scouting!

A big thank you to our amazing Cub Leaders! We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the Cub Leaders for an incredible year. Your dedication, enthusiasm, and creativity have given our Youth Members the chance to experience fun, adventure, and personal growth. From exciting activities to skill-building challenges, you've made a lasting impact—and we truly appreciate everything you do!

Thank you for your time, energy, and unwavering support. Here's to another great year ahead!

Cassie Donald
Regional Commissioner - Cubs

Scout Section Report



The Sydney North Region Scout Section continues to set the benchmark for excellence in Scouting across Australia. Our Units have thrived at the local level, with vibrant weekly meetings and adventurous weekend camps forming the heartbeat of our program. This year has brought fresh challenges and exciting changes, and our Leaders have risen to the occasion with creativity, resilience, and passion. It's been inspiring to see how teams have adapted and evolved, ensuring that Scouting remains dynamic and engaging for every young person involved.

Our District Leaders have once again gone above and beyond, providing invaluable support and guidance to our dedicated Leaders across the Region. The Australian Jamboree in Queensland was extremely well attended and SN proudly sent a large contingent that had an incredible time.

Scouthike 2025 – Pick Your Playlist

This year's Scouthike was an absolute hit—literally! "Pick Your Playlist" brought music, energy, and creativity to the trails of Wingello State Forest, where over 800 Scouts and 450 Leaders, Rovers, Venturers, and Adult Helpers came together for a weekend of unforgettable adventure. The forest echoed with laughter, teamwork, and the occasional burst of song as patrols tackled 29 imaginative and skill-testing activities inspired by musical genres, iconic artists, and legendary playlists.

From "Abba" to "Les Misérables," the activities were as diverse as they were exciting. Units brought their A-game with themed costumes, props, and challenges that had Scouts dancing, thinking, and collaborating their way to success. The competition was fierce, with many patrols earning Silver and Gold awards in one of the closest contests we've seen in years! [Congratulations](#) to 1st Haberfield who won for the second year in a row.

A huge shoutout to the Sleep Point teams who created welcoming, well-organized campsites and supported over 200 Scouts each night with care and enthusiasm. And of course, a massive thank you to Forestry NSW for their support in preparing the forest for our arrival.

We look forward to seeing everyone back next year for Scouthike 2026 'Generational Adventure'



Training, Awards and Regional Highlights

Sydney North continues to lead the way in Basic Scout Training, running 7 courses and training over 150 Scouts—an incredible effort by our District teams! Our calendar was packed with highlights including District Camps, State Rally, JOTA-JOTI, Canoeing and Swimming Carnivals, Link Camps, Pioneering Camps, and Scout Leadership Training. These events, supported by our amazing Leaders, added depth and excitement to the Scouting journey.

We're also thrilled to report a large number Australian Scout Awards presented this year. These peak awards reflect the dedication, perseverance, and growth of our Scouts, and the unwavering support of their Leaders, families, and fellow Scouts. Each award is a testament to the strength of our program and the incredible young people we're proud to support.

Thank You

To every Leader, helper, and supporter—thank you. Your energy, commitment, and passion are what make Sydney North such a powerhouse in the Scouting world. Whether you're running a local Unit night, leading a hike, or mentoring a Scout through their award journey, your impact is immeasurable. Let's keep the momentum going and continue to inspire the next generation of Leaders and adventurers.

Here's to another amazing year of Scouting!

Mitchell Rath
Regional Commissioner - Scouts
Scouthike 2025 Co-ordinator



Venturer Section Report



Venturers in Sydney North have had another fantastic years of activities, with Units getting out and about, and making the most of every opportunity they can, whether it be taking part in local or District events, or attending AJ2025 as a participant or Junior Service Leader. We also have tried out a new format of leadership course to help get the Youth trained up, whilst giving them the opportunity to obtain a Certificate II in Active Volunteering, so thank you to Michelle Dalmaris for putting that together.

Dragonskin 2025 – The Premier Venturer Event in NSW happens every Easter long weekend, and is always a hit. The competition hiking camp which had almost 800 Youth Members attend across 155 teams, saw them descend on Penrose State Forest for a long weekend of challenges and catching up with friends. The winners this year were 2nd/3rd Pennant Hills Venturers for the third year in a row which hasn't been done since 2014.

Thank you to all the Rovers and Leaders who gave up their long weekends (and some the week before) to put on this fantastic event.



Movements in the Section - After 12 years in the position and almost 50 years in the movement David Norris has stepped down as District Venturer Scout Leader for Garigal and Northern Beaches Districts. He has been a strong supporter of Venturers in the area for a long time. Thank you for all the work you have done for the Region and Section. Replacing him is Ed Sawkins - Group Leader 1st Allambie Scout Group has stepped up as the replacement DVSL..

