

Scouts Tasmania Newsletter

February 2023

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STOP PRESS!

Final Entries for Regatta close 5.00pm Feb 23rd
Register your Unit now at [Home](#) | [MyScout](#)

ONE DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM ACROSS FIVE SECTIONS 



www.facebook.com/ScoutsTas

Chief's Report

Happy New Year and welcome back.

I hope you have all had the opportunity to have some time-out over the Xmas New Year period.

This item is a bit longer than I normally write, however I want to give you an overview of some exciting things that have happened and are happening in Scouting.

The biggest event over the break was the Apple Isle Moot, the National Rover Moot held at Fulton Park from 31st Dec to 7th Jan. More than 500 Rovers from all over Australia and a support team of nearly 100 current and former members of Rovers and Scouting were involved.

On behalf of Scouts Tasmania, and personally, I want to thank the whole Moot Committee, for their part in the success. Justine McKeown and her team worked for around 4 years to plan, and then provide, a great event with a program that kept the Rovers occupied and happy. I saw the whole team putting all that planning into practice at the Moot, and every one of them are to be commended for the way they managed, plus dealt with the day to day challenges that inevitably arise in any major event. There was very positive feedback from all participants. A terrific advertisement for Rovers and Scouting in Tasmania.

It is a credit to our whole Scouting Community that we can create both the opportunity and environment where our Rovers can deliver such a successful event.

Glenn Maddock, Murat Djakic & Bronwen Pinkard did a huge amount of work behind the scenes to support the Moot Committee. They brought their contacts and experience into sourcing and giving support that was a vital part of a complex organisational challenge for all involved. Thanks to you all, your work is truly appreciated.

Lucas Bryan put together a logistics team who got the infrastructure for such a large event completed in time and (just as hard) taken down afterwards. During the event they worked tirelessly to keep the site working like a well-oiled machine. I am told Lucas resided at Fulton Park for 2 weeks prior to the event. Wow, what an effort!

Allan Dolbey and his Fulton Park Committee put in countless hours in making sure Fulton Park was in perfect condition for the event, despite some of the wettest weather that we've had for years. I can say that it looked fantastic when I arrived on site. Our interstate visitors were very impressed having such a well prepared Moot site, and with "real bush".

Security (Ola Howe & team), Medical (Ian Hart & team), and many others turned up to be a part of the army of workers over the entire time of the Moot. Thanks to them all.

I won't name all names involved in the planning and running Moot as I am guaranteed to miss someone. You all know who you are, so please take this as an acknowledgement and thank you to everyone who contributed.

What else is happening?

Don't forget **Regatta**. It's up and running after the "Covid break". Help our hard working committee by making sure your Registrations are in as soon as possible, and don't miss the last cut off date, the 23rd Feb.

There are a lot of Scouts and Leaders who have not had the opportunity to be a part of the fun and challenges of Regatta, so get on board and encourage as many Scouts, Venturers, Rovers, Leaders and adults to join us for the March long-weekend at Snug. Family is welcome to join us for any part or all of the event. Just remember if you want to stay overnight on site, a WWVP card is required for adults.

This year will see the implementation of the new **Support Structure**, aimed to deliver the best support we can to all our members and meet our Compliance obligations.

I am pleased to advise that Ros Beswick (Program Support), Ross Smith (Training & Adult Support), Phoebe Djacic & Mike Hovington (Admin Support) are taking on the key roles in each area. Mike Wilson will be the Change Manager and Ruth Henderson the SEC representative. As we roll it out there will be opportunities for involvement in many roles at all levels.

Corroboree 2024 and **AJ2025** will be two more things you will start hearing more about over the coming months. Stuart Bennell will be the Contingent Leader for AJ2025.

Nigel & I will continue on our **engagement with Local and State Govt** to raise our profile and explore opportunities for partnerships with them and other Organisations.

A business plan to assess the viability of taking up an offer Scouts Tasmania has been given to have a long term lease on the **Avoca School** site is being undertaken. This would provide a long term site that provides excellent facilities for District & State events. The decision on this has to be made by March this year.

Jan Tuxworth is leading a review of our **Fellowship** structure to make sure that we are meeting the needs of this important part of our Organisation.

