



## Parramatta Council chatter

### Short-film competition

TO RAISE awareness of homelessness Screen My Shorts Australia and Parramatta Council is launching a 30-day global short-film challenge. Filmmakers, animators, machinimatographers and documentary-makers are invited to make a short film of three to 10 minutes on the theme of homelessness.

Lord Mayor John Chedid said the council was proud to be partnered with Screen My Shorts to promote the cause. "Project Homeless aims to raise awareness of homelessness, a global issue," he said.

"It's a great chance for filmmakers to display their talents and aid an excellent cause. The council is pleased to provide up to \$10,000 in cash prizes. I encourage all budding filmmakers to get creative."

Filmmakers will be allocated a topic related to homelessness, such as current refugee situations, homelessness by choice, gambling and economic pressures.

The filmmaking period starts on April 11 and films must be uploaded by May 11 at midnight.

Finalists will have their films screened at the Screen My Shorts awards ceremony later this year.



**Screen time:** Parramatta Council has launched a short-film challenge tackling homelessness.

### Work starts on new centre

Construction of Parramatta Council's \$17 million consolidated operations centre in Rydalmere has started this week. It will be a hub for 250 council staff, including civil and parks maintenance, sign-making and carpentry services, now spread across three sites. Some staff based at Civic Place in Parramatta will move to the centre, due to be completed by December. Lord Mayor John Chedid said it would help the council meet the needs of a growing population.



### Tall nominee

Parramatta's tallest commercial building has been nominated as Best Office Development in the Property Council of Australia/ Rider Levett Bucknall Innovation and Excellence Awards. The Eclipse Tower, at 60 Station Street, has quickly become an icon in the city due to its curved design and five-star green rating. The winner of the award is due to be announced in May.

### RSL amends plans

Granville RSL Club has dropped its bid to more than double its number of poker machines, Parramatta Council documents show. The club initially proposed to boost the number of gaming machines from 139 to 300 but dropped this after being asked to submit a social-impact assessment. Parramatta councillors voted on Monday night to approve the club's revised development application, which includes new dining areas, kitchens and an outdoor gaming area.

### Traffic changes

Changes are in place for bus and traffic routes as tunnel building continues through Parramatta's Lennox Bridge. Traffic can only travel south on Church Street between Market and Phillip streets and all northerly bus services leaving Parramatta will use Wilde Avenue and Victoria Road. The 549 route – along O'Connell Street – will turn left into George Street (not Victoria Road and Market Street). The \$8m project will take a little over a year.

### Volunteers sought

Parramatta Council is calling on volunteers to join their Home Support and Community Services team. If you have a couple of hours spare each week or fortnight they would like to hear from you. The team provides services for older people, adults living with a disability and their carers.

**For Volunteer vacancies contact Melinda on 9806 5704 or email [mblundell@parracity.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mblundell@parracity.nsw.gov.au).**

### Report into parking-meter revenue

A report will be prepared on how the funds raised by parking meters and car parks in Parramatta are spent. Cr Andrew Wilson called for the report on what specific projects the parking meters have funded at Monday's night Parramatta Council meeting. He also asked for information about whether the council has complied with it's resolution that funds raised by parking meters should be spent in the suburbs where they're raised. The report is due by December.