

EVERYBODY'S FAVOURITE LOCAL PAPER

Letterbox delivered weekly from Hornsby to The Hawkesbury

the bushtelegraph

Phone: 02 9456 2880

Thursday 7 February 2019

WEEKLY



LAST TRUCK TO HORNSBY QUARRY

The last NorthConnex truck has made its final delivery of spoil into the Hornsby Quarry with work beginning to hand over the site to Hornsby Council.
See full story page 10



Mooney Mooney Club ON THE HAWKESBURY

Valentine's Day

Thursday 14 February

Overlooking the majestic Hawksbury River, Coastal Dining is the perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two this Valentine's Day. Our Chefs have prepared a special table d'hôte menu for the occasion.

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RETURNING HOME AFTER WORLD WAR I

The latest edition of the Hornsby Shire Historical Society journal **Local Colour** is entitled **Returning Home After World War 1**.

Members of the Society's research team looked at various aspects of life in our Shire for returning men and women.

Articles include the work and life of **Sir Tannant Edgeworth David** and his decision to live in the Shire after the Great War, the Influenza Epidemic, Bands in the Shire, the Signing of the Armistice and the local Welcome Home Ceremonies.

Copies of this 72 page journal are available from Society members or may be purchased at the museum on Tuesdays between 10am and 2pm. The museum is conveniently located in Kenley Park Normanhurst which is adjacent to the Thornleigh Brickpit.

Copies are \$12.

The next meeting of the Historical Society will be at 2pm at the museum on Sunday 17 February when **Robert Green** will give a presentation - **Asquith Old and New**.

For further information phone the society on 9489 7543 or email secretaryhshs@gmail.com



Front cover of the book, shows the Harrison family gathered at the original Cherrybrook Farm to welcome a family member home.



Photo: L-R Senator Linda Reynolds, Brian Engert OAM, Julian Leeser MP, Rhonda Engert, with RFS and SES personnel at the Engert's Berowra Heights home, damaged in the 20 December hail storm.

'BEROWRA MODEL' OF DISASTER RESPONSE ENDORSED NATIONALLY

"I was in Cowan when the Berowra hail storms hit. Our car was damaged but many in the community had greater damage from the storm" **Julian Leeser MP**

Fantastic to bring **Senator Linda Reynolds**, the Minister responsible for emergency services, to the electorate to meet the leadership of the local NSW Rural Fire Service and NSW SES and to talk to local residents affected by the storms. Like me, Senator Linda Reynolds was very impressed by Berowra's model of spontaneous volunteering.

Federal Member for Berowra, **Julian Leeser MP** last week hosted **Assistant Minister for Home Affairs, Senator the Hon. Linda Reynolds** in the electorate, to show her how the community has responded to the December storms.

"At the time of the storms, I spoke to the Assistant Minister to secure Federal funding for the Berowra electorate. We were able to act quickly to ensure that Disaster Assistance Funding was made available, but I also wanted to show the Assistant Minister the extent of the damage we are facing."

Assistant Minister Reynolds met with local residents and key representatives from the NSW State Emergency Services (SES) and Rural Fire Service to thank volunteers for their response to the storm.

"I was overwhelmed by the way the Berowra community rallied together during challenging circumstances and joined in the response effort. From helping to fill sand bags, door knock homes, deliver equipment and pick up lunches, it was a remarkable act of unity. I hope to see the Berowra model of 'spontaneous volunteering' replicated across the country." Assistant Minister Reynolds said.

The Federal Government is providing support to individuals, councils, community groups and small businesses through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

When Parliament returns in a fortnight I will deliver a speech talking about the experience of our community as it responded to the storms. I want to try to share Berowra's stories with the Nation. If you have an experience you would like me to share in Parliament please send an email telling your story to Julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au

Information on disaster assistance can be found on the Australian Government's Disaster Assist website at www.disasterassist.gov.au and the Emergency NSW website at www.emergency.nsw.gov.au.

