



1st Leichhardt Scouts Group Support Committee AGM Meeting Minutes

Date	28 th April 2026, 6:30 pm	Action	Due
Agenda	Welcome Apologies Absent Minutes of the previous AGM meeting Reports: Group Chairperson, Group Treasurer, Group Leader, Section Leaders Election of Office Bearers Appointment of Auditor Close AGM Minutes of the previous Support Committee meeting Work Health & Safety Leader Build update Adult Helper roles update Region Camp update Kitchen Grant update AOB Close		
Present	Ann Maguire, Chairperson Victoria Walne, Group Leader Ken Robinson, Venturer Section Leader Noel Davar, Scout Leader Ingrid, Cubs Leader Caitlin, Joeys Leader Yaniv Bernstein Sasha Case Helen O’Riordan, Treasurer Patricia Del Favero, Secretary		
Apologies			
Absent			
Minutes	Minutes of the previous AGM were accepted by Victoria and seconded by Noel		
Group Chairpersons Report	Ann presented the Chairpersons report. Regular Group Support Committee meetings held throughout 2025.		
Section Leaders Report	Ken presented the Venturer report and is attached. Noel presented the Scout section report and is attached. Ingrid presented the Joey section report and is attached. Caitlin presented the Cub section report and is attached.		
Group Leaders Report	Victoria presented the Group report and is attached.		
Treasurers Report	Annual accounts and financial report are complete. Surplus of \$2,370 a reduction compared with \$6,053 in 2024.		
Election of Office Bearers	Ann elected as Chairperson unopposed. Helen elected as Treasurer unopposed. Patricia elected as secretary unopposed.		
Appointment of Auditor	Ron Brown appointed as auditor.		
AGM Close	7:00 pm		
Other Items	Work Health & Safety Approval needed for replacement of handles. Leader Build Very successful as a result of a customised approach for 1 st Leichhardt Scouts Parent Helper Roles Refining of roles underway		



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	<p>Region Camp Not running this year due to closure of campsites for maintenance. Scout camp at Kariong Scout Camp in planning stage.</p> <p>Kitchen Grant Application Parent helper is assisting with the grant application for a new kitchen.</p> <p>Other Business Add admin of second hand uniforms to parent helper role Sasha building home page for https://1st-leichhardt.group.scoutsnsw.com.au/</p>		
Next Meeting	2 nd June 2026 7:00 pm		
Close			

OVERVIEW OF 2025 – Year of Changes

As always, there's plenty of thanks & people to acknowledge

Leader Resignations We sadly said goodbye to several Leaders at the end of 2025. We are grateful that many stayed long years to help the Group. However, these losses have brought significant challenges to build up our Volunteer Leader numbers to sustainable levels. Pressure particularly in Cubs and Joeys sections.

- Raphael Revello – 10 years
- KT Wlodarczyk – 7 years
- Judy Painter – 5 years
- Adoni Patrikios – 2 years
- Maria Barahona – 4 years
- Kate Hutchinson – 2 years
- Dr Chris Pine (Adult Helper) – 2 years
- Jenny Nolan (Adult Helper) - 1 year

Movement of Leaders across Sections – Ingrid Hirzel has stepped up to the role of Cubs Leader for 2026, with plans to also assist in Scouts. Ken Robinson has been assisting in Joeys and Noel Davar assisting across Joeys and Cubs to fill Leader shortages. Marco Geretto has agreed to stay on as an intermittent Leader in 2026, to fill gaps.

Leader Build – Leader recruitment session was held in March 2026 with about 20 parents attending with the result that we recruited 4 new Trainee Leaders and several adults committed to Adult Helper roles. Thanks to Ingrid and Noel for putting together a custom 1st Leichhardt focused presentation for this!

New Leaders – Edyta Wiatr (Scouts) joined us as a Trainee Leader in 2025 and in 2026, we welcome Antone Martino Truswell-Martinho (Joeys), Terrina Byrne (Cubs), Vanessa Fuller-Lewis (Cubs) and Joanne Kelly (Scouts) as new Trainee Leaders.

Adult Helpers - Several parents have committed to assisting as registered Adult Helpers

Youth Helpers – Two Venturers have committed to assisting Joeys, Finn Anderson and Sepia McGovern.

Steady youth numbers - Youth numbers remain steady, and interest is continuous, with good rates of continuity between sections, which is important for dynamics. Scouts is currently our largest section with 30 members! Healthy new intakes at Joeys level in 2026, with lots of girls which is great. We paused on new members in Cubs for the start of 2026 until Leader shortages are resolved.

Fire Safety inspections – Upgrades to fire safety systems in early 2026, new exit signs and door levers installed.

