



**New South Wales**

# **Legislative Assembly**

## **PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES (HANSARD)**

**Fifty-Eighth Parliament  
First Session**

**Tuesday 9 May 2023**

Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**Tuesday 9 May 2023**

The House met at 10:00 pursuant to the proclamation of Her Excellency the Governor.

**The Clerk** read the proclamation.

## *Members*

### GENERAL ELECTION OF MEMBERS

#### Return of Writs

**The CLERK:** I have received through the honourable Premier a list, without omission, certified by Her Excellency the Governor, of the names of the persons duly elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales at the general election of the members held on 25 March 2023.

I announce further that with Her Excellency's certification the 93 writs of election were duly returned before the day on which they were legally returnable. I place the list upon the table of the House.

## *Opening of Session*

### MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

**The Usher of the Black Rod**, being admitted, delivered a message from the Commissioners empowered by Her Excellency the Governor to open this session of Parliament requesting the immediate attendance of the members of this honourable House in the Legislative Council Chamber to hear the Commission for the Opening of Parliament read. The members of the House, having attended the Legislative Council Chamber, reassembled.

## *Members*

### COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER THE PLEDGE OF LOYALTY, OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE

**The CLERK:** I inform the House that Her Excellency the Governor has issued a Commission under the Public Seal of the State authorising the Hon. Christopher John Minns, MP, the Hon. Prudence Ann Car, MP, and the Hon. Ryan Mark John Park, MP, to administer the pledge of loyalty, oath or affirmation of allegiance required by law to be taken or made by members of the Assembly.

**The Clerk** read the Commission.

### PLEDGE OF LOYALTY, OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE

The following members took and subscribed the pledge of loyalty, oath or affirmation of allegiance and signed the Roll of the House:

Christopher John Minns	Anoulack Chanthivong
Prudence Ann Car	Jennifer Kathleen Aitchison
Ryan John Park	James Henry Griffin
Justin Paul Clancy	Michael John Daley
Lynda Jane Voltz	Eleni Marie Petinos
Tanya Davies	Steven James Robert Whan
Tamara Francine Smith	Edmond Atalla
Kobi Lee Shetty	Helen Jennifer Dalton
Jihad Dib	Tanya Louise Thompson
Royal Francis Butler	Timothy Carson Crakanthorp
Paul Lawrence Toole	Jenny Leong
Michael Joseph Holland	Felicity Lesley Wilson
Stephen Louis Bali	Adam John Marshall
Trisha Lee Doyle	Mark Joseph Coure

Tri Dung Vo	Philip Donato
Sally Anne Quinnell	Michael Peter Kemp
Gregory Charles Warren	Donna Frances Reeman Davis
Sophie Cotsis	Karen Anna McKeown
Mark Robert Hodges	Roderick Gilmore Amon
Clayton Gordon Barr	Leslie Gladys Williams
Jodie Elizabeth Harrison	Kate Rebecca Washington
Richard James Williamson	Paul Joseph Hugh McDermott
Gurmesh Singh	Warren Eric Kirby
Marjorie Spooner O'Neill	Stephen Kamper
Stephanie Anne Cooke	Jordan Rae Tyler Lane
Mark Raymond Speakman	Anna Watson
Matthew Thomas Cross	Liza Anne Butler
Stephanie Marie Di Pasqua	Jason Yat-Sen Li
Dugald William Saunders	Joanna Elizabeth Haylen
Kylie Anne Wilkinson	Yasmin Catley
Dominic Francis Perrottet	Alexander Hart Greenwich
David Saliba	Kevin John Anderson
Liesl Dorothy Tesch	Adam Sibery Crouch
Wendy Margaret Tuckerman	David Mehan
Julia Dorothy Finn	Geoffrey Keith Provest
Robyn Anne Preston	David Robert Layzell
Maryanne Norma Stuart	Kellie Anne Sloane
Ron Hoenig	Joseph Gregory McGirr
Tina Ayyad	Alister Andrew Henskens
Matthew John Kean	Michael John Regan
Raymond Craig Williams	Sonia Kathleen Hornery
Gareth James Ward	Timothy Charles James
Gregory Michael Piper	Mark Owen Taylor
Nathan Matthew Hagarty	Judith Anne Hannan
Janelle Anne Saffin	Paul Scully
Charishma Kaliyanda	David Robert Harris

*Presiding Officers*

**SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**Election**

**The CLERK:** In accordance with the provisions of section 31B of the Constitution Act and standing orders 10A and 10B, I call for nominations for the office of Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

I declare nominations closed.

There being only one valid nomination received, I declare Gregory Michael Piper, the member for Lake Macquarie, elected as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

*Mr Greg Piper was taken out of his place by Mr Alex Greenwich and Dr Joe McGirr and conducted to the chair.*

**Mr GREG PIPER (Lake Macquarie) (11:04):** As Speaker-elect, standing on the upper step of the Speaker's rostrum: Members, with your indulgence, before I take the chair I will deliver a few words. I happen to have something prepared. I first acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora nation, the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet and I pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. I wish also to

acknowledge the Awabakal people, the traditional custodians of the land of the Lake Macquarie electorate and the greater region, and likewise pay my respects to their Elders past, present and future.

I am so pleased that my wife, Lyn, along with my family, including my sons, Danny, Chris and Jesse, are here today, as are my staff who have supported me for many years—indeed, who have done the heavy lifting within the electorate office. No member would disagree that without our families and staff we could not achieve what we do for our communities. I thank Belinda, Jason—behind me—Kim, Alex, Debbie, Madeleine, Trudy and our much-loved, recently retired Dianne Sykes, who was with me for 15 years along the way.

As I stand here, it is close to 16 years to the minute since I stood at the table delivering my inaugural speech to the Fifty-Fourth Parliament. That was one week after I lost my father, Keith, and the day following his funeral. It is with regret that both he and my mother, Hazel, cannot be with my family today. They are ultimately the reason I am here now. I am, however, very pleased that my sister, Maureen, could be here with me. It is both an honour and a privilege to have been elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Fifty-Eighth Parliament, not just because of the valuable traditions and place it holds in the history of New South Wales but also because it reflects the trust you have placed in me to uphold those traditions and guide our debates while we grow our great State and confirm its place among the best, the most diverse, the most inclusive and the most respected in the country and in the Commonwealth.

It is also a privilege because this is an extremely notable day in the history of our Parliament. Premier, Deputy Premier, you both, along with your leadership team, have established a ministerial Cabinet as close to representative of our community that we have ever had in New South Wales, most notably in gender. For the first time, women make up half the Government's frontbench and for the first time we will have female Ministers for Police and Counter-terrorism, Energy, Natural Resources, Regional New South Wales, Transport and Finance. It marks a significant historical shift and one that I am sure every member of this Parliament is delighted to see. I congratulate Premier Minns on this significant milestone, and I congratulate those first female Ministers, many of whom represent regional electorates—and not too few of them in the Hunter.

In March 2019 Gladys Berejiklian became the first woman to lead her party to an election win as Premier. Just eight years ago we elected the first female Speaker of this House, the former member for South Coast, Shelley Hancock. Of course, the first female Premier of our State was Kristina Keneally. Along with those women, you are breaking new and historic ground. I feel very privileged to be part of the history you are making, and I wish you all well. While I have referenced the number of women now sitting on the Government front bench, the achievement of all the ministry should be acknowledged. I congratulate each and every one of you and wish you well.

I extend my thanks to the new Opposition Leader, Mark Speakman; the Leader of the Nationals, Dugald Saunders; and all of those on the Opposition benches, in particular those who were part of the previous Government and who led us through the challenging and anxious years of the COVID pandemic. Being in opposition can no doubt be difficult—I have not experienced it, but I am told it is—but having an effective Opposition is a vital part of our system, and I wish you all well.

I also wish to acknowledge the new Leader of the House, the member for Heffron, Ron Hoenig, and the Manager of Opposition Business, the member for Wahroonga, Alister Henskens, both of whom I have enjoyed working with in the previous Parliament. I am confident that they will be a source of wisdom and wise counsel for members across this Parliament during this term. Neither side of the House could operate effectively without Whips. I look forward to working with the member for Monaro and member for Terrigal in their respective roles as Whips for the Government and Opposition. I also turn to another piece of history which is playing out today. There is a record number of crossbench members, with three Greens and nine Independents, representing nearly 13 per cent of the Legislative Assembly membership. I believe my friend and colleague the member for Sydney, Alex Greenwich, and I have shown in recent years that great progressive change can be achieved in this Chamber from the crossbench and, by its very nature, requires the ability to work with members across the Parliament. I look forward to more of this in the Fifty-Eighth Parliament.

My role will continue the work of previous Speakers. I would like to make special mention of the immediate former Speaker, Jonathan O'Dea, who diligently drove improvement in all aspects of parliamentary procedure and leaves the role with the utmost regard and respect of those who served here during his term. I thank former Speaker Jonathan O'Dea and his chief of staff, Paul Blanch, for their assistance in this transition, even though it was all good guesswork, but I really do appreciate it. Thank you.

I welcome all the new members of the Parliament and congratulate you on your election. You no doubt have family and friends here today in the gallery, in the theatre and at home, watching the live webcast of today's proceedings. They will be feeling immense pride in your achievement, and they should share this moment with you because, I imagine, they have contributed significantly to you being here. Your communities have

entrusted you to represent their interests in this House. I recommend that you embrace the history and traditions and the protocols that are being played out around you today, as they are a part of a system which has served our State well for almost 170 years.

That brings me to my final but very important acknowledgement—the parliamentary executive team, Department of Parliamentary Services [DPS] staff, member support teams and other staff. Getting the Parliament to run as it does requires a monumental effort. As you can see in the halls around you, preparing for today's arrival of the Fifty-Eighth Parliament has had some added challenges. We are meeting in the oldest building in Sydney; it is finally getting the attention required and that has been well overdue. Within this building is an incredible team which has worked hard to prepare for your arrival. To the Clerk, Helen Minnican; the Deputy Clerk, Carly Maxwell; and their team, I thank you for your personal support of me and for the work that has gone into preparing for this new four-year term. Members can have confidence that they will have the best possible guidance from this highly experienced team. Similarly, I extend my sincerest gratitude to Mark Webb and the DPS team, who have been extremely busy over the past six months, not just in preparing for today but in guiding the restoration of this very Chamber and other parts of this grand and historic place while the rest of us were distracted by Christmas and an election.

The first Speaker of this House was Sir Daniel Cooper, back in 1856. He was, apparently, generally hounded by his colleagues and Opposition members for his attempts to be impartial. Of course, at the very least he was lucky to have kept his head, something not always guaranteed in earlier Westminster parliaments. Nevertheless, I come here as an Independent Speaker in the truest sense of the word. I will encourage robust debate. I will not tolerate disrespect or abuse of other members, the abuse of staff nor the abuse of privileges. That—I am sure all would agree—should be a foundational principle of members given the privilege to serve in this House. Of course, all members of this House have the ability to use parliamentary privilege, and I hasten to say that this should be used with utmost consideration and care. On the very day that I first became a member of this House Independent Speaker Torbay said:

... parliamentary privilege is for the public interest and not for the personal or political interest.

I agree. As Speaker I will do my best to be impartial and uphold the standing orders and precedent rulings. This is a Parliament for the people. We have traditions and standards to uphold, but we have also a duty to improve them and an obligation to apply contemporary standards to them. I make my own commitment to that aim, and I pledge to work across the Parliament to ensure that we can achieve the best possible results.

In my inaugural speech 16 years ago, I spoke about the many challenges that we as a Parliament face, the challenges that our State faces and the challenges that our communities face. We still have many challenges. Some are new, some are deeply entrenched and some, perhaps, not yet foreseen. We have economic and deep social challenges, including housing and cost-of-living pressures; we have environmental challenges with our climate and a transitioning energy industry; and we have educational challenges—to name a few. The people have entrusted all of us to meet those challenges, and you are now in a position, as am I, to do something about them. We must deliver on the trust that the people of our communities and this State have placed on us, and we must always make decisions that are in the best interests of the people that sent us here and the people of New South Wales. I thank Premier Minns sincerely and all members for entrusting me with this role. I commit to you that I shall do my best to live up to the honour and responsibility you have given me in electing me to serve as Speaker of the Fifty-Eighth Parliament. Thank you.

*Members and officers of the House stood and applauded.*

**The Speaker (The Hon. Gregory Michael Piper)** took the chair.

**Mr CHRIS MINNS (Kogarah—Premier) (11:16):** It falls to me, Mr Speaker, if I could seek the call, to congratulate you on your election unopposed to this important position. I understand that when you were elected in 2007 you won by just 106 votes. You have beaten that, sweeping the pool 93-0, which is fantastic, although I did notice that you did not put up much of a struggle when you were dragged to the chair moments ago.

**The SPEAKER:** Some people say I am easy, Premier, but do not rely on it all the time.

**Mr CHRIS MINNS:** No, of course. Mr Speaker, it is fitting that you have received unanimous support for this important position in the House with the important function of guiding the deliberations in this Chamber. You have developed a reputation for integrity and independence during your period in office and I know that on all sides of Parliament—I think I can speak for every member—we believe that the Legislative Assembly is in good hands under your stewardship. It is important that I am speaking for the first time on this side of the Chamber, endorsing an Independent Speaker, recognising that this is a minority Parliament and that the decisions will be judged on their merits as each vote is put to the floor of this Parliament.

It is also important to note that this Parliament can operate with integrity and respect as its watchwords. I acknowledge the former Premier, who is here as well. The last election showed that politics in New South Wales does not have to be a race to the bottom. We can disagree without being disagreeable to each other. We can take the personality politics out of the affairs of state of the people of New South Wales.

From the Government's perspective, Mr Speaker, we approach this parliamentary sitting with humility and purpose. We have a purposeful agenda, which we will put to the floor of this Parliament. We come to those questions with a sense of humility. In other words, we must make the case to this Parliament to get our legislative agenda through. I make that pledge to all members of Parliament. Finally, I congratulate all re-elected MPs and warmly congratulate new members of Parliament. This is a special day for them and their families, and the Government hopes that they enjoy it.

**Mr MARK SPEAKMAN (Cronulla) (11:18):** Mr Speaker, on behalf of the Opposition, congratulations on your election as the Speaker of the Fifty-Eighth Parliament, a role—we have no doubt—you will fulfil with diligence and distinction. We acknowledge that your goal is to maintain debate that is not only robust but also respectful and befitting of the institution in which we have the great privilege and duty to serve—the oldest Parliament in this great country. It is often said that the standard you walk past is the standard you accept. Regrettably, conduct in this place has not always been what it should be—respectful and inclusive.

This place belongs to the people of New South Wales. Every member representing every community has the right to be heard, considered and responded to with dignity, respect and decency, regardless of their gender, race, sexuality or background. But that is not an unfettered right. Each of us must take responsibility for, and own, our own behaviour. Hate, discrimination and intolerance have no place in our society, and they certainly have no place in this Parliament. We look to you, Mr Speaker, to set the tone and to guide the conduct in the Fifty-Eighth Parliament according to modern values and a mentality of service, not self. We look to you to adjudicate disagreements, where they arise, with impartiality and independence.

Those of us who had the honour of working alongside you in the Fifty-Seventh Parliament and earlier parliaments know you to be fair, hardworking and collegiate. In your inaugural speech you committed to use your time and direct your endeavours in this place to work cooperatively for the good of the people of New South Wales. You have embodied that spirit throughout the 16 years of representing your community of Lake Macquarie. In taking up this important and historic office, you will be at the epicentre of promoting that same spirit of collaboration across this Parliament. The Coalition looks forward to working with you to uphold the cornerstones of vibrant democracy and accountable government, and to maintain the public's confidence in this place. Congratulations and best wishes.

**The SPEAKER:** I thank the member.

**Mr CHRIS MINNS:** I inform the House that the Lieutenant-Governor will receive the House in the Jubilee Room at Parliament House at 12.30 p.m. today for the purpose of presenting the Speaker.

#### DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

##### Election

**Mr RON HOENIG (Heffron—Minister for Local Government) (11:21):** I move:

That Ms Sonia Kathleen Hornery be appointed Deputy Speaker.

**Mr RYAN PARK (Keira—Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast) (11:21):** I second the motion.

**Motion agreed to.**

**The SPEAKER:** It gives me great pleasure to declare the member for Wallsend to be elected as Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Congratulations. I know that is heartfelt across the House. I am very much looking forward to working with you.

#### ASSISTANT SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

##### Election

**Mr RON HOENIG (Heffron—Minister for Local Government) (11:22):** I move:

That Mr Jason Yat-Sen Li be appointed Assistant Speaker.

**Mr RYAN PARK (Keira—Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast) (11:23):** I second the motion.

**Motion agreed to.**

**The SPEAKER:** I declare the member for Strathfield to be elected as Assistant Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. I acknowledge the member for Strathfield and, once again, the member for Wallsend. I am very much looking forward to working with you and delivering for the Legislative Assembly. Thank you for joining with me.

*Bills*

**LAW OF EVIDENCE BILL 2023**

**First Reading**

**Bill introduced on motion by Mr Chris Minns, read a first time and printed.**

*Opening of Session*

**MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONERS**

**The SPEAKER:** I report that the House this day attended the Commissioners in the Legislative Council Chamber, where a Commission for the Opening of Parliament was read and a message to the Legislative Assembly was delivered. I lay the Commission upon the table of the House and order that it be recorded in the *Votes and Proceedings*.

*Members*

**MINISTRY**

**Mr CHRIS MINNS:** I inform the House that on 28 March 2023 the Hon. Dominic Francis Perrottet submitted his resignation as Premier to Her Excellency the Governor. Her Excellency then commissioned me to form a new ministry. On the same day I was sworn as a member of the Executive Council and as Premier. Seven other members were appointed by Her Excellency the Governor as members of the Executive Council and to certain ministerial offices:

The Hon. Prudence Ann Car, MP  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Education and Early Learning

The Hon. Penelope Gail Sharpe, MLC  
Minister for the Environment  
Minister for Heritage  
Vice-President of the Executive Council

The Hon. John Graham, MLC  
Special Minister of State  
Minister for Roads  
Minister for the Arts  
Minister for Night-time Economy and Music

The Hon. Daniel Mookhey, MLC  
Treasurer  
Minister for the Gig Economy

The Hon. Ryan John Park, MP  
Minister for Health and Regional Health  
Minister for Mental Health  
Minister for the Illawarra and South Coast

The Hon. Joanna Elizabeth Haylen, MP  
Minister for Transport

The Hon. Michael John Daley, MP  
Attorney General

I further inform the House that on 5 April 2023, with a view to reconstructing the ministry, I submitted to Her Excellency the Governor my resignation as Premier and member of the Executive Council. That action involved the resignation of all Ministers. Her Excellency then commissioned me to form a new ministry. On the same day I was sworn as a member of the Executive Council and as Premier. Twenty-two other members were appointed by Her Excellency the Governor as members of the Executive Council and to certain ministerial offices:

The Hon. Prudence Ann Car, MP  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Education and Early Learning  
Minister for Western Sydney

The Hon. Penelope Gail Sharpe, MLC  
Minister for Climate Change  
Minister for Energy  
Minister for the Environment  
Minister for Heritage

The Hon. John Graham, MLC  
Special Minister of State  
Minister for Roads  
Minister for the Arts  
Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy  
Minister for Jobs and Tourism

The Hon. Daniel Mookhey, MLC  
Treasurer

The Hon. Ryan John Park, MP  
Minister for Health  
Minister for Regional Health  
Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast

The Hon. Joanna Elizabeth Haylen, MP  
Minister for Transport

The Hon. Paul Scully, MP  
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

The Hon. Sophie Cotsis, MP  
Minister for Industrial Relations  
Minister for Work Health and Safety

The Hon. Yasmin Maree Catley, MP  
Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism

The Hon. Jihad Dib, MP  
Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government  
Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister for Youth Justice

The Hon. Kate Rebecca Washington, MP  
Minister for Families and Communities  
Minister for Disability Inclusion

The Hon. Michael John Daley, MP  
Attorney General

The Hon. Tara Moriarty, MLC  
Minister for Agriculture  
Minister for Regional New South Wales  
Minister for Western New South Wales

The Hon. Ron Hoenig, MP  
Minister for Local Government  
Vice-President of the Executive Council

The Hon. Courtney Houssos, MLC  
Minister for Finance  
Minister for Natural Resources

The Hon. Stephen Kamper, MP  
Minister for Small Business  
Minister for Lands and Property  
Minister for Multiculturalism  
Minister for Sport

The Hon. Rose Jackson, MLC  
Minister for Water  
Minister for Housing  
Minister for Homelessness  
Minister for Mental Health  
Minister for Youth  
Minister for the North Coast

The Hon. Anoulack Chanthivong, MP  
Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading  
Minister for Industry and Trade  
Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology  
Minister for Building  
Minister for Corrections

The Hon. Timothy Carson Crakanthorp, MP

Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education  
Minister for the Hunter

The Hon. David Robert Harris, MP  
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty  
Minister for Gaming and Racing  
Minister for Veterans  
Minister for Medical Research  
Minister for the Central Coast

The Hon. Jodie Elizabeth Harrison, MP  
Minister for Women  
Minister for Seniors  
Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

The Hon. Jennifer Kathleen Aitchison, MP  
Minister for Regional Transport and Roads

### REPRESENTATION OF MINISTERS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**Mr CHRIS MINNS:** I inform the House of the representation of Legislative Council Ministers in the Legislative Assembly:

The Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage.

The Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism.

The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Treasurer and Minister for Finance, and Minister for Natural Resources.

The Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales.

The Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast.

### PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES

**Mr CHRIS MINNS:** I inform the House that on 1 May 2023 the following members were appointed as Parliamentary Secretaries:

Ms Julia Dorothy Finn, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier  
Parliamentary Secretary for the Arts

Mr Gregory Charles Warren, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier  
Parliamentary Secretary for Education and Early Learning  
Parliamentary Secretary for Western Sydney

Ms Trisha Lee Doyle, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change  
Parliamentary Secretary for Energy  
Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment  
Parliamentary Secretary for Heritage

Dr Paul Joseph Hugh McDermott, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General

Mr David Raymond Mehan, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer

Dr Michael Joseph Holland, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary for Health  
Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Health

Dr Marjorie Spooner O'Neill, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary for Transport

Mr Stephen Louis Bali, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary for Planning and Public Spaces

The Hon. Mark Buttigieg, MLC  
Parliamentary Secretary for Industrial Relations  
Parliamentary Secretary for Work Health and Safety  
Parliamentary Secretary for Multiculturalism

Mr Edmond Atalla, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary for Police and Counter-terrorism

Ms Liesl Dorothy Tesch, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary for Families and Communities  
Parliamentary Secretary for Disability Inclusion

Ms Anna Watson, MP  
Parliamentary Secretary for Roads  
Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Transport and Roads

The Hon. Anthony D'Adam, MLC  
Parliamentary Secretary for Customer Service and Digital Government  
Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Services  
Parliamentary Secretary for Youth Justice

### **LEADER OF THE HOUSE**

**Mr CHRIS MINNS:** I inform the House that on 5 April 2023 Ron Hoenig was elected as Leader of the House.

### **GOVERNMENT WHIP AND DEPUTY GOVERNMENT WHIP**

**Mr CHRIS MINNS:** I inform the House that on 3 May 2023 Steven James Robert Whan was elected as Government Whip and Janelle Anne Saffin was elected as Deputy Government Whip.

### **LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE LIBERAL PARTY AND OPPOSITION WHIP**

**Mr MARK SPEAKMAN:** I inform the House that on 21 April 2023 I was elected as Leader of the Opposition, and that on 8 May 2023 Natalie Peta Ward, MLC, was elected as Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party and Robyn Anne Preston was elected as Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly. I further inform the House that on 21 April 2023 Adam Sibery Crouch was elected as Opposition Whip.

### **LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE NATIONALS AND NATIONALS WHIP**

**Mr DUGALD SAUNDERS:** I inform the House that on 8 May 2023 I was elected as Leader of The Nationals, and that on 5 April 2023 the Hon. Bronnie Taylor, MLC, was re-elected as Deputy Leader of The Nationals and Gurmeh Singh was re-elected as The Nationals Whip.

### *Announcements*

### **ABORIGINAL CULTURE AND HERITAGE**

**The SPEAKER (11:28):** I shall now give an acknowledgement and promotion of Aboriginal culture and heritage. Before we proceed to the level 9 rooftop garden for the welcome to country and to participate in the smoking ceremony, I wish to make the following statement. In 2016 the Legislative Council committee inquiry into reparations for members of the Stolen Generations recommended that each new Parliament commence with an acknowledgement of the strength and importance of Aboriginal cultures and heritage. The first acknowledgement was given at the opening of the Fifty-Seventh Parliament in 2019. The past injustices against Aboriginal people in New South Wales cannot be denied or undone; rather, it is how this Parliament, on behalf of the people of New South Wales, responds to the telling of these truths.

We must be willing to listen and acknowledge our shared history as told from the eyes of Aboriginal people. We will work together with Aboriginal people to heal the pain of historic wrongs and, empowered by this knowledge of our history, create better futures for all people of New South Wales. It is through working together that the New South Wales Parliament has achieved important milestones on the journey of reconciliation. We enacted the Aboriginal Lands Rights Act in 1983, which established the New South Wales Aboriginal land council system. In 1997 we were the first Parliament in Australia to formally apologise to members of the Stolen Generation. In 2010 we amended the New South Wales Constitution to formally acknowledge and honour New South Wales First Peoples, their culture, their connections to land and waters, and their contribution to the identity of the State. In 2017 we enacted the Aboriginal Languages Act, which was another Australian first. I acknowledge the member for Port Macquarie for her contribution.

Only by acknowledging and respecting the past can we focus our commitment and action to listen and change the future. As members of this Parliament we have the power and responsibility to achieve more for the wellbeing of all, by working closer with Aboriginal people, by understanding the truth of our history, and by strengthening our understanding of Aboriginal cultures and heritage. I thank the House. I understand His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor is about to arrive. Protocol dictates that I welcome His Excellency along with the President of the Legislative Council. As indicated, a smoking ceremony is to take place on the level 9 rooftop garden. All members are invited to participate. Members must return promptly to the Chamber after the smoking ceremony. I shall now leave the chair.

*The Speaker left the chair at 11:31. The House resumed at 12:30.*

*Presiding Officers*

### **SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

#### **Presentation**

*The members of the Legislative Assembly proceeded at 12:35 to the Jubilee Room, there to present the Speaker to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.*

*The House resumed at 14:30.*

**The SPEAKER:** I report that today the Assembly proceeded to the Jubilee Room at Parliament House where I informed the Lieutenant-Governor that immediately after the opening of Parliament the Legislative Assembly, in the exercise of members' undoubted rights, had proceeded to the election of their Speaker and that the choice had fallen upon me. I presented myself to the Lieutenant-Governor as their Speaker, whereupon the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to offer me his congratulations. I then, in the name and on behalf of the House, laid claim to all members' undoubted rights and privileges, particularly to freedom of speech in debate, to free access to Her Excellency the Governor when occasion should require, and asked that the most favourable construction should, on all occasions, be put upon their language and proceedings, to all of which the Lieutenant-Governor readily assented.

*Opening of Session*

### **MESSAGE FROM THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR**

**The Usher of the Black Rod,** being admitted, delivered a message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor requesting the immediate attendance of this honourable House in the Legislative Council Chamber.

*The members of the House, having attended the Legislative Council Chamber, reassembled.*

*Governor*

### **LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S SPEECH**

**The SPEAKER:** I have to report that the House today attended the Lieutenant-Governor in the Legislative Council Chamber, where His Excellency was pleased to deliver an opening speech to both Houses of Parliament. For greater accuracy, I have obtained a copy of the speech, which I lay upon the table of the House and order that it be recorded in the *Votes and Proceedings*.

*Members*

### **ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF BANKSTOWN**

#### **Resignation**

**The SPEAKER:** I advise the House of receipt of a letter on 1 March 2023 from Tania Mihailuk resigning her seat as member for the electoral district of Bankstown.

*Announcements*

### **DEATH OF STEPHEN BRUCE BROMHEAD, FORMER MEMBER FOR MYALL LAKES**

**The SPEAKER (15:24):** It is with regret that I inform the House of the death on 16 March 2023 of Stephen Bruce Bromhead, who served as the member for Myall Lakes from 26 March 2011 to 16 March 2023. On behalf of the House, I extend to Mr Bromhead's family the deep sympathy of the Legislative Assembly in the loss sustained. Mr Bromhead's death will be the subject of a motion of condolence on a future day.

*Members and officers of the House stood as a mark of respect.*

*Presiding Officers*

### **TEMPORARY SPEAKERS**

**The SPEAKER:** Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 19, I nominate the following members to act as Temporary Speakers whenever requested to do so by, or in the absence of, the Deputy Speaker and the Assistant Speaker:

Alexander Hart Greenwich  
David Robert Layzell  
Clayton Gordon Barr

These are my first three nominations. I will confirm my further nominations in due course.

*Bills*

**ENERGY AND UTILITIES ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022**

**Assent**

**The SPEAKER:** I report receipt of a message from the Governor notifying Her Excellency's assent to the bill.

*Governor*

**ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT**

**The SPEAKER:** I report receipt of a message regarding the administration of the Government.

*Standing Orders*

**STANDING ORDERS**

**The SPEAKER:** I report a communication from Her Excellency the Governor, dated 20 February 2023, approving the amended standing orders for the Legislative Assembly as adopted by the House on 17 November 2022.

*Members*

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL VACANCY**

**The SPEAKER:** I report receipt of a message from Her Excellency the Governor regarding vacancies in the Legislative Council following the resignations of the Hon. Mark Latham and the Hon. Natasha Maclaren-Jones. I direct that the joint sitting with the Legislative Council for the election of members of the Legislative Council be set down as an order of the day for 2.15 p.m. on Wednesday 10 May 2023.

*Senate*

**SENATE VACANCY**

**The SPEAKER:** I report receipt of a message from Her Excellency the Governor notifying that a vacancy has happened in the representation of the State of New South Wales in the Senate of the Commonwealth of Australia through the death of Senator Andrew James "Jim" Molan, AO, DSC, which occurred on 16 January 2023.

**Mr RON HOENIG:** I move:

That:

- (1) The House meet in the Legislative Council for the purpose of sitting and voting together to choose a person to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Andrew James "Jim" Molan, AO, DSC.
- (2) A message be sent informing the Legislative Council of the resolution and requesting the Legislative Council to fix a time and place for the joint sitting.

**Motion agreed to.**

*Documents*

**LAW ENFORCEMENT CONDUCT COMMISSION**

**Reports**

**The SPEAKER:** In accordance with section 138 of the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission Act 2016, I announce receipt of the following reports:

- (1) Report of the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission entitled *Review of NSW Police Force Use of Force Reporting*, dated February 2023, received 21 February 2023.
- (2) Report of the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission entitled *Review of the operation of amendments to the consorting law under Part 3A Division 7 of the Crimes Act 1900*, dated February 2023, received 28 February 2023.

I order that the reports be printed.

**INSPECTOR OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION****Reports**

**The SPEAKER:** In accordance with section 77A of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988, I announce receipt of the report of the Inspector of the Independent Commission Against Corruption entitled *Special Report 2023/01: Audit of the welfare of witnesses and other people involved in ICAC investigations*, received 22 February 2023. I order that the report be printed.

**NSW OMBUDSMAN****Reports**

**The CLERK:** In accordance with section 31 of the Ombudsman Act 1974, I announce receipt of the special report to Parliament by the NSW Ombudsman entitled *Aboriginal Outcomes Strategy focus area 2 (out-of-home care) – were the targets achieved?*, dated 28 February 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.

**NSW SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSIONER****Reports**

**The SPEAKER:** In accordance with section 25 of the Small Business Commissioner Act 2013, I announce receipt of the report of the Small Business Commissioner for 2022, received 2 March 2023. I order that the report be printed.

**INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION****Reports**

**The SPEAKER:** In accordance with section 74 of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988, I announce receipt of the report of the Independent Commission Against Corruption entitled *Investigation into the awarding of roads and traffic authority and roads and maritime services contracts (Operation Paragon)*, dated March 2023, received 7 March 2023. I order that the report be printed.

**AUDITOR-GENERAL****Reports**

**The CLERK:** In accordance with section 52A of the Government Sector Audit Act 1983, I announce receipt of the Financial Audit Report of the Auditor-General entitled *State Finances 2022*, dated 22 December 2022, received out of session and authorised to be printed.

In accordance with section 52B of the Government Sector Audit Act 1983, I announce receipt of the Financial Audit Report of the Auditor-General entitled *Treasury 2022*, dated 23 December 2022, received out of session and authorised to be printed.

In accordance with section 38EC of the Government Sector Audit Act 1983, I announce receipt of the following reports:

- (1) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor-General entitled *Design and implementation of the Transport Asset Holding Entity*, dated 24 January 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.
- (2) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor-General entitled *Bushfire recovery grants*, dated 2 February 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.
- (3) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor-General entitled *Cyber Security NSW: governance, roles, and responsibilities*, dated 8 February 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.
- (4) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor-General entitled *Government's acquisition of private property: Sydney Metro project*, dated 9 February 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.
- (5) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor-General entitled *Planning and managing bushfire equipment*, dated 27 February 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.
- (6) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor-General entitled *Government advertising 2021-22*, dated 28 February 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.
- (7) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor-General entitled *NSW government agencies' use of consultants*, dated 2 March 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.

**OFFICE OF TRANSPORT SAFETY INVESTIGATIONS AND AUSTRALIAN TRANSPORT SAFETY BUREAU****Reports**

**The CLERK:** In accordance with section 46D of the Passenger Transport Act 1990, I announce receipt of the report of the Office of Transport Safety Investigations and Australian Transport Safety Bureau entitled *Speed restriction not applied, allowing train ST24 to overspeed, Harefield, NSW, 29 June 2021*, dated 3 February 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.

**OFFICE OF TRANSPORT SAFETY INVESTIGATIONS****Reports**

**The CLERK:** In accordance with section 46D of the Passenger Transport Act 1990, I announce receipt of the report of the Office of Transport Safety Investigations entitled *Rockfish 3 collision with John Cadman 3, 12 December 2021*, dated February 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.

**INDEPENDENT PRICING AND REGULATORY TRIBUNAL****Reports**

**The CLERK:** In accordance with section 33 of the Sydney Water Act 1994, I announce receipt of the report of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal entitled *Sydney Water 2022 operational audit: Report to the Minister*, dated February 2023, received out of session on 2 March 2023 and authorised to be printed.

*Committees***COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE****Government Response**

**The CLERK:** I announce receipt of the Government response to report No. 4/57 of the Committee on Children and Young People entitled *Support for Children of Imprisoned Parents in New South Wales*, received out of session on 22 December 2022 and authorised to be printed.

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROAD SAFETY****Government Response**

**The CLERK:** I announce receipt of the Government response to Government response to report No. 3/57 of the Joint Standing Committee on Road Safety entitled *Support for rural and regional learner drivers*, received out of session on 9 January 2023 and authorised to be printed.

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON LAW AND SAFETY****Government Response**

**The CLERK:** I announce receipt of the Government response to report No. 3/57 of the Legislative Assembly Committee on Law and Safety entitled *Embedded Networks in New South Wales*, received out of session on 17 February 2023 and authorised to be printed.

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES****Government Response**

**The CLERK:** I announce receipt of the Government response to report No. 2/57 of the Legislative Committee on Community Services entitled *Options to improve access to existing and alternate accommodation to address the social housing shortage*, received out of session on 21 February 2023 and authorised to be printed.

**COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE****Government Response**

**The CLERK:** I announce receipt of the Government response to report No. 5/57 of the Committee on Children and Young People entitled *2022 Review of the annual reports and other matters of the Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People and the Office of the Children's Guardian*, dated 24 April 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.

I announce receipt of the Government response 2 to report No.5/57 of the Committee on Children and Young People entitled *2022 Review of the annual reports and other matters of the Office of the Advocate for*

*Children and Young People and the Office of the Children's Guardian*, dated 2 May 2023, received out of session and authorised to be printed.

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Reports

**The CLERK:** I announce receipt of report No. 3/57 of the Legislative Assembly Committee on Community Services entitled *Improving crisis communications to culturally and linguistically diverse communities*, dated January 2023, received out of session on 19 January 2023 and authorised to be printed.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGE AND ETHICS

### Reports

**The CLERK:** I announce receipt of report No. 5/57 of the Standing Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics entitled *Further Interim Report: Parliamentary Privilege and the use of investigatory and intrusive powers*, dated February 2023, received out of session on 14 February 2023 and authorised to be printed.

### *Business of the House*

## DAYS OF MEETING

**Mr RON HOENIG:** I move:

That, unless otherwise ordered, the House meet during the 2023 autumn and spring sittings as follows:

Autumn Sittings: May 9, 10, 11, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31; June 1, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29.

Spring Sittings: August 1, 2, 3, 22, 23, 24; September 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21; October 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19; November 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30; and December 5, 6, 7 as a potential Reserve Week.

**Motion agreed to.**

### *Sessional Orders*

## SESSIONAL ORDERS

**Mr RON HOENIG (Heffron—Minister for Local Government) (15:31):** By leave: I move:

That the following sessional orders be now adopted:

### BELLS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 35 shall read as follows:

**35.** The timing for bells is as follows:

Tuesdays

Bells are rung at 11.45 a.m. for 20 seconds and at 11.58 a.m. for 60 seconds.

Wednesdays

Bells are rung at 9.45 a.m. for 20 seconds and at 9.58 a.m. for 60 seconds.

Thursdays

Bells are rung at 9.45 a.m. for 20 seconds and at 9.58 a.m. for 60 seconds.

After lunch

Bells are rung at 2.15 p.m. for 20 seconds and at 2.28 p.m. for 60 seconds.

Division

One continuous bell for four minutes.

Quorum

One long continuous bell (for up to four minutes until a quorum is present in the Chamber).

House adjournment

Two short bells.

One long bell

A continuous bell rung at the discretion of the Chair.

### RESTRICTION ON QUORUM CALLS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 45 shall read as follows:

45. Members shall not be permitted to call attention to the want of a quorum:

- (1) During Private Members' Statements or Community Recognition Statements;
- (2) During debate on a Petition signed by 10,000 or more persons;
- (3) During the take note debate on reports from committees; or
- (4) Before 10.30 a.m. on any sitting day.

#### ADJOURNMENT WITHOUT MOTION

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 46 shall read as follows:

46.

- (1) Unless otherwise ordered, the House shall be adjourned without motion moved at the conclusion of Private Members' Statements.
- (2) A Minister may at any time move without notice a motion for the adjournment of the House.

