



MITCHELL COMMUNITY E-NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to the November edition of the e-newsletter

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The [official opening of the 44th Parliament](#) took place on Tuesday 12th November 2013. It was an honour and a privilege to be sworn in as the federal parliamentary representative for the residents of Mitchell for a third term. The official opening is full of ceremony and tradition including, starting the day with a church service, the welcome to country ceremony and the swearing in of the House of Representative members. I also had the immense pleasure of being introduced by the newly-elected [Speaker, the Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP](#) to Her Excellency the Governor-General, the [Honourable Quentin Bryce AC CVO](#).

On the first day of Parliamentary Business, the Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott MP began the process of repealing the carbon tax by introducing the [Clean Energy Legislation \(Carbon Tax Repeal\) Bill 2013](#). This is a fulfilment of our election promise to introduce the legislation within the first Parliamentary sitting week – an indication of the importance we place on this legislation. Some of the other bills introduced were [The Building and Construction Industry \(Improving Productivity\) Bill 2013](#) and [Minerals Resource Rent Tax Repeal and Other Measures Bill 2013](#).

Your feedback is always appreciated and if you have any suggestions of community events that can be highlighted in future editions of my monthly e-newsletter please contact me at

alex.hawke.mp@aph.gov.au.

Regards,
Alex

THANK YOU to the Mitchell Community

Our Prime Minister, the Hon. Tony Abbott MP recently said “When nature is at its worst, Australians tend to be at their best”.

I would like to commend the many fine volunteer organisations in the electorate of Mitchell who have assisted those in their time of need during the recent bushfire crisis which affected people across Western Sydney and across NSW. I pay tribute to those in my community who sacrificed their time to help others.

- To those in the Box Hill/Nelson, Kellyville, North Rocks, Rouse Hill and the Hills Rural Fire Service Brigades who fought the blazes alongside fellow volunteers from across the Eastern Seaboard, our thanks to you for your bravery and determination.
- To the 95 [Hills State Emergency Services](#) (SES) volunteers who assisted in the fire affected areas of the Blue Mountains, the Hawkesbury and the Hills districts between 13th October and 9th November.
- To Castle Hill RSL and Crowne Plaza Norwest for looking after fire crews from across New South Wales.
- To the members of [St John Ambulance - Hills Division](#) gave up their time to attend to the fire crews at their base at Homebush as well as being on duty at the Evacuation Centre on the UWS Campus at Hawkesbury. Members of Hills Division were previously deployed to Coonabarabran earlier this year to assist the Fire Crews in the base camp at the racecourse. The fine work of the St John Ambulance and the contribution they make should be recognised and celebrated.

I would also like to commend the fundraising efforts in my community.

- Rouse Hill Town Centre put up \$5000 towards a fundraising drive with the Lions Club to collect \$15,000.
- Beaumont Hills Long Day Pre-School and The Parkway Child Care Centre held a rainbow mufti day on 30.10.13 with proceeds donated to St Vincent De Paul Bushfire Appeal.
- The Hills Shire Council is undertaking fundraising efforts and I commend Cllr Dr Michelle Byrne and Cllr Dr Jeff Lowe for leading these efforts.
- [Kellyville Pets](#) who donated \$2000 to the Animal Welfare League to help the more than 170 animals affected by the fires
- The Pond Family of Baulkham Hills and the Winston [Hills Little Athletics Club](#) who collected many items of clothing and delivered

them to the Blue Mountain community.

Official Opening & Blessing – Our Lady of the Angels



(Alex Hawke MP, Ray Williams MP, Very Rev Fr Christopher de Souza, Greg Whitby, Executive Director of Schools, Father Warren Edwards, Parish Priest, Mrs Eva La Rocca, Principal and Cllr Michelle Byrne, Mayor of Hills Shire Council)

The official opening and blessing of a new school classroom was recently held at [Our Lady of the Angels Primary School](#) at Rouse Hill. I had the honour of attending this auspicious occasion with my colleagues, Ray Williams, State Member for Hawkesbury and the Mayor of the Hills Shire Council, Cllr Dr Michelle Byrne. The new school building provides modern, spacious and workable classrooms for the students. Mrs Eva La Rocca is the founding Principal of this growing school and I pay tribute to her, the teachers and the wonderful children who were great representatives of the school.

40 Years – Wesley Preschool, Castle Hill celebrates



[Wesley Preschool Castle Hill](#) not only celebrated their 40th Anniversary by having a party but also placed a time capsule within the preschool grounds to be opened in another 25 years!

The Preschool opened their doors in 1973 and they have had over

2,000 children attend this facility. Jane Harvey, Director (pictured) has managed the preschool for 22 years and with her team they value the importance of nurturing the learning and creativity of children.

Hillsong Church celebrates 30th Anniversary



[Hillsong Church](#) celebrated 30 years of being established in the Hills district this year. I had the honour of attending the official celebration on Sunday 3rd November. Pastors Brian and Bobbie Houston are the founding Pastors. The celebration was fantastic and an appropriate commemoration of all of the work of the church and its people.

