

# the South Sydney Herald

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Mickey's Fruit & Veg manager Kadek with business owner Michael Cuomo. Photo: Andrew Collis

## Growing a business

**LOCALS**  
**ANDREW COLLIS**

**THE South Sydney Herald (SSH)** continues in print every month. The paper is available from a range of venues across all suburbs in South Sydney – from cafés, pubs and restaurants to shops and community centres.

We are grateful to all participating organisations and businesses, and acknowledge long-standing commitments throughout the Covid lockdowns. Mickey's Wholesale Fruit & Veg, 86 Pitt Street, Redfern, is a healthy eating hub and supplier of fresh produce to dozens of local cafés and restaurants – from Redfern to Bondi, Marrickville and Circular Quay. Hard-working owner Michael Cuomo took time to answer a few questions.

**When was Mickey's established? Has it changed much over the years?**  
My father Vincenzo started the fruit shop 18 years ago. We tried a deli once, but stock just a few deli items now. We've maintained the shop pretty much and developed the wholesale side of the business, which is now dominant – supplying cafes and restaurants, pubs and clubs. I'm fortunate to have very good staff, including Kadek as manager and Lachlan in IT.

**Can you describe a typical work day?**  
My day starts at 2am, buying and ordering, stocktake. Flemington Markets is six days a week, these days we ring the order through and pick-up.

The truck is loaded and back in Redfern by 6am. Then we split up the market load, get what we need for orders and load up the utes and vans, send the drivers off to the restaurants. Locals do deliveries on trolleys. I'm in and out all day, checking on things. We close the shop at 5pm, then start picking orders for the next day. I've only had four days off in 18 years.

**What challenges have you faced during the pandemic, and more recently with regard to supply?**  
It's very hard to get stock right now. The floods have taken a toll, many crops are done. We'll see what happens next season. During the lockdowns, wholesale dropped 70 per cent. Cafes opened for takeaway but didn't sell much fruit or veg. We managed to stay afloat thanks to our retail business.

**Can you recommend delicious and nutritious winter produce?**  
Imperial mandarins are very good. Apples are perfect this time of year, I like the pink ladies. And brown pears, too.

**I like living and working in Redfern because ...**  
The people are genuine. We've tried to look after our customers. Many have had Covid and we just looked after them, delivered produce to their homes.

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The Rev. Dr Matt Wilcoxon, rector at St John's Anglican Church in Darlinghurst. Photo: Paul Bramble

## Building trust and respect

**HUMAN AFFAIRS**  
**ANDREW COLLIS**

**DARLINGHURST:** The Rev. Dr Matt Wilcoxon has been rector at St John's Anglican Church for a year now. He and his wife have three young children. They are all very happy at St John's.

Matt speaks of "embodied church", being there for each other. His induction service was held online and the first six months in the parish were spent in lockdown. "We conducted online services and Zoom suppers," he recalls. "I was impressed by people's dedication to St John's."

Community groups continue to meet remotely – three weeks of the month online, then the fourth week in-person.

Matt was ordained on Capitol Hill, in Washington DC. A convert to Anglicanism (from a non-denominational church background), he was drawn to Anglicanism's emphasis on personal faith, as well as historical Christian worship.

The family moved to Australia in 2012 and Matt

completed his PhD with Dr Ben Myers at Charles Sturt University. He wrote his doctoral thesis on "divine humility", with reference to St Augustine, Karl Barth and American theologian Katherine Sonderegger.

The St John's church was designed by architects Gool and Hilling. The first service of worship was held on Easter Day, April 4, 1858. Architect Edmund Blackett designed additional southern and northern transepts, the tower and spire. The eastern window with "Bread of Life" design, has greeted worshippers every Sunday morning for over a century.

Once a leafy and fashionable residential neighbourhood, Darlinghurst and surrounds (Potts Point and Elizabeth Bay) are now highly populated and multi-stratified. "The church has a presence in the local community, it's a 'town-square' church," Matt says. "What's most important is loving the people, building trust and respect."

Services, structured on the Anglican prayer book, are held on Sundays at 10am and 5pm. "All people, all ages are welcome," Matt says. "We keep

it friendly but also lean into the weirdness of Christian worship!" Due to popular demand there is now a dinner every week after the evening service.

In 1996 the church established St John's Community Services Ltd (SJCS), a not-for-profit organisation which oversees ministries with the homeless and marginalised community in Darlinghurst, including the Rough Edges drop-in centre and Banksia Women support service (for women who have experienced domestic and family violence). There's also a legal service, education program and the Community Assistance Partnership Program (CAPP), helping people move from emergency to sustainability.

Rough Edges provides 80-100 meals a night, Sunday to Friday, and involves more than 100 volunteers a fortnight.

A recent partnership with HammondCare has seen the construction of 50 aged-care apartments.

"It's demanding work, but simple, too – we gather, host and counsel," Matt says.

**Contact the Rev. Dr Matt Wilcoxon at St John's: [www.stjohnsanglican.org](http://www.stjohnsanglican.org)**

SSH

# The Indigenous SCIENCE Experience

**Redfern Community Centre**  
**Saturday 20 August 10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**FREE event - all welcome!**  
**[www.nisep.org.au](http://www.nisep.org.au)**



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## TANYA PLIBERSEK MP

Federal Member for Sydney

### STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT ADDRESS AT THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

I released the State of the Environment Report at the National Press Club in Canberra recently. The report tells the story of a decade of neglect and decline under the previous government – no wonder they refused to release it when they received it last year.

In responding to the report, I outlined some important first steps our government will take to address the diverse challenges our environment faces.

The government will be guided by three core principles: to protect, to restore and to manage our environment.

At the election, Australians made it clear that the environment matters to them. It is no longer a choice between the environment or the economy. Both are crucial. Good environmental law reform is also good economic reform, and Labor plans to deliver both in our term of government.

This will be the latest chapter in a very proud Labor story. We look forward rebuilding the trust of the Australian people by treating our environment with the integrity it deserves.

### TAX HELP

My office in Redfern will be facilitating Tax Help again this year. Tax Help is free and helps people earning \$60,000 or less lodge their tax return online.

If you need help lodging your tax return, you may be eligible for assistance through this program.