We have also had Maddison Domanko – Venturer Scout Leader – Epping Scout Group , step up as the DVSL for the Moocooboolah and ran a successful District camp at the end of last year, with plans to run another one later this year.

Finally I want to congratulate all those Venturers who completed their Peak Award for the Section in the last year, whether it was a Queen Scout or King Scout as it is a fantastic achievement. I encourage everyone to get the most out of the Section as you can whilst you are in Venturers.

Liam Painter
Regional Commissioner - Venturers





Rover Section Report



It's always pleasing to look back on a busy and active year for Sydney North's Rover Section. Units have continued to engage in a wide variety of activities from 4WDing in Central Australia to hiking in Tasmania and canyoning, caving, camping and everything else in between! Our Rovers continue to not only run amazing activities for themselves but also for others including Turramurra Rovers' Harbour Cruise, Normanhurst Rovers' Magical Mystery Tour, Forest Rovers' Murder Mystery, Kananga Rovers' Bingo Night and Platabeen Rovers' Trivia night, as well as Kalang Kup and CRAP Region Dinner run by Tamara Dudfield from Normanhurst Rovers.

The Region Moot this year, titled 'Mootagascar' was well attended and enjoyed by Rovers from across NSW. Congratulations to Kananga Rover Unit for running a successful event! Unfortunately, we did not have any Rover Units volunteer to run this year's Roventure so the RRC Executive stepped up to run 'Rome-Venture'. This was a collaborative effort with almost every Rover Unit attending with their linking Venturers and bringing an activity to run for each other.

Service to the Scouting and wider community continued to play an important part in Roving in Sydney North with our Rovers giving their support to Anzac Day, Dragonskin, ScoutHike, 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 third year in a row. Two of our Rover Units also participated in Relay for Life with each raising over \$2,000 for cancer research, while Forest Rovers raised over \$1,500 for Youth Up Front with their annual 'Claus for a Cause' event.

The Sydney North Region Rover Council launched some great initiatives this year, including but not limited to rebranding and reinvigorating the Unit Leaders Bridging Course to become the Rover Skills Workshop, creating a centralised storage location for useful documents, and implementing the SNR-focused 'Intro to Rovers' document. Sydney North Rovers continues to be vocal on issues impacting the Rover Section, such as streamlining and updating the alcohol permission process and pushing for reforms in the training space, which may take a few years before we begin to see results, but we will keep fighting for what is important to Rovers at any level of Scouting.

We continue to be proud of Sydney North Rovers' engagement in training. This year has seen more Rovers completing their Program Support Leadership training with 100% of our Rover Unit Leaders holding the Responsible appointment for their Units, truly embodying the 'Youth Led, Adult Supported' ideal of Scouts. We have also had several Rovers complete their Scouting Leadership course this year with congratulations going to Blade Puckeridge from Normanhurst Rovers on receiving his Wood Badge! I know others aren't far off joining Blade and I look forward to more Wood Badges being awarded to SNR Rovers in the coming year.

Sydney North Rovers dominated the NSW Rover Recognition Awards this year with worthy recipients from Forest, Gordon, Kissing Point, and Yaralla Rover Units, as well as Kananga and Kissing Point Rover Units receiving Quality Roving Awards. Congratulations as well to Erika Otero from Yaralla Rovers on the achievement of the Baden-Powell Scout Award which is an incredible achievement!

This year also saw several recipients of our Warawara Award complete their adventures, with Emily Marsden and Daniel Atkinson hiking the Annapurna Circuit Trek in Nepal and Ash Williams hiking 120 km of the Camino Ingles route of Camino de Santiago in Spain.

This year saw a significant change in the Sydney North Rover sphere. For the first time in 32 years, Nick Buchner stepped down as Regional Commissioner – Rovers, transitioning into the role of Assistant Regional Commissioner – Rovers to mentor and support Elyse Versace as she stepped up into the role of Regional Commissioner - Rovers and they completed their handover. At the Region Rover Council Annual General Meeting in March, Nick stepped down from his role as ARC - Rovers leaving the Rover Section in Sydney North in Elyse’s hands.

