



Chris Patterson MP

Government Whip

Your Local Member of Parliament



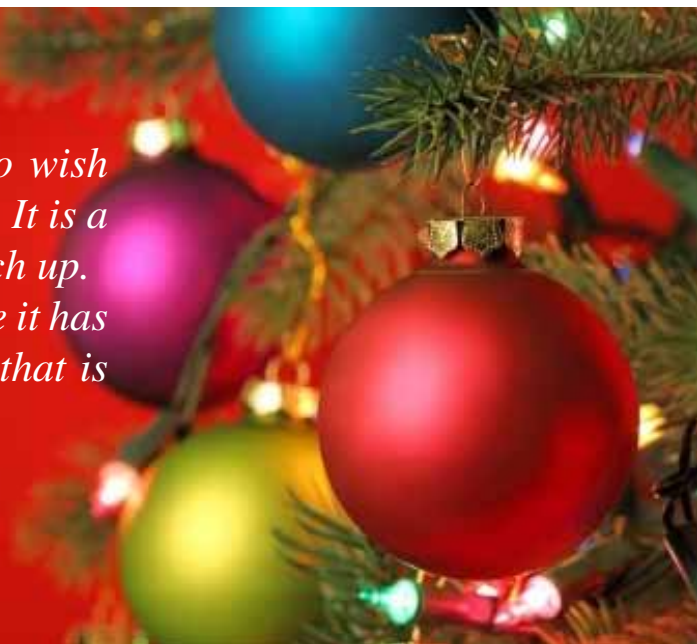
Electorate Office: 66 John St Camden • **Phone:** (02) 4655 3333 • **Fax:** (02) 4655 3325
Mail: P O Box 669 Camden NSW 2570 • **Email:** camden@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.chrispatterson.com.au or  facebook ChrisPattersonMP

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Vicki and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy, safe and merry Christmas. It is a time of the year where families get together to catch up. 2015 has been a particularly busy year as I am sure it has for everyone and I hope the New Year brings all that is wished for.

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Chris, Vicki, Amelia, Sophie, Tom and Matthew.



BUSH TUCKER GARDEN OPENING

I recently attended the opening of the Austral Public School Bush Tucker Garden. The concept of the garden is to bring together both Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal children and learn about the wonderful culture of our indigenous people. Students were given a paver to paint using the theme of dreamtime.

Photo: Brad Bevis, Michellie and school students watching the traditional smoking ceremony



PREMIER ADDRESSES LOCAL BUSINESS PEOPLE

NSW Premier the Hon Mike Baird MP addressed the Narellan Chamber of Commerce breakfast. The annual event gives the business people of Camden and Narellan the opportunity to hear from the Premier and Ministers on plans to assist business and maintain the accolade as the number one State in Australia.

Photo: Chris with Camden Council Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak, Premier of NSW the Hon Mike Baird MP, Narellan Chamber of Commerce President Adriana Care and Federal Member for Macarthur Russell Matheson MP



ROTARY CLUB OF CAMDEN 2015 RELAY FOR LIFE

I attended the 2015 Rotary Club of Camden Relay for Life. The event was another success raising funds for the Cancer Council of NSW. Wet weather did not deter people in our community taking part in an event that is a must on our annual calendars. Hope to see you there next year.

Photo: Chris with Cr Lara Symkowiak Camden Council Mayor, Russell Matheson MP Federal Member for Macarthur and Camden Councillor Cr Therese Fedeli,



NEW CYCLEWAY OPENS IN AUSTRALIAN BOTANIC GARDENS MT ANNAN

The Hon Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Planning opened the new cycleway at the Australian Botanic Gardens Mt Annan. The new path will be part of the larger 9km Macarthur Regional Recreation Trail. I encourage everyone to take the time to visit the gardens which has the PlantBank and wonderful gardens and picnic areas to explore. The gardens are open during summer every day from 8am to 7pm and admission is free.

