



Welcome to the September edition of the Mitchell e-newsletter

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Parliament resumed last month with the issue of terrorism globally and here in Australia at the forefront of the national debate. With the most [recent threats to our nation](#), last week the Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott MP delivered an important [speech](#) to the Parliament on national security and the Government's approach. It's a statement I strongly support. I have been directly discussing these matters with so many people locally, please [email](#) me about your views on our approach to national security.

In response the Government introduced into Parliament new counter-terrorism measures that will strengthen our counter-terrorism preparedness. We are providing \$630 million to support our police and security agencies with more resources to the Australian Federal Police, ASIO, ASIS and our Customs and Border Protection Service. I also moved a motion which achieved bipartisan support on behalf of the minority communities in Iraq in particular the minority Christian communities. [Watch this video here](#).

The Prime Minister also addressed the UN Security Council Summit last week. [PM's Address to the UN Security Council Summit on Foreign Terrorist Fighters. New York](#)

This week I also took a strong stand against ABC bias and the airing of anti-Australian, anti-Western values on our national broadcaster. I would value your feedback on this issue if you managed to watch this program. Please join the discussion on my facebook post here: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/alexhawkempmitchell>

Finally, I had the wonderful opportunity to join with the Foreign Minister, the Hon Julie Bishop in congratulating the Afghanistan Cricket Team, who qualified for the Cricket World Cup for the first time and are touring Australia in preparation.

Throughout September, I have had the pleasure of attending a number of community events, including the Parade celebrating more than 125 years of the [Royal NSW Lancers](#) and the [Lions Club of Crestwood's](#) 20th Anniversary celebration.

Earlier this month, Cllr Andrew Jefferies was elected as the Hills Shire Council's new mayor and Cllr Dr Michelle Byrne was elected as Deputy Mayor. I congratulate them both on their roles and look forward to working with the new mayoral team.

Regards,
Alex

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

[Motion – Iraq and Syria](#) – “This motion calls upon the Australian parliament to do two things...”

[Australian Red Cross](#) – “I really want to commend my local branches...”

[Youth Unemployment](#) – “This is a very serious issue. I note that in my area, in Sydney's Baulkham Hills...”

ABC's Q&A - broadcasting half-baked conspiracy theories

A QUESTION OF BALANCE	Number of responses*	Share of response time
PANEL TIME		
Muslim: Randa Abdel-Fattah and Anne-Azza Aly	17	50%
Coalition: Michael Keenan	10	23%
Labor: Mark Dreyfus	5	13%
Greens: Scott Ludlam	7	13%
QUESTIONS FROM ...		
Arabic/Middle Eastern Australians	5	
Anglo-Australians	4	

*Excludes brief comments and interjections

The ABC has a responsibility as the national broadcaster to be balanced. Following last week's Q&A program I raised with my colleagues my concern about the lack of balance and the airing of anti Western and anti Australian conspiracy theories. (aired Monday, 22 September 2014) The program did us a big disservice and provided a platform for "extreme" views.

The ABC is a publically funded broadcaster and has a responsibility during serious national security climate to present balanced views. The ABC did a big disservice to our society giving a half-baked conspiracy theory about our Government and also security services and Police. Q&A framed their questions throughout this programme in a way that this conspiracy theory was the dominate view of Islamic Australia.

[Alex Hawke on 2GB – ABC and Q&A 23.9.14](#)

Weekend Australian – [Security crisis an object of mockery for Aunty's panel](#)

SMH - [Liberal MP Alex Hawke accuses ABC's Q&A of broadcasting 'conspiracy theories' on terror raids](#)

ABC - [Liberal MP Alex Hawke accuses Q&A of inflaming tensions with 'half-baked conspiracies' on terror raids](#)

Small Business Summit Greater Western Sydney – last days to register!



(Click image to watch my interview at the Media Launch of the Small Business Summit Greater Western Sydney).

Last days to register! The Sydney Hills Business Chamber's Small Business Summit Greater Western Sydney is being held on **Wednesday, 8 October 2014** at Hillsong Convention Centre, Solent Circuit, Norwest Business Park, Baulkham Hills. This will be a stand out event in the Hills district with an expected 1000 people to attend.

To register visit <http://www.sydneyhillsbusiness.com.au/>.

Hills Periodontist and Implant Centre welcoming a new small business to our

community



Last month, I officially opened [The Hills Periodontist and Implant Centre at Bella Vista](#). Congratulations to Dr Dang Tran and his wife, Beryl on their new premises with their state-of-the-art equipment. The opening was a great event with many of their clients and supporters in attendance. The Hills Periodontist and Implant Centre is family friendly with Dr Tran being a fan of Dr Seuss and dinosaurs.

Royal NSW Lancers – Our local regiment marks 125 years Military service



(Lady Mayoress Monty Chedid and Parramatta Lord Mayor, Right Worshipful Cllr John Chedid, Alex Hawke MP and Amelia Hawke)

As a former member of the [1st/15 Royal NSW Lancers](#), I was honoured to attend the Parade celebrating 125 years of the Royal NSW Lancer's history in [Parramatta](#) last month. The [Governor-General, His Excellency General, the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC \(RETD\)](#).

Congratulations to our new Hills Shire Council Mayor and Deputy Mayor



Congratulations to [Clr Andrew Jefferies](#), Mayor and [Clr Dr Michelle Byrne](#), Deputy Mayor on being elected by their colleagues. They will continue the strong leadership and commitment to getting outcomes for the Hills district.

In particular I want to thank Clr Dr Michelle Byrne, who has been an excellent mayor and is to be applauded for her great service over the past year. I also commend Clr Byrne on her commitment to work on behalf of the disadvantaged in our district. Her passion and drive to make a difference in the Hills district has been extraordinary and selfless.

Clr Andrew Jefferies is an experienced and capable local councillor who has worked hard for the Hills community for over six years. I look forward to seeing him continue Clr Dr Michelle Byrne's legacy and I look forward to working with the Mayoral team in the year ahead.

Sydney Hills Special Olympics Golf Day – 14 October 2014



The annual [Sydney Hills Special Olympics](http://www.specialolympics.com.au/sydneyhills) Golf Day is being held on **Tuesday, 14 October 2014 at Castle Hill Country Club, Spurway Drive, Castle Hill**. Special Olympics Sydney Hills transforms the lives of people with an intellectual disability through regular sport, competition and personal development. The Golf Day is their major fundraising event for 2014. For further information please visit www.specialolympics.com.au/sydneyhills.

Community Bowls Challenge



[Northmead Bowling Club](http://www.northmeadbowl.com.au) is planning a Business and Community Bowls Challenge 2014 competition and is seeking teams to register. Play will be over 4 weeks with 3 rounds and a final. Teams of Triples are invited to register and the team to comprise of at least one non registered bowler in each side. **Entries close Friday, 14 November 2014**. For further enquiries email brett@northmeadbowl.com.au or call Brett Hughes on 9630 2875.

Crestwood Lions 20 years of selfless achievement for our community



(2008 – at my induction to Crestwood Lions with John Ebbott)

[The Lions Club of Crestwood](http://www.crestwoodlions.com.au) was established 20 years ago on 4 September 2004 with founding President, John Ebbott. As an honorary member it was a great pleasure for me attend the 20th Anniversary celebrations held recently. I was privileged to have the opportunity to speak in Parliament of the wonderful work and achievements that Lions Club of Crestwood has contributed to the Hills district. To read my speech click [here](#). I would encourage anyone to join and get involved with Crestwood Lions, they are a great bunch doing a lot for our local community.

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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