



# SFF NSW NEWSLETTER

## DECEMBER 2025



### Robert Borsak MLC

Well, that's a wrap for another year, been a busy year fighting for shooters, fishers, hunters and of course farmer related issues. The highlight of my year has been working on my Conservation Hunting bill. Yet to pass parliament due to trenchant and opposition by the usual suspects. What we see in stark reality of course is the rabid opposition of the Greens political party the Animal Justice party and of course the lies told by the Liberal Party. Hard to imagine then again it isn't, this is the party of Johnny Howard. Everything we do has to be opposed by them, as a matter of principle, no wonder their primary vote is in the toilet.

Have a Merry Christmas, have a great New Year and we'll be back into it again, come early February 2026. My bill will be back and passed!



### Mark Banasiak MLC

As 2025 comes to a close, I want to thank all our members for your continued support, it is the driving force behind everything we do in Parliament.

This year I pushed hard on the issues the major parties would rather ignore. I led inquiries into the impacts of Renewable Energy Zones on regional communities, ensuring that the voices of landholders, farmers and small towns—so often steamrolled by Sydney-led policy—were put squarely on the record. I also pursued scrutiny of public land access and the creeping restrictions on our waterways, holding agencies to account and challenging decisions that locked out the very people who fund and maintain these spaces.

Alongside this, we continued pressing ministers on firearm legislation, essential services and the growing inequities between the city and the bush. Whether through motions, questions or inquiries, the SFF has remained relentless in ensuring you are seen and heard.

Thank you for standing with us throughout 2025. I wish you and your families a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year, and I look forward to continuing the fight for common sense and regional fairness in 2026.

# Fighting for Traditional Values

Robert Borsak MLC

2025 has been a year where Robert challenged the woke attitudes and persecution of traditional organisations in NSW. He began with Budget Estimates in March asking the Minister for Women, Jodie Harrison MP, first if she was Minister for Women or Trans-women, then about biological men playing in women's sport and how they posed a threat for biological women. Finally he pointed out the absurdity of trans-women – biological men – being nominated and potentially winning the NSW Woman of the Year Award. The Minister looked suitably uncomfortable and embarrassed.

Perhaps the greatest victory for the party in traditional values was Robert's gutting of the Greens' Political Party Abortion Law Reform Amendment (Health Care Access) Bill 2025. Whilst access to abortions is a legal right in NSW the bill threatened to force conscientious objecting health workers to refer patients on to abortion providers, to allow all sorts of medical practitioners to conduct abortions, to embed in law the expenditure of taxpayer funds to abortions, and to further bury any records beyond scrutiny of any kind.



Through deft political discussion and superb amendments Robert and members of the parliamentary team succeeded in removing virtually all of the worst parts of this bill and forced new, groundbreaking annual mandatory reporting of abortion. Social media types and other members of parliament claimed credit but the victory was all to SFF.

Finally, Robert fought for faith-based education. The Department of Education and Training and NESAs have dragged out decisions on faith-based schools, notably the independent Pacific Group of Christian Schools, but also affected other independent and Catholic schools. Robert has held the minister and the department accountable across the second half of 2025 and pushed for decisions to be made. NSW has, from education's foundation in the state, always had a choice between state and faith-based schools and SFF emphasizes the importance of freedom of education and religion.

# Forestry, the Great Koala Park, and the Fight for Regional Jobs

Mark Banasiak MLC

This year, Mark placed an even brighter spotlight on the State Government's ongoing assault on the forestry industry, one of the most significant threats facing regional NSW. While activists and inner-city politics continue to drive the narrative, Mark has repeatedly pointed out that the science does not support the Government's agenda. The proposed Great Koala National Park is the most glaring example: a politically convenient headline designed to shut down hardwood jobs, destabilise regional towns, and hand a win to activist groups who have never stepped foot in a mill or forest coupe.

Emerging evidence now reveals what many in the industry have said for years, koala numbers

are far higher than previously claimed, in some areas more than double the earlier estimates. This revelation undermines the central justification for the GKNP and exposes the deeply flawed process behind its creation. Instead of working with foresters who manage forests sustainably, protect habitat, and reduce bushfire risk, the Government pushed ahead with a plan based on outdated modelling, selective science, and political theatre. Mark has been leading the challenge of the misinformation surrounding the GKNP, insisting that decisions of this scale must be grounded in accurate population data, not ideology.



At the same time, Mark used parliamentary debates to highlight the real-world consequences for regional families. Workers who have already lived through mill closures, job insecurity and community decline driven by environmental policy made in Sydney. He called out the hypocrisy of demonising an industry that provides renewable timber, supports local economies, and actively manages koala habitat. Mark's advocacy emphasised that forestry is not the enemy; it is one of the State's most sustainable industries, and the people who rely on it deserve honesty, certainty and respect. His work continues to push back against exaggerated claims, protect regional jobs, and insist on policy that is scientifically sound and economically responsible.

