

WHITE BAY

# Time to shape up or ship out

## OCEAN-LINER RULES QUERIED

Rohan Smith

A PUBLIC inquiry into the EPA's regulation of large passenger ships at the White Bay Cruise Terminal began on Monday at NSW Parliament House.

The NSW Upper House inquiry comes just seven months after cruise ships began docking at the terminal and follows resident complaints about noise and air pollution.

The Australian cruise-ship industry is not covered by the Environmental Protection Act, which means vessels can pump toxic emissions into the air even in densely populated areas such as Balmain.

A number of witnesses addressed the inquiry committee on Monday, including Leichhardt Mayor Rochelle

Porteous, NSW EPA chief executive Barry Buffier and members of the Environmental Defenders Office and the Nature Conservation Council of NSW.

A rally was held at midday outside the hearing, organised by Balmain state Greens MP Jamie Parker, who said residents had been subjected to dangerous levels of pollution as engines were left running overnight.

"It's time we introduced standards that meet what other countries are already doing," he said.

Labor candidate for Balmain Verity Firth said Australia ran a risk of becoming a "dumping ground" for older, dirtier cruise ships if nothing was done.

The inquiry is expected to take three months to deliver its findings.



An inquiry into passenger ships docking at White Bay has begun.

Picture: CAMERON RICHARDSON



Verity Firth



Jamie Parker

GLEBE/ROZELLE



Manners for the Modern Warrior is a good manners briefing for children aged three to 12.

Picture: KELLIE LAFRANCHI

## Course teaches good manners

Rohan Smith

OLD-FASHIONED manners are not a thing of the past, according to a Glebe woman who wants to teach your children to behave.

Rose Smith, a martial arts instructor with 20 years experience dealing with kids, says every child can learn to say "please" and "thank you" and accept the word "no".

Her course, Manners for the Modern Warrior, is being rolled out at Glebe Public School next week.

"I have taught martial arts to young people for 20 years," she said.

"It became apparent to me that while children behaved perfectly on the mats in the dojo, their manners just flew out the window as soon as class was over."

She said she is "not expecting kids to be obedient robots" and "not outsourcing parenting".

"If we were outsourcing, there would not be any worksheets or books to take home. Parents work alongside the teachers to

reinforce manners, because it takes a community to raise a child."

"For parents who have really been struggling because they are massively overworked and tired, this program acts as a circuit breaker. For some parents it is the first time they have ever expected their children to help around the house."

She said children are still allowed to misbehave.

"We are not expecting our kids to be obedient robots ... Manners for the Modern Warrior is not about being

perfect, its about learning to be kind and helpful."

The program was rolled out at Rosebud Cottage in Rozelle earlier this month where kids learned the value of "magic words" and making eye contact.

Rosebud Cottage director Liz Souza said the program makes life easier for parents and teachers.

### MANNER MANOR

- Course runs from Oct 16- Dec 11 at Glebe Public School
- Cost: \$110 for nine weeks, incl books and worksheets
- Register on 0413 376 356 or visit modernwarriors.com.au



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