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## Local students awarded scholarships from Freshwater Community Bank



Back Row: (L-R) Joshua Bannister, Dylan Thompson, Todd Jacobs, James Gourley; Front Row: (L-R) Violet Warner, Jordan Gallagher, Liam Yeates, Roanize Kruger, Ryan Maguire

Freshwater Community Bank® Branch of Bendigo Bank has again awarded tertiary scholarships to northern beaches students from nine participating high schools located within the Manly and Warringah local government areas. These students were nominated by their Schools from among 3,000 local students who sat for the HSC in 2013.

As the costs of tertiary education rise steeply, the Freshwater Community Bank® Branch stands alone on the northern beaches

in providing scholarship support for students in their transition to tertiary study.

Throughout NSW less than 1% of the tertiary candidature will receive any form of scholarship support from Universities even if they are academically gifted. So the majority of students will either take on part time employment or rely yet again on parental contribution.

The Freshwater Community Bank® Branch, last year inaugurated a scholarship program to mark its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. These

scholarships, each to the value of \$5,000, are designed to see these students through the first year of their tertiary studies.

Additionally one of those students also receives a further \$10,000 as the Freshwater Student of the Year for the second and third years of undergraduate study.

In 2014, there will be 17 students who have received scholarship support from the Freshwater Community Bank® Branch.

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## Top student Liam Yeates receives the Ken Ward Memorial Scholarship

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According to Peter Harley, a volunteer Director of Freshwater Community Bank®,

“It is highly encouraging that the 2013 recipients, who have completed their first year of university, are already making their presence felt in their various courses of study alongside further involvement in community, cultural and sporting activities. We anticipate that the 2014 Scholars will have a similar impact.”

Students nominated by their respective schools need to meet three requirements as part of the scholarship initiative, including reside and attend a school within the designated area, likely to achieve academic results greater than 90% in five 2-unit HSC Board Courses and be actively involved in their community, either within their School, locally, State wide, or internationally.

The 2014 recipients have not only excelled in their academic studies, but also sport, debating, surf life saving and the arts.

One student, Roanize Kruger from

Manly Selective Campus arrived in Australia from South Africa in 2005 and by age 17 was among the top students in Extension English and Visual Arts.

Another, Jordan Gallagher from Mackellar Girls Campus, was included on the All-round Achievers List and is an excellent ballerina and Todd Jacobs from Cromer Campus, who aside from excelling academically has been prominent in his chosen sport of kayaking.

The Ken Ward Memorial Scholarship (named in honour of the late Branch Manager) was presented by Ken Ward's son, Daniel, to Liam Yeates from St. Luke's Grammar.

Liam impressed the Independent Adjudication Panel with the diversity and high standard of his academic and community involvement activities.

A previous Manly Daily, Young Achiever of the Year, Liam who achieved outstanding results in the HSC, competes in several sports at an elite level, pursued his love for trombone in school bands and was heavily involved in various community activities. He will be commencing actuarial studies at Macquarie University.

The Freshwater community, through its Community Bank®, takes a great deal of pride in providing these funds to assist with the transition to tertiary education and beyond.



Liam Yeates and Peter Harley

## From a little thing, big things are growing



It has taken a year to convert the sloping, rocky outcrop of Crown Reserve into a flourishing green oasis.

With the approval of Warringah Council it has been transformed into Freshie Community Garden.

With support from Warringah Council, local institutions and businesses such as the Freshwater Community Bank® Branch, the site supports seventy gardeners to now produce vegetables, fruit and herbs from twenty eight irrigated, raised garden beds on the Reserve.

The bulk of these gardeners come from nearby medium density housing where there is little space for growing plants and vegetables.

Crown Reserve was initially created as a result of the demolition of two houses to make way for a pedestrian pathway, upgraded power utilities, and storm water drainage and was full of rock and demolition debris with a thin layer of topsoil.

In 2012, Friends of Freshwater

approached Council to form a community garden and now manages the site, provides soil, and irrigation for the garden beds, which individual gardeners rent at a modest cost.

Recent bulk crops include snow peas, eggplants, potatoes, artichokes and sweet corn have been well used by the gardeners.

According to the Garden's Roy Buirchell, “Our gardeners take pride in doing things on a shoestring and using recycled materials. We've recycled unwanted railway sleepers from a golf club, straw and builder's sand bags from construction sites and restored a gazebo which had been lying in a dilapidated state at Belrose”.

“We have had support from local businesses and trades people who have donated items and given their time freely. This has been a great Freshwater community effort.”

