



25th World Scout Jamboree Australian Contingent Newsletter 1

February 2022

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For YOUR Immediate Action!

We know you're all busy, so we've created your very own **TO DO** list to make sure you have everything ticked off. Print it out and stick it on the fridge or in a place where you can see it easily.

Tick Once Complete

1

Are your payments up to date?

Check the registration system, as we won't be booking your flights if you're not up to date.
registrations.international.scouts.com.au

Payments NOW OVERDUE:

- 2nd Payment - 1 February 2022

Payments Due Before the Next Newsletter:

- 3rd Payment - 1 May 2022

2

Print this Newsletter out and show it to the family.

Don't miss the little details!

3

Read this newsletter carefully.

It's quite long with lots of new information.

4

Double-check your study & work commitments for the trip.

Contact us ASAP if there might be any potential clashes with dates.

5

Email any Patrol Requests In.

Make sure you do this by 30 April 2022 to
admin@wsj2023.scouts.com.au

6

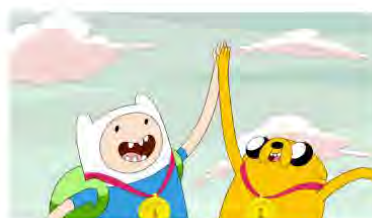
Put your O'Day date in your calendar!

These dates are important to attend, so why not book them out now.

7

High-Five a Friend or Family Member!

After you have read this newsletter, told them all about it and the amazing adventure you are looking forward to.



International Commissioner's Message

It is my greatest pleasure to add my welcome on joining the Australian Contingent to the 25th World Scout Jamboree!

The opportunity to travel overseas and connect with other young people from across the world is of even greater importance now than ever before. I have every confidence that your journey to the World Scout Jamboree will be an amazing experience filled with adventure and excitement.

The theme for the 2023 event is "Draw your Dream!" Korea offers a vibrant culture, and this World Scout Jamboree will provide you with the platform to explore the great diversity that is International Scouting. There will be new foods, unique activities and amazing memories to be had in Korea, and the Jamboree theme promotes the role that you have in shaping your own journey and making the most of this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Your Contingent Team is leading by example in delivery a quality program that is youth led and adult supported. I congratulate all of our volunteers that have contributed to the planning of this Contingent and continue to work harder than ever to ensure that you have a safe and memorable journey to Korea.

Remember as well that you are travelling to the World Scout Jamboree both as a representative of Scouts Australia and as an ambassador of our country. Use this visibility in your local community to build support that can assist with your fundraising. Write to your local newspaper and arrange a photo with your local MP. Be proud of your Scouting involvement and be sure to promote your upcoming adventure widely!

The journey has now begun and I know that you will be following along in anticipation as we prepare for our departure. With less than 18 months to go, the countdown is definitely underway, and I look forward to joining with you in Korea next year for all the fun and excitement that this Jamboree will bring!



Aaron Wardle
International Commissioner of Australia

Acronyms Busting

Throughout your time with the Contingent, you may hear or read different acronyms. To assist you, we have built the list below of some of the most common acronyms.

Acronym	Meaning	Description
ACL	Assistant Contingent Leaders	Youth appointed to the CMT who attended the last World Scout Jamboree as participants.
BHQ Approved/ Rejected	Branch Headquarters	You have a valid membership with all referees completed / Your application is not recommended to attend
CL	Contingent Leader	The Leader of the Australian Contingent.
CMT	Contingent Management Team	A group of amazing adult volunteers from around Australia who plan and deliver the Australian Contingent's experience at the WSJ.
DCL	Deputy Contingent Leader	The Deputy Leader of the Australian Contingent.
JOC	Jamboree Organising Committee	The committee from KSA that is organising the Jamboree
IST	International Service Team	A group of amazing adult volunteers who support the Jamboree by providing day-to-day service, from running parts of the programme to working on logistics.
KSA	The Korean Scout Association	The NSO which was selected to host the 25th World Scout Jamboree.
LL	Line Leader/s	A group of amazing adult volunteers who camp with you and assist you to have an awesome, safe time at the WSJ. They are your caregivers for the event.
NHQ Accepted/ Rejected	National Headquarters	Your eligibility has been confirmed / Your application is not eligible or adult application is surplus to requirements / quota
NSO	National Scouting Organization	A NSO supports Scouting in the country.
O'Days	Orientation Days	The day you get your Contingent Merchandise, get more information and have the opportunity to ask questions and meet some members of the CMT and others going from your state.
OLEMS	On-Line Event Management System	The website where you applied and where to go to keep your details up-to-date.
WOSM	World Organization of the Scouting Movement	Google it 😊.
WSJ	World Scout Jamboree	The awesome event we are going to attend in South Korea!

The Dream Patrol

At the beginning of February 2021 we formed a team of Youth Members from around the country to help us brainstorm and trial ideas for the Australian Contingent. This team is called our Dream Patrol.

The Dream Patrol has provided us with a youth-led view on various things over the past year. They have helped us brainstorm pre- and post-tour ideas and what merchandise the Contingent should provide. They looked at how the Australian WSJ2023 website could be improved and helped us decide whether or not we should start our TikTok account. This was a very exciting and positive decision. But their efforts don't stop there, when designing our logo and shirt, we ran all of our ideas past the Dream Patrol to ensure we are designing merchandise that the Youth want. They also gave us plenty of ideas for our hat and bag designs.

Our Dream Patrol has been immensely useful to us as the CMT and we thank each and every one of them for their contribution. So we give a big thanks to Taya M, Eve C, Maretta W, Sam H, Amy S and team.

And the fun doesn't end there! We're excited to announce that we are creating 'Dream Patrol II' to continue the success of Dream Patrol I and help us during the next 18 months as we lead into the World Jamboree and continue to 'Draw Your Dream'!

We are now seeking Youth Members to help with this. If you would like to be a part of our next Dream Patrol, fill out the below form and we will be in touch shortly.

<https://forms.gle/VxkujRjrDEmWuAsJ6>

You can either write your answer or record a video answering the following: **What do you expect to gain from being a part of the Dream Patrol and how do you see yourself using this role to help you in the future?**

Applications will close on 28 March 2022.



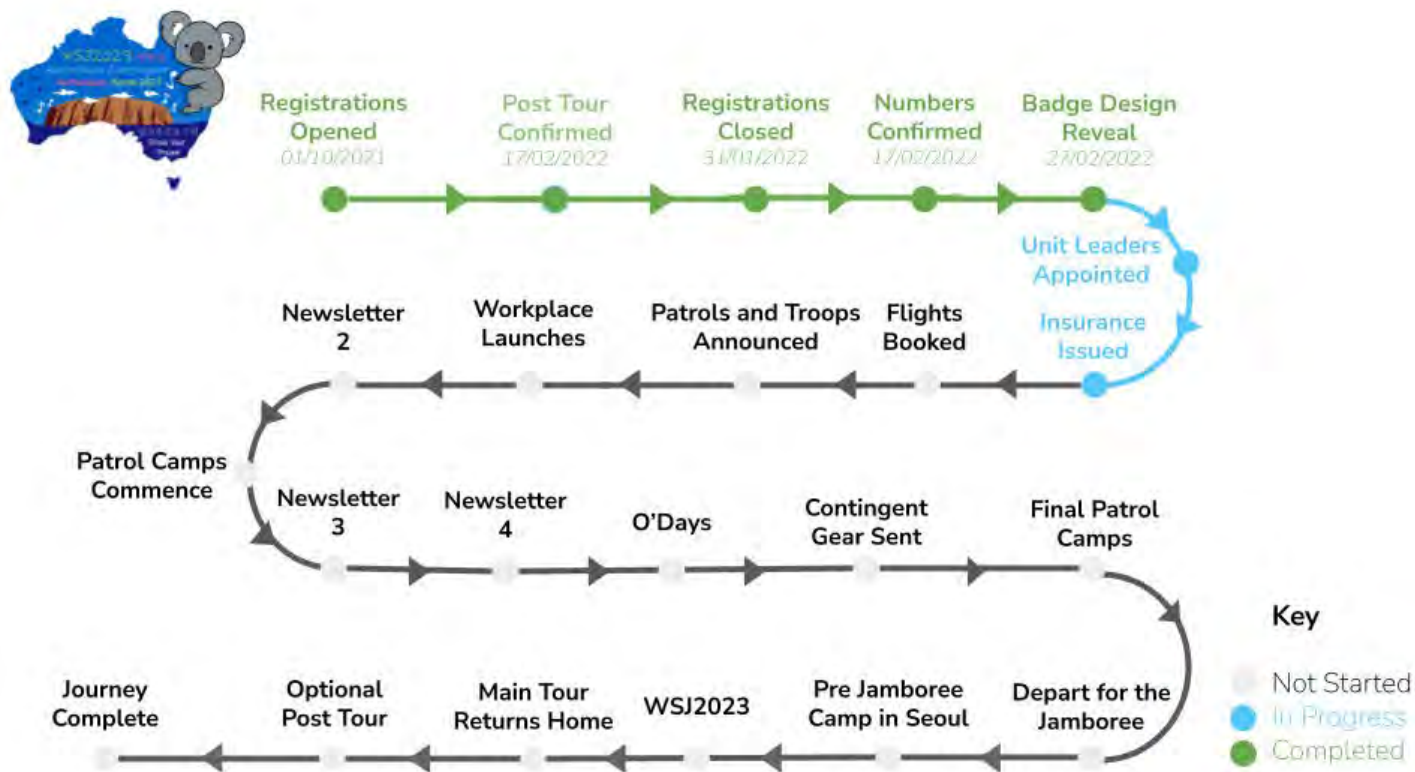
JOIN THE DREAM PATROL II

REGISTER NOW

Fill out our form
<https://forms.gle/VxkujRjrDEmWuAsJ6>

The Jamboree Journey

As has been mentioned we are on a journey to the Jamboree. The following maps out our path to get us to the Jamboree, as with all journeys it may change as we go along.

