



**20 January 2015**

**Vinnies launch Sutherland Shire Ability Links with free community event**

The St Vincent de Paul Society is inviting the local community to join them at a free event to launch Ability Links NSW at Gymea Tradies.

Ability Links NSW is a new initiative that aims to connect people with disability (aged 9-64), their families and carers with opportunities in their local community.

To celebrate the launch of Ability Links NSW in the Sutherland Shire, a free community event will be held on Friday 6 February 2015 from 11am – 2pm, including entertainment, creative activities and lucky door prizes.

Come along for a light lunch, enjoy some entertainment and take the opportunity to meet your local Linkers.

Linkers use their local knowledge and existing networks to support people to pursue their interests and goals in the community. Linkers have assisted people to join a local book club to pursue their love of reading, get a paid job in childcare and apply to attend University.

There is no formal assessment or referral pathway, nor the need for proof of diagnosis or medical reports to access Ability Links NSW.

Ability Links NSW is a new initiative of the NSW Government and is being delivered by the St Vincent de Paul Society NSW in partnership with Settlement Services International across Sydney.

For more information on this event email: [Sharman.Keith@vinnies.org.au](mailto:Sharman.Keith@vinnies.org.au) or call 0428 932 550 or 9358 8181.

**What: Sutherland Shire Links Launch free community event.**

**When: Friday 6 February 2015, 11am to 2pm.**

**Where: The Bass and Flinders room, Gymea Tradies, 57 Manchester Road North, Gymea**

**Media:** Sophie Bawden on (02) 9568 0278