

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Vote for Scout of the Year - People's Choice!

SCOUT of the Year 2022 Finalists

We have nineteen incredible Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts who are our 2022 NSW Scout of the Year Finalists! These powerhouse young people have created epic community-based projects and changed the world in 2022. We want YOU to help celebrate the achievements of our awesome finalists by voting for your favourite before midnight on 18 October 2022. Just [click here](#) to read about these awesome young people and then vote.

The People's Choice winner will be announced with all the Section winners at our Scout of the Year Award Ceremony on 26 November 2022.

Joey Scouts	Cub Scouts	Scouts
Pepper Thompson	Daniel Green	Lauren Channon
Chloe McLennan	Lucy Gabriel	Glyn Savage
Ollie Wicks	Varoon Lalithraban	Casey Lee
	Sophie Perisini	Cobalt Walsh
Venturer Scouts	Rover Scouts	
Emma Johnston	Aaron Tomlins	
Elizabeth Wells	Melissa Jones	
Archie Todd	Eleanor Critchley	
Patrick Hubbard	Cameron Letta	

Call for applications for Chief Commissioner, Scouts NSW

A search is currently taking place for the appointment of the next Chief Commissioner as the current Chief, Neville Tomkins OAM, JP, nears the end of his term of office. Applications are encouraged from people of all ages, genders, and backgrounds - the closing date is **9am on 24 October 2022**. Find out more [here](#).

Antarctic explorers' presentations & Scouts challenges



Not long now until our Scouts 'Ambassadors' - Doctors Gareth Andrews and Richard Stephenson - set off on a mission to undertake the longest ever unsupported ski crossing of Antarctica! Ahead of that, their final training session took place in the Snowy Mountains, alongside Scouts from across the State - from Dubbo to Broken Hill and beyond. A special presentation was also given about the expedition - [watch it here](#).

Your Group can even simulate some of the challenges the intrepid explorers will undertake - [click here for inspiration!](#)

For younger Scouts aged 5-12, there's an *Antarctica for kids* website including a free online presentation by the explorers these school holidays on Friday, 30 September 2022 at 10am. They'll cover climate change, polar exploration and, of course, penguins! [Register here](#).

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

YOU + LEAD: Scouts Leadership Program



Applications are now open for the 2022 YOU + LEAD course. It's designed to give Scouts, Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts the opportunity to better understand themselves and the way they work within a team context, in order to become a successful leader within Scouting and their community. Two sessions will run - at Heathcote (Sydney) from 11-13 November 2022 and Glenrock (Newcastle) from 9-11 December 2022. [To apply, click here](#) but get in quick - spots are limited and filling fast. Applications close 28 October (Heathcote) and 25 November (Glenrock).

Dick & Pip Smith Leadership through Adventure Fund - closing soon

It's not too late for Scouts under the age of 25 to throw their hat in the ring to undertake life-changing challenges with support from the Dick & Pip Smith Leadership through Adventure Fund. Successful applicants will receive co-contributions to activities that develop leadership skills and demonstrate responsible risk-taking, including Outdoor Adventurous journeys, training courses for Outdoor Adventure Skills - even international expeditions! Applications close 9 October so hurry. [Click here to read more](#).

Raise Our Voice in Parliament

Here's a great chance for young people's voices to be heard in Parliament. Over 70 Federal politicians have agreed to use one of their 90 second speaking slots to read a speech written by a young person aged 21 or under from their electorate. Eligible Scouts in the following electorates are encouraged to submit their thoughts by 19 October on what they want to see from Australia's new Parliament: Bennelong; Macarthur; Fowler; Cunningham; Macquarie; Wentworth; Robertson; Werriva; Warringah. [Find out more here](#).

GRANTS

ClubGRANTS - Category 3 Infrastructure Grants

If your Group has got a building project of over \$10,000 in mind, consider applying for this grant. The program funds construction, alteration, renovation, completion and fit-out of buildings and community infrastructure to deliver outcomes for disadvantaged communities in NSW, including those in regional, remote and drought-affected areas, or for culturally and linguistically diverse, disability-focused, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander or disaster-affected communities.

Applications open on 10 October and close on 31 October 2022, so start thinking about your submissions now. First step is to check out the [Scouts NSW Grants Policy & Toolkit](#). If you have further questions contact grants@nsw.scouts.com.au

UPCOMING EVENTS

100 years young

Congratulations to 1st Hazelbrook who are celebrating their centenary on 16 October 2022 from 10am to 2pm, with morning tea, a sausage sizzle and yarns by the campfire. There's also a special collectors' item badge and drink bottle to commemorate the occasion. For more info call Aafke on 0409 302 153.