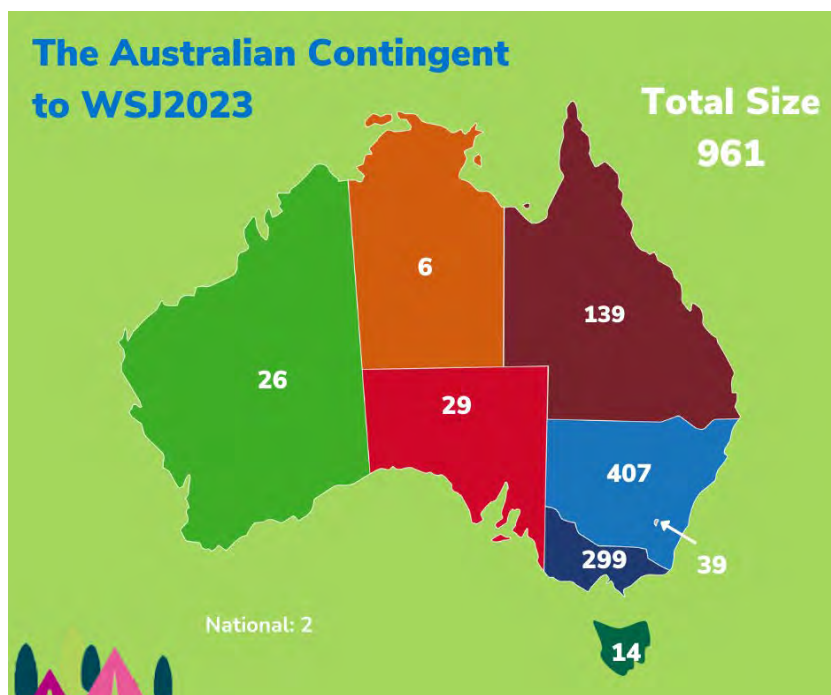


The CMT is ecstatic about the number of applications we received for WSJ2023. The Contingent is the largest Australian Contingent to a World Scout Jamboree, held outside of Australia.

To put it into perspective we will need one Airbus A380 if it was entirely fitted out with Economy, but in our case as this configuration isn't available, so we will be spread across many aircraft and maybe different routes.

You should be very proud to be a part of this journey that you are about to embark on.

Take a look at the numbers by State to your right of this page and why not even take a screenshot of this to share it on your socials to let your friends know that you are going to the 25th World Scout Jamboree with Australia's largest ever contingent.



The “Reach Our Target” Leaderboard

As you may have seen from our website, back in October last year, we were running a challenge to “Reach Our Target”. We have 58 groups who reached the target of 5 or more participants accepted to the Contingent. These will all be announced on our website soon. The following are the top four - what a fantastic result for 1st Balmain!

Group	State	Total
1st Balmain Scout Group	NSW	18
1st Blackheath Scout Group	NSW	12
1st Woollahra/Paddington Scout Group	NSW	11
The Gap Scout Group	Qld	10

A very big thank you to everyone who participated in the challenge, the Contingent would not have been as successful in gaining participants without your “word of mouth” advertising.

Youth Experiences from their Journey to WSJ2019

We have also included experiences/journeys from two youth members who attended the World Scout Jamboree in 2019. The first is from Keegan who breaks down disability barriers to attend the Jamboree.

“I pushed myself, believed in myself and did everything on my Jamboree ‘wish list!’”

Keegan Bailey-Martin

The second is from Annabelle who was a Youth Ambassador at WSJ2019.

“I have never been as proud of my country as I was that night, and I am so absolutely grateful to everyone who made it possible.”

Annabelle Rodgers

Please read their amazing stories at the end of this Newsletter.

Introducing our Contingent Logo

The Australian Contingent's **Dream Patrol I** collaboratively designed this badge to represent Australia at WSJ2023. The badge encompasses the badge design of the World Jamboree, Australian Scouting and of course our favourite animal - the Koala.

The music notes, clouds and blues on the badge are a reflection of the World Jamboree's badge. The pink writing 'SaeManGeum', in both Korean and English is the location of the Jamboree. The Korean writing in the bottom right is translated into 'Draw Your Dream', the Jamboree's slogan.



We've chosen Australia's iconic Uluru as the other main feature of our badge. The placement of Uluru is centred as we wanted it to represent the heart of Australian land. Along with the musical notes that are a part of the Korean badge, we wanted to represent the national unity that Scouting brings to Australia through camps, campfire songs and travelling from coast to coast.

The Southern Cross was chosen as it is a massive part of the Southern Hemisphere and our national flag. We wanted to encompass Australian national culture into the design of our badge.

Finally, the koala, a beautiful native animal that everyone loves. It's internationally recognised as an icon of Australia, koala-themed items are sought after souvenirs at Jamborees. For example, clip-on koalas which you can clip to your scarf are well traded at a World Scout Jamboree.

What's the Koala's name you ask? Well... that's up to you! We want you to name our Koala, use the link below to add your suggestions or vote on the name!

