



# Cronulla Update

**Mark Speakman** MP for Cronulla  
NSW Liberal Leader



Welcome to this update on local issues and projects as well the great things being done by people in our community.

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## E-bike safety

Thanks to everyone who has written to or spoken with me about e-bikes, e-scooters and other electric mobility devices.

Electric mobility devices are now an important and convenient part of urban transport, but law enforcement and regulation need to catch up for everyone's safety.

Following community feedback, my Liberal team in 2024 successfully moved for a Parliamentary Inquiry to consider the issues, receive submissions and make recommendations on how to manage electric mobility devices. The Inquiry released its report and recommendations in February 2025.

The Minns Labor Government delivered its response in May. I'm disappointed that, after such a long period, the Government still hasn't made or even proposed any progress on law enforcement or regulation to overcome serious safety concerns plaguing e-bikes, including in the Cronulla area.

I've raised community concerns about unsafe rider behaviour and that laws are not being enforced with police. I've also asked Council to review signage in key locations where bikes are prohibited in Cronulla such as the Mall and the Esplanade. I welcome recent local police operations targeting misuse of e-bikes. However our police need the government to give them practical laws and regulations to get the balance right between convenience for users and safety of the whole community.



# Kurnell visitor centre update

It was great to visit Kamay Botany Bay National Park recently and see the new visitor centre taking shape.

The visitor centre is part of a package of improvements in the Park planned and funded under the previous state and federal Liberal Governments to mark the 250th anniversary of Cook's landing and the first east coast encounter between European and Aboriginal people.

The new building is expected to be completed in 2026 and will offer improved visitor facilities, exhibition space, as well as education and learning areas and a base for park operations.

The exhibition space will enable the four Gweagal spears taken from the site in 1770 to be returned to Kurnell.



*Progress photo of the new Kurnell visitor centre under construction at Kurnell*

## Kamay wharves

The new matching wharves in Kamay Botany Bay National Park at Kurnell and La Perouse have now opened.

The wharves are great public infrastructure, but to achieve their potential and what they were especially built for, we need the government to provide or subsidise a local and tourist ferry service – like it does with just about every other public transport service in NSW.



## Kurnell anchor

The replica anchor that stood at the Kurnell vehicle entry to Kamay Botany Bay National Park is being relocated to another place within the Park.

The replica and adjacent brick wall were installed in 1972 and were removed in April as part of improvement works. The National Parks and Wildlife Service is planning restoration and repair works on the anchor before it is installed in a new location.



*The replica anchor (image DCCEEW)*





*Freshwater Stream (image DCCEEW)*

## Cricket Pitch facilities open

Upgrades to the Cricket Pitch precinct in Kamay Botany Bay National Park are now open to visitors.

There are now 34 more car spaces, including accessible parking and path connections, bicycle racks and water bottle filling stations.

A new amenity building has been constructed at the precinct like the recently completed building at Commemoration Flat. It replaces the old, corroded steel amenities.



*New amenities at Cricket Pitch*

The freshwater stream has been rehabilitated (see image above). Concrete piped sections of the creek have been removed and the natural creek bed restored. A slow-flow pond area has been created to provide habitat for wildlife such as frogs and a new pedestrian walkway has been built across the stream to connect the upgraded Cricket Pitch to the new visitor centre.

## Hungry Point clifftop walkway update

Construction of the Hungry Point clifftop walkway by Sutherland Shire Council continues, with it now expected to be open in late August following some weather-related delays.

The project includes viewing platforms and a raised and suspended boardwalk that will enable visitors to better enjoy the beautiful views of Port Hacking across to Bundeena and Maianbar.

I was glad to secure funding for the walkway when in government and I know there is great expectation in the community for the extension of the Cronulla Esplanade.



*Viewing platform under construction*

# Cronulla Woman of the Year

Cronulla surf lifesaving leader and business owner **Fiona Sutton** is the **2025 Cronulla Woman of the Year**.

Fiona has been an active volunteer and leader at the Wanda Surf Life Saving Club and is currently its president.

As a driving force in Wanda's 'nippers' that introduces children aged 5 to 14 to surf lifesaving, one of Fiona's proudest achievements as Chair of the club's Junior Activities Group is the successful introduction of the inclusive and accessible 'Red Fins' program.

Once a nipper herself, Fiona holds 13 surf lifesaving awards and a Bronze Medallion in Public Safety and Aquatic Rescue. Fiona has also continued to play an active part on the safety of beachgoers as a member of Wanda's surf patrols.