Please contact my office on 02 9379 0700 or Tanya.Plibersek.MP@aph.gov.au to book an appointment.

You must have an appointment and a mygov account to be able to access this service.

### 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**

## TANYA PLIBERSEK MP

Federal Member for Sydney

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At the North Eveleigh master plan launch, Minister Rob Stokes and Benedicte Colin, head of NSW Transport Asset Holding Entity (TAHE), received a guided tour of the soon to be adaptively reused Paint Shop from a representative of Historic Electric Traction (HET) which currently restores heritage electric trains in the Paint Shop. Photo: Geoff Turnbull

## No bridge for accepting North Eveleigh proposal

### URBAN DESIGN

GEOFF TURNBULL

**A planning proposal for the rezoning of the Paint Shop precinct between Carriageworks and Redfern station is on exhibition until August 25. It was lodged on behalf of the site owner, NSW Transport Asset Holding Entity (TAHE).**

The proposal with up to 28-storey buildings is primarily commercial with 450 homes, 15 per cent of which will be social and affordable housing. The proposal includes 1.4 hectares of open space and 40 per cent green cover and seeks to respond to Aboriginal concerns through Connecting with Country.

As part of the former Eveleigh Railyards, heritage is a major concern with issues covered in five exhibited documents. The master

plan shows a potential building through the historic Paint Shop and another cantilevered over the Paint Shop extension.

The master plan claims improved connectivity but does not include a pedestrian bridge between Carriageworks and South Eveleigh. The report says a bridge is possible but "detailed consideration is outside the project scope and does not have NSW government funding".

If TAHE will not pay for this community requested piece of infrastructure then Rob Stokes, as Minister for Infrastructure and Active Transport, may need to find another way of delivering this if he wants broad community support for the proposal. The exhibition was launched by Minister Stokes. SSH

Geoff Turnbull is a spokesperson for REDWatch. View NSW Transport Asset Holding Entity's proposal here: [www.bit.ly/RNE-virtual-room](http://www.bit.ly/RNE-virtual-room)



Mundanara Bayles speaking at the NCIE on August 2 in support of continued services at the NCIE for the local Koori community. Speakers stressed the importance of safe spaces for community health and wellbeing, and urged negotiations with the local community for adequate ongoing funding. See the SSH website for updates. Photo: Andrew Collis

## Waterloo Estate will be developed

### URBAN DESIGN

GEOFF TURNBULL

**LAND and Housing Corporation (LAHC) has started the recruitment process for a consortium to redevelop Waterloo Estate starting with Waterloo South. The consortium will include a developer to handle the redevelopment and a Community Housing Provider (CHP) to run the social housing, replacing the existing role of DCJ Housing.**

The CHP will be expected to provide wrap-around human

services for tenants. CHP tenants need to obtain Commonwealth Rent Assistance and pay this as increased rent to the CHP.

LAHC has advised tenants in a July newsletter that contamination test drilling will start this month and work has commenced on planning for human service supports and for relocations, which will not begin until 2024.

Planning controls are not yet final. In a community win, Pitt Street will not be opened up to McEvoy Street. It is not yet clear if LAHC has got the changes it requested in its submission. SSH



# Dedicated to the care of cats

## LOCALS

MARJORIE LEWIS-JONES

**DR Michaela Avery opened the Inner West Cat Hospital in Newtown in September 2021 – a labour of love that's been well worth it.**

### Why is having a fear-free environment for treating cats so important?

I knew there was a need for a practice where cats would not need to hear, see, smell or have to worry about dogs while they are feeling unwell. As a prey species, the added stress of knowing a potential predator is close by is huge, even for cats who have their own dog friends at home. They don't know the other dogs in hospital are friendly. They just know that, not only do they feel like crap, there is also something in the building that might eat them while they are down. It would be like going to a doctor that also treats bears and poisonous snakes. Here it is peaceful, there are happy pheromones infused throughout the place, everything is warm, silent and calming.

### What makes yours a world-class feline hospital?

We are so new we have the latest of everything! Both Ash and I, up until recently, worked in high-end referral and specialist hospitals both here and overseas. We knew what was available when we stocked the hospital, and we knew what equipment we wanted and what works well for cat patients. We also were able to pretty quickly attain gold-standard ISFM cat-friendly clinic accreditation, which is the international benchmark for cat clinics globally. Not many places have that.

### How have the alliances you've forged helped improve the lives of cats in need?

We have been slowly but surely securing enough income to be able to do the vet work for The Cat Protection Society, Inner City Strays, The Mini Kitty Commune, Cat Rescue 901, Paws and Recover, Animal Rescue Sydney, Cat Defence Network, Inner City Strays and a number of other charities. Through the clinic, we've raised and rehomed over 35 kittens that have landed on our doorstep. During the recent storms we had about 17 tiny babies in care here that had been washed out of drains, gutters or gardens. They were some sleepless and expensive weeks!

### What is one important surgical procedure you have done this month?

We recently "MacGyvered" a splint to correct a very irregular chest malformation that was preventing a kitten from breathing properly (she can breathe perfectly now!) Then there was the cat that had fallen onto a two-foot long spike, and he is absolutely fine now, too. My favourite thing is reconstruction. There is nothing more satisfying than rearranging, removing or repairing something that is causing a cat pain, and they get to wake up and their life is suddenly so much happier and easier.

### What stresses have vets faced during the pandemic?

During Covid, everyone got a pet and all the humans got sick (including the vets and nurses). As essential workers, the vets had to keep going to work – with many becoming casual contacts, meaning there were less and less of them each week to treat the burgeoning number of animals. Understandably, many vets and nurses reached breaking point and have now left the industry for good. Also, as Covid hit, all the vets and nurses who come here to work from overseas



Dr Michaela Avery attained her membership of the Australian College in small animal surgery in 2017 and gets sent interesting cases from other hospitals not seen in most GP practices. Photos: Supplied

(especially UK, Ireland and South America) went back home to be with their families and our workforce vanished. We who are left are still very tired, very stressed and thin on the ground.