#### POSTPONING MEETING TIMES

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, the following Sessional Order be adopted:

47A.

- (1) When the House is not sitting the Government, in the public interest, may in writing to the Speaker or, in the absence of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, request an alternative day or hour for the next meeting of the House. If satisfied, the Speaker shall:
  - (a) Fix a day and time; and
  - (b) Communicate the day and time to all Members.
- (2) The Speaker's notification to each Member may be by electronic means.
- (3) This Sessional Order operates for the remainder of this session.

#### MATTERS NOT OPEN FOR DEBATE NOR AMENDMENT

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 80 shall read as follows:

80. The following matters are not open to debate nor amendment:

- (1) Adjournment of debate.
- (2) Adjournment of the House.
- (3) Extension of time.
- (4) Leave of the House.
- (5) Motion that a Member be suspended.
- (6) Motion that a Message be sent to the Legislative Council.
- (7) Motion that leave of absence be granted.
- (8) To withdraw or postpone an order of the day.
- (9) Personal explanation.
- (10) "That inspection of the paper be restricted to members only and that no copies or extracts thereof be permitted".
- (11) "That visitors be ordered to withdraw".
- (12) "That the bill be considered an urgent bill".
- (13) "That this bill be read at a later time".
- (14) "That the Order of the Day be discharged and the bill be withdrawn".
- (15) "That the Committee report be printed".
- (16) "That the Member for ... be further heard".
- (17) "That the Member for ... be not further heard".
- (18) "That the Member for ... be now heard".
- (19) "That the petition not be received".
- (20) "That the question be put as separate questions".
- (21) "That the question be now put".
- (22) "That the question be not now put".
- (23) "That the Member's speaking time be extended".

- (24) Motion to permit a Member to make an inaugural or valedictory speech.

MOTION "THAT THE QUESTION BE PUT"

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 86 shall read as follows:

**86.** A motion may be made by any Member, "That the question be now put". Such motion:

- (1) May be moved whilst another Member is addressing the House;
- (2) Shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate;
- (3) Must be carried by at least 30 Members in the affirmative; and
- (4) May not be moved before 10.30 a.m. on any day when the House meets at an earlier time.

SPEAKING TO PRIVILEGE

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 91 shall read as follows:

**91.**

- (1) A Member may rise on a matter of contempt or a breach of privilege suddenly arising relating to the proceedings then before the House. In order to move a substantive motion immediately or to request the Speaker to have a notice placed on the Business Paper with precedence, the Member must satisfy the Speaker that:
  - (a) the matter is one suddenly arising, relating to a matter then before the House which should be dealt with at the earliest opportunity;
  - (b) there is a prima facie case; and
  - (c) the Member has prepared a notice of motion.
- (2) When a matter of contempt or a breach of privilege suddenly arising relating to the proceedings then before the House is raised, the business before the House is suspended until the Speaker:
  - (a) determines that there is no matter of contempt or breach of privilege; or
  - (b) defers the matter and either continues or adjourns the business under consideration; or
  - (c) determines that a prima facie case exists and allows a notice of motion to be moved forthwith or to have precedence for the next sitting; or
  - (d) takes some other form of action.
- (3) The maximum time available to a Member to satisfy the Speaker in accordance with paragraph (1) of this Standing Order is 10 minutes. The Speaker may determine the matter prior to the expiration of the 10 minutes.
- (4) If the Speaker determines that a prima facie case exists the Member must move a motion seeking either:
  - (a) the declaration of the House that a contempt or breach of privilege has occurred; or
  - (b) the referral of the matter by the House to the Standing Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics for consideration.

ROUTINE OF BUSINESS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 97 shall read as follows:

**97.** The House shall conduct its business in the following routine:

Tuesdays

1. At 12.00 noon the Speaker takes the Chair
2. Giving of General Business Notices of Motion (General Notices), up to 15 minutes
3. Ministerial Statements
4. Giving of Notices of Motions (Government Business, Bills, Business with Precedence under Standing Order 118)
5. Question Time
6. Ministerial Statements
7. Papers
8. Committees – Tabling of reports and announcements
9. Petitions
10. Placing or Disposal of Business
11. Business with Precedence under Standing Order 118, if any, then Speaker to leave the Chair.
12. At 2.30 p.m., the Speaker resumes the Chair
13. Government Business
14. At 5.00 p.m., Public Interest Debate

15. Government Business (if required)
16. Community Recognition Statements
17. Private Members' Statements, after which the House shall adjourn without motion until the next sitting day.

## Wednesdays

1. At 10.00 a.m. the Speaker takes the Chair
2. Giving of General Business Notices of Motion (General Notices), up to 15 minutes
3. Government Business
4. At 11.00 a.m., Ministerial Statements
5. Giving of Notices of Motions (Government Business, Bills, Business with Precedence under Standing Order 118)
6. Question Time
7. Ministerial Statements
8. Papers
9. Committees – Tabling of reports and announcements
10. Petitions
11. Placing or Disposal of Business
12. Re-ordering of General Business Orders of the Day (for Bills)
13. Business with Precedence under Standing Order 118, if any
14. Government Business
15. At 1.00 p.m., Committee Reports – Take note debates, for up to 30 minutes, then the Speaker leaves the Chair
16. At 2.30 p.m., the Speaker resumes the Chair
17. Government Business
18. At 5.00 p.m., Public Interest Debate
19. Government Business (if required)
20. Community Recognition Statements
21. Private Members' Statements, after which the House shall adjourn without motion until the next sitting day.

## Thursdays

1. At 10.00 a.m. the Speaker takes the Chair
2. Giving of General Business Notices of Motion (General Notices), up to 15 minutes
3. General Business Notices of Motions for Bills for up to 20 minutes
4. General Business Orders of the Day for Bills for up to 90 minutes
5. At 11.00 a.m., Ministerial Statements
6. Giving of Notices of Motions (Government Business, Bills, Business with Precedence under Standing Order 118)
7. Question Time
8. Ministerial Statements
9. Papers
10. Committees – Tabling of reports and announcements
11. Petitions
12. Placing or Disposal of Business
13. Business with Precedence under Standing Order 118, if any
14. Resumption of General Business Orders of the Day for Bills, the Speaker leaves the Chair at the conclusion of the 90 minutes.
15. At 2.30 p.m., the Speaker resumes the Chair
16. General Business Notices of Motions or Orders of the Day (not being Bills)
17. At 3.40 p.m., Government Business for up to 20 minutes
18. At 4.00 p.m., Petition Debate
19. Community Recognition Statements for 30 minutes

20. Private Members' Statements, after which the House shall adjourn without motion until the next sitting day.

#### ESTABLISHING PROGRAM FOR GENERAL BUSINESS DAYS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 101 shall read as follows:

**101.** The procedure for establishing the program for General Business Days is as follows:

- (1) On Wednesdays, Members shall advise the Clerk in writing by 2.00 p.m. which General Business Notices of Motions for Bills, Orders of the Day for Bills, or Notices of Motions (not for Bills) standing in their name on the Business Paper are to be postponed. Party Whips may also advise the Clerk in writing of which items of General Business standing in the name of Members of their party are to be postponed.
- (2) The first ten notices on the Business Paper, not advised to be postponed by 2.00 p.m. on the day preceding a General Business Day, will be deemed to be proceeding. Any General Business Order of the Day for Bills re-ordered by the House to have precedence in accordance with Standing Orders 97 and 106 will retain such precedence.
- (3) On any day when General Business is being considered by the House, a Member may, without debate:
  - (a) withdraw or postpone any notice of motion standing in their name on the Business Paper for that day.
  - (b) postpone, or on motion, discharge an Order of the Day standing in their name on the Business Paper for that day.
  - (c) discharge an Order of the Day for a Bill on motion without debate or amendment, "That the Order of the Day be discharged and the Bill withdrawn".

#### PUBLIC INTEREST DEBATES

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 109 shall read as follows:

**109.** The procedure for the consideration of Public Interest Debates shall be as follows:

- (1) The notice of motion for debate must be submitted to the Speaker by 12.00 noon on the day of the debate.
- (2) The motion will be submitted by:
  - (a) Government – sitting day Tuesdays
  - (b) Opposition – first and second sitting day Wednesdays
  - (c) Cross bench – third sitting day Wednesdays
- (3) The Speaker will determine whether the notice is in order.
- (4) The Speaker will publish and announce the subject matter of the notice of motion in the House after the lunch break.
- (5) The following time limits shall apply to the debate:
 

Mover – 7 minutes

Six other Members – 5 minutes each

Reply – 3 minutes

Total – 40 minutes
- (6) At least one Member speaking in the debate must be from the cross bench.

#### LODGEMENT OF PAPER PETITIONS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 119 shall read as follows:

**119.** A paper petition must be lodged with the Clerk by 10 a.m. on the day it is to be reported to the House.

#### QUESTION TIME

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 131 shall read as follows:

**131.** The procedure for Question Time is as follows:

- (1) Questions are asked orally and may be read and are subject to the same rules as written questions but shall not be recorded in the Questions and Answers Paper.
- (2) An answer to a question must not exceed three minutes.
- (3) At the conclusion of the Minister's answer to a question, the member who asked the question may, at the discretion of the Speaker, seek additional information from the Minister. The Minister's response on the additional information must not exceed two minutes.
- (4) No question shall be asked after 55 minutes from the Speaker calling on questions or the answering of 14 questions, whichever is the longer. So long as Question Time has a maximum period that does not exceed 70 minutes.
- (5) One supplementary question per Question Time may be asked immediately by the Member asking the original question. The answer shall count as one of the 14 answers.
- (6) The Leader of the Opposition is entitled to be called first by the Speaker at the commencement of Question Time.

- (7) Ministers seeking to provide additional information to questions already answered at the current or a previous sitting shall do so at the conclusion of Question Time.
- (8) Crossbench Members of Parliament are permitted at least two questions per Question Time, at question number 5 and question number 13.
- (9) Points of order taken during an answer to a question should not be vexatious, repetitive, interfering or used to make a statement in response to the answer.
- (10) When under Standing Order 49A the Speaker has stopped the clock during an answer in Question Time, the Member's speaking time clock shall be stopped but the overall timing clock for Question Time shall continue to run.

#### WRITTEN QUESTIONS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 132 shall read as follows:

**132.** The procedure for written questions is as follows:

- (1) Questions shall be lodged in the Table Office by 12.00 noon on a sitting day for publication in the next sitting day's paper.
- (2) A question containing argument, unbecoming expressions or otherwise not conforming with the practice of the House may:
  - (a) Under the authority of the Speaker, be amended by the Clerk or divided if it contains matters that are not relevant to each other.
  - (b) Be ordered not to be printed by the Speaker or removed from the Questions and Answers Paper.
- (3) The number of questions able to be lodged over one sitting week are:
  - (a) Members – Nine questions per sitting week;
  - (b) Leader of the Opposition – Twelve questions per sitting week.
- (4) Ministers shall lodge answers to written questions within 35 calendar days after the question is first published. Answers must be submitted by 12.00 noon on the due date, to be published in the next sitting day's paper. Any answers lodged after this time will be published at a subsequent time. Answers must be signed and may be lodged in either hard copy or electronically.
- (5) If an answer to a written question is not received within 35 calendar days the Speaker, at the next sitting day after the expiry date, shall forthwith inform the House and the Minister shall immediately explain to the House the reason for non-compliance.
- (6) If the Minister, after explanation in the House, has not submitted an answer within 3 sitting days the Speaker shall again inform the House and the Minister shall again be called to explain. The Minister will continue to be called each sitting day until a written answer is submitted.

#### ENTITLEMENT TO VOTE

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 178 shall read as follows:

**178.** A Member shall only be entitled to vote in a division if present in the House after the doors are locked.

#### VOTE DISALLOWED ON MOTION

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 179 shall read as follows:

**179.** A Member's vote may be disallowed, by way of substantive motion moved without notice after the division is completed, on the grounds that the Member was not present in the House after the doors were locked.

#### PROCEDURE FOR DIVISION

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 180 shall read as follows:

**180.** When a division has been called for:

- (1) The Speaker shall order the division bells to be rung for 4 minutes.
- (2) Members present shall be seated – Ayes to the right and Noes to the left of the Chair.
- (3) After the time has expired the Speaker shall order the doors to be locked.
- (4) The Speaker shall put the question.
- (5) The Speaker shall appoint two tellers for each side.
- (6) Tellers may not decline to be appointed unless excused by the Speaker.
- (7) In the event of the tellers not agreeing, other tellers shall be appointed until there is agreement.
- (8) After counting the votes the tellers shall sign the record of the division and advise the Speaker of the result, who shall declare the result of the division.
- (9) No Member shall enter or leave the Chamber until after the doors are unlocked.

#### SUCCESSIVE DIVISIONS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 185 shall read as follows:

**185.** If a second division is called for and the bells rung following limited or no intervening debate after an earlier division and sufficient time has elapsed after the division bell has been rung, the Speaker may, with the leave of the House, order the doors to be locked and the vote taken.

#### RESTRICTION ON DIVISIONS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 187 shall read as follows:

**187.** The House shall not conduct a division on any question before 10.30 a.m. on days when the House meets at an earlier time, during Private Members' Statements, or Community Recognition Statements. If a division is called prior to 10.30 a.m. on such days, the division shall be deferred and conducted at 10.30 a.m. and any business then before the House shall be interrupted and recommenced after the division(s).

#### RESPONDING TO MATTERS RAISED BY THE LEGISLATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, the following sessional order be adopted:

#### **188A.**

- (1) The Member with carriage of a bill shall, if reasonably practicable, address any matters raised by the Legislation Review Committee in its report on the bill during the bill's second reading debate.
- (2) If not reasonably practicable for a response to be made during the debate, and a response has not been given in the House, the Member with carriage is to provide a response to the matters raised by the Legislation Review Committee by correspondence to the Committee.

#### SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 365 shall read as follows:

#### **365.**

- (1) A Member may, at any time after 10.30 a.m. and up to 1.30 p.m., without leave, move a motion to suspend Standing and Sessional Orders to deal with any matter.
- (2) A Minister may, at any time without leave, move a motion to suspend Standing and Sessional Orders to deal with any matter.
- (3) The mover, one other Member and the mover in reply shall be entitled to speak to the motion for up to five minutes each.
- (4) When the mover is a Member not supporting the Government, the response shall be by a Minister and, when the mover is a Member supporting the Government the response shall be by the Leader of the Opposition or a Member deputed.
- (5) Such motions shall not be entertained during Question Time.
- (6) The closure shall not apply.

#### FILMING AND BROADCAST OF PROCEEDINGS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, Standing Order 368 shall be suspended.

#### ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS

That, during the current session, unless otherwise ordered, the following Sessional Order be adopted:

#### **369.**

All references throughout the Standing and Sessional orders to the requirement for matters to be authorised or transacted in writing, will be met through electronic transmission of documents bearing clearly displayed signatures.

**Mr ALISTER HENSKENS (Wahroonga) (15:32):** I congratulate Mr Speaker on his elevation. A number of changes to the sessional orders may be controversial in some respects. The Opposition's approach is that we will agree to those changes, see how they go and raise any issues in the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee in the usual way.

**Mr RON HOENIG (Heffron—Minister for Local Government) (15:32):** The only changes to the sessional orders of substance relate to the House reverting to its method of division prior to COVID, so we will not proceed through the walkthrough, and to the former Leader of the House and I reducing the number of questions during question time from 16 to 14. The other changes to the sessional orders, which the Manager of Opposition Business refers to, stem from bipartisan decisions of the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee, of which the Speaker was a member. That committee met on a number of dates and agreed to the changes contained in the sessional orders before the House. Those dates occurred from when the now Premier assumed the office of the Leader of the Opposition on 4 June 2021. Those dates are 24 June 2021, 23 July 2021, 24 August 2021, 23 September 2021, 30 September 2021, 11 November 2021, 24 January 2022, 11 March 2022, 8 September 2022, 16 November 2022 and 9 November 2022.

The changes I propose to the sessional orders have been subject to repeated discussion by the committee. I can assure the House that, from my memory, I and the then Leader of the House—now the Manager of Opposition Business—rarely had a dispute about any of them. There is nothing controversial in them. They arose from the member's submission to the committee on those dates. I assure the House that the changes are hardly novel. They are not secret. They are bipartisan proposals that the Clerk put together from the meeting dates that I have just told the House about.

**The SPEAKER:** The question is that the motion be agreed to.

**Motion agreed to.**

*Members*

## CODE OF CONDUCT

**Mr RON HOENIG:** By leave: I move:

That for the current Parliament, unless otherwise ordered, the following Code of Conduct for Members be adopted:

That this House adopt, for the purposes of section 9 of the Independent Commission Act, the following code of conduct:

### PREAMBLE

Members of Parliament acknowledge their responsibility to maintain the public trust placed in them by performing their duties with honesty and integrity, respecting the law and the institution and conventions of Parliament, and using their influence to advance the common good of the people of New South Wales.

### THE CODE

#### 1 Purpose of the Code

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to assist all Members in the discharge of their parliamentary duties and obligations to the House, their electorates and the people of New South Wales.

The Code applies to Members in all aspects of their public life.

In complying with this Code, Members shall base their conduct on a consideration of the public interest, avoiding conflict between personal interest and their duties as a Member of Parliament. It does not apply to Members in their purely private and personal lives.

Members will not act dishonestly for their own personal gain, or that of another person. It is recognised that some Members are non-aligned and others belong to political parties. Organised political parties are a fundamental part of the democratic process. Participation in the activities of organised political parties is within the legitimate activities of Members of Parliament.

### PROPER EXERCISE OF POWER

#### 2 Improper influence

- (a) No Member shall act as a paid advocate in any proceeding of the House or its committees.
- (b) A Member must not knowingly and improperly promote any matter, vote on any bill or resolution or ask any question in the Parliament or its Committees in return for any remuneration, fee, payment, reward or benefit in kind, of a private nature, which any of the following persons has received, is receiving or expects to receive as a consequence:
  - (i) The Member
  - (ii) A member of the Member's family;
  - (iii) A business associate of the Member; or
  - (iv) Any other person or entity from whom the Member expects to receive a financial benefit.
- (c) A Member must not knowingly and improperly use his or her influence as a Member to seek to affect a decision by a public official including a Minister, public sector employee, statutory officer or officer of a public body, to further, directly or indirectly, the private interests of the Member, a member of the Member's family, or a business associate of the Member.

#### 3 Use of public resources

The use of public resources should not knowingly confer any undue private benefit on the Member or, on any other person, or entity.

Members must take reasonable steps to apply the public resources to which they are granted access according to any guidelines or rules about the use of those resources.

#### *Commentary*

*There is a range of information available to Members to assist them in determining the accurate and appropriate use of resources including:*

- *The Legislative Assembly Members' Guide;*
- *The Legislative Council Members' Guide;*
- *The Department of Parliamentary Services Members' Entitlements Handbook; and*

- *The Parliamentary Remuneration Tribunal's Annual Report and Determination of Additional Entitlements for Members of the Parliament of New South Wales.*

*In addition it is open to any Member to seek advice on these matters from the Clerks of the House, Senior Parliamentary Officers, or the Parliamentary Ethics Adviser.*

#### 4 Use of confidential information

Information which Members receive in confidence in the course of their parliamentary duties should be used only in connection with those duties. It must never be knowingly and improperly used for the private benefit of themselves or any other person or persons.

