

Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP  
Inaugural Eat & Greet Function  
held at Coogee Beach Surf Life Saving Club  
on Tuesday 17 May 2016

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Good Evening & welcome to tonight's inaugural Eat and Greet in the wonderful surrounds of the Coogee Beach Surf Life Saving Club. In previous years the networking opportunities were developed around a Community Bowls Event at the Cockburn Bowling Club. It didn't take long for the true champions to emerge on the bowling greens and we have a few of those people in tonight's audience.

I acknowledge the Noongar people who are the traditional custodians of the land that we are gathered on today and I pay respect to their elders both past and present. I extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians who may be present.

I acknowledge the presence of:

- Deputy Mayor
- Councillor Steve Portelli;
- Councillor Phil Eva, JP
- Councillor Lee-Anne Smith, OAM;
- My wife Patricia;
- Wilmari Nel, Community Development Co-ordinator;
- Chloe Butt, Community Development Officer; and
- Ada Wong, Volunteer Resource Centre Co-ordinator; and

- our representatives here tonight from the not-for-profits and community groups.

The purpose of tonight's Eat & Greet is to provide a focus for the Not-for-Profits and Community Groups within the City of Cockburn to network on an informal basis.

It's fantastic to see everyone here this evening; we've had a great response with over 120 individuals from 43 groups in attendance.

It's so wonderful to see such a variety of representatives from the community coming along.

We hope that tonight's event provides all participants with the opportunity to meet new people and create new networks, all whilst having a bit of fun. It's also allows us the opportunity to thank you for your hard work and commitment to our community, thank you for helping make Cockburn such a great place to live, work, visit and invest.

There will be an abundance of time to share knowledge, experiences and opportunities going forward.

Tonight is also about building the strength and resilience of our community with people who are pursuing a passion in their lives in terms of service delivery and partnering opportunities and of course community involvement & engagement.

The format for tonight will include some interactive networking activities as well as dinner and dessert.

We also have some fantastic roaming musical entertainment from Barnyard Jazz who will be playing throughout the evening.

A little later on, we will be drawing the lucky door prize, so please hold on to the raffle ticket that you received upon arrival.

Once again, it's great to see so many people here tonight, thank you all for coming along.

I would now like to hand you over to Chloe, the City's Community Development Officer to go over some general housekeeping items with you.

Have an enjoyable evening.