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### ***World Scout Day and Adult Recognition Awards***

Dear members and supporters,

On 1 August, we celebrate **World Scout Day** and **Scout Scarf Day**, commemorating the very first Scout Camp on Brownsea Island in 1907.

It is also when we celebrate outstanding adult volunteers, who have made an incredible contribution to Scouting through their generous gift of volunteering.

This year, possibly more than any other, every adult volunteer across NSW has faced significant challenges. Our personal freedoms have necessarily been restricted so we can collectively protect each other from a devastating disease. Our resilience, tenacity and community mindedness have been put to the test. I believe that Scouts are more prepared than others to handle the current lockdowns across much of our State.

I would like to thank you for following the NSW health advice and taking care of yourselves, your loved ones and those in your local communities. I am so proud of the incredible kindness I've continued to witness within our Scouting family, as we reach out and check that others are ok.

Even though most of us will be spending the day at home, we can still wear our scarf with pride. The scarf is a wonderful symbol for our promise to do our best and leave the world in a better place.

There are some fascinating stories about the Scouting scarf and the woggle. The scarf is believed to have originated during Robert Baden-Powell's participation in the Second Matabele War in Zimbabwe in 1896. There, he worked alongside an American-born Scout whose practical style of dress impressed Baden-Powell so much that he ended up prescribing a scarf as an official part of the Scout uniform. Initially, the scarves were tied with a variety of knots as well as experimental rings made from bone, rope or wood. The Turk's Head woggle was eventually invented from bound leather by Bill Shankley, a naturalised Australian. There is a story that the first woggle may even have been worn in Australia and imported into other countries when Australian scouts attended overseas Jamborees. Regardless of whether it's true, the original woggle is still right here in Australia. Shankley's son donated it to Scouts and it is housed at the Tasmanian Scout Heritage Centre.

So I encourage you to wear your scarf, and your woggle with pride!

#### **Adult Recognition Awards**

This year, 236 of NSW's finest adult members and supporters of Scouts NSW have been honoured in the annual Scouts Australia Adult Recognition Awards.

They are a fitting tribute to the outstanding service of many adults across our great State. Collectively, they have given thousands of young people the opportunity to flourish through adventure, discovering new talents and developing skills for life.

My sincere thanks and congratulations go to the 2021 Adult Recognition Award recipients.

The contributions of these remarkable individuals has changed lives and made a positive difference to your local communities, and the emerging leaders of the future.

I would like to thank every single volunteer and supporter across NSW. Your resilience, enthusiasm and tireless dedication gives us confidence that we will leave the world in a better place.

To view the full list of Adult Members who received Adult Recognition Awards, please click [here](#).

Yours in Scouting,

Neville Tomkins OAM JP  
Chief Commissioner  
Scouts Australia (NSW Branch)

To contact the Chief Commissioner, please email [chief.commissioner@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:chief.commissioner@nsw.scouts.com.au).

*Scouts NSW acknowledges the traditional custodians of country throughout NSW.  
We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.*

#### **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@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:youthprotection@nsw.scouts.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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