### What traits do you share with Ashley?

Our experiences [treating animals in isolated Australian Indigenous communities, Central America, South East Asia and Rajasthan in India] help us every day to be brave and go the extra mile for every single patient. We are both pretty fearless, we are also both self-made, from working-class backgrounds. We went to public school and were brought up to never think we had any restrictions placed on us just by being born girls – and we have both had to fight for that belief ever since. We also both worked at the

University Teaching Hospital in the emergency department (Ash as a vet nursing instructor) and so we are really into mentoring the newer generations of vets and nurses and helping them to value themselves in an industry that can chew you up if you don't back yourself. It is a good match.

### What do you enjoy about being based on Gadigal Wangal land in Newtown?

I have loved Newtown since I was a kid – and defied my mum to get my nose pierced in the chemist at the station in the '90s! I still love the noise and the gigs, and the variety of characters you meet on the streets. Ash likes the food and the bars. As a workplace, you cannot beat King Street, we will never ever get bored of this view. SSH

www.innerwestcatvet.com.au

# Yeo and Toka chosen as Citizens of the Year



Inner West Citizens of the Year Liz Yeo (left) and Cheree Toka (right) with Inner West Council Mayor Darcy Byrne. Photo: Daniel Kukec Photography

## HUMAN AFFAIRS

SSH

**NEWTOWN resident and longstanding leader of Newtown Neighbourhood Centre, Liz Yeo, and Indigenous activist, Cheree Toka, are Inner West 2022 Citizens of the Year.**

Liz Yeo was until recently CEO of Newtown Neighbourhood Centre which throughout the pandemic carried out critical work with some of the most vulnerable members of the Inner West community.

Cheree Toka is a proud Kamilaroi woman, Dulwich Hill resident and activist who initiated and led the (successful) campaign for the Aboriginal Flag to fly permanently over the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

The pair were announced as Co-Citizens of the Year at a ceremony on June 4 at Ashfield Town Hall.

Inner West Mayor Darcy Byrne said, "Liz Yeo and the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre have been serving the most vulnerable people in Inner West for many years.

"The inspiring way that the organisation mobilised to support victims in the wake of the Newtown boarding house fire was

just the latest example of how this institution has stepped up to help.

"Liz has been a leading advocate for affordable housing, reducing homelessness and protecting the rights of low-income people."

Mr Byrne said that Cheree Toka's principled campaign to have the Aboriginal Flag fly permanently over Sydney's most famous landmark had inspired the whole community.

"The recent reversal from the NSW Government and public commitment to fly the Aboriginal Flag over the Bridge is entirely because of Cheree's unceasing advocacy over five years."

In June, Ms Yeo left Newtown Neighbourhood Centre to join the Paul Ramsey Foundation Darlinghurst (PRF).

After seven years running service delivery for people at the extreme end of disadvantage, she said the new role at PRF offered a unique opportunity to spend the next part of her career focused on bringing about systemic change.

"There is a certain magic that can happen when you bring together people from all perspectives. If you put the right combination together – people who want to make things better, good ideas and some resources to make them happen – it's totally possible to create social change." SSH



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## Climate emergency needs action now

The climate crisis isn't near, it's here.

The State of the Environment report is totally devastating – laying bare how the climate crisis and years of neglect from those in power is destroying our wildlife, forests, oceans, and precious natural environment.

Europe is seeing record temperatures, deadly heat waves and fires, Bangladesh is experiencing catastrophic floods, and the Pacific Islands and Torres Strait Islands are literally sinking.

It's hard not to feel grim when you read the news.

**We are now seeing ongoing and severe changes in our climate and the action we take must match the severity of the crisis we are experiencing.**

And now as we have a new Federal Parliament with more MPs in the parliament who are committed to climate action than ever before and more people who have voted for climate leadership than ever before - it is a massive opportunity to tackle the climate crisis head on.

The Greens will always work in good faith for strong, progressive legislation so that real change can occur. Like our community, we are committed to urgent and ambitious climate action. And we know that means putting people and our planet before profit, taking strong action on targets and working to stop all public funding of new coal and gas mines, and instead funding the transition to 100% renewables.

**A safe climate and sustainable future are possible, but we can't wait any longer to take action.**

Sign up to our mailing list so we can keep you updated about our work.



*Jenny Leong*  
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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Bluewren soared to a maximum altitude of 29,933 feet, placing first in its division at the 2022 Spaceport America Cup competition, held in New Mexico.  
Photo: USYD Rocketry Team

# Sydney rocketry students announced as world champions

## SPONSORED

MARK SCOTT

ON Sunday July 17 at 04:00 AEST, the USYD Rocketry Team was announced as the overall winner of the Spaceport America Cup intercollegiate rocketry competition, held annually in New Mexico.

Competing against 97 student teams from around the globe, including ETH Zurich and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, the University of Sydney team placed first in three categories – winning the overall competition with the highest points scored, and taking out first place for the launch of their 30,000 feet commercial-off-the-shelf rocket Bluewren and first place for the design of space debris capture payload Callistemon.

The results were announced after a nail-biting, three-week wait due to a data recovery error.

Bluewren soared to a height of 29,933 feet – roughly nine kilometres – over the New Mexico desert before successfully deploying both its parachutes, landing safely and intact three kilometres from the launch site.

Spaceport America Cup judges commended the University of Sydney team for their sportsmanship, camaraderie, rocket launch and design. The team's payload Callistemon was praised for its performance during the launch and for being an innovative solution to the growing problem of space junk.

The team were announced as the overall winners of Spaceport America Cup.

The team's Executive Director, Bachelor of Engineering and Science student Alison Lockley said: "This has been the most incredible and rewarding experience and I could not be prouder. We have overcome some significant challenges to get here and it speaks to the tenacity and dedication of every person on my team that we have been able to achieve this."

"Callistemon is not just a technical demonstration, but the

## 2022 Spaceport America Cup Award - Winner



The University of Sydney

The USYD Rocketry team were announced as the overall winners of Spaceport America Cup.  
Image: Spaceport America Cup

culmination of novel research conducted by our payload team into the use of computer vision for the dynamic targeting of space debris," said Bhavesh Balaji, payload director.

After a two-year pandemic hiatus, in June the team flew to the US to compete at the competition, making it their second Spaceport America Cup launch since winning the 10,000 feet competition with their rocket Silvereye in 2019. In 2021 Spaceport America Cup held a virtual competition, with the Sydney team winning silver and bronze for their rocket, Firetail, and payload, Tetratheca.

University of Sydney Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Mark Scott AO congratulated the team on the triple win.