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FORMER HORNSBY MAYOR QUILTS LIBERAL PARTY POSITION AMID CONFLICT OF INTEREST CLAIMS

Cast your minds back a few years when Hornsby Shire Council was hell bent on demolishing the National Trust-listed Women's Rest Centre (known locally as the CWA Building) in Hornsby Park. This post-war International styled building in near perfect condition was highly valued within the broader community and beyond. It was built in 1958, ironically to mark the 50th anniversary of local government in Hornsby. Hornsby Council wanted the building gone and replaced by an access road to their proposed new Aquatic Centre's underground car park. Despite a well-documented groundswell of protest from far and wide (photo right), Council had its way after not one, but two meetings of the independent body, the Joint Regional Planning Panel.

At the first meeting on 23 February 2012, the JRPP supported the retention of the building stating: "the Panel requires the applicant (Hornsby Council) to give further consideration to the access across the heritage listed Hornsby Park and would prefer a roadway that is more sensitive to the heritage significance of the (Hornsby) Park and that will retain the CWA Building."

To the shock of many, a complete reversal took place at a second meeting of the JRPP. JRPP Members, Mary-Lynne Taylor (Chairperson), Janelle McIntosh (Panel Member), Felicity Findlay (Panel Member), Bruce McDonald (Panel Member), Bruce Clarke (Panel Member) and Suzie Jattan (Panel Secretariat) granted approval for Hornsby Council's original development application, which included the demolition of the National Trust-listed building (photo centre right).



2011 protests at the site of National Trust-listed Women's Rest Centre (known locally as the CWA Building) in Hornsby Park



Former Hornsby Council Mayor Steve Russell

At the time, the media described Hornsby Council's demolition of the 'CWA building' to make way for a new pool as "a disgraceful act of vandalism". Interesting to note that the land on which the National Trust-listed building stood is directly next to the proposed Lyon Group high rise development.

NOW FAST FORWARD TO 2019

An ABC News investigation has since revealed that former Hornsby Council mayor Steve Russell (photo left) held a senior Liberal Party position, where he oversaw the preselection of Council candidates, while at the same time consulting for large property developers who had big plans for Hornsby central business district.

Under party pressure, the ex-Mayor has since resigned his party position.

The report stated, "State and Federal MPs face strict rules around using their influence for private interests, such as having to register as lobbyists, publicly declare meetings, and follow 'cooling-off periods' between roles. However, the same rules do not apply in local government."

Greens Councillor for Hornsby Council, Emma Heyde (photo right) said, "I'm certainly not stupid enough to ever have private meetings with Mr Russell about the Lyon Group's high rise vision for Hornsby. Or any other developer or lobbyist with a dream for our town centres. The fact that some councillors in Hornsby have been doing exactly that is deeply worrying. I won't let this one rest until we get those ICAC (Independent Commission Against Corruption) rules in place in Hornsby. We clearly need them." At Hornsby council's meeting in December, Cllr Emma Heyde called for those guidelines to be recognised and implemented. The motion was not carried and instead deferred to a councillor workshop.

Sources reveal that this story is not over yet.

Google ABC News and Steve Russell to read the full ABC report.



CWA Building as it appeared in 2011



Hornsby Councillor Emma Heyde

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Bulk deliveries to Hornsby, Wahroonga, Thornleigh, Westleigh, Galston, Brooklyn.

BEROWRA
SURROUNDED BY THE AUSSIE BUSH

SOME OF YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR NEW BUSH TELE SUBURB STICKERS

The Bush Tele put out the call to readers to email their suggestions for its upcoming production of NEW Suburb Stickers for BROOKLYN, COWAN, MT KURING-GAI, BEROWRA HEIGHTS & MOONEY MOONEY.



Berowra

TOP OF THE SHIRE

Ray Flarey of Berowra writes:
For many years there has been a friendly rivalry between Hornsby Shire and Sutherland Shire to claim the name "The Shire". As both Shires, along with many in NSW, were proclaimed on the 6 March 1906 as recorded in the NSW Government Gazette, I believe it is time to stand up to Sutherland Shire and put our claim to the name.

