

# Community Newsletter

April - May 2015

## Upcoming Community Events

### Free Waterways Bus Tour

Join us on a school holiday bus tour of the waterways in and around Blacktown LGA. We will learn about how waterways are managed, water quality, riparian biodiversity, pollution and how to look after our environment. This is suitable for families as we have some hands on activities for children aged 7 to 12. Morning tea & lunch provided. Please visit [thepondscommunity.com.au/events](http://thepondscommunity.com.au/events) for more information.

**When:** Thursday 16th April from 9 am to 1 pm

Meet at The Ponds Community Hub

Bookings close 9th April. Please call Aimee on 9839 6379 or email [ourenvironment@blacktown.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ourenvironment@blacktown.nsw.gov.au)

### Introduction to Café Skills

TAFE NSW is offering a short course where you will gain skills in working in a Café, including food preparation & presentation, barista skills & more. Lunch will be provided. The course will run on Thursdays 9.30 am to 2.30 pm, commencing 30th April. You are invited to come along to the information session:

**When:** Thursday 23rd April from 10.30 – 11.30 am

**Where:** The Ponds Community Hub, 45 Riverbank Drive, The Ponds

**Enquiries:** for enrolment and fee information, please contact Carol Smith, phone 9208 7097 or email [carol.smith@tafensw.edu.au](mailto:carol.smith@tafensw.edu.au)

### Free Health & Nutrition Course

Do you want to improve your health & live a more balanced life? If the answer is yes, this is the course for you! The course is led by a trained integrative nutrition coach & will cover a variety of topics over 6 weeks.

**Commencing:** Thursday 23rd April, 1 pm – 2.30 pm

**Where:** The Ponds Community Hub

Registrations close 16th April. Contact Annemarie via [annemarie@honestpantry.com.au](mailto:annemarie@honestpantry.com.au)

### Mothers' Day Celebration

Bring your friends & come along for some pampering, dancing, snacks, drinks, raffles & lots of fun.

**When:** Saturday 16th May at 5.30 pm

**Where:** The Ponds Community Hub

**Tickets:** \$45 per person

**RSVP & Bookings:** by 30th April. Please contact Ridhima on 0424 543 221 or Monika on 0423 661 234 or Rish on 0430 442 429 or email [group\\_mars@yahoo.com](mailto:group_mars@yahoo.com)

### Grand Opening of The Ponds Shopping Centre

Come and enjoy the Grand Opening Celebrations, including live entertainment, great specials, free giveaways and more.

**When:** Saturday 23rd May from 10.30 am

**Where:** The Ponds Shopping Centre, corner of Riverbank Drive & The Ponds Boulevard



Australand is applying the finishing touches to The Ponds Shopping Centre now. Woolworths have taken the anchor tenancy of 4,000m<sup>2</sup>. The new Centre will also feature 25 speciality retailers and there will be 349 car spaces. For more details on the shopping centre, please visit [shopattheponds.com.au](http://shopattheponds.com.au)

### The Ponds Social Committee Meeting

We invite you to get involved in our community.

**When:** Thursday 23rd April & 14th May at 7.30 pm

**Where:** The Ponds Community Hub office

**Contact:** Tuula on 0412 620 115

### Mobile Toy Library Comes to The Ponds

The Mobile Toy Library is filled with toys, including puzzles, board games, activity centres, dress ups & larger toys. The Mobile Toy Library visits The Ponds on the 3rd Monday of each month. Annual membership is only \$30!

**When:** Monday 20th April & 18th May from 10 am to 12 pm

**Where:** The Plaza Park, Pebble Crescent

**Enquiries:** please phone Merryn on 0423 855 622

## Regular Groups

### English as a Second Language Conversation Group

This is a new group for those wanting to practice their English speaking skills. Come along for a chat and morning tea. We meet on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month.

**When:** Thursdays 2nd & 16th April & 7th & 21st May at 10.30 am

**Where:** The Ponds Community Hub, Riverbank Drive.

**Enquiries:** Tuula via [tuulas@theponds.com.au](mailto:tuulas@theponds.com.au)



The Ponds Community Facilitator,  
Riverbank Drive, The Ponds.



## Crafty@ThePonds

Do you enjoy craft? We would love to have you join us. We meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

**When:** Thursday 14th May at 10 am

**Where:** Hall 3, The Ponds Community Hub

**Contact:** Chamila on 0468 483 141

## Do You Enjoy Jogging or Walking?

It is always more fun to exercise with others so why not come along. It is free.

**When:** Sundays at 7 am

**Where:** Jonas Bradley Oval, The Ponds Boulevard

**Contact:** Steve on 0431 905 064

## Regular Groups at The Ponds

Please visit our website and click on the Regular Groups tab for information on **Playgroups, Mums'n'Bubs Groups, Walking Groups, Tennis Group** and **Fitness Groups**. Check out our playgroups page at [facebook.com/ThePondsKingTots](https://www.facebook.com/ThePondsKingTots).

Also, please visit our website Event Calendar for information on the groups and more.

## Regular Activities at The Ponds Community Hub

Please go to our website [thepondscommunity.com.au](http://thepondscommunity.com.au) and click on New Residents tab. There you will find useful resources, including a list of regular groups at The Hub during the week.

## Community News

### The Ponds Joggers Donate to Salvation Army



Each time The Ponds Joggers get together, they encourage participants to donate a gold coin, with the aim of giving the money collected to charity. Thanks to the generosity of the joggers, \$300 was presented to Salvation Army Rouse Hill in February. The money will make a difference to people in need in the local community.

### Clean Up Australia Day



A huge thank you to all who participated in Clean Up Australia Day at The Ponds. People were split into small groups who then proceeded to clean up around Jonas Bradley Oval and carpark, at LakesEdge Park and various other parks nearby, with many bags of rubbish left for Blacktown City Council to pick up. Thank you to Dilip for organising the event, and Preeti for catering!

## Harmony Day/Holi – Festival of Colours



It was party time at The Plaza when 1,500 people came along to experience unity & fun through colour throwing and enjoy music, dance & food. The event was organised by Council of Indian Australians in partnership with The Ponds Community Program.



## Meet Your Neighbour Night



It was great to see so many people come along to meet others, enjoy food and find out more about our local community. Thank you to FlipOut Castle Hill & Blacktown for donating vouchers for the lucky door prize. Picture: lucky door prize winners.

## The Ponds Community Website & Facebook

For event photos or event information, news, FAQs, free classifieds, local directory and more, please visit [thepondscommunity.com.au](http://thepondscommunity.com.au). We are also on Facebook: [facebook.com/thepondscommunity](https://www.facebook.com/thepondscommunity).

You are also invited to join The Ponds Neighbourhood Watch Eyewatch Group on Facebook – do a search & request to join. If you are looking for a residents' forum on Facebook, join The Ponds Community – Sydney and The Ponds NSW 2769. Please note these group pages are run by residents of The Ponds.

## The Ponds Community Newsletter



The Ponds Community Newsletter is prepared for the residents and friends of The Ponds by our Community Facilitators, Tuula Schaeffer & Kerrie Dennett from Connections, based at The Ponds.

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@connections.com.au](mailto:kerrie.dennett@connections.com.au)



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