In line with our Youth Led Adult Supported program, our **AGM** in Latrobe on 2nd June will have younger members from all sections involved in the evening.

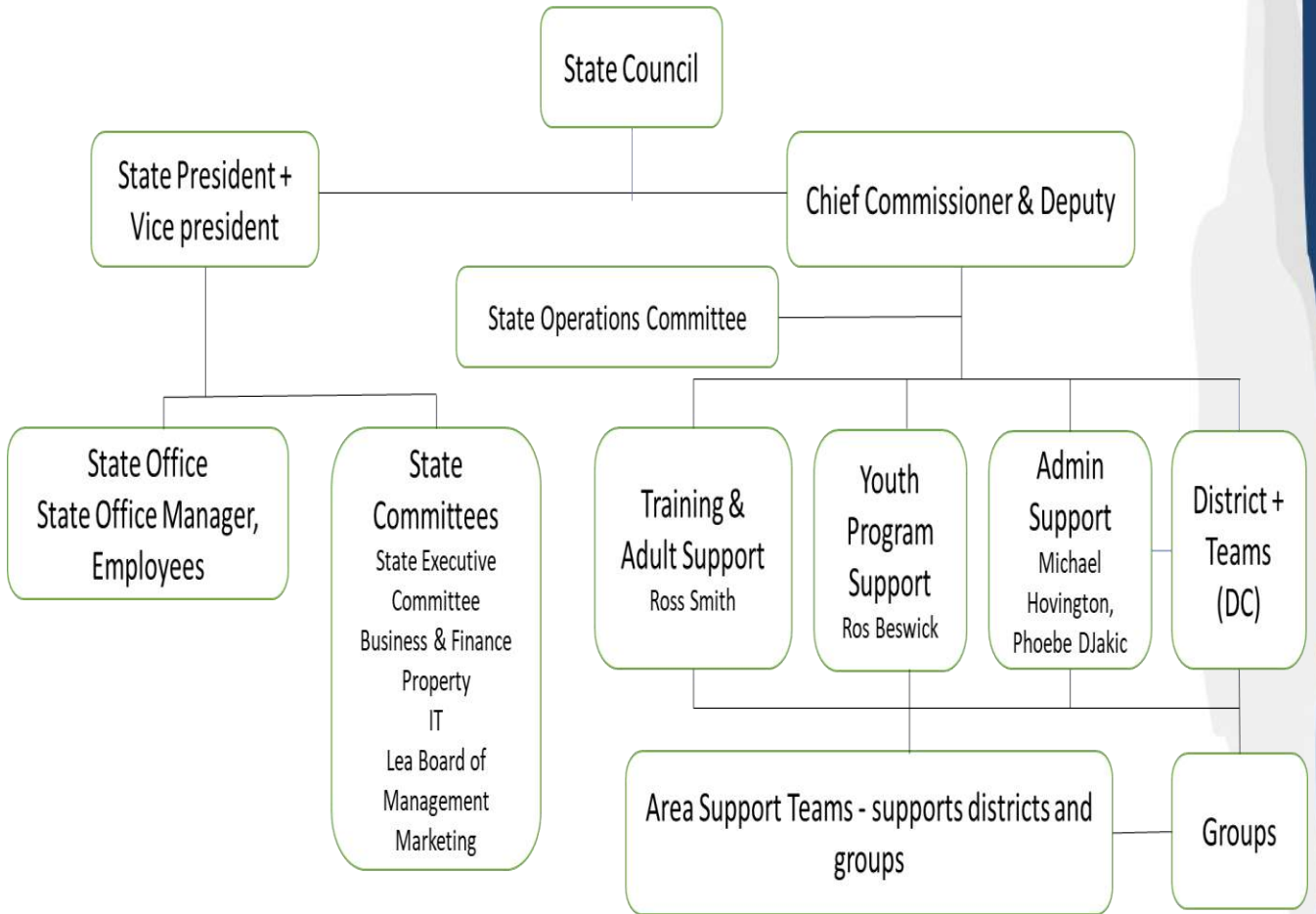
A business plan for Scouts Tasmania to provide Activities using a consistent Program for outside groups through all our campsites is being developed. The aim is to provide a future **ongoing income source** for all our sites, **provide casual employment for our members** plus Cert 2 or 3 qualification opportunities for those members. Some states are running Holiday Programs that are proving **significant income streams for properties and leading to increased youth membership**. We are not at that stage yet, but this plan will identify if it is possible, and if so, what we need to do to get there. If feasible, initially it will be trialled at The Lea and then provided to all sites once it has been proven.