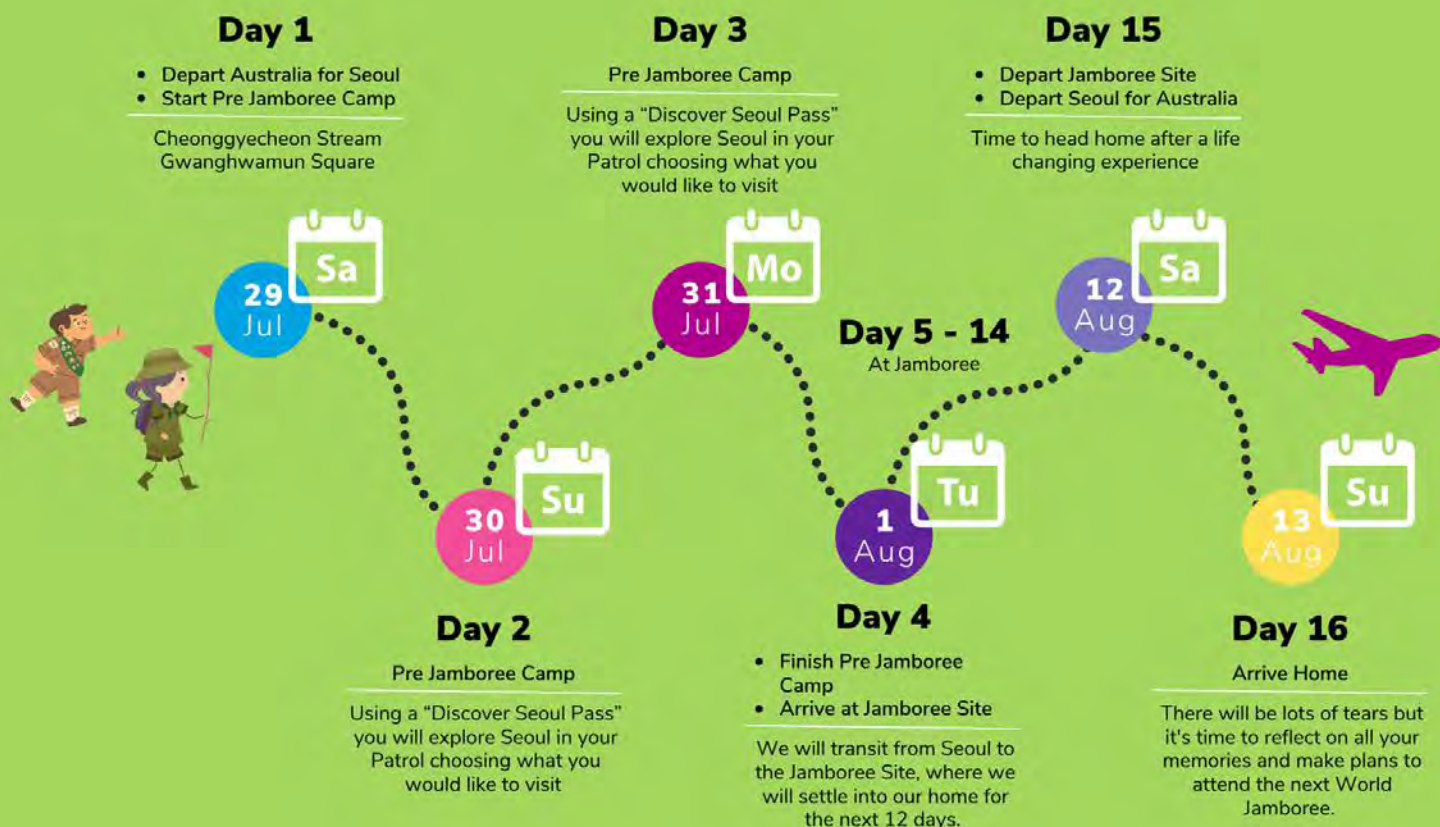
<https://poll.ly/#/2qBYNKaW>

The Koala will be the Contingent mascot, which is why we need to name it. We also hope that each Troop will have their own Koala mascot. With luck we will have a family photo of all the Koalas together at Contingent HQ! We aim to have a large Koala, for Scouts from around the world to be photographed with, at the Australian Headquarters.

Introducing the Game Plan

The Contingent Team has been working hard to finalise our game plan.

The plan is designed to offer a range of adventure, entertainment and culture throughout our time in South Korea. Below is our current day by day plan which is now close to final.



About the Campsite - SaeManGeum

SaeManGeum means 'New Full Gold', it's reclaimed land from the sea and it's four times the size of Paris. This area has been developed over more than two decades to make it appropriate for agriculture and safe for human habitation with a modern and eco-friendly scientific approach. Today it has all the necessary requirements to be the World Scout Jamboree venue with the best communication, commercial areas and a lot of attractions for our Youth to come and enjoy the 25th World Scout Jamboree. South Korea also plans to include a permanent World Scout Centre after 2023 (similar to today's only World Scout Centre - Kandersteg International Scout Centre).

The Site (View from the Right) - June 2021



The Site (View from the Left) - June 2021



Frequently Asked Questions

The CMT has been doing a great job of compiling a list of FAQs on our website which is updated regularly. You can view the FAQs at <https://scouts.com.au/blog/2021/05/15/wsj2023-faqs/>.

On the website we have answered the following questions already.

- What will be the size of the Australian Contingent?
- When do applications open?
- What is the closing date for Applications?
- How much will it cost?
- Why is the pre-Jamboree Camp so short?
- What is the CMT?
- Will there be a post-Jamboree tour?
- What roles are there for adults?
- If I have a medical condition or disability, can I still apply?
- If I need a carer, are they able to attend?
- What will I get out of the Jamboree?
- What happens if the Jamboree is cancelled?
- Are there grants available?
- Can I attend both WSJ2023 and KISC100?

Please check these regularly if you have a question, the answer may be there! If you have a suggested FAQ you are encouraged to email us at admin@wsj2023.scouts.com.au

All Parents are strongly recommended to read the Scouts Australia “**International Scouting Parent Guide 2021**” available on the Scouts Australia International Resources Page:
<https://scouts.com.au/what-we-do/international/resources/>

Introducing Workplace from Meta

As we have such a large Contingent, we have identified the need for a consistent communication platform. After feedback from the WSJ2019 CMT, we are pleased to announce that we will be using Workplace by Meta as our Internal Communications Tool for the entire Contingent in the lead-up to, during and after the WSJ.

Workplace is a secure and easy-to-use platform, a lot like Facebook, built around us and the Jamboree and limited to only the Australian Contingent and not the rest of the world like Facebook is. With Workplace, you can discuss ideas, ask questions, share updates and photos and instantly communicate across the Contingent. This will help us communicate better, and share updates as required, in the lead up to the event and on the ground.



Formal communication from the Contingent will still come via email and our website -

scouts.com.au/ws2023. You can treat Workplace as an informal communication tool and a way to get quick notifications. Workplace also comes with Workplace Chat which will allow you to chat and call directly with other Contingent Members. It's important to remember that the [Scouts Australia Technology Code of Use](#) applies and when engaging in a conversation with a Youth Member there should be two adults present.

Many of the places we are going will be covered by WiFi, including the Jamboree Site, meaning there is no need for Global Roaming! So don't worry about this.

You will be issued with a unique Google SSO login address `nnnnn@member.wsj2023.scouts.com.au` (where **nnnnn** is your ID Number of your WSJ2023 Application). In the middle of this year, your login details for Workplace will appear within your OLEMS application, under a tab called 'Workplace'. We will also send an email with these details.

For Youth Members, your parent/s or carer will also be issued with an account and this will be in the format of `nnnnn@parent.wsj2023.scouts.com.au`. Parents are encouraged to download the app and use their allocated login only. This allows us to separate messages directly to Parents or Youth Members with confidence, so that we know that the message is reaching the correct person. For example, it is not helpful sending an urgent reminder to Youth Members about activities during the event if the Parent is receiving the message back in Australia!

To get prepared for Workplace launching, make sure you head to the App Store or Google Play Store, and download the Workplace and Workplace Chat Apps.

If you have any questions about Workplace, please email us at workplace@wsj2023.scouts.com.au

Passports and Travel Information

Passports

To travel to the Jamboree you will need a valid passport with an expiry date of no earlier than **13 February 2024 (18 Feb if you opt in for the Post Tour)** as South Korea requires entrants to have a passport with at least 6 months' validity after the intended period of travel.

If you do not have a passport, you will need to apply for one from <https://www.passports.gov.au> by completing the details and then presenting to your local Australia Post with the required identification and a print out of your forms. We would highly recommend having your photos done by Australia Post to ensure speedy processing of your passport application. Australia Post can also provide paper forms if you would prefer not to apply online.

We require that all Contingent members have their passport by **December 2022** and we recommend starting your application early because passports can take some time to issue, especially for youth in a split family or foster care situation.

If you are planning to travel to the Jamboree on a passport other than an Australian passport, or if you are not an Australian citizen, please contact us immediately with the details. If you already have a passport that will expire before 13 February 2024, please arrange to renew your passport by December 2022.

Visas

Please DO NOT apply for a visa yet as we are in negotiations with The Korean Scout Association about the process.

Please watch this space.

Australian citizens may require a visa waiver to travel to South Korea. It is known as the K-ETA or Korea ETA. The document allows travellers from Australia (and several other countries) to enter the Republic of Korea visa-free.

Independent Travel (Youth and Line Leaders)

Line Leaders and Youth Members are not permitted to travel independently from the Contingent. If you need to travel independently, contact admin@wsj2023.scouts.com.au immediately to discuss your reasons and proposed plans. Even if you have already made contact, please make contact again to discuss these arrangements.

More information about IST independent travel can be found in the Leader/IST supplement at the end of this Newsletter.

Payment Schedule

To keep your place in the Contingent secure, we ask that you make payments by the following dates. If you are having difficulties making payment, please contact admin@wsj2023.scouts.com.au to organise a payment arrangement.

Payment	Youth, Line Leaders and CMT	IST	IST Independent Travel	Due Date
Deposit	\$500	\$500	\$500	On application
2nd Payment	\$500	\$500	\$500	1 February 2022
3rd Payment	\$800	\$800	\$270	1 May 2022
4th Payment	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$250	1 August 2022
5th Payment	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$250	1 October 2022
6th Payment	\$1,000	\$230	\$250	1 December 2022
7th Payment	\$1,000*	\$1,000*	\$500*	1 February 2023
TOTAL	\$5,800	\$5,030	\$2,520	

*The final payment is subject to change. The amount will not be increased, but if the Contingent can make savings on the budgeted figure, this is where it will be passed on to the Contingent Member.

All payments need to be made through the registration system by either Visa or MasterCard. The Contingent, in accordance with Scouts Australia policy, does not accept payments by any other method.

IST undertaking independent travel are not eligible to attend the optional post tour. More information about what is and isn't included for the IST Independent Travel Fee can be found in the IST Section of the Newsletter.

