

Welcome to the June edition of the Mitchell e-newsletter

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It is fantastic to see that finally infrastructure provision for Sydney has become a priority for State and Federal Governments.

In particular it is a pleasure for our community to see construction occurring on a daily basis on the Northwest Rail line. Infrastructure announcements regarding the new-generation rapid-transit singledeck trains and the rapid transit network will enable the single deck trains to be extended under the Harbour into the City CBD. This will mean Mitchell residents will be able to travel on the North West Rail Link direct to the CBD without changing at Chatswood.

Coupled with the Federal Government's announcements of key roads projects like Northconnex, Westconnex and other road infrastructure made by the Prime Minister the Hon Tony Abbott, we will see a vast improvement to our great city.

Throughout this e-newsletter you will also find information on the North West Rail Link project updates and Showground Road upgrade. Also highlighted are the many local residents who were recognised in the Queen's Birthday 2014 honours list. It is a privilege to be able to showcase these people for all they have accomplished in their chosen field.

My Facebook page has also been updated, please visit Alex Hawke MP, Federal Member for Mitchell to keep informed on all I am involved in throughout the electorate and in Parliament.

Regards, Alex

PS: Parliament has seen some very important issues debated, some updates:

- <u>Parliamentary State of Origin</u> "...this morning on a minus one degree, frosty Senate field, the New South Wales Parliamentary Blues defeated Queensland two tries to nothing....." – Click <u>here</u> to watch.
- <u>Infrastructure</u> ".... the government's commitment to infrastructure in Sydney...."
- <u>Higher Education</u> "A university degree is an economic asset that will stay with you all of your life."
- India "...I want to note the great victory that the BJP has had in this election and welcome the new government..."
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment Bill 2014 – "... to endorse the government's approach to creating one-stop shops for environmental approvals."
- Alex Hawke on Radio 702 16/6/14

Showground Road - upgrade update



The Parliamentary Secretary for Transport and Roads Ray Williams MP has called a meeting with key stakeholders to discuss the upgrade and commencement issues of Showground Road. Showground Road is an important arterial road in the Mitchell electorate and I welcome this action taken by Mr Williams to call this meeting with Hills Shire Council and the owners of Castle Towers – Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC).

North West Rail Link – update



Last week, Premier Mike Baird and NSW Transport Minister Gladys Berejiklian along with NSW Treasurer Andrew Constance were joined by North West Sydney State MP's, David Elliott - *Baulkham Hills*, Ray Williams – *Hawkesbury* and Matt Kean – *Hornsby* to officially 'turn the sod' to signal the start of work at the site of Kellyville railway station and the 4km skytrain.

For more information visit www.nwrail.transport.nsw.gov.au.

Rattle 'N' Hum Car Show - Sunday 29 June



For a great family fun day visit the <u>Rattle 'N' Hum Car Show</u> on Sunday 29 June 2014 held at <u>Castle Hill RSL Club</u>, 77 Castle Street, Castle Hill. All proceeds raised at this great community event will go to <u>Tallowood School</u> at Kellyville.

National Pyjama Day - changing lives



There are currently, 39,000 children in foster care throughout Australia. Statistics show that 92% of children in foster care have below average reading skills by the time they are 7 years old. The Pyjama Foundation is a local organisation that supports children in foster care through a learning based mentoring program delivered by volunteers known as Pyjama Angels.

For more information visit www.pvjamafoundation.com.

Recognising our high achievers locally: Honours & Awards

So many people have been recognised and honoured in the Hills district recently and it is a privilege to be able to showcase these people for all they have accomplished in their chosen field. Congratulations to the following recipients in Mitchell who were recognised in The Queen's Birthday 2014 honours list:

- <u>Professor Carolyn McGregor AM</u> Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for significant service to science and innovation through health care information systems.
- <u>Professor Greg Leigh AO</u> Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for distinguished service to the deaf and hard of hearing community, particularly children, through education, research, public policy development, and specialist services.
- Ray Warren OAM Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for service to the broadcast media industry as a sports commentator.
- John Trlin OAM Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for service to the community through driver awareness education programs.
- <u>Carmel Moriarty OAM</u> Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for nursing, particularly in the field of cystic fibrosis.
- <u>Don Roberts OAM</u> Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for service to the sport of rowing.
- <u>Lynton Bradford OAM</u> Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for service to the community of Castle Hill, particularly in the area of seniors' computing.
- <u>Larry Bolitho OAM</u> Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for service to local government, and to the community.
- Robert Ryan OAM Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for service to the wool industry.

Powerhouse Discovery – July school holiday program



July school holidays are not far away and the <u>Powerhouse Discovery Centre</u> located at Castle Hill has a variety of educational shows, mini and full day workshops and make-and-do activities. The Digital Claymation, Jewellery Design and Make and Lego Robotics workshops fill up fast and bookings are essential. Click <u>here</u> to view the July school holiday program.

2014 Paws in the Park - Pawsitive Steps towards Mental Health Walk



There are a variety of great community groups throughout Mitchell who advocate and work toward raising awareness of mental health issues in our society. On **Sunday, 31 August 2014**, Paws in the Park is being held at Castle Hill Showground. Paws in the Park are combining with <u>Pawsitive Steps towards Mental Health Week</u> Walk where you can walk with your dog. Pawsitive Steps includes access to information provided by mental health support agencies, NGOs and private mental health service providers of the Hills district.

It is a great opportunity for residents to participate in 30 min walk to raise awareness of mental health issues in the society and obtain necessary information from professionals and support groups while having a family fun day with your pet dog.

ONE80TC – Sydney to Hunter Cycling Classic



The <u>'Sydney to the Hunter'</u> held on **19-20 September 2014**, is a 5 Star Cycling Classic that proudly supports the life-saving work of <u>ONE80TC</u>. I had the recent privilege to visit the ONE80TC premises and was inspired in hearing first-hand the work they do in helping to turn around the lives of men battling with addictions and other life controlling issues.

The 'Sydney to the Hunter' was established to assist with raising funds but to also raise awareness of the incredible work ONE80TC do to assist with rescuing men, restoring lives and rebuilding families. The classic has run for 15 years now and has raised over \$1M for ONE80TC, with this year's event covering 240km's over two days from Rouse Hill along the picturesque coast to Newcastle's 'Steel City'. For more information please click here.

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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