Hornsby Shire is the largest with 462 square kilometres compared with 370 square kilometres for Sutherland. I think we have a good point, don't you?

Bob Davis of Brooklyn:

BROOKLYN ... come by boat, bus, bike or train and leave your car at home, we lack parking

Matt Rowe, Mt Kuring-gai:

MT KURING-GAI - it's not the edge of the earth but you can see it from here.

Email your suggestions to
editor@thebushtele.com.au



Bush Tele Abroad

Enjoying a nice holiday away from all the hail damage issues back in Berowra, Adam Warren is pictured with The Bush Tele Weekly at the entrance to the Penang Botanical Gardens, Malaysia.

(Photo taken by Trevor Warren)

Have you taken your Bush Tele abroad recently? We would love to see your photo, please email it to info@thebushtele.com.au with a brief description of where you went and who is in the photo.

the bushtelegraph

WEEKLY

YOUR LOCAL PAPER
SINCE 1986

BEROWRA GARDEN CLUB BACK FOR 2019!

Story: Pam Naylon

After The Hail ...

Berowra Garden Club is back in 2019 regardless of the damage that the hail has done to their gardens.

The first meeting for the year is on Thursday evening at 7.30pm in the Clubhouse at Warrina Street oval. There will be a guest speaker, benching of plants (that have survived the weather events) and supper. Members of the community are most welcome to join the club.

Enq: Pam Naylon 9456 2070

Photo: Karen Murphy at a recent Berowra Garden Club Mushroom farm excursion.



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Margie

Ph:02 9980 2226

Email:caremanager@hiscsyduns.com.au

HomeInstead.com.au

ARE YOU STILL SUFFERING THE EFFECTS OF THE HAIL STORM?

Source: www.facebook.com/HornsbySES

This information from Hornsby SES may help you.

Hornsby SES is currently still in the Recovery phase for residents impacted by the December storms, especially in Berowra and Berowra Heights.

If the NSW SES (or assisted by the RFS and/or FRNSW) have completed emergency repairs and you are still having issues, for example loose tarp or roof still leaking, we would like to emphasise that your first points of contact should be the providers responsible for helping you long term.

Contacts for ongoing repairs

► **Home Owners** - Advise your insurer that you are having ongoing issues and see if they can arrange a contractor to protect your property and "make safe" from further damage before permanent repairs are completed.

► **Renters** - Contact your real estate agent to advise them that you require further assistance.

► **Community housing tenants** - Call the FACS Housing Contact Centre on 1800 422 322 for maintenance information 24/7.

For further disaster assistance, you can find NSW Disaster Recovery resources at www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/Pages/for-the-community/disaster-assistance/disaster-assistance.aspx.

Lastly, a reminder that to prolong the life of tarps, ensure the ropes are tied firmly and watch for tears, especially around the eyelets. For larger tarps, also keep them weighted down with weights such as sandbags.



AN OLD STYLE GARDEN PARTY AT JULIAN'S

It was close to the hottest day of the year, Australia Day, when Julian Leaser MP invited some community representatives to join him and his family at his home for an old fashioned garden party.

A last minute email from Julian himself to invitees to 'bring a hat' indicated that it was to be a casual, outdoorsy sort of do.

A very pleasant gathering of familiar faces enjoyed the lazy afternoon atmosphere in the Federation style gardens of the Leaser home, sheltered by age old trees and hastily erected marquees with plenty of water on hand to help beat the heat.

Taking advantage of the crowd, Julian took to the microphone to voice some of his favourite things: the end in sight for the Pennant Hills tunnel, his support for Suicide Prevention initiatives, recent successful funding for Greenway Park Cherrybrook, his role in the clean up after the recent hail storms, and to invite the public to 'keep coming to me with issues which I can keep taking to Canberra'.