That's a brief overview. You'll be kept posted as things progress

Cheers

Phil

State Structure



Deputy Chief Commissioners will oversee Training & Adult support, Youth program and Admin support teams. Admin support has an assistant chief commissioner (under 30). State Operations Committee (SOC) shall manage the delivery of Scouting within the Branch and perform the Program delivery functions of the Association.

Maritime Challenge

31st March to 2nd April

Huon Valley



Save the Date!

Grab a team of 4-7 a patrol boat and your overnight gear! This is a statewide venturer sailing challenge that will test your leadership, initiative, teamwork and scouting knowledge.

First round the course may have an advantage but isn't necessarily the winner. We will be sailing down the picturesque Huon River and camping in a different place to where we start.

Don't think it will be quicker to walk or go by car – it won't!

If your unit doesn't have a boat / skipper don't let that stop you – we'll find you one

Further information to follow

For any questions or to RSVP please email HellyerVenturers@gmail.com by the end of Regatta.

Scout Report

Happy New Year! I hope you have had a good break and are energised for another year of Scouting. This month I'm talking about:

- [the Scout Leadership Team](#),
- [upcoming Training Courses](#),
- [Scout/Guide Regatta](#),
- [Clark Trophy](#), and
- [the Commissioner's Challenge](#)

District Leaders

We have a really strong team of District Scout Leaders. Please call on your DSL if you need any advice or are planning an Adventurous Journey for an Australian Scout Award. Please also welcome them when they drop by to say Hello! The team is:

- David Heap (Clarence), dsl.clarence@scoutstas.org.au
- Matthew Anderson (Hellyer), dsl.hellyer@scoutstas.org.au
- Cindy Ruut (Kingborough), dsl.kingborough@scoutstas.org.au
- Tim Wood (Launceston and Tamar), dsl.launcestontamar@scoutstas.org.au
- Nigel Scott (Mersey), dsl.mersey@scoutstas.org.au
- Alec Reavell (Wellington), dsl.wellington@scoutstas.org.au

If there is no DSL for your District, and you know someone who would be interested, please talk to your DC and to me.

Training

Are you a new leader? Are you an existing leader who's interested in learning/doing more? Please have a look at the calendar on *MyScout* for training opportunities (https://tas.myscout.com.au/admin/calendar_month).

The first Scouting Essentials course will be held on the last weekend of February. Please get your application (TOP 07) in early! (The cut-off is usually 14 days from the start date of the course.)

Regatta, Regatta, Regatta!

Unless you've been hiding under a rock, you would know that in 2023 the Regatta is back. Held on the long weekend in March at Snug (the home of the North West Bay Scout Group), it's a weekend of water and land activities, food, fun, movies, and screams when the lights go out.

Early bird registrations have closed, but 'normal' registrations are open until 5PM on February 23rd. Please see <https://tas.myscout.com.au/admin/events> to register your Scouts and your Leaders and other adults.

Clark Trophy

Way off in the distance of the year (November 18th and 19th) is the next Clark Trophy. It's a light-weight hike camp this year. Attendance from all Groups is encouraged; please put it in your Calendar now and please try to avoid organising other camps/activities at that time.

Commissioner's Challenge

Is there anyone who is yet to receive their 2022 Commissioner's Challenge badges? Please contact me if that's you. Also contact me if your Scouts did the work but haven't yet requested the badges. A new Commissioner's Challenge will be issued in March.

Parting Thoughts

Good luck with your Scouting year.

I've taken a break in January — I hope you were able to also — so I've got some email to respond to. If you've got anything you want to tell me or ask me, please contact me; my email address is below.

Best wishes,

-Julian.

Dr Julian Dermoudy

Branch Commissioner, Scouts

e: bc.scouts@tas.scouts.com.au



Cub Report

I hope everyone has had a great break over the summer and have some fantastic plans for the Cubs for term 1 2023! I'd love to hear what you have planned and see photos too. Please send them through so I can include them in my reports. You might also like to consider sending things through for the new Scouts Tasmania magazine!

