

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY



KINDNESS CUPBOARD

Together with ProjectKindness we have set up our new Kindness Cupboard, located discreetly in my office for those in need to take what they need, and those who can to drop off what they can, including non-perishable foods, sanitary items, and household goods.

CARINGKIDS

CaringKids is a local registered charity dedicated to providing Toy Boxes to children who care for a family member with a disability or illness.

My office continues to be a drop-off point for this charity. If you have new or pre-loved toys or games to donate or would like to donate new stationery and arts and crafts materials, please bring them to my office. You can find the CaringKids Donation Guide here:

www.caringkids.org.au/toy_donations

KEITH'S CLOSET

My office is also a drop-off point for Keith's Closet, a wonderful charity providing clothing, shoes and toiletries to clients of the Kiloh Centre at the Prince of Wales Hospital.

Clients of the Kiloh Centre's mental health service can enter a walk-in wardrobe and select items they need, offering dignity, self-respect and hope. For more information about Keith's Closet, contact Keith at keithscloset@health.nsw.gov.au

BAYSIDE WOMEN'S SHELTER



My Coogee Electorate Office is proudly a drop off point for Bayside Women's Shelter, a best practice refuge in South East Sydney, providing short term accommodation and support to women and their children escaping domestic and family violence. Keep an eye on their Facebook page for items they need as not all items are accepted: [facebook.com/baysidewomensshelter](https://www.facebook.com/baysidewomensshelter)

MUSIC FOR REFUGEES

Music for Refugees is a not-for-profit dedicated to bringing music into the lives of refugees and asylum seekers. Volunteer music teacher Philip Feinstein collects instruments and provides free music classes for children and adults inside detention centres including Manus Island, Christmas Island, and Nauru. I am pleased to advise that my office continues to be a drop-off point for this wonderful organisation.

If you have any instruments to donate (no pianos!) please bring them to the office. More information about Music for Refugees can be found here: musicforrefugees.org



My office is an official collection point for Support the Girls. This wonderful charity collects gently loved bras, new underwear, sanitary products and toiletries for homeless women and girls, DV survivors, displaced women and the elderly. If you are able to donate, please drop off your donated items to my Electorate office.

OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY



End of year awards Cloe public



OLSH Award winner



Member for Coogee Social Impact Award, Waverley P.S.



The 2020 Westfield Eastgardens Local Heroes Nominees



At the South Coogee Bowling Club end of year award ceremony



The Waverley Men's Shed Christmas Lunch



Opening the new Coogee Surf Life Saving Club

MOBILE OFFICES

Saturday 6 February, 8:30-10am

Coogee Beach Promenade, Coogee

Saturday 20 February, 9-10:30am

Royal Randwick Shopping Centre, Randwick

Wednesday 24 February, 7:30-8:30am

St Catherine's Bus Stop, Albion St, Waverley

Saturday 6 March, 9-10:30am

Charing Cross - Outside QE Foodstores, Waverley

Tuesday 9 March, 7:30-8:30am

Havelock Ave Bus Stop, near Asher St, Coogee

Saturday 20 March, 9-10:30am

Bondi Road Shops - Outside Kemenys, Bondi

Wednesday 31 March, 7:30-8:30am

Randwick Terminus Light Rail Stop, Randwick

Saturday 17 April, 9-10:30am

Oxford St Mall, Bondi Junction

Thursday 22 April, 7:30-8:30am

The Spot, Perouse Rd, Randwick

Tuesday 27 April, 7:30-8:30am

Wansey Road Light Rail Stop, Randwick

Wednesday 19 May, 7:30-8:30am

Outside X74 Cafe, Bream St, Coogee

Tuesday 25 May, 7:30-8:30am

Bus Stop, cnr Birrell & Alfred Sts, Bronte

Thursday 3 June, 4:30-6:30pm

Royal Randwick Shopping Centre, Randwick

CONTACT MARJORIE

(02) 9398 1822

coogee@parliament.nsw.gov.au

15/53-55B Frenchmans Road, Randwick

[MarjorieONeillCoogeeMP](https://www.facebook.com/MarjorieONeillCoogeeMP)

[@MarjorieSONeill](https://www.instagram.com/MarjorieSONeill)

[marjorieoneillcoogee](https://www.tiktok.com/@marjorieoneillcoogee)

marjorieoneill.com.au

Dr Marjorie O'Neill

YOUR MEMBER FOR COOGEE

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2021

MESSAGE FROM MARJORIE

Happy New Year everyone and welcome to 2021!