In rounding off what he described as 'not a political speech', Julian Leaser said, "I am proud to deliver for you, the community."

Nice to know. - Ed.



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Thursday, 7, February

Mt Colah Group of the Embroiderers' Guild of NSW Inc. meets at Hornsby Heights Community Centre, Galston Rd, Hornsby Heights from 10am to 2pm. Enq: Helen 9987 4438

Smocking Guild of NSW - meet at Dence Park Community Centre, 26 Stanley Road Epping 10am or 7pm. Enq 0417 431 387 or www.smockingguildnsw.com

Chai & Chat Beginners Hindi. Teach, speak, learn & make friends, Indian cafe style. 7 to 9pm. CCH Ministry Centre, 4/67 Jersey St Hornsby. Gold coin donation. Enq: namaste@chaiandchat.org or Teela 0432 920 259

Hawkesbury River Writers Meeting at Club Berowra 7 pm. We aim to assist and encourage the development of local writers. Also our AGM and elect office bearers. New writers are welcome. Enq: Pamela 0419 909 666 or www.hrw.org.au

Hornsby-Berowra Men's Shed meet 9am to 12noon. We carry out projects of social benefit such as physiotherapy aids for Hornsby Hospital, a new deck for the girl guides, playground equipment for child care facilities and similar projects. New members welcome. Enq: David 0490 149 262

Probus Club of Berowra - 10.30am. Uniting Church Hall, Alan Road, Berowra Heights. Morning tea and speaker Janne Bidenko on "Advocating for deaf-blind people in the community". Visitors welcome. Enq: Bernie 9456 2105

Friday, 8, February

Friday Fellowship - St Pauls Anglican Church, Pearce Corner, Wahroonga. Church Service at 10:30am followed by guest speaker prior to our Fellowship Luncheon. All welcome.

Probus Club of Asquith and District Inc. a mixed club for retired and semi-retired people, seeks new members for fun, friendship and fellowship at Asquith Golf Club, Lord Street, Mt. Colah 10.30 am. Guest speaker and morning tea. Also three monthly luncheon meetings & occasional outings. Visitors welcome. Enq: Geoff 0419 261 218.

Monday, 11, February

Hornsby Achievers Toastmasters Club with a difference. Supporting all people regardless of race, culture or disability to develop confidence and communication skills. 10am to 12pm, Hornsby RSL Club. Enq: Diane 0409 605 055. All welcome.

NSW Justices Association Hornsby Branch, 7pm at Magpies Waitara. JP's welcome. Enq: John, 0408 491 232 or Gavin 0407 289 203.

Berowra U3A "Affairs of Interest 2019 Lectures" Balcony Room, Berowra Community Centre 10am -12

Tuesday, 12, February

Asquith Indoor Carpet Bowls meet at Mt Colah Community Centre, Pierre Close, Asquith 9.30 - 12.30. Enq: Jenny 9477-1855

Berowra Uniting Church Community Playgroup 10am-12pm during School Terms. All parents, grandparents and carers of children from birth to 5 years (or till they start school). Playgroup is a great place for your children to play and make friends and for you to have the opportunity to meet, relax, chat and make friends. Enq: Julie on 0427561656, or Ann on 0414464135.

Pennant Hills VIEW Club meets for lunch at Oatlands Golf Club 11am. Short meeting, two course meal & a guest speaker or entertainer. Visitors & new members welcome. Enq: Margaret - 9873 2402. The first meeting for 2019 will be the Annual General Meeting & Election of Office Bearers for the coming year.