## The Battle for Licenced Firearms Owners

Robert Borsak MLC

Like any other year, 2025 was yet another war of attrition against the NSW Firearms Registry and aspects of the NSW Police. At the close of 2024 NSW Police introduced the Health Risk Assessment claiming it would be an easier way of clearing up potential health concerns. From the outset Police tried to include profiling, which Robert had quickly removed by prompt communications to the Minister and through speeches in parliament by Mark.

As the year has proceeded Registry has pulled apart their own assessment and denied licenses despite the fact GPs signed off on applicants. Through Robert's office SFF is the only party who provides regular and reliable advocacy for law abiding firearms owners. SFF has also examined the Firearms Regulatory Review presented by police in late 2024 and stripped away the spin to reveal a document not far distant from the new WA laws.



Amongst this Robert also questioned the Minister on the number of police who have AVOs and yet still carry pistols on duty and it was discovered some are even able to carry them while off duty. Robert also addressed how persecuting gun owners for seeing a psychologist was driving farmers to not seek mental health treatment when those on the land suffer much higher rates of depression due to stress and other factors. At the end of the day the only party who will fight for law abiding gun owners is the Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party and it's an everyday job in Robert's office. In the coming

year he will be looking closely at the machinations Registry is employing to trip up licence holders and continue to keep them accountable.

# Inquiry into the Impact of Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) on Rural & Regional Communities

Mark Banasiak MLC

This year, Mark chaired the major parliamentary inquiry into the impact of Renewable Energy Zones across regional NSW. Through hearings in places such as Walcha and Armidale, he ensured that councils, landholders, farmers, and community groups finally had a platform to detail the planning failures, water shortages, housing pressure, social division, and rapid industrialisation occurring in their communities. Mark repeatedly pressed government agencies on their lack of cumulative impact assessment and the failure to deliver genuine community benefit.

The inquiry placed a statewide, and national, spotlight on the Government's chaotic REZ rollout. Thanks to Mark's leadership, regional voices that were ignored for years are now front and centre, and the Government is being forced to confront the real consequences of its policies. The work continues, but regional communities know they now have a strong advocate fighting for them.



# Conservation Hunting Bill

Robert Borsak MLC

This year has seen significant development and progress in the debate surrounding the Conservation Hunting Bill, a piece of legislation aimed at supporting responsible and sustainable hunting while improving wildlife and pest management across New South Wales. The discussions in Parliament have highlighted the importance of evidence-based policy and have given a platform to members of our community who understand firsthand the benefits that regulated hunting brings to both conservation and rural livelihoods. Throughout the year, Robert has continued to advocate strongly for the rights of hunters and landholders, ensuring their voices are heard and their contributions to wildlife management are recognised.



The debate has also revealed some unusual political dynamics. Opposition to the Bill has at times relied on inflammatory and misleading scare tactics that bear little relation to the core objectives of the legislation. Remarkably, an unusual alliance has emerged between the Liberal Party, the Greens Political Party, and their lapdog, the Animal Justice Party, seeking to block these sensible reforms. Fortunately, the general public and informed media have largely seen through these tactics, recognising the Bill for what it truly is—a responsible framework for conservation hunting that benefits both the environment and rural communities.

Throughout the year, Robert along with Mark Banasiak, Robert Borsak Jnr, our SFF State Director, as well as our Party and Parliamentary

staff have been out and about visiting numerous hunting clubs across New South Wales. These visits have been invaluable for engaging directly with members, listening to their concerns, and providing detailed explanations about the proposed reforms under the Conservation Hunting Bill.

We have taken every opportunity to discuss how the Bill will support responsible hunting, improve wildlife management, and protect the interests of hunters and landholders alike. These face-to-face discussions have reinforced the strong support within the community for sensible, evidence-based reforms, and have helped ensure that the voices of those most affected by these policies are heard in Parliament.



## Inquiry into Public Land & Waterway Access Restrictions

Mark Banasiak MLC

Mark also launched the statewide inquiry into growing restrictions on public land and waterway access. The inquiry exposed years of confusion, mismanagement, and inconsistency between agencies such as National Parks, Crown Lands, Fisheries and Sydney Water, often leaving the public locked out of areas they have responsibly accessed for generations. Testimonies revealed locked gates, sudden closures and even emergency services blocked from reaching people in danger.



Under Mark's direction, the committee is now charting a path toward a more transparent, fair, and consistent access framework. His work is reaffirming a simple principle: public land should be available to the public, and government agencies must be accountable for how they manage it.

