

## Regular Groups at The Ponds



The children enjoyed Santa's visit to The Ponds King Tots Playgroup Christmas Party

### The Ponds King Tots Playgroup

**Mondays** 9.30 to 11.30 am

**Contact:** Tracey on 0412 068 997

**Tuesdays** 9.30 to 11.30 am

**Contact:** Brooke on 0413 540 654

**Thursdays** 10.30 am to 12.30 pm

**Contact:** Tracey on 0412 068 997

**Fridays** 9.30 to 11.30 am

**Contact:** Alda on 0405 593 973

**Where:** Neighbourhood Centre, corner of Fyfe & Carindale Streets.

Please note: Playgroups meet during school term.

### Are you interested in a Wednesday Playgroup?

If you are interested in being a part of a new Wednesday Playgroup, please contact Kerrie by emailing [kerrie.dennett@connectionscommunity.com.au](mailto:kerrie.dennett@connectionscommunity.com.au).

### Mums & Bubs Group

Mums with babies are welcome to join us

**When:** Thursdays from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm

**Where:** The Plaza, next to The Ponds Sales & Display Centre or in a home when wet

**Contact:** Kerrie on 0434 085 836.

**Thank you to Terry White Chemist,** Stanhope Village, for their wonderful support & kind donations for our Mums & Bubs Group.

### The Ponds Coffee Club

Great way to meet people.

**Time:** 2.00 pm

**Dates:** Thursdays

16<sup>th</sup> February

15<sup>th</sup> March

**Where:** Gloria Jeans, Stanhope Village (look for The Ponds Coffee Club sign on a table).



### Mums on the Run

**What:** For all women who want to loose weight, have fun & feel better about themselves. Six week blocks, \$180 for 2 sessions per week. \$90 for one session a week. Child minding available for \$5 extra per session. Current 6 week block commences 31/1.

**When:** Tuesdays & Fridays from 9.15-10.15 am

**Where:** The Plaza, Pebble Crescent

**Contact:** Sarah on 0418 417 182 or email [sarah@in2lifep.com.au](mailto:sarah@in2lifep.com.au)

### Zumba Classes

**What:** A fun way to get a good workout.

**When:** Tuesdays at 7 pm & Saturdays at 7 am

**Where:** The Plaza, next to The Ponds Sales and Information Centre

**Cost:** \$10 per person

**Contact:** Kate on 0426 252 576

### Kick Boxing Classes

**When:** Mondays at 7.15 pm

Thursdays at 7 pm

**Where:** The Plaza, next to The Ponds Sales & Information Centre

**Cost:** \$10 per session, payable in 5 week blocks

**Contact:** Mike on 0408 292 131

### Kettlebells Group Training

**What:** Unique way of training. Burn fat, build lean muscle & increase flexibility. One hour classes.

**When:** Mondays & Wednesdays at 11.30 am

**Where:** The Plaza, next to The Ponds Sales & Information Centre

**Cost:** \$10 per class

**Contact:** Dimitri on 0412 316 667 or email [dimitri@montifitness.com.au](mailto:dimitri@montifitness.com.au)

### The Ponds Community Newsletter

is prepared for the residents and friends of The Ponds by our Community

Development Facilitators, Tuula Schaeffer and Kerrie Dennett from Connections Community Development. We use this newsletter

to let you know about activities, events and news in the area. If you have any feedback on events or community issues or have news or announcements you would like to share, please contact:

Tuula: phone 0412 620 115 or email [tuulas@theponds.com.au](mailto:tuulas@theponds.com.au)

Kerrie: phone 0434 085 836 or email [kerrie.dennett@connectionscommunity.com.au](mailto:kerrie.dennett@connectionscommunity.com.au)

They are based at The Ponds Sales & Display Centre, phone 9629 1212.



## community newsletter

### February-March 2012

#### Happy New Year

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2012. What a wonderful month we had in December at The Ponds. Below is a summary and for more photos and the full stories please visit our website

[www.thepondscommunity.com.au](http://www.thepondscommunity.com.au) and the gallery on [www.connectionscommunity.com.au](http://www.connectionscommunity.com.au) for great photos from Carols at The Ponds.

