

## **4. MAYORAL MINUTE**

### **4.1 Gleam Daley 1911-2013**

---

It is with regret that I advise Council of the passing of Rhoda Gleam Daley. Gleam who was 102 years old, passed away on Saturday 19 October 2013.

Mrs Daley was the wife of the late Harley J Daley, Town Clerk of Ingleburn from 1931-1948 and Town Clerk of Campbelltown from 1948-1971. Mr Daley passed away in 1987.

Mrs Daley, who ably supported Mr Daley in carrying out his civic duties, was once described as "Campbelltown's first lady".

Mrs Daley had always been involved in the community, and was instrumental in the establishment of the Baby Health Centre in Mawson Park as well as the View and Legacy Clubs of Campbelltown. Mrs Daley also worked in local businesses, taught scripture at St Peter's Anglican Church, was a volunteer during the war, and worked for numerous local charities.

Mrs Daley also had a fondness for sport, and in her younger days keenly participated in ballroom dancing, tennis, golf and bowls. She also had a passion for rugby league and recently won a football tipping competition at the age of 102.

Mr and Mrs Daley raised two daughters, Cheryl and Dell, and had five grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Mrs Daley, a resident of Carrington Centennial Care, Camden at the time of her passing, will be sadly missed by her family and many friends.

On behalf of the Council and the Community of Campbelltown I would like to pass on our sincerest sympathy to Gleam's children Cheryl and Dell and their families formally acknowledging the contribution she made to the community of Campbelltown.

### **Recommendation**

That a letter of condolence be forwarded to the Daley family together with a copy of this Mayoral Minute.

### **Council Meeting 12 November 2013 (Mead)**

That the Recommendation be adopted.

### **Council Resolution Minute Number 243**

That the Recommendation be adopted.

## 4.2 Mayoral Minute - Update November 2013

---

### Events

Below I have listed some selected events I have attended as a representative of Council over the last month, along with some brief comments.

#### **Saturday 12th October – Macquarie Fields Police and Community Aboriginal Debutante Ball**

It is great to see the police getting involved with the community with events like this. Police work benefits greatly from building relationships and trust with the community, and events such as this can only help that.

#### **Saturday 19th of October – 24 Hour Fight Against Cancer Opening Ceremony**

On behalf of the people of Campbelltown, I'd like to thank the organising committee including Cr Borg, and all the participants and volunteers that were involved in the 24 Hour Fight Against Cancer. Many people of this city have or will be affected by cancer in some way, either themselves or their loved ones, and I'm sure the people of Campbelltown appreciate all the support the 24 Hour Fight Against Cancer has given cancer sufferers in Campbelltown over the years.

#### **Friday 25th of October – Menangle Park Rex Horne Grandstand Opening**

It is fantastic to see such investment in our region, particularly this long term investment of Harness Racing NSW into Campbelltown and the region.

#### **Saturday 26th of October – SES Fleet Handover**

I had the privilege of handing over ownership and the keys of Council vehicle fleet to our local SES brigade. Many of the volunteers have been involved in supporting people affected by the recent bushfires, even outside of Campbelltown. On behalf of the people of Campbelltown I thank the SES volunteers for their continued good work supporting the people of Campbelltown in times of need.

#### **Sunday 27th of October – Odyssey House Recovery Day Celebration**

The staff and residents at Odyssey House gave me a great insight into the work of Odyssey House. It was explained to me how Odyssey House runs programs of drug and alcohol rehabilitation based on mutual support, responsibility and respect. Community organisations like Odyssey House have a massive impact not only on the lives of their residents, but also their families and the broader community. They provide the sort of support to people that governments of all levels would find difficult if not impossible to replicate. On behalf of the people Campbelltown I thank all those involved in Odyssey house.