"After two years of being grounded by COVID, USYD Rocketry Team have got their sky wings back. Their win is testament to their teachers and the skill and determination they have developed together and proves that University of Sydney students are truly world class. Congratulations to the team on this fantastic result," Professor Scott said.

Academic supervisor from the School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering, Associate Professor Matthew Cleary said: "The practical, hands-on experience of designing and building a competition rocket

has augmented the students' technical, project management, logistics and systems engineering skills. However, perhaps most importantly, they have learnt the value of both leadership and team-work – indispensable skills in the aerospace industry."

Bluewren was constructed from a custom-designed and manufactured carbon fibre airframe and uses a commercial solid propellant to achieve speeds 1.7 times the speed of sound.

## About the team

USYD Rocketry Team is Australia's oldest tertiary student rocketry team – a dynamic group of student aerospace engineers who design and manufacture high-power rockets and space technologies.

The team's trip to New Mexico was supported by industry partners and over a dozen sponsors including Pirtek and the Sydney Manufacturing Hub, who provided in-kind support.

In 2019, the team was the first Australian team to attend, compete in and win at Spaceport America Cup.



Authorised by Vice-Chancellor and Principal Prof. Mark Scott.  
Enquiries: 9351 2000  
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## Critical support for communities of Tonga

### GUEST EDITORIAL

EMMA BROPHY

**IT'S hard to forget those satellite images that flashed across our news – one of the most powerful eruptions observed in the modern era. So strong it sent atmospheric shock waves, sonic booms, and tsunami waves around the world.**

"I want to thank Australia", he began, "for their support during the eruption and during the tsunami. It's been six months now, and we are almost back to normal."

As he addressed the table, the Rev. Ikani Tolu, General Secretary, the Tongan National Council of Churches, looked

to staff of Act for Peace, the international humanitarian agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia.

"We owe the world [to those] who immediately responded to the new disaster that our people faced at the beginning of the year, with the many prayers, we survived, and on behalf of our people, I say thank you. Malo 'aupito."

A collective hush fell over the table as we took in his words. Words carrying the weight of a small nation that, earlier this year, was devastated by the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcanic eruption. It was the communities of Tonga, at least 84,000 affected people, who bore the brunt of its impact.

In this time of crisis, the Act for Peace community raised over

\$94,000 to help our partner in Tonga, to assist communities living with the physical devastation, food insecurity, and trauma caused by this disaster.

The emergency response was implemented by our partner, with support of USAID, providing critical physical and emotional assistance to 18 communities in Tonga, while leaving them with increased resilience and capacity to reduce their vulnerability to future disasters.

Rationally, I knew our help was making a difference. But now, sitting at a table in our Sydney office opposite Rev. Ikani, and other church leaders from the Pacific Islands, I could feel what that support really meant.

The reality of working in the international humanitarian

## A model of prayer and life

### FAITH

ANDREW COLLIS

**THERE are three versions of the "Lord's Prayer" in the New Testament and early Christian tradition. The shortest version comes from Luke's gospel. An inclusive translation reads: "Abba God, hallowed be your Name! May your reign come. Give us today Tomorrow's bread. Forgive us our sins, for we too forgive everyone who sins against us; and don't let us be subjected to the Test."**

The structure of the prayer (in all three versions) looks something like this: Orient yourselves to God. Affirm God's goodness and otherness. Express openness and desire for God's future. Petition for basic, collective needs – ask to receive and commit to give. Acknowledge human frailty and finitude.

Orient, affirm, express, petition, acknowledge ... with words (spoken, written, sung), by way of painting, dancing, ritual (devotional, liturgical), work, play, silence ...

Jesus offers a model of prayer based on his own experience of life as dialogue, as call to meaning and to love.

In response to the latest State

of the Environment report written by 30 independent scientists from around Australia – in face of dual biodiversity and climate crises – nothing short of radical prayer is called for.

Something like this: Re-orient yourselves to God (source of life, beauty and diversity). Re-affirm God's goodness and otherness (protection and restoration of habitats – numinous matter).

Express openness and desire for God's future (God after empire, economies of extraction and consumption, environmental mismanagement). Petition for basic, collective needs (First Nations justice, climate justice; freedom for life together).

Ask to receive and renew commitments to clean air, clean water, clean energy – no new coal or gas mines. Acknowledge human frailty and finitude (save us – unwise, unkind and unimaginative – in the time of trial).

Praying with Jesus – in the Spirit of all who engage in dialogue, in the struggle for justice – we participate in the saving of the world. Perhaps that's a little grandiose.

Praying with Jesus – in the Spirit of all who engage in dialogue, in the struggle for justice – we offer ourselves for the life of the world.

SSH

space is that most of the time our communication with our partners is through emails, texts and calls; but sitting with someone is so special. You feel a connection. It is something we have all missed during this pandemic.

I hope the Rev. Ikani's words remind you that people are at the centre of our work, at the centre of

disasters that we see around the world, and you too can feel some of the impact you make when you support our work.

SSH

**Emma Brophy, Digital Content Lead, Act for Peace.**

**To find out more or to support the ongoing work for people who are forced from their homes by violent conflict or disaster, visit [www.actforpeace.org.au](http://www.actforpeace.org.au)**

## Will you run to protect the reef?

### ENVIRONMENT

SSH

**ON October 16, Australia and New Zealand will welcome the world's first simultaneous running event, bringing more than 100,000 runners together with a single mission of running as one in the name of helping protect the Great Barrier Reef.**

The inaugural run4reef international event will span 21 cities across the two countries, with run4reef registrations raising much-needed funds to help protect the Reef, including developing restoration programs like the innovative "plant a coral" initiative.

A portion of the funds raised directly from event registrations and peer-to-peer fundraising will go to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation and WWF-Australia's work to Regenerate Australia and protect our oceans, marine wildlife

and natural wonders like the Great Barrier Reef.

The events are supported by internationally acclaimed marine scientist and leading authority on coral reef science and conservation, Great Barrier Reef Foundation Chief Scientist Professor Ove Hoegh-Guldberg.

"The science has been clear for a long time – climate change is the number one threat to the Great Barrier Reef," Professor Hoegh-Guldberg said.

"Acting to reduce global emissions to zero over the coming decade is an absolute imperative.

