

# the South Sydney Herald

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## Meet your new councillors

### POLITICS

SSH

TWO of the new City of Sydney councillors, elected on December 4, 2021, found time to introduce themselves this month.



Shauna Jarrett (Liberal)

Having lived, worked and played in Sydney's CBD and communities for nearly all of my adult life, and participated in and been a representative on a wide range of professional and not-for-profit organisations, I want to continue that involvement in the City of Sydney during its recovery of the city as Australia's No 1 City and in bringing back the life all City of Sydney communities have worked hard to create and support.

I want to ensure community sports and activities, arts and cultural/community events are effectively supported, and will work to ensure public and green spaces are actually enhanced and created from Council stock.

I also want to enable small and medium businesses to be supported by technologies that will allow them to prosper in the "new normal" and I will work to represent all Sydney residents and businesses.

As a Sydney Liberal, I want Sydney's urban communities listened to and also to ensure Council responses are community based, not bureaucratic ideological strategies. I will continue to advocate for a transparent, fiscally responsible and simplified bureaucracy that will enable us all to prosper and develop sustainable and supportive communities where we live, work and play.



Lyndon Gannon (Liberal)

As a lifelong local and aspiring small business owner I know full well the challenges facing the City of Sydney. Businesses and the community are doing it tough. But it seems the end of Covid is close – fingers crossed!

I am ambitious for this city. I want to see it go back to being the fun, vibrant and bustling place it used to be! The lockout laws were needed, but they essentially killed our CBD night economy.

Thankfully those laws are gone now and as we re-emerge from our Covid hibernation I think it's a really exciting time for Sydney's night life and I'm all in, with my own plans to open two rooftop bars.

I have a long history of working with the community, principally through boxing with teenagers. Growing up, sport, whether rugby league or AFL, kept me on the straight and narrow. I know how important it is for young people to have role models in their lives and I'm so happy that the Elouera Gym at the Block has re-opened, it's where I trained out of and has a great community vibe about it and brings a real sense for positivity to the area.

I also have some exciting plans for the city: four harbour baths, activating underutilised assets to support emerging creatives, trying to turn the Newtown Tram Shed into Carriageworks 2.0, as well as cutting red tape to make it easier to do business and have fun in this town.

We hope the other new councillors will also take up the offer in future months to introduce themselves and what personal expertise and experience they bring to their role. SSH



Uncle Colin Lyons and Owen Roberts at the Park Café in Redfern. Photo: Lyn Turnbull

## Remembering Terry (1970-2021)

### FIRST PEOPLES

ANDREW COLLIS

**GADIGAL LAND:** Terry James Irving (17/6/1970–10/6/2021) was a valued member of the South Sydney community. Those who knew him best remember a proud Bundjalung man, fiercely loyal, quick-witted – a lover of animals, music and painting.

On Tuesday, February 15, the community gathered to honour Terry's life and to pay respects to his family. The memorial service at the Park Café on Chalmers, one of Terry's favourite places, included spoken and musical tributes, tears and laughter.

Aunty Narelle Lyons gave the Acknowledgement of Country. Uncle Colin and Aunty Nita Lyons conducted a Smoking Ceremony, and Aunty Melva Kennedy shared stories of Terry's struggles and triumphs. "He was always respectful to me," she said, "he called me Nan – and I will always remember him."

Mike Simpson and Jane Linwall from St Vincent's Hospital Homeless Health Service (which includes Tierney House) paid their respects, as did Tiffany Forsyth from the Haymarket Centre, where Terry lived for a time.

Sr Anne Jordan, co-founder of Cana Communities, now serving as leader of the Presentation Sisters, Lismore, sent the following message: "When I think of Terry the first image that comes to mind is of him sitting outside Woolworths and the smile that lights up his face as he recognises me on approach. The hug that followed each time is held in my 'body memory' and still warms my heart.

"Through all the ups and downs of cleaning or repairing his home, trying to keep in touch so his medical team or court support could help him over the next hurdle, Terry had a great appreciation of his friends, and I am honoured to be known as one of them."

Barista, Dee, performed an a cappella version of Bob Marley's "Redemption Song" – "Won't you help to sing / These songs of freedom? / 'Cause all I ever have / Redemption songs ..."

Owen Roberts, who busks with his guitar in the park, offered a moving rendition of the folk spiritual, "Wayfaring Stranger" – "I'm just a poor wayfaring stranger / Travelling through this world below / There is no sickness, no toil, nor danger / In that bright land to which I go ..." – before joining with Uncle Colin on yidaki for an impromptu "Knockin' On Heaven's Door".

Several people stepped forward to give thanks, paying tribute to Terry's faith, generosity, vulnerability, dignity and courage.

Miriam Pepper, Andrew Collis and Abner Cox shared musical tributes on behalf of South Sydney Uniting Church.

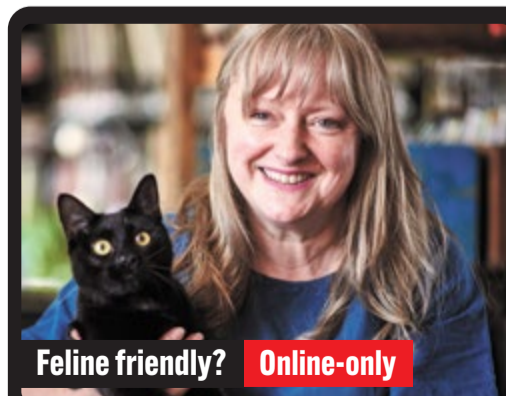
"Terry taught me that there is always hope and not to give up," Miriam said. "Terry was always good to my dear dog Rango, and one of the first to offer condolences when Rango passed away. He also loved the songs of Jimmy Cliff and 'Peace' is a song we have learned to play" – "How is there going to be peace / When there is no justice, oh no, oh ..."

Abner chose a composition by Gerald Finzi called "Fear No More the Heat of the Sun". The lyric by William Shakespeare concludes: "Nothing ill come near thee! / Quiet consummation have; / And renown'd be thy grave!"

With thanks to Elly and Peter at the Park Café for hospitality, including sandwiches and muffins, coffees and lemon myrtle tea.

Blessings upon you, Terry. Rest in peace, dear friend. SSH

Read tributes and prayers here: [www.bit.ly/3p7lugM](http://www.bit.ly/3p7lugM)



Feline friendly? Online-only



Solar brew Online-only



Mardi Gras mural Online-only



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**Jenny Leong MP**  
STATE MEMBER  
FOR NEWTOWN



**Happy Mardi Gras!**

It's that time of year again and Sydney is gearing up for another excellent Mardi Gras in celebration of diversity, creativity and the LGBTIQ+ community.

