WELCOME TO 2015

The New Year presents us with the opportunity to look forward with excitement about the year ahead. 2015 is about building on the solid foundation we have built for Penrith and NSW over the last 4 years.

We start the process of widening Mulgoa Road, beginning with the clogged Jane Street/High Street/railway section.

We continue to improve on the outstanding performance of Nepean Hospital which is working better than ever.

Our needs-based funding model means Penrith schools are finally getting their fair share and our children are getting the best possible start to life.

Our police have crime rates at their lowest in almost 30 years. Their dedication and professionalism keeps our society civil and safe.

Then we have new opportunities like the Penrith Lakes, which this year, will start the long transition from quarry to water parkland. Be sure to have your say on its future.

We have come a long way in 4 years. But with the solid foundation we have built our brightest days are ahead.

2015...here we come.

Stuart Ayres
Member for Penrith
Stuart Ayres MP welcomed the announcement by NSW Premier Mike Baird of a $20 billion plan to turbocharge infrastructure in NSW to bust congestion, boost productivity and create jobs.

The NSW Government’s Rebuilding NSW: State Infrastructure Strategy has accepted all of the recommendations of Infrastructure NSW. Among the highlights of the Rebuilding NSW projects, all of which will be completed or underway within 10 years are:

- $8.9 billion to boost urban public transport, including $7 billion for Sydney Rapid Transit, which will start construction in 2017
- $4.1 billion extra into regional transport
- $2 billion extra for the State’s schools and hospitals
- $1.3 billion to bust congestion in Sydney by boosting the productivity of the city’s roads
- $1.2 billion for a Sport and Cultural Fund – up from an original $500 million and
- $1.1 billion set aside to invest in the WestConnex northern and southern extensions and the new Western Harbour Tunnel

The NSW Liberal Government is committed to making a real difference in Penrith and in our great State.

PENRITH LAKES

The NSW Government is seeking feedback from the public on the future of Penrith Lakes Parklands in a major development opportunity for Western Sydney.

Penrith Lakes Parklands is a 1,935 hectare site that represents the most unique blend of urban development and recreational parklands including lakes, rivers and heritage that Sydney has ever seen.

With almost 960 hectares of lakes and ponds, it will be the largest body of water in Sydney outside Sydney Harbour. Included in the plan is an urban development footprint of up to 410 hectares.


Submissions will close on 30 April 2015.

JANE STREET AND MULGOA ROAD UPGRADE

Stuart Ayres MP invites the local community to have their say on a congestion busting package for Jane Street and Castlereagh/Mulgoa Roads, in Penrith.

In 2013, the Australian and NSW Governments jointly committed $70 million to improve travel times and release the traffic bottleneck along Castlereagh/Mulgoa Roads and at the Jane Street intersection. The congestion busting package of work includes widening the existing rail underpass to allow three lanes in each direction on Castlereagh Road and a left turn lane into Jane Street.

It’s now time for the community to have their say on the preferred option to build an additional lane north and southbound on Mulgoa Road and Castlereagh Road between Museum Drive and Union Road. Additional capacity would also be provided for vehicles turning left onto Mulgoa Road from Jane Street, right onto High Street from Mulgoa Road and left onto High Street.

For further details visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/sydney-west
Stuart Ayres MP, welcomed the announcement that Penrith Ambulance Station now has a new Multi Purpose Vehicle general ambulance, which can transport patients up to 300 kilograms in weight.

The new MPV general ambulance is giving our local paramedics the equipment and technology to support them in their life-saving work. The vehicle, which has a fit out value of $152,000, is a welcome addition to Penrith Ambulance Station and is equipped with mechanical aids in the lifting and management of patients to reduce health and safety risks.

Our local paramedics provide both life-changing and life-saving care and this investment will allow them to get on with their jobs safely.

The NSW Government boosted the NSW Ambulance budget this year to a record $752 million – an increase of $30 million.

Stuart Ayres MP recently welcomed the fire-fighting Air-Cranes ‘Ichabod’ and ‘Gypsy Lady’ back to Sydney for the 2014/15 bushfire season.

The Erickson Air-Cranes are a well-known sight in the skies and it is great to have them for a second season in a row. They provide valuable assistance to our fire-fighters as they battle fires every bushfire season. They are brought to Australia each year because of their huge water carrying capacity and the ability to refill in less than 60 seconds provides the capability to drop a lot of water quickly and accurately.

These Air-Cranes are an investment in protecting lives and property in NSW; an investment this Government has no hesitation in making.

