

Loreto Kirribilli also gave a speech on their recent experience in a NSW Indigenous Australian cultural immersion program.

Birrahee Kindergarten, Alexandria Park Community School, Lane Cove

PHOTOS ONLINE
northshoretimes.com.au

Russell Lawrence, 6, joined the crowds at Lane Cove Plaza to watch performances by Lane Cove Public School's year 4 choir (bottom left) and Greenwich Public School (bottom right). Pictures: ELENOR TEDENBORG



oscillatory ventilator to help seriously ill patients experiencing life threatening breathing difficulties. To donate, phone RNS Fundraising on 9926 7060.

Fun run

The Rotary Club of Roseville Chase is

organising a fun run on Sunday, July 29, as a warm-up for the City to Surf. There will be a 10km run and a 5km run. It will start and finish at Castle Cove Park. Details: www.rosevillechaserotaryfunrun.org.au

\$1420 effort

A morning tea in the Gordon Village Arcade on May 24 raised \$1420 for the Cancer Council.

CHATSWOOD

Woolworths knocked back but won't give up

Rohan Smith

A WOOLWORTHS proposal to establish a new store in East Chatswood was rejected by Willoughby Council this week, 10 years after it first began to take shape.

But the supermarket chain says it won't give up plans to better service the Chatswood area.

The planning proposal would have seen a stand-alone, full-range Woolworths move in at 17-19 Smith St. It required approval by

council to rezone the light industrial area for business development and retail - a request council agreed was unreasonable.

Eleven speakers addressed council on Monday night - four against and seven in favour - before lengthy debate and a final resolution but Woolworths community relations manager Simon Berger said the decision did not reflect community wishes.

"In an independent poll to gauge community reaction, 68 per cent of residents

IN A NUTSHELL

What was proposed:

A full-range Woolworths at 17-19 Smith St, East Chatswood.

How they voted:

■ Against Woolworths proposal and against further community consultation: Cr Giles-Gidney, Cr Kate Lamb, Cr Stuart Coppock, Cr Barry Thompson, Cr Lynne Saville, Cr Mandy Stevens, Cr Judith Rutherford, Cr Robert Wilson.

■ Against Woolworths proposal and for further community consultation: Cr Wendy Norton, Cr Pat Reilly, Cr Adrian Cox, Cr John Hooper.

■ Absent: Cr Terry Fogarty.

surveyed said they supported a Woolworths store at this location and 15 per cent said they didn't," Mr

Berger said. The poll Mr Berger referred to asked 400 local shoppers if they supported

the development of a new store next to Bunnings Warehouse. In the poll, 37 per cent of respondents said they were strongly in favour and 31 per cent said they were somewhat in favour.

Councillor Wendy Norton said councillors should defer the decision and provide another opportunity for public consultation, in light of the strong community support. "We've got a situation where the majority think it's a good idea and we need to at least explain why we're against it," she said.

The mayor Pat Reilly agreed. But Councillor Judith Rutherford, who spoke for an eight-to-four majority, said council had to take responsibility for the decision. "We were elected to make these decisions and sometimes these decisions will be hard," she said.

Mr Berger said Woolworths would review its options in the wake of the council's ruling. "(We) won't give up on Chatswood, where we have been looking for a way to serve customers for many years," he said.