

Connect with Anoulack

A community newsletter from Anoulack Chanthivong MP, Member for Macquarie Fields – December 2024



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Sandra Nguyen, Melinda Phan, Winston Thio, Flynn Wangpaibul, Aarifa Shabbir, Claire To and Caliopi Armamentos.

Congratulations Ingleburn Public School champions

A team of Ingleburn Public School students won bronze at the 2024 Universal Robotics Challenge finals in Osaka, Japan.

The Ingleburn team are the first ever Australian team to achieve a podium finish at the Universal Robotics Challenge. A remarkable achievement indeed.

The team comprised of Year 5 students, Aarifa Shabbir and Flynn Wangpaibul; Year 6 student Winston Thio; and Year 4 student Claire To.

The Ingleburn team was one of three Australian teams among a total of 40 from around the world.

A Japanese team won the gold, while a school from Thailand took home the silver medal.

Ingleburn Public School won through to the championships by winning the Year 3-6 division of the 2023 Universal Australia national final.

The students demonstrated exceptional skill and teamwork to claim the bronze medal.

In the finals, students tested their robot-building and programming capabilities, simulating real-world tasks.

I was delighted to meet the students on their return from Japan and learn about their experiences of the competition and, of course, their adventures at Universal Studios and the Pokemon Centre.

Bringing the Universal Robotics Challenge into Ingleburn Public School has allowed students to think beyond the classroom, as well as engage with cutting-edge technology.

Thank you to the outstanding teachers and staff who have been instrumental in the team's success and supported them on this incredible journey.

I would like to especially acknowledge teachers Melinda Phan, Sandra Nguyen and Caliopi Armamentos, as well as Principal Graeme Green and former Deputy Principal Rebecca Dao.

Our community is incredibly proud of all the young students involved.

Scan the QR code to read a copy of my speech in NSW Parliament. ▶



End of Year Message

The year has been full of commitments, both in my capacity as the Local Member and as a Minister in the NSW Parliament.

I am delighted to see the start of work on highly anticipated projects in my community.

Works will soon start on the Macquarie Fields Station upgrade, which will make the station safer and accessible for all. Importantly, once complete, the station will finally have lifts and I know our community has long been waiting for this important upgrade.

A high school for Edmondson Park is also progressing, with delivery on track for Term 1 2027.

I am proud to be part of a NSW Labor Government delivering significant rental reforms to make renting fairer and more secure.

By limiting rent increases to only one a year, banning no grounds evictions, making it easier to have pets in rentals, and ensuring people can pay their rent without hidden fees, the historic reforms will make it fairer for renters in NSW. Read more about these reforms on page 2.

As always, I enjoy time out and about in my electorate and this year was no different. From meeting local school children to talking road safety from Minto to Casula, it is always great to hear from constituents on local issues.

My Electorate Office will close on 24th December 2024 and reopen on 13th January 2025. You can contact my office via email at macquariefields@parliament.nsw.gov.au or visit my website at connectwithanoulack.com.

Season's greetings to all and best wishes for the new year.

Anoulack

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BEAUTIFUL MINDS MACARTHUR CELEBRATES MILESTONE



Waratahs in support of Beautiful Minds Macarthur and President Cheryl Paradella (in white shirt).

I was delighted to join Beautiful Minds Macarthur's 20th anniversary celebrations during Mental Health Month in October.

A fantastic milestone thanks to the hard work and dedication of all the volunteers, including President Cheryl Paradella.

Beautiful Minds Macarthur continues to advocate for improved local mental health services.

In exciting news, Beautiful Minds Macarthur has raised \$60,000 for improvements to mental health units at Liverpool Hospital. These funds will be used to make the mental health units more homely and less clinical, to aid in people's mental health journey and recovery. The money will be used to purchase artwork, furniture, plants and shade.

An additional \$20,000 has been raised for improvements to the mental health units at Campbelltown Hospital. All the funds have been raised by Beautiful Minds Macarthur and its volunteers, which is an extraordinary effort. Well done to all involved.

NEW VEHICLE FOR MRYTLE COTTAGE



With Bill Salter and Chief Executive Kylie Richardson.



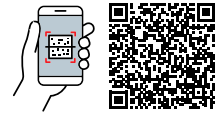
Wonderful to meet Jo the cook.