Photo: The Hon Rob Stokes MP Minister for Planning and Chris



OPAL CARD FOR STUDENTS FROM 2016

School students who currently have a school bus pass will be issued with an Opal card at the start of the 2016 school year so they can travel for free between home and school with ease. More than 4 million Opal cards are already in use across NSW. This is a win for our local school kids and families and is part of the NSW Government's \$550 million program funding the 80 million school trips taken by students each year in NSW. Students from Public, Catholic and Independent schools will be able to use the School Opal card to travel on trains and buses to get from home to school using the simple and efficient Opal electronic ticketing system. Those students who do not have a bus pass but will need one in 2016 will need to apply online for their School Opal card, which will be mailed to their home in early 2016. Students who are changing schools, home addresses or entering Year 3 or Year 7 must apply online. For further information go to the website transportnsw.info/school-students.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Domestic violence is a cowardly crime that for too long has stayed in the dark and behind closed doors. This needs to stop.

I am proud to be part of a government that treats domestic violence like the crime it is, and treats perpetrators like the criminals they are.

The NSW Government recently announced a \$60 million package to target perpetrators and support women, men and children who have experienced domestic and family violence (DFV). It responds to the Premier's priority to reduce reoffending by 2019, and supports victims to escape and survive domestic and family violence by:

- Targeting perpetrators and reducing the rate of reoffending
- Supporting and empowering the victims; and
- Creating the cultural change needed to end domestic violence.

This unprecedented amount of funding to support victims of domestic violence in NSW is the first stage of the NSW Government's increased investment to target DFV.

The Government is currently working with the non-government sector to analyse service gaps through a DFV Blueprint.

This work will be completed in 2016.

Sadly, too many people in our community suffer domestic and family violence at the hands of someone they know and trust.

Domestic violence is a crime. I am calling on the community to join me in saying enough is enough.



Chris Patterson

Member for Camden



OUR PLAN FOR:

TARGETING PERPETRATORS



Establishing Domestic Violence High Risk Offender Teams in six locations to target perpetrators and reduce reoffending



Suspect Target Management Plans will be applied by Police for repeat domestic violence offenders to put them on notice



Funding for mandated **perpetrator behaviour change programs** to compel perpetrators to address their behaviour and entrenched attitudes, just like those for drug and alcohol offenders

SUPPORTING VICTIMS



Australia's first Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme to let people find out if their partner has a history of violent behaviour



Funding for Domestic Violence Liaison Officers (DVLOs) who will support victims of domestic violence and assist police investigations



\$20 million in new funding for additional emergency accommodation and support services for women and children affected by domestic violence



Providing services and support to those who apply to the **Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme**



“This unprecedented amount of funding to support victims of domestic violence in NSW is the first stage of the NSW Government’s increased investment to target domestic and family violence.”

Chris Patterson
Member for Camden

GETTING HELP

Anyone in immediate danger should call **000**.

For information and support call the **NSW Domestic Violence Line** on **1800 656 463** or **1800 RESPECT** on **1800 737 732**.

For information and referral to crisis accommodation and support call **Link2home** on **1800 152 152**.

Men having problems with violent behaviour can call the **Men’s Referral Service** on **1300 766 491**.

Service NSW is now open in Gregory Hills

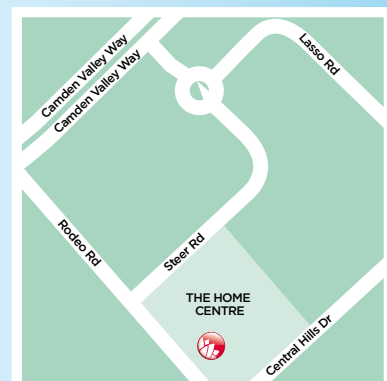
Service NSW brings under the one roof over 800 NSW Government services including vehicle registration renewals and transfers, driver testing, driver licence and photo ID cards, Seniors Cards, birth certificate applications, Housing NSW payments and more.



Take advantage of **extended trading hours** and **more services** at your new **Macarthur Service Centre**.

Open: **Monday to Friday 7am to 7pm**
Saturday 8.30am to 3pm

Visit service.nsw.gov.au, call **13 77 88** or download the **mobile app**.