"Developing technologies for strategically reseeded damaged reef systems is a must as we also rapidly stabilise the climate. Not acting is not an option, we must act now to save the Great Barrier Reef as a bastion of Australia's biodiversity and economic opportunity."

The need to protect the reef was driven home in the State of the Environment Report released by the federal government on July 19.

The Great Barrier Reef has experienced extensive damage from mass coral bleaching events due to high sea temperatures in 2016, 2017, 2020 and this year. Ocean acidification, caused by the ocean taking up more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, is now reaching a tipping point, threatening the existence of juvenile coral.

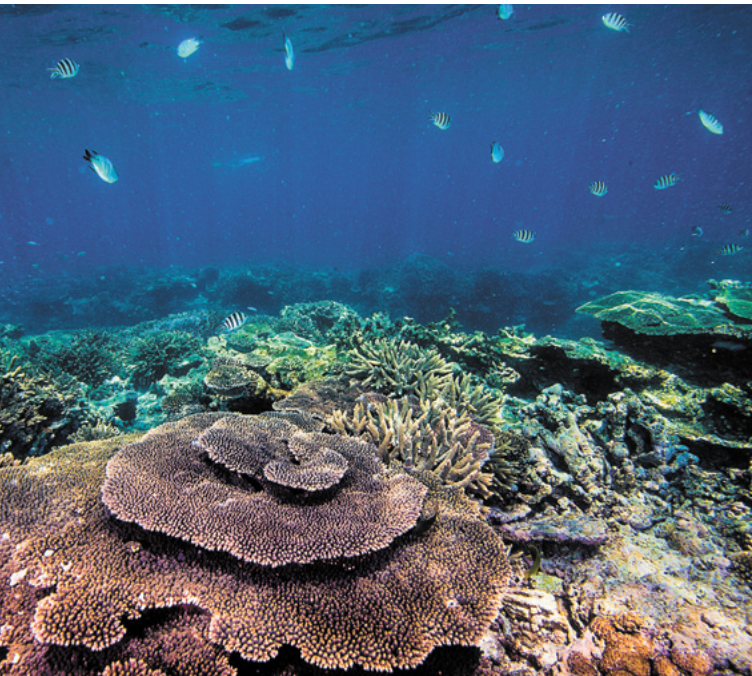
The Great Barrier Reef Foundation is urging people who prefer not to run in run4reef but want to support the Reef to "plant a coral" by donating to help save it.

"Corals are one of the most vulnerable species on the planet due to rising water temperatures," it says.

"We need to buy our Reef time while we rapidly reduce emissions. We need to give it every chance of survival, to help it fight back."

Donations will help the foundation plant corals on priority areas of the Reef that have suffered damage, enabling:

- Coral IVF to help accelerate the



The inaugural international run4reef event aims to help corals, which are among the most vulnerable species on the planet due to rising water temperatures. Photo: Gary Cranitch Queensland Museum

natural coral reproductive process.

- Broken coral fragments to be collected and grown in underwater nurseries, then planted onto damaged areas of the Reef to restore and repopulate them.
- Further research into how

to breed and outplant heat-tolerant corals to ensure reefs can withstand rising water temperatures due to climate change.

SSH

[www.run4reef.org](http://www.run4reef.org)

[www.give.barrierreef.org/donate/plantacoral](http://www.give.barrierreef.org/donate/plantacoral)





Martha Marlow played with Chris Abrahams at the Utzon Room at Sydney Opera House as part of SIMA's Jazz:NOW Winter program. Photo: Jared Leibowitz

Duo offered ‘intimacy of jazz’ in Winter Jazz Fest

MUSIC  
STEPHEN WEBB

WHAT is Jazz now?  
And where can you find it?

These are questions that SIMA, the Sydney Improvised Music Association, sought to answer with a series of concerts in July by way of the Sydney Winter Jazz Fest. The 2021 festival was cut short because of Covid and lockdowns but this year it went full steam ahead with concerts at the Opera House, Mary’s Underground and Palmer and Co in Abercrombie Lane.

On Saturday July 16, in the Opera House’s atmospheric Utzon Room, “The Intimacy of Jazz Now” saw songstress Martha Marlow alongside legendary pianist Chris Abrahams (The Necks) presenting an exclusive preview of her forthcoming album *Queen of the Night*. Marlow and Abrahams are ambivalent about what jazz is now but have clear perspectives on where it can be found ... or not. Marlow said she had seen changes that made it difficult to pursue music as a career. “The whole industry had been suffering and then along

came Covid. So it is good that SIMA is helping musicians perform and earn a living.” Abrahams said the term jazz was now applied to things that in the past wouldn’t be called jazz. So it was hard to say what it was. Marlow wasn’t sure that her own music could be classified as jazz. But she thought it was wonderful that SIMA included her in performances at the Opera House. “It’s a beautiful venue. It’s iconic,” she said. Abrahams said he really enjoyed playing there. “The piano is amazing and the room looks out over the harbour.”

However, both agreed that Sydney made it difficult for people to open jazz venues now. “I remember the Paradise Jazz Cellar in Kings Cross,” Abrahams said. “It was a paid gig where I could play whatever I wanted. That sort of thing doesn’t happen in Sydney now – or probably anywhere in the world anymore.” “Places like the Foundry (in Harris Street, Ultimo) are incredible and there are some great house concerts, like one fantastic place where you pay a donation to see a great gig. “Peter Rechniewski (former Artistic Director and co-founder of SIMA) started the Foundry. It’s individuals who make things like that happen,” said Abrahams. Marlow agreed, mentioning Phoenix in Central Park (a performance space in

Chippendale opened by philanthropist Judith Neilson). Marlow, last year nominated for an Aria award and an Australian Music Prize award and winner of an Australian Women in Music Emerging Artist award, has been described as one of the year’s best kept secrets. Modest about her growing fame, she said she still felt like a secret. “Living with a serious immune condition, it is rare for me to venture out. That’s why it’s been good for me to work with Chris. It’s an inner world; not performing to huge audiences.” Abrahams, on the other hand is well established, with dozens of albums, solo and in collaboration, to his name. At the Opera House they previewed songs from the yet-to-be-recorded *Queen of the Night*, named after a plant that blooms only at night and whose flowers wilt before dawn. “It is an extraordinary flower,” said Marlow, “suggesting the transient nature of time – something existing in a moment.” It’s a beautiful flower,” said Abrahams, “Intriguing and melancholic. Something enormous that happens in darkness and fades so quickly.” They didn’t think their music was necessarily dark or melancholic, however. “It’s more melodic and harking back to the ’60s and ’70s era of song writing, with lots of major seventh chords.” Abrahams said, while he was looking forward to recording and to getting definitive versions of the songs, performing live and experimenting to let the songs take shape was a lovely experience. “The more you do something, trust is built up and worry dissipates. That’s why it’s important for people to play live as much as possible, even if some great music has been made spontaneously.”

