

Let's back Anoulack

A community newsletter from Anoulack Chanthivong MP, Member for Macquarie Fields - October 2019



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COMMUTER CAR PARKING CRISIS

FIX IT NOW, PREMIER!

Our commuter car parks are bursting at the seams. A conga-line of cars every weekday can be seen at train stations across my electorate.

One of the hardest hit suburbs is Edmondson Park, where commuters resort to desperate measures – risking fines by parking illegally.

The Liberal Government's overdevelopment agenda has to stop! Our suburbs feel the constant squeeze of a growing population and woefully inadequate infrastructure. Nowhere is this more evident than at our train stations, where the parking crisis is a daily occurrence.

When will the Liberal Government deliver its promised 700 new car parking spaces at Edmondson Park?

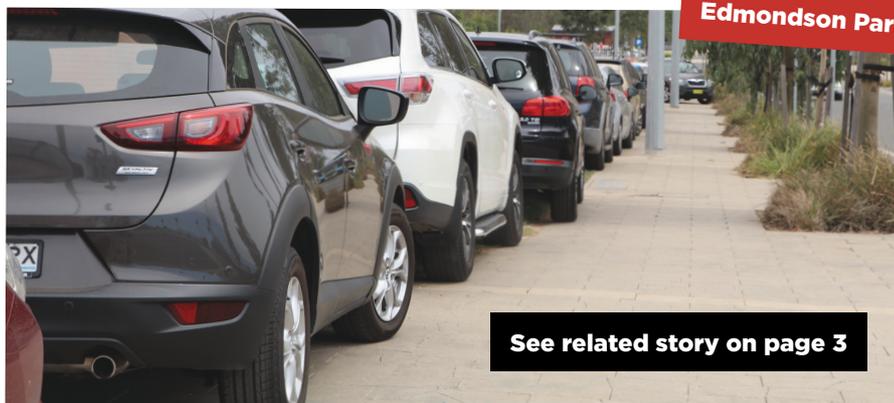
I have sought urgent answers from the NSW Transport Minister.

The Liberal Government promised construction would start this year, yet no construction money was allocated in the budget.

Desperate commuters could be waiting up to four years to see the extra car spaces delivered. Local commuters are angry and frustrated.

Premier, fix our commuter car parking crisis now!

Have your say by signing my petition at: www.letsbackanoulack.com



Edmondson Park

See related story on page 3



YOUNG ARCHIE WINNER

Congratulations to Macquarie Fields High School's Aysha Huq on winning Young Archie 2019 (16-18 year category).

Aysha won the award for her watercolour painting of her grandmother, Helima, standing by the ocean for the first time in her life while visiting Australia from Bangladesh.

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With Melissa Baleilekutu, Anne Stanley MP and Dr Mike Freeland MP.



The new playground and outdoor area has enhanced Mallee Rose Cottage.

ZEN-SORY GARDEN FOR ADRA

A new garden at Mallee Rose Cottage, located at ADRA Community Centre in Macquarie Fields, has significantly enhanced the centre's outdoor space.

The accessible garden and children's play area has been made possible through grant funding and is designed to strengthen community networks and foster a sense of belonging.

Congratulations to Melissa Baleilekutu, Community Centre Manager at ADRA Macquarie

Fields, and her team of dedicated volunteers on their hard work and efforts in bringing the Zen-sory garden project to fruition.

It is from little things that big things grow and I thank ADRA for its ongoing contributions and excellent work in the Macquarie Fields community.

WHERE'S OUR LIFT, PREMIER?

The Liberal Government continues to ignore the urgent need for a lift at Macquarie Fields Station. Not a single cent was spent on upgrading Macquarie Fields Station under this Liberal Government between 1 July 2018 and 30 July 2019. The Liberal Government's contempt for our local area is appalling.

There are 70 steps at Macquarie Fields Station. The station is on the Airport line. People with disabilities or mobility issues, parents with prams, people with luggage and the elderly are forced to climb the steps or use another station. It is simply not good enough.

To make matters worse, this Liberal Government's shameless bias of station upgrades is grossly unfair and defies their own merit-based assessment. An accessibility upgrade at Como Station (in a Liberal seat) is underway after it was ranked 35 in terms of need – ahead of Macquarie Fields Station (ranked 34).

Yet patronage at Como Station is 8,160 passengers per week, compared to 10,598 passengers per week at Macquarie Fields Station.

And despite these facts the Liberal Government still ignores our needs. Como gets a lift and we don't, Premier? Where's our fair share?



COMMUTERS FEEL THE SQUEEZE!

From Leumeah through to Glenfield, our commuter car parks are feeling the squeeze.

The Liberal Government's overdevelopment agenda has meant our suburbs are growing – and growing fast – but growth is not being matched by infrastructure investment.

Local commuters have endured years of inaction by the Liberal Government. As a result, the chronic shortage of commuter car parking has reached crisis point across south west Sydney.

Commuters are at their wit's end, with many resorting to desperate measures such as leaving hours earlier for work or parking illegally.

