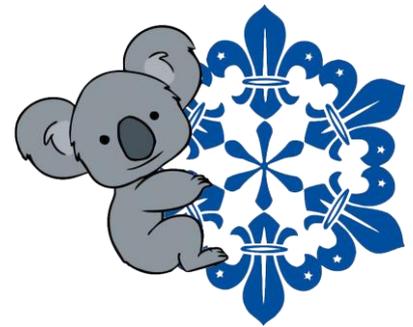




**Australian Contingent**  
**Kandersteg International Scout Centre - 2016**  
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Dear Contingent member,

I would like to welcome you once again to the Australian Contingent heading to the Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland in 2016. As you know, we will make history as the first Australian group of this kind to visit the spiritual home of World Scouting – giving us the opportunity to share the experiences that the permanent mini-jamboree offers each and every day! KISC is very excited to have us, and we hope you are all even just half as excited as us to be heading over!

Enclosed you will find our first newsletter which contains lots of useful information. Please ensure that you read it thoroughly and that you also have your parents read it. Most of the common questions are answered in these pages – so please read them carefully before asking questions. If anything is unclear or not answered please don't hesitate to contact us.

Finally, it is very important to stay on top of payments as they fall due – this newsletter has a recap of the milestones. You may make smaller and more regular payments if you like, as long as you reach (at least) the required amount by the due date. Please discuss with me directly if you are having financial difficulties in making these payments, so that we can discuss special plans with you. Remember that payments can only be made online at <https://registrations.international.scouts.com.au>.

Thank you again for joining us as we visit the Kandersteg International Scout Centre. Enjoy the build up, and let that anticipation continue to build. It's going to be special.

Yours in Scouting,

Gary Steinhardt  
Contingent Leader

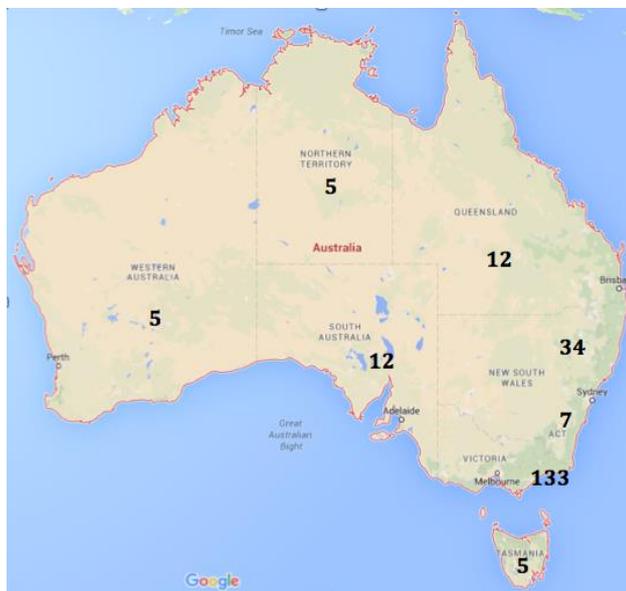
Scouts Australia to KISC2016



## Who Are We?

We currently have a Contingent of 218 Australians! By the time we head off, we will be made up of 15 Scouts, 80 Venturers and 91 Rovers (remembering some of you will change sections between now and our departure date). Throw into that the 23 Leaders and 9 Contingent Management Team members, and you have yourself one heck of a group!

We are proud to be a truly national Contingent, with representation across every state and territory of Australia:



Troops have been split so that there is a great mix of ages and states in each Troop and each Patrol. You will leave KISC with friends from around the country, as well as around the world! More will be revealed soon!

## A Little More About... KISC!

Each newsletter will feature an info spot on something central to our adventure. This edition we go back to basics, and provide you a crash course of all things KISC. This way you can explain a bit about the trip yourself whilst fundraising, and also impress everyone when we arrive next year.

After being so impressed and inspired by the success and goodwill of the first World Scout Jamboree in 1920, Lord Baden-Powell himself sought a new, central location to continue the magic. The Chief Scout of Switzerland soon made contact offering an abandoned chalet near the little village of Kandersteg, Switzerland. This eventually led to Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC!) being established in 1923. The rest, as they say, is history. With chalets, a campsite, mountain huts and activities galore, KISC is recognised as the leading Scout Centre in the world and holds a special place in the hearts of all those that visit.