‘Making music with my brothers’

MUSIC  
ANDREW COLLIS

WILLYJ, Olz and the Chaza are three rappers making fresh new music with power and personality – multi-layered and percussive. The SSH was there on July 7 for the trio’s debut performance at Harpoon Harry’s on Wentworth Ave in Surry Hills.

When did you all meet?  
Willy J: We met when we were little adolescent soldiers trapping the Loo.

You all tell stories about life in Waterloo and the city. Do you write your own raps? Do you work on them together?  
Willy J: Well, it’s a mix of both. Sometimes I’ll write my own raps and some other days we’ll freestyle together.

How did it feel to first start creating music together?  
Willy J: Making music with my brothers is probably the best feeling I’ve felt in a long time. The Harpoon Harry’s performance went great, we absolutely killed it. I was a little nervous at the start but once the crowd started getting into it, everything else just fell into place.

Have you made any recordings of your songs?  
Willy J: Our songs will be out sooner than you think. I’m working on releasing our first song, “Neighbourhood Watch”, on all platforms, so be prepared. Once I finish the album cover, expect to hear more from us.

What hopes do you have for your music?  
Willy J: I seriously have the greatest feeling about this. Things are about to happen, and a lot’s about to change for the better.

.....  
@baiaeme\_productions



The Chaza, Olz and Willy J. Photo: Andrew Collis



Theatre Review  
by Catherine Skipper

**Summer of the Seventeenth Doll**  
**Writer: Ray Lawlor**  
**Director: John Grinston**  
**Genesian Theatre**  
**July 16 – August 14, 2022**

*Summer of the Seventeenth Doll* premiered in 1955 in Melbourne and within a decade had been staged across Australia, in London and in New York, and turned into a Hollywood film starring well-known actors Ernest Borgnine and Anne Baxter. Besides uniformly excellent performances in a once confronting play, has this most recent revival anything to offer the present generation of Australian theatre goers?

At the time, the play asks Australia to accept and work with an inevitable change from its self-image based on the bush legend to the far less romantic image of a modern urbanised country. It tells the story of two canecutters, Roo (Martin Grellis) and Barney (Harley Connor), who go to Melbourne for the five-month lay-off season and spend their hard-earned money enjoying life with their two girlfriends, barmaids Olive (Jodine Muir) and Nancy. The title refers both to the kewpie doll Roo brings Olive each year and indicates that this – the seventeenth of their arrangement – is significantly and tragically different.

The seventeenth year of the lay-off is different from the start. Nancy, Barney’s long-time girlfriend, has married and Olive has “replaced” her with Pearl (Grace Swadling), a pub co-worker, who views the situation in the Carlton household with suspicious eyes. After the arrival of an edgy Barney and a more subdued Roo, Barney reveals to Olive that Roo has no money because he has left the cane fields after a fight with another younger and rival canecutter. He covers for Roo’s failure to best the younger man by saying that Roo has injured his back. And from there, the dream of living a life of heightened intensity – more truly

Olive’s creation – slowly dies. Lawlor’s characterisation of the four doomed characters is complex and their changing relationship nuanced, and the four actors fully meet the challenge. Grace Swadling, while seeming supercilious and judgemental, also reveals Pearl’s insecurity and her hope – born of desperation that she might yet make herself respectable – by catching a husband in the very unlikely Barney. A slippery former ladies’ man, Harley Connor, is tone perfect as Barney, an uneasy mate to Roo while trying to keep in with Johnnie Dowd (Hamish MacDonald) who supplanted Roo as ganger. As the proud, silent man, Martin Grellis compels sympathy as he struggles to accept his inevitable physical decline and his bewilderment in the face of Olive’s angry rejection.

Olive is perhaps the most interesting and controversial character of the four, and her complexity is fully expressed by Jodine Muir. Do we see her as simply immature, adolescent in her attachment to tawdry kewpies, and incapable of adapting to approaching middle-age, or is she really trying to create a viable and more exciting alternative to the monotony and drudgery of married life? Her romantic girlishness, beautifully conveyed by her swirling skirts (lovely costuming all-round by Susan Carveth), sits oddly on a 37-year-old woman, but her anguish at the loss of her impossible dream of perpetual effervescence is deeply moving. It should be noted that her way of life is very much dependent on her carping but also accommodating mother Emma (Liz Grindley) and her ownership of the run-down and overdecorated terrace house in Carlton.

At present, Australians are called to accept the inevitable changes brought about by post-colonialism, multiculturalism and the assumption of global citizenship, and many are still resistant to the less familiar contours of the post-millennium world and its reliance on remote technologies. Olive’s anguished cry

of “You give it back to me” might be echoed by those who see the little world they created for themselves crumble into ruins under new dispensations. See *The Doll* again and feel its power as a fable for all times and wonder what the future will be for Bubba (a movingly ingenuous Heather Tliege) and Johnnie Dowd.

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

Film Review  
by Lindsay Cohen

**Where the Crawdads Sing**  
**Director: Olivia Newman**  
**Starring: Daisy Edgar-Jones, Taylor John Smith, Harris Dickinson**  
**Genre: Swamp lobster**

*Where the Crawdads Sing* may be the ultimate teenage date film, but that doesn’t mean it’s any good. Indeed, it’s all the things that make it such a perfect date film that contribute to it being drawn out, laboured and unsatisfying.

Even the basic premise of a young girl who managed to raise herself in a dilapidated house in the swamp yet somehow grows up with perfect teeth and radiant skin means it tends to irk. Then there’s the core storyline of a mystery death where the facts don’t add up even after the “twist”, and a courtroom drama that lacks any drama.