Payment Plans

Please note that we are unable to provide payment plans for these payments. We strongly suggest that if you need a payment plan, set up your own bank account and deposit money into that on a regular schedule. When a payment comes due you should have the required amount already to go.

Saving for each payment may seem like a huge task but when you break it down, it is not so huge. If you are saving for the third payment (\$800), you need to put \$100 a week away between now (1/3/2022) and when it's due (1/5/2022). For the fourth payment there are 12 weeks to save \$1000, so ~\$84/week. We will leave the rest for you to work out.

Withdrawal and Cancellation Policies

Withdrawal Policy

Members withdrawing from the Contingent must notify the Administration Team at admin@wsj2023.scouts.com.au in writing as soon as possible. As many expenses must be paid well before our departure, it is not possible to provide full refunds upon withdrawal. The table below highlights the amount of any refund payable.

Notification Received	Youth / Leaders	IST	Independent IST
On or before 31 Jan 2022	Full Refund	Full Refund	Full Refund
1 Feb 2022 – 31 Jul 2022	Amount paid less \$500	Amount paid less \$500	Amount paid less \$500
1 Aug 2022 – 30 Nov 2022	Amount paid less \$1,500	Amount paid less \$1,500	Amount paid less \$850
1 Dec 2022 – 31 Jan 2023	Amount paid less \$2,500	Amount paid less \$2,000	Amount paid less \$1,500
1 Feb 2023 – 30 Apr 2023	Amount paid less \$3,500	Amount paid less \$2,500	Amount paid less \$1,850
On or after 1 May 2023	No Refund	No Refund	No Refund

Cancellation Policy

If the Contingent is cancelled by Scouts Australia or by The Korea Scout Association, this decision will be promptly communicated to all registered Contingent members. The following table highlights the amount of any refund payable.

Date of Cancellation	Refunds
On or before 31 January 2022	Full Refund
After 31 January 2022	Scouts Australia will refund all recovered funds. Non-recoverable expenses may include travel insurance, bank charges, international exchange fees, accounting license fees and expended Contingent planning costs.

Health and Welfare Information

Welcome

Hi Everyone! Welcome to the first WSJ2023 Newsletter. My name is Matt Ferris and I am the Director of Culture, People and Wellbeing for the Australian Contingent. I am a registered nurse and registered paramedic, working in healthcare for over 8 years with significant experience in domestic and international Scouting welfare. I have been to Switzerland, Fiji, Finland and New Zealand in welfare roles and I am looking forward to experiencing Korean culture with everyone. I am caring, compassionate and results driven, with a matter-of-fact approach to health and welfare.

I am supported by an experienced team including Marlene (SA), Tariq (SA), Scott (VIC) and Rossie (QLD). My team has been to a number of World Jamborees/ international scouting events and are really looking forward to sharing this experience with the Scouts of today!



Point of Contact

You are more than welcome to contact myself at any time via email matt.ferris@wsj2023.scouts.com.au I do work shift work, mainly afternoons and nights, so don't be surprised if you get responses at all times of the day. I will endeavour to respond within 48 hours.

How We Support You

The health and welfare team is here for you!

We need to know anything and everything you may experience/feel/suffer from while we are away so we can prepare and plan prior to leaving Aus. Prior planning prevents poor performance - right? So we may be in contact with you, your parents or your leaders prior to departure to ensure we have everything we need to make your experience the best it possibly can be. Remember, Korea is NOT like Australia (in relation to healthcare) - so we have to be undoubtedly prepared.

I encourage you to reach out first, start a conversation and let's make WSJ2023 absolutely formidable!

CPAP and Other Medical Devices

We have already undertaken a preliminary audit of all listed medical history in the online registration system and identified the need to provide some further information. Participants who use CPAP/BIPAP or other medical devices will have provisions made for them. **Please note power cannot be provided to your tent.** We encourage you to contact me on the email address above to confirm your specific requirements.

Uniform

When travelling internationally in Scouting, there are some specific Uniform requirements that must be adhered to. Firstly, representing Scouts Australia internationally is an honour and a privilege. Therefore, it is expected Uniforms will be well kept, neat and presentable.

Contingent members will wear the Scouts Australia International scarf – presently, this is yellow and green with a kangaroo and the words Australia embroidered at its peak.



The Uniform expectation is:

- Akubra hat (issued by the Contingent);
- your Scout Uniform shirt, with all badges correctly positioned;
- Pants (short or long) or skirt - beige or stone in colour;
- Scout Belt; and
- Black or brown shoes/boots.

It should be noted that this may be different to your Branch requirements.

This helps us stand out from everyone and makes us look stunning as a Contingent! It's important that we all look the same when representing Australia, so if you do not have a Scout Belt please purchase one. Also if you don't have the current Scouts Australian Logo on your Scout Belt, it may be time to think about getting one.

Some links are included below to The Scout Shop to either get just a replacement buckle or a whole belt. If you are ordering the whole belt, please take a note of the sizes.

Item	URL	Cost
Official Scout Belt Woven	https://scoutshop.com.au/products/official-scout-belt-woven?taxon_id=28	\$16.95
Australian Scout Logo Buckle	https://scoutshop.com.au/products/new-logo-buckle	\$9.95

Unit Structure and Taking a Leadership Role

Unit Structure and Grouping Preferences

Units will be made up of 36 youth members and 4 leaders from around Australia, consisting of 4 Patrols (nine youth members and one adult). Patrols will be made up from Scouts and Venturer Scouts from the “local” area from which you come. This will mean each Patrol can organise Patrol activities and camps prior to departing for the Jamboree, allowing you to know your Patrol and select your Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader. You and your parents will also be able to get to know the adult leader who will be assigned to your Patrol as your supporter/mentor.

As an example, if a total of 3 people are attending from the same local Unit, we may assign them to the same Patrol and add 3 from another local Unit. If there are 4 people attending from the same local Unit, they may be split across 2 or more different Jamboree Patrols. For this to work, youth must have applied selecting the same local Unit in the registration system.

For local groups which would like to stay together, in the best way possible, we are prepared to consider requests. These requests should be sent to admin@wsj2023.scouts.com.au by 30 April 2022.

Unit Chair & Assistant Unit Chair

As part of the Unit structure, each Unit will have a Unit Chair and Assistant Unit Chair. Each Unit will choose their own Chair and Assistant Chair. These members will represent the Unit at the Contingent Youth Council. If you are interested, we strongly recommend you have completed a recognised Leadership or Personal Development Course before the Jamboree. This is likely to be either a Scout or Venturer Scout section course, but must have at least been approved by your home Unit Council.

Contingent Youth Council

The Contingent Youth Council will be made up of all the Unit Chairs and Assistant Unit Chairs, supported by the two Assistant Contingent Leaders (Phoebe and Toby). Phoebe and Toby both were youth members at the previous World Scout Jamboree in 2019. It is expected that the Contingent Youth Council will meet during the lead up to the Jamboree and will provide feedback to the Units.

Please note that this is different to the **Dream Patrol II** that will be providing advice to both the Contingent Executive and the Contingent Youth Council.