At this point we would like to acknowledge and thank Nick Buchner, for the incredible passion, dedication, knowledge and support he has not only provided Sydney North Rovers but to the Rover Section as a whole. Outside of his time as a Rover, Nick has been a massive supporter and advocate for the Rover Section in his position as Sydney North Regional Commissioner Rovers for an incredible 32 years as well as Assistant Regional Commissioner Rovers over the last year. There is no doubt that Sydney North Rovers are as strong, knowledgeable, capable and willing to stand up for what they believe in due to the support and guidance Nick has provided. Sydney North Rovers would like to provide their heartfelt gratitude and thanks to Nick for his unwavering dedication to our Section. To commemorate Nick’s time as Regional Commissioner - Rovers, Sydney North Rovers will be hosting a ‘Booting’ Ceremony so please keep an eye out for further details to come.

As we look forward to the 2025/26 year, we 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 Aaron Kew, our 2024/25 RRC Chair who has not only led the team fantastically over the last 12 months but also took the lead on running this year’s Roventure.

We wish the new RRC Chair, Tamara Dudfield, and the 2025/26 Executive team all the best in their new roles and look forward to continuing to support them and the Rovers of Sydney North.

Aaron Kew
Region Rover Council Chair
2024/2025

Elyse Versace
Regional Commissioner -
Rovers

Nick Buchner
Assistant Regional
Commissioner - Rovers







Sydney North Region Annual Report 2024/2025

Joey Scout Challenge Award



Alpha Zhan
Andrew Joscelyne
Aurelia Taylor
Austin Dunne
Charlotte Terterian
Chris Zixin Yu
Dylan Pelly
Edward Gordon
Eli Rome
Emmanuel Barange
Ethan Hodge
Isabel Sai
Jack Spry
Jehan Edirisinghe
Leo Safavi
Liam Siu
Lucas Donald
Lucas Liu
Lucia Andrews
Madeleine Titze
Madeline Barrow
Marcus McCauley
Martin Brennan
Matilda Dibbs
Maya Hocking
Olive Ho
Patrick Finlay
Piotr Otrzasek
Sherlock Yip
Suet Lai
Summer Amor
William Emslie
William Martin
Xinzhe Li
Yanis Sergeevich
Zoey Sun
Zubin Mistri

Beecroft Scout Group
Normanhurst Scout Group
Beecroft Scout Group
2nd Turramurra Scout Group
1st East Ryde Scout Group
1st East Ryde Scout Group
1st Balgowlah Scout Group
1st Berowra Scout Group
1st Berowra Scout Group
1st Berowra Scout Group
Normanhurst Scout Group
1st Cherrybrook Scout Group
1st North Sydney Scout Group
Normanhurst Scout Group
North St Ives Scout Group
1st East Ryde Scout Group
North St Ives Scout Group
1st Cherrybrook Scout Group
1st Balgowlah Scout Group
1st Cherrybrook Scout Group
1st Balgowlah Scout Group
Cromer-Dee Why Scout Group
1st Cherrybrook Scout Group
1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
1st Balgowlah Scout Group
1st North Sydney Scout Group
1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
1st Allambie Heights Scout Group
1st Cherrybrook Scout Group
1st East Ryde Scout Group
2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group
1st East Ryde Scout Group
1st North Sydney Scout Group
Beecroft Scout Group
2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group
Beecroft Scout Group
North St Ives Scout Group

Grey Wolf Award



Aaryan Ramanathan	2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group
Adelaide Wood	1st Asquith Scout Group
Alistair Henshall	North St Ives Scout Group
Anika Leo	West Pymble Scout Group
Benjamin Martel	2nd Gordon Scout Group
Brian Wang	1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group
Caleb Tse	North St Ives Scout Group
Callum Kelly	2nd Gordon Scout Group
Ethan Allman	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
Ethan Rajaratnam	Eastwood/Marsfield Scout Group
Gordonn Lim	2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group
Grace Christie	2nd Gordon Scout Group
Grace Stewart	1st Sailors Bay Scout Group
Hamish Dawes	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
Harry Jenkins	2nd Turramurra Scout Group
Himani Kodikara	1st Turramurra Scout Group
Hugimciu Xiao	North St Ives Scout Group
Imogen Skinner	1st Turramurra Scout Group
Imogen Smith	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
Iris Cui	1st East Ryde Scout Group
James Phillips	1st Cherrybrook Scout Group
Jasper Aspinall	North St Ives Scout Group
Jayden Li	1st East Ryde Scout Group
Jayden Zhou	1st East Ryde Scout Group
Jianuo Sun	1st East Ryde Scout Group
Joshua Orsborn	2nd Turramurra Scout Group
Jowayreah-aylah Aburumman	1st Collaroy Plateau Scout Group
Juliet Hudson	1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group
Justin Mildwater	1st Asquith Scout Group
Kieren Teager	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
Kiyan Aspar	Normanhurst Scout Group
Liam Kwok	1st Cherrybrook Scout Group
Louis Orzinski	North St Ives Scout Group
Lucas Buchanan	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
Lucas Dowsett	Belrose Scout Group
Lucas Kwan	1st Roselea Scout Group
Lucy Massasso	1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group
Matthew Leung	2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group
Matthew McCullough	2nd Turramurra Scout Group