I call on the Liberal Government to commit to long overdue infrastructure, including an investment in more commuter car parking to meet our growing community's needs. All we want is our fair share.

Share your experiences via email at macquariefields@parliament.nsw.gov.au or phone 9618 2077.



Macquarie Fields



Glenfield



Ingleburn



Leumeah



Minto

DEVELOPMENT FLOODGATES OPEN IN SCENIC HILLS

I was appalled by the Independent Planning Commission's recent decision to approve the development application for a 136,000-plot cemetery in the Scenic Hills.

Our local community has campaigned to protect the Scenic Hills which has major heritage significance and provides valuable open space for our growing community.

We expected the Liberal Government would listen to our concerns.

They have let us down again.

I will continue to hold the Liberal Government to account for its appalling decisions that have left our local community with limited green open space.

Read more at:
www.letsbackanoulack.com

MARKET DAY FUN

Sock wrestling, slime and a sausage sizzle were all part of the fun at Sackville Street Public School's Market Day in September, raising money for the school's Year 6 farewell.

Students helped organise this year's event, giving them skills in marketing, finance and community engagement. The students were involved in developing stall ideas, consulting with the school community and arranging community partners, such as the Rural Fire Service, GWS Giants, Ambulance NSW and NSW Fire and Rescue.

There was fairy floss, popcorn and a bake sale; as well as temporary tattoos, hairspray and the teacher 'Pie Face' raffle.

I'm a regular visitor to Sackville Street Public School and I can attest to the event's continued success over the years – a result of the students' enthusiasm and the staff's commitment.

Congratulations to everyone involved on a great day bringing students, teachers and families together in the spirit of learning, fun and community.



Chat with Anoulack...

With THE COX FAMILY

Shane and Cathy Cox and their sons, Luke and Nathan, live in Leumeah and enjoy the quiet and friendly neighbourhood. Luke and Nathan attend Macquarie Fields High School where they are champion debaters.



LUKE, HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN DEBATING?

One of my teachers encouraged me to try debating and once I got a taste for it I never looked back. I enjoy the logic and teamwork involved with debating. I'm usually first speaker so my role is to lay the groundwork for the argument.

YOUR NEXT STEP IS REGIONAL COMPETITION.

Yes, I'm really excited and proud to be representing my school on the South West Sydney Regional Debating Team. It will be the first time I have competed at regional level. The championships are at University of Sydney from 2-4 December.

NATHAN, YOU'RE ALSO A DEBATER AND INVOLVED IN THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC).

Yes, the SRC is an opportunity for students to fundraise and contribute to their school community. Last year the Macquarie Fields High School SRC decided to highlight the plight of small towns in rural NSW, particularly given the devastating drought and water shortages. We fundraised for students in Warialda, a town of 1300 people between Inverell and Moree. Our Pop lives in Warialda so this was very personal for us.

LUKE AND NATHAN, TELL US ABOUT MACQUARIE FIELDS HIGH SCHOOL.

Our school is incredibly diverse. Half of the school's intake is selective



stream so we have students from a large geographical area, and our school is also very culturally diverse.

LUKE AND NATHAN, WHAT ISSUES ARE IMPORTANT TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE FOR THE LOCAL AREA?

Housing affordability, education, water shortages in rural Australia and climate change. Social media and technology play a huge part in young people's lives today. In terms of our local area, more social and lifestyle opportunities for youth and more public spaces catering for young people would be great.

SHANE, CATHY – YOU'VE SEEN LOTS OF CHANGES IN THE LOCAL AREA.

Cathy: Yes, definitely. I lived in Macquarie Fields for many years and Shane grew up in Canberra. Our first home was in Minto before we moved to Leumeah. There are too many high-rises in Campbelltown now, which detract from the local area's character. The shops at Leumeah Station have a real sense of community, and it's much like a big country town where

people know you on a first-name basis. It'd be sad to see that change.

YOU MUST BE VERY PROUD OF YOUR BOYS.

Cathy - Yes, of course. I always say to the boys: 'Be proud of who you are and where you come from'.

LUKE – YOU'RE IN YEAR 11 NEXT YEAR. WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

I'm interested in politics. I believe in advocating to help improve people's lives and giving people a voice. Whatever I do in life, I'm sure it will involve service to others.

LUKE AND NATHAN – HOW DO YOU SPEND YOUR SPARE TIME?

Like so many other young people, we enjoy watching Netflix and Stan. Some of our favourite shows are Brooklyn Nine Nine, Derry Girls, Riverdale, Friday Night Dinner and our family favourite – The Crown. We also enjoy reading, going to the movies and catching up with friends.

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 **9618 2077**, email macquariefields@parliament.nsw.gov.au or visit letsbackanoulack.com

Authorised by Anoulack Chanthivong MP, Member for Macquarie Fields, Shop 3, 2-6 Oxford Rd, Ingleburn.
Printed by Jeffries Printing, 5/71a Millperra Rd, Revesby, using parliamentary entitlements. October 2019.

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