KISC is known as the permanent mini-jamboree - a place where Scouts and Guides can gather from all across the world to continue to fulfil B-P's dream 365 days a year. It has become the spiritual home of World Scouting, and welcomes around 15,000 visitors each and every year.

KISC is made all the more special by the Swiss Alps that it is nestled in. The nearby village of Kandersteg is only 1500 locals who are all used to seeing Scouts and scarves exploring the village and the region.

KISC's programme focuses on International Friendship, High adventure and Eco-awareness. It's back to basics - socialising, learning and exploring with Scouts from across the world.



The Centre is run by volunteers - the Pinkies - who spend a few months or even years at the centre 'Living the Dream' and putting on the best show possible for guests like us. Many of the Australian Contingent Team are ex-Pinkies and the staff of 2016 will be sure to have a big influence on our visit.

Stay tuned for A Little More About... Switzerland, Kandersteg, Alpine Weather and much more in future newsletters!

## Flights

We are currently in the process of booking the international flights for those who have selected and confirmed Contingent Travel. This is being done through a travel agent as part of a group booking. As a result, it is crucial that all details are confirmed and correct as soon as possible, so please continue to check and update your details as necessary.

To keep costs down given the distance we are travelling, we anticipate that groups will fly from each capital city. While it is possible that these flight groups will then congregate at a hub on route and proceed as one, it is not guaranteed. Each flight group will be accompanied by a team of leaders, and the Contingent Travellers will congregate in Switzerland before proceeding as one - together with the Independent Travellers - to the Kandersteg International Scout Centre.

Independent Travellers will be provided with their required meeting point and time once the Contingent arrangements are locked away. This will be non-negotiable, as has been previously communicated, due to the logistics involved in moving a Contingent of this size. Independent Travellers are not permitted to proceed directly to KISC under any circumstances. Contingent Travel arrangements will be released to Independent Travellers for those wishing to align one of their directions with us.

## Passports

To travel to Switzerland you will need a current passport with an expiry date of no earlier than 10 December 2016. As an Australian citizen, you will be granted a 90 day tourist visa to visit Switzerland on your arrival. It is important to note that Switzerland is not in the European Union but it is part of the Schengen Area – a similar agreement between 26 European countries focused mainly on border control. Your automatic 90 day tourist visa applies for the whole of the Schengen Area, meaning that Independent Travellers will need to ensure their own travels do not exceed 90 days in total in these countries. Those who may exceed the cumulative 90 day limit should contact the High Commission, Embassy or Consulate of the country or countries concerned to obtain an appropriate additional visa. See [http://smartraveller.gov.au/zw-cgi/view/TravelBulletins/Europe\\_Schengen](http://smartraveller.gov.au/zw-cgi/view/TravelBulletins/Europe_Schengen) for more details, and please inform the CMT of any issues immediately.

If you will be travelling on a foreign passport, you need to notify us of this immediately.

If you do not currently have a passport or it expires before or on this date, you need to make arrangements now to apply for or renew your passport immediately.

You can pickup a passport application form at any Australia Post outlet or find more information online at [www.passports.gov.au](http://www.passports.gov.au)

Passports can take some time to arrange, so we would recommend you follow this up ASAP. Once you have your passport details, please ensure they are updated on your online application. If you are having problems updating it online, please email the details to [admin@kisc2016.com](mailto:admin@kisc2016.com).

## Gear

A full gear list will be coming soon. In the meantime, click here: <http://kisc2016.com/equipment.html> to get some important insights and plan ahead now!



## Key Dates For The Calendar

Newsletter One	Now
September Instalment	Contingent and Independent Travellers – Overdue!!
November Instalment	Contingent Travellers
Newsletter Two	December 2015
Program Preferences	December 2015
Newsletter Three	February 2016
March Instalment	Contingent and Independent Travellers
April Instalment	Contingent and Independent Travellers
Orientations Day: Sydney	April 2016
O Day: Brisbane	April 2016
O Day: Melbourne	April 2016
O Day: Adelaide	April 2016
Contingent Travellers Depart!	26 June 2016
All Arrive at KISC	27 June 2016

## Sleeping Arrangements

The Contingent will be split into Troops for our stay at KISC, and you will be introduced to your new Patrol and Troop mates in the next few months. We will be camping in Troop-lines and meals will be provided by KISC – so no cooking or washing up!

