



Feb 2026

Dear Pathfinders and Parents,

This letter is to provide information for our upcoming camp to Cliftonville Lodge Resort on the Hawkesbury river.

Arrive at Castle Hill SDA church by 4:30pm on Friday afternoon, 6th March. We should be back around 4:30pm on Sunday, 8th March. Parents, please keep an eye on your email and Facebook over the weekend and we will update you on any events and ETA to church on Sunday.

There are toilets and showers at the campsite. The general plan for the camp is doing games and classwork at the campsite, swimming in the river, going on some walks, and going waterskiing on Sunday to complete some honours (waterskiing, kneeboarding or wakeboarding). The Conference boat is being hired, and we have a leader bringing a boat. All meals are planned to be had at the campsite. We are not planning on having a fire. Pathfinders will need a day pack/bag to carry everything they need for being by the river for a few hours – towel / water / sunscreen / hat / snacks. A pool noodle or floatation device can be brought if desired for free time swimming.

Transport - We will be transporting all the children via cars. Your child will be allocated to a car to travel in. We will group friends together as much as possible.

Cost – The cost for the camp will be \$80 per person.

Camp Forms – Please go to our website <https://castlehillpathfinder.club> and complete the Registration and consent forms for camp. Bring the completed consent form on Friday (or send in advance via email).

Please make sure that your Pathfinder is aware of the Camp Contract on the website and the information that he/she is agreeing to by signing it. If items are brought to the camp that have been banned, these items will be confiscated for the weekend. Remember all Electronics brought to camp will be locked in a car for the weekend and handed back to the Pathfinder at the church.

RSVP: We need to finalise numbers a week prior to the camp so please pay your camp fees and complete your forms no later than **Thursday, 26 February 2026**.

Bring: Please consult the Beach Camp Checklist for what to bring – it's on the website [hiking-equipment1.pdf](#)

- You must bring a packed dinner on Friday night to eat as we drive in the cars. You will not have time to cook a meal when you arrive at camp. You can, however, have a snack after tents are put up and everything is unpacked.
- Sunday lunch – there is a good café at the campground, which sells sandwiches, burgers, chips, drinks etc (vegetarian available). You can send money with your Pathfinder to purchase Sunday lunch (this meal only). If bringing lunch for Sunday, please send food that does not require the use of the cooker, as that will be packed away already.

- Juniors and Intermediates will be sleeping 2-4 per tent, with separate boys and girls tents. We will be using the Club's base camp tents, so you do not need to supply a tent. Leaders will allocate 'tent buddies', which will be different for each camp. This means that you may be with some new friends at this camp, but it will change for the next camp.

Seniors will be sleeping under a large tarp, supervised by male and female leaders. Tents for changing are provided.

- Camping t-shirts – as this is a public campsite, there will be other groups from the public camping alongside our group. Pathfinders must wear their 'camping t-shirts' (not the polo) so that we can easily identify them. A Pathfinder hat (labelled of course!) is also a great asset.
- Waterskiing
 - Girls are required to wear a wetsuit or wetsuit shorts. Please bring your own if you have them, otherwise the club will have some wetsuit shorts available for sharing. Modest swimmers too...
 - All Pathfinders are to wear rash vests for sun protection.
 - Hats and sunglasses must be brought and worn.
 - A long-sleeve lightweight shirt is also a good idea for when riding in the boat.
- Please remember to limit the lollies to just a few. The children do not need multiple packets of lollies for the weekend. Good, healthy, nutritious food is best.
- Please pack everything in ONE soft duffle-style bag. Each Pathfinder will need to carry and manage his/her own gear for the weekend. One duffle-style bag should hold all items except food and a camping chair. It is best if things are in a bag and not attached or tied onto the bag. Please ensure that everything is labelled.

As this is a base camp, you may find it easier to pack all food / cooker in a Coles "blue cooler bag" or similar. Please label it with the child's name. All cooking is done outside the tent as a group, whilst sitting on your camping seats. We will have rubbish bins at this camp. There are washing-up facilities at the campsite, and fresh water to fill up water bottles. Start practicing now with your Pathfinder on how to use their cooker to cook their food for the weekend. A sample menu is on the last page of the Hiking Checklist.



Thank you for your continued commitment to Castle Hill Pathfinders. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Rachel, Stephen, or myself. Remember, if you are buying new gear for this camp – think "light and warm" as you will need to carry it a lot further on a hike.

Kind regards,

Priscilla Cignarella (Secretary) chpathfindersecretary@gmail.com 0412 082 200

Stephen Coyle (Deputy Director) spcoyle@outlook.com 0413 453 351

Rachel Wegener (Director) pathfinderrachel@gmail.com 0423 489 358