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Davidson

BUILDING FOR TOMORROW

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Dear Residents,

Following the opening of the 55th Parliament of NSW, each member was presented to Her Excellency, Governor Marie Bashir. I welcome the extension of her appointment as 37th Governor of NSW to February 2014. She is a highly respected and inspirational lady who displays a genuine and caring interest in the welfare of others, including children. This newsletter has a particular focus on children in our local area and beyond.



With "Healthy Harold" as its mascot, the organisation empowers young people to make informed choices on drugs, alcohol and a healthy lifestyle.

I have been lobbying hard for KYDS to receive some State funding in 2012 for the first time. For assistance or to make a tax-deductible donation, call KYDS on 9416 9824.



I recently attended a reception at Parliament House to acknowledge the important work of Life Education, Australia's largest non-government provider of health education to children.

Another entity that helps children locally is the Ku-ring-gai Youth Development Service (KYDS). KYDS has been facing a financial crisis despite strong community support. For 6 years the organisation has provided free and confidential counselling for those 12-18 years old and their families.



Lindfield Rotary established KYDS and recently helped raise extra funds with a barbecue at Swimart in Lindfield, attended by KYDS Manager David Citer and "Madame Butterfly" Susie O'Neill.

Finally, I wish you and your families a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year season.

Yours sincerely,

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KPO's 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to the Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra on its 40th anniversary. It is one of Australia's leading community orchestras with professional players, amateurs and students from across Sydney. The KPO provides opportunities for young musicians, undertakes educational outreach and brings entertainment and culture to the local community.

NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL UPDATE

Detailed planning for the new Northern Beaches Hospital has begun and will involve input from the local community and clinicians (pictured recently with local MPs). Construction of the new hospital at Frenchs Forest is expected to commence in 2013/14 and will be complemented by a Mona Vale Hospital campus.

A DAVIDSON KING

The Davidson electorate has good reason to follow the Sydney Kings basketball team this season. Jarrod Weeks of Pymble and fellow team members were presented with their playing shirts for the 2011-12 season at a special reception at Parliament House prior to their first home game. The presentation was attended by Premier Barry O'Farrell and Sports Minister Graham Annesley.



IMPORTANT ROLE OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Local Government Week in October provides an excellent opportunity for councils to promote their work in local communities. Across NSW, councils host a range of events and activities to showcase their local facilities and services. During this year's promotional week, I caught up with Warringah Mayor Michael Regan, Local Government Minister Don Page and local school children at the Warringah Council Chambers.



NEW PICNIC SHELTER

I was pleased to help open a new picnic shelter at Echo Point Park – a 20th anniversary project for the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase. The cost was partly covered by a NSW Government grant of \$7,500 while Ku-ring-gai Council helped with planning and additional works. Former Ku-ring-gai Mayor Ian Cross attended along with new Mayor, Jennifer Anderson. I thank Ian Cross for his valuable contribution as Mayor and congratulate Jennifer Anderson on her recent election.



FLUSHED WITH SUCCESS

St Ives Public School has received a \$30,000 grant to upgrade toilet facilities. The allocation is through a joint funding program with the NSW Government. I am pleased that this important project was approved as part of the NSW Government's efforts to upgrade school facilities across the state.



YMCA YOUTH PARLIAMENT

The YMCA NSW Youth Parliament is an excellent platform for young people to learn about our democratic processes and taste what it is like to be an MP. The program includes four days in the Legislative Assembly debating Bills and matters of public importance, delivering Private Members Statements and the sometimes fiery theatre of Question Time. This year, Davidson was represented by Thomas Goldie, Kevin Kim and Corinne Caston-Matthews.

WAKEHURST PUBLIC SCHOOL SETS NEW BENCHMARK

Education Minister, Adrian Piccoli has identified Davidson's Wakehurst Public School as the benchmark for a program to be rolled out in selected schools across NSW. I commend Wakehurst Public for making its hall and classrooms more comfortable for students and teachers in a cost-effective, energy-efficient way. It demonstrates climate control initiatives that provide alternatives to expensive air conditioning. Principal Wendy Phillips, School Captains Emelia D'Urso and Daniel Gurd, and Parliamentary Secretary for Renewable Energy Rob Stokes are pictured at the Minister's announcement.



SCHOOL LEADERS' TOURS

Each year I extend an invitation to every Primary School in the Davidson electorate to send their school captains and vice-captains with an accompanying adult for a tour of Parliament House. The students visit both the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council Chambers for informative talks before afternoon tea and a presentation of certificates to mark the occasion.



PRE-SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS

Pre-schoolers and their families recently celebrated the official opening of a new playground at East Lindfield Community Pre-school. The project was part-funded through a \$45,000 grant under the NSW Government's Community Building Partnership program. The work also allows better access for people with disabilities. Parent Kylie Casey and Pre-school Director Debbie Schweickle (pictured) are among those thrilled with the new facilities.

St Ives Pre-school also recently marked a significant event, celebrating its 50th Anniversary with a variety of activities at a colourful Fun Fair.



PRIMARY SCHOOL VISITS

Recently I have visited local primary schools to speak on the role of a local Member of Parliament and the work of the NSW Government. The students at Covenant Christian School, East Lindfield and Belrose Public Schools asked some interesting questions. Covenant Christian School Principal Bill Rusin joined with some of the students for a photo, while at Belrose Public School I was welcomed by School Captains Remy Siemsen and Ben Carter.



HOUSE WITH NO STEPS, BELROSE

House with No Steps, headquartered at Belrose, will next year celebrate its 50th Anniversary. Founded by Lionel Watts CMG, MBE in 1962 after he became a severe quadriplegic from polio, it is a leading organisation in NSW, QLD and the ACT for people with a physical disability and/or mental health issue. It provides support through employment, education, training, accommodation and social connection programs to 3,300 people across 160 locations.



Workers (L-R) Michael Lynch, Lisa Osborne and Colin Bruce with CEO Andrew Richardson at Belrose.

PARLIAMENTARY PERFORMANCE



Since the 55th NSW Parliament was elected in March this year, I have delivered over 40 speeches on a wide range of subjects, including:

- Palliative Care
- Medical Research
- St Ives Special Needs Football
- Solar Bonus Scheme
- Infrastructure NSW Bill
- Aged Care Services
- Anti-Graffiti Legislation
- Planning Reforms
- Restart NSW Fund Bill
- Cycling
- Bullying
- ICAC Amendment Bill
- Public Accounts Committee
- St Ives Youth Precinct
- National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Election Funding Bill
- Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra

The text of these speeches and other information can be readily accessed through my website, www.jonathanodea.com.au

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NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME

The National Disability Insurance Scheme, as recommended by the Productivity Commission, will help ensure disabled Australians receive the long-term care and support they need, extending beyond their school years and the deaths of their carers. I strongly support the Scheme and welcome the record \$2.8 billion investment in disability services in the recent NSW Government's budget. Fortunately, there has been strong bipartisan support in the NSW Disability Portfolio.



Jonathan with Katrina Clark and daughter Georgia (front), Lyn Bradford and Bradfield MP Paul Fletcher. At the back is Heike Fabig with daughter Billie.

JABULANI CHALLENGE

The annual Jabulani Challenge, comprising a 24 km and 43 km bush run or walk continues to grow. This year over 300 participants registered for the event, which raised over \$30,000 to feed over 300 African children for another year. Congratulations to the organisers, sponsors and participants on an outstanding event.



Peter Galloway, Damian Tynan, Jonathan O'Dea and Graeme Elgie.

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