



Chris Patterson MP

Government Whip
Your Local Member of Parliament



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\$220 MILLION WESTERN SYDNEY SCHOOL PROJECTS READY TO START

NSW Premier the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP and NSW Education Minister the Hon Rob Stokes MP visited the site of the new school for specific purposes (SSP), Yandelora at Narellan. The NSW Government is building the new \$22.5 million school for students with a range of disabilities requiring intensive levels of support. The new Yandelora School will include 16 technology-enabled classrooms with purpose-built amenities, a hydrotherapy pool, multi-purpose spaces for shared learning and special programs and modern administration and staff facilities. The new school is one of 3 new schools which will be built in the Camden Electorate. A new high school at Oran Park and a new public school at Gledswood Hills will also be built along with upgrades and maintenance of other local schools which is part of the \$4.2 billion investment in public schools.



Photo: Minister for Education the Hon Rob Stokes MP, Narellan Public School Relieving Principal Jo Cooley, Director of Public Schools NSW Macarthur Principal Network Christine Tasker, Executive Director School Performance Sylvia Cornish, NSW Premier the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP and Chris

ACTIVE KIDS REBATE PROGRAM



The NSW Government Active Kids Rebate Program will provide a \$100 voucher to parents/guardians of school children taking part in a sporting activity. The \$100 voucher can be used for registration and participation costs for sport and fitness activities. The initiative aims to reduce barriers to participation and help change the physical activity of children and young people in NSW. Every child (4.5 - 18 years' old) enrolled in school from Kindergarten to Year 12, home-schooled or enrolled in secondary school education at TAFE NSW will be eligible. The program will not be means tested and one voucher will be available for every child in the family and must be applied for each year. For further information go to: sport.nsw.gov.au/sectordevelopment/activekids

LOCAL ART GALLERY OPEN

The much anticipated Alan Baker Art Gallery was recently opened in the Macaria Building in John Street Camden. When Camden Council relocated to Oran Park it was decided the best use of the building was to establish an art gallery. Works by local renowned artist Alan Baker will feature in the gallery. Works by Alan Baker were donated to the art gallery with the assistance of Max and Nola Tegel and Gary and Melissa Baker. The \$1 million refurbishment of the Macaria Building has enabled over 75 items to be displayed in 4 rooms of the building and the public will finally have a chance to view Alan Baker's work. I encourage everyone to take an opportunity to view the works and to see the incredible 150 year old Macaria Building.

Photo: Camden Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak with Max and Nola Tegel, Gary and Melissa Baker and Chris



MINISTER VISITS RETURN AND EARN SCHEMES AT NARELLAN AND LOCAL SCHOOL

NSW Minister for Environment, the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP visited Nepean Distributors to look at their Return and Earn scheme. Nepean Distributors Managing Director Anthony Morrissey said the scheme has been overwhelmingly received by the community. Since the scheme began in December 2017 Nepean Distributors have collected over 100,000 containers with local schools and sporting clubs getting on board. Nepean Distributors has recently had a Return and Earn machine installed. Young children are now collecting discarded containers and cashing them in for a little extra pocket money. Elizabeth Macarthur High School has also started their own collection scheme encouraging students to collect bottles for the 10c refund and assist the school's fundraising at the same time.



Photo: Chris with NSW Minister for Environment the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP and Anthony Morrissey



Photo: Chris with NSW Minister for Environment the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Deputy Principals Martin Toaetolu, Lyndel Clowry and student leadership team

PREMIER ADDRESSES MACARTHUR BUSINESS BREAKFAST



NSW Premier the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP addressed a combined audience of business people and Councils in the Macarthur region at a recently held business breakfast. The Premier highlighted the achievements of the Government and its ongoing commitment to keep NSW Number One. The Premier spoke about NSW being the only State in Australia that has a surplus budget and the Premier is determined to maintain it's AAA rating making sure residents and businesses benefit from the fiscal policies of the Government. Job creation, investment in vital infrastructure, housing affordability and streamlining planning approvals are just some of the Governments achievements.

