

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

10 NOVEMBER 2025

New social initiative supports the blind and low-vision community in Sydney's South West

People who are blind or have low vision are invited to a new community initiative launching at Moorebank Sports Club this month.

Cocky Guides Australia, a not-for-profit provider of sighted guides and group support, has partnered with Moorebank Sporties to host White Cane Mingle — a welcoming and inclusive space for blind and low-vision residents, their families, and supporters to connect and build community.

The first White Cane Mingle takes place on Wednesday, 12 November 2025, at 10:30 a.m., followed by a Christmas Mingle on Wednesday, 3 December 2025, celebrating the International Day of People with Disability. Events will continue regularly at Moorebank Sporties in Hammondville.

Participants will enjoy a relaxed social gathering, an orientation around the venue, and the chance to form lasting connections with others who share similar experiences.

Resident Kristy Quigg, who lives with a progressive eye condition, said the initiative offers valuable local support.

"It's refreshing and empowering to see that there are still many ways to travel, play sports, and participate in my community — things I once thought were no longer possible. The opportunity to meet others locally at Moorebank Sporties is really exciting."

Kellie Hayes, Director of Cocky Guides Australia, said the program helps break down barriers to inclusion.

"White Cane Mingle brings the broader community together with blind and low-vision individuals to help build meaningful social networks. Together with Moorebank Sports Club, we're creating a supportive hub for Sydney's south-west."

Complimentary transport is available from nearby suburbs and train stations.

To RSVP, visit www.trybooking.com/DGOWI



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

CONTACT

For further information, please get in touch with James (Buck) McFarlane at james.mcfarlane@cockyguides.com.au or call 0403 827 666

ABOUT COCKY GUIDES

Since launching on 15 August 2018, Cocky Guides have specialised in providing unique, multisensory adventures for the blind and low-vision community. More than 1,500 Australians have visited 70 destinations with Cocky Guides.

Cocky Guides purpose is to inspire blind and low-vision Australians to access new destinations and experiences, and they were the recipient of the Gold Award for Excellence in Accessible Tourism at the prestigious 2023 NSW Tourism Awards and finalist in the 2023 Australian Tourism Awards.

There are over 575,000 Australians who are blind or have low vision. Cocky Guides aims to be the leading support provider for adventure and travel, designed to increase independence, plus social and community participation for blind and low-vision Australians.

For more information, visit www.cockyguides.com.au