



## »»» BUS LANES – The Rules

New bus lanes are appearing in Condamine Street between Brookvale and Manly Vale.

It appears the government is intent on making them 24-hour bus lanes (although the logic in doing so when bus lanes in Brookvale/Dee Why are peak hour only, is perplexing!).

Many local residents have asked what the rules are relating to bus lanes.

I advise as follows:

(a) Bus lanes can be used by buses, emergency vehicles, taxis, hire cars, motorcycles, bicycles and authorised waste collection vehicles.

(b) General traffic is permitted to travel in a bus lane for up to 100 metres to:

(i) turn left or right into a street

(ii) enter or leave a property adjacent to the bus lane

(iii) pass another vehicle which has stopped to turn right.

**Be aware that illegal use of a bus lane incurs 3 licence demerit points and a fine of \$238. So - be careful!**



## »»» STREET CORNER MEETINGS

### CHANGE OF DATES

Due to other commitments I have brought forward my street corner meetings that were previously publicised.

The next dates are set out on the notice below.

#### Monday 3 August 2009

**3.00 pm** Skyline Shops

**4.15 pm** Allambie Heights Shopping Centre

#### Wednesday 5 August 2009

**3.00 pm** Collaroy Plateau Shops Telopea Street

**4.15 pm** Narraweena Shops, (Cnr Alfred Street and Macintosh Road)



## »»» SCHOOL VISITS TO PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Schools wanting to visit Parliament House can arrange educational tours by calling 9230 2047 or emailing education@parliament.nsw.gov.au

One of the great pleasures of being our local MP is meeting with fantastic young people during my visits to their schools or their visits to Parliament.

In the last few weeks I have visited Forestville Public School, Killarney Heights High School, The Beach School and St Luke's Grammar School visited me in Parliament House.



*St Luke's Grammar School students on a visit to Parliament House*



## »»» FEEDING AND HELPING PATIENTS

In the last newsletter I reported that I had written to the Minister for Health to ask for his support for a volunteer program at Manly Hospital to assist patients with meals.

Dieticians gave evidence before a Parliamentary Inquiry that some patients entering hospital malnourished, leave hospital even more malnourished.

While I await the response from the Minister for Health, I am continuing to liaise with hospital management to initiate the scheme.

I am told that occupational health and safety requirements dictate that a qualified staff member must be available to manage the scheme.

I am still hopeful that members of the community will come forward and offer themselves as volunteers to help feed and support frail/aged patients. Some people have offered assistance but more are needed.

If you are interested in helping please email me at Wakehurst@parliament.nsw.gov.au or call my office on 9981 1111.



# A Community Newsletter from Brad Hazzard MP

Wakehurst Electorate

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## »»» CHALLENGING TIMES

We are in very challenging financial times but positive steps are still occurring on the Northern Beaches.

Recently the Federal and State Budgets have been handed down.

Federally the progression into deficit and the level of debt is extremely concerning for the long-term financial and social health of our community.

The State Budget has also delivered very poor outcomes for the Northern Beaches and for New South Wales.

There have been negligible increases in State funds available for schools and there is a continuing substantial backlog in maintenance (notwithstanding some additional Federal funding).

Recently however, local hospitals have had an upgrading of the sterilising departments, the new Dialysis Unit at Mona Vale has progressed and the Accident & Emergency upgrade at Mona Vale is working well.

Road upgrades, public transport and our much-awaited new hospital remain as challenges.



## »»» OXFORD FALLS UPDATE

As reported in my Autumn Newsletter, the Minister for Planning visited Oxford Falls Valley in March.

Warringah Mayor, Michael Regan and I invited her to see first hand the development issues in the valley. Of particular concern was (and is) the proposal for a retirement village.

Ancillary concerns related to the Minister's appointment of a non-elected panel to consider the future of all other development in the valley.

There has been cautious welcome of the Minister's announcement (26th May 2009) that there won't be any further development for at least 10 years in the valley (see her press release at [www.bradhazzard.com.au](http://www.bradhazzard.com.au)).

However, concern remains that the Minister has failed to make a decision on the most contentious issue – the current retirement village proposal.



*Resident's poster expresses concerns.*

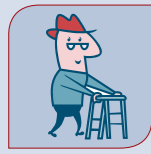
Whilst we await her decision - it would be helpful if residents continue to remind the Minister of our concerns by writing to her at:

The Hon Kristina Keneally MP  
Minister for Planning  
Level 35, Governor Macquarie Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
SYDNEY NSW 2000  
or

email: [office@keneally.minister.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@keneally.minister.nsw.gov.au)

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## >>> DEE WHY RSL RETIREMENT COMPLEX



*Graeme Liddell and Chris Olive (President)*

With State Labor increasing taxes on clubs, it is pleasing to see Dee Why RSL Club doing well despite such obstacles.