## Animal Welfare

Robert Borsak MLC

This year, Robert has continued to play an active role on the Animal Welfare Committee, bringing balance and common sense to discussions that, unfortunately, are too often dominated by extreme voices. With the Committee (unfortunately) chaired by the Animal Justice Party MLC, it has been essential to ensure that discussion and reports from the Committee are guided by evidence, fairness, and practicality. As hunters, we strongly support sensible animal welfare outcomes, and this principle has guided our contributions to both the Brumby Culling Inquiry and the Cat Management Inquiry, ensuring that animal welfare considerations are both realistic and humane.

Regarding Brumbies in the Kosciuszko National Park, the Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party firmly supports maintaining a population under careful management. However, we have been clear that control measures must be conducted humanely. The use of helicopters to shoot Brumbies—with some animals reportedly taking up to 15 shots to kill—is absolutely appalling. This is not only cruel but entirely unacceptable as a standard of wildlife management. It is also important to recognise that Brumbies and other animals hold deep meaning for many Australians—they are totems for some, just as they are for Indigenous Australians, and this connection deserves respect in the way management programs are carried out.

Together with Mark Banasiak, Robert has been holding Local Land Services (LLS) and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to account, calling out the lack of transparency in these helicopter shooting programs. NSW deserves better, and the animals being managed deserve respect and humane treatment, even when culling is necessary. Fifteen shots into a hapless Brumby from a helicopter with clearly inadequate calibres is not respect—it is cruelty. Robert’s work on the Committee has been about ensuring that management programs are ethical, evidence-based, and genuinely humane, reinforcing the principle that animal welfare, cultural values, and practical wildlife management can and must go hand in hand.

## Highlighting the Energy–Environment Conflict Hurting Regional NSW

Mark Banasiak MLC

Throughout the year, Mark shone a spotlight on the growing conflict between the Government’s Energy and Environment portfolios. He exposed cases where agencies like EnergyCo were securing millions of dollars’ worth of biodiversity offset credits at a fraction of their value and raised serious concerns about the irony of clearing practices in the name of ‘Renewable Energy’, practices that would see any farmer penalised.

Mark’s scrutiny made it clear that the Government’s rush to deliver megaprojects is undermining integrity and fairness for regional landholders. His efforts helped push the Government to justify decisions that previously escaped public scrutiny.



## Veterans Memorials

Robert Borsak MLC

This year, Robert continued to work quietly behind the scenes to support our veterans and ensure their contributions are properly recognised and respected. A key focus has been on the Commando Veterans Memorial in Martin Place, which stands as a powerful symbol of the courage and sacrifice of the men and women who have served our country. I have been actively engaging with the Attorney-General’s office and relevant government departments to strengthen protections for these sacred sites and to prevent any acts that might disrespect or undermine their significance, this is a work in progress.



It is vital that all veterans and their memorials receive the dignity and respect they deserve. These sites are not just monuments, they are sacred sites, —they are enduring reminders of our nation’s history and the sacrifices of those who defended it. Robert has been working quietly behind the scenes with key decision-makers to help ensure that the Commando Veterans Memorial and other important sites are properly safeguarded, reflecting the gratitude and honour that all Australians owe to our servicemen and women.

# Defending Landholders' Water Rights and Exposing Risky Reforms

Mark Banasiak MLC

In water reform debates, Mark held the Government to account over policy changes that threaten to reduce water entitlements across regional NSW. He warned that many valleys are fast approaching the 3% threshold that would require compensation under the National Water Initiative. Mark also challenged the Government's reliance on flawed satellite imagery to declare "prescribed wetlands" without proper on-ground verification.

By raising these issues directly in the chamber, Mark ensured the concerns of irrigators, graziers and regional families were formally recognised. His focus on evidence-based policymaking has strengthened the case for a more reliable and transparent water management framework.



# Supporting Traditional Martial Arts

Robert Borsak MLC

This year, Robert Borsak and Mark Banasiak have continued to actively support traditional martial arts in New South Wales, recognising it as a significant pastime that contributes to both community health and personal development. With over 96,000 participants in the Sydney Basin alone, Sydney is the epicentre of martial arts activity in Australia. Beyond sport, traditional martial arts play an important role in teaching respect, discipline, and resilience, values that are especially beneficial for children and young people in today's fast-paced society.



Traditional martial arts instructors and schools provide more than just physical training—they are mentors shaping character and instilling life skills that are often missing in modern society. Robert and Mark have engaged with clubs and practitioners to support the continued growth and recognition of these activities, highlighting the importance of maintaining traditional practices while fostering a safe and inclusive environment for participants of all ages. Their advocacy underscores the role martial arts can play in building strong, disciplined, resilient and respectful individuals and communities across New South Wales.

