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# Scout groups share in \$138k

THREE Port Stephens Scout groups will receive funds of between \$20,000 and \$89,000 to upgrade their halls.

Nelson Bay, Anna Bay, and Tilligerry Scouts are among eight Hunter groups that will share in a combined \$327,000, allocated by the NSW Government towards the upgrade of Scout facilities located on Crown lands.

Funded by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Nelson Bay Scouts will receive the largest sum from the eight Hunter groups.

It will receive \$89,000 to repaint the outside of its Nor-

burn Avenue hall, replace external guttering and remove an old boatshed.

Anna Bay Scouts will receive \$28,000 to renovate the kitchen and refurbish the bathrooms in its Fishermans Bay Road hall, including providing disabled toilet access.

Tilligerry Scout Group will receive \$21,000 to remove an old kitchen and construct a new one in its Coweambah Way hall.

Scouts NSW chief commissioner Neville Tomkins OAM said the stimulus funding would improve Scout facilities and help them attract more members.

"We are delighted with the NSW Government support that will assist an enormous number of communities by upgrading Scout facilities and improving the amenity of buildings and campsites," he said.

The Minister for Water, Property and Housing, Melinda Pavey, said communities had done it tough during COVID-19, including organisations like Scouts whose activities have been disrupted.

"Upgrade work will also support local economies with work for tradies and material suppliers."