



Scouts Australia NSW

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Scouts reaffirm commitment to ‘Youth Leading, Adult Supporting’



Scouts Australia NSW has reaffirmed its commitment to placing youth members first ahead of the United Nations’ International Youth Day this Sunday.

The observance, which is commemorated annually on 12 August, celebrates the role of young people as essential partners in change.

“For over a century, Scouts has been a driving force to empower the leaders of the future,” Mr Neville Tomkins OAM JP, Chief Commissioner of Scouts Australia NSW said.

“While our adult volunteers are the enablers for our youth program, much of the decision making is in the hands of our youth members.

“The perspectives and contributions of all our young people are at the heart of what we do.”

Mr Tomkins says the theme for International Youth Day 2018, ‘Safe Spaces for Youth’, is embedded in Scouting and its unique Youth Leading, Adult Supporting approach.

“At Scouts, we are dedicated to giving young people from all backgrounds and abilities a safe and secure environment where they can be themselves, participate in decision-making processes, and take part in a range of fun and engaging activities designed to develop their skills,” Mr Tomkins said.

“Unlike schools where students follow a curriculum set by their teachers, Scouts places young people in the driver’s seat, giving them the opportunity to make decisions about what skills they want to learn, and how and when this will happen.

“This approach ensures young people are engaged and actively involved in making positive contributions to their communities.”

With over 400 Scout Groups and 18,000 Youth and Adult Members in New South Wales, Scouts is one of the largest, and longest running youth organisations in the State.

For more information about Scouts Australia NSW, visit <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au>.

For more information about International Youth Day, visit <https://www.un.org/en/events/youthday/>.

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Media: For high resolution images or to organise an interview, please contact Patria Manalili on 02 9735 9019 or email patria.manalili@nsw.scouts.com.au.