Is your Scout Group having a 'significant milestone birthday' soon? If so, let us know at communications@nsw.scouts.com.au.

STATE NOTICEBOARD

Risk Assessment Form update

To streamline our approach to risk management, the Scouts NSW Risk Assessment Forms have been consolidated into a single document. The new *Risk Assessment Form* now aligns with the national safety criteria from Scouts Australia (as featured on *Scouts Terrain*). This means we now have a single form that accommodates the *5x5 Risk Matrix*. Therefore, there is no longer a form with a *3x3 Risk Matrix*. You can find the new form under [Health and Safety here](#).

To reflect this change, there have been minor changes to the *Work Health & Safety (WHS) Risk Management Procedure*. We have also introduced *WHS Risk Tolerability Criteria* in NSW - rated as extreme/high/medium or low (as there is no related criteria at the Scouts Australia level). If you have any questions regarding these changes please contact Martin Jones, Executive Manager Operations, Compliance & Risk - martin.jones@nsw.scouts.com.au

Australian Scout Promise

With the sad passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, we have updated the *Australian Scout Promise*. There are two versions and individuals may select which version they wish to make. For those who choose to pledge allegiance to a monarch, there has been a single change in the wording from 'Queen' to 'King' as shown below:

On my honour
I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to my God, and
To the King of Australia,
To help other people,
And to live by the Scout Law.

Recruit the next generation of Leaders!

As Term 4 draws near, now is a great time to reach out to potential new Leaders to get them interested in volunteering for Scouts from early 2023. The easiest way to do this is for your Group to run a *Leader Build* event. This is essentially an open night at your Hall (usually on the same night as Group meetings), with a presentation about what's involved. It's a simple, step-by-step program that your Group can follow to run such an event. Resources available include a Powerpoint presentation, promotional material and brochures on becoming a Leader. Find out more and watch a webinar recording about it [here](#) and order your Leader Build pack [here](#).

Scout Scarf Day - Hunter MP scarfs up!



Singleton Scout Group celebrated Scout Scarf Day on 1 August by inviting their Federal MP, the Hon Dan Repacholi to receive a scarf. He was pleased to accept it and proudly wore it around Parliament in Canberra. Scout Scarf Day, and other events, are a great opportunity to update your Federal and State MPs, and local Mayor/Councillors, on what your Group is up to. Remember, they can also be strong supporters for grant applications and other initiatives!

North Coast Region Rally



North Coast District Scout Leader, Phil Shepherd, sent in this serendipitous photo of the recent North Coast Region Rally (that took place from 9-11 September), thanking Scouts NSW Chief Commissioner Neville Tomkins OAM, JP and everyone else involved for participating.

TRAINING

Aspiring Trainer's Program

Calling all young people who are interested in training others! If you have knowledge on how to apply the Youth Program in a Unit setting, then the Aspiring Training Program (ATP) might be for you. The Program offers coaching, mentoring and formal skills development, and is designed to help participants grow personally and professionally in their skills to deliver training and conduct assessments of a variety of Scout Training Curriculums and Programs.

The Program will run until 31 March 2023 and continue to run in 12-month periods thereafter. Adult leaders and Rover Scouts must hold a current *Wood Badge* and *Certificate of Appointment Youth Program Leadership*. Venturer Scouts must be aged 16 or above and have at least 12 months Scouting experience. Keen? Then fill out the Expression of Interest form [here](#).

Youth & Teen Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)

We all know how critical mental health is so skill up on this vital issue at these upcoming training courses across the State:

- **St Ives; 29 October 2022 (9am-5pm)** - MHFA St John's Ambulance Training
- **Oatley; 23 October 2022 (8.30am to 5pm)** - Face to face (& an online component prior)
- **Dapto; 30 October 2022 (9am to 1pm)** - Refresher course
- **Jamiesontown; 12 November (9am) to 13 November 2022 (5pm)**

Scouts in the headlines

- [Read this touching tribute to Her Majesty from 1st Burrill-Ulladulla Scouts](#)
- [Meet Chloe Starling, one of the last Queen's Scout Award recipients](#)
- [And meet Sam Marinovich, another recent Queen's Scout Award recipient](#)
- [Finally, check out the ABC's coverage of Scouts and The Last Great Fight](#)

Youth Safety in Scouting

Scouts NSW is committed to operating as a youth safe in 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 Scouts NSW Service Centre. To make a report use the online youth protection form, call 02 9735 9000 or email 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 Service Centre.

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