It’s really a case of what could have been. There are so many adult themes here – domestic violence, environmental destruction, racism and sexism – that are only loosely touched upon even though they are massively significant to the context of the plot. They are treated as side issues so the focus can be on young love. Admittedly, this is probably deliberate.

I understand the book of the same name was a huge hit not just with teenagers even though it was considered to be “young adult fiction”. Reviews describe it as gritty, poignant, absorbing, atmospheric and excellent.

But movies only go for 90 minutes or so and getting bums on seats is more important than making a good

and dramatic film that tackles the big issues. So, unless you’re aged 13-19, keen on someone and only vaguely aware of some of the world’s most pressing matters then probably best you head to your local bookstore.

Rating: Two yabbie tunes

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

Book Review  
by Catherine DeMayo

**The Escape Artist**  
**Jonathan Freedland**  
**Hachette Australia, \$32.99**

Rudi Vrba is hardly a household name. Perhaps *The Escape Artist*, a harrowing, fascinating and meticulously researched book by British journalist and BBC presenter Jonathan Freedland will bring his incredible story to more people; I hope so.

Rudi Vrba (formerly Walter Rosenberg) achieved the near impossible – he escaped Auschwitz. While not the first escapee, he and companion Alfred Wetzler were the first Jewish prisoners to escape and avoid recapture. Their mission was not simply to avoid the gas chambers, but to reveal the horrors of the Nazi camps, hoping that such knowledge would stop, or at least slow, the ruthless killing machine contained therein.

Born in Slovakia, Walter Rosenberg was 18 when, in June of 1942, he was crammed into a cattle car, to emerge in Auschwitz three days later. Within days, he resolved to find a way to escape, though it took two years to perfect and enact his plan.

While more than nine out of 10 new arrivals faced the gas chambers on arrival, Rosenberg was relatively fortunate. He was young and strong; resourceful and multilingual and he found, on occasion, more powerful prisoners willing to protect him.

After a careful study of the camp routine, Rosenberg spied a tiny window of opportunity during which the usually impervious boundary of

the camp was less closely guarded. His linguistic ability allowed him to get valuable information from Russian prisoners. By hiding for three seemingly endless days and nights under a woodpile in the camp’s outer ring, Rosenberg and Wetzler managed to escape Auschwitz and traverse occupied Poland to seek a tenuous refuge in Slovakia.

Rosenberg (now renamed Rudolf Vrba) immediately began the almost equally dangerous task of recounting the horrors he had witnessed and committed to memory.

His reasoning was twofold. By revealing to the Allies the horrors of the camps, he hoped to persuade them to bomb strategically, targeting the train tracks leading to them.

In addition, the killing machine only functioned efficiently because the Jews arriving at the camps were exhausted, thirsty, hungry and disoriented. They followed the instructions of the SS, allowing the superbly efficient machinery of death to run smoothly. (On June 27, 1944, 12,500 Jews arrived in Auschwitz from Hungary, nearly all were gassed on arrival.) Vrba hoped to warn Europe’s few remaining Jews about what awaited them, in the hope that any resistance, while individually hopeless, might disrupt the process of mass murder.

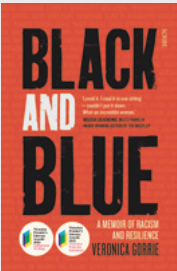
The detailed dossier Vrba and Wetzler prepared reached Allied leaders, but did little to change military policy. (The report did help save the lives of many in Budapest’s besieged Jewish community, perhaps as many as 200,000.)

After the war, Vrba was a key witness in numerous war crimes trials and in documenting the Holocaust. His story is important for two reasons: one, in verifying the horrors of the Nazi camps as fewer survivors remain to bear witness and denialism abounds; two, to demonstrate that knowing of atrocities is rarely enough to stop or prevent them.

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

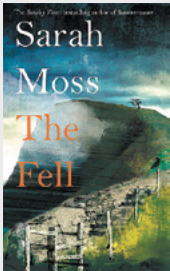
Five books worth stopping for

SELECTED BY MARJORIE LEWIS-JONES



‘Black and Blue’

A proud Gunai/Kurnai woman, Veronica (Ronnie) Gorrie was gutsy enough to think she could change Australia’s racist and sexist law enforcement system from within. One of only a few Aboriginal police officers in Australia, the job and what she saw took its toll on her relationships and health. Gritty, funny, startling, saddening, *Black and Blue: a memoir of racism and resilience* traces the painful impact of cultural dispossession and Gorrie’s anger at police brutality and racial discrimination.



Covid blame

Kate breaks her Covid-19 quarantine period to walk on the moor behind her house. When she’s seriously injured, she knows she’ll be blamed for her breakout – which weighs heavily. *The Fell* by Sarah Hall is fictional, but through Kate (on the moor), her son (at home), her neighbour (who has seen her leaving) and the mountain rescue man (summoned to her aid) we’re given a chillingly close reminder of what we lived through early on in the pandemic.



Plot hooked

When I started reading *The Plot*, by Jean Hanff Korelitz, I was sure I’d hate the supposedly bestselling plot, pick the twist in the tale and be bored witless with the literary machinations – but no! When Jacob Finch Bonner steals a story idea from one of his MFA students (now deceased) his book is an overnight success. After Jacob receives an email to say he’s a thief, his ill-judged decision careens out of control ... and I was hooked.



Warm to cold

*Cold Enough for Snow* by Jessica Au is lyrical novella but it took a second reading for me to warm up to it. Set mostly in Japan, there’s an austerity to the prose that made it feel like wading through snow – a slog at first but then a soft, ethereal delight. Memories swirl as the distance between a mother and daughter fluctuates and while they walk the streets, visit forests and buy gifts to take home. Take a look.



Meal to savour

“But all we have is ourselves,” Kate’s father had once said, “all we have is family”. And yet when Kate’s twin and her father die prematurely she spirals into a hunger she dares not satisfy, and lives with a wound that may never heal. Set between the 1990s and the present day, from a farmhouse in Carlow to Trinity College, Dublin, *Dinner Party: A Tragedy* by Sarah Gilmartin, is a nuanced debut with much to savour.