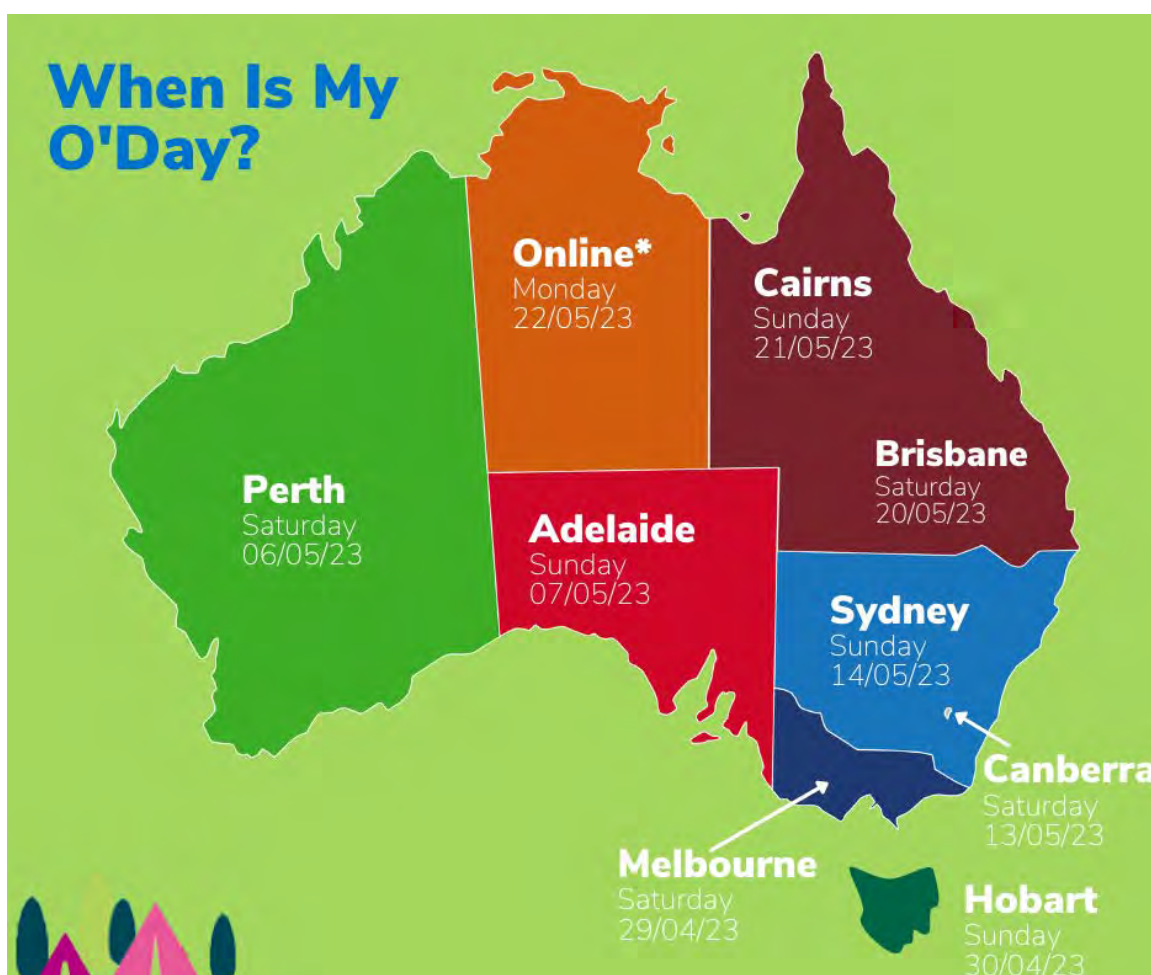
Orientation Days and Future Newsletters

There are a number of important dates you should throw in your calendar now so that you don't miss out!

Orientation Days (O'Days)

The Australian Contingent will be hosting a series of O'Days around Australia on the dates listed below. All Contingent gear will be issued to participants at these O'Days and important information will also be given so it's mandatory that you attend - the session will run for approximately 3 hours!

The exact locations and times for these days are still to be confirmed but make sure you pencil the relevant date in your calendar and keep it free. We are sorry to our friends in the NT but due to geographical challenges across the Territory, we won't be hosting an in-person O'Day. Instead, we encourage you to join the Online session and we will post Merchandise directly to you.



**Online O'Day is for anyone who lives more than 300kms from their nearest O'Day location or can't make it to a face-to-face session and our NT Participants. This session will be held via Workplace or Zoom at 8pm AEST.*

We may add additional locations/change dates, depending on the final make up of the Contingent.

Newsletter Schedule

The Australian Contingent will be publishing a series of Newsletters between now and our departure for WSJ2023. They will contain information that is important for you to **read** and understand and **actions** for you to complete in a timely manner.

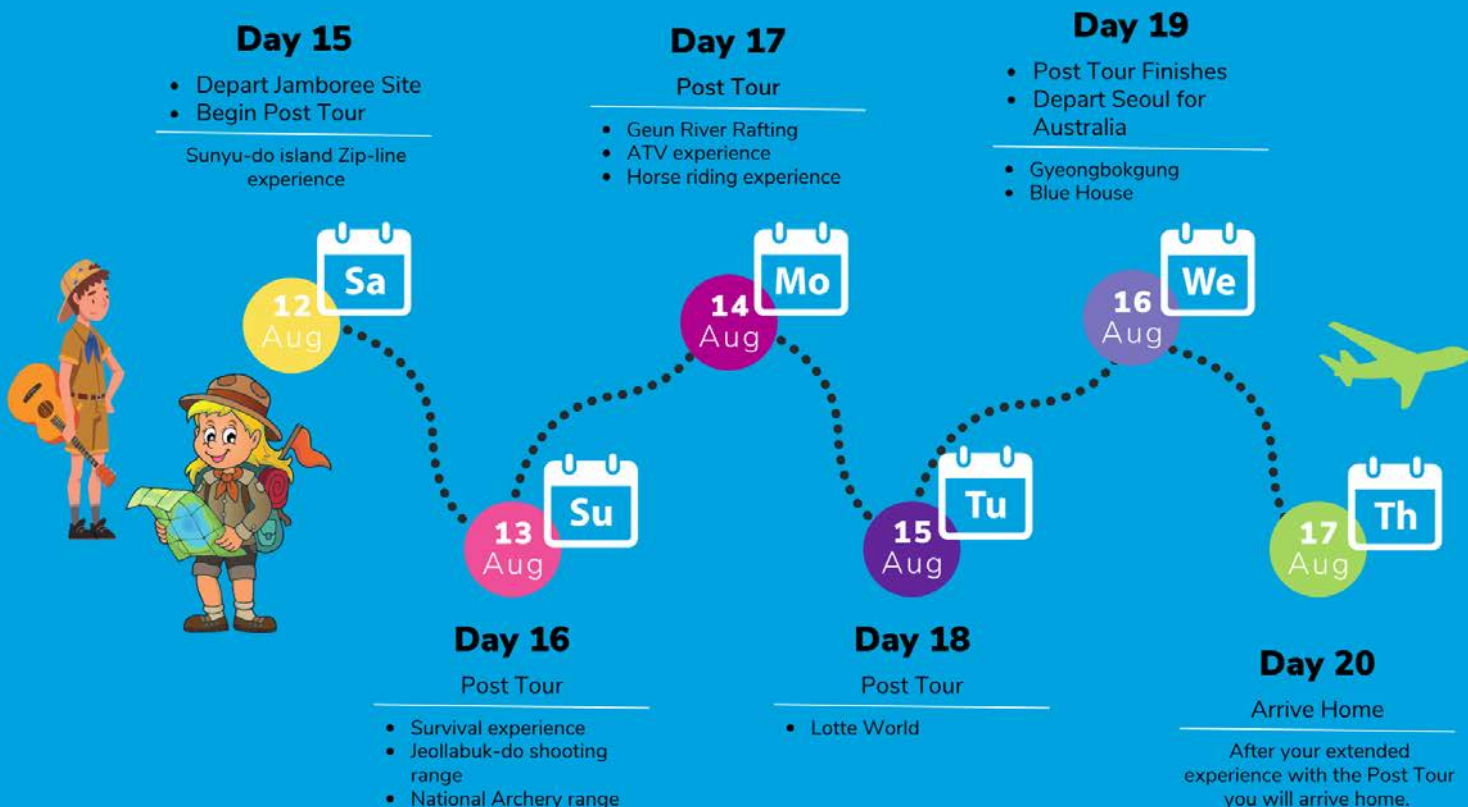
- Newsletter 1 - NOW - February 2022
- Newsletter 2 – July 2022
- Newsletter 3 – November 2022
- Newsletter 4 – March 2023
- Newsletter 5 – June 2023

Future Newsletters will include information on Flights, Travel Insurance, Health and Welfare, Spending Money, Gear Lists, Pre & Post-tour Updates, Jamboree Updates, Contingent Gear and Merchandise, Information about the International Ambassador Badge and plenty of other useful information.

All Newsletters will be distributed by email and will appear on Workplace and our website. Please ensure your email address is up to date in the registration system so you receive these important updates.

Post-Tour South Korea

Originally the Contingent requested interest in doing a Post-Tour within either Japan or Thailand. After researching our options about what we are best placed to achieve, and discussions with the Korean Scout Association, we are excited to offer to you a 4 night/5 day Post Tour within South Korea. The below graphic is a representation of what you will experience should you choose to join the Post Tour.



More information of cost and how and when to apply for the Post Tour will be advised shortly.

Watch this space!



25th World Scout Jamboree Australian Contingent

Email: admin@wsj2023.scouts.com.au

Website: scouts.com.au/wsj2023



Line Leader and IST Supplement

We have compiled below a few specific pieces of information for Line Leaders and IST, we strongly recommend reading the Scouts Australia “**International Adult Application Guide 2021**”, which is available from the International Resources page: <https://scouts.com.au/what-we-do/international/resources/>

Line Leader Information

Unit Structure

The Contingent will use Venturer Scout section terminology and operating procedures during the trip as the youth will be of Venturer Scout age.

Units will be structured with 36 youth members and 4 Line Leaders. A Unit Council will be formed including a minimum of Unit Chair and Assistant Unit Chair. Across the 4 roles in the lines, you will likely need to balance Leader-in-Charge, Welfare, Activities & Camping responsibilities. From past experiences, it is best that each adult takes on a separate role.