For more information visit [www.freshie.org.au](http://www.freshie.org.au).

## Duke's Day welcomed sunshine, surf and a great white shark

It was a sunny Saturday on 11<sup>th</sup> January and Duke's Day again impressed, attracting new visitors and greater numbers of participants. In its fourth year Duke's Day has been incredibly successful bringing together the local surfing and surf lifesaving clubs to celebrate the area's history of surfing, and learn more about marine protection.

Two key-note speakers, tandem surfer Chuck Inman and Australian author Phil Jarratt inspired the crowd at the Aloha Cocktail Party, where Hulanesian hula dancers and local band The Shallows followed with entertainment.

The dawn photo shoot saw forty-five boards proudly lined up on the sand, followed by a popular Yoga for Surfers session held in the morning sunlight.

Regular water events included the popular 5km Paddle Challenge across the world surfing reserve and the spectacular tandem displays, giving everyone a chance to enjoy the surf.

With cooperation from Freshie Boardriders, this year Duke's Day included a session for the talented micro-grommets and an entertaining surf tag event.

Ecodivers hosted the environmental



Female Malibu boardriders hang loose

displays with tanks of live marine life joined this year by Shark in a Bus, an amazing heritage, marine display that features alongside its memorabilia a 5m great white shark.

With surfing culture and tradition in abundance with Kombis, hot rods and heritage boards on display, the day had a carnival atmosphere enjoyed by all.

As the great Hawaiian Olympian and surfer Duke Kahanamoku popularised surfing at Freshwater in 1915, the SurfNomes and supporting committee are preparing for a major centenary celebration around the 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2015.

SurfNomes - Naomi Wilson and Naomi Donohue run events in the shade



PHOTOS DAVE THOMAS

## Australia Day swell challenge for surf boats



Open Women's Freshwater Surf Boat Crew

PHOTO PAUL LEMLIN

Freshwater SLSC held their annual Australia Day Carnival on Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup> January. Unfortunately the water events were cancelled, a difficult decision made by officials, however the safety of competitors was paramount. Despite the unfavourable conditions, all land events, March Past and R&R events continued with great success.

Freshwater Boat Carnival was held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2014. There was lots of excitement due to the surf conditions, with many thrills and spills which kept eyes glued on the surf boats but not so many bums on the seats!

Eight boat crews from Freshwater took part in the events with the under 19's making it to the final.

The annual Australia Day Carnivals continue to be a great success due to the generous support from surf club members, the community and sponsors.

## business & community

### A chapter closes for Freshwater bookworms

It was a sad day for all local bookworms when the local Harbord Book Exchange closed its doors last month.

For owner, Elaine McKenna, it was time to turn the page on a 13 year history in Freshwater Village where many locals enriched their reading repertoires by visiting the shop regularly.

Moving the store from Darley Road Manly, Elaine's husband Tom opened the Harbord Book Exchange in 2000. When Tom passed away in 2008, Elaine wanted to continue running the business as she says, "I love reading and the customers, I wanted to take on the challenge of keeping the business going".

Elaine's three children have supported her through this time, and are happy she is finally making the move to enjoy her retirement.

Her daughter Fiona says, "The book industry has changed a lot over the last few years with Kindles, smart devices and other digital book resources. As a result, many second hand book-stores have closed their doors.

"There is a niche market – some people still enjoy the touch and feel of a book in their hands, but even then, many are turning to second hand book-trade websites to get their fix."

Elaine says she plans to spend time with the family and maybe do some travelling and enjoy herself, she



Elaine McKenna closes the book on an era

also adds, "I want to thank the all the customers who have supported the business over the years, and a special thank you to Chrissi who was a popular employee for many years. It's the end of an era, but you'll still see me down in the Village now and then".

If you find yourself missing a good read, there is still our voluntary run Harbord Community Library, where for a minimal membership fee, you can have access to a variety of titles and reading genres. For more information call 9905 4824.

### Career change going swimmingly



Petrina Liyanage - Swim with a Smile

With her passion for swimming and teaching, 30 year old Petrina Liyanage, removed herself from the corporate scene to follow her dreams.

In November 2013, Petrina launched her full time business Swim with a Smile, a mobile teaching company that offers lessons in home and apartment pools.

Since then, the business has attracted both adult and children beginners, as well as those wishing to improve their technique.

She says, "I moved to Freshwater last year and realised there is a demand for private teaching for swimming and water safety in the local area. I'm

really happy I can use my skills and experience to help residents here, it's a very rewarding job."

