



NATIVE FAUNA: Year 10 Oxley College students Bradley Worthington and Lucia Scanlan-Bloor spent their term 3 lunchtimes painting the artwork that now hangs in the Empire Cinema's arcade. **Photo: Charli Shield.**

Empire Cinema gets new student art

COMMUNITY

HIGHLANDS high school students have produced new artworks for Bowral's Empire Cinema.

The paintings were revealed at an opening on Thursday afternoon, October 26. Six different artistic interpretations of the theme

'animals' now hang in the arcade alongside the Empire Cinema on Bong Bong Street. They replace earlier artworks done by the schools in 2015.

Students from Chevalier College, Frensham, Moss Vale High School, Oxley College, Southern Highlands Christian School and St

Paul's International College, each contributed a painting.

Year 10 Oxley College students Bradley Worthington and Lucia Scanlan-Bloor spent their term 3 lunchtimes painting the artwork, which features native animals that live in the Southern Highlands.

Artist Ben Quilty also attended the event, and said he thought the quality of the artworks was "fabulous".

All six paintings will be on display in the arcade for the foreseeable future, until the next round of artworks are commissioned.

— CHARLI SHIELD

Norris inquest findings released

POLICE and paramedics have come under fire after the death of Kevin Norris in police custody.

According to a report on the inquest, Mr Norris died on January 11, 2015 after he was taken into police custody following a violent episode at Mittagong McDonalds, where he allegedly assaulted a female police officer.

As police worked to restrain him, they used a stun gun and OC spray.

After paramedics realised he had no detectable pulse at Bowral Police Station, they worked to resuscitate him and he was taken to Bowral Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Toxicology tests found methylamphetamine in Mr Norris' system prior to and after death.

State coroner Michael Barnes found problems with the actions of police officers and paramedics. In the report he found Mr Norris' cause of death to be the combined effects of methylamphetamine, toxicity, a violent struggle and positional asphyxia.

After he was taken to Bowral Police Station, Mr Norris was placed in the holding dock where sat slumped on the floor with his chin on his chest. The report said a paramedic did not examine him until he had been in the dock for more than three minutes.

The coroner was con-

cerned it took close to two minutes between paramedics determining Mr Norris did not have a detectable pulse and the start of compressions. He said CCTV footage presented at the inquest showed for most of the time before the senior paramedic entered the dock, he and his colleague did not observe Mr Norris.

Police practices were also put under the microscope during the inquest. A stun gun, fired during the incident at McDonalds was later found to be faulty.

In the report, the coroner recommended NSW Police continue to investigate why the fault had not been detected. He was also concerned that only one officer transported Mr Norris to the station when policy states an observer also should have been in the vehicle.

The coroner also had an issue with the fact Mr Norris' safety to be held in the dock was not assessed by the police officer present nor were the paramedics asked to examine him. However given Mr Norris' behaviour prior to arriving the station, the coroner accepted police and paramedics were waiting to ensure he was in a calmer state before removing his restraints to examine him.

He recommended CCTV footage from the charge room be incorporated into police training curriculum.



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