

The State government also allocated monies to Taree and Wingham Scouts

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Stephen Bromhead with 1st Forster Tuncurry group leader, Leanne Richardson. Forster Tuncurry Scout Hall has received a State government grant towards an upgrade of the aging building.

The \$13,000 will be put towards an electrical upgrade to ensure the building on the corner of Lake and McIntosh streets, remains safe and functional.

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Also on the receiving end of the State government's COVID-19 stimulus programs, for Scout facilities on Crown land are Taree and Wingham packs.

Member for Myall Lakes, Stephen Bromhead said the combined \$68,000 funding was part of \$7.75 million being provided, under the stimulus program.

"Scouts NSW is one of our State's largest and most popular youth organisations that helps communities build leadership skills, resilience and friendship through healthy activities for young people, so it's great to support them," Mr Bromhead said.

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"I have recently visited local scout halls and know how vital they are to those who use them, so securing funding for these upgrades is a real win for the Myall Lakes."

Upgrades to local Scouts NSW facilities to be funded by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Crown Lands include:

- \$38,000 for Taree Scout Hall to refurbish its toilets and showers including providing disabled access, and for an upgrade to its electrical system
- \$17,000 for an external repaint of the Wingham Scout Hall to freshen it up and protect it against the elements
- \$13,000 for Forster Tuncurry Scout Hall for an electrical upgrade to keep it safe and functional.

Minister for Water, Property and Housing said communities had done it tough during COVID-19, including organisations like Scouts NSW whose activities have been disrupted.

"This funding will help Scouts NSW bounce back with improvements to facilities throughout the State, many of which are also used by other community organisations," Mrs Pavey said.

"Upgrade work will also support local economies with work for tradies and material suppliers."

Scouts NSW Chief Commissioner Neville Tomkins OAM said the stimulus funding would improve Scout facilities and help them attract more members.

"We are delighted with the NSW Government support that will assist an enormous number of communities by upgrading Scout facilities and improving the amenity of buildings and campsites," Mr Tomkins said.

"There are many Scout roofs that need repair, kitchen and toilet blocks that need upgrades, and facilities and campsites that we want to make more accessible including for those in wheelchairs, so this funding is very welcome."

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