

Community News

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Port Macquarie Airport Soars With New Funding



Port Macquarie Airport has landed \$5 million that will accommodate increased visitor numbers and stimulate the local regional economy for the years to come.

The \$5 million will go towards the upgrade of the airport terminal building including internal baggage claim carousel and additional passenger amenities.

This funding is in addition to the \$1.8 million investment in Lord Howe Island Airport.

This continued investment being made across the regions by the NSW Government means new opportunities for economic growth and job creation.



The investment to develop regional airports is an important part of our work to support regional communities and grow the regional visitor economy in NSW.

The NSW Government will continue to invest in regional infrastructure to unlock new economic growth and job creation opportunities in regional NSW.

Airports are a key entry point for regional communities, helping channel business and tourism spending and assisting health and emergency services.

Hastings Valley Netball Scores a NSW Government Grant



Almost \$1 million from the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government will be spent on a major redevelopment of the Macquarie Park Netball Courts including an upgrade of the playing surface, new complex with disabled access toilets and clubhouse improvements.

Hastings Valley Netball Association President, Helen Miles joined me along with local team members to announce the successful \$919,028 grant through the ClubGRANTS Category 3 scheme.

These courts are well-loved and without question in need of an upgrade with some courts almost unusable because of the poor quality of the playing surface.

150 teams and over 1,200 players use this facility so this redevelopment is a major win for the local netball community.

The NSW Government is focused on increasing participation in sport and recreation and our region deserves this investment. The NSW Government is committed to enhancing local facilities to meet the needs of thriving regional communities.

Our local community can look forward to enjoying a first-class

sporting precinct that will be home to the region's sporting stars now and well into the future.

This significant upgrade to Macquarie Park is a terrific boost to the region and well-deserved by our passionate netball community.



Leslie with Hastings Valley Netball Association President Helen Miles and local players

NSW Government Funding More Walking and Cycling Paths



Leslie with Dr Sam Nelapati and Nicole Lewis-Bain

Construction and planning will begin on new bike and walking paths across the region thanks to a \$39 million state-wide investment by the NSW Liberal & Nationals Government.

The Baird Government will fund more than 350 walking and cycling projects across the state to better connect communities, improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists, and encourage more people to get active.

I am pleased the Hastings will benefit from this massive funding injection with 10 projects in the Port Macquarie electorate to be delivered in partnership with the local council from July.

Projects totalling \$577,500 in the Hastings include:

- **\$18,750** for design works on the shared pathway on Ocean Drive between the Pacific Highway and Glen Haven Drive.
- **\$157,500** to finish construction of a shared pathway on Ocean Drive between Mountain View Road and Brotherglen Drive and between Brotherglen Drive and Sirius Drive.
- **\$75,000** to construct 370 metres of shared pathway on Ocean Drive between Miala Street and the Medical centre on Ocean Drive at Lake Cathie.
- **\$15,000** to design a pedestrian refuge on Bold Street between Tunis and Seymour Streets at Laurieton.
- **\$147,500** will be spent constructing a pedestrian refuge on Boronia Street between Hindman and Heather Streets in Port Macquarie.
- **\$45,000** to design a mid-block signalised crossing on Gordon Street, Port Macquarie.
- **\$33,750** has been allocated to design a pedestrian refuge on Ocean Drive.
- **\$15,000** is being spent to develop a Pedestrian Access & Mobility Plan for Port Macquarie.
- **\$40,000** has been granted for the construction of kerb ramps and pedestrian refuges within the Port Macquarie area.

Last year the NSW Government provided Port Macquarie-Hastings Council with \$425,000 for similar upgrades and pedestrian safety improvements across the electorate and I am pleased that these projects are now underway.

Completing crucial missing links in the walking and cycling network and providing better connections between local suburbs and to public transport hubs will be welcomed by both local residents and businesses.

Seniors Celebrated

Local seniors were entertained at a gala concert which I co-hosted with Hastings Combined Seniors to celebrate the NSW Seniors Festival.

For the second year our local seniors concert has been supported by the Minister for Ageing, John Ajaka with \$5,000 in funding for Hastings Combined Seniors to host the concert.