Pump for water tank – We found our water tank pump was faulty (after having it connected for the first time since its installation around 20 years ago!) so this was replaced in early 2026.

Working bee - In September a very small group undertook the annual working bee, where the focus was to tidy up the Lobby space and reinstall the Heritage Display (taken down in 2023 when the rendering work was done)

Family Camp – in November we undertook a Family Camp to Kariong Scout Camp, the first family camp in many years. This was well attended by 14 families. Feedback was positive, including support for another family camp in 2026, over 2 nights, and with some formal arranged activities.

The end of Operoo – Scouts NSW ceased the use of Operoo at the end of 2025. Activity notifications and all member information now held in ScoutHub (Revolutionise Sport). Some teething issues while we get used to this!

The Group Committee - Thanks to our faithful committee for ensuring things tick along – Patricia, Helen and Ann continue to 2026. Parents Sasha Case, Yaniv Bernstein and Kat Cassidy have been attending meetings regularly to assist the Committee. Leader Build 2026 raised some further new interested parents who are willing to join the Committee. Our best initiative for early 2026 has been setting up the **1stLeichhardt WhatsApp Community** – this a huge success and well supported by members, allowing instant communications across all members. We are developing ways to formalise parental involvement in assisting the Group, particularly defining roles and setting up an Adult Helper chat on WhatsApp.

Noel Davar – what would we do with Noel? The linchpin of the Group; Scout Leader, assistant Leader in Venturers, Cubs and Joeys, maintenance guru, shoulder to everyone, and District Commissioner! A huge thanks to Noel for always being there to help.

Looking forward to 2026 and beyond – celebrating 118 years of continuous scouting at 1stLeichhardt.

Victoria Walne - Group Leader

1st Leichhardt Venturers

2025 -26 report.

27th April 2026

Ken Robinson. (Venturer leader)

While Venturer numbers have been stable, the Venturer unit itself has become far more self organised and active. I'm pleased to say they are far more able to organise and run activities than they were in the past. Also, a 1st Leichhardt Venturer is regularly attending the region Venturer youth council meetings.

Two of our Venturers are currently training for their pilot's licence, which makes me very proud indeed. They are doing it through 'Air Scouts' in Camden which makes it less expensive, but still not cheap.

Jamie held the 1st Leichhardt Scout flag in the ANZAC parade and was on channel 7 news.

Badgework has really taken off. In fact they are 'on my back' to order more badges. An assistant Venturer leader who is good with online forms would be very helpful!

Out of hall activities with group and individuals as Venturers:

- Orienteering nights
- Dragon Skin
- Indoor rockclimbing
- Building flag poles and catapults
- Campfire nights in the back yard
- Trivia nights
- ANZAC dawn service at Drummoyne RSL
- Joint meetings with Balmain and Alexandra
- Rovers linking night
- Golf night at Moore Park golfing range
- SWASH
- Flying lessons
- Mardi Gras parade

In hall activities, among other things, include:

- Trivia nights
- Cooking
- Sewing
- Astronomy during Lunar eclipse
- Dragon Skin prep night
- Terrain training night
- Games night

Ken Robinson

Venturer leader.

2025-26

1st Leichhardt Scout Group - Scout Unit Annual Report 2026

This year has been another active and rewarding one for the Scout section. Section numbers continue to grow, with cubs coming up and new Scouts joining throughout the year.

The Scouts enjoyed a wide variety of challenging activities which helped them build new skills, develop resilience, and strengthen friendships. A highlight of the year was Scout Hike, where our patrols performed exceptionally well, bringing home both a Gold and a Silver medal. This was a testament to their teamwork and determination. Other outdoor adventures included Region Camp, a Geo-Caching night and one of their favourites, the Messina Navigation Challenge.

Our regular program nights were equally diverse. The unit took part in a fun, interesting and competitive Master Chef night, experimented and learnt from a Science Night and contributed to the community during Clean Up Australia week. The Scouts also benefited from an informative SES visit, gaining insight into emergency services and community preparedness learning how to use sandbags in case of a flood.

None of these activities would be possible without the dedication of our volunteer leaders and the ongoing support of the wider Group. It's been great to see the Scouts grow in confidence, leadership, and friendship over the year.

We look forward to another exciting year ahead filled with adventure, learning, and fun.