Just like last year the official parade will be held as a ticketed event at the Sydney Cricket Ground. It's wonderful that the organisers have been able to work with NSW Health to ensure we could still hold this treasured event in a COVID Safe way, but it is also vital that we maintain Mardi Gras as a community-led protest for LGBTIQ+ rights.

As well as supporting the official parade, we encourage you to get along to the community-run march that will take place on Oxford St, beginning at Taylor Square from 1pm on 5 March 2022. The march will provide a free and accessible way to celebrate our LGBTIQ+ community this Mardi Gras, and also continue the proud history of protest by calling for an end to the ongoing attacks on the rights of LGBTIQ+ people at a state and federal level.

It's been a bruising few months for LGBTIQ+ people and their families with hateful and bigoted debates around so called religious freedoms legislation in our NSW and federal parliaments – both bills seeking to extend and further entrench the capacity for religious people and organisations to discriminate against LGBTIQ+ people. Thankfully, due to strong community opposition, both of those bills are off the agenda for now, but the level of support for this kind of legislation from both Labor and the Liberals remains a huge concern.

The Greens will continue to stand with the LGBTIQ+ community in strong opposition to these shameful attacks. Join us this Mardi Gras as we take to the streets and have our voices heard.

Jenny Leong, MP for Newtown

If you have a question or are keen to be involved, send a text to 0421 665 208 with your name, suburb and message and we'll give you a call or you can email [newtown@nsw.greens.org.au](mailto:newtown@nsw.greens.org.au)

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Thanks to the Rail, Tram and Bus Unions Retired Members Association and local community organisation REDWatch, the pub being built at the Eveleigh Locomotive Workshops must provide greater access for viewing heritage interpretative elements and protect heritage items from vandalism and theft.  
Photo: [www.eveleighstories.com.au](http://www.eveleighstories.com.au)

**Pub operation must protect and encourage heritage access**

**URBAN DESIGN**

ROGER JOWETT

**THE major space for heritage interpretation at the Eveleigh Locomotive Workshop is in Bays 1 and 2 of the Workshops.**

The southern part is occupied by an operating blacksmiths workshop and the northern section was to be a hybrid heritage/small retail space with full public access.

These plans were turned on their head when an application was made to the City of Sydney Council (CoS) in mid-2021 for a single venue: a cavernous pub providing for 720 patrons for Bays 1 and 2 North. Alarming, the application had the effect of limiting public access to the extensive heritage display. The change in plans was a commercial decision by developer Mirvac to maximise profits. The application potentially further eroded the community's access to one of the most important heritage buildings in NSW.

The Rail, Tram and Bus Unions Retired Members Association and local community organisation REDWatch made substantial submissions opposing a number of elements of the application.

The Local Planning Panel of the CoS conducted a public hearing in early February and both the Association and REDWatch made oral and

further written submissions calling for significant changes to the proposed Conditions for Development Consent.

The Local Planning Panel in its determination imposed a number of conditions suggested by the Association and REDWatch. This included the need for a new Plan of Management that must allow:

- Access by the public with no physical barriers to be utilised to restrict public access to the interpretative elements during the pub's operating hours. Access for tour and school groups etc. is to be facilitated.
- Signage to be displayed that encourages the public to enter the pub. Pub staff to welcome the public who want to view heritage interpretative elements.
- A heritage interpretation education module for all pub staff that includes a general understanding of the heritage interpretation of the Locomotive Workshops and the heritage items in Bays 1 and 2 North.
- The adoption of security measures to protect heritage items from vandalism and theft in line with the original DA.
- The adoption of a green travel plan to encourage the use of public transport by patrons and staff and a passenger pick-up and drop-off plan of management.

SSH



**PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION LOCATED AT WATERLOO**

Telstra plans to upgrade an existing telecommunications facility located at 859-861 Bourke Street Waterloo NSW 2017 [www.rfnsa.com.au/2017028](http://www.rfnsa.com.au/2017028)

1. Telstra are currently upgrading existing mobile network facilities to allow for the introduction of 5G to Telstra's network. As part of this network upgrade, Telstra proposes the installation of NR850 (5G) technologies at Waterloo. Proposed works at the above site will involve the installation of ancillary equipment. All internal equipment will be housed within the existing equipment outdoor units located on the rooftop of the building.
2. Telstra regards the proposed installation as a Low-impact Facility under the *Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 2018* ("The Determination") based on the above description.
3. In accordance with Section 7 of C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide feedback about the proposal. Further information and/or written submissions should be directed to Max Peel, Aurecon Australasia via email to: [max.peel@aurecongroup.com](mailto:max.peel@aurecongroup.com) or via post to: Max Peel, Aurecon Pty Ltd, Locked Bag 331, Brisbane QLD 4001 by **COB: 15 March 2022**.

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# Haymarket Foundation's healthcare for homeless wins HESTA award

## HEALTH

MARJORIE LEWIS-JONES

**CHIPPENDALE:** The Haymarket Foundation Medical Practice team has won a 2022 HESTA Impact Award for its dedication to providing accessible, specialist healthcare and housing support services for people experiencing, or who are at risk of, homelessness.

"It's a huge recognition of the work we've been doing," said the foundation's CEO Peter Valpiani. "It's been such a difficult time for both the health and social services sector over the last couple of years and finding a bit more extra motivation to keep going and to keep pushing at a time like this has been brilliant."

The Haymarket Foundation's homelessness services - including its crisis accommodation facilities and pilot medical practice (established in July 2021) - are currently based in Chippendale. The foundation's alcohol and other drugs services operate out of Woolloomooloo.

The precursor to this practice was a green caravan set up in 1974 on the weighbridge serving Paddy's Market in the Haymarket area - an initiative of Dr Charles Blower, who was Deputy Medical Director of Sydney Hospital, with the support of the hospital and the City of Sydney.

The Haymarket clinic was a Commonwealth-funded service



Dr Helena Berenson (right) with the Practice Manager Adelaide Waller in the Haymarket Foundation Medical Practice on-site at Chippendale. The practice will move into its purpose-built premises near Central station later this year. Photo: Joel Pratley

but had to close in 2016 due to government funding reforms. The reforms also meant any new medical practice set up by the foundation would need to be a self-sustaining social enterprise predominantly funded through Medicare.

Pilot findings over the last year have led the foundation to commit \$2.2 million to upgrading premises in Pitt Street near Central station offered for long-term use by Christ Church St Laurence and with occupancy paid for by the church's charitable trust.