Hastings Combined Seniors President Brian Buckett, Leslie and Member for Cowper Luke Hartsuyker

At Port Macquarie Panthers, around 600 seniors were entertained by talented performers including Adam and the Antiques, Rhythm Revue, Sublime Chimes, Roy Sweeney and Sing Australia.

The Laurieton United Services Club also held a 'Hits of the 60's' Seniors Festival concert with the Hastings Combined Seniors and I provided a free morning tea.

Both events were a huge success and we are now planning next year's concerts.

Exceptional Seniors Recognised With Achievement Awards



In March two wonderful local women received a 2016 NSW Seniors Local Achievement Award, in recognition of the enormous contribution they make to our community.

Seniors deserve recognition for the significant contribution they make across many different areas of community life.

These awards are the community's way of saying 'thank you' for their enthusiasm and commitment to their community.

The recipient in Port Macquarie was Ann French for her outstanding work with Sing Australia, while Edna Lamb from the Camden Haven was recognised for her work across the community for over five decades.

I commend the ladies for demonstrating the diversity of talent, generosity of spirit and limitless energy of seniors in our community. Both awards were presented during our local Seniors Concert.



Edna Lamb, Leslie and Ann French

\$160,200 Funding Long Day Care

Local long day care centres have received \$160,200 to deliver more preschool programs for children in the year before school.

Long day care is the preferred option for many working families and we want to ensure high quality care and education for our children, regardless of the type of service they attend.

This funding boost will enable centres across the greater Port Macquarie region to purchase additional resources, develop a preschool program based on the Early Years Learning Framework and broaden staff skills, including upgrading qualifications.

Maintaining a high standard of service delivery in early childhood education is no simple task. I commend all long day care centres in Port Macquarie for their diligence and dedication to providing high quality care and education.

Long Day Care Centres to benefit include:

Bangalay Child Care & Education Centre	\$21,120.00
Columba Cottage Early Learning Centre	\$28,050.00
Cowarra Park Preschool & Long Day Care Centre	\$16,500.00
Eco Kids Village	\$10,230.00
Fernhill Road Preschool & Long Day Care Centre	\$13,200.00
Goodstart Early Learning Port Macquarie	\$14,190.00
Joey's House Early Education Centre	\$5,940.00
Kendall Community Preschool	\$6,930.00
Kids Haven Early Learning Centre	\$8,400.00
Lake Cathie Children's Cottage	\$13,200.00
Moruya Drive Child Care Centre	\$11,880.00
Portside Preschool & Long Day Care Centre	\$6,600.00
Telegraph Point Children's Centre	\$3,960.00



Lake Cathie Children's Cottage

Support For Manufacturing Expo

Following the success of last year's Manufacturing and Engineering Expo in Port Macquarie, I was pleased to secure State Government funding to help stage the event again this year.



Leslie, John Barilaro and Jill Follington

I approached John Barilaro, the Minister for Small Business and Regional Development and he agreed to provide a 'one off grant' of \$5,000 to support the Expo.

The Expo is an opportunity to showcase Mid North Coast businesses and the contribution they make to the local economy.

Minister Barilaro is looking forward to opening the 2016 Expo. He has met a number of times with Industry Mid North Coast Executive Director, Jill Follington who is organising the Expo and I have been impressed with her vision for this vital industry.

I was more than happy to help with a grant to ensure the Expo is a success and I am looking forward to welcoming the Minister back to Port Macquarie in October.

Harrington Public School



I love the opportunity to visit local schools and when I was recently at Harrington Public School I met teachers and students and also inspected the work carried out to improve the toilet block and Covered Outdoor Learning Area.

The State Government has provided over \$366,000 for these works in addition to the extra Resource Allocation Model (RAM) funding of \$173,187.

Congratulations and thank you to Principal Lisa Kirkland and her dedicated staff for the wonderful work they do teaching the children of the Harrington area.



Beach to Beach Ball

Winners of the 2016 Australia Day Award for 'Best Community Group' are connecting the community again and I encourage everyone to support this organisation.

The Camden Haven's Beach to Beach Committee are having a fundraising Ball on Saturday 6th of August at the Laurieton United Services Club. Tickets are \$55 each and include champagne on arrival, two course meal, live music & lucky door prize to the value of \$1,000 travel dollars!