In the event that there is a carer required for a youth member in the Unit, then this will mean you will have one less youth member for every additional adult. You will need to self-manage your duties at the event - we would highly encourage rostering each of you off for a day or two (ideally two), so that you can get an opportunity to see and explore, and have a break, but we can't provide any further guidance on the feasibility of this right now. During the Jamboree, each Unit will camp on a camp site with sufficient space and equipment supplied to allow the Unit to operate independently.

Unit Camp Structure

The Jamboree will supply all the tents, sleeping mats and cooking equipment required for each Unit. A full list of equipment will be provided in future newsletters.

There will be 5 Hubs on the Jamboree Site, Hubs 1-4 are for Unit's which are spread out over the Jamboree Site. While it may not look big from the map on page 11 of the Newsletter each Unit site is 30m by 40m. The advice from the JOC is that every participant will have their own 2 person tent. This is part of their COVID Safe Plan. Whilst this may change we are working to this hypothesis at the moment. A large dining shelter, 8m by 8m, will also be provided, this will provide shelter from the sun and rain, allowing a recreation and dining space for the Unit.

We have also been advised that there will be a shuttle bus operating on the Jamboree Site. There are two routes which both go to the Main Arena. We will have more information on this closer to the event and also how these can be used.

IST Information

IST Camp Structure

Individual tents and sleeping mats will be supplied for the IST. The JOC has advised that the IST will be camping in job/role grouping not by Contingent as at WSJ2019. This is consistent with other World Scout Jamborees. Further details will be provided as we know them.

IST Roles

There will be many IST roles at the Jamboree, these are all allocated by the JOC. Once we have been advised how this allocation will work we will advise all IST applicants on what they will need to do to register their specific job role preferences. Final roles/jobs will be offered to IST directly by the Jamboree.

Your rosters will be allocated by the JOC in the lead up to the event. Whilst our CMT will do their best to answer queries, we do not have any control over the IST role/job allocation process or job rostering.

IST members will have time when they are not rostered on duty - what this looks like, we don't currently know, but early discussions have included the opportunity for tours and day trips.

Options for Independent IST Travel

Independent travellers are required to meet a member of the CMT at Incheon International Airport (ICN) on 29 July 2023. The time will be confirmed closer to the date but we expect this to be in the morning. This means you probably need to plan to be in Seoul by 28 July 2023.

Appendix 1 - Youth Experiences from WSJ2019

Keegan Breaks Down Disability Barriers to Attend World Scout Jamboree

Disability is no barrier to enjoying Scouting. Recently, Keegan Baillie-Martin, was diagnosed with a rare and chronic illness, but that didn't stop his dreams of attending the World Scout Jamboree.

Four years ago, when I was a Scout, I heard some great stories about the 23th World Scout Jamboree (WSJ) in Japan. I decided I wanted attend the next WSJ. Planning and fundraising began, and I registered and was accepted as an Australian Contingent member for the 24th World Scout Jamboree, in West Virginia, USA.



My name is Keegan Baillie-Martin, I am a Venturer at 1st Caroline Springs and I turned 16 years old the week before the Australian Contingent departed for the WSJ in USA.

In February 2019, my world changed forever. I was diagnosed with CIDP (Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy). I have a rare chronic illness – an autoimmune disease that commonly occurs in people who are eligible for the aged pension. My antibodies eat away the myelin sheath that protect my nerves, attacking the peripheral nerves, leaving my arms and legs weak with numbing feelings, pain and whole body fatigue. Each month I receive IVIg treatment at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne (RCH).

With an undiagnosed chronic illness, I earned my Promise Challenge, Grey Wolf and Australian Scout Medallion.

“Scouting means so much to me I couldn't imagine not attending WSJ. The thought was shattering.”

A lot of preparation was required to get me to WSJ. I saw a minimum of 6 teams at the Royal Children's Hospital and used medical services in my local community. The amazing orthotist at the hospital designed me an ankle-foot orthosis brace that enables me to walk and participate in adventurous activities, especially water activities as it was made thinner with removable straps. My home Scout Group, 1st Caroline Springs, rallied around me to ensure I was ready for WSJ. Their support during tests, diagnosing and treating my chronic illness made Scouting and my everyday life much easier to navigate.



The Australian Contingent were supportive from the first meeting until I arrived back on Aussie soil. Initially I met with Rod Byrnes and Diana Swift. We discussed what I needed to achieve my WSJ goals and how that would be delivered. I took my brace, walking stick and 11 medications in an extra medical bag. Rod and his team organised for a wheelchair to be available at all 7 airports I went through, and Leaders, such as Annie Asquith, and Venturers to push the wheelchair and assist with my contingent bag and backpacks. They also arranged for pre-purchase of a wheelchair from Walmart in Washington DC that was waiting for me at our first stop, the American University. My roommate, Aaron from Victoria, was an amazing help, as was Patrol 1 and all of Troop 7!

I was excited when the Australian Contingent arrived at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. The contingent brought my wheelchair to the site, and arranged for my Troop to be close to activities, transport and amenities. Emma Watson was my Troop Leader and my line leader. She played an important role in organising transport and making sure I was feeling ok and looking after myself. The leaders from Troop 7, along with welfare leaders, Diana Swift, Mitch Kraan and Wendy Byrnes were a constant support. Troop 7 youth members assisted and adjusted where I needed support. Some of the Venturer Scouts from my Troop discovered a lot about people with disabilities from me. A few even tried on my brace (referred to as my leg). It was entertaining watching them try to walk in my shoes!



The disability and services on site at Jamboree were great. I was able to take busses and UTV's (off road buggy) to activities, I used my wheelchair when needed and took my walking stick. The disabled shower in Sub Camp B even had hot showers! I was also looked after by activity staff, and supported when lining up for activities so I didn't have to stand or wait for long periods of time.

So here it is... I have a disability, but sometimes it doesn't look like I have a disability. I am an ambulatory wheelchair/scooter user. I pushed myself, believed in myself and did everything on my Jamboree 'wish list'. I utilised and appreciated the supports that were put in place by the Australian Contingent and offered by the three hosting countries (USA, Canada and Mexico). I didn't do everything the same as I would have before my condition degenerated.

BUT... I successfully rock climbed, abseiled, crossed the boulder wall, jumped the 'leap of faith', fired a cannon, shot an old fashioned muscat, crossed about 7 small zip lines at the Canopy, went white water rafting and crossed the big zip line – 1km long and travelled over 90km per hour. I did it all my own way as I could only do things once!

Many friends, old and new, along with Leaders, commented on the resilience I demonstrated. At times my body hurt, I was medicated for pain relief when needed AND I even managed to stay out of the hospital. I adapted, and so did my Troop. Scouts looked after Scouts – after falling multiples times on the CONSOL

Energy Bridge walking the short distance to the opening ceremony (it actually sways), two Scottish Scouts CARRIED me to the end of the bridge to my waiting wheelchair! They held me under their arms and took me to the other side, walking amongst thousands of people. Kilted Scouts who were no doubt trained with strength from Highlander traditional games (which we saw at Mount Jack).

I couldn't have achieved this amazing and life changing experience without all of my support teams at the Royal Children's Hospital, my 1st Caroline Springs family, Venturers Victoria, Australian World Scout Jamboree Contingent, and most importantly my mum, dad and brother, Isaac.

Extra special thanks to Rod Byrnes who could have said no, and Emma Watson and Troop 7 leaders for getting me through.

If you have a disability, are quirky or challenged; just have a go! Make sure you communicate and have plans to achieve your dreams. If you're a parent of a Scout with a disability, I want you to know Scouts in Australia and Scouters around the world will do everything in their power to make dreams come true.

My name is Keegan Baillie-Martin, and I am the 'no scout left behind'!



