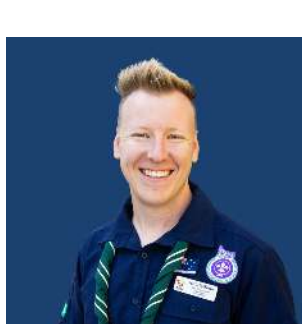


## HOT OFF THE PRESS

### New Scouts NSW Chief Commissioner designate announced



The Scouts NSW Board is delighted to announce that with the support of the Chief Scout of NSW - Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC, the Chief Scout of Australia – His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC SSC (Retd).. has appointed Lloyd Nurthen to the role of Chief Commissioner for Scouts Australia NSW.

Read about Lloyd's service to Scouts to date [here](#).

### New Membership & billing system - ScoutHub

## WELCOME TO THE 2023 SCOUTING YEAR!



Read on for important info about our new membership & billing system – ScoutHub

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- Annual membership 1 January – 31 December is now in place
- Invoices are being sent 1 February – one month to pay (only Youth invoices at this stage)
- State membership fee is \$270 for the year
- Covers 'Trek 1' (1 January – 30 June: \$167.50) and 'Trek 2' (1 July – 30 December: \$102.50)
- First Active Kids voucher can now be used (expires 30 June 2023)
- A credit of \$67.50 per member from 2022 applies if continuing in Scouts this year
- Returning members using Active Kids voucher and their credit pay zero for 'Trek 1'
- \$60 Registration fee for new members
- Group Activity Fees still to be invoiced locally for 'Trek 1'
- New membership & billing system - launching in the coming months! Be a part of the early adopter roll out by submitting your interest [here](#) or become a champion and join our 'train the trainer' team [here](#).
- [Click here for more important information.](#)

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

### State Youth Council applications open!



Are you a Scout, Venturer Scout or Rover Scout? Do you want to explore leadership, community involvement, meet passionate Scouts from across the State, and have your say in Scouting at a State Level? Applications are now open for 2023 members of the Scouts NSW State Youth Council! Applications close at midnight on Sunday 5 March 2023 - [Click here to apply!](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Applications are Open for Cuboree 2023!

Come *Explore the World* with us at Cuboree 2023, from 29 September - 3 October! You'll swing through the trees, journey through the desert, dive under the sea and shoot for the stars. Register by 20 February to go in the draw to win a VIP experience at the Opening Ceremony experience for your Unit. Apply now and find out more [here](#).

## TRAINING



The first Leader training courses for 2023 close on 24 February. For more information, including a list of prerequisites for each course, refer to the training calendar [here](#). Prerequisites need to be completed prior to applying so please check these out. If you have any questions regarding the calendar or pre-requisites, please contact Training Services at [training@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:training@nsw.scouts.com.au).

### Defensive driving & trailer towing courses

It's not too late to sign up for the Scouts Motoring 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](#).

## MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

### Mental Health First Aid training

Congratulations to the attendees at the recent Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) course held at 1st Wentworthville Scout Hall. Info on future courses (that are subsidised, to invest in this important area) can be found [here](#).

If you'd like a MHFA course run in your Region, please contact the team - [mhfa@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:mhfa@nsw.scouts.com.au)

### Update on Mental Health First Aid proficiency and badges

In response to the increase in mental health challenges in our communities, many Scouts members have sought qualifications in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) and now proudly wear a MHFA badge on their uniform.

In December 2022 the National Operations Committee endorsed some changes to how members achieve industry standard qualifications and how members display their qualification. The Scouts Australia *Policies and Rules* is currently being updated to reflect this change for Venturer Scouts, Rover Scouts and Leaders and for Scouts holding qualifications. This change will be embedded early in 2023.

Effective immediately, the only approved MHFA badge permitted to be worn on the Scout uniform is the rectangular navy Program badge sold by the Scout Shop that is worn on the sleeve next to your First Aid badge.



## STATE NOTICEBOARD

### Youth Representative for the World Organisation of the Scout Movement



Congratulations to Meg Cummins, Scouts NSW Assistant Chief Commissioner (Youth Engagement) who has been appointed as a Youth Representative for the World Organisation of the Scout Movement. Her designated advocacy area is the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Scouts NSW Chief Commissioner, Neville Tomkins OAM JP said: "This is exciting news for Scouts. The SDGs are one of Meg's many passions. Meg has presented on the SDGs to the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Scouting, impressing backbenchers to Ministers with the fact that Scouts worldwide is the largest youth contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals."

Meg said: "I'm incredibly excited to work alongside an amazing team of 21 young change-makers from around the world to amplify youth voice and ensure all young people have a seat at the table when our future is being decided."

### NSW Parliamentary Friends of Scouting



At the end of last year, Jenny Riley (Chairperson) & Toby Chandio (Vice Chairperson) of our State Youth Council (pictured), together with Scouts NSW Chief Commissioner, Neville Tomkins OAM JP, gave an online presentation to the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Scouting.

This group from all political parties consists of members who have an interest in Scouting, and is currently chaired by Melanie Gibbons, MP (State Member for Holsworthy) with Deputy Chair, Sonia Hornery MP (State Member for Wallsend).

Jenny and Toby confidently provided a great online presentation covering the Youth Voice of Scouting and its important role in promoting the UN Sustainable Development Goals through the Scout of the Year Awards.

The Parliamentarians were clearly inspired by the great work of Scouts NSW, well summed up by a message from Jodie Harrison, MP for Coogee that "the community work done by Scouts is fabulous!"

### Summer Alpine School



The inaugural Scouts NSW Summer Alpine School has just wrapped up - and they don't call it the Snowy Mountains for nothing, with snow in summer! Based out of the Alpine Activity Centre in Jindabyne, the School had 75 Scouts, Venturer Scouts, Rover Scouts and Leaders from across NSW working towards obtaining Certificate II or III in Outdoor Recreation, and/or Assistant Guide and Guide qualifications. In the first few days of camp, they ticked off bushwalking, paddling, abseiling, rock climbing, pioneering, cycling and horse-riding. Next up was a choice of 3-day expeditions either mountain biking, bushwalking or white water canoeing in this amazing alpine terrain. Keep your eyes peeled for future camp bookings.

### Book about 1988 World Jamboree

Ron Critcher recently attended the launch of a book by Ross Taylor called *Is The Impossible Possible?* - a story about the 1988 World Scout Jamboree Surf Carnival at Thirroul on 8th January 1988. Some 12,000 Scouts were bussed there from Cataract Activity Centre in 200 buses for the event! Those who attended may be interested in reading it – it's only available through Collins Book store in Thirroul (cost is \$14.95).

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](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 Service Centre.

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