The DA for the new clinic has been submitted and Mr Valpiani envisages the purpose-built, specialist general practice should be up and running in 2022.

"What we've developed during

the pilot is a bespoke service for somebody who is experiencing homelessness, or has been recently housed, or is at risk of homelessness," Mr Valpiani said.

"The feedback's been pretty good - and our patients have actually been part of the journey with us as we're developing and maturing the service."

The practice's new premises are designed to support the team's vision to provide patient-led, trauma-informed, accessible care by being safe, comfortable and inviting.

Providing a long-term medical home and continuity of care, storing x-rays, reminding people of specialist appointments, and offering high-quality chronic care and counselling is also pivotal.

Mr Valpiani said there is a strong correlation between health and housing: If you've got a safe place to live and a lot of stability, you can look after your health more effectively.

"What we saw in sharp focus during Covid is that if you're asked to self-isolate, for example, to stay safe, it is very hard to do that if you're in a boarding house or you're in a crisis service or you're rough sleeping on the street."

Mr Valpiani's team tackles health and housing together: helping patients to set health goals and assessing what kinds of housing support will make the most difference.

"We'll help the person to fill in the social housing medical assessment forms, for example,

or we'll help them navigate an NDIS pathway, or a disability pathway, so we can help them get into a house. But we can also help identify what kind of house is appropriate."

Mr Valpiani said his team is made up of skilled practitioners and keen problem solvers who have a huge capacity for empathy. They're also patient and resilient, which is critical as they assist patients to navigate strained health and housing systems.

"I think the government can do more in terms of the investment in social affordable housing in Australia. It's incredibly difficult for somebody to get out of homelessness if they've got nothing they can afford and there simply isn't enough housing stock available that is either social housing or it's affordable for somebody who's on a very low income.

"Also, when people are in a really complex and chaotic time in their life, it can sometimes be really difficult to navigate a fractured system or a system that isn't always intuitive.

"A whole-of-government approach to homelessness that streamlines services to make it easier for people to access the support they need when they need it, would be of great benefit."

See [www.haymarket.org.au/](http://www.haymarket.org.au/)



Sadie's long-time friend, Tanya Plibersek, helped Sadie celebrate her 100th birthday on December 17, 2021. Photo: Janice Challinor

## Vale Sadie, Glebe campaigner

## LOCALS

SSH

**GLEBE:** Active campaigner for public housing and advocate for women's rights in the workplace Sarah Murdoch King - known to most Glebe locals as Sadie (and to some as the "Queen of Glebe") - died on January 17, just one month after her 100th birthday.

Originally from Glasgow in Scotland, Sadie called Glebe home for over 73 years.

Her funeral was held at St John's Anglican church in Glebe on January 24, where she had been a parishioner.

Janice Challinor described Sadie as a remarkable woman, an icon of Glebe, and a very private, proud and principled individual.

"These attributes were deeply rooted in her spiritual beliefs and her Scottish heritage. I found her to be first and foremost a humanist, whose ecumenical religious practices underpinned her public service."

Sadie was extremely well known in the community because of her contributions in many fields and her interesting life story, including surviving osteomyelitis and doing the dirty and dangerous job of filling shells in WWII.

When the war ended, she moved to Glebe and began working in



Sadie with the NSW Governor Sir James Rowland on March 3, 1985. Photo: Supplied

a factory until she passed the Public Service Examination and joined the GPO. Shortly after she did so, she and other women workers were dismissed and their jobs given to returning servicemen. These women fought for their rights at work and Sadie was reinstated.

She continued to work for Australia Post at Sydney GPO for 36 years, during which time

she joined the former Postal and Telegraph Union, now the CPU, where she was the first woman delegate on the executive and fought for women's rights in the workplace for all of her working life - something she continued to do in retirement. She also joined the Australian Labor Party and was one of the first women to represent her union and fellow employees at state conferences

which she continued to attend right up until the late 1990s.

When the Church of England began selling off public housing in Glebe where she lived, Sadie joined the fight to protect it from both the planned radial freeways, which were threatening to cut it into small urban islands, and from the disintegration of the Glebe estate where she resided. The purchase of and rehabilitation of Glebe public housing by the Whitlam government in 1974 saved the day and Sadie became one of the first members of the Committee of Residents formed to advise the government on the Glebe Project.

Sadie's many contributions to public life are documented in her biography, *Glasgow to Glebe*, published in 2018, and she was recognised by the Labor Party and the Postal and Telegraph Union by being made a life member of both. She received a Medal of the Order of Australia in 1985 "for service to the trade union movement and to the community" and continued to assist people as a JP and a residents' spokesperson until relatively recently.

Sadie's ashes will be placed in the church garden and a name plate added to the church's "honour board".

*Glasgow to Glebe* can be purchased from Janice Challinor at [jchallinor3@bigpond.com](mailto:jchallinor3@bigpond.com)

## TANYA PLIBERSEK MP

Federal Member for Sydney

### LABOR'S PLAN FOR TAFE

For nearly a decade, the Liberal-National Government has cut TAFE and slashed apprenticeships.

Today there are 70,000 fewer apprenticeships and traineeships compared to 2013. This is despite one in four Australian businesses experiencing critical skills shortages and 1.5 million Australians who are either looking for a job or want to work more hours.

The Morrison Government has neglected TAFE leaving many states and territories to step in and invest in skills and training. Labor will restore TAFE so it can continue to be the backbone of our vocation education system.

A Labor Government will give Australians studying in areas of skills shortage access to Free TAFE. Over 465,000 Free TAFE places will be made available over 4 years, including 45,000 new places

This investment will mean more secure, well-paid jobs, and deliver the pipeline of skills Australia needs to drive future economic growth.

Our plan for free TAFE will help rebuild industries hit hardest by the pandemic, like hospitality and tourism, as well as meet current and future needs in the care economy, including jobs like childcare, aged care, disability care, nursing and community services.

Labor will work with the states and territories to deliver Free TAFE and prioritise courses in areas of skills shortage and future demand.

### ELECTORATE OFFICE

My electorate office provides support with Centrelink, Veterans' Affairs, Medicare, Immigration, NBN and other federal matters.