Photo: NSW Premier the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP addressing the MACROC breakfast

PRESERVATION OF LOCAL BANKSIA SCRUB



NSW Minister for the Environment the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP announced a \$239,250 grant would be put towards the preservation of the Elderslie banksia scrub. The banksia scrub is one of the last remaining sizeable remnants of the species and it's important that it be protected. Part of the work to be carried out will be to collect seeds and 'bank' them for future generations.

Photo: NSW Minister for the Environment the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage team leader Liza Schaeper and Chris

ROAD SAFETY PLAN RELEASED

The NSW Government has released a Road Safety Plan, which includes a range of measures aimed at reducing the road toll after 392 people lost their lives on NSW roads in 2017. The comprehensive package addresses speeding, drink driving, drug driving, driver distraction, driver fatigue, truck safety and funding to improve safety on country roads.

The measures include:

- Expanding the mandatory alcohol interlock program to include all mid-range drink driving offenders. An interlock is a breath testing device fitted to a car's ignition system. The driver must provide a negative sample for the vehicle to start;
- Police will be given the power to issue on the spot fines and licence suspensions for low range drink driving. This ensures swift and certain penalties;
- Amending legislation to allow camera technology to be used to enforce mobile phone offences;
- 11 additional heavy vehicle average speed camera locations to address risks associated with greater truck movements;
- An initial \$125 million for a new Saving Lives on Country Roads program including safety barriers, tactile line markings, wide centre line, safety upgrades of high risk curves and \$11 million for pedestrian and cyclist safety improvements including traffic calming measures, pedestrian refuges and crossings to keep cyclists and walkers safe.

These measures are in addition to the crack down on drug drivers, which saw cocaine added to the list of drugs subject to roadside testing, and the number of roadside drugs tests doubled from 100,000 a year to 200,000 a year by 2020.

The Road Safety Plan will bring the Government's total commitment to targeted road safety programs from the Community Road Safety Fund to \$1.4 billion over five years.



ASSISTANCE FOR FIRST HOMEOWNERS

NSW Premier the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP visited a young couple who have purchased their first home at Oran Park with the assistance of the stamp duty concessions available for First Homeowners. The Government introduced its housing affordability package last year and more than 19,000 people secured the keys to their first home since the NSW Government introduced generous stamp duty concessions in July 2017 – up from 5,400 over the same period last year, with strong results continuing into 2018. The NSW Government last year eliminated stamp duty for first homebuyers purchasing a new or existing property valued up to \$650,000 and provided stamp duty savings for purchases of homes valued between \$650,000 and \$800,000. Further information is available: www.revenue.nsw.gov.au/grants/fhba

Photo: NSW Premier the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP with First Homeowners Keiran Busch and Nicole Bonino



LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANISATION CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

Big Yellow Umbrella (BYU) (Formally Camden Community Connections) recently held their 30th Anniversary fundraising dinner. The BYU has been providing services to the community for over 30 years. When established in 1987 the organisation originally provided community services and facilities for residents in new housing developments but as the population grew so did their services. The organisation provides programs and activities to meet the needs of all sectors of the local community. Their services include a Children's Services program, Youth Services and Community Development which includes promoting and supporting a number of local community groups. The Big Yellow Umbrella will be holding a fundraising Trivia Night on June 15 2018 at the Narellan Community Hall, Queen St Narellan, all are welcome. For further information: kim.landouw@yellowumbrella.org.au or www.camdenconnections.org.au



Photo: Guests at the 30th Anniversary Dinner

2017 HIGH ACHIEVERS IN THE HSC

I recently attended the Camden Council reception to recognise the high achievers in the 2017 Higher School Certificate (HSC) from our local schools. These students have excelled in their HSC and were among the 68,816 students in NSW who sat their final exam. It's important to acknowledge the hard work the students have done to reach their goal at school and hopefully their results will take them further in their chosen profession. The students were from St Benedict's Catholic College, Mount Annan Christian College, Mount Annan High School, Magdalene Catholic High School, Macarthur Anglican School, Elderslie High School, Camden High School and Elizabeth Macarthur High School. Congratulations to all students who sat the 2017 HSC and I wish everyone all the best in their future endeavours.



