



MITCHELL COMMUNITY E-NEWSLETTER

The Hon Alex Hawke MP
Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection



Welcome to the September edition of the Mitchell e-newsletter



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14 December 2016





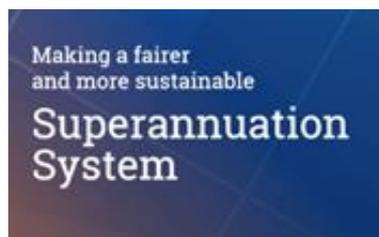
(ABC 24 – new temporary sponsored parent visa)

The first session of the 45th Federal Parliament commenced with the Government announcing improvements to the [superannuation reform package](#) and the Prime Minister [introducing](#) the [Plebiscite \(Same-Sex Marriage\) Bill 2016](#), announcing the earliest date the plebiscite can be held is on February 11, 2017. I would welcome your views on these issues.

As the [Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection](#), recently I announced the Government will introduce a new temporary [sponsored parent visa](#). Details are further outlined in this edition.

As always, your feedback and comments are welcomed, please [email](#) or call 9899 7211.

Improvements to the Superannuation Reform Package



After receiving extensive feedback from the public,

the Government has recently announced [improvements](#) to the superannuation reform package, including:

- The \$500,000 lifetime non-concessional cap will not proceed and will be replaced by a new measure to reduce the existing annual non-concessional (after tax) contributions cap from \$180,000 per year to \$100,000 per year from 1 July 2017.
- Only those with a balance of less than \$1.6 million will be able to make non-concessional contributions.
- The Government will also defer the commencement date of the proposed catch-up concessional superannuation contributions by 12 months. This will now start on 1 July 2018.

Further information regarding the Government's changes is available at [Superannuation reforms](#).

New Temporary Visa for Sponsored Parents – call for submissions



As the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, I recently announced the Government will implement its election commitment to introduce a [new temporary sponsored parent visa](#), with five year validity. The introduction of such a visa is a significant shift from current visa options for parents. I encourage migrant communities to get involved in the consultation process. A [discussion paper](#) containing the design issues under consideration is [available](#)

[now](#) and public submissions must be received by midnight, **Monday, 31 October 2016**, by email: temporary.parent.visa@border.gov.au

Australia and Luxembourg sign work and holiday arrangement



Earlier this week, I hosted the Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Minister for Immigration and Asylum of Luxembourg, His Excellency Jean Asselborn and [signed a MOU](#) to provide for a new Work and Holiday visa arrangement between Australia and Luxembourg.

This new arrangement will allow for young people from both countries to engage in short term work study and holiday arrangement, which is the first Luxembourg has signed with any country.

Wentworth Community Housing – Official Opening at Rouse Hill



It was my pleasure to have recently attended the Official Opening of [Wentworth Community Housing](#) in Rouse Hill. Through Wentworth Community Housing the Rouse Hill property provides rent to occupants of up to 75 per cent of the market rate. The collaborative efforts between governments, the community and private sectors are key to helping solve issues of affordable housing supply. I am pleased this successful collaboration led by [Wentworth](#) has taken place in the Hills district, with long-term social and economic benefits for our community.

Official Opening - ACRF Centre for the Proteome of Human Cancer (ProCan)



Together with my colleague, [Assistant Minister for Rural Health, the Hon Dr David Gillespie MP](#), I had the honour of attending the [Official Opening](#) of The Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) International Centre for the Proteome of Human Cancer (ProCan) at the [Children's Medical Research Institute](#) at Westmead. [ProCan](#) will transform the way

in which cancer is diagnosed and treated. This is a world leading research partnership with the United States of America in the heart of Western Sydney.

Alive 90.5 - our local community radio station



It was great to recently visit our local community radio station, [Alive 90.5](#) and have the opportunity to discuss a wide range of topics with [Lloyd Smale](#). Lloyd is an excellent interviewer and makes the whole process enjoyable. To listen to the interview click [here](#).

Masquerade Ball – 8 October – *unmask the stigma of mental illness*



The [Positive Vibes Foundation](#) will be hosting a Masquerade Ball to be held on **Saturday, 8 October 2016** as part of Mental Health Awareness Month, with special guest speaker, [Deng T Adut](#).

It is estimated one in four people will suffer with

mental health issues. The Positive Vibes Foundation, led by Dr Padmini Howpage, is a charity organisation that supports the mental health needs of the Hills community and aims to remove the stigma surrounding mental illness.

To book for the Masquerade Ball click [here](#). For further information visit www.positivevibes.org.au

Community input sought for future Western Sydney rail



The Federal [Minister for Urban Infrastructure](#), the Hon Paul Fletcher MP and the NSW Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Andrew Constance has released the [Western Sydney Rail Needs Scoping Study – Discussion Paper](#). [Your input is being sought](#) on the [rail priorities for the Western Sydney region](#) and the proposed [Western Sydney Airport](#).

The consultation period closes on **Friday, 28 October 2016**. Please click on [fact sheets](#) and [FAQs](#) for further information.

Recognising our local Paralympians

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Thank you

It is a privilege to showcase athletes from the Hills district who represented Australia at the Games of the XV Paralympiad in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Congratulations to:

- [Ellie Cole](#) – swimming, won six medals including two Gold

- [Timothy Hodge](#) – swimming
- [Taylor Doyle](#) – Women’s Long Jump T38 – won a Silver medal

Improving digital literacy in schools – apply now



[Schools across the electorate of Mitchell](#) can now apply for grants from the Turnbull Government to deliver digital literacy programs to students in engaging and innovative ways. The [Digital Literacy School Grants](#) is an initiative of the [National Innovation and Science Agenda](#). Grants of between \$10, 000 and \$50,000 are available for projects that demonstrate new and innovative methods for teaching students how to use and understand digital technology.

For eligibility requirements and [further information](#) please click on the [DLSG Grant Guidelines](#).

Applications close at 5.00pm (AEDT) on Friday, 28 October 2016.

CWA – Castle Hill Branch celebrates 70 years



Congratulations to the Country Women’s Association of New South Wales – [Castle Hill Branch](#) – who is celebrating 70 years of serving the local community on **Tuesday, 11 October** in Castle Hill. For further

information please email secretarybird@bigpond.com

Thank you to the committee and members for your generosity in giving your valuable time and efforts to the benefit of our community.

Christmas in the Hills – Save the Date – 14 December 2016



The [Carols by Candlelight Festival and Christmas markets](#) will be held at Bella Vista Farm on **Wednesday, 14 December 2016** with the markets and festival commencing at 3pm and Carols at 7pm. Click [here](#) to purchase your [Christmas in the Hills](#) tickets.

All the funds raised are going to three fantastic causes; [Woodbury Autism Education & Research](#), Baulkham Hills, [Tallowood School](#), Kellyville and [Lifestart](#), Baulkham Hills.

Representing the communities of Baulkham Hills, Beaumont Hills, Bella Vista, Box Hill, Castle Hill, Kellyville, Nelson, Northmead, North Rocks, Old Toongabbie, Rouse Hill, Winston Hills and West Pennant Hills.

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