

NEWS

Club grants welcome

THE Kogarah RSL Club may have temporarily closed its doors while it undergoes a transformation, but its heart has stayed open when it comes to helping young people in the local area.

Through the 2016 Club-Grants program, it has made donations to two groups that provide critical support and assistance during the most harrowing times.

The club has donated \$10,000 to Kookaburra Kids, an organisation that supports children caring for parents with a mental illness; and \$4000 to Moving Forward DFV Case Management Inc, a specialist case management service for women and children who are experiencing, escaping or have left domestic and family violence.

"The Kogarah RSL may be temporarily closed while we move through our re-development but our community spirit remains strong and focused on helping those who need it most," said Kogarah RSL Club general manager Grant Amer.

Mr Amer said it was a value the club shared with



CARING FOR YOUTH: Kookaburra Kids CEO Pam Brown, Kogarah RSL General Manager Grant Amer, Capital Bluestone Managing Director Ben Fairfax and Moving Forward Case Worker Stacey Jordan. **Picture: John Veage**

its development partner Capital Bluestone, who had relationships with a number of groups such as Sutherland Shire Family Services (SSFS) that provided support to young people and worked to put an end to domestic violence.

Capital Bluestone managing director Ben Fairfax said working with Moving For-

ward was a natural extension of the company's relationship with SSFS.

"Sadly, every community has a need like this so we know there is more work to be done. We congratulate Moving Forward on the important role they play particularly with children, and we want to learn more about how we can help in the

future," Mr Fairfax said.

"Kookaburra Kids is another organisation that we've come to know through our work with Kogarah RSL and Woollooware Bay Town Centre. Today's ClubGrants announcement is a reminder of our duty as a community to provide our youngest people with care and support."

Kookaburra Kids helps

young people caring for a parent with mental illness and will use the grant for an educational and respite weekend camp.

Moving Forward will use the grant to help run an art and play therapy program called Join the Dots to help children deal with the trauma of domestic and family violence.

Council moves to grow business

THE new Georges River Council will establish an economic development advisory committee with the aim of developing economic growth in the region.

The committee will work with the council and the new Georges River Chamber of Commerce to act as a link between the council and key industry sectors, build business networks, identify economic development projects and opportunities and work with the council to attract new businesses, investment and jobs to the area.

Membership will include the Georges River Administrator and one representative each for the Georges River Chamber of Commerce, Southern Sydney Chinese Business Association, and the health, manufacturing, finance, property, education, hospitality and retail industries.

Meetings will be held on a quarterly basis and will be open to the public.

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