**If you require assistance, then please don't hesitate to call us on 9379 0700 or email [Tanya.Plibersek.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Tanya.Plibersek.MP@aph.gov.au)**

### JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Justice of the Peace services are once again operating from my office. This service is available by appointment on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. **Please call us on 9379 0700 to make an appointment.**

## TANYA PLIBERSEK MP

Federal Member for Sydney

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Welcome Week – a joyful celebration of everything that makes campus life special. Photo: Supplied

# University of Sydney welcomes students back to campus

## SPONSORED

MARK SCOTT

**AFTER months of online learning during the pandemic, the University of Sydney celebrated the return of students during Welcome Week (February 14-18).**

It was thrilling to see our campuses full of life once again, with students exploring the University and its services, attending orientation events and connecting with their peers. The program combined in-person events with online activities for those unable to come to campus.

During Welcome Week, the University of Sydney Union (USU) hosted Welcome Fest (February 16-18), a celebration featuring live music, an outdoor cinema, food trucks, and hundreds of clubs and societies to join.

In response to the challenges students have faced during the pandemic, the University tripled its investment in Welcome Week for 2022 and provided grants for student organisations to increase their already substantial contribution to student life.

The result was our biggest ever Welcome Week – a joyful celebration of everything that makes campus life special.

University isn't just about what you learn in the classroom. It's about experiences, connections and friendships that can shape your life for decades to come.

Semester 1 has now begun, with a return to on-campus teaching and remote options available for those not yet able to attend campus.

As campus life returns, the University will continue to follow

public-health guidance, taking all reasonable precautions to minimise the transmission of COVID-19. Our COVID safety precautions will apply to all on-campus activities.

For students returning to our campuses and those joining us for the first time, the last two years have often been difficult and isolating. While the safety of our community remains paramount, it's also important that as much of the student experience as possible is delivered in person, on campus.



Authorised by Vice-Chancellor and Principal Prof. Mark Scott.  
Enquiries: 9351 2000  
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# Perrottet fails Glebe on town planning

## URBAN DESIGN

IAN STEPHENSON

**IN 1974, the National Trust identified Glebe as containing "the largest continuous number of 1860s and '70s cottages and terraces forming a continuous townscape in Australia" noting that "its scale and character had been little disturbed by modern intrusion".**

In the same year, the Whitlam government purchased 700 houses from the Anglican Church and initiated the visionary Glebe Project whereby the houses were restored and renovated for the continued use by tenants on low incomes.

In 1984, ownership of the estates was transferred to the NSW government who completed the restoration of the houses and added over 1,000 bedrooms of accommodation through well-designed low-rise infill.

Glebe's heritage lies in its urban and social fabric. It is about buildings, streetscapes and people. The traditions of the former church estates as a low-rise, low-income, inner-city community date back over 150 years. Gentrification of inner-city suburbs has made the combination of Glebe's urban and social fabric unique in Sydney.

The old houses with their front verandahs built close to the street and beautiful streetscapes made for walking, create a neighbourly suburb that fosters spontaneous social interaction. The brilliance of the infill designed by the NSW Housing Commission's Inner City Housing Team was that it sustained this tradition by giving the new flats private open space overlooking the street, thereby connecting the residents to the community.

Almost 50 years of good planning is now being overturned by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation who, ignoring heritage and community, are treating Glebe as a land bank by

selling the old houses and forcing, through spot rezonings in heritage conservation areas, to remove nine-metre height limits to allow the construction of eight-storey apartment buildings on the 1980s infill sites.

The tragedy is that there are opportunities to create additional density without destroying the character of Glebe. The present government seem to have only one approach to town planning which is high-rise. This unsubtle and unsophisticated approach will destroy the variety and character which makes Sydney a great city. As we bury the topography in mountains of masonry and replace areas rich in character with monolithic apartment buildings we run the risk, in the words of Gertrude Stein, of becoming a place where "there is no there there".

For more information about threats to Glebe, enter YouTube, The Glebe Society, Know your History and Heritage of Your Community into your search engine.



## Sounding a warning for our birds

### EDITORIAL

SSH

**SONGS of Disappearance features birdsongs of 53 of the rarest species in Australia on the brink of extinction.**

Two positives: This entire album of whistles and screeches from Australian birds made history by entering the Top Five ARIA album charts, surpassing Mariah

Carey and ABBA. (Bird calls are popular!); and sale proceeds are being donated to BirdLife Australia's conservation efforts (so buying it's a simple way to help).

The inspiration for the *Songs of Disappearance* project was a landmark extinction report from BirdLife Australia authored by more than 300 of the most knowledgeable bird experts in the country.

Stephen Garnett is one. He says 96 of the nation's 314 most

threatened birds have become more endangered over the past decade. And: Greenhouse gas emissions will have to be reduced if species like golden bowerbirds (Track 7 on the album), which are being hit by climate change in North Queensland, are to be saved long-term.

Clearly, it's time to make a song and dance about our disappearing Aussie birds.

SSH

[www.songsfordisappearance.com](http://www.songsfordisappearance.com)

## A sneak peek into Waterloo South - the neighbourhood effect

### COMMENT

LARRY BILLINGTON

**SO, I sit outside my Waterloo South unit in a common area and contemplate that in the neighbourhood almost exclusively public housing units, low-rise, single-bedroom or bed-sits predominate. The units are in sufficient proximity that it's not difficult for the perceptive to get to know their neighbour and others adjacent or across the courtyard.**

I'm awaiting a visit from my tizzed-up sister from her mansion in Woollahra, the expensive mortgage belt of inner-city Sydney. (She married well. I manifest a mental health disorder.) She dares only venture to this lower-class "common" area of public housing once a year to deliver me birthday cake.

Her name is Eileen but, as she skis on the slopes at the Snowy, I've taken to calling her "Eileen Gu".

Middle-aged "beardy" across the courtyard from me is home from long-stay in the inpatient psychiatric ward, and still in full voice, yelling to the world about his recent extraneous treatment.

Good thing his immediate neighbours keep their doors closed and know now not to approach him when he's in this kinda mood.

"Keep your filthy hands off me, or I'll have your guts for garters, idiot."

I know from a previous exchange with the nurse co-ordinator from the local health centre, that, should we judge "beardy" to become agitated enough that he may be a threat to himself or another, then we should ring the dedicated number for outreach support, or else police on 000.

I recall that in some inner-city suburbs, neighbours would not be so considerate, or neighbourly. But here, at least, as public housing tenants in common, we tend to each other's disability needs, as a considerate community.

"How can you put up with that racket?" she asks. It doesn't fit with her "rabbit mum" parenting style.

"It's not all the sound of sand and waves, here, sis."

"There's no way in hell I could live next to that all day. Why can't us new immigrants who buy-in to a new estate expect you and your social housing types to emulate us, and espouse the behaviours and cultural attitudes of the new ideological yuppie immigrants, who want in to these down-town areas?"