Wednesday, 13, February

PRIME TIME for age 55+ & friends. 12 noon at St Luke's Church, 157 Galston Road, Hornsby Heights. Short service, lunch & speaker from Kairos Prison Ministry Australia Enq: Merle 9477 3675
Berowra Rotary 6.30pm for 7.00pm Berowra RSL Club Visitors welcome Phone Jan 9456 1482 for information www.berowra.net/rotary

Hornsby Connect Inc. providing support to those that need it within the community, 11.30am - 2pm. Financial hardship, domestic violence, drug and alcohol dependency and loneliness, isolation and dislocation, low-cost food distribution centre. Free tea, coffee & cakes with company. Hornsby Youth and Family Community Centre cnr Muriel and Burdett Streets Hornsby. www.hornsbyconnect.org.au
Carers Support Group Berowra Community Health Centre, 123 Berowra Waters Road, Berowra. Bookings essential. 9456 3344

Thursday, 14, February

Chai & Chat Beginners Hindi. Teach, speak, learn & make friends, Indian cafe style. 7 to 9pm. CCH Ministry Centre, 4/67 Jersey St Hornsby. Gold coin donation. Enq: namaste@chaiandchat.org or Teela 0432 920 259

Hornsby-Berowra Men's Shed meet 9am to 12noon. Enq: David 0490 149 262

Berowra Garden Club meets at Warrina Street Oval Clubhouse 7:30pm. Benching of Plants, Guest Speaker and Supper. Enq: Pam Naylon 9456 2070

Aglow International Australia - Uniting Church Worship and Activities Centre, 24 William Street, Hornsby 7pm, \$10 includes supper.



PET PORTRAITS BY JOSEPHINE

Unfortunately, our beloved pets cannot live forever.

We must treasure the memories we make while they can still sit by our feet and greet us every day with their unconditional love.

What better way to capture our pet's true essence by having a portrait commissioned by Artist Josephine Comb?

Josephine's life like, hand drawn portraits, using soft pastels will immortalise your pet's memory forever. It really is simple and effortless to have a portrait commissioned - and with prices starting at as little as \$150 for A4 size, now is the perfect time to create that one of a kind artwork.

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Francesca Parrino of Berowra says: "I commissioned a portrait of my daughter's dog, **Stevie** (photo below left, portrait right) as a Christmas gift for her. Josephine was very personable and helpful when gathering the information she needed to begin this project. It was amazing to have the portrait completed and ready for framing within two weeks of my order. Josephine honoured her commitment to have this ready to put under the Christmas tree even though I left it until the last minute. My daughter loved her present as Stevie's personality was reflected in her portrait which will be treasured! I have no hesitation recommending Josephine and her very unique talent."



In Loving Memory

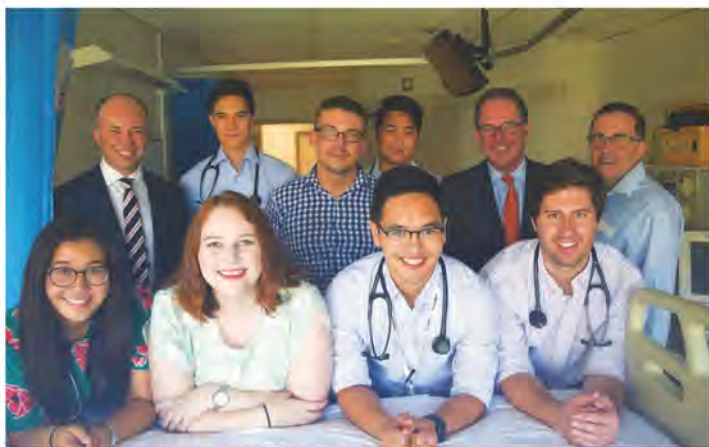
Ashley Joy LAMBOOY 28-6-1989 to 7-2-1995

A Lifetime has passed without our little girl.

Always in our thoughts and memories.

Ashley will always be part of our family and looking back our hearts ache, as we know how much we have missed in our lives without her

Annette, Martin, Harrison and Max Lambooy



With Matt Kean MP and Alister Henskins MP are Dr Jenis Catic, Dr Erik De Tonnerre, Dr Howard Tam, General Manager Lee Gregory, Dr Rachel Yeong, Dr Marisa Campbell, Dr Christopher Lam and Dr Morgan Burrows.

