

2nd Manly St Matthew's Boy Scouts

The 2nd Manly St Matthew's Boy Scouts was a 'closed' troop, meaning that only boys who went to St Matthew's church could be members. *Manly Daily* 24 September 1938 advertised that they were holding a fund-raising concert to send boys to the forthcoming Jamboree. The concert was to be on 26 September 1938 at the Olympic Theatre.

A patrol leader of the 2nd troop in the 1930s was Roden Cutler, later Governor of NSW and Chief Scout of Australia.¹⁷

3rd Manly Scouts

Two rover scouts from the 3rd Manly troop were pictured in the *Hobart Mercury* in 1954 completing a hike across Tasmania.¹⁸

4th Manly Scouts

The 4th Manly Scout Group applied to Manly council to have a site in Ivanhoe Park for its Hall.¹⁹ It stated that the 4th Manly Scout Group formed in 1958 and had grown to its present total of 75 boys. They were presently using a 'den' under St Andrew's Church Hall, and wished to move to a site either in Ivanhoe Park on the old tramway loop or on Graham Reserve. It was noted that there were existing halls in Balgowlah Park, Brimbecomb Park and at Ivanhoe Park; the existing Scout Hall in Ivanhoe Park was described by the Municipal Engineer as 'large and unattractive'. A site was later authorised at Addiscombe Road for their premises.

Rovers

A troop of Rover Scouts was in existence in Manly in 1930. Twelve of them undertook a lengthy hike in May 1930. They would have been an extension of one of the Manly Scout troops.²⁰

1st Manly-Seaforth Sea Scouts

¹⁷ *Manly Daily* 14 February 1973, p9.

¹⁸ *Hobart Mercury* 31 December 1954, p1.

¹⁹ Municipal Engineer's Report 19 April 1963.

²⁰ 4 May 1930, p7.



Scan 07.2010 Hugh King in uniform of 1st Manly Sea Scouts, 1941

It is not yet known when the 1st Manly-Seaforth Sea Scouts were founded. They competed regularly for the Endeavour flag, a competition for Sydney's Sea Scouts, and in 1937 they came second in the competition.²¹ *Manly Daily* 24 September 1938 referred to the 1st Manly-Seaforth Sea Scouts in passing.

Queen's Scouts from the troop were: 1970, Steven Cooper; 1990 Victoria Hendy; 1994 Benjamin Meldrum; and 1999 Daniel O'Sullivan.²²

The Sea Scouts boatshed is located at North Harbour 10 metres east of Davis' boatshed. It was built c1950/51.

1st Balgowlah Boy Scouts



MAN01046 1st Balgowlah Boy Scouts, 1925

²¹ SMH 16 March 1937, p8.

²² *Manly Daily* 12 February 1999, p10.

The troop formed in 1925 as an offshoot of the 1st Manly Scouts. The new hall of the 1st Balgowlah Scouts in Balgowlah Park was opened on 4 May 1929²³ by Sir Arthur Cocks, president of the Middle Harbour district of the Boy Scouts' Association. Mr H Huddleston was President of the Balgowlah Troop Committee in 1929.

Manly Daily 24 September 1938 advertised that the 1st Balgowlah troop were to hold a fund-raising dance at the Friendly Societies' Hall in Condamine Street. A J Bradshaw was President of the troop in 1938.

2nd Balgowlah Scouts

The 2nd Balgowlah Boy Scouts held their first annual concert in the Scout Hall in Pickworth Avenue, Balgowlah, on 15 October 1960, in aid of their building fund.²⁴

In July 1961 the 2nd Balgowlah Boy Scouts expressed thanks to Manly Council for the wonderful assistance given by Council in connection with the construction of a new Scout Hall at Brimbecomb Park. Council assisted with the connection of electricity and provision of street lighting in the park.²⁵

The Hall was officially opened by the Mayor of Manly on 2nd December 1961, in the presence of 200 people. Official guests included Mr Darby, MLA, Mr L Pearson, Manly District Scouts Commissioner, and Mr W Kinnersley, North metropolitan Scouts' Area Commissioner.

Selwyn Norden, President of the 2nd Balgowlah Parents' Committee welcomed the Mayor.

The building, a converted Herne Bay Housing Unit was transported to the site in two halves in March 1961. Manly Council selected the land, leveled the site and provided help with exterior painting. The hall was 100 feet x 20 feet, with a raised stage at one end.

See also *Manly Daily* 7 Dec 1961.

Ingleside Scout Camp

The Ingleside Scout Camp was officially opened on 14 November 1964 by Sir Kenneth Street, see MD 12 November 1964.

²³ SMH 6 May 1929.

²⁴ *Manly Daily* 14 September 1960.

²⁵ *Manly Daily* 6 July 1961.