I am pleased to report that Mrytle Cottage has been successful in receiving a \$50,000 grant through the NSW Government's Local Small Commitments Allocation program for the purchase of an accessible vehicle.

This will enable Mrytle Cottage to continue its important work in transporting its members and help them access programs and activities that promote connection and wellbeing.

I would like to congratulate Chief Executive Kylie Richardson and everyone involved, including the dedicated volunteers.

Read my speech to NSW Parliament.



HISTORIC RENTAL REFORMS

The Minns Labor Government has delivered major rental reforms that will make it fairer for the millions of renters across NSW.

Now

- ▶ Rent increases limited to once a year.
- ▶ Ban on paying for background checks when applying for a property.

Coming in 2025*

- ▶ No grounds evictions will be banned. This will ensure housing security for renters, allowing them to make a house a home. The reforms will also give landlords more clarity on when they can end a fixed term or periodic lease based on clear, straightforward reasons.
- ▶ It will be easier to have pets in rentals. Under the new legislation, a landlord will have to provide a valid reason for rejecting an animal.

*Once the Residential Tenancies Regulation 2019 has been amended.

Other reforms include:

- ▶ Developing the nation's first Portable Rental Bonds Scheme. This will mean eligible renters can move homes and take their rental bond with them by digitally transferring their existing bond to their next property.
- ▶ Establishing Rent Check. A new free website that renters can use to help check whether the rent they are paying is fair.
- ▶ Funding the Rental Taskforce within Fair Trading. The Government will invest \$8.4 million for a taskforce with inspectors and support teams to help renters and act on serious breaches of rental laws.
- ▶ Funding boost to the Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service. The Government will further support renters through a massive \$4 million



funding boost to the Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service, which is an extra million dollars a year over the next four years.

The reforms get the balance right by providing more security for renters and greater certainty for landlords. The once-in-a-generation rental reforms will deliver a fairer balance and greater certainty to the NSW rental market and make a huge difference to the millions of renters in NSW.

Scan the QR code to learn more ▶



CENTENARY FOR 1ST INGLEBURN SCOUTS

Happy 100 years to 1st Ingleburn Scouts. A wonderful milestone and a wonderful organisation helping kids learn important life skills and form lasting friendships. A remarkable history and a great future ahead. Congratulations to all involved.



RISING 'STARR'

Sackville Street Public School student and talented football player Roman Starr has lofty ambitions in the global game and is already kicking goals.

The 12-year-old school captain plays for the Macarthur Bulls in the National Premier League as both a striker and left back. One day, he hopes to play for his beloved Manchester United.

Earlier this year, Roman was selected as one of 12 players to represent the NSW Cityroos U12s team to play in two prestigious international football tournaments.

I'll certainly be following Roman's journey closely and wish him all the best.



Artist's impression of the new high school.

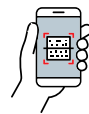
EDMONDSON PARK HIGH SCHOOL MAKES PROGRESS

The Minns Government is delivering a new high school for Edmondson Park. The high school will include fit-for-purpose classrooms and core facilities to meet enrolment demand in Edmondson Park and support the growing population in south-west Sydney.

The construction contract for the new school build has been awarded to Richard Crookes Constructions.

Now that the construction contractor is engaged, the department will progress with the school's detailed design and site establishment works will get underway.

To learn more, visit <http://edu.nsw.gov.au/link/EPNHS> or scan the QR code.



This image is a photomontage of Macquarie Fields Station and is subject to detailed design.

WORKS TO START ON STATION UPGRADE

I'm excited to report that works are due to start on the Macquarie Fields Station upgrade.

This is an exciting stage of the project, which will make the station safer and accessible for all. Importantly, once complete, the station will finally have lifts and I know our community has been eagerly awaiting this important upgrade.

There will be some disruptions during the construction phase so please be patient during this time. I encourage you to keep up-to-date on the project's progress via the dedicated website.

Scan the QR code to learn more ►

Contact my Electorate Office for more information on 9618 2077 or email macquariefields@parliament.nsw.gov.au.



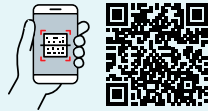


COST OF LIVING HUB

Looking for ways to save?

Visit the NSW Government's Cost of Living Hub, consolidating information in one central place to make it easier to find rebates and vouchers to save you money.

