

Weekly english section published by Kosmos Newspaper • phone: (02) 9550 1088 • fax: (02) 9550 1699

## Five shire students are off to Colorado

FIVE year 10 students will trade the beach for the mountains when they head to Colorado in July as part of a student exchange program.

Under the Sutherland Lakewood Sister City Exchange Program, Sutherland Shire students travel to Lakewood City in Colorado in the US.

Stephanie Alchim and Laura Barendregt (Lucas Heights Community School), Louise Unwin and Kristina Munro (Jannali High) and Eden Tollis (Menai High) will spend six months with a host family in Colorado and then bring their American partners back to Australia for six months.

The program's director, Jeanette Mallet, said it

was a tremendous experience and that all the students who took part all wanted to make the trip again. "They are teenagers, and some have had problems, but they learn to overcome them and always come out the other end grateful for the experience," Ms Mallet said. Their stay in the US includes trips to Las Vegas, the Grand Canyon and Disneyland. Sutherland Shire Council makes a grant to help the families, but it's the students' parents who pay most of the costs. The parents will hold a trivia night in Jannali High School on Friday, July 3, to help raise money for the exchange.



Outward bound: Stephanie Alchim, Louise Unwin, Eden Tollis, Kristina Munro and Laura Barendregt will all travel to Colorado on exchange in July. Picture: Lisa McMahon

If you'd like to help, call Beth Munro on 0422681778.



## Amethyst Barnbrook can achieve extraordinary things

Without arms and hands, Amethyst Barnbrook uses her three toes for writing, sailing and playing the trumpet. She was just 13 when she learnt how to sail (she now travels and competes internationally) and how to play the trumpet. Next she would like to do a psychology degree with the hope it will lead to a career in music therapy.

Amethyst received the 2008 National Disability Awards' Go Getter Award.

Is there anyone in your community like Amethyst? Someone who aims to live an ordinary life, but still achieves extraordinary things?

The 2009 National Disability Awards is looking for people who make a significant contribution to the disability sector.

They could be one of the 20% of Australians who have a disability, or one the country's 2.6 million carers who provide assistance to others who need help because of disability or age.\* They could be a teacher, a student, someone who works in local government or a colleague who makes the workplace a better place to be by lobbying for greater access and inclusion.

Nominations for the awards close on Friday 22 May - in just one week.

We would really appreciate your support in encouraging nominations so we can meet and hear all about other remarkable people like Amethyst.

## New florist with a modern touch! Reflection florist



John Bertoutsis and his wife opened their new florist in Rookwood. The Opening night was held recently and many people attended. The florist can service approximately 150-200 people.

## Couple missing from Peakhurst Heights

Police are searching for two people, 18, missing since last night. **Patricia Nikolakopoulos and Dean Paitos** were last seen in a car outside a house in Whitegates Avenue.

The pair left in a red, 1987 model BMW 3 series sedan, with NSW registration BMA-53X. It was last seen turning onto Lorraine Street.

The car also had distinctive large white wheels, stickers on the front and rear windcreens, red number plates and green P-plates.

Police from Hurstville Local Area Command have searched the area and spoken to the couple's friends and family.

They have concerns for their welfare as their disappearance is out of character.

Patricia Nicolakopoulos is described as being of white/Euro-

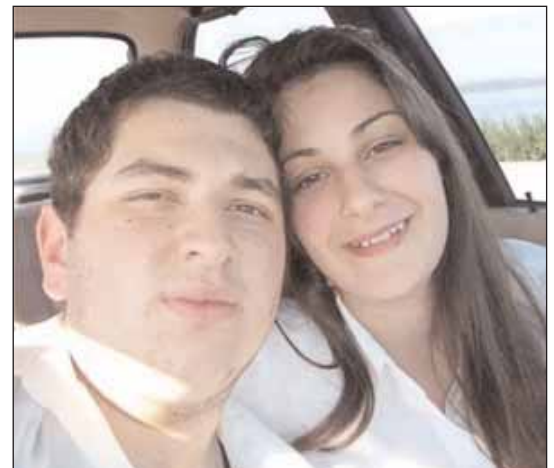
pean appearance, approximately 175cm tall, medium build with long brown hair and brown eyes.

She was last seen wearing a white woollen jumper with blue writing on it, grey track pants with thin red stripes down the side, white slip-on shoes and a gold necklace with a crucifix on it.

Dean Paitos is described as being of white/European appearance, approximately 173cm tall, medium build with a shaved head with three lines shaved into the side.

He was last seen wearing blue track pants with three white stripes down the side, a royal blue zip-up jacket, royal blue shirt and white joggers.

Police urge anyone with information to phone 9375 8599 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.



Missing: The families of Patricia Nikolakopoulos and Dean Paitos are concerned for their wellbeing. Pictures: NSW Police Media



## Nicola Cafcaros

will be representing Australia in the "World Dance Cup" in Jersey United Kingdom and America!!!

www.nicola.id.au  
Don't miss tomorrow's edition.  
Nicola speaks about her future plans!!!