As for tents: Prior to leaving, you will be matched up with a tent buddy from your Troop who you will share with during our stay at KISC. Between yourself and your tent buddy, you will need to pack and carry your own tent in both directions (you may wish to take a cheap tent and donate it at the end of your trip, leaving more room for Swiss souvenirs). They must be a hike tent to ensure everybody in the Troop fits on the campsite.

We will ensure that tent buddies are age and gender appropriate when matching you up.

## CMT – The Who’s Who?!

### Gary Steinhardt

Gary has been leading Contingents to national and international events for many, many years. He is a veteran of the Australian and New Zealand Ventures, as well as being very active within Victoria and around the country. Gary has a wealth of experience in organising large groups and is now famous across the country for the record-breaking and mind-blowing events he and his teams have created in the past. A friend to all, and very young at heart, Gary is our Contingent Leader.

### Robert Slater

Rob has been Scouting since he was 6, and chalks up his 17<sup>th</sup> year in the movement. Rob has been lucky to experience Australian Jamborees and Ventures, as well as the 2007 WSJ and many New Zealand Ventures – first as a participant and more recently in a range of leadership and organisational roles that have offered lots of experience. He and Gary have been close buddies for 6 years now, and having just spent 3 months at KISC as a Summer Pinkie in 2015 living and breathing KISC from the inside, Rob is very well placed as the Deputy Contingent Leader.

### Andrew Cooper

Andrew is a true KISC believer, having worked at the Centre in a range of positions across 2008-2011. Andrew is part of Scouts Australia’s International Team, and will be heading up our Program Team for KISC2016. He knows the routes, activities and huts inside out, and will ensure that every one of our Contingent members has an itinerary and an experience that will showcase the very best of KISC, and the very best of Switzerland. His knowledge and expertise as our DCL Program will be invaluable.



### **Dylan Hunt**

Dylan first experienced the magic of KISC as a Pinkie in 2013, and has returned for personal pilgrimages to recapture the magic since then. Dylan has a range of experience in Contingent Management having lead South Australia to WAM2014 and much more. Dylan's eye for detail and understanding of KISC operations means makes him the perfect DCL Admin and Finance, and he and his team will be responsible for all the nitty-gritty of the Contingent. Dylan calls KISC his 'other home', and we know you will feel the same.

### **Dave Langron**

Dave first visited KISC as a guest in 2008, and loves the mountain village so much that he's returned to work there another 3 times since! Most notably, he spent 10 months as the Assistant Programme Director in 2013, which puts him in a fantastic position to organise the self-guided activities that the contingent will be running. Dave has been a venturer leader for many years, and is super excited for everyone in the contingent to experience the magic of Kandersteg and its surrounds!

### **Lisa Picking**

Lisa knows KISC's ins and outs, having called the shots in a 10-month stint as Reception Manager in 2012-2013 as well as KISC's Winter ski weeks. She is the State Commissioner – International for Victoria and with plenty of experience from leading and advising Contingents to three NZ Moots, Lisa's role as Contingent Advisor is a crucial one. Lisa doesn't often feel homesick when traveling but frequently feels 'KISC-sick' when at home and knows it will get under your skin too.

### **Heather Browett**

Heather has never attended KISC, which means her face will match yours as the train arrives into Kandersteg. Heather uses her organisational skills to keep the rest of the Contingent Management Team in order. She has had past experience working in Contingent Management for WAM 2014, and is an excel super-pro – a great combination for our Admin and Finance Assistant. Heather can't wait to receive more of your payments, forms and paperwork and feels like she knows you all already after replying to all the emails we have received so far.

### **Andre Selton**

Like Heather, Andre is yet to experience the magic of KISC first-hand – but he loves a bit of mystery. Andre brings a fresh perspective to the trip's organisation and cant wait to see it all for real. Andre though has had many international Scouting adventures and loves the friendship, chats and banter of an international campfire. He will be supporting Andrew in the Program Team and using his experience to make sure each and everyone falls asleep exhausted with a smile on their face while at KISC.