NEW DOCTORS FOR LOCAL HOSPITALS

In 2019 the NSW internship program has 1021 junior medical positions, the largest intake ever.

Seventeen new medical graduates recently started their hospital ward rounds at Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital and four of their colleagues did the same at the Sydney Adventist Hospital in Wahroonga.

In welcoming the new graduates, Alister Henskins MP said, "Through its strong financial management, the NSW Government is delivering record investment into new doctors, new nurses and new hospitals."

FUNCTIONAL FITNESS & BACK TO BASICS CLASSES FOR SENIORS AT GORDON LIBRARY

Wednesdays 13 February to 10 April, 1.15pm to 2.15pm

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Functional Fitness & Back to Basics classes will be run by Master Trainer, Sally Castell from Movement Matters.

Sally is a qualified physiotherapist and has been conducting classes in local communities for over 40 years, working in hospitals and rehabilitation centres. This program addresses health and fitness concerns, and is particularly relevant to the less active mature adult. Focus areas include falls prevention, strength and mobility training, balance and coordination.



THE BELL HAS RUNG AND IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL

Source: headspace.org.au

Young people can feel a range of emotions when they're heading back to school, which include feelings of excitement, anticipation and nerves.

As young people start to return to school in the coming days, National Youth Mental Health Foundation, headspace, reminds young people and their families that this time can be emotionally turbulent.

Some students can adjust to the changes and settle into things quickly. However, some young people may find this a daunting and challenging time.

Vikki Ryall, Executive Director of Clinical Practice at headspace, said, "The anticipation of trying to make new friends, pressure to get the best marks and dealing with difficulties like bullying are some reasons young people may feel uncertain at this time."

"Parents can tell when something is out of the ordinary, so it's good if you can check in regularly with your young person to see how they're feeling and to endorse the positives of going back to school," she said.

"Helping your young person to set up a routine is also a great way to ensure they are going into the new school year with a balance between study, social life, self-care and family time."

The new school year can be a trying time for everyone but it's important to remember parents and young people can reach out to their local GP, local headspace centre or visit headspace for support.

U3A COURSE SHOWCASE

Are you retired and looking to acquire knowledge and learn new skills in a stimulating and friendly environment? Then look no further than the University of the Third Age (U3A).

The Upper North region of U3A is holding a showcase and open day on **Monday 11 February** from 1.30-3.30pm at Turramurra Uniting Church, (behind shops parking area), Turramurra.

Come along and mingle with like-minded people. Listen to presentations from experts in such fields as history, science and music and discuss courses you might be interested in with course leaders.

Light refreshments will be served.

Bookings (for catering purposes) and for more info, contact Claudine Parr, 9487 2170, email: c_parr@exemail.com.au, Marilyn Pryor, 9449 3415, email: marilynpryor7@gmail.com

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In 2018 over half a million kids kicked, swam, hurdled, twirled and slogged their way to a more active life thanks to the Active Kids program.

From 1 January 2019 parents across NSW can create and redeem their next \$100 Active Kids voucher.

The program runs until 2021. That means, each year, parents can access \$100 per school-enrolled child to cover registration, participation and membership costs for sport, fitness and active recreation activities. January is the perfect time to create your Active Kids vouchers and sign up for 2019 winter sports. Winter sports not your thing? **The voucher can be used at any time in 2019.**

To redeem, give your voucher to an approved Active Kids Provider. Every child (4.5 - 18 years old) enrolled in school from Kindergarten to Year 12 is eligible. This includes those who are home-schooled or enrolled in secondary school education at TAFE NSW.

The program is not means tested. One voucher will be available for every child in the family annually over the next four years. www.service.nsw.gov.au

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Information Day/Uniforms
February 9th
at Berowra Public School, from 9am to 1pm

Grading Day/Uniforms
February 23th
at Berowra Water Rd, Netball courts
from 9am to 1pm

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Source: Golden Kangaroos Hornsby Concert Band

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If so, then the **Golden Kangaroos Hornsby Concert Band** is the perfect place to start! Our community band consists of three concert bands, small ensembles, a stage band, and a marching band.