Petrina is certified to teach all ages from babies (6 months+) through to retirees. Her service spans across the North Shore and Northern Beaches, and is an AUSTSwim Recognised Swim Centre.

When not working, Petrina enjoys learning to surf at Freshwater beach.

"Surfing helps me to stay humble and respectful of the power of the sea. Spending time at the beach reminds me how important water safety is."

For more information, please call 0478 011 808 or email [petrina@swimwithasmile.com](mailto:petrina@swimwithasmile.com)

[www.harbordfinancialservices.com.au](http://www.harbordfinancialservices.com.au)

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**Find out how Freshwater Community Bank® Branch can deliver funds back into the community by servicing your banking needs. Call us on 9939 6744 or visit the branch at 20 Albert St Freshwater**

## Pamper the Parents clowning around for some serious fundraising

Local hairdresser, Nicky Cassidy has been firing on all cylinders over the last 12 months. With her recent invitation to attend 2014 Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York and owning and managing a successful salon in Freshwater, you have to appreciate her energy and enthusiasm to spear-head Pamper the Parents, a charity supporting families who have a child receiving treatment at The Children's Hospital Westmead and Ronald McDonald House.

Focused on improving facilities for Ronald McDonald House and fulfilling the hospital's 'wish list', Pamper the Parents has been growing in support over the last 4 years.

In 2013, Nicky and Pamper the Parents were able to source the entire 'wish list' for Ronald McDonald House and raise substantial funding which will enable the fit out for an orthopaedic waiting room, including furniture, computers, toys, games and a coffee machine.

Earlier in the year, Nicky raised \$4,500 when she shaved her locks as part of the World's Greatest Shave and in December hosted the Annual Women's Dinner at The Steyne Hotel Manly, which raised \$44,000 to build the Clifton Gardens Room at Bear Cottage.

"It's has been the most successful year we have had so far. After its success, I believe anything is possible! With support from family, friends, our clients and the local community, I get so much enjoyment from the relationships I have built with all the volunteers who have contributed to make a difference."

For more information visit [www.pampertheparents.com.au](http://www.pampertheparents.com.au)



Pamper the Parents Clowns deliver smiles to kids at Ronald McDonald House  
PHOTO JULIE STEELE

## Bushlink teaming up with local schools



Bushlink visited Manly Vale Public School as part of the Schools and Bushlink initiative

Bushlink are working together with local schools as part of the Schools and Bushlink initiative, which enables the team to teach students how to care for bushland and native plants.

This project aims to break down perceptions about people with disabilities and allows school students to see first-hand the benefits of social inclusion.

Team Leader, Cathy Hockey says, "The Bushlink staff take on a leadership role when working with the students, passing on their knowledge and skills.

"Communicating and working together, both groups contribute towards improving the bushland and native gardens."

The team visit the school for the day and work alongside students in the school's bushland or gardens, passing on valuable bush regeneration skills.

This project is available at no cost to the schools, thanks to grant funding from the Ian Potter Foundation.

Schools are encouraged to book their spot for 2014.

For bookings or expressions of interest, email [info@bushlink.org.au](mailto:info@bushlink.org.au). To find out more go to [www.bushlink.org.au](http://www.bushlink.org.au)

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**Sandra Kleiner**  
Branch Manager

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## business &amp; community

## FREE Inspiration workshop for women



Claudine presenting at the Young Women's Leadership Program

Local lady Claudine Chicheportiche is set to inspire and support women on the northern beaches to make some big changes in their lives.

The reigning World GKR Karate Champion, 12 times Australian All Styles Martial Arts Champion, and former Mackellar Girls High School Captain will be teaching and mentoring women at a grassroots community level through exercise training and confidence workshops.

Claudine says, "My goal is to help as many women as possible this year. To increase women's confidence, to help women feel a greater sense of purpose, and to provide more positive role models for all women and girls, be it in sport, business, or any given field."

From delivering educational and leadership programs for women in remote locations of the Asia Pacific, to accolades in the International Martial Arts circuit, Claudine wants to share her techniques and enthusiasm to help women at a local level.

She adds, "These workshops are for females who may be overcoming obstacles, seeking more confidence or need more direction to help them achieve their goals in their personal or professional life."

To register your interest in the program please email Claudine at [claudinechi@hotmail.com](mailto:claudinechi@hotmail.com)

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So if you think you've got what it takes to be part of the Freshwater team, we want to hear from you.

For more information and expressions of interest, please contact Sandy Kleiner, Branch Manager on 9939 6744.

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**Can't get to the bank during the week?  
We are open Saturdays! Come and see us between 9am and 12 noon.**

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