



**Alison Perrott**  
*President*

I have said before that I am continually blown away by the quality of individuals living, working and contributing to the Hunter region, and it's clear to see as a whole we're putting ourselves

firmly at the forefront of medical research, the city to be seen, heard and be in. After hearing from our September speakers, Newcastle is very much "on the map".

Our local speaker was Professor John Attia, the Director of the Hunter Medical Research Institute's (HMRI) Clinical Research Design, IT, and Statistical Support Unit. He trained in clinical medicine, has a Bachelors in Physiology, a Masters in Epidemiology and a PHD in Molecular Genetics. As HMRI's researcher of the year John gave us a fascinating glimpse into the world of epidemiology.

Now for those of us without a medical degree, we learnt that epidemiology is not about "skin", but in fact research around causation and effect, reading into statistics if you will indulge me to be simplistic!. A simple example; "Smoking does not cause Alzheimers" could be correlated from the fact that smokers rarely die from Alzheimers. Of course when you dig deeper into those statistics it can be found that smokers generally die younger from other diseases such as cancer and so don't live long enough to get Alzheimers! As a Doctor, John also left us with the gentle reminder that prevention is better than a cure, and so diet, exercise and not smoking are big things for him. I am sure more than a few of us set out for a run the next day!

A great way to lead us into athletics, but not just any athletics – the Special Olympics 2013 Asia Pacific Games, which are to be held in Newcastle from 30 November to 7 December 2013.

## On the map!

32 countries will participate, meaning over 2,500 athletes and carers will be guests in our city (and the surrounding Hunter region). The expectation is we should also see over 6,000 international visitors, need 5,000 volunteers, and all up something like 200,000 people will be involved and/or attending the games.

Chris Heverin, the Project Director of the Special Olympics Asia Pacific Games gave us a look into the history of the games and what to expect. The global mission underpinning the Special Olympics movement is to provide year-round training and athletic competition for people with an intellectual disability. In 1962 the idea was borne in the backyard of Eunice Kennedy Shriver (yes that Kennedy) to help out her intellectually disabled sister Rosemary Kennedy, and the movement was born.

If you have not already bought a ticket to the opening ceremony or involved yourself, staff and your business in the Special Olympics I wholeheartedly encourage you to get onto the website [www.specialolympicsasiapacgames2013.com](http://www.specialolympicsasiapacgames2013.com), this is Newcastle's time to shine, a great cause and a once in a lifetime opportunity to be a part of it.

Our next luncheon is shaping up to be a very exciting event with Roger Pryor from Pryor Commitment and a cricketing great, former Australian cricketer Nathan Bracken as our speakers in October.

I look forward to seeing you at the Tuesday, 15 October luncheon.

With kind regards,  
**Alison Perrott**  
*2013 President*



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# Upcoming speakers & events

## October Luncheon

Tuesday, 15 October

12.15pm for

12.45pm start – 2pm

Harbourview

Function Centre



Nathan Bracken

### Nathan Bracken

Nathan Bracken is a former Australian cricketer. A tall left-arm fast-medium bowler, Bracken is capable of swinging the ball both ways and has represented Australia in all forms of the game.

After a stint at the Australian Cricket Academy in 1997, Bracken made his first-class debut for New South Wales against Queensland on 27 October 1998 at Manuka Oval, Canberra.

Bracken represented New South Wales in Australian domestic cricket, Eastern Suburbs in Sydney Grade Cricket and also appeared for English County team Gloucestershire in 2004. In 2008 he was ranked the world's number one limited overs bowler and Bracken was a specialist at bowling the death overs at the end of the innings. On 28 January 2011 he announced his retirement from the game due to a chronic knee injury.

Born in Penrith, Nathan spent his childhood living in the Blue Mountains region but he currently resides on the Central Coast and is married to Haley Rich-Bracken with their son Chase.

