

LEADER NEWS SUMMARY

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HOT OFF THE PRESS

Scout of the Year award winners



This year 19 incredible Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts were 2022 Scout of the Year Finalists! These powerhouse young people have created epic community-based projects - find out about their achievements and who was recognised at the Awards celebration held on 26 November [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

1st Africa Rover Moot



Ever dreamed of seeing BP's resting site? Well now you can! The 1st Africa Rover Moot applications are open until midnight (AEDT) on 12 January 2023. Starting on 12 April 2023 with three days pre-Moot discovering Nairobi, 10 days at a first-of-a-kind Moot finishing on 25 April, to a spectacular (optional) post-tour through some untouched and beautiful landscapes of Tanzania concluding on the gorgeous island of Zanzibar on 5 May. For the adventure of a lifetime, [apply now here!](#)

[Click here for more information about the Moot.](#)

TRAINING

Defensive driving & trailer towing courses

Scouts Motoring is offering the following courses for all licenced Scouting members (including Red and Green P plate licenses), Adult Helpers and Group Committee Members:

- Defensive Driving Course - 19 March & 21 May 2023
- Trailer Towing Course - 19 February & 16 April 2023

These one-day courses will be held at Nirimba TAFE in Quakers Hill – for details and bookings [click here](#).

GRANTS

Community Building Partnership 2022 grants winners

Congratulations to all the Scouts NSW Groups who were successful in the recently announced Community Building Partnership 2022 grants. Over \$800,000 will go towards 31 projects from Grafton to Jindabyne and West Wyalong to Warilla. The grants team is currently working through the deeds, the fastest and first being those with all the documentation already submitted.

New Grants Team



(Photo taken at recent staff Christmas party).

Welcome to Leonie Hellmers (left) and Kim Kingston (right) who form the new Scouts NSW grants team. Together they have over 30 years' experience in grants management. They look forward to touching base with members in the New Year.

STATE NOTICEBOARD

Peak award event at NSW Government House



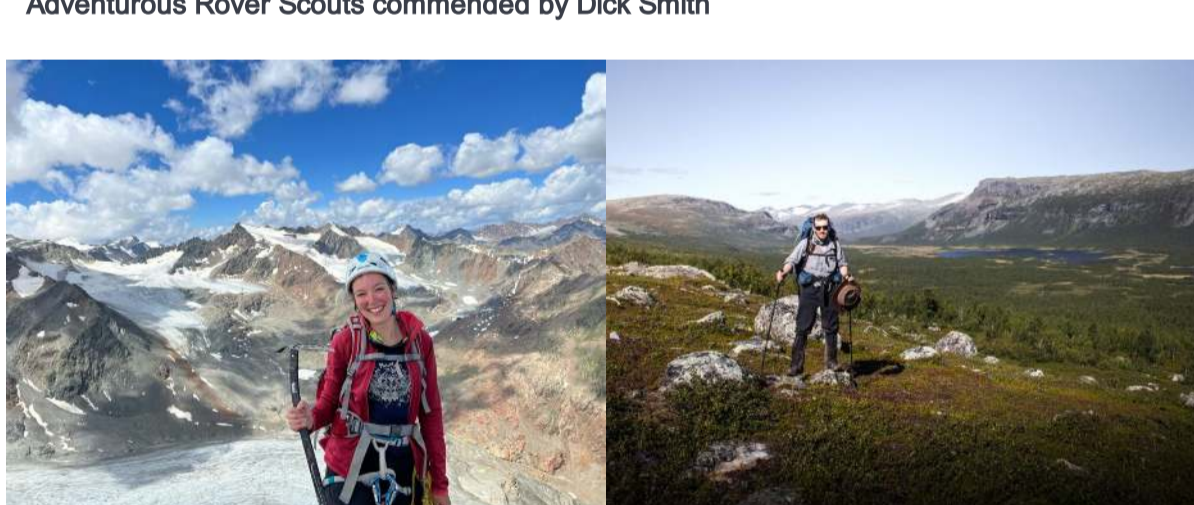
On 17 December 2022, 68 Queen's Scout and Baden-Powell Scout Award recipients from 2019-2021, who had been unable to attend an award ceremony at Government House due to the pandemic, finally joined the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC for morning tea. Well done to them all for their achievements and resilience! B-R-A-V-O-O-O!

FIRST LEGO League



Scouts love outdoors, but also indoor, activities – including STEM – and a group from NSW recently participated in the 'FIRST LEGO League' (an international science & robotics event for 9-16 year olds). The National Championships (East) were held at Macquarie University on 3 December 2022, where they had a fantastic time with a day of high-energy robotics fuelled by dancing, sugar and music!

Adventurous Rover Scouts commended by Dick Smith



Two Rover Scouts, Charlotte Mason of 2nd Gordon Rover Scout Unit and Hugh Percival of 2nd Normanhurst Rover Scout Unit, recently returned from challenging expeditions in Europe that were substantially funded by the **Balthasar Award** established by entrepreneur Dick Smith 37 years ago.

Charlotte undertook a canyoning course in the French Pyrenees, a mountaineering course in Austria and then did more canyoning in Switzerland and Italy. Read more about Charlotte's expedition [here](#).

Meanwhile, following a visit to the outstanding Kandersteg International Scout Centre nestled in the Swiss Alps, Hugh completed the Kungsleden ("King's Trail") in Lapland, a 460km trek of 28 days through wild, glacier-carved country near the top of Sweden. Read more about Hugh's expedition [here](#).

[Read more here.](#)

Canoe skills event at Lake Illawarra



On 28 November 2022, South Coast & Tablelands Keirawarra District held a basic canoe skills night at Lake Illawarra, Tuggerah & Bay. It was an adventurous activity night to help Scouts work on their level 2 and 3 paddling badge, strokes and rescues, and care of gear. Nearly 50 Scouts attended from several local Groups. They were also supported by Venturer Scouts and a Boating Education Officer from Transport for NSW. The Scouts learned how to safely have fun around water and a new Scout was even invested on the canoe raft that night!

Seasons Greetings

Wishing everyone who makes Scouts the incredible organisation it is, a fun-filled holiday season. Bring on 2023 for more adventures!

[Click here](#) to watch a highlight reel of 2nd Mortdale at one of their Christmas trees sales.

SCOUTS IN THE HEADLINES

- **Chloe named Joey Scout of the Year** - Coast Community News (December 5 2022)
- **Uludulla-Burrill Scout, Pepper the 'people's choice' in 2022 annual awards** - Ulladulla Times (November 30 2022)
- **"Get in quick": Local Christmas tree shortage impacting Mosman, Cremorne and Neutral Bay** - Mosman News (November 29 2022)
- **Hay Scouts produce two State champions** - The Riverine Grazier (November 27 2022)
- **"Not nearly enough for demand": Wild weather wipes out Christmas trees** - Brisbane Times (November 27 2022)
- **Christmas trees for kids** - Northern Beaches Advocate (November 25 2022)

Youth Safety in Scouting

Scouts 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 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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