I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable summer break.

I want to take this opportunity to express my deepest thanks to those who have been volunteering and working over the summer period to help keep our community safe. Thank you to all our amazing frontline workers who have continued to work over this period to protect us, as well as our amazing surf lifesaver volunteers who have dedicated their free time to keep our beaches safe.

As COVID-19 remains a threat and the public health orders continue to change, I encourage you to sign up to my e-newsletter and social media for the most up to date information concerning NSW health orders and how they impact you or your business. At the time this newsletter went to print, wearing face masks is now mandatory in a number of different settings, including retail and on public transport. It is important that people comply with these orders, as failure to do so is subject to an on the spot \$200 fine.

It is however that time of the year again when we trade wearing a swimsuit for putting on school clothes and getting ready to learn! Whether you are changing schools or starting a new class, going back to school is an exciting time of year. Real learning means paying attention and staying curious. I wish all the children and families in my electorate a great year of learning, inspiration and happiness!

At the end of 2020, the NSW government flagged that they would like to make significant changes



Promoting beach safety with Surf Life Saving NSW

to stamp duty. I have included more information on these changes in this newsletter and I would like to know your thoughts. Additionally, Alex Greenwich MP, the Member for Sydney, has indicated that he will be proposing a private members bill that looks to legalise voluntary euthanasia. It is important that I hear your views on this issue, and I have included a link to a survey.

Over the past two years, I have enjoyed meeting with many constituents, sporting clubs, businesses and community groups in our area. For those I am yet to meet, please contact my office, I would love to hear from you and find out how we can work together.

Warmly,

Dr Marjorie O'Neill MP
Member for Coogee

CONTACT MARJORIE

(02) 9398 1822

coogee@parliament.nsw.gov.au

15/53-55B Frenchmans Road, Randwick

[MarjorieONeillCoogeeMP](https://www.facebook.com/MarjorieONeillCoogeeMP)

[@MarjorieSONeill](https://www.instagram.com/MarjorieSONeill)

[marjorieoneillcoogee](https://www.tiktok.com/@marjorieoneillcoogee)

marjorieoneill.com.au

SAVE OUR BUSES

OUR CAMPAIGN TO SAVE OUR BELOVED BUSES IS FAR FROM OVER, AND I WILL CONTINUE TO STAND UP AND FIGHT TO KEEP OUR BUSES.

The CBD and Eastern Suburbs Light Rail celebrated its 1st birthday in December 2020, and patronage levels are just 16% of what was promised when the project was commissioned in 2013; a massive drop in patronage which has not been seen in any other forms of public transport.

What is most troubling about the Light Rail is that the current NSW government Budget Paper 2 shows that the Light Rail has the lowest customer satisfaction of any public transport mode.

Our community loves our buses, which is why I will do everything to try and keep the 16 bus services that the NSW Liberal Government has already begun removing including: the 302, 314, 317, 373, 376, 377, 393, 394, 395, 397, 399, L94, M10, M50, 891, and 893 services which are proposed to be completely cancelled. Meanwhile, the 303, 307, 313, 316, 348, 370, 374, 391, 392, 396,



and 400 services will only go to either Randwick or Kingsford, or elsewhere. Only 4 new routes will be introduced to replace the 16 being cancelled.

Despite a commitment by the NSW Liberal Government that no routes would be removed without community consultation, the M10, M50, 891, and 893 have already been cancelled with no public consultation having occurred.

To learn more about the Government's plan to cut our services, and get involved in our campaign, please head to my website: www.marjorieoneill.com.au

SAVE OUR PARKS

Centennial Park, Moore Park and Queens Park are some of Australia's most important sites. That is why Centennial Parklands, comprised of these three significant parks, is currently protected by NSW State law to have an independent trust in which the ownership of these parklands are invested. This prevents any government of the day selling land of the parklands without the consent of the parliament.



The NSW Minister for Planning has announced that he will be dissolving the current trust and handing over the management of the public parks to a super agency called the "Greater Sydney Parklands." This agency will have oversight of Centennial Park, Moore Park Trusts, Parramatta Park Trust, the Western Sydney Parklands Trust, as well as the Callan Park Hospital site and Fernhill Estate in Mulgoa.