Jamboree Experience from Annabel Rogers

July 23, 2019 - I'm writing this post a day late because I didn't get a chance yesterday so here we go: My troop arrived as the sun was setting on the 22nd, and management set up most of the tents before the rain started. It was a relief to finally be here after the 7 hour bus ride and months of waiting, but our excitement was somewhat quenched by the pouring rain and the campsite that quickly turned into a swamp. The next morning I woke up early and went to the global ambassadors meeting, where I was privileged enough to meet some amazing people from all over the world. The rest of the



day was filled with trading, friendships and fun; as well as an icy cold shower- it's incredible how this site is sustainable and all, but I would really appreciate a nice warm shower! I've discovered that lots of people really want to trade for Australian things- badges, bags, pins and especially scarves. The other thing that people really want are our akubras, but we're unfortunately not allowed to trade them. In the afternoon I headed over to the Scott summit centre, which seems to be our main meeting point, for our instructions on the flag carrying during the opening ceremony. The Australian Contingent team has already decided that I would carry the flag for the opening ceremony and Toby, the other Australian ambassador, would do the closing. Because of this, I was absolutely terrified but also incredibly excited and honoured to be representing Australia at such a large event. As we waited I met some of the other ambassadors from around the world, and it's honestly amazing to realise that this is finally it- we're finally all here, in America, and we're going to carry our country's flag in front of forty five thousand people. I never could've imagined in my wildest dreams that any of this was possible. When we marched through the stadium the crowd cheered, and every Aussie troop I passed cheered and shouted, but all I could hear was my own heartbeat. I don't remember actually being on the stage waving my flag, except for the roar of the crowd. When I took my place standing next to Yemen and Bhutan, and I stared out to the massive crowd and watched as all of the countries cheered, my eyes filled with tears. It was the most amazing, exhilarating and beautiful moment. When I finally rejoined my troop and watched the rest of the show, I was greeted with hugs and congratulations. I have never been as proud of my country as I was that night, and I am so absolutely grateful to everyone who made it possible.

July 24, 2019 - If you know me at all, you'll know that I love STEM- science, technology, engineering and maths. My dream job is to work for NASA, so when I went to the Air and Space museum in DC last week, I figured that that was about as good as it gets. When they said that an astronaut on the ISS (International space station) I could barely contain my excitement. My Dad is also very interested in space, and he always texts me when the ISS is going overhead and we'll be able to see it. The fact that I would actually get the opportunity to see that astronaut so far away, and even get to talk to him - I was shocked. I set off with a couple of girls from my troop in the morning, and we stopped as we spent all our money at a trading post on the way- it's where they sell the official merch. I bought a couple pins, badges and a bandana and now I'm

absolutely broke (it was worth it). Outside, we traded a bunch of badges with some Americans, which was a bit overwhelming because they absolutely swarmed us. I got some cool badges out of it though. The one thing that I wish I had more of is the little koala things that you can buy at all the tourist places in Australia. I had brought some, but there's a massive demand and I've only got a couple left. We also made our way past some of the pavilions for all of the countries, and it was really cool to see a little glimpse of each culture. When all the ambassadors met, they chose me and 14 others to be the ones who actually ask the astronaut questions, and I honestly couldn't believe it. I was a little disappointed that everything was scripted, but it didn't take away from the fact that I, a random person from a tiny town in Australia, got to speak to somebody who was actually up in space!!! My question was "do you think that scouting will give us an advantage in being some of the next people to make history in space", which is something I genuinely wanted to know the answer to as my dream is to be someone who makes history in space. We did a rehearsal first, and when it came time for the real thing I absolutely couldn't keep the smile off of my face. The Astronaut that we spoke to was Drew Morgan, who had about a 3 second audio and video lag but otherwise it was an absolutely incredible experience. I don't really remember what he said to me looking back because I was so excited. Afterwards, I got to take a photo with another astronaut, Gregory Johnston, who is now retired but has actually been up to the space station himself. When I told him that that was my dream, he told me that I absolutely should, and I'm really inspired by both of those men. That afternoon I went and saw the big console bridge and a bunch of the international food houses with some of the other ambassadors from Spain and Finland, which was also really fun. Everyone I've met here are absolutely awesome people and I love that they all have a story to tell- where they're from, why they're here or what scouting means to them

July 25, 2019 - I woke up today at 5.45 to go to the Big Zip, which is a 1km long zip line that the global ambassadors get special access to. The line usually closes at midday because so many people line up for it, so being able to do it was really exciting. When we woke up, the camp was freezing but covered with a beautiful fog that gave everything a very mysterious and beautiful look. I have to admit, I am usually absolutely terrified of heights, but I was more excited than nervous before I stepped onto the platform. The fear set in and my hands started shaking as I looked down into the abyss of fog and forest that I was to zip through. The bloke who was strapping me up into the harness was George, and he told me to calm down and turn my go pro on, and he didn't give me too much warning before he sent me flying over the canopy. I screamed for the first 10 seconds, but after the immediate shock I realised that I was soaring through the fog and it was one of the most beautiful things I'd ever seen. I sailed over early morning kayakers on the lake, people walking, trees galore, and some buildings at the end. Although I was only zipping for a minute, I think that it was easily one of the most memorable things that I've done here so far. I hope to always remember the exhilaration, the icy wind, and the feeling of flying above it all. Once I was back at my troop and the fog had cleared, myself and a couple of my friends set off to boulder cove to do some climbing, but were easily phased by the massive lines. Instead, we ended up at the mining tent and spent some time completing the activities and earning our mining badge. We then went with the world point cultural pavilions as our end goal, but decided to stop at all the interesting things along the way. First we went to 'Free Market Economics' which I didn't have high hopes for but turned out to be really fun- we played a bunch of games and they gave us a few free things to trade. We then made our way around all of the nearby tents, where we did a massive variety of activities, including dressing up in colourful skirts and learning Mexican dances, putting a pin on where we live on a bunch of different maps, learning about Canadian foods, and learning about different

languages. We never did actually make it to world point and the pavilions they have there for each country, but we had an amazing day nonetheless. For dinner, I went to a Chilean troop with my friend Alfie. Their troop was on the other side of the reserve- over across the bridge in Base camp A, whereas we're at D. When we got there, we learned about how scouting works in Chile, and had a great time learning some of their Spanish- I discovered that I absolutely cannot roll my R's. The Chileans also seem to be a lot more chill (eh!) and relaxed than we are, which is saying a lot because Aussies are pretty chill ourselves! All in all, it was an awesome experience and I'm excited for a couple of the Chileans to come over in a few days! On the long trek back to our campsite, Alfie and I met up with some other Aussies and had a big chat with some of the Army medics that are hanging around- they were really nice and even took a photo with us! It was, all in all, a massive and eventful day, and I can honestly say that I enjoyed every minute of it.

July 26, 2019 - At 5am this morning I woke up to the sound and the wind of a helicopter close outside. I quickly dismissed it as just a rescue chopper coming too close or something like that as I was very tired and immediately went back to sleep. In the morning we learned that they were using infrared scanners to look for a missing person, and that our dining fly had sailed all the way to the Italian troop next door and one of our leaders' tents broke. Plenty of excitement far too early in the morning! In other news, today was culture day, which is pretty exciting. Us Aussies were all making vegemite sandwiches and fairy bread, and all the other countries were doing different cultural activities. We tried some Brazilian food, did some origami with the Japanese and took part in the Swedish midsummer dances. I also managed to trade some really cool things today- if you didn't know, trading is MASSIVE here. Everyone loves trading badges, pins, shirts, souvenirs and anything else that they can get their hands on in exchange for something cool from another country, region or event. Today I managed to get one of the revered Scottish kilts, which come at a very high price- for me, it was a long sleeve Australian Contingent shirt and towel. I got the MacLaren kilt, and I learned that it's the most popular one for scouting- there's a long and complicated story about it that I don't quite remember. Another thing that I scored was one of the Mexican shirts, which are really colourful and cool, and it only cost me two of those tiny little koalas that you can buy in any tourist stores in Australia. The rest of the day was spent trading, experiencing cultures, and resting my feet, which have begun to blister from all the walking I'm doing. Tonight I went to the Unity Show, which was an awesome celebration of culture and all of our differences. Unfortunately, my group left before the Broadway Disney show that was immediately afterwards, which was disappointing but at least we got to bed early!

July 27, 2019 - Today was a little bit less hectic than some of the other days, but it still definitely had its excitement. I slept in until breakfast, which is later than any other day- just shows how tired I am. I didn't have any plans other than the base camp bash (it's a concert that happens for each base camp and there's one most nights), so I set off for world point with a bunch of my friends and we went and saw some things and got henna at the Indian tent. After that we headed back to camp and got some food at legacy village on the way. Now would probably be a good time to mention that one of my friends sprained her ankle a couple of days ago and is now walking around in a boot and crutches, which is really unfortunate. Anyway, as we were walking to camp somebody walking by accidentally kicked her boot which made her trip and put her in a world of pain. I went to the information desk and they called her a



medical vehicle- unfortunately it was not one of the cool army medical vehicles going around but instead one of the little golf buggies. When they left I met up with a group of boys from my troop who were heading back up the way we came, and we all went to have a look at all of the merch at the trading post- unfortunately I was too broke to buy anything, but I did get a bandana earlier in the week. I really want one of the world scouting hoodies, so if anyones willing to swap one (or shout one) let me know! We also stopped in at the Australian pavilion to have a chat to the guys there, and I had some vegemite, which is something I've been missing. When I got back to camp I took my shoes off and realised that the sore spots that I had been overlooking have blossomed into some impressive blisters, so walking's a bit painful! At night we went to the C-D base camp bash, which was really cool. It was basically just lots of loud music and excited people, but it was fun, and I met Batman. Or, more accurately, I met an American in a Batman costume. Still cool though.

