

# Goulburn Post

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\$1.60 including GST



**IN NEED:** Thirteen-year-old Michael McGaw, who is in need of a new wheelchair, is pictured alongside David Kennewell from the Hibernian Hotel, his mother Julie Handley (back) and fundraising organiser Michelle Unwin.

# Bulldog spirit

## Fundraiser to help young Michael McGaw

By BRITTANY MURPHY

A RUGBY league fanatic with a passion for the outdoors, Michael McGaw is like any other 13-year-old boy, except for one difference - his muscles are deteriorating.

Michael suffers from a rare form of Muscular Dystrophy, confining him to a wheelchair as his muscles progressively weaken.

Although his future is uncertain, he retains a positive outlook on life.

He is passionate about rugby league - in particular the Canterbury Bulldogs - and loves the outdoors. Camping and fishing with family and friends list among his favourite things to do, or would love to do, rather.

Six months ago, Michael was playing with a friend outside his home when he tipped his wheelchair over accidentally, breaking both his legs.

For the past five months Michael has been confined to his bed with both legs plastered as they heal,

unable to attend school at Goulburn High School due to his fragile state.

The extended time in bed has resulted in problems with his spine, and Michael may now need spinal surgery to mend it.

After the six month ordeal, Michael now needs a more suitable scooter to be comfortable and safe, and his family asks for help.

Through the purchase of raffle tickets or donations to the Michael McGaw fundraising initia-

tive, they hope to raise at least \$15,000 to purchase a 4WD model wheelchair.

A major supporter of the fundraising initiative is the Australian Horsepower Service Centre, Goulburn.

They have offered to match all donations to the cause, in the quest to secure a comfortable lifestyle for young Michael.

■ Continued page 2

## Corrective Services jobs shed

By GERARD WALSH

C ORRECTIVE Services NSW is confident that Goulburn Regional Office staff affected by a restructure can be placed into suitable roles - either locally or by transfer to another location, depending on their preference.

The restructure will affect 15 Goulburn employees, with four of them being transferred to new positions, two indicating they were seeking voluntary redundancy and two senior contracts "wound up".

An Aboriginal Support Officer will remain in Goulburn, while two other vacant positions won't be filled.

Six other local staff were still weighing up their options after discussions on Tuesday with Corrective Services human resources officials.

"It is expected that the remaining six staff will be accommodated in suitable local roles if they wish, or transferred, depending on their preference," a Corrective Services spokesperson told the *Goulburn Post*.

"Voluntary redundancy also remains an option."

Corrective Services NSW Commissioner Peter Severin this week announced a "new, stronger local focus" for the State's Correctional Centres.

He said a new structure was being implemented to hand over greater financial, operational and administrative decision-making to local general managers and managers.

The new 'Operational Support Office' at Goulburn will have seven positions consisting of three senior and four administrative roles.

"These structural changes, under the Let Leaders Lead initiative, will see Corrective Services NSW centres managed efficiently in a similar manner to private sector centres," Mr Severin said.

"Our existing regional offices will stay open and be transformed into new Operational Support Offices.

"Highly mobile, expert teams from these new offices will provide greater support and advice to general managers and managers right across NSW."

"With this support, our general managers and community managers will for the first time be able to make the administrative, financial and operational decisions that work best for them locally."

■ Continued page 2

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