

## CALL FOR BUS SERVICE



Drewvale residents are calling for a bus service at their estates while government levels buck pass on responsibility.

## DONATE BLOOD

The Red Cross blood donor van will be open at the Mount Gravatt Big Top Homemaker Centre carpark, Logan Road, on Wednesday December 21 through to Friday December 23 from 9am - 4pm daily. To donate call 13 14 95 or visit [www.donateblood.com.au](http://www.donateblood.com.au)



- UP NEXT:** Cat owners encouraged to desex their pets.
- PAGE 13:** Police investigate a house fire considered suspicious.
- ONLINE:** Stories and photos at [questnews.com.au](http://questnews.com.au).

# Trapped families need bus

**NO WAY OUT:** RESIDENTS IN DREWVALE HAVE BEEN LEFT STRANDED AT HOME BY TRANSLINK

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DREWVALE residents are stuck in their estates with no access to public transport because Translink refuses to provide a bus to the area.

Council has supplied a maxi taxi in the mornings and afternoons at Macquarie Way and Trinity Green estates but it does not run during the school holidays or at weekends.

Macquarie Way resident Kathy Clarke has six children under the age of 15 and with no car of her own she cannot leave the estate until her husband returns home from work.

"It's too far to walk to the shops in the heat," she said. "I don't mind walking but to have (the children) walking is too much for them."

Graham Weston said he was forced to walk 30 minutes to Browns Plains shopping centre to catch a bus or post a letter.

"It's not really good enough," he said. "There

needs to be a deviation of the 150 bus through local roads that doesn't miss any bus stops but it just brings it through this area."

According to a statement sent by Translink, the road network is not suitable for buses or bus stops.

"Guttering and the spread of access to properties in the area limit the provision of bus suitable stops that meet the Disability Discrimination Act 1994," a spokesman said.

Councillor Gail MacPherson (Karawatha) said Translink's explanation made no sense.

"I don't understand why they can't run a bus through there, even if it was a smaller bus," she said.

LNP candidate for Karawatha Kim Marx said she tabled a petition of more than 300 signatures in Parliament calling for a better bus service.

"It is not good enough for residents to be treated as if they live in a forgotten part of this suburb," she said.

# Meeting Santa exceeds expectations



**SANTA'S LITTLE HELPER:** It was a rare chance for the children at AEIOU Foundation at Nathan to see Santa when he dropped by for a visit. Foundation spokeswoman Deborah Whiteoak said parents tended to shy away from taking their children to see Santa at shopping centres where they may become distressed by the bright lights and crowds. "Some of these kids never get to see Santa," she said. "But here, it's a comfortable environment. All the staff were excited and all the kids had an exciting time," she said.

Picture: JIM CAMPEY

# Council to spend \$2m to determine workability of underground network

A \$2 MILLION pre-feasibility study into a bus-only cross-river bridge and underground bus network has been labelled as a political stunt and a waste of

money ahead of the election.

Lord Mayor Graham Quirk said the bus link was a "visionary project" to address growing congestion and travel times in the city

and could shave up to 30 minutes in travel time from the suburbs.

"This is a 3.6km suburbs to city bus link and would include a bus-only bridge

across the river," he said.

Opposition leader Shayne Sutton was skeptical of the study and its timing.

Cr Quirk said buses from southern suburbs would

take 28 minutes, eastern suburbs 23 minutes, northern suburbs 21 minutes and 15 minutes from the west.

But the project comes with a \$3 billion price tag that

would have to be shouldered by the State and Federal Governments.

But Cr Sutton said the feasibility study was a "hollow promise".



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