



Cartoon: Caitlin Dawson

The tree eyesores on all our streets

EDITORIAL

By TAYSIA GORTON and ASHLEIGH COUGHLIN

PEOPLE who live in Ashtonfield are very lucky. Our suburb was designed from the ground up.

When being developed our power lines were all put underground. This means that we don't have power poles in our suburb. There are light poles that have street lights on them but there aren't very many of them.

We also don't have many trees on our footpaths which can be beautiful and adds to the beauty of an area when they are there. But in many suburbs the trees can cause problems as they grow up and touch the power lines that are strung from pole to pole, bringing the electricity to everyone's houses.

The electricity companies have to make sure that all houses receive electricity but the problem that happens is result of the way that the electricity companies attempt to clear the trees away from the power lines. In many cases they would be better to chop the trees down completely instead of the way that they butcher the trees that are growing on the

footpaths. There is a problem that not only happens in the Hunter Region but also happens in the rest of Australia.

No one is arguing that the electricity companies should do this job but they should do this with the help of an arborist who knows and understands trees.

Many trees have the centre of the tree cut out of them so that the tree can grow either side of the power lines. Other trees have one side cut off so that the rest of the tree grows away from the power lines.

These projects by the electricity companies leave the trees looking extremely unattractive and I am sure likely to fall when a storm comes through an area.

It is about time that electricity companies employed arborists and attempted to shape any trees that have to be trimmed so that they add to the beauty of an area instead of taking away from it, making our streets unattractive with hideous strangled looking pieces of wood with a few leaves on the top or on the main part of the tree.

We need everyone to stand up for the trees as in the Dr Seuss book *The Lorax*, where the Lorax stated "I am the Lorax. I speak for the trees. I speak for the trees, for the trees have no tongues".

Plenty of chances to participate in dances



Ashtonfield students have taken part in Hunter dance events.

By JORDAN BAKER and MAISIE-KATE LUCAS

FOR those people at schools in the Hunter that are interested in dancing, there are plenty of opportunities to participate in dance extravaganzas.

Firstly Star Struck is on each year and covers all forms of the performing arts. It allows thousands of students to participate in dance as part of the spectacular. The Hunter Region Dance Festival is another

place where students from Ashtonfield Public School from all grades have the opportunity to participate in a dance spectacular.

After much hard work at school students went to costume rehearsals. Students had the chance to watch all of the other performers from other schools taking part which took over three hours. The performances from all schools was really spectacular, everyone performed extremely well and should get a really big award for the

effort that they put in. After the night performance students felt it was great to look down and see all the smiling faces in the audience and hear the applause which made the hard work seem worthwhile.

Students hope that they can take part in these spectaculars again next year. All students thank the teachers for the opportunity to participate in these great festivals and hope that the teachers realise that all students really appreciate the time and effort they put into events such as these.

Finding the real Wally during Book Week

By LACHLAN TAYLOR and KAYLA WRIGHT

ASHTONFIELD Public School students found themselves searching for the real Where's Wally as teachers dressed up for the school book week parade.

At Ashtonfield Public School on July 27, 2015, students and teachers dressed up as book characters to celebrate Education Week and Book Week.

The playground was filled with parents in character and students paraded their costumes to parents and friends.

After the parade, classes were open to parents to see how their children learn. Most students participated in maths and literacy games.

Parents and students enjoyed a picnic-style lunch together in the playground. The school had a huge sausage sizzle feeding over 600 people.

The day finished with a whole school assembly. After classes had been guessing all day the teachers finally revealed who



Parents and teachers dressed up during Book Week as Wally from the book series *Where's Wally*.

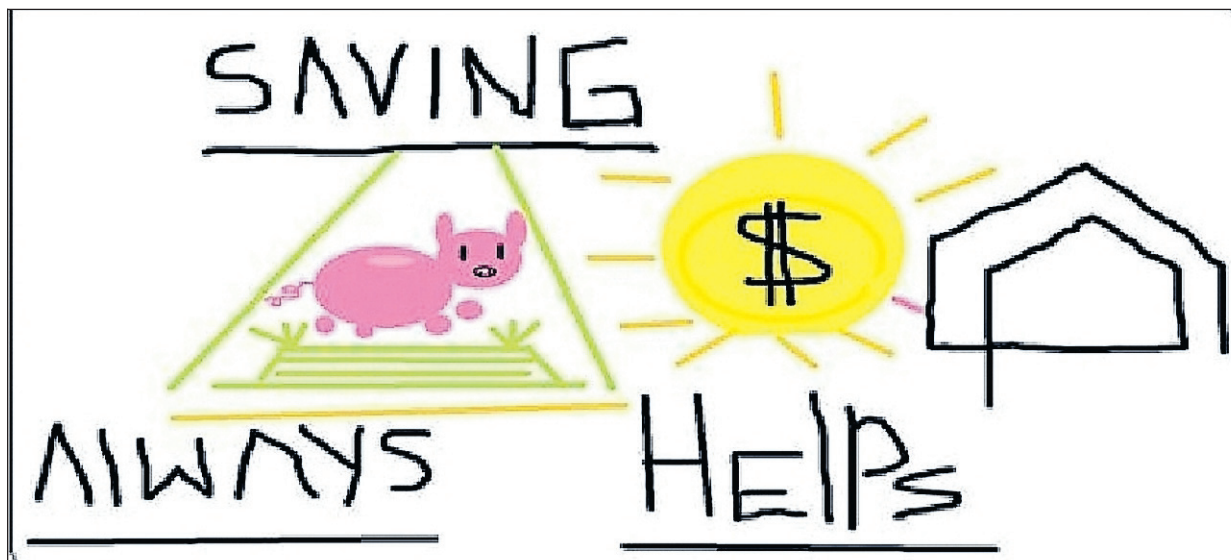
the real Where's Wally was. The real Wally was our very own teacher Miss Mackaway of 3M. Classes

that had voted correctly on the real Wally received an extra 10 minutes of play time the following day.

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