#### 5 Limitation on breach of Code

This code is not breached by reason of a benefit or interest that could be or was advanced or received by the persons set out in 2(b)(i)-(iv) by reason of them being a member of the public or a member of a broad class.

### OPENNESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

#### 6 Disclosure of interests

Members shall fulfil conscientiously the requirements of the House in respect of the Register of Disclosures by Members.

##### *Commentary*

*The Constitution (Disclosures by Members) Regulation 1983 (the Regulation) requires that Members lodge regular returns, disclosing certain interests such as real property, interests and positions in corporations, income, debts and gifts.*

*The Regulation also requires that each Clerk compile and maintain a Register of Disclosures for their respective Houses. The purpose of the Register of Disclosures is to promote greater transparency, openness, and accountability in the parliamentary process.*

*Members' attention is drawn to the following sources of information and advice on compliance with the requirements of the Regulation:*

- *Schedule 1 of the Regulation outlines the requirements for each type of interest to be disclosed, and gives examples as to how to make entries on the return;*
- *The respective guides for Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council explain the requirements of the pecuniary interest disclosure regime in plain language, with examples where possible; and*
- *It is also open to any Member to seek advice on these matters from the Clerks of the House or the Parliamentary Ethics Adviser.*

*In conjunction with the Regulation and this code, the following Standing Orders apply in relation to personal or pecuniary interests:*

- *Legislative Assembly Standing Orders 176-7 and Legislative Council Standing Order 113(2) on voting in divisions; and*
- *Legislative Assembly Standing Order 276 and Legislative Council Standing Order 210(10) on participating in committee inquiries.*

#### 7 Conflicts of interest

Members must take reasonable steps to avoid, resolve or disclose any conflict between their private interests and the public interest. The public interest is always to be favoured over any private interest of the Member. Members shall take reasonable steps to draw attention to any conflicts between their private interests and the public interest in any proceeding of the House or its Committees, and in any communications with Ministers, Members, public officials or public office holders.

A conflict of interest does not exist where the Member is only affected as a member of the public or a member of a broad class.

##### *Commentary*

*Members should be aware of the important distinction between disclosing an interest and having a conflict of interest.*

*There are certain pecuniary interests that must be disclosed on the Register of Disclosures although these may never come into conflict with a Members' duties. There are also interests that are not required to be disclosed on the Register of Disclosures but which could give rise to a conflict of interest if they are not managed appropriately.*

*It is open to any Member to seek advice on these matters from the Clerks of the House or the Parliamentary Ethics Adviser.*

#### 8 Gifts

- Members must take reasonable steps to disclose all gifts and benefits received in connection with their official duties, in accordance with the requirements for the disclosure of pecuniary interests.
- Members must not knowingly accept gifts that could reasonably be expected to give rise to a conflict of interest or could reasonably be perceived as an attempt to improperly influence the Member in the exercise of his or her duties.
- Nothing in this Code precludes the giving or accepting of political donations in accordance with the Electoral Funding Act 2018.

##### *Commentary*

*The Constitution (Disclosures by Members) Regulation 1983 (the Regulation) requires that Members lodge regular returns, disclosing certain interests such as real property, interests and positions in corporations, income, debts and gifts.*

*The Regulation also requires that each Clerk compile and maintain a Register of Disclosures for their respective Houses. The purpose of the Register of Disclosures is to promote greater transparency, openness, and accountability in the parliamentary process.*

*Members' attention is drawn to the following sources of information and advice on compliance with the requirements of the Regulation:*

*Schedule 1 of the Regulation outlines the requirements for each type of interest to be disclosed, and gives examples as to how to make entries on the return;*

*The respective guides for Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council explain the requirements of the pecuniary interest disclosure regime in plain language, with examples where possible; and*

*It is also open to any Member to seek advice on these matters from the Clerks of the House or the Parliamentary Ethics Adviser.*

#### UPHOLDING THE CODE

##### 9 Upholding the Code

Members have a duty to cooperate fully with any processes established under the authority of the House concerning compliance with this Code.

Breaches of this Code may result in action being taken by the House in relation to a Member. A substantial breach of the Code may constitute corrupt conduct for the purposes of the *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988*.

This resolution has continuing effect unless and until amended or rescinded by resolution of the House.

#### **Motion agreed to.**

#### *Motions*

#### **CITIZEN'S RIGHT OF REPLY**

**Mr RON HOENIG:** By leave: I move:

That during the current Parliament, unless otherwise ordered, the following Citizen's Right of Reply be adopted:

- (1) That where a submission is made in writing by a person who has been referred to in the Legislative Assembly by name, or in such a way as to be readily identified:
  - (a) claiming that the person or corporation has been adversely affected in reputation or in respect of dealings or associations with others, or injured in occupation, trade, office or financial credit, or that the person's privacy has been unreasonably invaded, by reason of that reference to the person or corporation; and
  - (b) requesting that the person be able to have consideration given to an appropriate response being published by the Legislative Assembly or incorporated into *Hansard*.

and the Speaker is satisfied:

- (a) that the subject of the submission is not so obviously trivial or the submission so frivolous, vexatious or offensive in character as to make it inappropriate that it be considered by the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee;
  - (b) the submission was received within six months after the relevant comments were made in the House unless the applicant can show exceptional circumstances to explain the delay; and
  - (c) that it is practicable for the committee to consider the submission under this resolution, the Speaker shall refer the submission to that committee.
- (2) That the committee may decide not to consider a submission referred to it under this resolution if the committee considers that the subject of the submission is not sufficiently serious or the submission is frivolous, vexatious or offensive in character, and such a decision shall be reported to the Legislative Assembly.
  - (3) That if the committee decides to consider a submission under this resolution, the committee may confer with the person who made the submission and any member who referred in the Legislative Assembly to that person or corporation.
  - (4) That in considering a submission under this resolution, the committee shall meet in private session.
  - (5) That the committee shall not publish a submission referred to it under this resolution of its proceedings in relation to such a submission, but may present minutes of its proceedings and all or part of such submission to the Legislative Assembly.
  - (6) In considering a submission under this resolution and reporting to the Legislative Assembly the committee shall not consider or judge the truth of any statements made in the Legislative Assembly or the submission.
  - (7) That in its report to the Legislative Assembly on a submission under this resolution, the committee may make either of the following conclusions:
    - (a) that no further action be taken by the committee or the Legislative Assembly in relation to the submission; or
    - (b) that a response by the person who made the submission, in terms specified in the report and agreed to by the person or corporation and the committee, be published by the Legislative Assembly or incorporated in *Hansard* by the Speaker.
  - (8) That a document presented to the Legislative Assembly under paragraph (5) or (7):

- (a) in the case of a response by a person or corporation who made a submission, shall be succinct and strictly relevant to the questions in issue and shall not contain anything offensive in character; and
- (b) shall not contain any matter the publication of which would have the effect of:
  - (i) unreasonably adversely affecting or injuring a person or corporation, or unreasonably invading a person's privacy, in the manner referred to in paragraph (1); or
  - (ii) unreasonably adding to or aggravating any such adverse effect, injury or invasion of privacy suffered by a person.
- (9) That a corporation making a submission under this resolution is required to make it under their common seal.
- (10) The provisions of Standing Order 306 do not apply to any report made by the committee to the Legislative Assembly under this resolution.

**Motion agreed to.**

**BROADCAST OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Mr RON HOENIG:** By leave: I move:

That during the current Parliament the following broadcast resolution be adopted:

- (1) The House authorises the broadcast and rebroadcast of the proceedings and excerpts of proceedings of the House and its committees in accordance with this resolution.
- (2) The House authorises the sound and vision broadcast of the proceedings of the House and its committees, including the publication of audio captions, through:
  - (a) the internal broadcast system within Parliament House;
  - (b) the direct signal to accredited media within Parliament House;
  - (c) the New South Wales Parliament website; and
  - (d) the New South Wales Parliament's social media channels.
- (3) The House authorises the provision of excerpts of sound and vision coverage (including any audio captions) of the proceedings of the House, including records of past proceedings, through direct access to the Parliament-on-Demand service to persons and organisations as determined by the Speaker.
- (4) Individual requests for excerpts of sound and vision coverage (including any audio captions) of the proceedings of the House by persons or organisations other than those identified in paragraph (3) (or without direct access to the Parliament-on-Demand service) require approval from the Clerk.
- (5) Individual requests for excerpts of sound and vision coverage (including any audio captions) of the proceedings of a committee through the Parliament-on-Demand service require approval from the Clerk-Assistant, Scrutiny and Engagement.
- (6) Despite anything else in this resolution, the House does not authorise any person to republish audio captioning of the proceedings of the House or its committees.
- (7) For the purpose of this resolution, the terms "audio captioning" and "audio captions" refer to the "real-time" transcription of words spoken in proceedings of the House and its committees.

**Conditions for broadcast and rebroadcast of Assembly proceedings**

- (8) The live broadcast or rebroadcast of Legislative Assembly proceedings is authorised on the following conditions, and any other terms and conditions, not inconsistent with this paragraph, determined by the Speaker from time to time:
  - (a) only the following broadcast material shall be used:
    - (i) the sound and vision coverage provided by the Parliament that is produced for broadcast, rebroadcast and archiving;
    - (ii) official broadcast material supplied by parliamentary staff; and
    - (iii) filming or photography on request by persons or organisations that is approved by the Speaker.
  - (b) broadcast material shall be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and shall not be digitally manipulated nor used for:
    - (i) political party advertising or election campaigns; and
    - (ii) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising.
  - (c) reports of proceedings shall be such as to provide a balanced presentation of differing views;
  - (d) excerpts of proceedings which are subsequently withdrawn may be broadcast only if the withdrawal is also broadcast; and
  - (e) the instructions of the Speaker, or his or her delegates, on the use of recorded excerpts of proceedings must be observed at all times.

**Conditions for broadcast of committee proceedings**

- (9) The following conditions apply to the broadcasting of committee proceedings:
- (a) the broadcasting, filming or photography of any public proceedings of a committee is subject to the authorisation of the committee in each instance;
  - (b) a committee may determine conditions, not inconsistent with this resolution, for the recording and broadcasting of its proceedings, may order that any part of its proceedings not be recorded or broadcast, and may give instructions for the observance of conditions so determined and orders so made. A committee shall report to the House any wilful breach of such conditions, orders or instructions;
  - (c) recording and broadcasting of proceedings of a committee shall not interfere with the conduct of those proceedings, shall not encroach into the committee's work area, or capture documents (either in hard copy or electronic form) in the possession of committee members, witnesses or committee staff; and
  - (d) broadcast of committee proceedings shall be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of those proceedings, and shall not be digitally manipulated nor used for:
    - (i) political party advertising or election campaigns; and
    - (ii) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising.
- (10) Where a committee intends to authorise the broadcasting of its proceedings, a witness who is to appear in those proceedings shall be given reasonable opportunity, before appearing in the proceedings, to object to the broadcasting on the proceedings and to state the ground of the objection. The committee shall consider any such objection, having regard to the proper protection of the witness and the public interest in proceedings, and if the committee decides to permit broadcasting of the proceedings notwithstanding the witness' objection, the witness shall be so informed before appearing in the proceedings.

**Motion agreed to.**

*Business of the House*

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS: ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Mr RON HOENIG:** I move:

That standing and sessional orders be suspended to provide that:

- (1) On Wednesday 10 May 2023 the routine of business shall be:
  - (a) the House to meet at 12 noon followed by 15 minutes of giving of general business notices of motions (general notices);
  - (b) question time and the routine of business, after which the Speaker will leave the chair;
  - (c) at 2.10 p.m. the Speaker to resume the chair, followed by the joint sittings, then Government business and if concluded the commencement of community recognition statements and private members' statements;
  - (d) at 5.00 p.m. business to be interrupted for consideration of the public interest debate, with the motion to be submitted by the Government with all other requirements of Sessional Order 109 still applying;
  - (e) at the conclusion of the public interest debate, community recognition statements (if not already concluded) and private members' statements; and
  - (f) the House to adjourn without motion moved immediately following private members' statements.
- (2) On Thursday 11 May 2023 the routine of business shall be:
  - (a) the House to meet at 10 00 a.m. followed by 15 minutes of giving of general business notices of motions (general notices);
  - (b) Government business;
  - (c) at 11.00 a.m., question time and the routine of business, without the reordering of general business orders of the day (for bills);
  - (d) Government business until 1.30 p.m., when the Speaker will leave the chair;
  - (e) at 2.30 p.m., the Speaker to resume the chair, followed by Government business;
  - (f) at 5.00 p.m., public interest debate, with the motion for the public interest debate to be submitted by the Opposition with all other requirements of Sessional Order 109 still applying;
  - (g) Government business if required, followed by community recognition statements and private members' statements; and
  - (h) the House to adjourn without motion moved immediately following private members' statements.

**Motion agreed to.**

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS: ADDRESS-IN-REPLY**

**Mr RON HOENIG:** I move:

That standing and sessional orders be suspended to:

- (1) Provide that consideration of the address-in-reply to the Lieutenant-Governor's speech does not take precedence over general business on Thursday sittings.
- (2) Permit consideration of the address-in-reply during the period in the routine of business set aside for the consideration of Government business.

**Motion agreed to.**

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS: ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

**Mr RON HOENIG:** I move:

That standing and sessional orders be suspended at this sitting to provide for the following routine of business for the remainder of this sitting:

- (1) The moving and seconding of the address-in-reply to the Lieutenant-Governor's speech, after which the debate will be adjourned on motion.
- (2) The House to adjourn without motion moved immediately following the adjournment of the consideration of the address-in-reply.

**Motion agreed to.**

*Governor*

**ADDRESS-IN-REPLY**

**Ms LYNDA VOLTZ (Auburn) (15:40):** I move:

That the following address be adopted by this House, in reply to the speech which His Excellency made to both Houses of Parliament:

"To His Excellency the Honourable Andrew Bell, Senior Counsel, Lieutenant-Governor of the State of New South Wales in the Commonwealth of Australia.

May it Please Your Excellency –

We, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of the State of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our thanks for Your Excellency's speech, and to express our loyalty to Australia and the people of New South Wales.

We assure Your Excellency that our earnest consideration will be given to the measures to be submitted to us, and that we will faithfully carry out the important duties entrusted to us by the people of New South Wales.

We join Your Excellency in the hope that our labours may be so directed as to advance the best interests of all sections of the community."

It is a great honour to have been re-elected to represent the people of the Auburn electorate and, after first being elected in 2007, it is also a great pleasure to return to this Chamber under a new Labor government. I congratulate the Premier, Chris Minns, and all of my colleagues on their efforts during the election campaign. I look forward to the next term of government where fairness and equity lie at the heart of decision-making. Before the last election the electorate of Auburn faced a significant redistribution. We are pleased to welcome the suburbs of Birrong, Yagoona, Sefton, Chester Hill and parts of Bass Hill to the electorate. They join Regents Park, Berala, Lidcombe and Auburn, stretching from the Hume Highway to the M4 as the electorate of Auburn.

**The SPEAKER:** Members will leave the Chamber in an orderly and quiet manner.

**Ms LYNDA VOLTZ:** I am proud and honoured to represent the people of Auburn. Indeed, as a former Birrong Girls High School old girl, I am chuffed to be the first from my alma mater to represent our local area in this House. But I am not the most significant girl to walk off the lands on which Birrong sits. Whilst so far I have managed to track down only one reference, the suburb of Birrong appears to have been named after Boorong. This would make Birrong the only place to have been named after an Aboriginal woman until the establishment of Barangaroo. It also explains our school motto of *ad astra*, which means "to the stars", because Boorong—and indeed its alternative Birrong—also mean "stars". Whilst Bennelong is often credited as the original translator for the colony, this honour should be shared with Boorong, who eventually became his third wife.

In 1789, when the smallpox plague was introduced by the colonists and swept through the Aboriginal people, wreaking havoc, a young 15-year-old Boorong along with another young boy of about nine were brought into the household of the Reverend Johnson in Sydney Cove after contracting smallpox and being considered orphans. Boorong is one of the first Aboriginal people to have understood the English language as well as having English literacy skills. Those language skills meant she was often the go-between for the colonists and the Aboriginal people, which included several visits to Bennelong on behalf of the colonists during 1790. In October 1790, Boorong returned to her bushlands and at some stage became the wife of Bennelong.

Boorong is buried alongside Bennelong in Wallumedegal country on the north side of the Parramatta River at Ryde. How she died and was buried, at what appears to be the same time as Bennelong, is unexplained. However, if we are to redress the imbalance of women in statues that pepper our extended city, then surely

Boorong must be among one of the first we redress. Alongside the tenacity of Barangaroo, an obvious leader of her people, this would also restore the history of the Aboriginal clans in the Sydney Basin where hierarchies were often based on matriarchal power structures. It is interesting to read stories of Barangaroo's violent chastisement of Bennelong over his interactions with colonists taken in a European context without any consideration of what the power structures were within the clans around the Sydney Basin. For the information of any future artist, an image of Boorong is held by the Natural History Museum in London.

As my colleagues would be aware, Auburn is the most diverse electorate in Australia. It has the highest number of residents who use a language other than English at home, sitting at 72 per cent, with 57 per cent of the residents in my electorate born overseas. It also has the highest number of persons per bedroom, making housing in this electorate the most overcrowded in the country. It is one of the electorates under the highest mortgage stress, where 28 per cent of the population have mortgage repayments that represent over 30 per cent of their household income. Given the characteristics of this electorate—young, diverse, high unemployment sitting at double figures, and one of the biggest populations in a State seat—it would behove government to be sensitive to changes that would impact what is often a vulnerable community. Unfortunately, this has not been the experience in the past.

Decisions of government can have a severe impact on local communities. As an example, past changes to public transport services have received significant, brutal criticism from local residents in the Auburn electorate. Considering its high reliance on public transport, the previous Government's decisions were particularly hard on this community. When Labor last held government, stations such as Birrong and Yagoona had two alternate train routes to the city; they now have none. Indeed, I have seen documents proposing to remove services altogether from these stations.

Teachers from Sefton High School have told me of six-hour round trips to the city for school excursions that used to take two hours, with numerous changes as direct services to the CBD cease outside of peak hour. Likewise, Auburn, Lidcombe and Granville stations have been particularly impacted. That is why it is so crucial to review the train timetable—a commitment made by the incoming Labor Government. Importantly, the review will consider providing more frequent services all day, rather than only during the traditional morning and evening peaks, which I am sure will come as a great relief to our schoolteachers, students and those having to use public transport, particularly to access medical services. While they are at it, I will put in a plug for a lift at Chester Hill station. How a station such as Chester Hill has no lift is beyond me and speaks volumes of the priorities of the previous Government. In a 2013 analysis by Transport for NSW, Chester Hill was identified as the fourth highest priority alongside Redfern, Dulwich Hill and Bexley North. While Bexley North, Redfern and a tranche of other stations have had lifts installed, Chester Hill still has no lift over a decade later.

It is not just across the public transport system where reform is long overdue. The other biggest bugbear in the Auburn electorate has been the traffic chaos created by the reintroduction, by the previous Liberal Government, of tolls on the M4 between Church Street and Centenary Drive. I am sure everyone in this Chamber will remember the previous Premier's claim that Parramatta Road is free-flowing. Tell that to the road users that just voted Parramatta Road at Auburn the worst road in New South Wales. The flow-on effect has been disastrous for local businesses—such as the Tooheys brewery, that has a billion-dollar turnover every year—and for residents.