Commissioners Challenge 2022

One last call to order badges for the 2022 Commissioners Challenge. Those who had ordered & paid for badges last year should already have them. Please let me know if you don't.

Badges can be ordered via <https://shorturl.at/gqLT9>

Regatta Taster

The Regatta Taster event will be on again this year. Details are still being finalised but keep an eye on your email for further information.

Cuboree 2023

Remember 2023 is a Cuboree year so try to get some camps in your program to get the Cubs prepared. The committee have now had two meetings and the planning is underway. If you have any ideas or thoughts please let me know. We also still have positions vacant on the committee and remember many hands make light work so you are more than welcome to join.

Grey Wolf Awards

Congratulations to the following Cubs who have achieved their Grey Wolf Award since they were last published in the newsletter (December 2022).

Paige Collinson Howrah
Jael Reader Clarence Sea Scouts
Hugh Cowles North West Bay
Billie Rochow Riverside
Isabelle Gibson Riverside
Ruby Stewart Riverside
Charlie Woolley Kingston

Good Hunting!

David Henwood

Branch Commissioner – Cub Scouts

bc.cubs@tas.scouts.com.au

Joey Report

Happy New Year and welcome to the 2023 Scouting year! I hope that you have had a chance for a break over the Christmas and New Year period ready for another busy year of Joey Scouting.

Reminders –linking to Cubs and ratios

As we start a new Scouting year, I thought I would include a reminder of a couple of policies that have changed in recent years. Firstly, in terms of linking to Cubs, Joey Scouts can commence their progression to the Cub Scout Section at any time after their 8th birthday and should have completed their progression by their 9th birthday. In reality most Joey Scouts will be linking up shortly after they turn eight but there is always flexibility with this to suit each individual Youth Member. Scouts Australia has produced a guide to assist in identifying when a Joey Scout is ready to transition to Cub Scouts. It is called "Am I ready.... To go to Cub Scouts" and it can be found under the Achievements Pathways section of pr.scouts.com.au (pr.scouts.com.au/achievement-pathways/) under the "Reflection and Review resources" tab.

Secondly, the minimum ratio for Joey Scouts (both at the Hall and also away from the Hall) is now a ratio of one adult to five Youth members with a minimum of two adults. Of course, this is always subject to your risk assessment for an activity, where you may determine you need a higher ratio of adults.

Both of these policies are set out in National Policy & Rules (P&R) (see scouts.com.au/members/key-resources) and will be included in the new TOPS.



Well done to the 1st Derwent and North West Bay Joey Scout Units for completing the 2022 Commissioner's Challenge. We still have a few badges left, so if your Joey Scout Unit completed the requirements of the badge (during 2022) get those applications in. It will be first in, best dressed, but all applications must be in by the end of March to get this award. You can order the badges (\$3.50 each) by completing the online form <https://forms.office.com/r/DEpKEgaQgX>

Joey Report

Continued

Congratulations

It was a big finish to the year for the Joey Scout Section with 8 Joey Scout Challenge Awards presented. Congratulations to Arabella Hockley from the Kingston Joey Scout Unit, to Jesse Quinn from the Huonville Joey Scout Unit, to Arthur Gill, Kieren McIntyre, Samuel Gray and Samuel Middleton from the Howrah Joey Scout Unit and to Felix Jenkins and Jamie Kostiuk from the Tarooma Joey Scout Unit on achieving this Award. Well done Joey Scouts on all your hard work!

Whilst at the Huonville Scout Group I also had the privilege of presenting Jessica Black with her Special Service Award from 2022. Well done Jess, your contribution to Scouting is truly appreciated!

Well that's it for this month. If you have any questions or concerns about the above or anything else Joey Scout related, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Happy Joey Scouting!

Ruth Henderson
Branch Commissioner (Joey Scouts)
bc.joeyscouts@scoutstas.org.au



Congratulations !

Our very heartfelt congratulations to Gerald and Geraldine Harper on their Australia Day Awards.

Gerald and Geraldine have both given outstanding service to Scouting and their awards are very well deserved.