Natasha Sawicki	2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group
Nina Moysey	2nd Turramurra Scout Group
Olinka Adamse	1st North Sydney Scout Group
Oliver Long	2nd Gordon Scout Group
Oliver Pigott	1st Mosman Scout Group
Olivia Deane	1st Forestville Scout Group
Olivier Viardot	1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group
Oscar Choy	1st Asquith Scout Group
Patrick Herath	1st Northbridge Scout Group
Ryan Greer	2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group
Serena Shang	1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group
Timothy Weller	1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group
Tsz Chun Choi	2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group
William Fleming	1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group
Zachary Shelton	2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Group
Zan Vogel	1st East Ryde Scout Group
Zoe Spinks	1st Turramurra Scout Group

Australian Scout Award



Andrew McArthur	2nd Turramurra Scout Group
Anna Belle Ross	West Pymble Scout Group
Arabella Kuras	1st Seaforth Scout Group
Callum Teager	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
Christopher Rooke	Eastwood/Marsfield Scout Group
Damon McStravick	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
David Leverton	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
David Robson	1st Sailors Bay Scout Group
Ethan Sproule	1st Pymble Scout Group
Jack Bock	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
James Waterson	2nd/3rd Pennant Hills Scout Group
Joshua Yeung	1st Pymble Scout Group
Leo Foster	Normanhurst Scout Group
Luca Pritchard	1st Berowra Scout Group
Max Samuels	1st Turramurra Scout Group
Oscar Burton	1st Turramurra Scout Group
Paige Stokes-Blake	West Pymble Scout Group
Remi Gardyne	2nd Turramurra Scout Group
Rian Connors	North St Ives Scout Group
Sarah Rajaratnam	Eastwood/Marsfield Scout Group
William Higgins	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group

Queen's Scout Award



Scott Romanis
Sophia White

2nd/3rd Pennant Hills Scout Group
1st Allambie Heights Scout Group

King's Scout Award



Alyssa Eden
Amelia Kew
Annaliese Healey
Benjamin Butcher
Isabelle Reed
Jesse Swane
Lachlan McIntosh
Matilda Jennings
Michael Elliott

1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
Brookvale/Curl Curl Scout Group
Normanhurst Scout Group
1st Tambourine Bay Scout Group
2nd Gordon Scout Group
Brookvale/Curl Curl Scout Group
2nd Turramurra Scout Group
2nd Turramurra Scout Group
1st Allambie Heights Scout Group

Baden-Powell Scout Award



Thomas Judge

2nd Normanhurst Rover Unit

Rover Recognition Awards

Sophie Carter
Lily-Rose Kraatzwest
Ben MacCormick
Emily Marsden
Robert Sewell
Ben Taylor
Tim Taylor

2nd Gordon Rover Unit
Yaralla Rover Unit
2nd Gordon Rover Unit
Forest Rover Unit
Kissing Point Rover Unit
2nd Gordon Rover Unit
2nd Gordon Rover Unit

Quality Roving Awards

2nd Gordon Rover Unit

Kananga Rover Unit

Kissing Point Rover Unit



David Cooley

07/05/2024

Brian Malligan

03/07/2024

Adult Recognition Awards

Congratulations to the following Sydney North Region Leaders and Supporters who have been honoured in the 2024 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.



Phillip John Donald
Brian John Engert OAM
Carol Elizabeth Lycett

District Commissioner
Group Adviser
Honorary Commissioner (Region)

Northern Beaches District
1st Berowra Scout Group
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.



Barbara Alice Harrison
David Kenneth Norris

Cub Scout Leader
District Venturer Scout Leader

1st Collaroy Plateau Cub Unit 'Possum'
Garigal District

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.



Larissa Nicole Thompsett	Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Unit 'Drop Bears'
Linda Diane Osborne	Cub Scout Leader	1st Narrabeen Cub Unit
Peter Alexander Thomson	Regional Commissioner (Special Duties)	Sydney North Region
Shane John Harrison	Scout Leader	1st Collaroy Plateau Scout Unit

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.