Like the long overdue lift needed at Chester Hill station, the impact on local roads, particularly Wellington Road and Mona Street in Auburn, has long been ignored. It is therefore pleasing that one of the first actions of the new Labor Government was to commit \$1 million to ensure a traffic study is undertaken across the Granville and Auburn electorates to begin the job of finding solutions to the chaos created to local roads. The former Liberal Government let down the residents of those electorates. Road congestion, particularly on Mona Street and Wellington Road, has been a source of constant angst for the local community.

The Transport for NSW study of traffic in Granville, South Granville, Auburn and Lidcombe will be undertaken as part of the five-year post-opening review of the M4, with a special emphasis on traffic flow across the Duck River at Wellington Road and Mona Street. It is a long-overdue commitment that members in this Chamber and residents have been asking for since the reintroduction of tolls. The previous Government's indifference to the day-to-day lives of those in the Auburn electorate has been a cause of great local frustration and was reflected in the election results. The tolls alone do not reflect the pressure on local traffic. As I noted earlier, Auburn is one of the most densely populated electorates in New South Wales, second only to the electorate of Sydney before the redistribution. Following the redistribution, the three State electorates with the largest populations are now Granville, Parramatta and Auburn; the electorate of Sydney is now seventh.

That comes as no surprise to anyone who takes more than a cursory interest in our area. A good example is the Carter Street Precinct, which was in my electorate of Auburn but is now in the electorate of Parramatta. It will have 15,000 people on half a square kilometre. That is more than double the densities of suburbs such as

Woolloomooloo and Potts Point. Since the last census in 2016 the electorate of Parramatta has grown by an additional 37,500 people, Granville by an additional 21,000 people and Auburn by an additional 18,000 people. That is an indication of why they are the three most populated electorates in the State of New South Wales. Population density has increased overwhelmingly from Centenary Drive, which borders the Auburn electorate, to Church Street in Parramatta. As in those suburbs on the further fringes of Sydney, such as Riverstone and Leppington, infrastructure has been left far behind.

Indeed, the Carter Street Precinct is a good example. This new Labor Government has committed to building a public school in the Carter Street Precinct. In 2011-2012 the former Liberal Government identified that the Carter Street Precinct would have a public school as part of its master plan. Yet in 2023 there is still no line item for a primary school for the population of 15,000 in the Carter Street Precinct. The new Labor Government will be different in that those commitments will be honoured. While it is appropriate that more houses are built in our electorate, the reality is that the increased density—37,500 in Parramatta, 21,000 in Granville and 18,000 in Auburn—has created more problems. Homelessness has grown. For example, Auburn has gone from fifth to second on the homelessness scale. Teachers and principals in our schools ask me, "How do I teach kids when there are 18 people living in a two-bedroom flat?" It is impossible to teach those children.

The previous Liberal Government claimed that it increased social housing. A good example of that increase is on Wellington Road in Chester Hill, where nine former Department of Housing properties were sold to developers and not held onto or sold to the public. On the same street, where two other public housing properties were retained, 37 one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments were built across the road from Chester Hill Public School. Having sold off public housing properties on nearly the whole street to developers to build high- to medium-density apartments, the previous Government claimed that it had increased social housing from 11 to 37 properties. But none of those properties can house families.

Everybody who works for the Department of Housing—or the Department of Communities and Justice, as it is called now—will say that the biggest crisis is with large families, who are common in our area. Our principals are trying to deal with a situation where students come from families of 18, 14 or 12 and live in two-bedroom and three-bedroom flats. It is unsustainable. The more high-density and high-rise housing you build—not at the top end but at the bottom end, where every single inch is taken, where the rooms are too small—the more you drive homelessness within the Auburn electorate. A housing crisis is coming. Housing is a huge issue and will be hugely problematic to work out.

In my electorate, development sites have come through. They were part of the previous Government's plan to put in high rises, get local environmental plans in and increase building heights around the train stations to 40 storeys. But as that happened, and as clubs, communities and developers came together and consolidated their sites, there was a huge increase in costs and huge loss of labour during the COVID-19 pandemic. Now it will be too difficult to build any of those buildings. House construction will come to a screeching halt, which the previous Government did not prepare itself or the community for. That will play into the coming housing crisis.

The only way to solve that is to get more skilled labour back into the workforce. You do not get skilled labour back into the workforce when you have undermined the training systems and held down wages that would put those kids into the jobs that would get them back out there. Unless we get the labour, the supply mechanisms and the principles around our planning right, this is a disaster waiting to happen across Sydney. Auburn is a microcosm of it. The member for Parramatta too will be able to clarify, having been the mayor of Parramatta until yesterday, I think.

**Ms Donna Davis:** Two more weeks.

**Ms LYNDA VOLTZ:** Two more weeks, sorry—I didn't want to sack her early. She will be able to tell you. You can see the statistics: Across our region there are roads being voted the worst in Sydney and schools not being built. The Wentworth Point high school and the Carter Street public school will get mentions at some stage. Birrong Girls and Birrong Boys high schools were supposed to be complete upgrades and rebuilds, but they have now been cut in half, so much so that even the toilets that were meant to be built at the girls school are now not being built because the previous Government did not plan for the changes in construction costs and the lack of skilled labour in the workforce. The people paying the price for it, particularly in our region and on the fringes of Sydney, are those most in need.

**Mr CLAYTON BARR (Cessnock) (15:57):** I second the motion. With great pleasure today, at the start of my fourth term of Parliament, I speak on the address-in-reply to the Lieutenant-Governor's address. As I looked around the Chamber, I saw that not too many members were in this House the last time the roles in this House were as they are now, with the Labor Party in government and the Coalition in opposition. If I am right, of the current Opposition, only the member for Tweed, the member for Kellyville and the member for Lane Cove are

returning members who spent some time in opposition. Mr Speaker, you were here the last time the parties lined up in this House in this way.

On our side of the Chamber, the member for Maroubra and the member for Wallsend were here the last time Labor was in government. The member for Wyong took an interesting journey, leaving this place for a short time between 2011 and 2015, but he is back. The member for Canterbury and the member for Auburn have come to this place from the upper House. The member for Monaro and the member for Lismore also had interesting journeys: in this place, out of this place and then in this place again. Not a great number of people among our 93 have experienced the situation in which we find ourselves in this Parliament. There is a lot of learning for everyone to do, whatever side of the Chamber they sit on. And there will need to be some humility. I love that the new Premier spoke earlier today about what will be required going forward.

When I arrived in this place in 2011, then new Premier Barry O'Farrell had an enormous majority of 69 members. They swirled around three-quarters of the Chamber, and the Labor Opposition members were confined to a tiny one-quarter section. It meant that the politics was brutal. It was force by numbers, and there was no humility. There was very little respect shown across the floor, and there was very little engagement or exchange of ideas. It was simply, "Us good. You bad. We are jamming things through in whatever way, shape or form we want." By contrast, I join with the new Premier in looking forward to the exchange of ideas. No single party in this place has an out-and-out majority. There will be backwards and forwards, to and fro, bend and yield. But even though Labor is in minority, almost half of the voters of the State have said that they want a change in direction.

I think about it in sailing terms. When you try to sail into headwinds, you can never go constantly left or constantly right; you will just go around in a circle and go nowhere. It is entirely healthy for this State and Chamber to spend some time going right and some time going left. That is how we will ultimately drive forward into the headwinds. There will always be headwinds facing governments of all political persuasions, and there are headwinds now. I appreciate that the Lieutenant-Governor's speech focused on a number of them—fundamentally, they were the six key platforms we took to the election, where we convinced almost half of the State to back us in. We went close enough to have formed minority government, and we are all about doing the work and fulfilling the promises that we made during the campaign.

I mention the incredible humility that I witnessed on election night: the speech of concession by the outgoing Premier. I have watched a lot of election nights. I do not think I have seen a more graceful speech from a person ceasing to be the leader of this State. The member for Epping—and member for Castle Hill at one stage—Dominic Perrottet was classy. I had family and friends at my house hoping to celebrate an election victory locally and across the State. All of the Labor stronghold there stopped, listened and applauded his speech. So good on you, Dom. Today the new Premier made reference to that speech, and on election night both leaders spoke about politics not having to be a race to the bottom. Politics can be an exchange of ideas. It can be about putting forward an agenda that we hope will improve outcomes for the entire State. Over the next four years of the Fifty-Eighth Parliament, we have an opportunity to build on the example set by those two fine leaders during the election campaign.

To new MPs, I say this: The Parliament is full of wonderful staff, who are all here to help and who will give them confidence and talk to them with full confidentiality to help them be the best they can be in doing their job. Engage with them. If members are not sure, then ask. They will get all the help they can ever imagine—whether it is about a visitor and how they enter the place, they need a parking spot downstairs, something is not quite right in an office or a corridor, members make a mistake in something they said and have to reach out to Hansard, they are not sure about the rules and have to see the Clerks of the House, or they have a catering event that has some special conditions or they require assistance. The wonderful staff in this place are here to help. All new MPs should make use of those wonderful staff and of our wonderful library.

The library has the ability to do so much heavy lifting on any topic that members want to pursue, follow or turn their minds to. Members should make sure they use this place, because it ensures that this Chamber and the other place are the best they can possibly be and that members' contributions to debate are as informed, factual and insightful as possible. Because the Government is a minority government, we are going to have an exchange of ideas. None of us can stand in this place and simply say, "Us good, you bad," the way it happened when I arrived in 2011, the way it still was in 2015 and the way it started after 2019 until the practice fell away. Let us have an exchange of ideas. That is what the Fifty-Eighth Parliament will be about.

We have an independent Speaker in the Chamber, who is going to lead the way. I also recognise former Speaker O'Dea, who did a wonderful job restoring some class and quality to this Chamber. I welcome the opportunity to participate. What a privilege it is. Only 93 people in New South Wales get to sit in this Chamber for the next four years—and those of us in the House right now are amongst them. So let us have the exchange of ideas. Bring it on. It will be what it will be. I will tell you what it will be: It will be interesting.

**Debate adjourned.**

**The House adjourned, pursuant to resolution, at 16:08 until  
Wednesday 10 May 2023 at 12:00.**

*Written Community Recognition Statements*

**According to Standing Order 108A, the following written community recognition statements were submitted.**

#### **SHIRE WOODWORKING CLUB 25TH ANNIVERSARY**

**Mr MARK SPEAKMAN (Cronulla)**—I recently attended the Shire Woodworking Club's 25th anniversary commemoration at its Lilli Pilli premises. Since 1998, the Shire Woodworking Club has regularly come together to develop woodworking skills and to hand craft toys for charity. Project Youth, Sutherland Shire Family Services (now the Family Co), Kingsway Community Church and the Sydney Children's Hospital have all been supported by the club. Members have made model MRI machines to prepare children for their procedures, a green screen stage for ward performances, a huge number of toys, room name plaques, and a "Swish Ball" table for Vision Australia Caringbah among many others. The Shire Woodworking Club demonstrates the importance of community connection and support. From its initial 18 founders, the club has now grown to over 100 volunteer members. I recognise the dedication and commitment of the members and thank them for their continued service to the community. I acknowledge past and present office bearers for their contribution to the club. Current office bearers include president Ian Rudd, vice-president Malcolm Armstrong, treasurer Alan Ritchie, secretary Graham Ethell, and committee members Roger Dixon, David Edwards, and Maurice Smith.

#### **GEOFFREY FORSHAW OAM**

**Mr MARK SPEAKMAN (Cronulla)**—I highlight the contribution of, and congratulate, Geoffrey ("Geoff") Forshaw of Burraneer, who was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia [OAM] in the Australia Day 2023 Honours List "for service to surf lifesaving". Geoff is a member of Cronulla Surf Life Saving Club and the current Patron of Surf Life Saving Sydney. Geoff's surf life saving career began in 1967 as patrol captain, a position he held until 1973. In 1974, Geoff joined the executive committee before serving as Cronulla SLSC's club president from 1981 to 1985. He has held a series of positions at the Sydney SLS Branch, including deputy president, president (1986-1991), and chairman of the surf rescue helicopter service. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Geoff oversaw many changes and innovation in the surf lifesaving community. This included the introduction of helicopters as well as new training and lifesaving techniques. Geoff is an excellent and well-respected leader of the surf lifesaving community. Since the age of 17, Geoff has been dedicated to keeping our beaches and communities safe in several organisational and leadership positions. I recognise Geoff's tireless commitment to surf lifesaving and our local community.

#### **BARRY EZZY OAM**

**Mr MARK SPEAKMAN (Cronulla)**—I highlight the contribution of, and congratulate, Barry Ezzy of Burraneer, who was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia [OAM] in the Australia Day 2023 Honours List "for service to surf lifesaving". Barry has been a member of Cronulla Surf Life Saving Club since 1954. In 1966, Barry and his team won the national Senior R&R along with several other titles. For over 69 years, Barry has held many senior roles at Cronulla SLSC. This includes club president (from 1987 to 1991), deputy president, and senior vice president. In 1982, Barry was elevated to club life membership. Barry was club patron from 2008 until 2013 and then the club's first patron emeritus. A surf boat named the 'Barry Ezzy' enshrines Barry's lifelong commitment to the club. As a club officer, patrol member, competitor, and club leader, Barry is an outstanding contributor to the surf life saving community. I recognise Barry's tireless commitment to Cronulla and to keeping our beaches safe.

#### **VERNA**

**Mr MICHAEL KEMP (Oxley)**—I met Verna Wallace, late afternoon, at the Wauchope Agricultural Show. I'd been chatting to her daughter, Wendy, in the kitchen, thanking the catering volunteers who'd put on a magnificent spread that day, and as I was talking, noting volunteers make the world go round, truly impressed by all these people who'd spent hours contributing to the show, Wendy said: "well, thank you, but I haven't done as much as mum, Vern". Vern had been at the Wauchope Show from very early in the morning, preparing food; serving people; picking up plates; and washing up. These efforts are herculean, and their value almost immeasurable to our small rural communities, but Vern has more surprises. Vern has been volunteering for 55 years at the local primary school. She'd gone to ask the principal what she can do, and then never left. I've since found out Vern's vibrant legacy continues, having helped create the first library at Beechwood Public School.

Vern also has been awarded life membership to the Wauchope's Hospital Volunteers after four decades of service, and she's been part of Beechwood's RFS for 40 years. My thanks and gratitude to Vern, and all our local volunteers.

#### **KIRSTIE TYERMAN**

**Mr PHILIP DONATO (Orange)**—I wish to recognise Kirstie Tyerman. Following the post-COVID 19 revelation that just three primary school students from Glenroi Heights Public School could swim 25m at a school swimming carnival, Assistant Principal Kirstie Tyerman was determined to remedy the situation. Kirstie proposed that the school's teachers would take 100 of the school's students to the Orange Aquatic Centre, once a week for terms 2-4 of 2022, for swimming lessons. Kirstie coordinated teacher training through Orange Aquatic Centre and their pool staff. Kirstie obtained a grant from Cadia for the purchase of equipment, and she co-ordinated bus transport for the students, which Kirstie successfully obtained financial subsidy for from the Orange City Council. At the completion of the three terms of weekly swimming lessons, 30 students could swim 25 metres, and by the time annual school swimming carnival was held, there were over 40 students who could complete the 25-metre swim. As a result of this initiative, both the Glenroi Heights Public School and the Orange Aquatic Centre recently won the Royal Lifesaving Award for excellence in diversity and inclusion. I congratulate all involved, and I commend Kirstie on her initiative, determination and success in her undertaking. Well done.

#### **AMORETTE ZIELINSKI – 2023 ORANGE LOCAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

**Mr PHILIP DONATO (Orange)**—After moving to Orange in 2013 with her husband and eldest son, while pregnant with her second child, Amorette experienced a sense of isolation with limited social connection, challenged with finding and accessing local services – discovering the word of mouth was priceless in connecting with and thriving in the community. Amorette responded by creating Central West Mums – an online resource for local mothers to communicate and access the all-important word-of-mouth information and advice from local mums across the community. Her goal was to strengthen community connection, and, organically, thousands of local mums have joined and participated with one-another on this successful support network since its creation. Amorette has since launched Mumfest Central West and the Central West Mummy Awards, events which draw women from the virtual world of her network to meet in person, forge connections, and celebrate motherhood, family, and our region. I congratulate Amorette on her amazing achievement, and for her selfless and ongoing devotion in supporting hundreds of families across the communities of the Central West, for which she was awarded the 2023 Orange Local Woman of the Year.

#### **ASTLEY CUP**

**Mr PHILIP DONATO (Orange)**—I wish to recognise the 100th year of the annual Astley Cup. The Astley Cup was founded in Dubbo in 1923, and it is steeped in tradition. The Astley Cup is a unique multi-sports competition played each year between Dubbo College (formerly Dubbo High School), Bathurst High School and Orange High Schools, and is one of the longest-running sporting competitions in Australia. This unique regional tri-school competition involves eight sports; mixed athletics and tennis, girls netball, hockey and soccer, and boys rugby league, basketball and soccer. These sports have changed over the years due to social changes in sports. Rugby League used to be Rugby Union and girls Soccer used to be girls Softball. The point scoring system is also unique. Each sport is worth 100 points, and the tie winner becomes the team with the most points. To win, the competitor must win both ties. If it comes to a draw, it then goes back to the school with the most points. I congratulate Dubbo College, Bathurst High School and Orange High School on this momentous occasion, and good luck to all in the centenary tournament. I also wish current and past students a wonderful centenary celebration.

#### **THANK YOU, AVALON RSL SUB-BRANCH**

**Mr RORY AMON (Pittwater)**—Thank you to the Avalon Beach RSL Sub-Branch for their 2023 commemorative ANZAC Day service. Each ANZAC Day we commemorate servicemen and women who have served and will serve. They are the reason for our freedoms. This year saw a significant number of Pittwater locals partake. What's more, schoolchildren participated in a way many have not seen before. This is a testament to the hard work of our RSL Sub-Branch community, schools, and teachers, who continue to embrace the ANZAC tradition. Thank you: Rear Admiral Rachel Durban CSC, RAN, for your moving address; Barrenjoey High School Captains, Holly Knights and Adam Inger who beautifully read poems; Pittwater House Catafalque Party who endured the heat; and Avalon RSL Sub-Branch president, Richard Menhinick AM, CSC, RAN who presided. As many in this place know, bugling the Last Post is challenging for the most seasoned of musicians. Doing so in front of thousands at an ANZAC Service, even more so. I must acknowledge Charli Baggott of Mater Maria for nailing every single note – well done, Charli! Thank you also to Mark Houlder and the Avalon RSL Club Limited for hosting a wonderful day. Thank you, Avalon Beach.

### CONGRATULATIONS SOUTH NARRABEEN SURF LIFESAVING CLUB

**Mr RORY AMON (Pittwater)**—On 6 May 2023, South Narrabeen Surf Lifesaving Club celebrated their 100th anniversary. South Narrabeen SLSC was officially opened on 15 December 1923. This brief address to the NSW Parliament, which shall be preserved in the records of the oldest Parliament in this nation, cannot do justice to a century of history, service, loss, and heroism. However, it would be remiss not to congratulate the Club on the success of the Bush to Beach since 2006 bringing Aboriginal children from remote Brewarrina to the Beach, many having never seen the ocean. Aunty Joyce said it best: "These kids and adults are all smiling, they were treated with respect and dignity and they returned the same respect. The kids developed self-esteem this weekend. They now have something to dream about, good dreams. South Narr-Bre Surf Club Hilton, the small club with a huge heart." Thank you to current President Peter Madden, ably leading the club in its 100th year, and to Stephen Martin for writing and compiling the Club's 100th anniversary publication. To South Narrabeen SLSC and all its members, past, present, and future, thank you for your service and here's to 100 more years.

