



## Annual General Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> Leichhardt Scout Group

**03 March 2025**

Apologies: Victoria Walne, Ken Robinson, Judy Painter and Ann Maguire

Present - Noel Davar, Helen Oriordan, Adoni Patrikios, Alister Simington, Patricia Del Favero

Minutes of the previous AGM – accepted Helen, seconded Adoni

### AGENDA ITEMS

1. Treasurer, Section and Leaders reports:
  - a. Group Treasurer:
    - i. Helen presented the financial report
    - ii. Surplus of \$14,750 (operating account) helped by bequeath from the French family
  - b. Group Leader:
    - i. Noel presented Victoria's report (attached)
  - c. Section Leaders:
    - i. Noel presented Ken's report for Venturer section (attached)
    - ii. Noel presented Scout section report (attached)
    - iii. Adoni presented Cub section report (attached)
    - iv. Noel presented Judy's report for the Joey section (attached)
2. Adoption of the Annual Report:
  - a. Accepted (Noel, Adoni)
3. Election of Office Bearers:
  - a. All positions were declared vacant
  - b. Previous committee members nominated and elected unopposed
    - i. Group Treasurer, Helen
    - ii. Group Support Committee Chairperson, Ann
    - iii. Group Support Committee Secretary, Patricia
4. Appointment of auditor:
  - a. Ron Brown appointed as auditor
5. General Business:
  - a. Mini working bee (general cleanup) scheduled for **12th April**
  - b. Family camp:
    - i. Invite parents via Operoo to choose either **13th Sept** or **4th Oct**
    - ii. Family camp open to parents that commit to volunteering as Parent Helpers
    - iii. Noel to set up Helen as an Operoo admin user
  - c. Scout Hub will replace Operoo
6. Close AGM, 8:10 pm

## Group Leader's Report 2025

### OVERVIEW OF 2024 – ONGOING STRENGTH

#### Always plenty of thanks & people to acknowledge

**Resignation of Marco and Esther Geretto** We sadly said goodbye to Esther Geretto at the end of 2024, her final activity being AJ205, where she had a terrific time. Marco is staying until the end of April 2025 before they both finish up with the Group. After 5 years with us it's a sad time to see them go, so much enthusiasm put into the Cubs and the Group together – such a committed team and family. We wish them both well in their next life stages

**Movement of Leaders across Sections** Kate Hutchinson and KT Wlodarczyk swap places, Kate moving to Scouts and KT to Venturers. Maria del Mar Barahona joined the Cubs section.

**Fully qualified leaders** – Maria Barahona, Ingrid Hirzel and Esther Geretto completed training to become full leaders, with Kate, Caitlin very close to completion. **B R A V O!**

**Adult Helpers** Two new adult helpers arrived 'off the street' in Chris Pine (Cubs) and Jennifer Nolan (Joeys). It's great to have young people interested in volunteering in the community in this way! The kids love the energy and special interests they bring to scouting; Chris enthusiastically guiding the Cubs through marine biology activities.

**Leader Build** held in May 2024 with about 16 parents attending and a couple of interested parties, Edyta Waitr signing up as Adult Helper. Still recruiting adult helpers and a few new members have signed up this year (2025)

**Adult Recognition Awards** coming soon

**Region taking on utilities and fire safety inspections** – Region Office has taken on arrangements for supply of electricity and annual fire inspections systems (Fire systems due for upgrade this year)

**Steady numbers and ongoing interest** Youth numbers remain steady, and interest is continuous, with good rates of continuity between sections, which is important for dynamics. Venturers is currently our largest section – very impressive! Healthy new intakes at Joeys level in 2025, lots of girls which is great.

**Hall maintenance** In September a hardworking group of parents completed some much needed maintenance tasks at our annual working bee; installing nets in the hall to protect our new ceiling fans, a thorough sorting, tidy and clean of the kitchen, leaders room and storage areas was completed. We disposed of many old gas cylinders, broken camping items and accumulated gear. Thanks to Marco for masterminding this endeavour.

**Bequest from Betty French / the French Family** received mid-year, from the estate of Alan French.

**The Group Committee** Thanks to our faithful committee for ensuring things tick along – Patricia, Helen and Ann continue to 2025.

**Noel Davar** – what would we do with Noel? The linchpin of the Group; Scout Leader, maintenance guru, etc, and District Commissioner besides! Thanks to Noel for always being there to help.

Looking forward to 2025 and beyond – celebrating 117 years of continuous scouting at 1stLeichhardt.

Victoria Walne

Group Leader Provisional

## **1st Leichhardt Venturers**

### **2024 report.**

2nd March 2025

**Ken Robinson.** (Venturer leader)

The Venturer unit over the past 12 months has continued to grow. According to 'Operoo' the number of Venturers has increased to 32, including 3 leaders. That number includes a few who have since moved up or dropped out. We have had quite a few come up from nearby groups because their group doesn't have Venturers. We are still getting a few youths who have 'walked in off the street' or are referred to by friends. The regular attendance figures have remained high with at least 10 and up to 20 youth members every meeting, which is good news but can be a little 'challenging' sometimes. As a side note, nearly all of them wear their full uniform. I'm very pleased about that.