Yours in Scouting

Noel Davar

Scout Leader

1st Leichhardt Scout Unit

Section Overview:




Last year was an exciting and adventurous year for our Cub section! We had a thriving group of over 20 cubs on average, with a nearly equal split between boys and girls. Our dedicated leaders, Adoni, Suze, Mar, and I (Ingrid), worked tirelessly to ensure every cub had a fun and engaging experience. We were fortunate to have two regular adult helpers, Dr Chris and Mirjana, who generously gave their time and expertise. Additionally, many parents stepped forward to help on individual nights, which was greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately, Adoni had to take some leave from leading the Cubs in Term 2 due to personal reasons. Ken Robinson kindly filled in for him at Cub camp, and we're grateful for his support.

As the year ended, Adoni stepped down as Cub leader after two years of dedicated service. Mar has decided to put her leadership on pause, while her daughter moves to another Scout group. Suze also shared her decision to take a step back, while Dr Chris had to bid farewell due to their interstate move. We're deeply thankful for their contributions and are grateful that Suze has offered to stay on into 2026 hoping the Cub leadership can be strengthened in the meantime.

Summary of activities over the year:

Our program was well-balanced, with activities spanning various challenge areas. Here are some of the highlights:

Challenge area	Notable Activities
 COMMUNITY	Clean up Australia day at Glebe Foreshore, Leichhardt library visit
 OUTDOORS	Baden Powell Pennant Hills camp and crate stacking, Maroubra headlands walk, Neptune Regatta,
 PERSONAL GROWTH	Science night with Dr Chris, Indoor Archery, Indoor rock climbing
 CREATIVE	Bob Ross painting by candlelight, Cartoon making, Talent show, Hells Kitchen

You can watch the year in review vide here: <https://youtu.be/PEIOacBM1GY>

Achievements:

We successfully updated Terrain to reflect the cubs' achievements, ensuring all cubs had their OAS badges up-to-date.

An impressive seven cubs completed the Cub leadership course, with three achieving this milestone in March 2025 and four more in November 2025, organised by the South Metropolitan Region.

Georgie made significant progress towards her Grey Wolf with her adventurous cycling journey and having achieved level 3 in each OAS and earning six SIA badges over her 3 years in cubs. Unfortunately, she was unable to obtain her Grey Wolf due to an issue with the milestones not updating in Terrain.

Challenges and goals for the year ahead:

- Our cub section was very lively and full of energy. At times it has been challenging to manage disruptive behaviours. Having many helping hands, with multiple leaders and adult helpers present, has made a positive difference. A push for more adult helper involvement is therefore a goal for 2026.
- Leadership build is a critical goal for 2026.
- Making time for Terrain and regular attention for building OAS skills is an ongoing focus.
- With 7 of our mature cubs moving to Scouts at the beginning of 2026, we have a young cohort of cubs for 2026 and a need to build cub leadership to take on PL and APL roles.

Thanks and recognition:

We want to express our gratitude to Adoni, who stepped down as Cub leader after two years of dedicated service. We also appreciate the contributions of Mar, who has decided to put her leadership on pause while her daughter moves to another Scout group. Suze has been an invaluable member of the Cub leadership team and will be deeply missed by our Cubs and leaders alike. Although she has decided to take a step back, we are eternally grateful that she has offered to stay on into 2026 as we work towards strengthening the Cub leadership team, Dr Chris's interstate move means they will no longer be able to support and inspire our Cubs, and we're deeply thankful for his time with us. And finally, we can't forget Ken, who kindly stepped in when needed. Your willingness to help and mentor has been amazing! We also want to thank our group leader Victoria, for supporting our cub section and investing every single one of our Cubs.

And finally a big thank you to our adult helpers, especially to Mirjana for her ongoing support.

AGM - Joeys Annual Meeting Report

Over the past year, Joeys has been full of fun, learning, and lots of memorable moments. We've welcomed many new joeys into the unit, and also said goodbye to some who have moved up to Cubs. Along the way, we were lucky to have extra support from lots of leaders across sections as well as venturer and parent helpers.

Joeys are always eager to learn, and we aim to keep them engaged through activities that are both fun and meaningful. Throughout the year, they've been building important scouting skills; like learning how to tie reef knots, setting up tents in the hall, learning about campfires and how to roast marshmallows.

One of the highlights of the year was our visit to the fire station, where the joeys had the opportunity to explore the truck and its equipment, asking plenty of questions. They've also learnt about how plants grow, and each joey took home their own seedling to put what they learnt into practice. We had a successful visit to white creek park where the joeys learnt about the wetlands and ecosystems, they even saw a turtle.

At the end of last year we said a sad goodbye to Judy, who was greatly loved by both leaders and joeys. Thanks to the ongoing support of Victoria, Noel, Ken, our adult, parent, and venturer helpers, and of course the enthusiasm and participation of the joeys; we've continued to build a fun, supportive, and engaging program.