To learn more, scan the QR code or visit <https://www.nsw.gov.au/money-and-taxes/cost-of-living-hub>



For more information on this and financial assistance services in the community, such as Moneycare, contact my office on 9618 2077.

SAVINGS TIPS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Christmas and school holidays can put a drain on the budget. Here are seven budget friendly tips to help stretch your money further.



1. **Make a list.** This is not just useful for Santa. It can help keep your spending on track.
2. **Set a budget.** Know how much you have to spend to reduce impulse purchases.
3. **Look for specials.** This can help you make the most of your budget.
4. **Have gatherings at home.** Encourage everyone to bring a plate to share.
5. **Create a Kris Kringle.** Great for large families or workplaces. This is where everyone buys one gift to a set value (e.g. \$20) for a family member instead of having to buy a gift for every family member. Have fun with it!
6. **Find free and low-cost events.** Contact your local Council for event information in your local area or plan low-cost activities.
7. **Start saving.** Plan now for next Christmas. Each week put aside \$20. Over 52 weeks this is \$1,040 for next Christmas!

Ideas shared by Serena Ryan (pictured), Salvation Army Moneycare Financial Counsellor (Mac Fields Salvos).

Financial counselling is a free, independent and confidential service to help anyone needing support with financial challenges. Call 1800 722 363.



BE FIRE SAFE THIS SUMMER

Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) is urging everyone not to become complacent about home fire dangers this summer. A fire can spread rapidly and be devastating.

Here are some key tips for you and your loved ones to Be Fire Safe this season:

- ▶ **Working smoke alarm** – ensure your smoke alarm is in good working order and test it regularly.
- ▶ **Keep Looking When Cooking:** The leading cause of home fires in NSW is leaving cooking unattended.
- ▶ **BBQ fire safety:** The backyard barbie can be a common cause of fires and injury during the warmer months. Keep barbeques clean and ensure all gas hoses and connections are tight with no leakage.
- ▶ **Charge safe:** A damaged or failing lithium-ion battery can explode, releasing highly toxic fumes. Never use or charge a damaged battery.
- ▶ **Electric lights safety:** When setting up Christmas lights or decorative electric displays, use only one item per power socket and don't overload power boards or piggyback double adapters.

Every home should have a fire escape plan

Having a home escape plan in conjunction with a working smoke alarm will greatly increase your chances of getting out safely. In less than 30 seconds a small flame can get out of control and turn into a major fire.

REMEMBER:

- ▶ Plan and practice your plan.
- ▶ If your home catches fire: STAY LOW, GET OUT and STAY OUT!
- ▶ **Call Triple Zero (000) immediately.**

For more information on how to Be Fire Safe this summer, visit fire.nsw.gov.au.

ROAD SAFETY IN CASULA

Thank you to everyone who has contacted my Electorate Office regarding road safety concerns in Casula.

Constituents have raised concerns about speeding vehicles in the Glen Regent area of Casula. I am advised that Leacocks Lane and Mackellar Street have been the subject of a number of motor vehicle incidents in recent times.

I recently met with newly elected Liverpool Councillor Ethan Monaghan and local resident Wayne Prior in Casula to discuss the urgent need for speed humps along this stretch of road to help improve road safety.

I have made representations on behalf of constituents calling on the Council to adhere to recommendations made by the Liverpool Local Traffic Committee to help improve traffic safety in the Glen Regent area in Casula.

Leacocks Lane has a slight gradient which makes speeding more prevalent. The road is a major thoroughfare through to the Hume Highway intersection.

Local residents are calling on Liverpool Council to act on this issue. I will keep you posted on any developments or contact my Electorate Office on 9618 2077 if you would like to discuss further.



With local resident Wayne Prior (left) and Liverpool Councillor Ethan Monaghan at Leacocks Lane, Casula.



AWARD RECOGNITION



Congratulations to the following people in my electorate who have been recognised for their contributions to our local community.



Philip Watt and Richard Bromley

Phil and Richard were awarded a NSW Government Community Service Award for their contributions to the local community.

Phil has been actively involved in the Macquarie Fields Men's Shed for more than a decade and oversaw the shed's transition to its new premises at Macquarie Road Reserve in 2024. The Men's Shed assists in making furniture for local families in need and provides a safe space for men to connect and learn new skills. Over the years, Phil has held various positions with the Macquarie Fields Scout Group, as well as being a Justice of the Peace and a regular blood donor.