"There goes the neighbourhood."

Another neighbour walks up to his front door and greets me in his habitual way.

"Happy birthday. Hello, happy birthday."

"Hi there. Good to see you, too. Thanks," I respond.

"How does he know it's your birthday? Is he a close friend now?"

"No, he doesn't. He's Polish and he's deaf. But that's his regular daily salutation. Every time. Every day. Doesn't understand different. It's kinda esoteric."

"Strange, your neighbours. I couldn't tolerate that changeability."

"Oh, it works OK. We're all tolerant and understanding of each other and our limitations. The academics call it the 'neighbourhood effect'. We're all in here in common, trying to maintain our struggle, and that of our neighbour, for the next one living adjacent."

My sister identifies: "Gees. That attitude wouldn't last five minutes on the High Street in my classy neighbourhood. There it's more likely they'd just dob in your neighbour if he digressed."

"Oh, well then."

"But you said they were planning to somehow integrate 30 per cent of your class with almost twice as many of my type. How is that going to work, like, socially? Who's gonna live next to who, then?"

The old man with a limp, who lives on the other side of

## Let us keep a holy Lent

### FAITH

ANDREW COLLIS

**THE 40-day season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. This year, for Christians in the western tradition, Ash Wednesday is March 2.**

Lent is a time of preparation for Easter (Sunday, April 17). Observance includes commitment to "prayer, fasting and almsgiving" – realignment with the "way of Christ", which means radical hospitality, peace-making, new life.

In a recent small group discussion at South Sydney Uniting Church, participants considered ways we might practise our Lenten disciplines together.

Prayer takes many forms. It is about attending to the Mystery of Goodness in the world, responding to the call of the Other. Prayer can be spoken, sung, enacted; expressed in silence, patience, protest and more.

Not surprisingly, we are keen this year to sing and maybe even to dance our prayers. Perhaps we'll engage in an art activity – drawing, painting or banner-making. We're also keen to pray with hearts attuned to wisdom other than western Christian.

In the eastern churches, for instance, Lent begins on Monday, March 7. Orthodox Easter is April 24.

The holy day of Purim begins in the evening of March 16 and ends in the evening of March 17. Purim commemorates a time when the Jewish people were saved from death by the courage of a young woman called Esther. This year, Passover, which celebrates liberation from slavery (a God of freedom and justice), begins in the evening of Friday, April 15, and ends in the evening of Saturday, April 23.

Ramadan, a month of prayer, fasting and almsgiving observed by Muslims, is April 2 until May 1.

Faithful prayer will lament past atrocities and missed opportunities for understanding. Wise prayer will attend to religious diversity, respecting differences, delighting in common themes. Wiradjuri poet

Jazz Money imagines a future in "technicolour blak black brown / turns out we're all welcome here / queer brothers and sisters and non-binary siblings ..."

By denying ourselves food at certain times, we recall the reality of hunger and the needs of the poorest. We move away from an unhealthy focus on material goods and their consumption. Fasting invites moderation, sharing, wellbeing ... with gratitude for the Earth and all on whom we depend.

A communal fast might take the form of a very simple morning tea or supper (consuming less, more mindfully). Perhaps there's a new way – words and/or actions – to give thanks for the food and drink we choose not to take for granted.

Pope Francis said: "Giving 'alms' is more than simply giving money; it is a matter of heart-felt concern for those in genuine need" (2016). A better word for almsgiving, then, might be advocacy. How might we advocate for others? How might we give attention/encouragement/support to others?

Act for Peace supports a program through the World Council of Churches called Ecumenical Accompaniment. The aim is to equip volunteers as protectors/advocates over three months in Palestine and Israel. The work entails preventing human rights violations, promoting peace.

UnitingWorld offers multiple means of Lenten observance, including Seven Days of Solidarity, a "celebration of our global neighbours" which introduces participants to faithful leaders who are training others, equipping people to make a living, working for peace, raising up women and girls, empowering people with disabilities, responding to disasters and a changing climate.

Lenten disciplines are not meant to be an indulgence in self-punishment or self-improvement. They are meant to lead us back to grace – back to one another.

SSH

[www.actforpeace.org.au/take-action/eappi](http://www.actforpeace.org.au/take-action/eappi)  
[www.donate.unitingworld.org.au/7dos](http://www.donate.unitingworld.org.au/7dos)

me, approaches with an arm full of what looks like my laundry off the clothes line.

"I thought I'd collect it up and bring it in to you, personally. It looks like it might start raining." "Oh thanks, man, you did not have to do that for me."

"No, I didn't. Just returning the favour from the other day, my friend."

"Oh, good then."

My sister passes comment: "Gees, what a difference in neighbourliness to 'round my place. There, they are more likely to steal my expensive clothes and run off with them."

"Well, it's progressive to criticise that neighbourhood social mix would just create concentrated local societies in which enclaves of people do not interact with or tolerate each other. Now that requires class de-alignment and neighbourhood social mix as a goal of housing policy."

"Beardy" reappears at his door.

"What's that noise going on. Keep it down will ya?" he shouts across at us.