# Promoting Integrity and Higher Standards in Public Office

Mark Banasiak MLC

A consistent theme of Mark's work this year was ensuring integrity across government. He repeatedly questioned ministers about conflicts of interest, decision-making processes, and



transparency, particularly when government directions risked compromising public trust. Mark's interventions reinforced that ministers must be accountable for their actions and that the public deserves full transparency, not political spin. By refusing to let evasive answers go unchallenged, he continued to uphold high standards of accountability within the NSW Parliament.

## Safe Shooting Grants

Robert Borsak MLC

This year, Robert Borsak has played a key role in championing the Safe Shooting Grants Program, a vital initiative backed by the NSW Government that has committed up to \$800,000 in funding to help local shooting clubs and organisations improve their facilities. These grants—ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000 per project—have supported upgrades to range safety, storage, security infrastructure, and modern equipment like electronic targets, ensuring shooting environments across the state are safer, more accessible, and better equipped for all users.

Robert's advocacy has been instrumental in ensuring that this funding continues to flow to grassroots organisations, reinforcing responsible firearm use, safety education, and community participation for clubs and shooters across New South Wales.

## Reopening of Hill Top Shooting Complex

Robert Borsak MLC

Robert played a pivotal role in transferring the operation of the Hill Top Shooting Complex to SSAA NSW. The range was created by the hard work of the late John Tingle MLC and the late Dave Cook, former chairman of SFF NSW.

Through liaising with the Minister for Sport and working alongside SSAA NSW Chairman Lance Miller the NSW branch was successful in winning the tender and the superb facility has been opened for

shooters of all organisations and disciplines. Robert, Mark and the team attended on 5th September for the soft opening and enjoyed the facilities immensely. Without Robert's advocacy this valuable complex of ranges would've become part of the national park.



## Advocating for Fair Treatment of Workers, Emergency Responders & Public Servants

Mark Banasiak MLC

Throughout the year, Mark championed the interests of frontline workers, particularly those in highly demanding or high-risk professions. He spoke in support of reforms to better protect firefighters, paramedics, custodial officers and other emergency personnel, often insisting that legislation acknowledge the real-life risks these workers face. Mark consistently defended the rights of public servants whose integrity came under attack, calling out instances where individuals were targeted or punished for speaking honestly or doing their jobs professionally.

His contributions helped reinforce a culture of respect and fairness across government agencies. Mark's interventions reminded Parliament that those who serve the public, often in dangerous or emotionally draining roles, deserve stability, support, and a government that stands behind them.

## Bounty Program for pigs, foxes and feral cats

Robert Borsak MLC



This year, Robert Borsak played an instrumental role in establishing bounty programs for feral animals in New South Wales, including foxes, feral cats, and pigs which was announced in the 2025-26 state Budget. Recognising the significant environmental and agricultural damage caused by these invasive species, he advocated strongly for practical, targeted measures that empower landholders, farmers, and local communities to participate in controlling pest populations. These programs are designed to reduce the impact of feral animals on native wildlife, crops, and livestock, while supporting responsible and ethical methods of pest management.

Thanks to Robert's advocacy, the NSW Government has committed \$2 million in funding for these initiatives, which are expected to kick off in early 2027. The programs will provide incentives that encourage community participation while maintaining oversight and transparency. By driving this initiative, Robert has helped deliver real outcomes for biodiversity protection, agricultural sustainability, and rural communities, demonstrating the Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party's commitment to practical, evidence-based solutions to pest control challenges in New South Wales.



## Calling out the unholy Green Alliance

Robert Borsak MLC

Throughout the year, Robert Borsak has continued to call out the unholy Green alliance between the Greens, the Invasive Species Council, and a collection of other green-aligned fear-based organisations that have increasingly tried to influence public policy in NSW. These groups consistently promote alarmist narratives that bear little resemblance to the realities faced by farmers, hunters, land managers, and regional communities. Robert has stood firm in exposing how these organisations coordinate their messaging to push ideological agendas, often at the expense of practical, science-based outcomes in wildlife and land management.

Robert has highlighted the need for balanced, evidence-driven decision-making, rather than the



exaggerated claims and scare tactics that have become the hallmark of this alliance. Whether it's pest control, animal welfare, hunting policy, or land access, these groups frequently disregard the lived experience of rural communities in favour of selective “green-approved” narratives. By calling out their tactics in Parliament and the media, Robert continues to defend the interests of everyday Australians—demanding transparency, honesty, and accountability while pushing back against the distortions and activist agendas being peddled by this coordinated Green network.

***Wishing you a Merry  
Christmas and a Happy  
New Year from the entire  
SFF NSW team!***

***Thank you for your  
continued support***

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