Jonas Vingegaard, winner of the Tour de France 2022. Photo: Supplied

## Le tour magnifique

### SPORT

STEVE TURNER

**THE men's Tour de France recently reached its destination, Paris, and the 2022 edition concluded with a new champion.**

Jonas Vingegaard overcame the scare of a near-crash to come in second behind Jumbo-Visma teammate Wout van Aert in the Lacapelle-Marival to Rocamadour individual time trial.

It extended Vingegaard's advantage over two-time reigning champion Tadej Pogacar to three minutes and 34 seconds, meaning the Danish rider stood on the top step of the podium in the yellow jersey after the ceremonial final stage in Paris.

In an enthralling race, the elite athletic ability of Vingegaard, Pogacar and Van Aert really stood out.

Gruelling mountain hikes, cumbersome cobblestone streets and long sprint sections demanded a lot of all who competed. Crashes with

other competitors and collisions with media motorbikes added to what is an event of monumental proportions.

Team Jumbo-Visma dominated this year's race, in part because a Covid-19 outbreak hindered Pogacar's UAE Team Emirates squad.

The formidable Van Aert will take home the green points jersey. Vingegaard also has the polka-dot King of the Mountains jersey in his possession. Team Jumbo-Visma won six stage sections.

#### Sam stays in the rabbit warren

Rabbitohs great Sam Burgess has rejected a move to join Wayne Bennett's coaching staff at the Dolphins to return to Redfern.

According to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, Burgess has recommitted his future to the Rabbitohs and is expected to join South Sydney as an assistant to Jason Demetriou in 2023.

It's understood Burgess was being courted by the NRL's newest franchise but South Sydney managed to convince the club great to return under Jason Demetriou rather than his former coach.

SSH

## Volunteers' News

PAT CLARKE

Dear readers, it is great to have a bit of sunshine to dry up the damp from the rain. Best wishes and good health to all those affected by the recent floods and still cleaning up. Wishing you all a safe August and look forward to the start of Spring.

#### Indigenous Science Experience, Redfern Community Centre – Saturday August 20 from 10am-3pm

Part of **National Science Week**, this is a free open event celebration of both Indigenous and Western science. We have so much to learn from First Nations peoples, including astronomy, medicines and food. There will be lots of hands-on activities including talking with Elders about bush foods and medicines and science projects. Bookings are not required. Just turn up to experience all the day has to offer.

#### Seniors Social Group, Ron Williams Community Centre 5-11 Kepos Street, Redfern – Wednesdays from 10am-12pm until November 30

A great opportunity for older people to get out, meet new people, enjoy a cuppa, play board games and enjoy conversation. Everyone welcome, and community transport can be organised for residents in the City of Sydney local area. Contact: community social worker Jack Chen on 02 9288 3601 or email: [jchen2@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jchen2@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

#### Safe travels to Colin and Mary Ellen

Best wishes and safe travels to volunteer distributors Colin and Mary Ellen, presently in Germany to visit their son Lincoln who is living his dream at the John Cranko ballet school in Stuttgart. Readers may remember the wonderful front-page article and photo of Lincoln from December 2019. Greetings to former SSH volunteer Lincoln from all at the *South Sydney Herald*.



Learn to build a Tiny House using recycled and reclaimed materials. Photo: The Bower Reuse & Repair Centre, Marrickville.

#### The Bower Reuse and Repair Centre, Addison Road Community Centre, Marrickville

The Bower will soon announce details of its Tiny House construction course for 2022. The course is the only intensive, hands-on, tiny home building experience in the country. The principle of avoiding waste underpins all initiatives undertaken by the Bower and the Tiny House course is no exception. The SSH will keep you informed.

#### Some dates to consider:

- National Stroke Week, August 8-14
- Tradies National Health, Month August 1-31
- Father's Day, September 4.

Until next time,  
Pat Clarke

SSH

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

Sponsored by Blak Douglas – Archibald Winner 2022

**Blak & Blu**  
Annual pen on paper art prize

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

Drawings on A4 paper (minimum weight 300gsm) using black and/or blue biros. The work should comment on a social or environmental issue.

Send entries to *Blak & Blu*, Orchard Gallery, PO Box 3288 Redfern NSW 2016 (please include stamped self-addressed envelope so we can return your work). Entries close AUGUST 31, 2022.

Please complete the online Entry Form: [www.bit.ly/3vyf7GC](http://www.bit.ly/3vyf7GC)

There will be a \$1,000 prize, plus a Junior prize (thanks to Art on King, Newtown), as well as formal commendations and opportunity to have work included in an exhibition at the Orchard Gallery (56a Raglan St, Waterloo). Award ceremony and launch – 2pm, SEPTEMBER 10, 2022.

This year's judge will be **Dee Smart**, three-times Archibald finalist, represented by Nanda\Hobbs gallery in Chippendale.

The *Blak & Blu* annual pen-on-paper art prize is inspired by 19th-century Aboriginal artist Tommy McRae, who used art to comment subtly and not-so subtly on social conditions – satirising colonial culture, calling out entitlement and injustice.

*Blak & Blu* is sponsored by Redfern-based Dhungatti artist **Blak Douglas** (Archibald Winner 2022), whose own politically-charged work includes painting, photography, sculpture, commercial campaigns and communal projects.

For more information contact Andrew: [sshandrew@bigpond.com](mailto:sshandrew@bigpond.com)

## COUNTERPOINT

### SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

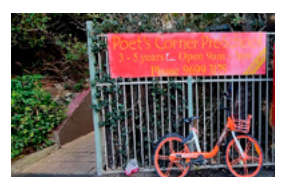
- Individual support, case management and advocacy
- Support for local groups
- Specialised children and family services
- Community events and social activities
- Meeting spaces for hire
- Free computers internet access and office facilities
- Social, educational, cultural programs
- Specialist services provided by partner agencies covering legal issues, health, counselling support, harm reduction
- Poets Corner Preschool
- Outreach services



Factory Community Centre  
67 Raglan Street, Waterloo



Multicultural Centre  
73 Garden Street, Alexandria



Poets Corner Preschool  
Rear of 55 Morehead St, Redfern

**CALL: 02 9698 9569**  
[info@counterpointcs.org.au](mailto:info@counterpointcs.org.au)  
[www.counterpointcs.org.au](http://www.counterpointcs.org.au)

