



## Troy Grant

Deputy Premier of NSW

Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Racing

## Gabrielle Upton

Attorney General

### MEDIA RELEASE

## ROLL UP FOR AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST GRAFFITI CLEAN UP

Graffiti Removal Day 2015 will be the biggest ever, with around 2,500 volunteers set to clean more than 400 sites across NSW today.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Justice and Police Troy Grant and Attorney General Gabrielle Upton said graffiti-removal warriors from Bondi to Bourke will be rejuvenating their communities one paint stroke at a time.

"Graffiti is ugly but it's a great thing that so many people are uniting to reclaim ownership of defaced buildings and community facilities," Mr Grant said.

"With the number of volunteers up by 25 per cent and a 35 per cent increase in clean-up sites, there's no question Graffiti Removal Day 2015 will be a record-breaking event."

Ms Upton said volunteers range in age from young and old and in between and come from all walks of life.

"Graffiti affects everyone and there's no such thing as a typical volunteer - today you'll see Scouts and Girl Guides alongside footy players, high-powered business people and retirees," said Ms Upton.

The areas with the highest participation rates include Penrith, the Blue Mountains, the Central Coast, Wagga Wagga, Coffs Harbour and Muswellbrook.

"Some of the biggest jobs include wiping out almost all graffiti from the Penrith and St Marys central business districts and cleaning part of the M4 motorway," said Ms Upton.

Last year, volunteers removed 21,000 square metres of graffiti from about 275 sites across NSW, saving the government and private property owners an estimated \$1.5 million.

Graffiti Removal Day is a joint initiative between the NSW Government and Rotary Down Under that has been held annually since 2012. It is supported by a range of organisations including the NRL, Scouts Australia, Girl Guides NSW & ACT, Australian Men's Shed Association (NSW Branch), PCYC, NSW Police, high schools and local councils.

For more information about Graffiti Removal Day events, visit <http://www.graffitiremovalday.org.au/>. Anyone can report graffiti to the NSW Government's Graffiti Hotline on 1800 707 125.