This is a direct attack on our heritage parklands, which will no longer be protected by their independent trusts, as they will be controlled by the Greater Sydney Parklands. Bigger is not better and the particular interests of our parklands will be put at greater risk of commercialisation and reduction. Parklands in the East must not be subject to some notion of 'averaging' over the entirety of Sydney. We need to protect our parklands in the East and we need to maintain a localised control to ensure their protection. You can sign my petition against these changes here: www.marjorieoneill.com.au/campaigns/save-our-parks

NSW BUDGET - STAMP DUTY & INTRODUCE A LAND TAX

The 2020 NSW budget indicated that the Government would be introducing some big reforms to the state's taxation system, and included some disappointing results for a number of projects in Coogee.

STAMP DUTY AND LAND TAX

In last year's budget, the Treasurer outlined his plan to phase out stamp duty by the 2024/25 financial year, and to introduce a land tax. This is a significant change to the structure of State taxation in NSW and will impact people in very different ways depending on their home ownership status and future home ownership/investment plans.

There is a consultation period currently open, that will close on March 15th, 2021 and I want to hear what you think about these significant changes. You can do so by scanning the QR code and filling out my quick survey.



MISSING COOGEE COMMITMENTS

This budget, much like the budget last year, fails to provide funding for a number of commitments promised by the Government.

First, this budget still does not allocate a single dollar of funding for the upgrades for Randwick Boys' High School and Randwick Girls' High School, which I discuss in more depth on the next page. This comes after last year's budget classified the upgrades as minor upgrades, rather than the major upgrades promised.

In addition, there is also no funding allocated for the creation of a new Service NSW centre in Randwick, which was also promised by the Government. The pandemic has meant that people have needed strong and accessible public services more than ever. I will continue to fight to ensure that a Randwick Service NSW Centre is included in this year's budget.



VOLUNTARY EUTHANASIA

The Member for Sydney, Alex Greenwich MP, has indicated that in 2021 he will be introducing a Private Members Bill to the NSW Parliament which looks to legalise Voluntary Euthanasia. While a Bill is yet to be presented to the Parliament, this is an issue that many people across our community have very strong views about. I have made a commitment that I will not make any decisions regarding such legislation without consulting our community, which is why I want to hear from you. I have created a short survey to help me canvas the views of our community that you can complete here by simply scanning the QR code.



2021 COOGEE SCHOOL SAFETY SURVEY

Following on from the inaugural Coogee School Safety Survey last year, we will be continuing our work to improve the safety of our local commutes in 2021.

To shine a light on a safety issue that you have experienced on your commute to and from school, please visit my website at www.marjorieoneill.com.au/community/our-schools and make a submission to the 2021 Coogee School Safety Survey. We will review each submission made and work with local and State Government to improve specific locations. Thanks for your submission and good luck to all of our local students, parents and teachers as they prepare for the 2021 school year.

RANDWICK GIRLS AND BOYS UPGRADES

I continue to stand with parents from across the Eastern Suburbs in calling for the NSW Government to properly invest in public education in Sydney's East.

In 2018, the NSW Liberal Government committed to major upgrades to both Randwick Girls' High School and Randwick Boys' High School, and still no funds have been allocated in either the 2019/20 or 2020/21 NSW budgets.

Every public primary school in the electorate of Coogee is near or over capacity, as is Rose Bay Secondary College, the only co-educational public school with a catchment area in the Coogee electorate. The NSW Government continues to refuse to upgrade or expand our schools to meet the growing demand.



While we have seen many other development projects being fast-tracked across NSW to help stimulate the economy during this crisis, our schools have been ignored.

Our public schools are proud institutions with fantastic students and teachers, but this current NSW Liberal Government continues to ignore their needs, allowing their facilities to go out of date and into disrepair. I will continue to advocate for public education in the Eastern Suburbs.

COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

THIS YEAR SAW OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS OF GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED AS PART OF THE COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS GRANT PROGRAM IN COOGEE, WITH ONLY \$300,000 MADE AVAILABLE AS PART OF THE PROGRAM.

This year's winners of the Community Building Partnership were:

- Clovelly Surf Life Saving Club, for the relocation and renovation of the club's patrol and first aid rooms, resulting in a larger and more usable space
- Randwick City Council, for the refurbishment of the Coogee Oval Grandstand and to create dedicated men's and women's change rooms, to facilitate greater diversity and inclusion in sport
- The Royal Hospital for Women Foundation, for improving patient and family spaces, and for the refurbishment of the patient kitchen in the Acute Care Ward at the only female specific hospital in New South Wales



I regularly send emails to local sporting groups, community groups, and school P&Cs who have signed up to my community grant email list regarding grants that become available throughout the year.

If you are a community group who would like to be included in my community grant email list, please email my office at coogee@parliament.nsw.gov.au