

community newsletter

December 2009/January 2010

Stanhope Parkway Bridged Opened.



The Hon. Mr John Aquilina, Member for Riverstone, officially opened the Stanhope Parkway bridge across Second Ponds Creek on Tuesday 17th November. The bridge will eventually

connect The Ponds to adjoining suburbs including Quakers Hill and Schofields.

"The \$3 million Stanhope Parkway Bridge is an integral piece of The Ponds infrastructure as it links the eastern and western parts of the community, allowing residents to move more freely in the suburb. It provides residents with easy access to the Blacktown Leisure Centre, Stanhope Gardens shops and Rouse Hill Town Centre," said Carmen Osborne, Development Director from Landcom.

New Pond at The Ponds



The extension of Stanhope Parkway not only has a new bridge but also a beautiful new water body delivered by Landcom. This water body

forms part of The Ponds Water Sensitive Urban Design strategy to clean and improve the quality of storm water entering Second Ponds Creek. The water bodies complement The Ponds suburb name and enhance the passive recreational areas within The Ponds Parklands.

There will be a total of five water quality ponds built within the Parklands as well as The Lake Area, which will become a focal point, as per the masterplan. The new water body pictured was designed by J Wyndham Prince and built by Ford Civil.

John Palmer Public School Update

John Palmer Public School marked the first anniversary of the official opening of the school at a special assembly on 6th November.



To celebrate the anniversary, items such as work from each student, photos and the day's newspaper are being collected for a time capsule. The photo above shows children showing their work for the capsule. Since opening on 29th January 2008 with 44 children, the school has experienced great growth and achievements. The principal, Deborah Blackwell, commended the commitment and talent of the staff and students. The school now has 142 students and is expected to grow by a further 100 by the start of 2010.

A Fundraiser Movie Night on 7th November raised \$2500 for the school. Organised by the P & C and sponsored by The Ponds Community Development Programme, Audiovisual Warehouse, and supported by the Riverstone Lions Club, the event was a great family night out.

Website Trivia You never know what you will find on The Ponds Community Website. Those who regularly visit were challenged to a trivia question and the winner received a café voucher.

Christmas Lights Competition

To help celebrate the season, we will be holding our annual Christmas Lights Competition at The Ponds. Residents are encouraged to brighten their streets for Christmas. The best light display will win a prize and the winner will be announced and awarded at Carols at The Ponds. So get ready to decorate! *Please be safety conscience when installing your lights.*

The Ponds Community Website is where you will find photos of past events, news, event details and lots of useful information. Please visit www.thepondscommunity.com.au. Your feedback is also welcome.

Baby Boom Continues at The Ponds



Left: Cooper, born 5th September weighing 2.8kg and 48 cm long. He is the first born to Kristy and Dean. Congratulations!

Right: Baby boy born 12th October weighing 3.6kg and 54 cm long, to Tania & Andrew, little brother to Kalani & Araken.



If you have baby news, please contact Tuula.

Community Events at and around The Ponds

Christmas Carols at The Ponds

When: Sunday 20th December from 6.00pm

Where: Corner of Riverbank Drive & The Ponds Boulevard (next to John Palmer Public School)

6.00pm: Bring a picnic or purchase dinner from one of the food stalls. Ride a camel or the trackless train for a gold coin donation. All proceeds go to North West Helping Hand.



7.00pm: Pre-carols stage entertainment

7.45pm: Carols by Candlelight: band, community singing, live Nativity Pageant, special guest artists & Santa

9.15pm: Spectacular Fireworks

Parking: We encourage you to walk or ride to the event. Bicycle parking is available next to The Ponds Sales &

Display Centre. If you drive, please park in the streets behind the school.

Would you like to Host a Street Party?

Spring is a great time to get together with our neighbours! If you would like to organise a street party, a limited number of \$50 vouchers are available to help with the cost. Please contact Tuula.

The Ponds Christmas Party

When: Sunday 6th December 5.00-7.00pm

Where: John Palmer Public School

What: Dinner, live music, bush dance, fun for the kids, coffee van (purchase coffee & gelato) plus visit from Santa.

RSVP: To assist with catering, it is important that you rsvp by Tuesday 1st December. See Tuula's contact details below.



John Palmer Parents' Group at The Ponds

When: Every Friday during school term from 9.15am to 11.15am

Christmas Party: Friday 18th December

Where: Far end classroom, John Palmer Public School (access via gate on Pebble Crescent)

Meet new people, have morning tea, plus there will be plenty of activities for the children.

Please pack a nut free morning tea for your child.

Cost: \$5 per adult per term to cover morning teas.

Supported by The Ponds.

Contact: Tara on 0433 662 839

EVENTS COMING UP:

Meet Your Neighbour Night

When: Sunday 21st February

Where: John Palmer Public School

Family Fun Day

When: Sunday 14th March

Where: To be advised

The Ponds Community

Newsletter is prepared for the residents and friends of The Ponds by our Community Development Facilitator, Tuula Schaeffer, from Connections Community Development. We use this newsletter to let you know about activities, events and news in the area. If you have news or announcements you would like to share or feedback on events or community issues, please contact Tuula on tuulas@theponds.com.au or phone 9629 1212 or 0412 620 115 or visit The Ponds Sales & Display Centre.

