

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Congratulations to our 2020 Scout of the Year winners!



Scouts NSW is proud to congratulate the four category winners of the 2020 Scout of the Year Award – Emma Ouyang, Katelyn Cleary, Luke Meyers and Lachlan Page! The winners were announced at the 2020 Scout of the Year Awards Ceremony, which took place online via Microsoft Teams on 7 November. BRAVO to all winners for their exceptional contribution to Scouting and their communities.

Our updated Organisation and Information Handbook



The updated edition of the Scouts NSW Organisation and Information Handbook (O&I) is now available on the [Policies, Resources and Information](#) section of the Scouts NSW website. All adults in Scouting are encouraged to read and refer to the O&I to ensure they are aware of, familiar with, and abide by the rules necessary to fulfil their role in supporting Scouting. Read the O&I [here](#).

Introducing our new Adult Training Curriculum



Scouting is often noted as having some of the best leadership training in the world – and our Adult Leader training just got even better! Scouts NSW is excited to announce the launch of our new Adult Training Curriculum, developed to ensure our Adult Leaders have an exceptional foundation to support youth members of any age and the refined skills to make a real difference to the development of the Scouts within their chosen age section. To read about the new Adult Training Curriculum, [click here](#).

Lift your Scouting to the Next Level - AJ2022 Expressions of Interest Now Open!



You've waited all year for something exciting to come along, and [drum roll] it's finally time to register your interest for the next Australian Jamboree.

And what an adventure we've cooked up! We started with a meticulously planned recipe devised over the border in Victoria, added a concoction of dry ingredients from AJ2019, then blended in some spicy adventures, plenty of vertical rising agents and a few sweet treats, and finally the health team conducted a full taste test, before the cooking started.

So here it is - the most anticipated major Scouting event on the horizon - AJ2022. For those who've not experienced a Jamboree, you can find out all about it on our [special website](#). For those who've been before - expect the unexpected! There are heaps of new experiences coming your way.

There'll be overnight Expeditions - imagine two days of water activities, or honing your performing arts skills at a theatre. At the Activity Worlds, there's something interesting for everyone - from abseiling to robotics from snorkelling to metalwork! Then there's CubJam - a special day for Cubs to taste the Jamboree experience and Festival Day - when parents are finally allowed a sneak peek behind the scenes.

Don't wait any longer. It's time to get your [Expression of Interest](#) in today! There's no obligation and no money required. We just need to know if you're keen, and you'll then be the first to hear when applications open next year. Let's make this cake rise to a new level in 2022!

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

@ Home and Abroad – International Scouting Webinar Series



Ever wanted to travel overseas with Scouts? Now you can learn the ins and outs of International Scouting with @ Home and Abroad – a webinar series brought to you by the Scouts Australia International team! Join each session to learn about International Scouting, discover some great concepts and activity ideas for your Group and participate in the live Q&A discussions. Dates for the first three sessions in November/December have been released, with more webinars to come in 2021.

Check out the [Scouts Australia International Facebook page](#) for more information on the sessions, and details to join!

YOUTH PROGRAM

Recognising our Youth Member Peak Awards



Current youth members who have achieved a Peak Award during their Scouting journey are now able to purchase a newly designed badge for each Peak Award they have earned. Orders must be submitted by Wednesday 30 June 2021 by clicking the link [here](#). If you have any questions, please email liam.brown@nswscouts.com.au.

70% of Groups on our new Youth Program

In October, the Program Transformation Team completed the second virtual Youth Program Upskill for over 50 Groups and all remaining Rover Scout Units across NSW. This milestone brought us to 70% of NSW Groups implementing the new Youth Program!

The final Youth Program Upskill for 2020 will be held this weekend, providing Leaders with a better understanding of the foundations and application of Program concepts. If you haven't yet begun your new Program journey, email nyp.support@nswscouts.com.au to discover how you can jump on board as soon as possible in early 2021.

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Update on Mental Health First Aid Training

Following the second round of Expressions of Interest, a further eight adults have been registered to undertake their Instructor Training through Mental Health First Aid Australia!

BRAVO to Anthony Pritchard and Paul Hamer, who recently completed their training to become Teen Mental Health First Aid instructors! Over the coming months, Anthony and Paul will be booking dates to visit Regions to provide Mental Health First Aid training to Venturer Scouts. Three other Leaders – Wendy White, Glenda Webb and Andrew Collins are also in the process of completing their training as Youth Mental Health First Aid instructors.

A number of Regions have already expressed their interest for MHFA courses in their Region, with dates being scheduled. If you have any questions about Mental Health First Aid, contact the team on mhfa@nswscouts.com.au.

District Commissioner recognised with Volunteer of the Year Award



Congratulations to Paul Hamer, District Commissioner at Southern Coast District, who was named the South Coast Region's Volunteer of the Year by Volunteering NSW! Paul was recognised for his work in Mental Health First Aid training with Scouts and schools in the local area. BRAVO!

TRAINING

Get ready to cycle this summer!



Cycling is one of the Outdoor Adventure Skills and with the days getting longer, Term 4 is a great time to include cycling activities in your program! You do not need additional qualifications if you are running a cycling night with your youth members and will be riding in your local urban area, including on local bike paths. You will need a Cycling Level 2 qualification if you want to ride off-road (Mountain Biking) or venture further afield such as for a bike hike or adventurous journey (Cycle Touring).

If you are at all unsure about your activity, write a plan and risk assessment and discuss it with your Region Commissioner - Activities. They can advise you on whether you need the Level 2 qualification.

STATE NOTICEBOARD

Refreshed WHS Procedures

We recently invited members to comment on the proposed minor changes to the WHS Procedures. The refreshed set of newly-authorised Procedures can be now viewed through the Health and Safety page [here](#). There is also a new Procedure called [Use of Volunteer Skills](#), which assists members in understanding what tasks can and can't be done by unqualified volunteers, and how to safely apply skills or trades to Scouts in line with WHS laws.

Even though the changes are minimal, and the expectations have not changed, now is a good time to remind yourself of the topics covered by these Procedures. It may surprise you to learn what is regarded as 'work' and how this applies to you. If you are involved in volunteer activities called 'work' you are expected to follow these Procedures. For more information about Health and Safety including an FAQ on 'what is work?', visit the Scouts NSW Health and Safety page [here](#).

Youth Safety in Scouting

Scouts Australia NSW is committed to operating as a youth safe organisation and implementing youth safe policies and practices in accordance with the elements of a child safe institution outlined by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse report entitled *Creating Child Safe Institutions*.

Remember

All suspicions, concerns or allegations about criminal matters or child protection matters should be reported directly to the Chief Commissioner, the Deputy Chief Commissioner (Youth Safety, Compliance and Support), the CEO or the Child Protection Officer at the NSW State Office. To make a report use the online [youth protection form](#), call 02 9735 9000 or email youthprotection@nswscouts.com.au.

Imminent Danger

If someone is in danger NOW, the matter should be reported directly to NSW Police on 000. Where a report is made to the Police, you must also subsequently notify Scouts NSW State Office.

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