Recently I attended the ceremonial "turning of the turf" as new construction commenced for retirement accommodation on the southern side of the Club.

New facilities in recent years have ensured excellent opportunities for the Club's members and continued support for the community.

Dee Why RSL, along with the Forestville RSL and Collaroy Services Club, continue to be strong supporters of our community/sporting groups as well as the returned service men and women in the associated RSL sub branches.



## >>> ITALIAN NATIONAL DAY (and Mille Grazie!)

Local residents of Italian background were part of the driving force in celebrating Italian National Day (2 June 2009) and the contribution of Australians of Italian origin to our community.

Congratulations to all of the organisers and "mille grazie" to the Italian community for your contribution to the Australian identity today.

Thousands of Italian and non-Italian locals celebrated at the Hickson Road Wharf, Sydney.



*Italian National Day Banner at the celebration*



## >>> MY JOB AS YOUR MP

As your local MP I undertake many different activities.

I represent you in Parliament and can take your problem directly to the appropriate Minister or Department.

I can also assist local residents in pursuing their rights and advising on what further action can be taken.

I also liaise with other levels of government and work closely with Warringah Council on issues that cross over between State and Local Government.

Local State and Federal MPs are now working with Warringah Council in the new "Peninsula Region of Government".

The first formal meeting of the Peninsula Region of Government occurred in June and many issues of joint interest were discussed including our transport and hospitals.



*Mayors Michael Regan and Jean Hay with MPs Mike Baird, Rob Stokes and Jonathan O'Dea at the June "Peninsula Region of Government" meeting.*



## >>> HERITAGE CONSERVATION

The Liberal Party has proposed greater protection for NSW heritage through establishment of a Minister responsible for Heritage separate from Planning.

The battle to save Currawong on the Northern Beaches highlighted the problem when the Minister for Planning is responsible for not only approving developments but also protecting heritage.

Similar issues occur all across New South Wales.

Liberal Party policy will ensure that this conflict of interest will not continue. More detail can be seen in my speech to the National Trust of Australia (NSW) on my website [www.bradhazard.com.au](http://www.bradhazard.com.au)



## >>> A FAIR GO FOR SAFE DRIVERS

Regularly local residents find themselves on the receiving end of a demerit system which is often unreasonable.

Demerits are a critical part of the system of keeping our roads safe - but the "points" that accumulate for minor traffic infringements can quickly see drivers losing their licences.

The State Government has heard the message from the community and agreed to changes. Unfortunately the forecast changes will not occur for some months.

While I welcome the changes to the penalty demerit system for lower order driving offences, the Liberal/Nationals have put forward a practical plan to also reward safe drivers.

Under our policy, drivers with unrestricted licences and who have recorded no driving offences for at least five years will receive a 50% discount on licence renewal fees. The discount applies whether the licence is renewed for 1, 3 or 5 years.

### UNRESTRICTED LICENCE FEES

	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
1 year	\$46	\$23
3 years	\$108	\$54
5 years	\$145	\$72.50

An estimated 1.8 million of the State's 4 million unrestricted licence holders would be eligible for the discount.

A similar scheme has been operating successfully in Victoria since 2006.

I believe a "carrot and stick" approach to drivers will see an improvement in road safety outcomes.



## >>> BUS ROUTE UPDATE

With other Northern Beaches MPs I recently met and expressed concerns to the Minister for Transport, David Campbell, about proposed bus route changes.

The Government changes will commence on 2 August 2009. Details are at [www.sydneybuses.info](http://www.sydneybuses.info)

Timetables are to be available within the next few weeks.

A number of the service changes will cause continuing concern. However for residents in Wheeler Heights, Cromer and Narrabeena the Government has indicated that whilst it will discontinue Route 152, it will be replaced by extension of Route 178 from Dee Why to Cromer Heights AND a new Route 153 weekday off peak shopping service.

This will ensure residents can still access Warringah Mall bus interchange.



## >>> SCHOOL NEWS

Recent Federal funding announcements indicate that most of our local schools will have some additional Federal funding for maintenance and/or infrastructure.

Details for your local school can be found at [www.deewr.gov.au/Schooling](http://www.deewr.gov.au/Schooling)

In addition, State funding has been confirmed for a new school hall at Wheeler Heights Public School.

Congratulations to the Wheeler Heights School community for the long battle to get this vital new hall.

The Beach School at Allambie Heights has also recently received assistance from Variety, The Children's Charity(NSW) with the arrival of a new bus!

I attended a celebration with the school community. The students are delighted.



*Leah McKenzie (Variety, The Children's Charity NSW) and Sue Kydd, Principal The Beach School*

## STOP PRESS

**The Heart Foundation reminds us that "heart disease is the number one killer of Australian women". Awareness of the risk factors for heart disease is critical.**

**Heart health information can be found at [www.heartfoundation.org.au](http://www.heartfoundation.org.au) or can be obtained by calling 1300 36 27 87.**