July 28, 2019 - Because it was Sunday today, a lot of the activities didn't open until 10 or 12, and they ran a Scout's Own in the main arena at 8.30. A Scout's Own is a type of reflective service that happens in scouting all around the world- it's not necessarily religious but if it is it's usually inclusive of all people, no matter what faith, gender, culture or any other differences. It's basically a chance to reflect on your life and connect with others. This Scout's Own was the biggest I've ever attended, and it was really beautiful. The staff handed out special scarves for us to get people from different countries to sign, and it was great to connect to people from around the world. We also formed a massive peace sign, which was pretty cool! I then went up to world point, again. We didn't do too much except hang out with a kookaburra (they had a bunch of birds there) and eat some food. I still really want to explore all of the different countries' tents because they're all really interesting but I guess I'll get a chance another day. When I got back to camp I accidentally fell asleep in my tent- it was horrible, I do not recommend. Because it's so hot here the tents are like saunas- no breeze, you just slowly melt away. I woke up covered in sweat and immediately went and had an icy cold shower. Refreshing to say the least! At dinner, one of our patrols swapped with an American lot, so we had a lot of fun chatting to them about the differences between our countries. Like yesterday, it wasn't a huge day today- tomorrow probably will be, but right now I'm grateful for any slight resemblance of rest.

July 29, 2019 - We're on the final stretch of this camp. It's surreal enough being here after so many months of waiting, but for it to be almost over? I can't believe it. My patrol was 'duty patrol' this morning, which basically means that we're in charge of cooking and cleaning. Because of that, I woke up at 5 and went to the food store to grab our food for the day. The way it works is that we're allocated a certain amount of food per day, and each food has to be scanned and paid for on an app we have. It's a pretty cool system, and I love that they're trying to incorporate and utilise technology in a positive way. Although waking up early is horrible, watching the sunrise was quite lovely. We cooked eggs and sausage patties in bread for breakfast, and when I say cooked I mean heated up. That's another thing about the Jamboree- I'm not sure if it's an American thing or a Jamboree thing, but all of the food comes pre cooked, even the eggs. I can't wait until I get back home and see a real carton of eggs again. I went to the 'Better World' tent with Toby (the other Australian ambassador) today, and we took some photos in our uniforms. I also found a booth about the 2021 World Moot in Ireland. If you didn't know, a moot is a Jamboree- style event for people aged 18-26. I found out that I'll be 18 the week before it starts, so I'm absolutely going to be there! Sorry Mum and Dad, but missing a couple weeks of Grade 12 will be more than worthwhile if it's anything like this experience! Afterwards, I met up with a bunch of other ambassadors at the Global Development Village, and we did a ton of inspiring and interesting things like talk to a young Syrian refugee, went to a talk about gender equality, and learned about

how we, as scouts, can help save the planet. All in all, it was very worthwhile and I hope that I will implement the things I learnt into my life. We made some diy pizzas for dinner, and afterwards lots of people headed over to F for their base camp bash, and I headed out with a couple of girls in my troop to do some trading. We ended up in England, and I scored one of their tea bear shirts, a pin, and a Union Jack bandanna. It was honestly a really busy day, and I was glad to go to bed and score some sleep at last.



July 30, 2019 - Today's our field trip to Charleston! As a global ambassador, I was offered the opportunity of going to Charleston for the day with a bunch of other ambassadors. Unfortunately, it's the same day that my troop is walking up Mt Jack, so I have to miss out on that, but I'm still really glad that I get to do this. There were almost 40 of us on the bus, plus a bunch of leaders, and we started chatting and laughing- all of us got on so well. I fell asleep within the first 20 minutes, and didn't wake up before we got to Charleston. The first place we went was the West Virginia State archives museum, where we went through the museum and

learned about the history of the state. We then got taken through the archives, and saw lots of old books and records. We even got to see a signed letter from Abraham Lincoln! Apparently it was absolutely priceless, but they can't sell it because they're an archive. After that, we headed to a Boy Scout facility on the river, where we had a surprise pizza party! It was the most delicious thing I'd ever tasted, but that's probably I've been living on camp food for a while now. Another thing that I'm really craving is some vegetables or fresh fruit that doesn't taste like cardboard. 😊 Next we went on a riverboat tour of Charleston, which was not only beautiful, but it was really fun to just relax and hang out with everyone. All of the ambassadors are really fun, friendly people who I genuinely enjoy being around, so it's a bit sad that we will have to leave so soon. I hope I'll be able to keep in touch with as many of these people as I can. On the way back we stopped at a salt factory for a tour, and it was really cool to see how it's made. I fell asleep again in the bus on the way back- I guess I didn't realise how tired I was. Back at the camp, it had been raining for hours and there had been lightning warnings all day, so our camp had turned into a swamp. Because of this, I enjoyed a hot dinner and went to bed early!

July 31, 2019 - Today was the last full day of activities, and I had one thing left on my bucket list- going to the sustainability treehouse. This particular place has been featured in many photos and descriptions of the site, so my friends and I decided it was a must do before we left. We stopped off at both of the trading posts on the way up, to see if there was anything good left and if they had any deals. Unfortunately, they had all sold out of the purple WOSM (World Organisation Scouting Movement) hoodie that I had my eye on, but I suppose I can order one online at some point. At the treehouse, we were astounded but it's beauty- it's even better than it looks in pictures, all wood and metal surrounded by trees. We learnt about sustainability, and how we can be more sustainable in our own lives. All in all, it was a very fun, insightful and worthwhile experience. We then made the long trek back to camp so that I could get changed into my uniform for the ambassadors closing reception.

Toby and I left camp early so that we could go to the Australian contingent headquarters and cool down after the long and sweaty walk. While we were walking, I got a message on my phone saying that I was chosen to

do a speech at the reception! Believe me, I was honoured, but before that came the absolute terror. Instead of thinking about it, I decided to make it up as I went along. Problem solving! At the reception, they gave us food and lemonade, which was awesome because there were real vegetables! Personally, I enjoyed the raw broccoli the most. Before I knew it, the speeches were up and Leona from Malaysia began with a funny, heartfelt and perfectly presented reflection on her experiences. I was next. Right now, I cannot remember what I said, but it was nowhere near as good as Leona's or either of the boys who followed me. Next time, I think I'm actually going to prepare something! The four of us who spoke were presented with special scarves, and then all of the ambassadors were awarded with our special 'Global Ambassador' scarves. I'm shocked that this incredible experience is now over, and I am honestly in denial. The reception ended and we said some goodbyes, and I headed back to camp for dinner. After dinner, all of the Australian patrol leaders had a meeting back up at contingent headquarters. I'm an assistant patrol leader, so I figured that I would just have an early night. Unfortunately, my patrol leader, who sprained her ankle a couple of days ago, was in a lot of pain and decided that it would be too unnecessarily painful to walk all the way up to contingent. I was sent on her behalf, which meant that I would be going up there for the third time that day. The trek was long, but we were rewarded with fresh fruit and soft drinks at the meeting, so I conclude that it was definitely worth it. As the meeting finished, it began to rain, so I waited for it to be over with a couple of my friends. After a while, we received a lightning warning, and a notification that the bridge to A and B camp was closed. Lucky that I'm in D! The storm only lasted for a couple of hours, but it felt like forever. I called my dad in the middle of it, and spoke to him for the first time since he dropped me off at Cairns airport an eternity ago. Talking to him made me realise that the Jamboree was actually ending, and I would have to say goodbye to my newfound friends. The idea of this was honestly really upsetting, so on our way back to camp I checked myself into one of the listening ear facilities that were open 24/7 onsite. It was really nice to actually have someone listen to me and validate me, so I'm really grateful that those places were so readily available onsite. When I finally made it back to my tent, prepared to collapse into the realm of sleep, I was met with a shock. My roommate, Seren, was not in her tent. This was worrying because it was after curfew and there was nowhere she could really be except the toilet, but the stuff on her bed meant that she actually hadn't been there at all. I spoke to my troop leader, who was equally concerned, and as she prepared to search, we heard a strange groaning noise. Upon closer investigation, we discovered that the grunting was actually the words "I'm here" and was coming from under the bed. As we realised this, the shadows beneath Seren's bed began to move and she appeared, somehow, from a space that looked like it could fit a small child at most. Apparently she'd crawled under there to grab something and had been too tired to climb up again. This was, without a doubt, the funniest thing that had happened to me all day. Thanks, Seren. I'll miss you.