### THANK YOU, PITTWATER RSL SUB-BRANCH

**Mr RORY AMON (Pittwater)**—Thank you Pittwater Beach RSL Sub-Branch for your 2023 commemorative ANZAC Day Dawn service. Each ANZAC Day we gather to commemorate servicemen and women who have served and will serve. They are the reason for our freedoms. This year saw huge community support. Schools and kids participated like never before – thank you, Mona Vale Public, Sacred Heart Catholic, St Luke's Grammar, Narrabeen North Public, Pittwater High, Mater Maria. This is a testament to the hard work of our RSL Sub-Branch community, schools, and teachers, who continue to embrace the ANZAC tradition. Not only schools, but Surf Clubs – thank you, Mona Vale Surf Club, Newport Surf Club and Warriewood Surf Club. Thank you: Sub Lieutenant Zamri Burns, for your thoughtful address (and good luck as you complete your medical training at the University of Sydney this year); Kylie Adams-Collier for singing your very own "Montevideo Maru 1942"; Ben Riley for your bagpiping; and Deborah Carter for your steadfast leadership of the Sub-Branch. Thank you to Leigh Arnold, President, of the Pittwater RSL Club Limited and CEO, Jason Manning, thank you for hosting our community. Thank you, Pittwater, for sharing in this occasion.

### HANNAH GRACE PETROVSKI

**Ms ANNA WATSON (Shellharbour)**—I take this opportunity today to acknowledge an amazing resident of the Shellharbour electorate, Ms Hannah Grace Petrovski. Hannah is a year 7 student currently enrolled at Shellharbour Anglican College where she has participated in several co-curricular activities including charity work, public speaking, creative arts, religious studies, and leadership programs. Hannah is a keen cheerleader who participates in competitive All-Star Cheerleading as her team's appointed Cheer Captain. In her final primary schooling year Hannah was successfully appointed House Captain for the Chiswell House at Shellharbour Anglican College. During her time as House Captain, Hannah assisted parents and teachers for various orientation and visitation days, welcoming and guiding parents around the college. Hannah also presented herself as a buddy to the visiting new students, ensuring they felt welcome and supported. Hannah has had opportunities to further her leadership skills by visiting other schools in the Sydney region to undertake leadership programs. It is great to be able to witness the next generation of upcoming leaders in my electorate. Hannah is an excellent example of a young leader and deserves to be recognised for her efforts.

### JYNAYA AND INDIANA DOS SANTOS

**Ms ANNA WATSON (Shellharbour)**—I take this opportunity to congratulate Jynaya and Indiana Dos Santos, of Shellharbour, for their successful season winning the Premiership with Sydney FC in the A-League Women's Football Grand Final against Western United on Sunday 30 April 2023. Sisters Jynaya, aged 17, and Indiana, aged 15, played an important role in the team throughout the season culminating with the victory in the Grand Final. Indiana became Sydney FC's youngest ever goal scorer at 15 years and 170 days old, and then became the youngest ever player to feature in an A-League Women's Grand Final at 15 years 247 days old. Both Jynaya and Indiana played for the Shellharbour Junior Football Club and both are great role models for up and coming girls playing football in our region. I would like to congratulate Jynaya and Indiana on their outstanding achievements and on behalf of the Shellharbour community, I wish them both the very best of luck in their future sporting endeavours.

### MEGAN NEIL

**Ms ANNA WATSON (Shellharbour)**—I take this opportunity today to acknowledge an amazing resident of the Shellharbour electorate, Ms Megan Neil, who is an inspiration to us all. Megan was born with Klipel-feil Syndrome and due to this was unable to complete her High School Certificate [HSC]. Now, at the age of 35, Megan re-enrolled in her studies to attain her HSC Certificate. During this period of her life, Megan discovered her love of helping and decided to pursue a career as a social worker. While studying for HSC she completed the

UOW Wollongong Future Me program and received an ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award after being nominated by her school. After being given an early entry opportunity, Megan is now studying a Bachelor of Social Work at the University of Wollongong. Megan is an inspirational example of overcoming obstacles and hardships in life.

#### **DUDLEY REDHEAD SENIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

**Ms JODIE HARRISON (Charlestown—Minister for Women, Minister for Seniors, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault)**—Congratulations to Dudley Redhead Senior Football Club on the opening of its new, fully accessible, entry and amenities at Lydon Oval, Dudley. Established in 1896, Dudley Redhead Senior Football Club is one of the oldest clubs in Newcastle and it is always looking for ways to support its community. The new facilities were officially opened at a ceremony on 26 March with a crowd of the football club's supporters in conjunction with the Spider Jones Cup. It is wonderful to see local clubs recognising the benefits of accessible amenities for people living with a disability and proactively working towards finding solutions. A big shout out to Sharron Walker, grant finder extraordinaire! I had the pleasure of cutting the ribbon on the day with Kobe, a local football enthusiast who loves to come and see her mum play. Now her wheelchair can access the grounds much more easily and she can cheer on her Mum's team on from the sidelines. The launch was at the start of what will hopefully be a very successful 2023 season for the Dudley Redhead Senior Football Club.

#### **CHARLIE'S RUN 4 KIDS**

**Ms JODIE HARRISON (Charlestown—Minister for Women, Minister for Seniors, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault)**—When I joined the Charlie's Run 4 Kids crew at Adamstown station for a 5km fun run into Lydon Oval at Dudley on 12 March 2023, I was blown away by the huge effort to raise funds for local families affected by childhood cancer. Some of the running had started their journey five days earlier and 150km away at Seal Rocks. Watching the team cross the finish line with a huge crowd waiting is always an emotional moment, and this year was no exception. There are always some tears but also much joy at the event, which celebrates the life of Charlie Carr, who lost her battle with Neuroblastoma in April 2015 at the age of seven. It is the aim of Charlie's Run 4 Kids to take away some of the financial pressures off families of children with cancer and allow them to concentrate on their loved ones. As usual, the community came together in a massive fundraising effort to support two local families – this time, the families of Lilah Hogan and Savannah Reading. It is a legacy that would please Charlie very much. She always wanted to help others, even during her toughest times.

#### **MAY DAY PARADE**

**Ms JODIE HARRISON (Charlestown—Minister for Women, Minister for Seniors, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault)**—I am always proud to march with my union comrades at the Hunter Workers' May Day March and it was my pleasure to do so again at the 30 April event in Newcastle. May Day is a chance to remind everyone of the gains union members have achieved to improve their workplaces by standing together, as well as how much further we have to go in levelling the workplace playing field. The event was an opportunity to hear from local workers and their unions about conditions, and challenges they are facing, and join with my fellow Hunter MPs in supporting the workers who are so vital to the industry of our region and of NSW as a whole. The May Day Parade is an event I look forward to every year. It's a great opportunity to catch up with fellow unionists to celebrate what can be achieved by working collectively, and also to raise awareness of what still needs to be done. I would like to recognise Hunter Workers for their exceptional organisation and running of the event on the day, as well as all the people who took the opportunity to fly their flags proudly.

#### **TURTLES FOR SPRINGFIELD WETLANDS**

**Mr ADAM CROUCH (Terrigal)**—I recently visited Springfield Wetlands to discuss the establishment of a "Turtle Island" as part of a conservation strategy for turtles in Springfield. I would like to acknowledge Glenys Rae and Gail Santi from the Springfield Residents Association for organising the meeting with Dr Ricky Spencer from the University of Western Sydney, Central Coast Council and myself to discuss how the project can become a part of the 1 Million Turtles Community Conservation Program. It was also excellent to see that the wetlands are thriving as a result of the \$125,000 investment in weed removal, delivered under the former Coalition government. I look forward to working together with our community on the Turtle Island project.

#### **IT'S NOT BLACK OR WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION**

**Mr ADAM CROUCH (Terrigal)**—As part of Domestic and Family Violence Awareness Month I attended the "It's NOT Black or White" Photography Exhibition. I would like to acknowledge Victoria Fitzmaurice of Essence -Images and the NSW Police for putting this exhibition together. The exhibition aims to

generate conversations of the impacts of living with domestic and family violence and abuse through black and white photographs. The intention of the Exhibition is to increase awareness, shift attitudes held on violence and abuse and to stop violence and abuse from the start. But most importantly depict what domestic violence and abuse was/is like for Domestic and Family Violence victim-survivors.

#### **MR NICK DENT**

**Mr ADAM CROUCH (Terrigal)**—Today I would like to acknowledge and congratulate my constituent, Mr Nick Dent of Terrigal on his appointment to the Orienteering Australia Hall of fame – General Division. Membership of the Orienteering Australia Hall of fame represents the highest level of peer recognition for an individual's contribution to Australian orienteering. Mr Dent has been recognised for his outstanding service to Australian orienteering spanning the past 25 years. Apart from his significant contribution at both club and state level, Mr Dent has also held the role of head coach at national level. He has also undertaken Senior Event Advisor roles at numerous national events. I wish to again congratulate Mr Dent on his length of service and volunteer contribution to the sport of orienteering. Well done Nick and thank you for all that you have done.

#### **PRESENTATION OF SCHOOL FLAGS TO WENTWORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**Dr HUGH McDERMOTT (Prospect)**—On 27th April, I had the pleasure of presenting new school flags to Wentworthville Public School and their student school leaders – Mahesh, Siah and Subhan. I was impressed by the initiative of Mahesh, Siah and Subhan who sent me a formal request letter asking for assistance to replace their existing New South Wales, Australian, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander school flags. In their letter, they recognised the symbolic importance of having clean and fresh school flags for their school community. The student school leaders explained how these new school flags will teach younger students the importance of flags as a representation of history and a unifying symbol to bring people together. It is amazing to see young leaders in our community critically engaging with social and civic citizenship. Wentworthville Public School has over 800 students from diverse backgrounds. It is clear that the school community is doing a wonderful job encouraging a positive learning culture for its students. Congratulations to Principal Denise Lockrey, Assistant Principal Luke Williams, teachers, staff, parents, and school leadership team for their hard work and dedication towards educating our children.

#### **RFS COMMISSIONER'S CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION (UNIT)**

**Dr HUGH McDERMOTT (Prospect)**—Congratulations to members of the NSW RFS Brigade members in the Cumberland Zone on being awarded the RFS Commissioner's Certificate of Commendation (Unit) for providing exemplary service to members of our Western Sydney community during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, as a part of the Macarthur COVID-19 Assistance Team. This award recognises the service of a unit for their outstanding actions for fire service duties, administrative leadership, or exemplary performance of a specific project. In July 2021, NSW Health approached RFS personnel for assistance, and within two days, the team had converted the Prairiewood Youth and Community Centre, in the Electorate of Prospect, into a temporary vaccination hub. At its peak, up to 2,500 people a day were vaccinated. Each RFS member volunteered more than 25 days of their time to members of the public with vaccination appointments, health screenings, assisting mobile impaired or frail persons, and logistics control. Thank you to Group Captain Andrew Macdonald, Captain Steve Urquhart, FF Alex Depuy, FF Nathan Fisher, and FF Anthony Green, who received the award on behalf of the Macarthur COVID-19 Assistance Team, for your leadership and commitment to our Western Sydney community.

#### **6773RD ASSYRIAN-BABYLONIAN NEW YEAR (AKITU) AND 44TH ANNIVERSARY**

**Dr HUGH McDERMOTT (Prospect)**—On Monday 10th April, I was pleased to attend the 6773rd Assyrian-Babylonian New Year (Akitu) celebration and 44th Anniversary of the Assyrian Democratic Movement - Sydney Chapter. The Assyrian-Babylonian New Year is one of the oldest celebrations in the world, being celebrated for several millennia throughout the ancient Assyrian empire. This festival was celebrated for twelve consecutive days with different rituals and activities on each of those days to celebrate and pray for the arrival of the Spring season. The Assyrian Democratic Movement is a great organisation that promotes freedom, justice, and equal rights for Assyrian people. They have helped to create a strong Assyrian community in Western Sydney where individuals and families can actively practice their culture and faith. It was wonderful to attend the New Year celebration with members of our Assyrian community. There were lively performances from Assyrian singers and musicians, the Assyrian Dance Star Group, and speeches from special guests. I would like to thank Immanuel Sada, President, Assyrian Democratic Movement – Sydney Chapter, and his leadership team, for hosting a fantastic event for our Western Sydney community.

#### **ST MICHAEL'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**Mr TIM JAMES (Willoughby)**—During the recent season of Easter, I had the pleasure of joining with Father Timothy Klintsaris and his congregation at St Michael's Greek Orthodox Church, Crows Nest, to observe

the Greek Easter. Falling a week after the Easter observed by the Western churches, St Michael's observed Good Friday on 14 April with a beautiful candlelit procession through the streets of Crows Nest featuring sacred icons and, of course, the wooden crucifix. I was deeply moved by this solemn commemoration of the most sacred day on the Christian Calendar. I thank Fr Timothy and Chairman Dimitrios Gongolidis for including me as we walked together to remember the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. I honour the parish of St Michael's Crows Nest for its faith, ministry and Christian witness to the community. I am so grateful for the rich contribution that St Michael's Greek Orthodox Church makes to the spiritual and community life of Willoughby.

### **HOLI FESTIVAL IN ARTARMON**

**Mr TIM JAMES (Willoughby)**—On Sunday 12 March, I had the great pleasure to join the local Indian community of Willoughby to celebrate the annual festival of Holi hosted by the Mosaic Multicultural Centre in Artarmon. Originating from the Indian sub-continent, Holi is a vibrant Hindu Spring festival of colours to mark the arrival of brighter, warmer weather in the northern hemisphere from March. Holi celebrates the triumph of good over evil, signifying the victory of the Vishnu deity over his adversary. The celebrants of Holi typically spray each other with coloured powder and colour each other's faces with paint. It was wonderful for me to experience this ancient and vibrant festival firsthand as I participated in the MOSAIC Centre's Indian Social Group Holi event at Artarmon. It was truly uplifting to experience such community spirit on display for this celebration of love, renewal, and the coming of spring. I thank the local community of Artarmon for making me feel so welcome.

### **STEPHANIE HO**

**Mr TIM JAMES (Willoughby)**—I was proud and privileged to recently meet the endurance athlete, adventurer and Chatswood local, Stephanie Ho. Stephanie is not only a trained exercise therapist and gifted athlete, but a great philanthropist with a heart for supporting good causes in our community. In July 2022, Stephanie ran 310km from Canberra to Sydney to raise funds to build a computer lab for a Nepalese school. This month, Stephanie will be skiing 540km over 30 days across the Greenland icecap to raise money for another great cause, The Fred Hollows Foundation. Founded by the legendary eye surgeon Fred Hollows, the Foundation works around the world to provide high quality and affordable eyecare to everyone. To support good causes, Stephanie ultimately dreams of skiing solo across Antarctica to the South Pole. Willoughby locals such as Stephanie do extraordinary things and it's a joy to celebrate them. I wish Stephanie Ho all the very best for her future adventures.

### **CHEMIST CARING FOR COMMUNITY**

**Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG (Macquarie Fields—Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections)**—Cincotta Discount Chemist in Macquarie Fields offers more than scripts and health advice. The chemist, in the heart of Macquarie Fields' shopping precinct, prides itself on community involvement and care. Pharmacist Sam Sleitini believes in giving back to the community which entrusts him and his team daily with looking after their health. I recently paid a visit to the chemist for its World's Greatest Shave event, which raised \$2,290 for vital cancer research. It is the fifth year the chemist has hosted the event, which continues to grow. It is testament to the chemist's commitment to the cause that other community organisations have come on board to lend their support, including the Lions Club of Ingleburn and Ingleburn Eagles Soccer Club. The chemist's fundraising events help raise awareness of a range of health issues, including leukaemia, breast cancer, and Movember focusing on men's health issues. All community events are not-for-profit and aim to boost awareness as well as raise funds for health research. I commend Cincotta Discount Chemist Macquarie Fields on its ongoing commitment to creating a healthier, happier community through its fundraising efforts.

### **GROUP CAPTAIN CRAIG ROBERTSON**

**Ms MARYANNE STUART (Heathcote)**—You can't help but admire emergency services workers. When others are fleeing a fire or a flood, emergency services workers like Rural Fire Service Illawarra/Sutherland Area Group Captain, Craig Robertson, race towards the emergency. That selfless attitude saw Craig recently awarded a Commissioner's Commendation in Bravery for his actions. On July 2, 2022, following days of pouring rain, Otford Rural Fire Service Brigade and Illawarra Group 1 were called to respond to a concern for welfare. When the crews arrived at Otford Train Station they could hear screams below from the Hacking River. Despite the poor light and deluge, the crews made their way to riverbank below. It was there where Craig located a man who was wedged in a tree that was surrounded by rapidly rising water. Craig responded by securing a rope to himself and an Otford RFS crew member, and made his way to the trapped man. Wading through fast moving water – at times 1.5 metres deep – Craig tied his rope to the man and the pair were eventually assisted from the water. It is with pleasure that I also recognise Craig for his incredible brave and selfless act on July 2, 2022.

### RELAY FOR LIFE SUTHERLAND

**Ms MARYANNE STUART (Heathcote)**—Relay for Life events were held throughout Australia on Saturday, May 6, raising much needed funds for the Cancer Council. I was fortunate to attend this year's Sutherland event held at Wanda Beach's Don Lucas Reserve. The response from the community was incredible with thousands of locals flocking to the event. There were carers, people in remission, those currently suffering from cancer, family, friends and others who simply wanted to show their support. The Sutherland community is famous for lending a hand to help others in need – and this year's Relay for Life was no exception. I must also particularly acknowledge the students, staff and teachers at my former school, St John Bosco College, Engadine, for raising more than \$27,000 this year. The Cancer Council states that events like Relay for Life have saved more than 61,000 Australian lives with funds going towards: school safe programs; treatments; nurses; transport costs volunteer training; and research. Thank you to the Cancer Council again for putting on such a worthwhile event. And a huge thank you to all those who participated in Relay for Life events and the locals who volunteered.

### KU-RING-GAI YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

**Mr MATT CROSS (Davidson)**—It was my privilege on Friday 28 April to take part in a lunch to celebrate Ku-ring-gai Youth Development Service [KYDS] and to acknowledge the extraordinary contribution of KYDS longest serving Management Committee member, Namoi Dougall. Namoi is stepping down after 15 years of service, devoting enormous time and energy to KYDS. I also acknowledge Chair Helen Jarvis and CEO Dr Anthony Rigney. KYDS provides a local and free counselling service for children and young people dealing with stress, anxiety, grief and other challenges. When it began in 2005, KYDS supported 36 young people. Last year it supported 400. As I have said on several occasions, as a community, we need to remove the stigma often associated with mental health. KYDS helps to do this. KYDS was established by Lindfield Rotary, partnering with Ku-ring-gai Council. Local businesses, clubs, organisations and individuals have put tremendous effort and dollars into making it a success. The KYDS model shows that communities can and do come together to do important work. I again congratulate Namoi, Helen and Anthony for their devotion to this cause and all of the individuals, organisations and businesses who have made KYDS an inspiring reality.