### **Callum Morrison**

Callum is another KISC newbie who can't wait to see what all the hype is about. Fresh out of an Assistant Contingent Leader Position for Victoria at AV2015, Cal joins the CMT to offer help wherever it is needed. From logistics to Contingent gear and lots in between, Callum will be doing plenty of jobs in plenty of places to make sure everything runs smoothly – something he has a lot of practice in.

### **Orientation Days**

We know that you're excited to head on this trip on a lifetime, and we are too! We have plenty of information to give you before we leave however, and we know there will be many questions that need answering. To make sure we are all on the same page and ready to make the most KISC2016, the Contingent will be providing you with everything you need. For larger states, this will feature an Orientation Day in the capital city – and you must attend where possible. For the other states, you will be provided with a virtual O Day, where you receive the same information. This will be interactive in case you have any questions, with merchandise being mailed directly to you. These (virtual) O Days will ensure you get to hear all about our adventure and what to expect, get to meet the Contingent Team (and some of your new Contingent mates), receive all your merchandise, and much more.



As you will have seen in the milestone above, the Orientation Days will be held in April, with exact venues and dates to be confirmed in the next newsletter.

More information regarding the Virtual O Days will also be provided in future updates.

### **Awesome Merchandise, you ask?**

Included in the price for both Contingent and Independent Travellers is the following:

- 1 x Contingent Shirt
- Australian Scarf & Name Bar
- 2 x Contingent Badges
- Personalised Contingent Bag Tag

We expect that many of you will have done some form of major event before, and will therefore have a perfectly good bag from your previous trip. To keep costs down, the Contingent will not be providing you with a travel bag. Instead, we encourage you to reuse one from a previous trip, or instead bring a rucksack or similar. Your bag will be identified by the personalised Contingent Bag Tag.

Please note that you will need a good quality hiking backpack for part of our activity programme at KISC2016. A decent daypack of 30+ Litre may be sufficient and could be used as carry-on for the airline travel, in addition to a travel bag for your main luggage. Alternatively, you may prefer to bring a full-sized backpack as your undercarriage hold luggage. More information about these options – and a full breakdown of the gear list and requirements – will be provided in future newsletters.

### **What are the extra goods you can get your hands on?**

- Additional Shirts
- Additional Badges
- And plenty more – we will be providing a platform for you to create as much personalised and custom gear to wear or trade as you like! Stay tuned for more details.

### **Payments**

Remember that the website should be your stop for any information regarding payments and all other things Australian Contingent. To take you on this adventure of a lifetime, you need to make sure you stay up to date on your payments.

For future payments, you can pay in small amounts frequently, or by lump sum – whatever works better for you is fine by us. The most critical thing is that you are at least meeting the minimum milestones as they come around. Failure to do so could jeopardise your place in the Contingent.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Instalment</b>	<b>Contingent Travellers</b>	<b>Independent Travellers</b>
Now (Overdue!)	Deposit, One, Two	\$1900	\$400
September 1 2015	Third	\$750	\$450
November 1 2015	Fourth	\$750	
March 1 2016	Fifth	\$750	\$450
April 1 2016	Balance*	\$400 - \$800	\$100 - \$550
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$3800 - \$4200</b>	<b>\$1400 - \$1850</b>

\*Balance will be confirmed once flights are finalised and exchange rates are fixed.



## How To Make Payments

Payments to join the first the first ever Australian Contingent to the Kandersteg International Scout Centre can only be made online through the Contingent Application Portal. We accept Visa & Mastercard only.

1. Log into your account at <https://registrations.international.scouts.com.au>
2. Click on the status menu.
3. Click on the "Make a Payment" button
4. Enter/ choose the amount you wish to pay
5. Click process transaction you will receive confirmation if your payment has been approved or declined.
6. (Optional but advised) Download a receipt from the status page and store it for your records.

## Withdrawal Fee Structure

If you do decide for any reason that you need to withdraw from KISC2016, you need to inform us immediately after you make your decision. The Withdrawal and Refund policy is set out below:

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Withdrawal policy</b>
On or before 30 July 2015	Amount paid less \$200 cancellation fee
01 August 2015 to 31 December 2015	Amount paid less \$400 cancellation fee
01 January 2016 to 20 March 2016	Amount paid less \$700 cancellation fee
After 20 March 2016	No Refund