Out of hall activities:

- Region camp.
- Dragon Skin.
- SFA
- Roventure
- State Rally
- Boree regatta
- Jamboree.
- ANZAC day march.
- Tramsheds orienteering night.

Some of the in hall activities:

- Cooking night.
- Movie night
- Games night.
- Trivia night.
- Board games night.
- Campfire nights.
- Picnic in the park
- Halloween
- Gelato Run
- Talent night.
- Animation/claymation night.
- Scaffold building.

Eleanor Langeluddecke has started work on earning her King's Scout award. I have great confidence that she will achieve it.

Unfortunately, all the camps and bushwalks they tried to organise, have been cancelled due to lack of interest. There is a small core of youth members who do these activities, but only if they are organised by others. This is of particular concern to me as they seem to be drifting away from traditional Scouting activities and turning instead towards a 'youth group' style of group. I have also noticed that some of the ones that drop out seem to be those that want the Scouting type of activities. However, the continued increase in numbers would suggest we are doing something right.

## 1st Leichhardt Scout Unit Annual Report 2024-25

The 1st Leichhardt Scout Unit has had another successful year, maintaining a steady number of around 28 Scouts. We saw most of our 14-year-old Scouts move up to Venturers, making room for several new Scouts who came up from Cubs and some who walked in off the street and eagerly joined our ranks.

Our Scouts participated in a variety of exciting activities throughout the year, which included:

- **Scout Hike:** Continuing our long-standing tradition of excellence, two of our patrols won gold and silver medals, adding to our impressive streak of gold medal achievements over the past 10 to 12 years.
- **Navigation Walk:** A walk through the city at night during the Vivid festival where Scouts navigated to various attractions.
- **Region Camp:** A fantastic opportunity for our Scouts to bond with others from our District and the Region while develop their camping skills.
- **State Rally:** A competition camp with Scouts from across the State where our Scouts demonstrated their skills and teamwork.
- **Boree Regatta:** A fun and adventurous event that brought our Scouts together for a memorable experience of land and water activities.
- **Zombie (Survival) Camp:** One of our most beloved camps, where Scouts tested their survival skills in a thrilling and immersive environment.
- **Australian Jamboree in Queensland:** The highlight of the year for many of our Scouts and leaders, with around 10,000 Scouts from across Australia and around the world coming together for an unforgettable experience.

In addition, some of our leaders also undertook some white water kayaking and sea kayaking trips as well as some very challenging bushwalks.

We are incredibly grateful for the dedication and hard work of our fantastic adult leadership team. I would like to thank KT, Raphael, Marco, Edyta and Ryley (our trainee leaders) Kate (our newest leader), Dragon (our mascot) and Esther who put many months of hard work into organising our Australian Jamboree unit and who attended the Jamboree over 12 days in January. We would also like to thank Victoria, our Group Leader, for her support and tireless hard work behind the scenes in keeping the group running so successfully.

As we look forward to the coming year, we are excited to continue providing our Scouts with opportunities to learn, grow, and especially have fun. We remain committed to fostering a supportive and engaging environment where our Scouts can thrive, build their resilience and develop some essential life skills.

Thank you to all our Scouts, our Group Leaders, and families for your ongoing support and dedication to the 1st Leichhardt Scout Unit.

**Noel Davar**

**Scout Leader,**

**1st Leichhardt Scout Unit**

## 2024 Joey Report

### Overview

There was an average of 12 Joeys attending each week

Early in first term, we arranged a camp with the cubs at Heathcote

This was attended by Joeys who later moved up to Cubs and 3 new Joey members

It was very successful and demonstrated the future opportunities for the new Joeys

### Special interest areas

Each term we focussed on the special interest areas with two Joeys completing all six areas before moving up to cubs. We were fortunate as we had Caitlin finish her leadership training and had 2 Parent Helpers to assist Joeys. Later in the term Jen joined our leadership group. She has continued into 2025.

Joeys had 2 meetings at rock climbing with a few being worried about being able to climb. It was great to watch parents belaying the Joeys and encouraging them to persevere. Watching the Joeys faces at achieving the climb and seeing how proud they were was a highlight of the visit.

### 2025

There have been 8 new Joeys attend so far this year. They are enthusiastic and looking forward to being invested. Several are younger siblings of past Joeys. The program is based around SPICE and the Joey code of helping others, caring for others and sharing with others. This will form the basis of our code of behaviour for meetings.

So far we are focussing on the local area and have begun with basic directions and a treasure hunt.

A Venturer, Aoife, who is working towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award, has joined our group of leaders.

Thanks.

Judy