

Primary entry #43: Stroud Public School



The Stroud Scribbler



BUILT: Councillor Karen Hutchinson with Kye Snowdon, Amy Klein and Eleanor Ince at the rotunda. Picture: Marcos Mudryk

Town opens memorial for old and new

By AMY KLEIN and AMITY CARTER

GREAT Lakes councillor Karen Hutchinson officially opened a new rotunda in Stroud's Allen Park at the Anzac Day ceremony.

Cr Hutchinson said the idea for the rotunda was conceived after the RSL hall in Stroud was converted by council into the library, leaving the RSL organisation with no building.

After collaboration between members of the Dungog Returned Servicemen's Association and Great Lakes Council, a plan was devised to raise money to build a rotunda.

The rotunda was designed and built by local builder James Harris and was completed on April 23, just in time for Anzac Day.

On Anzac Day, Cr Hutchinson spoke to the community about raising more money to buy metal panels for the outside of the rotunda and to have power connected.

"The community can support this worthy project by donating money to the fund," Cr Hutchinson said.

"Any person who donates money, no matter how big or small, will have their name engraved on a metal plaque that will be attached to the framework of the rotunda. People who served in wars can also be remembered."

The rotunda will provide many memories for the people of Stroud over the years.

By THOMAS FIELD and NATHANAEL HARRIS

ON April 16, Stroud Public School was sent into a scramble – literally. Sometime overnight the school's canteen was egged and unidentified people broke into the building and stole items from the fridge and cupboards.

They used the stolen eggs to splatter the front roller door of the canteen, leaving an eggy mess. They also left bottles of drink all around the yard near the canteen.

The break-in was discovered by Stroud Public School P&C Association president Kylie Gorton, and the school cleaner.

Mrs Gorton said she noticed that something was wrong when she came to the canteen early on the morning of April 17.

Mrs Gorton said that at first she only had noticed the egging of the front of the canteen but upon further inspection she found that items had been stolen from inside the canteen. She reported the egging and break-in to the police who sent a forensics unit to investigate.

The forensics unit took fingerprints from inside and outside the canteen and collected evidence left by the perpetrators of the crime.

Mrs Gorton also gave a statement to the police and said that the forensics investigator told her that any fingerprints that were found at



MISSING: Stroud Public School students Campbell Gorton, Eleanor Ince, Emma Field and Jack Elder with eggs like the ones stolen from their school canteen. Picture: Peter Raine

the site would be kept for future comparison.

Mrs Gorton said she was "very disappointed" at the behaviour of the individuals who committed the crime.

"I am very sad that in a small community these people don't have enough respect for others or other

people's property," she said.

Specialist cleaners were called in by the school's principal, Carolyn Bowman, to enable the P&C to use the canteen for their catering event that night.

Mrs Bowman said that the crime was reported in the school newsletter in case there were any wit-

nesses who may have seen or heard anything on the night.

"All of the school community was very disappointed that the school had been damaged in this way," Mrs Bowman said.

Police have confirmed no charges have been laid in relation to the incident.



USE THE FORCE: Senior Constable Brad Smith with Thomas Dew, Audrey Holstein, Pheobe Pritchard-McFadyen and John Thomas. Picture: Riley Ince

Stroud in policeman's safe hands

By BEN MOORE and AMITY CARTER

STROUD'S local policeman is working hard to build positive relationships in his community.

Senior Constable Brad Smith has been a policeman in Stroud for the past five years and has been in the police force for 14 years.

In his day-to-day job he has to deal with a variety of

issues such as drink-driving, break and enters, accidents, graffiti, malicious damage and rural crime.

Senior Constable Smith said the best part of his job was helping the community and promoting a positive image of the police for the young people of Stroud.

He is involved in many community events like the famous Stroud International Brick and Rolling Pin

Parade and local school sports carnivals. He also talks to schools about safety and laws they need to follow.

Senior Constable Smith took part in the community event, Bucketts of Care, bringing his dirt bikes along for all 600 students to see.

Senior Constable Smith told students if anything bad happened they were to keep safe and tell their parents, or ring 000 if it was serious.

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