Craig Bennett	Cub Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Koala'
Denise Lyn Temisgian	Group Leader	1st Turrumurra Scout Group
Glenn Brown	Assistant Scout Leader	2nd Gordon Scout Group
Kevork Temisgian	Scout Leader	1st Turrumurra Scout Unit
Melinda Jane Muir	Joey Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Joey Unit
Quentin George Amos	Deputy Region Commissioner	Sydney North Region
Toby Robert Atkinson	Scout Leader	1st Elanora Heights Scout Unit

Outstanding Service Award

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



Craig Williams	Group Treasurer	1st Narrabeen Scout Group
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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.



Alison Anne Auld	Assistant Scout Leader	1st/2nd Harbord Scout Unit
Andrew Dean	Venturer Scout Leader	1st Mt Colah/Mt Kuring-gai Venturer Unit
Andrew Introna	Cub Scout Leader-P	1st Berowra Cub Unit 'Kangaroo'
Andrew John Mosey	Scout Leader-P	1st Mt Colah/Mt Kuring-gai Scout Unit
Angus Richard Ferguson	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Turramurra Scout Unit
Belinda Elizabeth Butcher	District Commissioner	Turrumburra District
Belinda Hose	Region Office Assistant	Sydney North Region
Brenton Peter Hesty Swain	Cub Scout Leader-P	1st Mt Colah/Mt Kuring-gai Cub Unit
David Anthony Brown	Group Chairman	Brookvale/Curl Curl Scout Group
Duncan John Armour	Group Adviser	1st Berowra Scout Group
Glynis Elizabeth Matthews	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	Cromer-Dee Why Cub Unit
Jamie David Briggs	Assistant Scout Leader	2nd/3rd Pennant Hills Scout Unit
Jeltje Elisabeth Jansen-Buijtendorp	Group Leader-P	1st Mt Colah/Mt Kuring-gai Scout Group
Johannes Eduard Tjoa	Cub Scout Leader	Normanhurst Cub Unit
Karen Margaret Bartlett	Assistant Scout Leader	Cromer-Dee Why Scout Unit
Katherine Irene Ward	Joey Scout Leader-P	1st Hunters Hill Joey Unit
Keith Bernard Clarke	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Northbridge Scout Unit
Kevin James Bryant	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	Fairlight/Manly Cub Unit
Kevyn James Lockyer	Provisional Leader (Scout)	North St Ives Scout Unit
Kirsty Frances Redmond	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Collaroy Plateau Cub Unit
Leah Clarke Fisher	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Pymble Scout Unit
Liam Gordon Painter	Regional Commissioner (Venturer Scouts)	Sydney North Region
Linus Paul Hindmarsh	Scout Leader	Normanhurst Scout Unit
Lori Diane Graff	Assistant Joey Scout Leader	1st Hunters Hill Joey Unit
Maddison Zoe Hubert Domanko	Venturer Scout Leader	Epping Venturer Unit
Mairi Gracia Baker	Scout Leader	Killarney Heights Scout Unit
Malcolm John Faed	Adult Helper	Brookvale/Curl Curl Scout Group
Marcus Craig Miller Saint	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Turramurra Scout Unit

Margarete Katherine Lindsay	Joey Scout Leader	2nd/3rd Lindfield Joey Unit
Mary Cathy Morcom	Group Chairman	2nd St Ives Scout Group
Mary Josephine Ison	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Asquith Cub Unit
Matthew Stephen Rath	Fellowship Member	Wallumetta Scout Fellowship
Melissa Ann Puckeridge	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Koala'
Michael Kristian Fridolfsson	Venturer Scout Leader	1st Collaroy Plateau Venturer Unit
Nicole Jane Judge	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Unit 'Yarama'
Nigel Colin Clark	Assistant Scout Leader	Ryde Scout Unit
Paul Anthony Kelsey	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st/2nd Harbord Cub Unit
Paul William Ommundson	Adult Helper	Sydney North Region
Peter Vincent Wyatt	Venturer Scout Leader	1st Boronia Venturer Unit
Philip Robert Gibson	Fellowship Member	North Harbour Scout Water Base Scout Fellowship
Sharon Janine Schweisfurth	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Koala'
Stephen Thomas Fulwood	Scout Leader-P	West Pymble Scout Unit
Steven Le Moenic	Scout Leader-P	1st East Roseville Scout Unit
Stuart James Warren	Venturer Scout Leader	1st North Sydney Venturer Unit
Timothy James Hiley	Cub Scout Leader-P	1st Clifton Gardens Cub Unit
Tracey Kew	Group Committee Member	Brookvale/Curl Curl Scout Group
Trevor Stuart Kennedy	Fellowship Member	North Harbour Scout Water Base Scout Fellowship
Yvonne Maree Parks	Adult Helper	Hornsby Gang Show Scout Group

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.



