



# Jonathan O'Dea MP

Member for Davidson



# Merry Christmas



## Community Newsletter

December 2021

### Sweet Success

Pastry chef Gabriella Adeline from Lindfield took out the Vocational Student of the Year award at the 2021 Annual NSW Training Awards. Gabriella was also selected for the Australian Pastry World Cup Team, where she'll represent Australia at a global competition in Milan.



### Dear Residents,

The past two years have been unique. Thankfully we are returning to a more normal life. While Covid-19 has provided health, social and economic challenges, the community has responded with patience and co-operation. Many individual acts of kindness and humanity have been evident as we faced unprecedented threats.

The NSW Government has played its part, including by investing \$2.8 billion in a NSW Economic Recovery Strategy. The package has a range of programs to revitalise the economy and restore jobs and growth into the future.

It additionally recognises the need to address related issues of mental health and disadvantage caused by economic difficulties, job loss, social isolation and anxiety. Students receive \$495 million in extra learning support after the long periods of remote learning. There is \$130 million to assist mental health. \$739.3 million goes to household and social support and \$183 million to social housing.

I wish you all well for Christmas and the New Year as we look forward to a brighter and happier future in 2022.

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#### Securing a strong rebound



**\$500 MILLION**  
to restore consumer and business confidence



**\$250 MILLION**  
to support jobs and skills



**\$200 MILLION**  
to boost recovery in the regions

#### Targeted and timely support



**\$495 MILLION**  
education support



**\$484 MILLION**  
domestic and family violence support



**\$255.3 MILLION**  
for household and social support



**\$130 MILLION**  
mental health support

**A BRIGHTER *future***  
**FOR NSW**

## 💡 Job Loss Inspires Charity

Project Displaced is a charity that connects job seekers to career coaches, mental health first aid specialists, and recruiters. Lindfield resident, Anthony Cohen, launched the charity in March 2020 after he lost his job with Qantas due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Project Displaced's free service has assisted around 3,000 unemployed people with more than half finding a new job. [www.projectdisplaced.com](http://www.projectdisplaced.com)



## Community Contributor

The late Bruce Chisnall will be missed by his family and many friends at Forestville RSL. A Life Member, Patron and Past President of the Club, Bruce contributed generously to the community. He would often drive the club bus, sizzle snags at golf barbecues, sell raffle tickets or work on the club garden.



## Chanukah on the Green

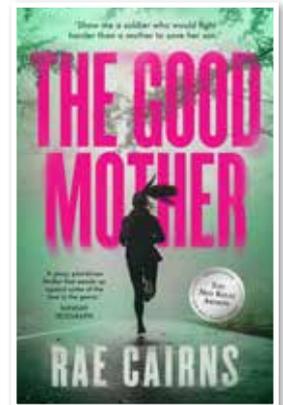


This year St Ives Village Green again hosted the annual Jewish Festival of Chanukah. The festival celebrates freedom over oppression and light over darkness, with the lighting of a menorah with nine candlesticks – one for each night of the festival and an extra one to light the others.



## 📖 Local author

Rae Cairns, an author from Lindfield, has had her debut novel 'The Good Mother' shortlisted for Best Debut Crime Fiction in the 2021 Ned Kelly Awards. The novel is a story of betrayal and courage, and draws on her background as a youth worker mentoring disadvantaged youth. Rae has previously co-managed a crisis refuge for street children in Sydney's inner west.



## New facilities

1st Lindfield Scouts and the Sydney North All Abilities Scout Groups are delighted with a renovation of the Lindfield Scout Hall. A \$30,000 grant from the Community Partnership Building Program has funded all-abilities bathrooms, storage cupboards, flooring and interior painting.



## Railway Access Upgrades

After almost 15 months of work, the Roseville station upgrade is complete. Access to the station is easier, with new ramps and a lift. A relocated and expanded garden includes roses transplanted from the original garden. Work on a similar upgrade for Killara Station started in November.



## Armenian Australian Singer

Natalie Aroyan is an accomplished singer from Roseville, and a principal artist with Opera Australia. She has performed internationally and domestically, with many leading roles. Natalie performed in Opera Australia's 'Ernani' this year at the Sydney Opera House. A descendant of survivors of the Armenian Genocide, Natalie incorporated her Armenian roots into the production 'An Armenian Journey' in 2015, the 100th anniversary of the genocide.



Photo credit: Prudence Upton Courtesy of Opera Australia.