Find us on:

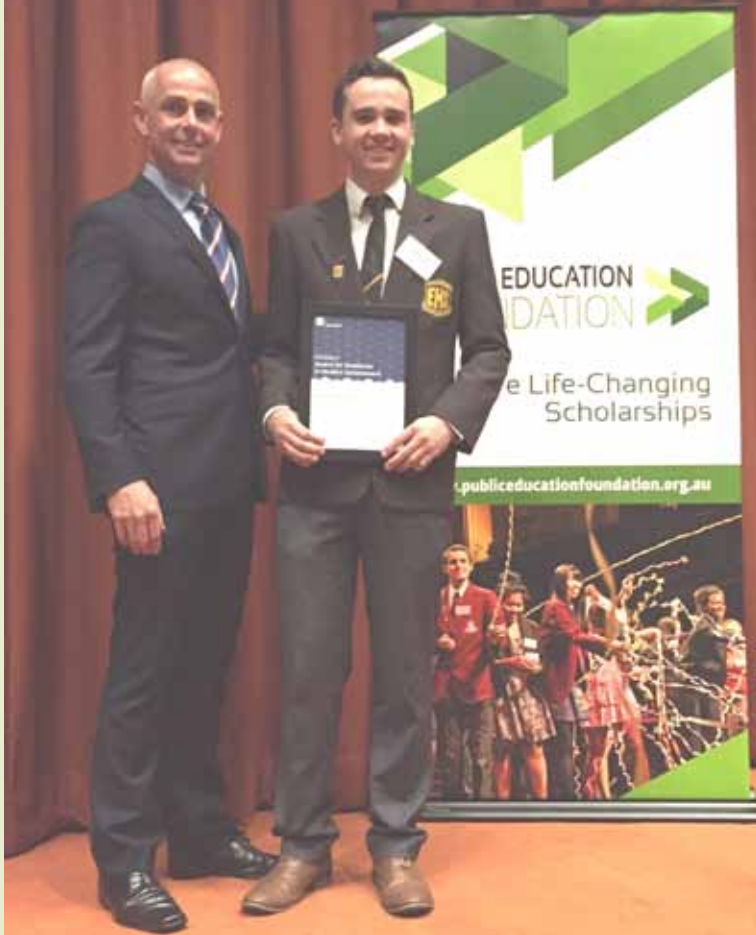


The Home Centre, Steer Road, Gregory Hills.

LOCAL STUDENT WINS EDUCATION AWARD

Elderslie High School Year 12 Student Alexander O'Flynn has won the 'Ministers Award for Excellence in Student Achievement'. Alex has made his family, school and community extremely proud. Good luck to all students who have completed the HSC and are awaiting their results.

Photo: Chris with Alexander O'Flynn



ANOTHER NEW SMALL BUSINESS OPENS IN CAMDEN

A new restaurant recently opened in Camden, Upstairs@Fred's. Steve Wisbey, Mandy Avinou & Katie Palmer have created the new Tapas Restaurant in the historic Whiteman's building in Argyle St. Small businesses are the lifeline of our economy and its encouraging to see people still taking the plunge to create a new business. The NSW Liberal/National Government established the Office of Small Business Commissioner to assist small businesses with any issues that may arise. The Small Biz Bus also regularly visits Camden and businesses can take the opportunity to speak to experienced advisors who can give face-to-face, personalised advice to small businesses.

Further information can be obtained on www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/supporting-business

Photo: Chris and Vicki Patterson with Mandy, Steve and Katie



COBBITTY RURAL FIRE SERVICE CELEBRATES 65 YEARS

Cobbitty RFS celebrated 65 years of service to our local community protecting it from the ravages of bush fires. Much has changed from those early days in 1950 when a water tank was transported on the back of residents truck to the high tech trucks that are used today with the support of aircraft when needed. Cyril White was honoured with a Life Membership Award. Cyril was one of the foundation members. Cobbitty RFS are always looking for more volunteers and if anyone is interested in joining please contact the Cobbitty RFS on 0414 471 925.



Photo: Chris with Cyril White and members of the Cobbitty RFS

MINISTER STOKES ADDRESSES LIFELINE FUNCTION

The Hon Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Planning addressed a function held at Marsdens Law Group for Lifeline Macarthur. Lucy Brogden attended on behalf of her husband John Brogden National Patron of Lifeline. Lifeline plays a vital role in our community supporting those in need for many reasons and offering a kind ear when needed through their 24/7 telephone counselling. Lifeline is only ever a phone call away on 131114.

Photo: The Hon Shayne Mallard MLC, John Marsden OAM, Lucy Brogden, Jacky Moore Lifeline Macarthur Crisis Support Manager, Chris, Jai Rowell MP and the Hon Rob Stokes MP Minister for Planning



Please take the time to view other stories, speeches and media releases on my new Website :

www.chrispatterson.com.au