The impact Hillsong Church has had on so many in our nation and so many globally through prayer & worship, music, and outreach community services is truly amazing. Hillsong Church is a respected part of our Hills community and all the work in our local community is greatly appreciated.

Water Safety Campaign - saving lives



Newslocal, [Royal Life Saving Society NSW](#) and [Castle Hill RSL](#) combined to launch the [2013 Summer Water Safety Campaign](#) at Castle Hill RSL Club. This joint initiative aims to slash the number of drowning deaths that occur each year. Part of the initiative is an education drive for Hills residents; keep an eye out for a CPR chart lift out in your [Newslocal paper](#) or you can download a chart from their website.

Ballot opens for 100th Anniversary commemorations at Gallipoli



Australians who would like the opportunity to attend [ANZAC Day commemorations](#) at [Gallipoli in 2015](#) can apply for the ballot now.

The 100th anniversary of the landing of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps at Gallipoli will be very significant commemorative occasion for the people of both nations. Places will be available for 8,000 Australians, 2,000 New Zealanders and 500 official representatives of all countries involved in the Gallipoli campaign including Turkey.

Ballots will be held for both the Australian and New Zealand places. The ballots **close at midnight on 31 January 2014** and applicants will be notified of the outcome in March 2014 to allow enough time for those successful to make their travel arrangements and pay for the trip.

For more information on Anzac Day commemorations at Gallipoli, eligibility for the ballot and to apply, visit www.gallipoli2015.dva.gov.au. To request a paper application form, call Ticketek on 1300 364 002.

Australian Building and Construction Commission



The Government last week introduced legislation into the Federal Parliament to re-establish the Australian Building and Construction Commission. [The Building and Construction Industry \(Improving Productivity\) Bill 2013](#) would re-establish the Australian Building and Construction Commission to stamp out lawlessness and improve productivity on building sites.

The Bill will restore the ABCC to ensure that, on commercial building sites, the rule of law is respected, productivity is improved, jobs are created and major national construction projects are kept on track.

Australian Business and UWS



Your Australian Business – an initiative founded in the Hills to assist overseas business harness the opportunities of expanding their operations to Australia – recently worked with the University of Western Sydney’s School of Business.

Final year Marketing and International Business students under the direction of Senior Lecturer, Hugh Pattinson conducted an in-depth research study on behalf of Your Australian Business as part of their final year assessment. Five project groups were formed and given the task of preparing a feasibility study on possible markets for Your Australian Business including South Africa (Johannesburg), USA (California), India (Mumbai), the UK (London) and Ireland (Dublin and Galway).

The class, in full business attire, presented their findings to Your Australian Business directors - John Glover, Tony Eades and Bill Elmer (pictured) and then followed up with a more detailed report which included industry sectors of growth, possible entries to market and financial plans.

“The depth of knowledge and detail that the students put into the presentations was very impressive – it has given us a great insight into potential new markets for Your Australian Business to explore in 2014” said Marketing Director, Tony Eades.

The International Business Project subject is a capstone industry-based initiative where students in project groups work with a client to produce International/Global Market Entry Feasibility Studies. In recent years they have worked with award winning innovators and exporters producing over 30 International/Global Market Entry Feasibility Studies covering several products and services for markets in Asia, North America, Europe and Africa.

For more information on Your Australian Business go to www.youraustralianbusiness.com.au

Project Kenya 2014



Throughout the year, I have the opportunity of meeting many young people who have vision and motivation to help 'people in need' from other countries. Bianca Barrera is part of a group of girls from the Hills district who will be travelling to Kenya in 2014 to work in three service projects; [orphanage](#), [quail farm](#) and a [local primary school](#).

To [raise funds](#) for [Project Kenya 2014](#), an initial [fundraising event](#) is being held on **Wednesday 11 December 2013** at Event Cinemas with a viewing of the movie: Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs Two.

For further information visit www.projectkenya2014.wordpress.com

Christmas in the Hills – Tickets are on sale NOW



The [Carols by Candlelight Festival and Christmas markets](#) event will be held at Bella Vista Farm on Wednesday 18 December from 3pm. The 2013 [Christmas in the Hills](#) is a great family event where we are reminded of the true meaning of Christmas. Tickets can be purchased from [Castle Hill RSL](#) or [online](#). *If you purchase online you can present your receipt (ticket) at the gate on the day.*

All the funds raised are going to three fantastic causes; [Woodbury Autism Education & Research](#) at Baulkham Hills, [Tallowood School](#) at Kellyville and [Lifestart](#) at Baulkham Hills.

Representing the communities of Baulkham Hills, Beaumont Hills, Bella Vista, Box Hill, Castle Hill, Kellyville, Maraylya, Nelson, Northmead, North Rocks, Rouse Hill, West Pennant Hills and Winston Hills

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