## Blue Heritage Plaques

Local sites which represent a significant story, person or event can now be recognised with a NSW Blue Plaque. In the Davidson electorate, Blue plaque nominees include the former Killara home of Ethel Turner, author of 'Seven Little Australians', and 'Eryldene', the home and world famous camellia gardens established in Gordon by Professor EG Waterhouse. William 'Loyal' Henry, convict, first settler, and supporter of Governor William Bligh during the Rum Rebellion, is nominated for a plaque near Jenkin's Kitchen in Lane Cove National Park.



Ethel Turner.

<https://bit.ly/HNSWBluePlaques>



[www.sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/sydneyopen/woodlands-killara-virtual-tour](http://www.sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/sydneyopen/woodlands-killara-virtual-tour)



Eryldene Tea House [www.eryldene.org.au](http://www.eryldene.org.au) © Lindy Kerr.

## Volunteer Awards



The 2021 NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards Ceremonies for the Upper North Shore region acknowledged a local team and two individuals. The AASHA Australia Foundation St Ives, Volunteer Team of the Year, provide free medical support for the elderly. Penny Howell of St Ives is the Adult Volunteer of the Year. She staged virtual concerts for Cerebral Palsy Alliance during lockdown. Stephen Harman from Killara, Senior Volunteer of the Year, refurbishes electronic devices for the Asylum Seekers Centre.



## Vision for the Future

The new Frenchs Forest Place Strategy, developed by New South Wales Planning and supported by Northern Beaches Council, provides a 20-year vision to help support local population growth. There is a provision for upgraded local parks and infrastructure improvements. With the expected larger population, I continue to lobby for upgrades to the nearby Davidson High School.

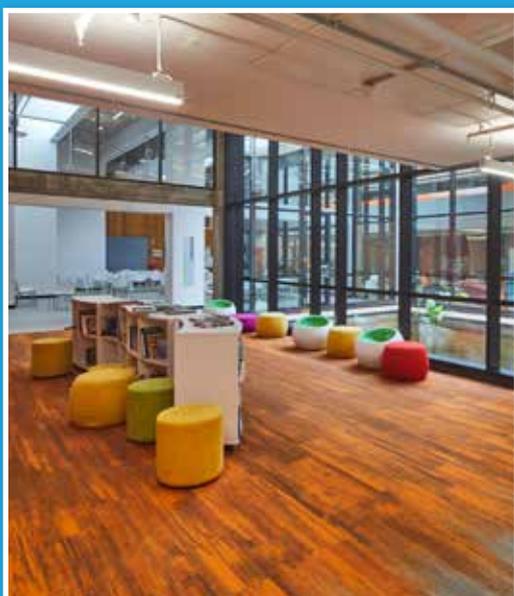


Frenchs Forest 'Blinking Light' intersection 1950's.

## School Grows



The Lindfield Learning Village (LLV) community is celebrating the completion of construction works at the school. LLV has new learning spaces, and upgrades to transform the former UTS site into a K-12 school. There is a covered outdoor learning area (COLA), more play space, a kiss and drop zone and better bus access. The upgrades mean Lindfield Learning Village can accommodate up to 2,000 students. Enrolments is based on a Department of Education catchment area.



## Community Service

John Balfour OAM and Chris Stanley are the two Davidson Electorate NSW Government Community Service Award recipients for 2021.

John Balfour recently completed 50 years as a Marshall for the RSL NSW ANZAC Day March. He is a Ceremonial Officer and committee member of the Forestville RSL Sub-Branch. Appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 2013, John is also a volunteer groundsman at Belrose Public School and Wesley Gardens Aged Care.

For over 35 years, Chris Stanley has been an energetic volunteer for 2nd Gordon Scout Group. He helped a large number of his Unit achieve the highest level in scouting, the Queen's Scout Award. An exceptional leader with enthusiasm, vision and dedication, Chris has provided advice and mentoring to hundreds of young people.



John Balfour OAM with his son, Sgt. Steve Balfour of the NSW Police.

## Fundraising success

A recent fundraising initiative from the Lindfield Community Bank in conjunction with Turramurra Community Bank helped raise money for nine community projects. The banks matched donations dollar for dollar. All the projects achieved or surpassed their fundraising goals, totalling \$59,090 in contributions. Funds went to Eryldene Historic House and Garden, Killara Rural Fire Brigade, BlowFly Cricket Club, Pymble Public School and Marian Street Theatre for Young People.



## Community Facilities Funded



The latest NSW Government Community Building Partnership Grants Program has funded almost \$400,000 of improvements to 17 local community facilities in the Davidson Electorate.

Seven local school projects received grant funds. One will renovate a classroom for autistic students, another will create an arts space. Three schools will install water bubblers and bottle refill stations and other schools will use their grants for landscaping, smartboards and solar power.