You'll have the opportunity to perform at events throughout the Shire, tour Outback NSW, compete at the state band championships, and even take part in the big Anzac Day March in the city.

We welcome musicians of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. Concert and stage bands rehearse evenings at Beecroft Community Centre, and the marching band rehearses alternate Sundays at Pennant Hills Park.

The Discovery Band will be starting at 6pm on Monday 11th February - no previous experience required. Come and we'll help you find the instrument that is right for you!

For more information

- Visit www.gks.org.au
- Facebook page: www.facebook.com/GoldenKangaroos
- Email membership@goldenkangaroos.org.au



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Webers Circus With a Touch of The Wild West, is a fantastic show, filled with wonderful acts from around the world, which will keep you on the edge of your seats.

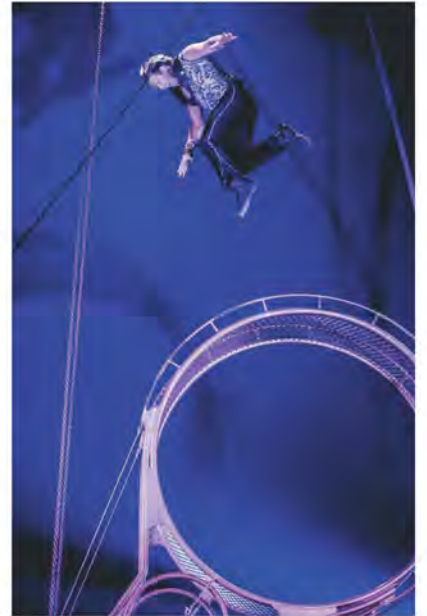
The three very cute **miniature ponies**, and the **comedy dogs** will keep you laughing, along with **Australia's funniest clowns**.

Aerial acts will amaze audiences again and again.

The other feature act is the **Russian Swing**, which is very entertaining with the three **Weber sisters** somersaulting through the air only to be caught by a catcher 7 metres high off the ground.

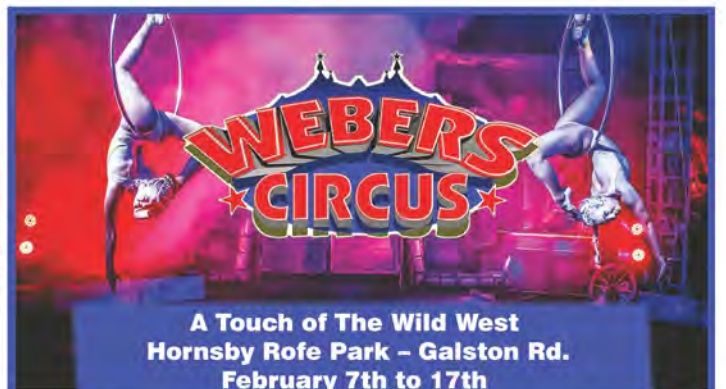
Our **Juggler, Cody Harrington** won the junior world juggling championships in Las Vegas, and juggles no less than 9 rings, which is a feat in itself.

The show also includes **Silks, Hula Hoops, Trapeze, Line Dancing** and much more.



Webers Circus is the perfect mix to keep you entertained from start to finish. Tickets are on sale 1 hour before show time at the ticket office out the front of the Big Top, which is located at Rofe Park, Galston Rd, Hornsby from the 7th - 17th February.

For all enquiries call 0448 247 287 (0448 CIRCUS) or book on-line @ weberscircus.com



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Sun 17th Feb 11am

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CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

RUDDOCK RIDES THE LAST TRUCK TO HORNSBY QUARRY

While plans are still being finalised for the 59 hectare site, it is expected to be open to the public in 2023.