#### Summer Street Parties Around The Ponds



The Ponds Community Program offered \$50 vouchers towards street parties and many residents were happy to organise a street party taking

advantage of the offer. The parties were held all around The Ponds, mostly before Christmas. Pictured is the party organised by Sarah for Clover Place & Watercress Street residents on 10<sup>th</sup> December. The party was held at the picnic shelters Eastern Playing Fields with lots of room for the children to play.

#### Christmas Party a Full House Success

It was a great night for a party on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December as The Ponds Sales & Information Centre was packed full with party goers. The children enjoyed a range of fun activities under the supervision of the wonderful volunteers from NewHope Kellyville (a Baptist Church). The adults were able to sit down & enjoy dinner & dessert, with live music. There was also a "lucky chair" competition, with the main prize being a \$100 dining card at The Australian Brewery, Rouse Hill. To end the evening, Santa paid a special visit. The party was a great way to start the festive season at The Ponds. We will increase the capacity for next time so we do not need to turn people away due to the popularity of this event. Also, a huge thank you to the members of John Palmer Public School P & C who helped to set up, serve the food and clean up.

For photos, please visit our website.

#### Joy to The Ponds!



It was a new venue and a record crowd at Carols at The Ponds on 18<sup>th</sup> December. The event was also the 10<sup>th</sup> organised by Connections Community Development in the northwest. The new Eastern Playing Fields were filled with excited children & grown ups, some coming early to get the "front row seats". The gates opened at 5 pm with rides and food stalls plus a fun photo service by Rouse Hill Times. The Bullet Bus provided a free shuttle service from Blacktown Leisure Centre, picking up people along the way. The Carols program, which commenced at 8 pm, featured the Nepean-Hawkesbury Pipeband, our favourite Christmas songs and carols presented by professional singers and



musicians with the added touch of dancers from Monique Selwood Dancers, a visit from Santa and a live Nativity Pageant. The combined children's choir from John XXIII College, John Palmer &

Barnier Public Schools was a new & delightful addition to the program. The evening finished with a spectacular fireworks display.

## Community Update

### Announcing The Ponds Cricket Club

Thanks to the many cricket enthusiasts at The Ponds and with the leadership of Shanaka, one of our residents, The Ponds Cricket Club was accepted as an affiliate member of the Blacktown City & District Cricket Association (BCDCA) on 14<sup>th</sup> November, granting eligibility for the club to participate in all future cricket tournaments and representative cricket. The District Cricket Association also agreed in principle that the new Eastern Playing Fields at The Ponds will be the "home grounds" of The Ponds Cricket Club, having access to use it during the cricket season. The Ponds Cricket Club will continue to conduct Milo In2 Cricket programs in the future. The program was a great success in 2010 and 2011. The club also plans to have at least one team in the Blacktown District under 10 cricket tournament in 2012, with a possibility of an under 14 team as well. The club will encourage the participation of a senior team in the Blacktown senior competition. For further information please contact Shanaka on 0435 028 103.

### The Ponds Cricket Club Enjoys SCG Limelight



Around 15 players from The Ponds Cricket Club's Milo In2 Cricket program, and five parents, as guests of the NSW Cricket Association, formed the honour guard for Australian stars Michael Clark and Ricky Ponting as they returned to bat after the lunch break in the game against India on 4<sup>th</sup> January. Before that, the children played on one of the stadium's pitches during the break. The children had a fantastic day.

### The Ponds Soccer Club

The newest Soccer Club in NSW, The Ponds Soccer Club, is holding registration days on 4th February & 11th February from 10 am to 2 pm at Eastern Playing Fields, along The Ponds Boulevard. Cash, cheque or EFTPOS accepted. Registrations will be for boys & girls aged 4 (must turn 5 this year) to 16 year olds, and men and ladies, all ages. Enquiries: phone 0452 477 379 or email pondsfc@hotmail.com.

### Riverbank Drive Bridge Opens



Mayor of Blacktown, Councillor Alan Pendleton and MP for Riverstone, Kevin Connolly, officially opened Riverbank Drive Bridge, which is the second major bridge to be built across Second Ponds Creek, on 8<sup>th</sup> December. The bridge plays an integral role in connecting the eastern side of The Ponds with the west along Riverbank Drive and continuing onto Ridgeline Drive. It also assists the residents of Kalina to access the rest of The Ponds, including the future community resource hub. Work is well on the way on the third bridge on Greenview Parade, with completion expected in mid 2012. For the full story on the bridge, please see our website.

