



[Trouble reading this email? click here](#)

16 August 2022

## Rallying

Dear Leaders and Supporters,

### Dick and Pip Smith Leadership Through Adventure Fund

Looking to help your youth members fund their next grand adventure? Are your youth members thinking of challenging themselves to lead an adventurous journey, scale a mountain, or lead a Unit to explore the unknown in an epic experience? Do they need funding to support these goals?

The first round of applications for the 'Dick and Pip Smith Leadership Through Adventure' Fund opens on Thursday 1 September and closes 9 October.

I would like to encourage all leaders to draw this incredible opportunity to their youth members (from Joey Scouts to Rover Scouts) in their units.

Learn more about this amazing opportunity [here](#).

### State Rally

Recently, Scouts NSW held our largest ever event in two years – State Rally. From Friday night to Sunday afternoon over 5th to 7th August 2022, some 1,750 members gathered at Cataract Activity Centre for an action-packed weekend. Scouts came from far and wide across the state, bused in from as far as the Riverina to pitch their tents and get active in the great outdoors. I am delighted that all ten Regions participated in the event. From obstacle courses to a flying fox, giant swing, and learning bushcraft skills, there was lots to join in with. The theme was “Don’t Look Back” and it really felt like we have brushed off the last two years to rebound and only look forward! Just take a peek at these photos to see how much fun and adventure was had!

Of course, none of it would have happened without the leadership of our incredible organisers. Special thanks to Mitchell Stubbs and Charlotte Gleeson and their hard-working Team for organising the event and to the crew on the ground at Cataract for providing such a safe and inspiring place to hold it, including all the volunteers who gave up many weekends prior, and the weekend itself, to make this magic happen! Our young Leaders made a real impact throughout the weekend.



### Board meeting update

Also taking place at Cataract over that weekend, our new-look Board held their first face-to-face meeting since some [new Directors were appointed at the Annual General Meeting](#).

It was a productive two days, with a high-level strategic focus for the future sustainability of our organisation. Thanks to all the Directors for giving up their weekend in a voluntary capacity to help guide our Movement’s direction - and to the team from the State Service Centre, led by CEO Carolyn Campbell. A number of senior Managers also joined to present on priority projects.

I was delighted our Directors, joined by our Chief Executive Officer, were able to take time out from the Board meeting to view a number of the State Rally activities and to show our support to our youth, volunteer Leaders and Supporters.

### The Last Great First – Polar Explorers in the Snowy Mountains

If you, or anyone you know, are likely to be in the Snowy Mountains on **29 August at 6pm**, head along to an inspiring free talk by Scouts Ambassadors, Dr Gareth Andrews and Dr Richard Stephenson, about their upcoming first full unsupported ski crossing of Antarctica. This feat of endurance is in partnership with Scouts Australia - with the two doctors having recently been [invested into Scouts at Government House in Canberra](#).

Later this year they plan to ski 2,600km over 110 days, pulling 200kg sleds with all their supplies, coast to coast across the last uncharted continent. As Ernest Shackleton said - it's *"the last great adventure in the history of South Polar exploration"*.

Several young Scouts will also be present to share stories about their adventurous activities, and there will be opportunity for Questions & Answers and refreshments after the talks. [Book a spot here](#).



### New Appointments - DCC & RC

Following the completion of a merit-based selection process, Scouts NSW is pleased to announce some new appointments as follows:

**Luke Saunders** has been appointed to the role of Deputy Chief Commissioner (Youth and Program Support). Sincere thanks go to **Chris Buggie** for acting in the role in the interim. [You can read more about this here](#).

We also congratulate the following Region Commissioners on their appointments:  
**John Selwood** - Hume Region  
**Ron Critcher OAM** - South Coast & Tablelands  
**David Scott** - The Golden West

Many thanks go to **Ray Read**, **Anthony Pritchard** and **Gavin Arnold** for having acted in these respective positions in the interim. [Find out more here](#).

### Adult Recognition Awards

Last but most certainly not least, in case you missed it, our Adult Recognition Awards were announced on the stroke of midnight on World Scout Day – 1 August - (which was also [Scout Scarf Day](#), when every current and former member of our global Scouting community was encouraged to wear their scarf out in the wide world!).

The list of awardees is [here](#). Please join me in congratulating them all for their achievements over such a sustained period of time.

P.S. if you have a photo of yourself somewhere unusual out and about in the community in your scarf on Scout Scarf Day, please send it to [communications@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:communications@nsw.scouts.com.au).

Yours in Scouting,

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

### 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, CEO, State Commissioner (Youth Protection & Issues Management) or the Manager of Safeguarding Youth, Issues Management and Research at the NSW State Service Centre. To make a report you may use the [online youth protection form](#), call 9735 9000 or email [YouthProtectionTeam@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:YouthProtectionTeam@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.

You've received this email as a member of Scouts Australia NSW, or through your email address being the contact email provided for a member of Scouts Australia NSW.

Should you no longer wish to receive emails like this one, please contact the Members Services Team at the State Office with your email address and member number to have your membership record updated - [info@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:info@nsw.scouts.com.au).

To stop receiving these emails [click here](#).



[www.nsw.scouts.com.au](http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au)

© Scouts Australia NSW