Aaron Jarrod Kew	Assistant Joey Scout Leader	Brookvale/Curl Curl Joey Unit
Adam Desmarchelier	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	2nd Turramurra Cub Unit
Adrian Harry Trollor	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Allambie Heights Cub Unit
Alan Charles Ralton	Adult Helper	Hornsby Gang Show Scout Group
Alethea White	Joey Scout Leader-P	1st Allambie Heights Joey Unit
Alexander Keller	Cub Scout Leader-P	1st Terrey Hills Cub Unit 'Walumedas'
Alicia Mary Kemmers	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Frenchs Forest Cub Unit
Amanda Lynette O'Driscoll	Venturer Scout Leader	1st East Ryde Venturer Unit
Amit Gavriel Dor-Shiffer	Group Treasurer	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Group
Amy Handa	Adult Helper	North St Ives Scout Group
Andrew Raymond Flarey	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Berowra Cub Unit 'Kangaroo'
Andrew Surjadi	Cub Scout Leader-P	North St Ives Cub Unit 'Kangaroo'
Andrew William Bock	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Unit 'Yarama'
Anne Christina McStravick	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Wombat'
Anthony Higgins	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Unit 'Drop Bears'
Benjamin Matthew Smith	Group Treasurer	1st Lindfield Scout Group
Betina Ann Campbell	Adult Helper	Hornsby Gang Show Scout Group
Catherine Grinham	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	Cammeray Cub Unit
Cheuk Yee Wan	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	2nd/3rd Lindfield Cub Unit
Chi Man (Samuel) Tsang	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Turramurra Scout Unit
Christina Rosa Wood	Adult Helper	Cromer-Dee Why Scout Group
Christopher Michael Long	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Wombat'
Christopher Pickard	Provisional Leader (Group)	1st Seaforth Scout Group
Christopher Webb	Adult Helper	Hornsby Gang Show Scout Group
Darren Raynes Greenow	Group Chairman	1st Elanora Heights Scout Group
David Barnard	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Boronia Scout Unit
David Barrie Kinchington	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	2nd St Ives Cub Unit 'Natani'

David Ernest McStravick	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Wombat'
Donna Lorraine Quirke	Adult Helper	Hornsby Gang Show Scout Group
Edward Cedron Brian Caine	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	Cammeray Cub Unit
Edward William Sawkins	Group Leader	1st Allambie Heights Scout Group
Emma Margaret Burns	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	Cammeray Cub Unit
Emma-Jane Reeve	Trainee Leader (Cub Scout)	1st Allambie Heights Cub Unit
Eric Tse	Group Leader-P	Chatswood Scout Group
Fan Zhang	Trainee Leader (Cub Scout)	North St Ives Cub Unit 'Kangaroo'
Frank Eric Wassmann	Adult Helper	North St Ives Scout Group
Gavin John Hunter	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Koala'
Gavin Smith	Assistant Joey Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Joey Unit
Georgia Tracy	Assistant Joey Scout Leader	1st Allambie Heights Joey Unit
Glen Charles Connors	Provisional Leader (Scout)	North St Ives Scout Unit
Grant Christopher Holland	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Scout Unit 'Drop Bears'
Grant Phillip Johnson	Assistant Scout Leader	1st Lindfield Scout Unit
Howard Clifford Game	Group Secretary	1st Berowra Scout Group
Jacqueline Reavie	Adult Helper	Cromer-Dee Why Scout Group
Jan Bos	Venturer Scout Leader	Fairlight/Manly Venturer Unit
Jane Lawrence	Assistant Joey Scout Leader	1st Tambourine Bay Joey Unit
Jason Bernard Lewis	Scout Leader-P	Cammeray Scout Unit
Jason Burton	Scout Leader-P	1st Boronia Scout Unit
Javier Jason Christie	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	2nd Gordon Cub Unit
Jennifer Anne Edey Jones	Venturer Scout Leader-P	West Pymble Venturer Unit
Katrina Greeves	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Allambie Heights Cub Unit
Kushal Kumar Ghose	Group Secretary	North St Ives Scout Group
Marian Vidal-Fernandez	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	North St Ives Cub Unit 'Kangaroo'
Martin Charles Wall	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Koala'
Martin Orzinski	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	North St Ives Cub Unit 'Kangaroo'
Matthew Neil Verity	Cub Scout Leader-P	1st Turrumurra Cub Unit
Melissa Jane Bradley	Assistant Joey Scout Leader	1st Allambie Heights Joey Unit
Natasha Maree Greenow	Adult Helper	1st Elanora Heights Scout Group
Nathan Shelton	Cub Scout Leader	2nd/3rd Lindfield Cub Unit
Neil Rodger Watson	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Allambie Heights Cub Unit
Nia Haf Kirkham	Group Secretary	1st Elanora Heights Scout Group
Nicholas Collett	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Koala'
Nicole Marchhart	Scout Leader-P	Eastwood/Marsfield Scout Unit
Patrick Greer	Scout Leader	2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Unit
Paul Michael Farrar	Scout Leader	1st Frenchs Forest Scout Unit
Paul Rooney	Assistant Venturer Scout Leader	1st Willoughby Venturer Unit
Peter Lambert	Cub Scout Leader-P	3rd Mosman Bay Cub Unit