### Eastern Playing Fields Update

Many residents have been enjoying this new facility at The Ponds. Blacktown City Council will be taking on the management role for the playing fields. All bookings and enquiries need to be made through Blacktown City Council.

### Christmas Lights Competition Winners

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the festive atmosphere at The Ponds by decorating with Christmas lights. Eider Street and Mallard Drive deserve a special mention. However, there can only be one winner and we congratulate Katrina & Geoff from Ulmara Street, in the Kalina part of The Ponds. They won a hamper worth over \$300, which included a \$100 gift card donated by Rouse Hill Town Centre Green Gravel Club and a variety of Christmas goodies donated by The Ponds. The prize was presented at Carols at The Ponds by Carmen Osborne, Development



Director, Landcom.

### The Ponds Baby News

We welcome the following little people to The Ponds:  
Baby Willem, born 26<sup>th</sup> October to Selomi & Jerome, weighing 2.9 kg & 47 cm long.



Baby Chloe, born 30<sup>th</sup> November to Paula & Billy, weighing 2.9 kg & 49 cm long.



Congratulations to the happy families!

Do you have Baby News? Please email Tuula.

### Kalina Christmas Party a Great Success



Some 60 families from the Kalina part of The Ponds gathered in the park on 16<sup>th</sup> December for a great Christmas party. Organised by Anna Andre, a resident, and supported by local businesses, the event included a BBQ sponsored by Harcourts at Rouse Hill, face painting and balloon art sponsored by Allam Property Group and a Christmas lights competition sponsored by Bosetti Blinds Shutters & Awnings. There were also delicious cupcakes donated by Cake Art, Rouse Hill. The invitations were designed by Dragonsetti Designs and printed by Next Print at Castle Hill. The local fire brigade gave Santa a ride to the event, much to the delight of the children. Thank you to Anna and the generosity of the sponsoring businesses. For full story and more photos please see our website.



### The Ponds Community Website

For event photos, more news, event information, business directory, free classifieds and much more, please visit [www.thepondscommunity.com.au](http://www.thepondscommunity.com.au). For an extended photo gallery, please visit [www.connections.com.au](http://www.connections.com.au), click on Gallery.

## Community Events

### Over 50's Group

The Ponds Over 50's Group meets regularly and is a great way to make new friends. All welcome.  
**When:** Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 7 pm  
**Where:** Thai Spice at Stanhope Village  
**Cost:** \$30 for two course meal, \$35 for three courses. BYO.

**RSVP:** to Pat & Frank, phone 8882 0220, or Bill & June, phone 9836 5785.

### Saturday Dinner at The Ponds

You are invited to join us for our first Saturday Dinner event. To also celebrate the upcoming Harmony Day (21/3), we will have an international food theme. You are welcome to bring food from your country of origin. Our guest speaker will give us some great landscaping hints. Children are welcome, activities provided.

**When:** Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 6 pm

**Where:** The Ponds Sales & Display Centre  
**RSVP:** to Tuula (see back page for contact details) by Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March. We need to know the number of adults & children and if you will be able to bring food and what it is.

### Earth Hour

We encourage all residents to join in Earth Hour by turning your lights off for an hour.

**When:** Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 8.30 am

For more information & fun stuff please visit: [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org). As an incentive, we are giving away free candles during our events and groups in March.

### Easter Fun Event

Come along to a fun fair and movie under the stars, a fundraiser event organized by John Palmer Public School P & C with the support of The Ponds Community Development Program. There will be a variety of activities, games, inflatables, laser skirmish, animal farm, food stalls and coffee van, a visit from Easter Bunny plus a family movie.

**When:** Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March from 4 pm, movie at 8 pm

**Where:** John Palmer Public School

**Cost:** Adults \$10, children 3 to 12 years. Includes sausage sizzle & movie. Tokens available for purchase to participate in the entertainment & games.

### The Ponds Family Fun Day

**When:** Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April

Book your diaries for this great afternoon event, which will include a variety of entertainment & activities, food and a Land Boat Race. See our next newsletter or website for more details closer to the date.