The last NorthConnex truck has made its final delivery of spoil into the Hornsby Quarry with work beginning to hand over the site to Hornsby Council. The trucks first began delivering spoil in May 2017 and have dumped more than one million cubic metres of spoil into the Quarry void.

Member for Hornsby **Matt Kean MP**, Member for Berowra **Julian Leaser MP** and Hornsby Mayor, **The Honourable Phillip Ruddock** were on hand to celebrate the final truck making its voyage into the quarry (see front page photo inset).

"The quarry is almost unrecognisable from when the first truck delivered spoil in early 2017 and we are now on track to hand over to Hornsby Council for the second part of the transformation." Mr Kean said.

NorthConnex still has some work ahead of them before they hand over the keys to Hornsby Council. Restoration work will begin on the Bridge Road access as well as resurfacing Bridge road between Roper Land and Peats Ferry Road.

"NorthConnex presented a unique opportunity to take this wasted space and turn it into the Centennial Parklands of the North, right in the heart of Hornsby," Mr Kean said.

The Hornsby Quarry project is jointly funded by the Federal and State Government along with Hornsby Council. An additional \$50 million was secured by the NSW State Government in the last budget to further remediate the site.

Federal Member for Berowra, Julian Leaser MP, said the Hornsby Quarry is an excellent example of what can be achieved when you have a multiple levels of Government working together.

"Not only are we reducing traffic congestion by taking 5,000 trucks off Pennant Hills Road and getting people back to their families sooner and safer – we are also transforming this 'dead space' into a recreational park which will be enjoyed by many future generations," Mr Leaser said.

Hornsby Shire Mayor Philip Ruddock was on hand to watch the final deliveries.

"This site has unmeasurable potential and we have spent the last year listening to what the community want," Mayor Ruddock said.

People will be able to continue to have their say with the Development Application due to go on exhibition later this year.

"It's amazing to see how much the quarry has transformed over such a short period of time. It took almost a century to dig it all out but little more than 18 months for us to fill a major part of it in again."

More than one million cubic metres of clean fill have been tipped into the quarry, the equivalent of 450 Olympic swimming pools. Mayor Ruddock thanked the residents who have been impacted by the movement of trucks to the quarry.

"We are well aware that some people have experienced disruption and we are very grateful for their patience," he said.

"The residents of Hornsby Shire are going to emerge from this process as double winners, with a new 50-hectare recreational space and a tunnel that will remove much of the traffic from Pennant Hills Road."

NorthConnex will hand the keys to the site back to Hornsby Shire Council in the middle of the year. Hornsby Council states that plans for the next stage of the rehabilitation are well-advanced, with a development application for the required earthworks soon to be submitted.

This will determine the general shape of the park to be created and will be placed on public exhibition before being approved," said Mayor Ruddock.

"This is going to be the centrepiece of our recreational facilities for generations to come and we are determined to get it right. We are determined to ensure that the benefits of this project vastly outweigh the inconveniences."



Mayor Ruddock in the last truck to deliver fill to Hornsby Quarry from the NorthConnex tunnel; Hornsby Quarry as it appears today.

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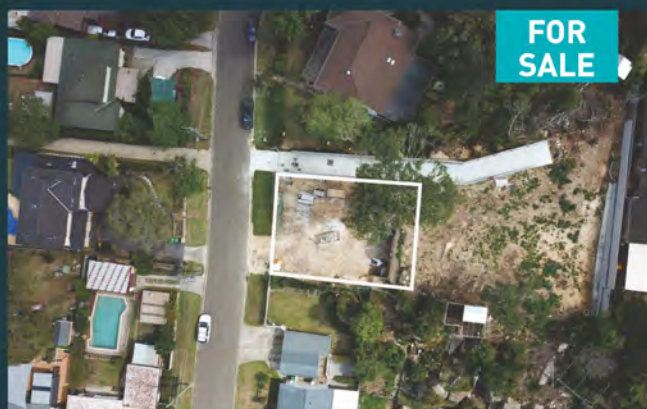
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