

Month of May dedicated to raise money for Cure Our Kids Foundation

The Lady Mayoress of Parramatta, Monty Chedid, will dedicate the month of May to a fundraiser appeal for Cure Our Kids Foundation, a charity dedicated to supporting the Oncology Unit at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

In effort to raise money and awareness, a series of barbecues will be held every Friday in May on the 6, 13, 20 and 27 May at Church St Mall, Parramatta. Passes-by can make a donation or buy a sausage sandwich as well as Cure Our Kids charity ribbons and pins.

All money raised will go directly to the charity to provide essential services in the Oncology Unit and help kids with cancer and their families.

"I look forward to raising money for such an important charity, together with families who have children in the Oncology Unit, and will lend a hand at the fundraiser barbecues throughout May," said

Monty. "I am honoured to be able to raise money for the Cure Our Kids Foundation to help make the challenges a little easier for these families, providing them with essential services and care," she said.

"During my recent visit to The Children's Hospital at Westmead, I was touched to see families banding together, in high spirits to support each other and their loving children during their cancer treatments," she said.

"The level of care and dedication to patients provided by the staff in the Oncology Unit at The Children's Hospital at Westmead is tremendous," she said.

Donations will also help aid the hospital's Caring for the Whole Family program, which contributes to providing groceries, survival kits, caft and parking vouchers that cost more than \$60,000 each year.

For further information visit: www.cureourkids.com.au.



Applications open for Council's Grants Programs

Marrickville Council is encouraging artists, local community groups and non-for-profit organisations to apply for funding under the Arts and Cultural Grants, Community Grants, Sustainability Grants Programs and the Community Development Support Expenditure Scheme (CDSE). Mayor of Marrickville Councillor Fiona Byrne said she urged residents and local groups to apply for funding under Council's Grants Programs. "Through these grants, we hope to give a helping hand to the many people who make a positive contribution to our community, through art, local environment and other community-based projects," Cllr Byrne said.

Arts and Cultural Grants

Arts projects that contribute to the diversity of the Marrickville local government area can receive funding between \$1,000 - \$7,500. To be eligible you must be an artist working in any art form, community or cultural group, not-for-profit, non-government arts or community and cultural organisation that offers programs and services of benefit to residents in the Marrickville local government area.

Community Grants

Funding from \$500 - \$5,000 is available for community based projects, which build social capital, sustainability and active citizenship, and achieve value for money for Council and local residents.

Sustainability Grants

Grants of up to \$4,000 are available for community-based projects that make a positive contribution to sustainability in the Marrickville local government area. Grants are available to apolitical groups or individuals and projects must be completed within 12 months.

Community Development and Support Expenditure (CDSE) Scheme

Community based projects, which improve the living standards of low income and disadvantaged people and are designed to ensure that larger registered clubs in NSW contribute to the provision of welfare and front-line services to their local communities. A maximum of \$25,000 is available for individual projects. For more information please visit www.clubsnsw.com.au

Information sessions about all three programs will be held on Wednesday 11 May from 1pm - 2pm and 6pm - 7pm in Council's Citizens' Service Centre 2-14 Fisher Street Petersham. These sessions are an opportunity for groups to discuss ideas for funding with Council officers and ask questions about completing the application forms.

Applications for Council's Grants Programs close at 5pm on Wednesday 1 June. Guidelines and application forms are available on Council's website. For more information please call Council on 9335 2222.

Celebrate Mother's Day and raise funds for breast cancer research

Kick-start Mother's Day celebrations by attending this year's annual Mother's Day Classic, which will help raise money for research into the prevention and cure of breast cancer from 6.30am to 12noon on Sunday 8 May 2011 at Parramatta Park.

The Mother's Day Classic is Australia's largest charity run and walk event and aims to increase awareness of breast cancer in the community and raise funds for the National Breast Cancer Foundation's research programs.

Lord Mayor of Parramatta, Cr John Chedid, will officially open celebrations by sounding a start gun to commence the race on the day and said Council is proud to sponsor the 2011 Mother's Day Classic. "Mother's Day Classic is such a wonderful event and Parramatta is proud to help raise money by hosting a run and walk race at the iconic Parramatta Park," Cr Chedid, said. "Last year more than 5000 participants from Parramatta and greater Western Sydney got involved and showed their support for this event and I am certain as a community we can get together and beat last year's effort," he said.

"Whether you choose to walk, run, volunteer or just join in on the family fun, this event will be a great way for you to kick-start your Mother's Day celebrations and help fight against one of Australia's most common and deadly cancers," Cr Chedid, said.

The walk or run is open to people of all fitness levels. Families and friends can come together for a walk in the park, and runners can put on their joggers for their first-ever fun run or to beat their personal best. Individuals, large and small teams, or teams wearing creative costumes can register to compete on the day. All participants are encouraged to set up a fundraising page and get their family, friends and colleagues to sponsor them. For further information or to register visit www.mothersdayclassic.com.au.

This event is organised by Women in Super, a group that provides educational and networking opportunities for women in the superannuation and finance industries. Since the first walk in Melbourne and Sydney in 1998, the event has raised \$5.7 million for breast cancer research.

Free Help To Save Power and Reduce Your Bill this Winter

The Mayor of the City of Canterbury, Cr Robert Furolo MP, said the NSW Government's FREE Home Power Savings Program is helping eligible low income households save up to 20 per cent off their power use and make substantial savings on electricity bills.

"For many pensioners and low-income households, winter is a daunting prospect - the struggle to pay higher energy bills incurred over winter is a harsh and often expensive reality," said Mayor Robert Furolo.

"The good news is that local pensioners and families on a low income are invited to save power and money on bills by taking up the offer of a free home power assessment and Power Savings Kit. "The NSW Government's Home Power Savings Program is available to 220,000 eligible households across the state and provides a home assessment from a trained energy expert and a Power Savings Kit with equipment to kick-start savings. "The Power Savings Kit includes a stand-by saver power board, energy efficient light globes, draught-proofing strips for around the door, door snakes, a low flow showerhead, shower timer and tap aerators. "These

items are fully installed by the energy expert as part of the free assessment.

"After the assessment households are sent a tailored Action Plan showing the top four power users in their home and other ways to save power and money.

"By using the free Kit and following your Action Plan you can save up to 20% off your power use - many households who have joined the program are already noticing the savings. "The free program is available to anyone who has a nominated Centrelink or Veterans' Affairs concession card, or who is a hardship customer with an energy company. "Eligible households will need to book in a home power assessment by calling 1300 662 416 or entering their details on the Home Power Savings program website.

"Winter is around the corner and heating a house can be expensive - pensioners and low-income households should take advantage of this program to save power and money," said Mayor Robert Furolo. To take part simply call 1300 662 416 to book your home power assessment or visit savepower.nsw.gov.au/freehelp for more information.