He is currently studying for an undergraduate degree in communications and in the recent election ran for the seat of Dobell, running as an independent against sitting member Craig Thomson.

Nathan is an ambassador for the McGrath Foundation and Starspoon, and a past ambassador for the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

### Roger Pryor

Roger Pryor has been a professional educator and leader for over thirty years. He is committed to asking groups, individuals and any business or organisation to critically evaluate the 'why' which drives the 'how' they do things.

After starting his career as a teacher, Roger has held roles as diverse as CoOrdinator, Education and the Arts for the 1982 Festival of Sydney, Teacher in Charge of a school for Young Offenders, Program Director at an Outdoor Education Centre, and Principal of four different primary schools.

Roger has been an avid user of technology to support a range of processes in education and administration for over two decades and has been invited to speak at a number of national conferences within Australia, as well as well-known international event such as the Technology in Education Conference in Colorado.

Despite his fascination with the possibilities afforded by ICT within a connected world, Roger is a passionate advocate for the disruptive role that humans play in encouraging curiosity, building relationships and enabling and empowering others to build and sustain cultures of continuous improvement.

In Newcastle, Roger is a committee member and website manager for the Newcastle Institute, a founding member of the Lunatics Society of Newcastle and has previously been a board member for Tantrum Theatre and the Hunter Wetlands Centre.



Roger Pryor

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# Last month at the Club



L-R: Professor John Attia, President Alison Perrott, Chris Heverin



L-R: Phil Byth, Sharon Rewitt



L-R: Myola Woods, Debbie Burton



L-R: Gai Alder, Jenaleen Downie



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# sponsorship

## Sponsor a luncheon in 2013 or 2014

Newcastle Business Club was established in 1933 and today is one of the Hunter's most successful and influential clubs attracting wide and varied representatives of the Newcastle and Hunter business sector.

Each sponsorship opportunity is only available to one organisation per luncheon giving you guaranteed exclusivity. Packages vary, however Gold includes:

- ENews | Your logo and website link in at least two eNewsletters to our contact database & website
- VISION | Your logo and website information in an edition of VISION, distributed to our full member database of Hunter business people.
- Signage | The opportunity to display signage and table advertising materials at your sponsored luncheon
- Networking | The opportunity to present a 90 second networking spot at a luncheon of your choice
- Visibility | The opportunity to either thank or introduce the key note speaker
- Advertising | Your logo in our monthly Newcastle Herald advertisement
- Entertainment | A table of 10 at your sponsored luncheon

## Advertise with VISION

A benefit of membership of the Club is that members are able to advertise with VISION by placing an insert in the monthly magazine.

This insert is DL size and 400 copies must be provided to the Secretary no later than the second Tuesday of the month.

For only \$250 your insert will reach the entire membership of the Club.

For more information contact Junior Vice President Holly Martin on 0403 293 880 or [holly@justholly.com.au](mailto:holly@justholly.com.au)

## Keep up to date on the Club

Newcastle Business Club members can receive an eNewsletter highlighting the guest speakers for that month.

If you are not presently receiving these emails and would like to be added to the secure mailing list please send an email to [mail@newcastlebusinessclub.com.au](mailto:mail@newcastlebusinessclub.com.au)

## Networking at the Club

Networking sessions are available to financial members of Newcastle Business Club and are held during most luncheon meetings. Members are allowed 90 seconds to promote their business news to luncheon guests. For further information please contact Senior Vice President Tiron Manning on 0438 502 371 or [tiron@propertysolutions101.com.au](mailto:tiron@propertysolutions101.com.au)

# NEWCASTLE BUSINESS CLUB

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For further information and enquiries:

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Membership: Secretary Ron Scanes, 4954 3381

Vision: Holly Martin, 0403 293 880

[www.newcastlebusinessclub.com.au](http://www.newcastlebusinessclub.com.au)

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed by the contributors to this publication are not necessarily those of the Newcastle Business Club or its members.