A number of grants are for improved or more accessible toilets at community facilities. One of those was St Ives Rugby Club where energy efficiency will also improve with solar panels and LED lights. Killara Golf Club will install a lightning safety shelter, including a bathroom and a defibrillator.

Sunnyfield will make group home gardens in Frenchs Forest easier to maintain and more accessible. Ku-ring-gai Council will refurbish Arena Pavilion in Gordon and build a water and rock play area at the Ku-ring-Gai Wildflower Garden.



## Escaping Domestic Violence



Thousands more women and children escaping domestic abuse will be supported with housing and specialist services following the NSW Government's single largest investment ever in domestic and family violence. Call **000** if you are in danger. DV Crisis line: **1800 737 732**. Website: **[www.1800respect.org.au](http://www.1800respect.org.au)**



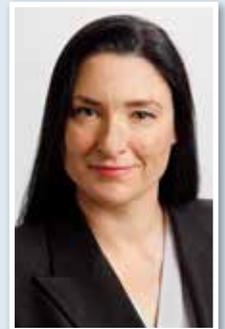
## Playtime

Parents and young children from St Alban's Anglican Church, Lindfield enjoy a new playground made possible by a grant of \$22,000 from the NSW Government's Community Building Partnership program.



## Risky Escape

Local resident and human rights lawyer, Alison Battisson, worked with others across the globe to evacuate the Afghanistan National Women's football team, as well as the only two Afghans to compete at the Tokyo Paralympics. The women athletes burnt their team uniforms, then waded through sewage under frequent gunfire to reach the airport. Alison and her colleagues, assisted by former Socceroo, Craig Foster, saved 86 people from potential incarceration or death.



## Queen's Birthday Awards



Congratulations to Edward Kerr of Lindfield, Brendan Walsh of Lindfield, Stephen Cartwright of Roseville, Belinda Allen of East Lindfield, Jeffrey Cree of Davidson, and Jackie Stamford of Roseville Chase.

These six residents of the Davidson Electorate were recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours for various achievements and awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia.

## Local Olympic Rowers Shine



Rowers Genevieve Horton from East Lindfield, brothers Nicholas and Alex Purnell from Killara and Tara Rigney from Roseville, all competed in rowing at the postponed Tokyo Olympics. The athletes all put in excellent performances, with Alex Purnell winning a Gold Medal in the Men's Fours, reclaiming the title for Australia for the first time since the Oarsome Foursome's success at the Sydney Olympics in 2000.



Photo credit: Rowing Australia

## First Lap voucher

Helping children swim safely



Since first being elected in 2007, I have addressed the NSW Parliament on your behalf **over 1,000 times**. I continue to strongly represent our local electorate while now also fulfilling the important Parliamentary role of Speaker.



## Hybrid Sitting of Parliament



The Legislative Assembly of the New South Wales Parliament resumed in October after the Covid-10 lockdown. In a historic first, the Parliament was conducted as a 'hybrid sitting' with many members participating online or physically present in the Chamber.



## Political Donations

The Sydney Morning Herald recently published my article on reforming political donations. Visit [www.jonathancodea.com.au/media/media-releases/give-mps-freedom-opt-out-political-donations](http://www.jonathancodea.com.au/media/media-releases/give-mps-freedom-opt-out-political-donations).

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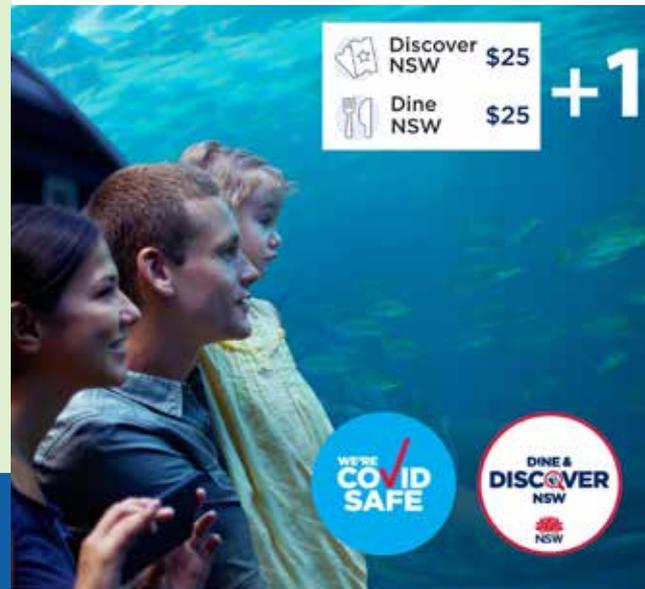
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## New Dine & Discover vouchers coming soon