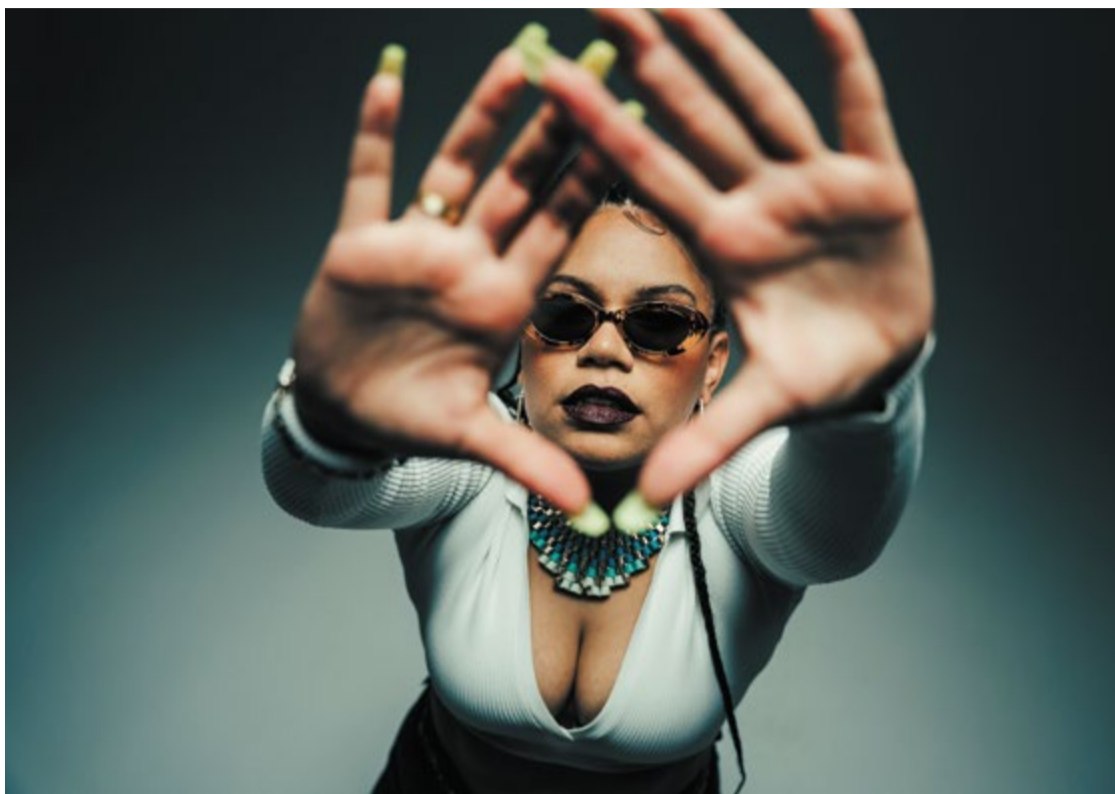
"Gawd. I'd never tolerate that shouting from him, every day". Obviously not a tiger mum.

SSH

Larry Billington is a local resident of Waterloo South, NSW.

# The Review

## Arts & Culture in Your Neighbourhood



Barkaa, who has been listed as one of the top five female rappers in Australia by ABC's Triple J, is a headline act at the New Beginnings festival on March 19. Photo: Luke Currie-Richardson



Bukhu will combine virtuosic morin khuur (horsehead fiddle) and khuumii (harmonic overtone throat singing) skills when he performs at the Maritime Museum on March 19. Photo: Supplied

## Barkaa and Bukhu bring diversity to New Beginnings

### FESTIVALS

MARJORIE LEWIS-JONES

**THE stage line-up for the New Beginnings Festival at the Maritime Museum on March 19 promises “glocal sounds” spanning the globe, showcasing some of the most prominent and emerging artists in Australia.**

Barkaa, a Malyangapa, Barkindji woman from Western New South Wales, now living in South West Sydney on Gandangara land and Mongolian-born musician Bukhchuluun Ganburged (Bukhu)

are just two of the talented performers you can hear at this free, family-friendly event presented by Settlement Services International.

Barkaa and Bukhu’s music may be poles apart but their commitment to their artistic expression stems from similar roots; a desire to illuminate the history and issues of their homelands and honour the strength and resilience of their people.

Barkaa’s debut single, “For My Tittas”, put her on the musical map and called on her Indigenous sisters to respect themselves and to demand respect from others.

Her track, “Our Lives Matter”, and her collaboration

with brother Dobby, “I Can’t Breathe”, which highlight black deaths in custody, remain the unofficial anthems of Australia’s Bla(c)k Lives Matter protests.

Bukhu has been based in Sydney since 2009. He has a Bachelor’s degree from the Music and Dance Conservatory of Ulaanbaatar (the capital of Mongolia) and was granted the prestigious Distinguished Talent Visa by the Australian government as an internationally recognised artist with exceptional contributions to the arts.

He plays the morin khuur (horsehead fiddle) which is important culturally because it is

a significant part of Mongolian nomadic life. He also performs khuumii (Mongolian harmonic-overtone throat singing) a technique whereby a single performer simultaneously produces up to three separate vocal lines.

Bukhu says, “It’s important to be part of a festival like New Beginnings because I am able to share my art and ancient culture with wide Australian audiences.”

The rest of the stellar line-up for the festival reveals the artistic vibrancy and cultural heritage of Australia’s Indigenous, migrant and refugee artists. This line-up includes Zela Margossian Quintet, #ILEILU,

Marina Da Silva, Azadoota, Gordon Koang and Heartdancers.

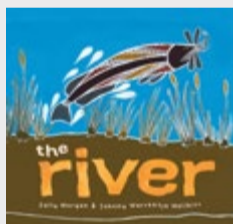
New Beginnings also offers food stalls with cuisine from around the world, market stalls featuring entrepreneurs from refugee and migrant backgrounds, free workshops and experiences and a full program for kids and families to inspire and connect.

.....  
**Book your free tickets for New Beginnings at [www.newbeginningsfestival.com.au](http://www.newbeginningsfestival.com.au)**



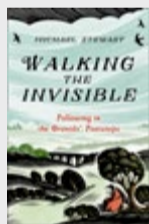
## Five paths to keep you connected

SELECTED BY MARJORIE LEWIS-JONES



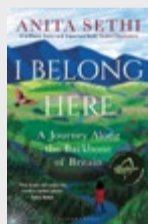
### River wander

This lovely picture book gives you the sense that you’re walking beside a beautiful river with someone who knows it as their friend. Johnny Warrkatja Malibirr is a Yolnu man from the Gonalbingu clan and his drawings of the river and the green ants crawling, frogs croaking, goannas running and fish splashing are exquisite. Sally Morgan (*My Place*) belongs to the Polyuku people from the Pilbara and her story is energetic enough to keep even the littlest reader turning the pages of *The River* to see what they’ll be invited to listen to, look at and learn about next.



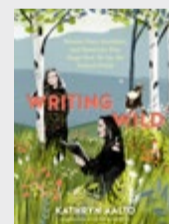
### Tramp with the Brontës

If you love the novels penned by the Brontë sisters for their atmosphere, Michael Stewart’s *Walking the Invisible* will take you straight back to the source. He describes walking the historic paths that Anne, Charlotte, Emily (and brother Bramwell) tramped on from Liverpool to Scarborough and how the landscape inspired their works. Michael’s fascination with the novel *Wuthering Heights* began when Kate Bush’s single reached No 1 in the pop charts in 1978. More recently, he commissioned poems from living poets about the Brontës that you can find when you follow his path.



### Walk for reclamation

Journeying through the Pennines, the “backbone” of Britain, was a way for Anita Sethi to confirm her own courage and place in her country of birth. As a woman of colour, she’d been the victim of a hate crime but decided she couldn’t let it restrict her movements through the world. In *I Belong Here*, she walks in some quite remote places of the North and also broaches important issues of equitable access to green space, walking for social and environmental change, and our biological need for natural awe.