Richard is a dedicated softball volunteer in the community, a Life Member of the Campbelltown District Softball Association (CDSA) and has been actively involved in Softball Campbelltown's 45th anniversary celebrations. **Read more about Richard's contributions on page 6 – Chat with Anoulack.**

Ray Mosley (pictured below)

Received a Principal Network Award from the NSW Department of Education. Ray has been a steadfast and invaluable volunteer for NSW public schools, dedicating countless hours to supporting staff recruitment and the setup of new schools as a NSW member of the P&C Association.

Ray's commitment is particularly evident at Edmondson Park Public School, where he has assisted in recruitment processes and helped to establish the Edmondson Park Public School P&C Association.

Ray is a very worthy recipient of this award and I commend his contributions to public education.



Chat with Anoulack...

With... Richard and Sue Bromley



Macquarie Fields couple Richard and Sue Bromley have dedicated their lives to softball. This year, the couple were actively involved in Softball Campbelltown's 45th anniversary celebrations. Medal winners of the Pan Pacific Masters Games, the couple live up to its motto 'Play it. Live it. Love it!'

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN MACQUARIE FIELDS?

Richard:

We have lived in Macquarie Fields for 42 years and prior to this we lived in Narwee, where we were married in 1979.

HOW DID SOFTBALL COME TO BE SUCH A BIG PART OF YOUR LIVES?

Sue:

Richard originally played baseball and I played ladies softball. We started out playing for Sydney Softball Association at Moore Park and later East Hills Softball Association. After moving to Macquarie Fields, we saw an advertisement for Waratahs Softball Club at Milton Park, Ingleburn. We decided to check it out and, as they say, the rest is history.

Lyn and Lionel Curtis first introduced us to the game and got the ball rolling. By this stage, we had two children and softball quickly became a family affair.

I was encouraged to become a scorer and gained my Level Two accreditation allowing me to score for Campbelltown representative teams.

Richard:

I joined Sydney Softball Association in 1978 and held various positions across different clubs. Later, Sue and I joined the Campbelltown District Softball Association (CDSA). I served on the Board as umpire convenor, competition convenor as well as President on two separate occasions.

Sue was Secretary of the Sydney Softball Association for a number of years.

TELL ME MORE ABOUT THE MASTERS GAMES.

Richard:

The CDSA was successful in becoming the 4th venue for the 2009 World Masters Games. We hosted teams from Canada, New Zealand and interstate for an exciting week of softball at Milton Park.

Sue and I participated in the Pan Pacific Masters Games on the Gold Coast for a number of years. In 2006, Sue's team the Ghostettes won a gold medal. I was assistant coach. We competed again in 2010, and loved it. On that occasion, our over 45 years team from Australia and New Zealand won gold medal. It's terrific – something you never forget.

SOFTBALL IS A BIG FAMILY AFFAIR FOR YOU BOTH.

Sue:

The softball community is an extended family for us. When our kids were little, we would pack a picnic, take the esky and a tarp and we would be at Milton Park from dawn to dusk. We formed wonderful friendships and enjoyed the social aspect of the game.

Richard:

Sue and I were both proudly accepted as Life Members of CDSA in 2010. Our involvement with the club continues to this day and we enjoy meeting new members and mentoring them. In 2013, CDSA was rebranded Softball Campbelltown. Sue and I were founding Board members as Competition Convenor/Grounds Committee/Umpire in Chief and Secretary respectively.

I gained my Level 2 umpire qualification and often umpired for the Campbelltown representative teams and travelled to various locations across NSW. I also achieved level 3 accreditation in coaching and coached representative teams.

WHAT'S THE FUTURE OF THE CLUB?

Richard:

This year, the club celebrated 45 years in the community. It's a fantastic milestone. It's wonderful to see the club's growth and the facilities at Milton Park have improved over the years. It's exciting to see a new generation of players coming through.

Sue:

The growth areas are contributing to an increase in membership, which is fabulous. The club is in a strong position to enjoy a great future. While we may not play as often anymore, you can guarantee we will be watching from the sidelines and cheering the players on.

CONTACT ANOULACK

If you have any ideas, comments or suggestions, or wish to discuss State Government matters, please drop into the office or contact me on:

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