



July Newsletter



Term 2

Term 2 has been a busy one for the 1st Ermington Scouts. There has been a number of different activities that the Scouts have participated in : Caving at Wee Jasper, Scout Hike, combined Science night with Venturers, Scout Leadership course, Vivid Festival of Light, Jamborette, ANZAC Day Dawn Service and a visit to the ANZAC Memorial at Hyde Park. We have also welcomed a number of new Scouts into the troop and we wish Daniel all the best in his move to Venturers. Term 3 is looking to be just as exciting with State Rally coming up, Practice Comp Camp and Comp Camp. We will have some patrols participating in State Rally which is good to see. A number of Scouts will be planning to undertake some challenging Adventure (Blue) Badge/Cord activities whilst others will be looking to get their Pioneer (Red) Badge/Cords.

B.R.A.V.O.O.O

Wee Jasper Caving

At the start of the Holidays when Term 1 finished a number of Scouts and their families made the journey to Wee Jasper for a fun filled weekend of camping and caving. This is one of the more popular region camp trips on the calendar during the year - due the limited numbers and broad interest early registration was important.



The weekend gave many scouts the chance to achieve their caving badge - which is not easy as it requires a lot of effort. Congrats to the scouts that achieved their caving badge and thank you to the families that were able to make the weekend so successful. A big note of thanks to everyone involved that made the weekend a great success.





Scout Hike 2013



On the 3rd - 5th May Scout Hike 2013 was held in the Southern Highlands. Scout Hike is run by Sydney North and the theme for this year was 'All Things Nautical'. It was the 20th year celebration. We had one Patrol this year that was Elysia with Tim, Stephanie, Tyler, Lachlan and Chris participating.

There were 28 exciting bases that the Scouts had to navigate during the weekend. For some this was their first experience at doing Scout Hike and they all found it to be quite a challenge but very rewarding. The excellent effort by the Dingoes saw them awarded a Bronze Trophy - great effort.

Scout Leadership Course

We had a number of scouts attend the Scout Leadership course. The Scout Leadership Course aims to provide suitable leadership skills for Scouts, utilising a practical "hands on" approach. This course is organized and run in line with the Patrol System, and can be usually undertaken on completion of the Pioneer Badge. Well done to the scouts that took part.





Vivid Sydney A Festival of Light



On the 30th June the Scouts travelled into the city to see the Vivid Festival of Light. **Vivid Sydney** is a prominent outdoor annual cultural event featuring immersive light installations and projections, performances from local and international musicians and an ideas exchange forum featuring public talks and debates from leading creative thinkers.

The event is held annually during winter in the Southern Hemisphere over the course of three weeks in May and June. The centrepiece of Vivid Sydney is the multimedia interactive light sculptures and building projections that transform various buildings and landmarks in and around the Sydney CBD and Sydney Harbour into an outdoor night time canvas of art. In recent years the outdoor exhibition and events have attracted more than 500,000 people and the last weekend saw the traffic in the city come to stand still.

ANZAC Day Dawn Service



On the morning of the 25th April the Scouts and Leaders attended the ANZAC Dawn memorial service at Parramatta. It was encouraging to see so many turn out at 4:30am. *Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Kennedy, Commanding Officer 8th Combat Engineer Regiment, addressed the service saying: "We remember those that gave their tomorrow*

for our today," He said it was a time to reflect on the sacrifices that both soldiers and their families made to protect their nation and to reflect on the qualities synonymous with Anzacs — courage, discipline, self-reliance, resourcefulness and mateship.





1st Ermington Scout Group

Greater Western Sydney Region



Jamboreette



On the June long weekend the Scouts attended the **2013 Jamboreette** which was held at Bents Basin. Overall, there were 900 participants. The Scouts that attended had a great long weekend camping and doing a variety of activities at different bases. A highlight of the weekend was a Green Cord construction activity with the scouts building a 10 meter suspension bridge, awesome effort!! Stilts had some fun giving the Scouts an early morning wake up call using a spatula and a baking dish to bang out a very enjoyable tune (nice work Stilts). Maybe a bugle call might be on the cards for next year :-). Thank you to everyone that was able to attend and participate.





Anzac Memorial Hyde Park



On Thursday 27th June the Scouts had the opportunity to visit the ANAC Memorial at Hyde Park in the city.

The curator for the evening introduced himself to the troop and there was much interest in his background as he was both a Vietnam veteran and a former scout.

We were given a tour of the different parts of the memorial (inside and out). Learning about the different parts of the memorial was extremely interesting.

The Scouts were invited to release a Commemorative star representing an Australian service man or woman killed while serving their country or since deceased - a very humbling experience for everyone.

Another highlight of the evening was the Scouts being able to see a banner signed by Baden Powell.

This activity along with the Dawn Service will count towards the scouts earning the 'Their Service - Our Heritage Badge'.