Stuart Ayres MP joined Health Minister Jillian Skinner to announce funding of $350,000 to purchase state-of-the-art mammography equipment for Nepean Hospital.

Women will now have access to breast diagnostic services at Nepean Hospital and will be able to receive BreastScreen Assessment services at the hospital by the middle of 2015. Locating this state-of-the-art equipment within Nepean Hospital will enable procedures such as biopsies and provide expert nursing support and follow up services for women in the local community. This is great news for women of all ages in the Penrith area, who have long wanted to have access to mammography services in Nepean Hospital.

Stuart Ayres MP visited Cranebrook Fire station to welcome the arrival of their new fire truck, one of five new trucks delivered to strengthen Fire & Rescue NSW.

The five new fire trucks will provide additional capability on Total Fire Ban days, during bushfires and severe weather events like the recent Sydney storms. Additionally, 40 new fire-fighters will be stationed at key locations across the Sydney metropolitan region with Fire & Rescue NSW to operate with a record budget of $665 million. This is the largest budget in the organisation’s 130 year history, which is a sign of this Government’s strong support for Fire and Rescue NSW.
The Family Energy Rebate (FER) has increased from $125 to $150 this financial year and there has been a 109 per cent increase in applications for the FER compared to the same time last year. On top of increases to the FER, the Government has also boosted the Low Income Household Rebate (LIHR) and the Medical Energy Rebate to $235.

Out and about in the Electorate

NSW FAMILY ENERGY REBATE

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Road Safety Grant Applications Now Open

Stuart Ayres MP encourages community groups to submit an application as part of the NSW Government’s new $1.6 million grants initiative to help boost road safety in the Penrith community. The Penrith community may have specific road safety issues that could be best addressed first hand by the community, which is in addition to the statewide campaigns the NSW Government delivers. Applications are now open and community groups have until 21 February 2015 to submit their local road safety ideas.

Two grant categories are available – one for smaller projects up to $5,000 and another for more substantial projects, up to $30,000. Some of the NSW Government’s package of key safety measures includes our Safety Town website – a complete kid safety information hub for parents and kids, Our Safer Drivers Course for young adults, and encouraging people to have a ‘Plan B’ when out drinking.

SURVEY - HAVE YOUR SAY

By filling in and returning this survey you can have your say on the important issues that matter to you in our area.

Please number (from 1 to 4) **the four issues most important** to you:

- Reducing the cost of living pressures
- Creating more local jobs
- Improving public transport
- Making government more accountable
- Tackling anti-social behaviour
- Protecting our local environment
- Building much needed road infrastructure
- Helping small business
- Housing affordability
- Quality and availability of local sporting fields

Please tell me about issues that are important to you:

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Please complete the following details so I can stay in touch with you.

Name: Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss

Street Address:

Suburb: Phone:

Fax: Email:

Mobile: Occupation:

Please return your survey to Stuart:
Fax: (02) 4731 4782  Phone: (02) 4722 8660  Email: penrith@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Mail: PO Box 4006, Penrith NSW 2750  Office: Shop 23, Penrith Centre, 510-534 High Street, Penrith NSW 2750
Stuart Ayres MP has signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with his local clubs providing certainty for the clubs and employees across the region.

The Penrith electorate has 10 clubs employing over 835 people and making a total social contribution of over $25 million in addition to paying almost $14.5 million in tax.

Clubs are the backbone of the community and this MOU builds on key commitments already achieved and ensures further investment for the future of well-loved clubs.

The NSW Liberals & Nationals also recognise the important role many clubs play in sheltering communities, and supporting emergency services during natural disasters and other emergencies.

Local clubs play a pivotal role providing a temporary home for displaced residents and hardworking emergency service personnel during a natural disaster, and this measure will go a long way to giving the community and clubs the certainty they deserve.

Stuart Ayres MP welcomed the launch of the new Gold Senior/Pensioner card.

The new Gold Senior/Pensioner Opal card means eligible customers won’t pay more than $2.50 a day for travel, so you can travel around our community or take a trip outside the region, and know that you won’t pay anything more than that.

To order a Gold Senior/Pensioner Opal card customers can call 13 67 25 (13 OPAL) or visit the Opal website at www.opal.com.au – it takes only minutes to apply, and then in about one week the card will be mailed out to the customer’s home.

The NSW Electoral Commission has undertaken a redistribution of the Penrith electorate.

The Penrith electorate will now include Cambridge Gardens and the majority of Cranebrook.

Source: www.elections.nsw.gov.au