### THE ROSEVILLE CLUB ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE 2023

**Mr MATT CROSS (Davidson)**—At dawn on Tuesday 25 April, the Roseville Returned Servicemen's Memorial Club held their annual ANZAC Day Ceremony of Remembrance to honour all those who have served, injured, and died defending Australia and our allies. The Service, conducted at the War Memorial at the Roseville Memorial Park, continued the tradition established by the Roseville Sub-Branch of the RSL who founded The Roseville Club in 1947. The Club was home to the Roseville Sub-Branch for 72 years. The Club proudly continues to maintain the memorial honouring the valour and sacrifices of those who have served Australia in war, an objective enshrined in its constitution. Post the service, it was fitting to join the community for breakfast to share stories about our history and heritage. Like many who were in attendance, I proudly wore the medals of my grandfather, Athol Patterson, who served in the Pacific in WWII. I thank President John Whitworth and the Board of The Roseville Club, Reverend Mal York, Ku-ring-gai Council, and all those involved in the service for their efforts in putting it together and ensuring that the memory of the ANZACs lives on.

### FORESTVILLE RSL ANZAC COMMEMORATION

**Mr MATT CROSS (Davidson)**—On Sunday 23 April I attended the Forestville RSL Sub-Branch's annual ANZAC March and Commemorative Service. It is an event made possible by the by many behind the scenes volunteers. I thank Parade Commander, John Balfour OAM, President Bob Lunnon, Secretary Vince Williams CSC, the Committee members and all the volunteers, including the Davidson High School band. I was humbled to be in the presence of two WWII veterans, 100 year old Roy Taylor and 96 year old Don Kennedy OAM. Mr Taylor also attended the Sydney March on ANZAC Day with help from Forestville sub-Branch Welfare Officer, Stuart Hablethwaite. ANZAC Day is a time for solemn reflection on the service and sacrifice all those who have gone to war to defend Australia. Many lost their lives in battle or later at home due to the physical and mental injuries they suffered. Their families too, paid a heavy price. Sitting at the Forestville cenotaph was humbling – in particular watching Roy and Don in the joy that they survived into old age mingled with the knowledge of how many mates they lost and the horror they witnessed. Lest We Forget.

### BETTY OCKERLANDER – LOCAL EPPING WOMAN OF THE YEAR

**Mr DOMINIC PERROTTET (Epping)**—Today I wish to pay special tribute to an outstanding local Epping woman, Betty Ockerlander. Betty has been an active member of the local Epping Community for several years. As a well-respected partner and sales agent at McGraths Real Estate Epping, and experience of running her own business in Epping for more than 15 years prior, she has been a trailblazer for women in business. Betty is currently the secretary of the Epping Chamber of Commerce and sits on the executive board of the Beecroft Rotary

as well. Through McGrath Betty has sponsored local sport clubs like Epping Bulls Junior Cricket Team and has forged strong relationships with local school and charity groups. Furthermore, she has helped create forums for local small businesses, helping Epping business people connect, work together and find their voice. It is especially for her achievements in community work, in addition to her many other accomplishments, that I was proud to nominate her to be the 2023 Epping Local Woman of the Year. Thank you Betty Ockerlander – and indeed thank you to all our local women for the amazing work you do in our community.

#### **ANZAC DAY 2023 IN THE EPPING ELECTORATE**

**Mr DOMINIC PERROTTET (Epping)**—It is an honour each year to attend the local events commemorating Anzac Day in my electorate of Epping. The Epping RSL Sub-Branch hosted their customary Anzac Sunday Service followed by a march through Rawson Street and a wreath-laying ceremony. On Anzac Day proper, I attended the Epping Dawn Service and the Beecroft Rotary Afternoon Service. It was heartening to see so many young people, school students and even preschool-aged children among those paying respects to those who made the supreme sacrifice to secure the freedoms we have today. Our Anzac tradition is in safe hands. My thanks to the Epping RSL Sub-Branch, especially President Brian Swan AM for his leadership across events, along with Vice President David Taylor OAM and Secretary John Prestidge RFD ED; to Rev Anton Marquez for officiating the Dawn Service; and to Peter Saez and the Epping Club team for their excellent hospitality. Thank you also to Beecroft Rotary, especially President Madeleine Sherwood, for organising the Anzac Day afternoon service and to John Simpson for an inspiring Anzac address at Beecroft.

#### **PORT MACQUARIE HASTINGS MUNICIPAL BAND SUCCESS 2023**

**Mrs LESLIE WILLIAMS (Port Macquarie)**—On the first sitting day of the 58th Parliament I take this opportunity to recognise the Port Macquarie Hastings Municipal Band and their success at the Australian National Band Championship held on 8 April 2023. The Band won the Open 'D' Grade Concert Band section after completing their four prepared items including its Sacred Item, Test Piece, Own Choice and a Stage March scoring an incredible 569 points out of a possible 600 points. The Band is supported by Musical Director Amy Corrigan, Secretary Alan Kearns, Music Librarian Grant Roberts and President Leanne Howlett. Earlier this year I was pleased to announce a Community Building Partnership Grant of \$15,000 allowing the Band to purchase a new timpani which I had the opportunity to hear first hand at the recent High Tea and Fine Tunes held at Sails Resort in March. From its inception the band has made community service a priority and makes itself available for performances for all our community organisations. With dedication to high standards and professional instruction the Port Macquarie Hastings Municipal Band is focussed on further expanding and sharing the benefits that music brings to our community. Congratulations.

#### **KERRIE BORGER RETIREMENT**

**Mrs LESLIE WILLIAMS (Port Macquarie)**—I rise to recognise Kerrie Borger and acknowledge her retirement in July 2023 after 27 years as a bookmaker working across racecourses throughout the Mid North Coast, Northern Tablelands, Northern Rivers and Newcastle. Kerrie was the first female bookmaker registered on Country NSW racecourses in 1996. Kerrie overcame an uphill battle to be accepted by her male peers, but her long and successful career is testament to her skill and success. Kerrie served as a Country Director of the NSW Bookmakers Co-Op until 2019 and remains an active adviser to its current Chair. The NSW Bookmakers Co-Op and the Australian Turf Club acknowledged Kerrie's contribution to country racing with a race named in her honour at the Rosehill Gardens meet on 29th April 2023. The Port Macquarie Race Club also acknowledged Kerrie's long career and contribution to the industry. Kerrie's daughter Jo-Anne has worked with her mother over a number of years and will take over the on course business. I congratulate Kerrie Borger on her career and contribution to NSW country racing and wish her all the best in her retirement.

#### **CARAMELS**

**Mrs LESLIE WILLIAMS (Port Macquarie)**—On the first day of the 58th Parliament I acknowledge the new owners of Caramels in my hometown of Lake Cathie for following their dreams to purchase the popular café establishment. Caramels is loved by locals and visitors alike renowned for its sensational barista style coffee and scrumptious food. Conveniently located in the centre of town, Caramels operate from the Woolworths complex and offers delicious coffee and gourmet meals, seven days a week bringing together a niche atmosphere and service which has become the trademark and not surprisingly popular in the community since 2007. Keeping the vibe alive is new owners Nat Amor and Kevin Hawes who have recently returned to NSW after working in high profile hospitality establishments bring their experience and expertise to our community. Nat and Kevin employ two full-time chefs and a casual chef creating a flavour storm in the kitchen with freshly made meals and treats in-house on offer. My favourite is the freshly baked lasagne which even I as an avid cook would be unable to replicate. I congratulate Nat and Kevin on keeping our loved Caramels vibrant and alive serving up consistently delicious coffee and delectable treats for us to enjoy.

### HEART OF THE NATION/AED UNVEILING

**Mr DOMINIC PERROTTET (Epping)**—Sudden Cardiac Arrest [SCA] is one of the leading causes of death in Australia. Tragically, as many as 90 per cent of those who suffer a SCA outside of hospital will not survive. I am indebted to Greg Page, former yellow Wiggle and CEO of Heart of the Nation for his leadership and advocacy on this important issue. Heart of the Nation raises heart health awareness and works to install Automated External Defibrillators [AEDs] in the community. Recently, I attended the unveiling of an AED at Rawson St in Epping, where my electorate office happens to be situated. This was a joint undertaking between Heart of the Nation and the Epping Club. Located next to the ground floor lifts, the AED is accessible to anyone should the need arise. Applying an AED within 3 minutes, combined with CPR, dramatically increases the chance of SCA survival. I would be delighted to see every office building follow in installing one of these AEDs, which could genuinely save your life or the life of someone you know. Thank you to Epping Club CEO Peter Saez, Epping Club Chairman David Taylor, and Greg Page for this life-saving initiative.

### PENSHURST ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE

**Mr MARK COURE (Oatley)**—On ANZAC Day this year, I had the privilege of attending the dawn service in Penshurst, organised by the Oatley, Mortdale, and Penshurst RSL Sub-Branches. It was an honour to stand alongside both retired and enlisted members of the Australian Defence Force to commemorate this incredibly important day in the history of our nation. It was also wonderful to see so many in our community come and attend the dawn service. Not only was this a day to commemorate those brave ANZACs who passed away in Gallipoli, but also a way to remember all those Australians who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and operations across the world. Many of these service men and women paid the ultimate price by laying down their lives for their fellow countrymen, families and of course, their country. We will always remember their sacrifice and continue to honour their memory through the freedoms we enjoy each day. I would like to thank members of the Oatley, Mortdale and Penshurst RSL Sub-Branches for putting on a truly memorable event and I look forward to attending next year's ceremony.

### FOREST RANGERS FC - MAKE IT RED

**Mr MARK COURE (Oatley)**—I would like to congratulate the Forest Rangers Football Club for coming together and supporting the 'Make it Red' initiative, which I had the privilege to attend at Gannon's Park in Peakhurst. Whilst it was a very wet day, parents, players and much of the community came out in droves to support the cause. Gannon's Park was absolutely covered in red, with players getting behind the cause by wearing red hair ties, bows and ribbons. The initiative was started by the 'Heartbeat of Football' Organisation, headed by Andrew Paschalidis, who are doing some fantastic work to promote cardiovascular health in football. I would like to thank the entire team at the 'Heartbeat of Football' for their incredible efforts over the last few years. Their mission is simple, but their message is strong: zero heart-related deaths at football grounds in Australia. I would also like to thank the President of the Forest Rangers Football Club, Con Sorras, as well as all the fantastic and dedicated team who put on an outstanding event. I look forward to supporting many more Forest Rangers events into the future.

### CREP SHOP VISIT

**Mr MARK COURE (Oatley)**—I recently had the chance to visit 'Crep Shop', a new local business in Narwee that takes the sneaker game very seriously! Stocking everything from Jordans to Nike Air Max's, the store is an absolute hub for youth culture in the local area, with the rest of the world taking notice. The store recently hosted British rapper's SL and Knucks, throwing Crep Shop into the global spotlight. Whilst I'm certainly not a sneakerhead, it was incredible to hear the owner Mike Mikhaeel, share his passion for sneakers, fashion, and rap music. He said that 'exclusive' pairs of sneakers can often fetch hundreds, even thousands of dollars, and this is what keeps the people coming back to Crep Shop. He envisioned it as a space where kids could come after school, play a few games on the 'street fighter' arcade machine and relax whilst browsing some highly sought-after sneakers. I'd love to congratulate Mike and the rest of his team for creating such an inviting space for local kids and teenagers to hang out. I wish them all the very best with the shop!

### WYALONG MOTOR SPORTS

**Ms STEPH COOKE (Cootamundra)**—It was lovely to catch up and meet Peter, Adam, Matt and Leanne of the Wyalong Motor Sports Club to see firsthand the incredible work they have been doing to bring the much-loved sport of motor cross back to the heart of the Bland Shire. After 12 long months and countless hours on the tracks and hitting the books, the club has been given the tick of approval to be operational again. The motor cross track has been closed for 10 plus years and the dirt track 5 plus years. The countless voluntary hours donated, the many working bees and the collaborative efforts of the whole community is incredible and has paid off. It takes a lot of effort to fix and rebuild the Wyalong Motor Sports Track and everyone involved is commended for the

work that they have put it and I am sure it will be enjoyed for generations to come. There are many hours of fun to be had on these tracks for the young and young at heart. Thank you once again to the club for hosting me and I can't wait to see you all again soon.

#### **GRENFELL LIGHTS UP**

**Ms STEPH COOKE (Cootamundra)**—I wish to note the incredible success of the Grenfell 'Light Up The Night' event which was held earlier this year. This sold-out event was one of the best I have ever had the pleasure of attending with live music, market stalls and a spectacular light show with over 100 drones taking to the sky above Grenfell. I am reliably informed it was the largest drone shows to have taken place in Australia so far – and it truly wowed the crowd, with a huge number of people travelling to town for the event. I wish to congratulate the team at Weddin Shire Council and Tourism for pulling it all together, with the support of the Festival of Place Summer Night Fund. I also note a great number of locals provided their support to the event, with local RFS and SES volunteers, and St Joseph's P&C assisting with set-up and pack-up. Auntie Julie Ferguson, Grenfell Pre-School & Long Day Care Centre, and countless others. Grenfell continues to punch well above its weight when it comes to exciting and interesting community events, with the annual Henry Lawson Festival coming up next on the calendar.

#### **JUNEE POKER RUN AND BLUES NIGHT**

**Ms STEPH COOKE (Cootamundra)**—I would like to congratulate the Junee Poker Run on their annual event of which their fundraising efforts, raised \$25,000 for Can Assist. Over the last 18 years the Junee Poker Run has raised around \$200,000 which is just outstanding. This tradition has grown each year with over 450 motorcyclists and support crews meeting at Junee Showground to commence the day with a BBQ breakfast cooked by Junee Fire Brigade and served by Junee Can Assist branch committee members. This year's event headed to Cootamundra, before stopping for lunch at Wallendbeen, then onto Stockinbingal, Temora and Marrar before returning to the Junee Showground where the blues night kicked off in style. An event like this takes many hands to co-ordinate and I congratulate everyone who assisted on the day including Junee Fire Brigade, Junee Rural Fire Brigade and Junee VRA. I would like to congratulate once again, the Junee Poker Run team including the sponsors and volunteers who enabled this event to go ahead. Thank you for all your fundraising efforts for these deserving recipients in Junee.

#### **BEAUTY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOL TURKIYE-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE FUNDRAISER**

**Ms FELICITY WILSON (North Shore)**—I want to recognise the efforts of Beauty Point Public, who recently hosted a school mufti day to raise funds to support the recovery of Turkiye-Syria following the devastating earthquake that struck the area, killing over 56,000 people and affecting millions more. In particular, I acknowledge the Student Representative Council for their work in championing this fundraiser, the first of the year. The students wore mufti in the colours of red and white, symbolism of the Turkish Flag. All funds raised were donated to the Red Cross for the Turkiye-Syria Earthquake Appeal, which goes towards helping children and their families in small communities impacted by the earthquake disaster. I congratulate the school community, school principal, Marion Walsh-Gay, and the SRC for their efforts in coming together to support such an important cause and doing their part in helping those much less fortunate. I look forward to hearing about the fantastic initiatives the dedicated SRC group will develop throughout the year.

#### **BALMORAL SWIM FOR CANCER 2023**

**Ms FELICITY WILSON (North Shore)**—Local swimmers braved the wind and rain to dive head first into the 32nd Balmoral Swim for Cancer in early April. More than 1,500 swimmers took part in this iconic fixture of the Balmoral calendar, raising much needed funds for the Children's Cancer Institute whose mission is to cure all children of cancer. Balmoral Swim for Cancer has supported the Children's Cancer Institute since 2006, helping drive their childhood cancer research towards uncovering a cure. The swims vary in distance from 1km around the island to 5km around the bay, complete with the Balmoral team challenge and school relay challenge. Amazingly this year the Balmoral Swim for Cancer raised over \$115,000 which is an overwhelming achievement contributed by participants own fundraising and sponsorship. I acknowledge the community sponsors in particular who support this event, Balmoral Beach Club, Marine Rescue NSW Middle Harbour, HMAS Penguin, Mosman Council, Penny's Quality Butcher, and D&M. I thank all the local schools who participated, Mosman High, St Aloysius, Redlands, Shore, Beauty Point Public, Wenona, Queenwood, and Mosman Prep. A special congratulations to all the swimmers, sponsors, volunteers, schools, and community organisations who made the day possible.

#### **BRAND NEW EXPERIENCE – NURA DIYA AUSTRALIA OPENS AT TARONGA ZOO**

**Ms FELICITY WILSON (North Shore)**—I want to acknowledge and congratulate Taronga Zoo on opening its brand-new immersive Australian experience - Nura Diya Australia. The new habitat showcases

Australia's most iconic animals, from Koalas and Dingoes to Wallabies and Emus. Nura Diya is from the Sydney First Language and means 'This Country'. These words were gifted to Taronga through ongoing relationships with First Nations Peoples. There is an array of incredible aboriginal artwork throughout the habitat and the 400m walking trail. The habitat pays homage to the amazing country we call home and the land on which we live. It was a privilege to join the Taronga team for the highly anticipated opening of Nura Diya, and I know they have all worked so hard to see the amazing new space come alive. I highly encourage everyone to go and see these unique native animals and the incredible artwork designed especially for the exhibit. Once again, I congratulate Taronga CEO Cameron Kerr, and his team for the successful opening of Nura Diya.

#### ELLA JESSEN

**Mr DAVID HARRIS (Wyong—Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast)—**I would like to acknowledge the successful athlete Ella Jessen from Wyong District Netball Association for making the NSW U17's Squad Camp. Ella has been a Wyong District Netball Association representative in the following years U12's, U13's, U14's and U15's competing in the Netball New South Wales State Titles. This year Ella was also a Central Coast Academy of Sport participant, representing the Bateau Bay Netball club and competed in Division 1 Grand Final Wyong District Netball Association this season. Congratulations to Ella in exceeding your goals and representing the Wyong community. I wish you all the best in your sporting endeavours.

#### JASMINE ORMSBY

**Mr DAVID HARRIS (Wyong—Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast)—**Congratulations to Jasmine Ormsby, year 12 student from Wyong Christian Community School for receiving the Silver Rowe Depth Study Award in the Science Teachers' Association of NSW Young Scientist Awards Program 2022. The Young Scientist Awards Program celebrates the scientific investigations, technological innovations, and mathematical inquiries of school students across NSW. Since 1992, the Program has been encouraging students to undertake innovative projects and investigations to find creative solutions to real-world problems. Jasmine presented to Young Scientist Awards Program her Physics depth study on Electromagnetism. Electromagnetism is a branch of physics involving the study of the electromagnetic force, a type of physical interaction that occurs between electrically charged particles. Well done Jasmine for this excellent recognition.

#### COAST HANDS STREET SERVICE

**Mr DAVID HARRIS (Wyong—Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast)—**Coast Hands is a charity supporting people in need across the Central Coast. They partner with local restaurants providing quality meals to those who need a feed, they also provide food hampers, clothing, blankets, and toiletries. I joined Coast Hands founder Micah Weekes to support their weekly Street Service at Gosford with Eat Up Events and Catering who provided Chicken Cacciatore for dinner and a Chocolate Mousse for dessert. Whipping up over 250 serves of food. Coast Hands is truly an amazing service. It is wonderful to see local organisations come together such as Community Hair Project providing free haircuts and Orange Sky laundry service along with Southlake's Incorporated, Shoebox Revolution and The Copperheads SMC. RetroAir from Tuggerah has jumped on board to support Coast Hands weekly Street Service every Wednesday and provided 50 individual hampers in the first week. It was great to see the support from our local services giving their time and effort to those in need on the Central Coast.