### Groundbreaking women

Stumbling across Kathryn Aalto’s book *Wild: Women Poets, Ramblers, and Mavericks Who Shape How We See the Natural World* felt almost as good as rounding a curve on a bushwalk and finding a breathtaking view to behold. This beautifully written book clears up the myth that all the best nature writers are white men – introducing, as it does, the work of a bevy of female visionaries who revolutionized society’s understandings of environment and gender. Nan Shepherd, Rachel Carson, Annie Dillard, Amy Liptrot and Camille Dungy are just a few that gave me itchy feet!



### Tread gently

This is not a walking book but it does make me want to get outside and feel the air on my skin and the dirt under my nails. Annie Smithers’ *Recipe for a Kinder Life* is a memoir about her practical and philosophical approach to sustainable living and wellness. From Lyonville in regional Victoria, she shares wisdom she’s gleaned about farming and being a cook and restaurateur. Her tips are there for anyone who want to simplify their lives, lessen their footprint, find time for the things that matter, and reconnect with forgotten skills.



A Chorus Line. Photo by Daniel Shipp

**Theatre Review**  
by Catherine Skipper

**A Chorus Line**  
Director/Choreographer: Amy Campbell  
Musical Director: Simon Wade  
Drama Theatre, Opera House  
February 13 - March 11, 2022

Coming out of hibernation? Then celebrate by dining and wining at a table overlooking the harbour and follow up by attending Darlinghurst Theatre Company's dazzling production of all-time favourite musical *A Chorus Line* at the Opera House. For lovers of music, dance and theatre performance, Amy Campbell's exciting take on this 1975 much-loved story of hope, joy and loss is a thrilling experience.

The economical but dramatic set design (Simon Greer), dynamic lighting (Peter Rubie) and sound (Dylan Robinson) give this production a powerful edge, immediately engaging the audience in an epic world of passionate hope and desperate self-doubt. The mirror at the back wall and row of lights beaming downwards spells

it out. At the moment the spotlight is on the 17 dancers hoping to make the final cut, dependent for their heart's desire on director Zach (Adam Jon Florentino), often a disembodied voice handing down God-like commandments.

Zach asks the often-reluctant dancers to tell him something personal about themselves, catching them off-guard. As well as enabling the audience to identify with the individual dancers - as do their outfits (costume designer, Christine Mutton) - insight into what prompted them to choose years of punishing hard work to be on the line at auditions comes in the form of memorable lyrics and music. The songs - for instance, the very funny "I Can Do That" by Mike (Lachlan Dearing), a deeply wistful "At the Ballet" by Nadia Coote, Madeleine Mckenzie and Natalie Foti and a lively "Dance: Ten; Looks: Three" by Rechelle Mansour - universalise the narrative.

Tension arises when the apparently unmovable Zach is pushed into self-revelation by dancer Cassie (Angelique Cassimatis). Once a featured dancer and lover of Zach, her presence at

the audition is a personal challenge for him, and a humiliation for Cassie, one she is willing to endure for the sake of "a job". Her intense and unusually lengthy solo, "The Music and the Mirror", a centrepiece of the musical, is a dancer's version of "I Will Survive" as she transforms into a stronger version of herself. We hope Zach will choose her as we hope he will choose Paul (a touching Ethan Ritchie), a Puerto Rican gay man whose struggle to find himself through dance attracts the director's interest.

From the opening number, "I Hope I Get It", we have been on tenterhooks and so, when the final cut is made, how convinced are we that "What I Did for Love" explains the capacity to accept rejection after unremitting effort? Such thoughts do not linger, as the whole cast, sequined and silver, returns in a truly spectacular finale to the delight of the audience who express their appreciation of a sensational evening's entertainment with a standing ovation.

» [theatre@ssh.com.au](mailto:theatre@ssh.com.au)



**Book Review**  
by Catherine DeMayo

**The Mother Wound**  
Amani Haydar  
Pan Macmillan, \$34.99

Losing a beloved family member is never easy, but what's it like when your mother is brutally murdered - by your father?

In March, 2015, Haydar Haydar stabbed Salwa, his wife of 28 years, over 30 times, injuring their 18-year-old daughter Ola as she tried to stop his rampage.

*The Mother Wound*, written by Amani Haydar, Salwa's eldest daughter, is about her mother's murder and its aftermath. It is, however, also about a great deal more: the emotional abuse that so often endures for years before physical violence; the tendency of family members to minimise the culpability of a perpetrator; the pressure on victims such as Amani and her sisters to fill certain prescribed roles and the dilemma faced by the author fearful that her story would fuel ethnic and religious prejudice, as her family come from the often-maligned Lebanese Muslim community.

Amani's prevailing memory of her parents was that they were "incompatible". Theirs was an arranged marriage, and Salwa was 13 years younger than husband Haydar.

After Salwa's death, Amani begins to re-examine those childhood memories, realising increasingly that her father continually criticised and demeaned Salwa. Learning more about domestic abuse, she begins

to identify patterns that convince her that her father's actions were indeed part of a long-term abusive pattern, not a sudden impulse beyond his control (as argued by him and his lawyers).

We learn that Salwa's mother, Amani's beloved grandmother, also died violently, in an Israeli air strike in southern Lebanon. (The incident, Amani learns, was investigated as a war crime because of evidence that civilians were targeted.)

*The Mother Wound* is harrowing, but it also unflinchingly shines light on the darkest of subjects. Amani Haydar has described numerous episodes that, in retrospect, were probably red flags warning of her father's potential for violence. As a child, she was too young to understand their significance. Her memories support much of what is increasingly being recognised about abusers. Many are law abiding - until they aren't. Many use words as weapons - until they use force. Many blame the victim - when the victim is no longer here to defend herself.

Amani, formerly a commercial lawyer, never set foot in a courtroom after her father's trial. She has devoted much of her time and energy to preventing domestic violence and supporting its survivors. An artist as well as a writer, she exhibited a self-portrait in the 2018 Archibald Prize, in which she holds Salwa's photo, who in turn holds a photo of her mother.

A minor quibble: The book is slightly marred by occasional sloppy editing: "illicit" instead of "elicit", "their" in place of "they're" and so forth, minor distractions but unfortunate in such a powerful book.

Salwa Haydar was one of 103 women who died by domestic violence in 2015. *The Mother Wound* is both a tribute to this remarkable individual and a plea for our society to do more to prevent others from suffering her fate.

*The Mother Wound* won the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Non-Fiction 2022.