Gerald who first joined Claremont Scout Group in 1968 as an Assistant Scout Leader, moved to Derwent Sea Scout Group in 1988 and served there as an Assistant Cub Leader until 2020. Gerald was honoured with an Order of Australia medal (OAM) for his service to Scouting.

Geraldine first joined with Derwent Sea Scout in 1991 as an Assistant Cub Leader, where she served for an incredible 20 years. In 2001, she joined the training team and then took up other branch roles, serving on the Branch Executive Committee and as a Branch Commissioner for Special Needs. Currently Geraldine serves as the Branch Commissioner for Adults in Scouting, as a member of the training team, Adults Recognition Awards Committee and on the Branch Executive Committee. Geraldine was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her service to youth and to the disability sector.

Follow the link below for an interview with Gerald and Geraldine.

[Everyday Aussies share Australia Day honour \(leadstory.com\)](https://www.leadstory.com/Everyday-Aussies-share-Australia-Day-honour)



Service Awards

Thank you!

Service Awards

Tryone Blyth – Warden BP Lodge 5 years

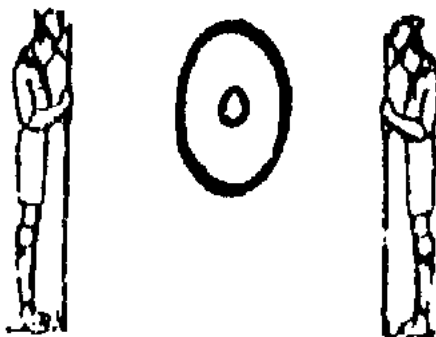
Susan Gardner – Group Leader 10th Hobart Scout Group 35 Years

Scout Campsites

Are you looking for a great place to take your unit camping? Check out the list of Scout campsites on MyScout.

[Documents](#) | [MyScout](#)

Gone Home



Michelle Joy Menz

6 October 1964 – 19 January 2023.

Michelle has been part of the St Helen's Scout Group since 2015, first as Committee Chairperson and then became a Cub Leader in 2017 until she passed.

Stalwart will be fondly remembered. Rest in Peace

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID BADGE REQUIREMENTS

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID BADGE REQUIREMENTS

In July 2020 the National Operations Committee (NOC) approved the introduction of a Mental Health First Aid Badge (MHFAB) to recognise the importance of providing support to members who may be encountering mental health challenges or, at worst, a mental health crisis. Since that time many of our members (Adults and Youth) have recognised this growing need and demonstrated their desire to help and be a part of the solution. This is a fundamental part of our Scout Promise to help other people.

This has meant many of our members have sought qualification for this badge by attending a variety of external training offerings, to acknowledge their skill in providing support to others in Scouting. From a Policy & Rules (P&R) perspective the requirement has been that the qualification needed to meet the Mental Health First Aid industry standard.

Unfortunately, since that time no “industry standard” has been developed and this has meant that participating in external (and sometimes internal) training has been to an insufficient standard that may place Scouting and potentially the individual at risk, both from a legal and reputational perspective. With this background the NOC in an out of session vote on the 16th December, 2022 approved a change to P&R (changes in red) as follows:

R13.9.3 First Aid Badges and Armllets

13.9.3.1 While an individual’s qualifications remain valid Scouts Australia’s First Aid Badge may be worn at the bottom of the right sleeve on the uniform by Section members and leaders who hold a current First Aid qualification from any approved provider to current Australian Resuscitation Council Standards

13.9.3.2 While an individual’s qualification remains valid Scouts Australia’s Mental Health First Aid Badge may be worn at the bottom of the right sleeve on the uniform by Section members and leaders who comply with the following requirements:

Venturer Scouts, Rover Scouts and Leaders:

- Need to have successfully completed a course of at least 1 day’s duration (in total) by an externally certified and recognised provider.
- Able to demonstrate proficiency in:
 - Identifying imminent crisis situations
 - Addressing immediate safety concerns
 - Providing referral for crisis intervention support

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID BADGE REQUIREMENTS- continued

Caring for self

- Comply with any State/Territory jurisdictional requirement
- Renew successfully their proficiency with an externally certified and recognised provider every three years, or sooner if required by the provider