Randolph Yue	Trainee Leader (Scout)	2nd/3rd Lindfield Scout Unit
Ray Flemming	Trainee Leader (Cub Scout)	1st Tambourine Bay Cub Unit 'A'
Richard Lane	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Hornsby Heights Cub Unit 'Wombat'
Sean David Cassidy	Adult Helper	Cromer-Dee Why Scout Group
Shaeden Watson	Cub Scout Leader-P	Roseville Cub Unit
Simon Hudson	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Tambourine Bay Cub Unit 'A'
Stephanie Louise Spackman	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	1st Berowra Cub Unit 'Kangaroo'
Stephen William Read	Cub Scout Leader-P	1st Willoughby Cub Unit
Steven Kimberley Green	Assistant Venturer Scout Leader	1st East Ryde Venturer Unit
Thomas Alexander Robb	Trainee Leader (Cub Scout)	1st Berowra Cub Unit 'Kangaroo'
Thusitha Naweendra Ambagaha Kanththe Gamage	Assistant Joey Scout Leader	2nd/3rd Lindfield Joey Unit
Tim Bathram	Scout Leader-P	1st Tambourine Bay Scout Unit
Tracey Leanne Marshall	Group Treasurer	1st Clifton Gardens Scout Group
Travis Roberts	Venturer Scout Leader-P	1st Hornsby Heights Venturer Unit
Vijayandhran Valayatham	Scout Leader-P	1st Willoughby Scout Unit
Weidong Alex Fan	Adult Helper	North St Ives Scout Group
Xiaoxiang (Judy) He	Hall Booking Officer	North St Ives Scout Group
Zoe McLaughlin	Assistant Venturer Scout Leader	1st Collaroy Plateau Venturer Unit

Sydney North Team

Region Supporters Council 2024 - 2025

Office Bearers

Patron	Mr Matt Kean Member for Hornsby
Region President	Dr Neil Mattes OAM
Region Chairperson	Mr Philip Cooper OAM
Region Treasurer	Mr Doug Menzies OAM (outgoing)
Region Commissioner	Mr Kerry Griffin (outgoing)
Deputy Region Commissioner	Mr Charles Turner
Deputy Region Commissioner	Mr Dean Bassett (outgoing)
Rover Council Representation	Two representatives from the Sydney North Region Rover Council

Region Uniform Office Holders

Region Commissioner	Mr Kerry Griffin (outgoing)
Deputy Region Commissioner	Mr Charles Turner
Deputy Region Commissioner	Mr Dean Bassett (outgoing)
Region Groups Representation	Chairperson of each Group within SNR Group Leaders or Leaders In Charge of each Group within Sydney North Region

Regional Commissioners

Joey Scouts	Mr James Baldwin	Issue Management	Mr Tasman McManis
Cub Scouts	Ms Cassandra Donald	Diversity and Inclusion	Mrs Beth Mitchell
Scouts	Mr Mitchell Rath	WHS	Mr Wayne Finch
Venturer Scouts	Mr Liam Painter	Property	Mr Gregg Barr-Jones
Rovers	Ms Elyse Versace	Members Support	Mrs Faye Bowers
Adult Training & Development	Mr Stephen James (outgoing)	Activities	Mr Wesley Leverton

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	Nick Buchner
Scouts	Liam Pullan

District Commissioners

Lower North Shore
Benowie
Northern Beaches
Garigal
Moocooboolah
Turrumburra
Ku-ring-gai

Mr Steve Tufts
Mr Robert Rodgers
Mr Phil Donald
Mr Tom Miles
Mr Cameron Jessep
Dr Belinda Butcher
Mr Geoff Vaughan

Honorary Commissioners

Mr Barry Greenland
Mr Craig Watford
Mr Ian Londish
Mr Paul McIntyre
Ms Rhonda Christie
Mr Theodore Webb