1st Manly Scout Group

There is evidence that a troop of Boy Scouts was in existence from as early as 1909. However, the 1st Manly Scout Group received its new colours at a simple ceremony at North Harbour Reserve in August 1966, at which time the District Commissioner, Peter Waters, announced that in 1967 the 1st Manly Group would celebrate its Golden Jubilee, as it was formed on February 9, 1917, under the leadership of Scoutmaster H E Smith, of The Crescent, Manly.¹

Charles Swancott noted: "The Manly Boy Scouts, formed about 1916, owed much to the enthusiasm of Mr Harry Smith. In 1924 there were about 150 Scouts and Cubs under the direction of Mr N Goetze, Scoutmaster, assisted by T Stoner and Cub Masters Reg Thomas and S Solomon. There was a Parents' Supporters Committee, of whom Mr Rumford was President."²



Scan 11.2010 Allied Day pageant, 5 December 1915 Mrs Easterbrook on throne.

However, a Manly Boy Scouts troop was in existence in 1910 and possibly even earlier. The *Sunday Times* carried several mentions of the Manly troop of Boy Scouts from 1909 onwards. In June 1909, the no 3 Patrol witnessed Captain Penfold descending in his hot-air balloon from Clontarf, and went to his assistance³.

Manly was a popular venue for Scout camps, and the *Evening News* reported in April 1909 that up to 100 Scouts would be camping at Manly over the Easter break.⁴

¹ *Manly Daily* 25 August 1966.

² Swancott, Charles, *Manly 1788 to 1968* p134.

³ *Sunday Times* 21 June 1909, p3.

⁴ *Evening News* 14 April 1909, p5.

A donation to the NSW Public Disaster Relief Fund was made by Manly Boy Scouts in February 1910.⁵ Manly Boy Scouts participated in the funeral service held at the Victoria Hall in May 1910 for the late King.⁶ The patrol-leader of no 1 Patrol in 1910 was L Lawrence.⁷ A photo of a group of Manly Scouts in a tug-of-war was published in *Sunday Times* 30 October 1910, p17. An inspection of the Manly troop took place on 19 January 1911; boys wishing to join should contact Scout Master H[enry] Smith, Clifford Avenue.⁸ At the Manly Life Saving Club's carnival in April 1911, a troop of boy scouts helped local surf club members 'repel an invasion of Chinese' in a dramatic sketch.⁹

The photo above shows Manly Boy Scouts in attendance at an Allies Day pageant held on Manly Oval on 5 December 1915, so a group was clearly well established by that date, prior to the supposed formation in 1917.

At a WWI recruiting rally in January 1917, returned soldiers and Boy Scouts were led by the Manly Band to Manly Oval.¹⁰

Manly Council Minutes 6 May 1924, Council agreed to allow the Scouts an area behind the Manly Oval Pavilion facing Sydney Road, where they could build a drill hall.

Governor de Chair opened the Manly Scout Hall on 19 September 1925.¹¹

The (Sydney) Boy Scouts' Association's 13th swimming carnival took place at Manly Pool in 1931.¹²

In 1932, Boy Scouts from the Manly and Warringah troops formed a working bee to clear 12 acres of scrub surrounding the new Manly District Hospital.¹³

In 1934 the Manly-Warringah Boy Scout Association's annual corroboree was held at Manly Oval. About 1000 boys from all over Sydney attended.¹⁴

A Manly Rover troop existed in the 1930s, under skipper E H Sanders.¹⁵

The Scout Hall at the rear of Manly Oval was erected in July 1973 and the old structure was demolished.¹⁶ The new two-storey structure was named the Harold Brown Memorial Hall, after a benefactor of the Scout Association, and cost some \$40,000 to construct. It was the headquarters of the Manly and District Scout Association.

Manly Daily 9 March 1994 reported that the Scout Hall in Ivanhoe Park had been badly damaged by fire. District Scout Commissioner Paul Langhorne said that irreplaceable memorabilia, including photographs, records, books, flags and trophies, some dating back to the 1930s and 40s had been lost. The hall had been built 22 years previously and was the meeting place for the Fairlight Manly Scouts and the Seaforth Rovers. It was also used by martial arts and fencing groups.

⁵ SMH 11 February 1910.

⁶ *Sydney Morning Herald* 23 May 1910, p9.

⁷ *Sunday Times* 11 September 1910, p17.

⁸ *Sunday Times* 15 January 1911, p17.

⁹ SMH 3 April 1911, p13.

¹⁰ SMH 15 January 1917, p7.

¹¹ SMH 21 September 1925, p10.

¹² SMH 23 February 1931, p13.

¹³ SMH 27 February 1932, p10.

¹⁴ SMH 1 March 1934, p10.

¹⁵ *Manly Daily* 24 June 1971, p9, letter from Mr Sanders.

¹⁶ Engineer's Report 1973 no 143; *Manly Daily* 14 February 1973, p9.