Scouts:

1. Need to have successfully completed an age-appropriate course by an externally certified and recognised provider. The content should cover, as a minimum:
 - Different types of mental health problems and mental health crisis situations in young people
 - How to recognise changes in a friends' thinking, feelings or behaviour that may indicate the presence of a mental health problem
 - How to offer initial mental first aid support
 - How to connect them with a trusted adult
2. Comply with any State/Territory jurisdictional requirement
3. Renew successfully their proficiency with an externally certified and recognised provider every three years, or sooner if required by the provider. This may result in the completion of the standard stated in 13.9.3.1

Some key points to note:

- By this change, Scouts Australia does not seek to endorse any one particular provider of Mental Health First Aid. There are several hundred available. However, it does seek to ensure that any training obtained is firstly external to Scouting and secondly is sufficiently exhaustive and professional to ensure that our members receive the best support and that organisationally, we are all protected (refer comments above)
- Some providers offer training that is externally accredited. For example; the Unit of Competency (from the VET Sector) CHCCCS019 - Recognise and respond to crisis situations has been used as the basis for the requirements for Venturer Scouts, Rover Scouts and Adults. This Unit of Competency is on the scope of the Scouts Australia Institute of Training (SAIT) as an elective unit of competency and can be used towards qualifications that are held on SAIT's scope (e.g., CHC44015 – Certificate IV in Coordination of Volunteer Programs, SIS50421 - Diploma of Outdoor Leadership). A detailed explanation of the content coverage is provided in attachment "A"
- The recommendations for "Scouts" have been drawn from the Teens Program offered by Mental Health First Aid Australia (MHFAA) and appear well suited to the needs of this age group. Again, Scouts Australia is not endorsing any one particular provider.

continued

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID BADGE REQUIREMENTS - continued

Proficiency may appear subjective. However, the requirement is that this is approved by the external provider, rather than the need to establish an inhouse assessment/approval process in Branches

- It is critical that each Branch confirm any limitations/preferences with their respective State/Territory Health Services in terms of the use of any providers. Not all providers are fully endorsed in all Branches
- Renewal of qualification is critical to retain currency and this should be attained at least every three years or sooner depending on the provider
- From a Scouts Australia Uniform perspective only the nationally approved MHFAB is to be worn on the Australian Scout Uniform:



No other providers badge/insignia is to be worn. Branch assistance is sought to enforce this requirement

- No change to R14.4.5 Badges Indicating a Qualification or Skill (Earned Badges) is required as a consequence of the above amendment
- P&R will be updated at its next cyclical update (early 2023). Also, an appropriate amendment to the Uniform Standards for both Adults and Youth will follow, as well as any updates to the Program Handbook/Resources as required
- Branches will need to review any current processes and practices to ensure that these changes are not in conflict

Issued with the approval of the Chief Commissioner of Australia
Attachment "A"

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID BADGE REQUIREMENTS - continued

Detailed Explanation of Proficiency for Venturer Scout, Rover Scout and Adult

P&R CRITERIA	EXPECTED CONTENT COVERAGE
Identifying imminent crisis situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise and respond to signs indicating that there may be safety issues for others • Consider indicators from direct and indirect communications that suggest the presence of safety issues • Ask directly about safety issues whenever there are grounds for concern, and take immediate action based on Scouting procedures
Addressing immediate safety concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen empathetically to details of current crisis situation • Affirm and strengthen links to safety and living • Provide structure and strategies for dealing with the immediate crisis through enabling thoughts and behaviours • Balance collaboration and direction according to the person's current capacity for decision-making and coping • Identify and agree actions to reduce immediate danger and risk to others, including mobilisation of emergency assistance as required • Confirm that actions are legal, ethical, consistent with Scouting policy and meet duty of care requirements • Seek advice or assistance from Team Leader as required
Providing referral for crisis intervention support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empower person to make informed choices about further help • Explore possible barriers to seeking or accepting help and develop responses • Develop a plan with the individual that includes agreed first steps to access and use informal supports and professional help • Refer to appropriate professionals as required • Complete and maintain accurate documentation
Caring for self	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise and minimise risks to self, associated with crisis support • Identify and respond to the need for supervision and debriefing