Mr Carl Spinks OAM
Mr David Cooley
Mr John Tibbitts
Mr Peter Navin
Mr Rohan Reynolds

Community Representatives

The Federal Member of Parliament for MacKellar
The Federal Member of Parliament for Bradfield
The Federal Member of Parliament for North Sydney
The Federal Member of Parliament for Berowra
The Federal Member of Parliament for Bennelong
The Federal Member of Parliament for Warringah
The State Member of Parliament for Wahroonga
The State Member of Parliament for Epping
The State Member of Parliament for Lane Cove
The State Member of Parliament for Hornsby
The State Member of Parliament for North Shore
The State Member of Parliament for Ryde
The State Member of Parliament for Davidson
The State Member of Parliament for Pittwater

The State Member of Parliament for Willoughby
The State Member of Parliament for Wakehurst
The State Member of Parliament for Manly
The Mayor of Northern Beaches Council
The Mayor of Hunters Hill Council
The Mayor of Hornsby Shire Council
The Mayor of Ku-ring-gai Council
The Mayor of Lane Cove Council
The Mayor of Mosman Council
The Mayor of North Sydney Council
The Mayor of Ryde Council
The Mayor of Willoughby Council

Region Executive Committee 2024—2025

Region President Dr. Neil Mattes OAM
Region Chairperson Mr. Philip Cooper
Region Treasurer Mr. Doug Menzies OAM
Region Commissioner Mr. Kerry Griffin (outgoing)
Region Commissioner Mr. Dean Bassett (incoming)
Deputy Region Commissioner Mr. Charles Turner
Deputy Region Commissioner Mr. Dean Bassett (outgoing)
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
Region Treasurer Mr. Doug Menzies OAM
Region Commissioner Mr. Kerry Griffin (outgoing)
Chairperson Region Property Mr. Gregg Barr-Jones

Delegates to Branch Council

Region President Dr. Neil Mattes OAM
Region Chairperson Mr. Philip Cooper
Region Commissioner Mr. Kerry Griffin (outgoing)
Deputy Region Commissioner Mr. Charles Turner
Deputy Region Commissioner Mr. Dean Bassett (outgoing)
Regional Commissioner Rovers Ms. Elyse Versace



Treasurer Report

I would like to start off to thank Doug for all the work he has done for the Region in the last few years on treasury matters, and to also Dean for trusting me to take on this very important role for the Region for the next three years.

In the financial year 2024/2025, our actual operating cost was \$131,175, which was below our budget of \$156,992. However, this included over \$50,000 in doubtful debt, mainly from unpaid invoices. We will take additional actions over the next twelve months to ensure Group invoices by the Region are paid in full and on time, as well as establish a formal conciliation protocol to resolve any disputes fairly and quickly.

Camp Ku-ring-gai was closed for the entire year last year due to WHS issues identified. We have subsequently asked the State for a loan to put it back in compliance and have also run promotional activities to all Scout Groups to encourage use of the updated facilities. Looking ahead, the newly opened camp would bring income to the Region and allow us to use that to support Scouting in general.

ScoutHike generated a surplus of only \$6,000 due to lower-than-expected participation. Additionally, we postponed the Regional Cub camp to the 2026 financial year because of repair work at Camp Ku-ring-gai.

Looking ahead, one of the upcoming initiatives of the State, which I wholeheartedly support, is to streamline the treasury process of the Group to ensure we have a single consistent way that we manage, record and prepare accounts. This will hopefully remove many of the manual processes that the Group is currently doing and reduce the amount of time that volunteers spend on back-end administration activities for the Group.

We are also mindful of cost of living that many families are experiencing and we will strike a balance between the needs of the families and the organisation. Our goal is use the financial resources we have available to maximise the experience of the Youth and adult members, whilst at the same time ensuring all families no matter its financial situation will have the opportunity to participate in Scouts.

Lastly, I want to thank Donna Staff and Belinda Hose for their assistance over the past twelve months, and Doug and the State Team for their support during the transition.

Jimmy Zhang
Regional Treasurer

The Scout Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God,
By whose grace thy servants are enabled to fight
the good fight of faith and ever prove victorious;
We humbly beseech thee so to inspire us
that we may yield our hearts to thine obedience
and exercise our wills on thy behalf.

Help us to think wisely,

To speak rightly,

To resolve bravely,

To act kindly,

To live purely.

Bless us in body and in soul

And make us a blessing to our comrades.

Whether at home or abroad

may we ever seek the extension of thy kingdom.

Let the assurance of thy presence

save us from sinning,

Strengthen us in life and comfort us in death.

O Lord our God, accept this prayer

Amen



Scouts
NSW