

Minister for Fair Trading
Minister for Youth
Minister for Volunteering

Linda Burney MP



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MEDIA RELEASE
Youth Week 5-13 April

MARRICKVILLE CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF YOUTH FESTIVITIES

Young people in the Marrickville area joined almost 200,000 young people across the state in celebrating the 20th Youth Week in NSW.

Minister for Youth and Member for Canterbury, Linda Burney, on Friday launched Youth Week 2008 activities in the Marrickville area under the National Youth Week banner *Shout Share Live Unite*. She was accompanied by Carmel Tebbutt, Member for Marrickville and a previous Minister for Youth.

“While this year is the twentieth anniversary of Youth Week in Australia, Marrickville’s history goes back much further – Marrickville Council is celebrating fifty years of continuous support for young people through the Marrickville Festival of Youth,” Ms Burney said.

“Marrickville’s Youth Council has put together a photo exhibition which includes photos of the original groovers back in 1958 and where they are now.

“The week is jam-packed with events like the Xpoz4 Youth Art Exhibition, Bounce Dance party, Skate and Scream @ Jacks skateboarding competition, Crafternoons: Jewellery Making & badge making, Youth Trivia Night, and the Youth Week Mixed Oz Tag tournament.

“Youth Week is the time to acknowledge the positive contribution that young people make to our community, and to listen closely to what they are saying and doing. Youth Week in Marrickville demonstrates this and more.”

Ms Tebbutt said how exciting it was to see fifty years of continuous support for youth activities in Marrickville.

“I’ve been involved in many of their Youth Week events and the young people of Marrickville have always showcased their diversity and creativity.”

Ms Burney said that all the activities across the state were organised by young people volunteering their time, for the benefit of other young people and the community as a whole, raising awareness of issues that affect them.

“As the Minister for Youth I take every opportunity to talk up young people – not talk them down or talk down to them – and promote their creativity, energy and ideas,” Ms Burney said.

“The involvement of young people in Youth Week is not only valued – it’s essential to its success. I encourage all young people to get involved.”

Last year more than 3,500 young people got involved in organising and managing events and activities and more than 190,000 young people actually participated in Youth Week in NSW.

Every local council in NSW has received a grant to help plan activities that give young people aged 12 to 25 years opportunities to participate in their local community.

To find out about other activities during Youth Week, visit the Youth Week website at www.youthweek.nsw.gov.au or contact your local council.

Youth Week is supported by all levels of government across Australia. In NSW, Youth Week is coordinated by DoCS and the major sponsor is the Motor Accidents Authority through its 'Arrive Alive' campaign.

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