



02 NOV, 2022

Called to Higher Service Norma Joan Notley OAM

Weekly Times, Sydney

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Called to Higher Service – Norma Joan Notley OAM (Jan 1921 – 11 Oct 2022, 101 years old)

By Neville Tomkins OAM
Scouts NSW
Chief Commissioner

It was with enormous sadness that I was advised last month of the passing of one of our greatest Scouters - Mrs Norma Notley OAM.

For close to a record 70 years, Norma served as a dedicated Leader of Scouts NSW, predominantly with the 1st North Ryde Scout Group, Moocooboolah District, Sydney North Region.

Norma first became an Assistant Cub Scout Leader with the 1st North Ryde Cub Pack in 1954, and was still an Honorary Leader (Group) with that same Group at the time of her passing. In between Norma served as the Group Leader, Group Public Relations Officer, Group Advisor, and at the District level.

For her extraordinary service to Scouts, Norma received many prestigious awards, including the Silver Emu in 2017. To our delight, Norma was honoured with the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) on the Queen's Birthday 2021 for "service to youth through Scouts".

I had the privilege of presenting Norma with the Chief Commissioner's Certificate of Appreciation on 30 January 2021 to coincide with her 100th Birthday. On that day, over 100 Scouts, Leaders, Supporters and friends gathered outside her home to sing Happy Birthday to her and to give her a

huge B-R-A-V-O.

The happy occasion was reported on the front page of the "The Weekly Times".

Norma was a legend, and an inspiration to us - youth members, adult Leaders and Supporters alike.

Her passion for Scouting, her dedication to her youth members, and her belief in the values of Scouting were extraordinary.

As Cameron Jessop, District Commissioner (Moocooboolah) said at Norma's OAM celebration: "Norma is the epitome of the Scouting spirit, never happier than when she was doing something with her family, or with second family, the Scouting movement... Norma can regale you with many tales of her life in Scouting and you can see the sparkle in her eyes when she is talking of events when she has been helping others... you will not meet a sweeter lady."

Norma lived every aspect of her life according to the Scout Promise and Law.

We were each privileged to know Norma.

We express our heartfelt condolences to Norma's extended family at this difficult time.

Norma passed away peacefully on the morning of October 11 at the age of 101 years and 7 months - the oldest Scouter in Australia - and one of the longest-serving Leaders in the history of Scouts NSW.

Norma's passing marks the end of an era for us.

Vale Norma Notley OAM - may your soul rest in eternal peace.



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☐ Scouts NSW Chief Commissioner Neville Tomkins presents the late Norma Notley OAM with a Certificate of Appreciation on 30 January 2021 to coincide with her 100th Birthday. TWT On-the-Spot PHOTO