Photos (courtesy Brett Atkins) Camden Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak with students from St Benedict's Catholic College, Principal Michael Hanratty and Chris



Camden Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak with students from Elizabeth Macarthur High School and Chris

2018 LEADERS IN OUR SCHOOLS INDUCTED



Photo: Chris with Mawarra Public School leaders and Principal Paul Mallia

I recently attended three local schools, Mawarra Public School, Leppington Public School and Cobbitty Public School, to recognise the 2018 school leaders. These students have been voted to be leaders of their school by their peers. It is certainly an honour to be a representative of your school and to take on the responsibility at such a young age. I congratulate the students on their appointment.



Photo: Chris with Cobbitty Public School leaders and Principal Dawn Dallas



Photo: Chris with Leppington Public School leaders and Principal Christine Easter

SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN 2018 - 2021



On behalf of the NSW Minister for Health the Hon Brad Hazzard MP I launched the South Western Sydney Local Health District Strategic Plan 2018-2021. The Plan builds on work undertaken over the past five years to support the District in achieving its vision of Leading Care and Healthier Communities. The Plan outlines the District's highest priorities to ensure it meets the healthcare needs of the booming South Western Sydney population through six strategic directions. The NSW Government is investing in our local health including \$632 million redevelopment of Campbelltown Hospital, \$50 million redevelopment of Bowral and District Hospital, \$7 million upgrade of Fairfield Hospital Emergency department and Cardiac intervention units at Campbelltown and Bankstown Hospitals.

Photo: Chris with Professor Neil Merrett, Former NSW Premier Morris Iemma, Professor Phillip Harris AM, member for East Hills Glenn Brookes MP and Ms Amanda Larkin SWSLHD CEO

MINISTER VISITS MATER DEI

NSW Minister for Disability Services the Hon Ray Williams MP recently visited Mater Dei School. Minister Williams was very impressed with the achievements of the school and the care of their students. For over 50 years Mater Dei has been providing therapy, education and residential services to children and young people with developmental delay and intellectual disability. The dedication of the staff at the school enables the children to have a diverse education which assists the students to have a full and wonderful life.

Photo: NSW Minister for Disabilities the Hon Ray Williams MP, Chris, Mater Dei Principal Tony Fitzgerald and students in the hospitality unit



ANOTHER WONDERFUL AUSTRALIA DAY HELD IN CAMDEN

The Camden community certainly came out in force to watch the 2018 Camden Lions Australia Day Parade. Thirty seven new citizens received their Australian Citizenship Certificates and the 2018 local Citizens awards were presented at a morning ceremony. Camden Citizen of the Year is David Funnell. David has been a stalwart in Camden for nearly 73 years and his passion and dedication to the local community is immeasurable. Camden Young Citizen of the Year is Lubna Sherieff. Lubna is a wonderful advocate for the youth of Camden through her tireless work in the Camden Youth Council. Camden Sportsperson of the Year is Maddison Lewis. Maddison's accomplishments as a kayaker are remarkable. Maddison has many gold and silver medals in many major events including NSW State and Australian All Schools. Camden Young Sportsperson of the Year was a tie between exceptional sisters, Natalie and Amy Sligar. Between them, the girls have competed in athletics, AFL and Netball reaching levels in NSW State teams. Camden Community Event of the Year was won by the Macarthur Lions Australia Day Parade. The Macarthur Lions work tirelessly throughout the community raising much needed money for community groups. Camden Community Group of the Year was another tie. The Camden Lioness Club and Everyone Can Dance were jointly awarded this year. The Lionesses volunteer at community groups and raise money for local groups. Everyone Can Dance provides free dance, drama and singing lessons to individuals with a disability. Congratulations to everyone.



Photo: Everyone Can Dance Charity President Lauren Cascuselli, Citizen of the Year David Funnell, Young Sportsperson of the Year Natalie and Amy Sligar, Camden Council Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak, Young Citizen of the Year Lubna Sherieff, Lioness June Holdsworth and Chris

Please take the time to view other stories, speeches and media releases on my website: www.chrispatterson.com.au

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