#### VALE ELINOR WROBEL

**Mr ALEX GREENWICH (Sydney)—**On behalf of the Sydney electorate, I mourn the passing of Elinor Wrobel OAM, nurse, curator, art collector, benefactor, and advocate on 12 March. Elinor and her husband Fred amassed an amazing collection of Australian art that has travelled to galleries around the country and ran the Woolloomooloo Gallery from 1984 to 1999. Their John Passmore Museum of Art held more than 270 of his artworks from 2003, and Elinor acted as consultant curator for the University of Melbourne Grainger Museum from 1982 to 1999. Elinor took on the establishment of the Lucy Osburn-Nightingale Museum in 2001, she described it as a museum which records the history not only of the nursing profession but also the medical staff and related professions. It is a vast repository of archives and objects. She recovered and restored the unique rare morbid specimen collection of body parts and would regale any visitor with stories about them. Elinor devoted much time to education about art, costumes, textiles and of course the history of modern nursing. She was passionate and acted on her passions for public good. Vale Elinor Wrobel.

### JESS SCULLY

**Mr ALEX GREENWICH (Sydney)**—On behalf of the Sydney electorate, I wish to note and thank Jess Scully for her work as City of Sydney councillor from September 2016 to this year. Jess built on her experience working with VIVID to bring a focus on culture, arts and creative events and experience to the city. She worked on a wide range of projects and plans for council to revitalise inner city high streets, support laneway gardens, make sure there are spaces for kids play and child care access for asylum seekers. She achieved local preference procurement and support for community and wealth building organisations. Jess gave priority to better housing options for vulnerable people and support of the Housing for the Aged Action Group, recognising a home is vital to a city for everyone. I worked with Jess on some projects including strengthening the night-time economy and getting COVID support grants for micro-businesses. She is a 'yes' person who is always looking for ways to make things happen. We need councillors like Jess who show up and take action, and I thank her for this significant contribution to the City of Sydney and the inner city.

### AUSTRALIAN MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

**Mr JIHAD DIB (Bankstown—Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice)**—On 10 April, I had the pleasure of attending the Australian Macedonian Community Festival organised by Bankstown City Lions FC. This year's Festival was held at Jensen Park in Regents Park, home to the mighty Lions. I may have been fasting but the amazing smells of burek and kebabi filled the air and I could not help but suggest that next year's event take place outside of Ramadan. There was plenty of dancing, singing, stalls with goodies, soccer and food which brought our local community together. Luckily, everyone was spared from my dancing! It is a beautiful event that brings our whole community together. Due to the pandemic, our community has missed out on this amazing Festival. I am thrilled that we now get to enjoy it once more and look forward to many more festivals to come. My thanks goes out to Bankstown City Lions on a terrific event, which showcases the diversity of a community I am so proud to be a part of.

### BANKSTOWN BULLS ALUMNI JORDAN MAILATA

**Mr JIHAD DIB (Bankstown—Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice)**—This is one of Australia's greatest sporting success stories. Jordan Mailata, the boy from Bankstown who played Rugby League for the under 18's at the Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs and 20's for the South Sydney Rabbitohs is now an American NFL player for the Philadelphia Eagles and played in the Super Bowl, the biggest and most publicised sporting event in the United States. On 13 February the Bankstown Bulls Junior Rugby League Football Club held a watch party at Ruse Park, Bankstown for their alumni. There was food, games and music which filled the air with excitement. While American Football is not widely followed in Australia, the Bankstown Bulls were there in droves supporting their hero. Jordan Mailata has done us proud. The Philadelphia Eagles may not have won the Super Bowl, but Jordan did something greater by being a role model for the community. Thanks to Bankstown Bulls for letting me drive the boss, Chris Minns, and colleagues Kylie Wilkinson and Clr. Rachele Harika on the transport Buggy. I want to thank Ali Mehanna and the committee at Bankstown Bulls for putting together such an exciting event.

### AUSTRALIAN JORDANIAN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION GRADUATION EVENT

**Mr JIHAD DIB (Bankstown—Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice)**—On Sunday 12 February, I had the pleasure of attending the Australian Jordanian Community Association Graduation Event 2023 at the Bryan Brown Theatre in Bankstown. It is an annual event attended by hundreds to acknowledge the amazing students who achieve fantastic results in their HSC. Attending students were recipients of awards which recognised their dedication to education and the importance it has in our community's future. I look forward to seeing all the students succeed in life and contribute to a better society for all and show that no matter where you come from and what your family history is you can achieve greatness in Australia if you put your mind to it. In a community as diverse as ours, we owe the Australian Jordanian Community Association thanks for its stated efforts to give voice to and structure a cohesive Jordanian community in Australia and providing outreach to the wider community. I greatly value my relationship with the Australian Jordanian Community Association and its leadership and thank them for extending this invitation to me. I am enriched by the experience.

### BOMADERRY RSL SUB BRANCH ANZAC DAY SERVICE

**Mr GARETH WARD (Kiama)**—Today the Parliament of New South Wales acknowledges the Bomaderry RSL Sub Branch for hosting a solemn ANZAC Day Service at Walsh Memorial Park on Tuesday 25th April 2023. I was extremely honoured and proud to attend and lay a wreath on behalf of our community. I acknowledge and thank the President of Bomaderry RSL Sub Branch Mr Rob Madden for inviting me along.

Our local community deeply appreciates the work of all our RSL Sub Branches and their volunteers. These volunteers work so incredibly hard to host the ANZAC Day Services along with other commemorative services throughout the year. Many locals have memories, stories and family connections to those who serve or have served. I remembered the service of my grandfather who lost his arm during battle on the western front in France. He returned home only to later die from his injuries due to a blood clot. My father was just two years old. Legacy played a big part in the lives of my grandmother, my father and his two brothers. I acknowledge the wonderful work that Legacy do.

#### **BERRY RSL SUB BRANCH ANZAC DAY SERVICE**

**Mr GARETH WARD (Kiama)**—Today the Parliament of New South Wales acknowledges the Berry RSL Sub Branch for hosting a wonderful service ANZAC Day Service at Berry Memorial Park on 25th April 2023. I acknowledge the President Clyde Poulton and Secretary-Treasurer Stuart Christmas. A very powerful address from Commodore Darren Rae OAK (RAN) who reminded us of the importance of 'principle over position' and 'values over value'. Our local community deeply appreciates the work of all our RSL Sub Branches and their volunteers. These volunteers work so incredibly hard to host the ANZAC Day Services along with other commemorative services throughout the year. Many locals have memories, stories and family connections to those who serve or have served. I remembered the service of my grandfather who lost his arm during battle on the western front in France. He returned home only to later die from his injuries due to a blood clot. My father was just two years old. Legacy played a big part in the lives of my grandmother, my father and his two brothers. I acknowledge the wonderful work that Legacy do supporting widows, widowers and their families.

#### **KIAMA ANGLICAN CHURCH ANZAC SERVICE**

**Mr GARETH WARD (Kiama)**—Today the Parliament of New South Wales acknowledges Kiama Anglican Church for hosting a wonderful ANZAC Service on Sunday 23rd April 2023. I was extremely honoured and proud to attend and lay a wreath on behalf of our community. I acknowledge the efforts of Rev Steve Stanis, Bill Humphreys OAM, Lynette Matheson, Sue Lear, Norm Megarrity, Robin Newing, Pamela Baxter. A key focus for this service was the memory of local soldier and Chaplain A H Gallop whose name is on a memorial at the door of the church. Our local Kiama community deeply appreciates the work of all our RSL Sub Branches and their volunteers. These volunteers work so incredibly hard to host the ANZAC Day Services along with other commemorative services throughout the year. The Kiama Anglican ANZAC Day Service was a very important occasion to bring our local community together to reflect upon and remember all the brave men and women in uniform who helped established many of the freedoms Australians enjoy.

#### **URBAN LAND HOUSING**

**Mrs TANYA DAVIES (Badgerys Creek)**—Congratulations to Urban Land Housing, a local real estate company that has been making a significant impact on the community. Earlier this year, they successfully opened their 12th premises and this time, in the heart of Glenmore Park. There are exciting opportunities for everyone to be a part of and I want to wish Urban Land Housing all the very best in their endeavours in Glenmore Park. It is just another example of the fact that the electorate of Badgerys Creek, the heart and future of Western Sydney is one of the best places to live, work, raise a family and open a business.

#### **KIMBERLY EASTWOOD**

**Mrs TANYA DAVIES (Badgerys Creek)**—Kimberley Eastwood's journey is a testament to the power of hope and perseverance. When told that her baby wouldn't survive, she refused to give up and kept fighting for her child's life. Through the support of her family, friends and medical professionals, Kimberley was able to give her baby the best chance at survival. This heart-warming story is a reminder that miracles can happen, and the strength of the human spirit can overcome even the greatest challenges. Kimberley's unwavering determination and courage are an inspiration to us all. I would like to take this opportunity to recognise Kimberley Eastwood's incredible journey and congratulate her on the birth of her beautiful baby. I also want to acknowledge the medical professionals who supported Kimberley and her family during this difficult time. I wish Kimberley and her family all the best as they continue their journey together.

#### **GLENMORE PARK BARK AND PLAY GROUP**

**Mrs TANYA DAVIES (Badgerys Creek)**—I rise to recognise Glenmore Park Bark and Play community group. Created in 2015 by Dee Kerr, it has brought over 800 members together in the common goal of socialising their pets. The group organises meet-ups, reports lost dogs and shares valuable information. Their hard work and dedication led to the success of Glenmore Park Dog Park, providing a much-needed space for pet owners to socialise their fur babies. Thanks to their tireless efforts, we now have a local dog park that has benefited the entire community. As we celebrate eight years of their remarkable work, we recognise the positive impact they've made

in bringing dogs and their owners together. I thank Dee and all members for their commitment to creating a space where our pets can thrive.

#### **YVONNE FLETCHER & JOHN GILLAM: FIND THEM, REMEMBER THEM**

**Ms JENNY AITCHISON (Maitland—Minister for Regional Transport and Roads)**—Local historians, authors and educators Yvonne Fletcher and John Gillam, have developed a historical education program for schools titled Find Them, Remember Them: Creating Citizen Historians. Find Them, Remember Them aligns with both the National and NSW History curricula for Years 6 to 9 helping students to develop historical skills and concepts by learning and practicing historical research as historians would. Find them, Remember Them has been trialled at seven schools and blends Historical Inquiry and Project Based Learning by providing an authentic learning experience accessing online databases such as the National Archives of Australia, the Australian War Memorial and Trove. Students, work as citizen historians, researching a local World War I soldier, using professional skills and concepts, to create historical documents that communicate their research to both the local and national community. In some cases, it is possible to have the unclaimed medals of veterans issued to family members or eligible community institutions such as the local school as a result of the research. I congratulate Yvonne and John for developing this transformative program which skills students to apply these important research skills more broadly to other disciplines.

#### **MAITLAND STEPS UP FOR BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE**

**Ms JENNY AITCHISON (Maitland—Minister for Regional Transport and Roads)**—At the beginning of each year my team and I run an annual Back to School Drive. The Back to School Drive provides disadvantaged children and families with essential school supplies they need to start the new school year. The new year is an expensive time for parents having to purchase back to school essentials such as books, bags, lunch boxes, pens, pencils, and folders on top of uniforms and shoes. I thank everyone in Maitland who donated and showed our community spirit is alive and well. We saw some very generous donations come through for those doing it a little tough. I am so grateful to Maitland Regional Community Support [MRCS] distribute the donations to those who needed them, and work with other community groups who service those in need. MRCS is often the first port of call for families and individuals seeking support and financial assistance, and their back-to-school response requires a massive community effort. I thank MRCS Manager Sarah Adams and her team for the work they do day in and day out but particularly for helping us get kids back to school with the essentials that they need.

#### **THE PURPLE CARD PROJECT**

**Ms SONIA HORNER (Wallsend)**—The Purple Card Project led by Wallsend local Bianca Bartlett, is a community organisation focussed on enabling our community to have a positive environmental impact. They work with local businesses and organisations to encourage and facilitate sustainable options and projects. The Purple Card Project has been involved in handmade sustainable markets in Wallsend, "This is Not Waste" community art event featuring recycled, reused, and sustainable materials and of course the highly successful and popular Wallsend Op Shop Trail. The Op Shop Trail features five different Op Shops on Nelson Street, Wallsend and encourages consumers to purchase used and pre-loved articles of clothing and goods in place of purchasing new. I applaud Bianca and the Purple Card Project for the vital work they do in our community, and I look forward to participating in further community events run by this wonderful organisation.

#### **NEWCASTLE DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION GRAND FINAL**

**Ms SONIA HORNER (Wallsend)**—On 26 March this year, Wallsend District Cricket Club took on Stockton and Northern Districts Cricket Club in the Grand Final of the Newcastle District Cricket Association. Wallsend District Cricket Club won decisively and took home the shield. They dominated each innings and on day one took down Stockton, bowling them out for 54. A thumping by any margin. I was so pleased to see that day two saw similar results and that Wallsend District Cricket Club overcame Stockton and won the event. It was a pleasure to attend on the afternoon of the Sunday to see the team win this prestigious event. Well done to Wallsend District Cricket Club on this awesome title.

#### **ENID VALERIE LAWTON**

**Mrs WENDY TUCKERMAN (Goulburn)**—I rise today to recognise the late Enid Valerie Lawton. Born to Walter and Elsie Brooker in Bowral on the 8th June 1934, Enid Valerie was their fourth child of six. Enid attended Robertson Primary and Bowral High until she was thirteen, when the family moved to Yass, and purchased their first cordial factory. The factory known as Brooker's Cordial, located off Meehan Street, and later opening a new factory in Church Street, with an average of 450,000 drinks produced each year. Enid travelled to Sydney to the Royal Easter Show to assist her grandfather to display local produce from the Robertson area. Proudly in 1952, the Land and Mirror newspaper featured a story about Enid and her grandfather. Enid loved playing sport, participating in hockey, netball, and tennis. Enid met Wilford Edwin Lawton in 1958 at a local

dance at Gunning Shire Hall. Marrying in 1959 in Yass and beginning their married life at 'Leyton' Dalton Road in Gunning, and later having three daughters. Enid's daughter Cheryl proudly reflects upon her mothers' interests and skills as a keen gardener, fabulous cook, knitter, and keen to complete crosswords and jigsaw puzzles. Vale Enid Valerie Lawton.

#### **TED KADZIELA**

**Mrs WENDY TUCKERMAN (Goulburn)**—I rise today to recognise the late Ted Kadziela. Stan and Regina Kadziela migrated from Poland in 1950, giving birth to their second son Ted in Cunnamulla, Queensland in 1951. Ted initially worked for Coopers Lybrand, moving into a career in public administration, beginning his traineeship in health management at Balmain Hospital. With a strong sense of meeting community need, recognition of organisation structure, entwined with a set of learnt and innate skills, Ted commenced in his first role as Chief Executive Officer [CEO] at the Sydney Homeopathic Hospital in Glebe in 1975, followed by the CEO role at Forbes Hospital in 1979. Continuing to excel and embrace new challenges and his passion for serving community and health services, in 1982 Ted commenced in the CEO role of Goulburn Base Hospital and Community Health. Followed in 1990, by his appointment to the Deputy CEO of the expanded health services, then business and finance manager of the new Southern Area Health Service in 1993. Ted delivered 31 years of service in Goulburn and a total of 41 years to public health services. Ted was a gracious, intelligent and community minded gentleman, a loving husband and father. Vale Ted Kadziela.

#### **TESSIE CORKERY**

**Mrs WENDY TUCKERMAN (Goulburn)**—I rise today to recognise Tessie Corkery from Goulburn. Tessie was born in the Philippines in Cebu City. Completing university, she went on to teach at the Guadalupe Elementary School. Tessie met Leslie Owen Corkery, a returned serviceman, they married in May 1977, moving to Goulburn, Leslie's hometown in September of that same year. Tessie became quickly involved and an active participant with her Church community. In 1979, Tessie was approached to become a volunteer Scripture teacher at West Goulburn Primary School, a role that she was proud and happy to take on. Sadly, following Les's death in 1993, Tessie relocated to Legacy Lodge and again became an active participant performing flag duties. Tessie also volunteered for Goulburn Legacy during Appeals Week. Tessie has continued to be an active volunteer as a Catechist for Our Lady of Fatima Church, the Religious Catholic Group's Legion of Mary, and St Vincent de Paul Society. Tessie is a welcome visitor to those who are sick, elderly or have a disability. Tessie has demonstrated her inherent nurturing nature and passion to support and comfort others, which is to be celebrated. Thank you, Tessie, for ongoing contribution to the community.

#### **COLLEEN GAUDRON**

**Ms JANELLE SAFFIN (Lismore)**—I want to congratulate the Ulysses Club National Rally Committee secretary Colleen Gaudron and her team, for conceiving, planning and implementing the hugely successful Ulysses Motorcycle Club Annual National Rally in Lismore last Saturday. Over 740 members took to the streets for the grand parade, arriving from as far west, north and south as Perth, Mackay and Victoria. Locals came out and lined the streets from South Lismore where they started weaving their way through the suburbs into the CBD. Lismore Showgrounds played host to the guests in the lead up to Saturday and beyond. It is a great camping site as well as many other great things. Due to be launched in 2020, sidelined by Covid and then the mega floods, Australia's largest and most costly disaster, it was heart-warming to the National Rally happen.

Colleen Gaudron has been planning this event for seven years and for her to see it come off was wonderful for her. It was also something special for our community and locals welcomed the guest with open arms, and welcome signs. 'Welcome to Lismore, Ulyssians' signs were in a range of windows including in the CBD. Thank you Colleen Gaudron and team.

#### **RAMONA COCCO – ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER RECOGNISED**

**Ms JENNY AITCHISON (Maitland—Minister for Regional Transport and Roads)**—Ramona Cocco's significant contribution and commitment to the Maitland community as an Environmental leader and warrior have been acknowledged with a NSW Government Community Service Award. Ramona Cocco was recognised for her 30-year campaign against the 'Rutherford Stink' and its pollution in our city. Ramona's tireless dedication to seek an investigation into the foul odour that plagued the Rutherford community came to my notice when I was first elected as the Member for Maitland. I surveyed the residents of Rutherford to draw the EPA's attention to the issue which plagued residents and businesses. This followed many unsuccessful attempts by the NSW EPA to stop the pollution of our community. Ramona was relentless in her advocacy and together we launched a campaign to ensure the site was cleaned up and the polluters held to account. Thank you Ramona for your tireless advocacy!

**RHONDA WHITE**

**Mr ROY BUTLER (Barwon)**—On 7th February 2023, Rhonda White celebrated a 40-year milestone for continuous service to her community. White's Pharmacy in Lightning Ridge opened its door on 7th February 1983 with Rhonda being the sole owner for the past 40 years. Rhonda graduated from Sydney Uni in 1980 and after completing her internship in Sydney made her way back to be closer to home, which eventually led to White's Pharmacy opening. I thank Rhonda for her dedication and passion over the last 40 years for providing a necessary service to the Lightning Ridge community.

**JANICE HARDMAN**

**Mr ROY BUTLER (Barwon)**—Janice Hardman is a dedicated volunteer and advocate for many community causes and organisations in the Warren Shire. As a member of the Rotary Club and an ongoing supporter of the Chronically Ill Children's and Adults' Health Fund, Janice spends her time raising funds for those in need, ranging from local causes to overseas disasters. Janice was awarded this month's (May) woman of Warren shire for her devotion to bettering the lives of other. I congratulate Janice on receiving this month's Women of Warren Shire and thank her for the years of valuable commitment to her community.

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