## Childcare Budget

I have requested budget figures from the staff regarding the level of council subsidy to the various long day care centres. Note that the below figures do not include building maintenance, depreciation and central administration costs:

Centre Name	Yearly subsidy	Daily subsidy per place used	Places Available	Average places utilised	Utilisation percentage	Yearly subsidy per place used
Amarina	\$79,300.00	\$14.53	29	22.46	77%	\$3531
Amber Cottage	\$129,280.00	\$19.81	39	26.86	69%	\$4813
Eaglesnest	-\$2,390.00	-\$0.28	39	35.47	91%	-\$67
Kabbarli	\$109,740.00	\$20.41	29	22.12	76%	\$4960
Minto	\$149,600.00	\$22.96	39	26.82	69%	\$5578
Namut	\$30,100.00	\$3.44	39	36.02	92%	\$836
Parklands	\$117,840.00	\$25.14	29	19.29	67%	\$6108
Waratah	\$92,400.00	\$16.99	29	22.39	77%	\$4127
Wombat	\$17,400.00	\$1.96	39	36.49	94%	\$476

To put this into perspective, the proposed rate rises of sixty households are required to support just one place at the Parklands long daycare centre. One would have to combine the proposed rate rises from around two thousand rateable properties, a reasonable sized suburb in Campbelltown, would be required to subsidise one of our most subsidised childcare centres, which serve only twenty or thirty children per day.

Furthermore, many families receive the Commonwealth Government childcare rebate, which refunds 50% of childcare costs. However, council does not receive that payment. By shifting the burden of childcare costs from direct payments to through council rates, Campbelltown ratepayers lose 50c for every dollar of that subsidy, and ratepayers end up paying that dollar anyway through their rates to support the subsidy.

The figures for the occasional day care facility at Ingleburn are even greater, with \$9710 subsidy per child.

As mentioned, the figures above do not include maintenance, depreciation and central administration. The long day care and occasional care facilities mentioned above are subsidised by council around \$850,000 per year, and I suspect with those addition costs the total would be \$1,000,000 or more. This \$1,000,000 or more a year only serves an average of 260 places.

By continuing to be involved in the delivery of childcare, I believe council is increasing the total cost of childcare to Campbelltown families. Over the course of their life in Campbelltown, I have little doubt that families would be better off with reduced rates and increased federal government subsidies coming into their pocket.

Childcare is already provided by non-government organisations in Campbelltown. Many councils are no longer directly involved in the provision of childcare. I think we should question whether it is worthwhile taking over a \$1,000,000 from Campbelltown ratepayers to subsidise just 260 childcare places, when non-government childcare providers are providing childcare in Campbelltown at a similar price to council.

With reduced government funding and increased costs, I fear these subsidies will just continue to rise, and the burden on ratepayers and businesses will continue to grow. When do we stop? Surely there is some limit where the cost overcomes the benefit. With a number of our childcare centres, I believe we are already past that limit.

There are many businesses and organisations that produce value for the people of Campbelltown, but that doesn't mean they should be subsidised. If we subsidised everyone in Campbelltown that was doing some good for the community, a budget would completely blow out and rates would skyrocket. We must remember that each time we subsidise something we think is good, we tax all the other people and businesses of this city, the vast majority of which are good people, and hinder them from doing good things in the community. Despite good intentions, in many cases we may be doing more harm to the community than good.

## **Recommendation**

That the information be noted.

## **Council Meeting 12 November 2013 (Mead)**

That the Recommendation be adopted.

**Note:** Councillor Mead noted that he omitted an event from his Mayoral Minute, and asked that the following item be included for consideration in the Mayoral Minute - November Update 2013:

### **Saturday 26th of October – Western Suburbs Junior Rugby League Presentation**

Firstly, I'd like to thank on behalf of the people of Campbelltown all the people involved in organising sport in our city, particularly the many volunteers. Western Suburbs Junior Rugby League had Mark Geyer as the speaker at this night. He talked about the ups and downs of his life, helping many of the young people present make good decisions in their own lives. It's good to see sporting organisations not only attempting to make the youth of our city good sports people, but also good citizens.

## **Council Resolution Minute Number 244**

That the Recommendation be adopted.