Tickets are available from the **Laurieton United Services Club**. For further enquiries contact b2briverwalk@yahoo.com.au
Don't miss a great night!

Community Building Partnership Grants Announced



Leslie with members of the Lions Club of Port Macquarie Tacking Point

Twenty seven local community organisations have shared in \$300,000 in Community Building Partnership grants announced earlier this year.

The Community Building Partnership grants directly benefit community groups, create local jobs and increase business opportunities while at the same time enhancing local investment in Port Macquarie, Bonny Hills, the Camden Haven, Moorland, Hannam Vale, Lansdowne, Johns River and Harrington.

Each year these grants grow in popularity with forty three applications received from across the Port Macquarie electorate.

Local Projects to receive funding include;

- ✓ **\$15,000** Lions Club of Port Macquarie Tacking Point for Stage One of the Lions Park Lighthouse Beach Project.
- ✓ **\$8,000** Harrington Crowdy Head Marine Rescue to fitout their training room.
- ✓ **\$4,760** Upper Lansdowne Memorial Hall to improve the water system at the hall.
- ✓ **\$15,000** Hastings Autism Resource Centre.
- ✓ **\$9,020** Bonny Hills Progress Association for a road safety bike path.
- ✓ **\$20,000** Kendall Rugby League Football Club to improve lighting at the Kendall Showground rugby league ground.
- ✓ **\$8,351** Hannam Vale Hall Society for solar panels for the hall.
- ✓ **\$10,000** Meals On Wheels at Laurieton for carpark improvements.
- ✓ **\$15,000** Hastings District Respite Care to provide fencing and plant boundaries for people with dementia.
- ✓ **\$7,800** Endeavour Clubhouse to erect an awning over their deck.
- ✓ **\$10,000** St Josephs Primary School at Laurieton for security fencing
- ✓ **\$15,500** Tacking Point Surf Club to purchase an All-Terrain Rescue vehicle
- ✓ **\$11,022** Douglas Vale Conservation Group to resurface the driveway
- ✓ **\$10,200** Moorland Recreation Reserve Trust for solar panels for the hall.
- ✓ **\$3,500** Port Macquarie Aspect School to expand the learning area for students with autism.
- ✓ **\$15,600** Camden Haven Surf Club for the replacement of two rescue training trailers.
- ✓ **\$4,099** Laurieton Men's Shed for solar panels for the Shed.

- ✓ **\$11,000** Port Macquarie Historical Society to repair the roof of the Port Macquarie Museum
- ✓ **\$15,000** Johns River Community Hall and Recreation Reserve Trust to construct a veranda.
- ✓ **\$2,250** Lansdowne Hall Reserve Trust to purchase a new catering refrigerator.
- ✓ **\$6,600** Port Macquarie R.C Club to build a remote controlled car track
- ✓ **\$15,000** Joey's House Early Education Centre for solar panels.
- ✓ **\$2,899** Laurieton Swimming Club to purchase a starting device and timing system.
- ✓ **\$25,159** Rotary Club of Port Macquarie Sunrise for the restoration of the Tacking Point Lighthouse Keepers Cottage site.
- ✓ **\$10,000** Port Macquarie Arts and Craft Centre to purchase cabinets and saws.
- ✓ **\$24,000** Port Macquarie Hastings Bridge Association for the bitumen sealing of the Hamilton Green Community carpark.
- ✓ **\$5,240** Hastings District Flying Club for Stage Two of the clubhouse refurbishment.

\$17 Billion In Record Building Activity In NSW



Take a drive to Sovereign Hills or College Rise to see the evidence of the huge building boom currently happening in Port Macquarie.

These local works are reflected in another record which has been broken for the NSW housing industry, according to ABS figures released recently, with more than 65,000 new homes under construction by the end of 2015 – the largest number since records began in 1969.

The value of residential building activity in NSW reached an all-time high of more than \$17 billion last year.

The NSW Government has worked hard to address the pent up demand for new housing, as years of under-supply placed upward pressure on prices. This hard work is paying off and is making a difference for new homebuyers.



Housing construction at College Rise

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