Fiona also runs her own successful small business. The Wanda club describes her as an inspirational leader, much loved mum, and friend to all in the club family and beyond.



## Gymea parking update

I'm regularly asked by community members if the former car parking south of Gymea shopping centre can be made available again for public parking.

The Gymea Bay Road site, just south of President Avenue, provided parking for commuters, shoppers and people attending events at local churches until it was closed in 2019 following the discovery of materials containing asbestos.

Remediation began under the previous Liberal Government. Work was due to be completed in June 2023. I was told by the Minns Labor Government in 2023 that remediation of the site was expected to be complete by the end of 2023 and the site ready to be accessed in early 2024. Now more than a year later, crews have turned up on site again.

I'm calling on the Government to get the remediation finalised and return the site to the community. Extra parking in Gymea will be a big boost for local shopkeepers, commuters using Gymea Station and local community organisations holding community events.



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## Cronulla seniors awards

**Robert Bryant** of Kirrawee, a stalwart of water polo in the Sutherland Shire, is the **2025 Cronulla Senior of the Year**.

Robert has made an enormous volunteer contribution to water polo in the Sutherland Shire over half a century of involvement with the sport locally.

Affectionately known as 'Rocko', Robert has continually dedicated his own time to pass on his knowledge and skills as a two time Olympian to up and coming players.

He's been a coach and mentor for both the Cronulla club and the Sutherland Shire Junior Water Polo Association and can be found at the Sutherland Leisure Centre most days and evenings helping teams and coaches.

Robert is also actively involved with planning and organising the junior association's 'Polobility' competition, a modified game allowing young people with disabilities to get involved in water polo.

On top of volunteer efforts, Robert notched his 900th game for the Cronulla Sharks in 2024.

His community involvement has extended to Cronulla Polar Bears, Elouera Surf Life Saving Club and St Patrick's Football Club.

I congratulate Robert and the 11 other community-nominated finalists on what they've done as volunteers.

Their efforts are a glimpse of the extraordinary work done by thousands of seniors who volunteer across the Shire every day to help our many community organisations do what they do and help make it a great place to live.

### The other finalists were:

**Greg Allum AM** of Cronulla – surf lifesaving

**Lynette (Lyn) Bates** of Woollooware – Rotary, Probus and Wrap with Love

**Andrew (Andy) Britton** of Burraneer – Surfing Sutherland Shire

**Robert and Nerida Broady** of Caringbah – Caringbah Baptist Church

**Helen Forsyth** of Cronulla – Sutherland Shire Council Animal Shelter

**Bob King** of Cronulla – Elouera Surf Life Saving Club

**Noel Parkinson** of Caringbah South – Marine Rescue NSW

**Ernest 'Solly' Stephens OAM** of Cronulla – Wanda Surf Life Saving Club

**Lyn Turnbull** of Caringbah South – Caringbah Baptist Church

**Steve Willett** of Caringbah South – Lilli Pilli Football Club.

# Community recognition

So far in 2025 I've had the pleasure of recognising many people and groups for what they do in our community by making a brief statement to NSW Parliament.

'Community Recognition Statements' are an opportunity to acknowledge the achievements, good work or dedicated service of local people or groups.

These statements are recorded in Parliament's Hansard, which is the written record of all proceedings and debates.

I'd love to receive recommendations for people who could be recognised in this way.

**I've recognised the following people and organisations so far in 2025:**

**Mayah Tanko** (sprinting success)

**Darby Maguire**

(ultra marathon fundraiser)

**Andree Lewis** (Cronulla Public School volunteer)

**Paul Archer OAM** (Australia Day honour)

**Graeme Wynn OAM** (Australia Day honour)

**Detective Inspector Craig**

**James APM** (Australian Police Medal)

**Noel Parkinson** (Volunteer service to Marine Rescue NSW)

**John Veage** (Sutherland Shire Citizen of the Year)

**Project Youth** (Sutherland Shire Community Group of the Year)

**Jarvis Earle** (Sutherland Shire Young Sports Citizen of the Year)



**Dan Michel** (Sutherland Shire Sports Citizen of the Year)

**James Barkell**

(Rugby Australia Awards)

**Zac Chandler**

(Hollywood acting debut)

**Tex Horder**

(breast cancer fundraiser)

**Luke O'Shea**

(Country Music Awards)

**Ruth Emmett** (prolific blood donor and other community service)

**Kurnell Public School**

(students' war on water waste)