» [books@ssh.com.au](mailto:books@ssh.com.au)

**SSH Instagram Gallery**

SELECTED BY MARJORIE LEWIS-JONES

FOLLOW US @southsydneyherald



Tag your Instagram pics #sshphotos and we will include 5 of the best photos, from all suburbs in South Sydney, here each month. See all photos online:

[southsydneyherald.com.au](http://southsydneyherald.com.au)



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Lilly Barker and teammates. Photo: ABC Grandstand

## Skipping to success

### SPORT

STEVE TURNER

LAST August, in an old chicken shed in suburban Queensland, world champion Lilly Barker was skipping as fast as she could. It was hot, hard work and the 21-year-old was putting in every ounce of effort she could muster. She was being filmed for her entry into the recently held virtual World Skipping Championships, and it was a far cry from the competition atmosphere she was used to.

“This was particularly strenuous because we had as many opportunities to film every single event as many times as we wanted until it was perfect,” she said. “Some would think that’s a good thing. But when you’re aiming for perfection and have time on your side, the challenge is different, both mentally and physically. Usually on the day [of a competition] we thrive on the adrenaline. We rarely crack under the pressure.”

Competitive skipping is complicated. It involves lightning speed, choreographed moves and high-level skill. There are two categories: speed and freestyle. Barker alternates between the two.

This World Championships, Barker was in more than 10 events, both individual and team. With the videos for the virtual event submitted in August, the results were a long time coming – but worth the wait. She and Ben Cooper won gold and set a new (unofficial) world record

in the 2x30-second-double-unders event. That’s one of the speed events – Cooper skips for 30 seconds as fast as he can, then Barker does the same.

As an individual, Barker bagged bronze in the open women’s division. “It’s the best feeling in the entire world,” she said.

#### Overseas plans for Sydney stars

Melbourne Cup heroine Verry Elleegant and champion sprinter Nature Strip have resumed racing at the Autumn Carnival. Trainer Chris Waller hopes to run Nature Strip, rated the world’s best sprinter, in the Group 1 Kings Stand Stakes (1200m) at Britain’s Royal Ascot in June. Mighty mare Verry Elleegant will likely be aimed at the Group 1 Arc d’Triomphe (2400m) in Paris in October.

#### Let’s go, Rabbitohs!

John Lanzky reports: “I’ve watched Souths training at Redfern. I believe there’s strong rapport between the players and new coach Jason Demetriou. This is his first appointment as a senior coach in the NRL, a position for which he has worked very hard.

“The young players are showing real enthusiasm. The senior players are showing leadership – that’s what teamwork is all about.

“Since its inception in 1982, the Charity Shield has been played on 39 occasions. Of these, the Dragons (St George and St George Illawarra) and the Rabbitohs have now each won 17 times (the Rabbitohs have retained the shield as the current holder in five drawn matches).

“The game in Mudgee on February 26, won for the first time in 10 years by the Dragons (16-10), revealed that the good rapport between Souths’ senior and junior players must continue over coming weeks. New halfback, Lachlan Ilias, showed that with a few more games under his belt he’ll take it to the next level.

“Round 1 sees the Rabbitohs play the Broncos in Brisbane. It will be good to watch Ilias shape up against Adam Reynolds.”

SSH



Photo: Getty

## Volunteers’ News

PAT CLARKE

AS I write this, the sun has come out after all the heavy rain we’ve experienced over the last few days. I hope you are all safe and your homes are dry. My suburb has experienced rainfall in some parts of up to 150mm.

What a turbulent time it has been, but now we have no QR codes, mask wearing is reduced and venues can open for more patrons. It’s still important to wear a mask if you are vulnerable and social distance where you can.

#### Sydney Opera House Sails – Badu Gili until April 23

Badu Gili means “Water Light” in the language of the Gadigal people. The sails will illuminate with “Wonder Women”, a projection by six female First Nations artists. The lighting of the sails takes place each day from Sunset, 9pm, 9.30pm and 10pm. How fitting for these being shown on:

#### International Women’s Day – March 8

The theme for this year’s IWD is “Break the Bias” and Sydney’s theme is “Know Your Worth”. There will be a rally and march on Saturday March 12, from 11.30am at Belmore Park. Registration is required and you can find details on Facebook.

#### White Rabbit Gallery Chippendale – Big in China until May 22

The gallery specialises in works by contemporary artists from China (and yes, some of the works are BIG). The exhibition is free and the gallery is open Wednesday to Sunday, 10am-5pm. Virtual tours are also available.

#### Harmony Week 2022 – March 21-27 (including Harmony Day on March 21)

The theme is “Everyone Belongs”. The day coincides with the International Day of Racial Discrimination, and the official colour for Harmony Day and Week is orange. Wearing orange clothing or ribbon is encouraged if you are attending events.

#### St Patrick’s Day – March 17

There will be a festival this year at The Rocks on Saturday and Sunday March 19 and 20, including food and craft stalls, and music on the MCA lawn. The parade and live entertainment will start at 10.30am on March 20. For more details contact: [www.sydneystpatrikday.com](http://www.sydneystpatrikday.com)

#### Volunteer Agreement 2022

Dear Volunteers, don’t forget to complete your 2022 Agreement and return to [volunteers@ssh.com.au](mailto:volunteers@ssh.com.au) or mail to SSH, PO Box 3288, Redfern NSW 2016. You can download an Agreement here: [www.bit.ly/3JYGoH1](http://www.bit.ly/3JYGoH1)

Until next time, Pat Clarke

SSH

>> [volunteers@ssh.com.au](mailto:volunteers@ssh.com.au)

**1pm-5pm**  
**FRIDAY**  
**MARCH 4**  
**WATERLOO GREEN**

**LIVE MUSIC**  
**KIDS**  
**ACTIVITIES**  
**FOOD & DRINK**  
**INFO STALLS**  
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# SUMMER ON THE GREEN

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**TAP GALLERY**

## RED HOT RETRO CABARET

**SATURDAY MARCH 5**

STEPHEN CARRINGTON · KATIE M. LITTLE · MISS 3D · HOLLY WATERS

**LIVE SCREENING OF THE MARDI GRAS PARADE FROM 6.00**

SHOWTIMES 7.30/8.30 \$20 PREPAY ONLY  
 TAP GALLERY 259 RILEY ST SURRY HILLS 0400 610 440

# Waterloo Recycling Workshop

Friday mornings 8-11am  
 1 Phillip St, Waterloo  
 (at the base of the Turanga flats)

Serving the Waterloo community since 2008