



Cartoon: Ailish Spencer

## Make workplaces safer for everyone

### EDITORIAL

By **MITCHELL ROSS, JARROD PITT, KALISTA STOJCESKI, TARA O'CONNOR** and **SAVANNAH FRASER**

IN the past few years, many workers in Australia have had serious injuries or have died.

Over half a million workers are injured and several are killed each year in Australia. This shows we need to strengthen, not weaken, workplace safety regulations. Imagine if your loved one went to work and never returned home?

Workplaces should have more advanced protection to reduce the loss of injured or killed workers through such ways as better protection in clothing, more improved safety in dangerous areas and more evacuation points.

If workers are injured, employers and bosses normally face fines, but does this go far enough? Shouldn't we be fining or banning employers before an incident happens?

Workcover NSW administers workplace safety regulations as well as overseeing worker compensation and return to work

arrangements for injured workers.

Does Workcover NSW have the funding, support and power to be harder enough on bosses?

Workcover NSW needs ongoing government support to separate the employers who take workplace safety seriously from the handful of cowboy bosses who knowingly put workers at risk.

Every year devastated families are shocked to hear that their loved ones have passed away.

Some employees still don't understand how to make their workplaces safe and they need guidance; others don't care and should face serious fines.

The government should help workplaces to be safer and provide money for important equipment.

Working in an unsafe workplace is just not worth the risk.

Some industries are more dangerous than others. The average annual death rate per 100,000 people for the most hazardous industries includes: forestry, transport and storage, mining and construction.

While these high risk industries face strict regulations from government bodies, we still have accidents and injuries every year.

We all need to be serious about workplace safety.

# Rosie's rockin' it out to both young and old

By **LIAM D'AMICO** and **COOPER SHARKEY**

FOR eight years Rosie's School of Rock (RSOR) in Adamstown has been teaching music as well as building confidence and self-esteem.

Students have a large variety of programs to choose from to improve their talents and create confidence like 'Future Rock Stars', 'Rock Divas' and 'Rockers'.

RSOR creates confidence through music for kids and adults. Young guitarist Saxon Crawford has been at Rosie's for seven years and is an accomplished guitarist.

"It has given me a pathway into the music industry," said Crawford.

Everyone at Rosie's is provided with the knowledge and equipment to help them succeed musically and improve their confidence on stage.

"I've learnt to play the guitar, play on stage and I've got more confident and I can play with a band," said Saxon.

"When I was about 12, lots of my friends saw me playing drums and asked if I could teach them to play drums as well. I would teach them at lunch time in the school music room," Craig 'Rosie' Rosevear, founder of RSOR said.

Rosie has always loved to see his pupils progress through music.

"It was really fun to see them get better, I still get a great feeling about seeing my students progress today," Rosie said.

Students can learn to play guitar,



Craig 'Rosie' Rosevear showing the students how to rock out on his drumkit.

sing, drums and piano and learn how to perform on stage. Also they can learn mixing if they want.

"The number one thing we focus on is creating confidence through music," Rosie said.

"When kids get onstage and play

in front of a real audience, this makes them feel really good about themselves. The confidence they gain through music makes them know they can do other things in life that they might not have believed they could do," Rosie said.

## St Paul's footballers respect the referees

By **JAYDEN BLACKWELL, COBY DOYLE** and **CAEDEN JONES**

REFEREES and match officials are being abused every weekend on the football field, in both the NRL and local competitions, including junior rugby league in Newcastle.

Individual referees, who are sometimes paid or even volunteers, have to complete training to be qualified. Sometimes they are subject to abuse from players, fans, coaching staff and spectators, including parents.

Lachlan Blackwell, a 16-year-old referee for junior rugby league in Newcastle said, "I stop the game, nearly every time I ref a game, to talk to captains, just to get them to settle their team down or to give a warning to a player."

Newcastle Knights coach, Rick Stone, recognises the importance of having referees simply as, "if we don't have any referees, we don't have a game."



Without referees, there's no game to play.

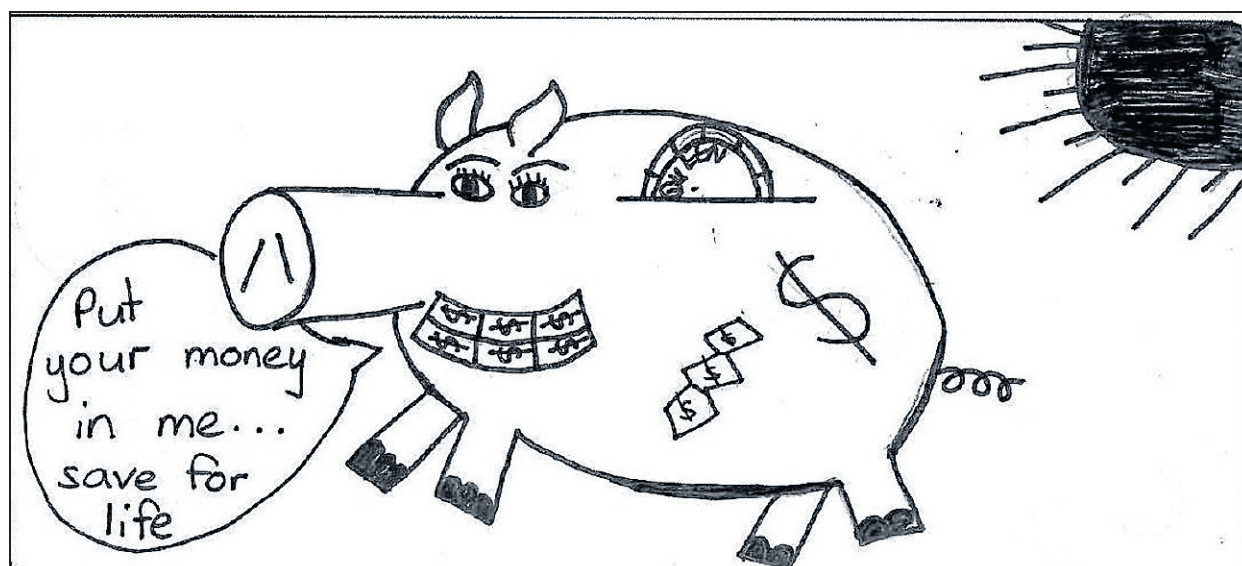
Referees are such an important aspect to the game so players need to

make sure they pay respect to them at all times and in all levels of sport.

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