**Cronulla Surf Life Saving Club** (Shark Island Swim)

**Fiona Sutton** (Cronulla Woman of the Year)

**Portia Wittey** (40 years' service to public education)

**Byron Hurst** (45 years' service to Catholic education and other community service)

**Blakey Johnston** (World's Biggest Paddleout and Cronulla Surf Festival)

**Anderson Cook** (8 year old publishing his first book)

**Greg O'Rourke** (new president of Sutherland Sharks Football Club)



**Elsie Smith** (Sydney Catholic Schools 2025 Portrait Prize Competition winner)

**Our Lady of Mercy College Burraneer** (90th anniversary)

**Miranda Musical Theatre Company** (volunteer theatre productions)

**Cronulla Memory Walk and Jog** (fundraising for dementia support)

**Sutherland Shire SES** (Tropical Cyclone Alfred response)

**Marine Rescue NSW Shire team** (Tropical Cyclone Alfred response)

**Happy Hearts Cronulla** (20th anniversary)

**Shire Rugby League Referees** (Yellow Socks initiative)



**Marcel Freeman** (fundraising for overseas aid)

**Harry Kane** (National Band Championship success)

**Port Hacking Putters Regatta** (2025 event and award winners)

**Cronulla Triathlon Club** (students at national championships)

**Civic** (new indoor urban farm in Caringbah)

**Late Barry Alchin** (business/cancer care champion, football volunteer)

**Neil Swane and John Douglas** (long service as surf lifesaving officials)

**Lennox Wade** (7NEWS Young Achiever Awards)

**Late Allan Metti** (Cronulla Surf Life Saving Club life member)

**Sutherland Hospital Kiosk Volunteers** (donation of medical imaging equipment)



Local JPs 50 years of service

**Mike Batty PSM, Bob Rogers, June Samuel** (50 years' JP service)

**The Family Co.** (expansion of services)



Sutherland Shire Relay for Life

**Lilli Pilli Public School** (new ANZAC memorial garden)

**Jim Pullin** (60 years' service to State Emergency Service)

**Shire Run Carnival** (successful May event)

**Darkness into Light Cronulla** (fundraiser for suicide prevention and mental health support)

**Cronulla Polar Bears Winter Swimming Club** (start of 2025 season)

**Zeke Coughlin** (U12 Baseball World Cup selection)

**Cronulla Triathlon Club** (success in 40th anniversary year)

**Cronulla Sailing Club** (90th anniversary)

**Sutherland Shire Business Chamber** (support for local enterprise)

**Southern Sydney Business Awards** (recognition for local business success)

**Rotary Club of Cronulla** (75th anniversary)

**Contour 3D** (local company delivering innovative construction)

**Sutherland Shire Relay for Life** (successful 2025 event)

**Leadership by the Bay** (10 years developing local school students)

**Nicola Barge** (Australian netball selection)

**Matilda Fanning** (Australian netball selection)

**Grays Point Rural Fire Service** (volunteer service)

**Woollooware Golf Club** (charity golf day for Legacy)



At Leadership by the Bay

### Cronulla Seniors Awards winners

Robert Bryant (Cronulla Senior of the Year)  
Robert and Nerida Broady  
Lyn Turnbull  
Robert (Bob) King

Lyn Bates  
Andy Britton  
Greg Allum AM  
Ernest 'Solly' Stephens OAM  
Steve Willett



# Out and about



*New Shire police*



*Woolooware and Kirrawee High student leaders*



*Cronulla listening post*



*Cronulla Rotary 75th anniversary*



*Local junior triathletes Kyle Mason and Lachlan Targett*



*Local legend Matty*



*New citizens*



*Southern Sydney Business Awards*



*Woolooware Public School leaders at ANZAC Day*



*Gymea Bay Public School*



*Port Hacking Putters regatta presentation*



*Port Hacking Outrigger regatta*

**Mark Speakman** MP for Cronulla | NSW Liberal Leader

☎ 02 9527 1477 ✉ [cronulla@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cronulla@parliament.nsw.gov.au) 🌐 [www.markspeakman.com.au](http://www.markspeakman.com.au)

🏠 Suite 203, 30 Kingsway Cronulla NSW 2230 (entry via Croydon Street) 📍 PO Box 125 Cronulla NSW 2230

✂ @MarkSpeakman 📺 @markspeakmancronulla 📷 @speakman.mark 🌐 /in/MarkSpeakman2230 📺 @markspeakman9250 📺 @markspeakmanmp

Authorised by Mark Speakman SC MP, Suite 203, 30 Kingsway Cronulla NSW 2230. Printed by Lewis Media Group at 27 Mangrove Lane, Taren Point NSW 2229, using parliamentary entitlements.



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