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It's Transformation

Sydney Metro Northwest Places - Bella Vista and Kellyville Precincts

**with
Glenwood High School**



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Landcom and Sydney Metro are working together on the long-term planning and development of government-owned developable land surrounding the stations on the Metro North West Line. The program, called Sydney Metro Northwest Places, focuses on creating diverse, well-designed places for current and future communities to live, work, shop and play. For further information on the program visit smnwplaces.com.au.

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Story Factory acknowledges the Indigenous People as the Traditional Custodians on the lands on which we work.

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IT'S TRANSFORMATION 2022

It's Transformation is a free creative writing project supported by Landcom and delivered by Story Factory with schools in North West Sydney.

The It's Transformation project gave students the chance to think about the history of their local area, the way they exist in their area and the messages they would like to leave for others to think about. In this program students worked with facilitators from Story Factory to create texts to be incorporated in public works and public spaces in the north west of Sydney.

Thirty-eight students from Crestwood and Glenwood High Schools created written pieces for the project. Students completed activities such as: answering ideation questions about their experience of the Northwest and their visions for the future of the Northwest; completing site visits to Nurragingy Reserve and Kellyville Metro Precinct; discussing the history of the local area with elders Aunty Stella, Aunty Daphne and Uncle Elvis. These activities provided rich inspiration for a variety of written pieces exploring the concepts of transformation and change; in particular student's investigated how an individual's view of the world is constantly changing in response to the transformations occurring around us.

MEG

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Kellyville Pets
Northwest is...
Constantly changing my appearance
Northwest is...
White Nike Airforce Ones
Northwest is...
The smell of daisies because of mum
Northwest is...
Ikea
Northwest is...
Barking dogs
Northwest is...
The moonlight reflecting on people's eyes
Northwest is...
Bat shadows
Northwest is...
My cats, the stars, LGBTQI+ rights

Haibun

The sun dips down below the horizon,
as the moon rises casting this land in
shadowing dusky hues. The strays wander
through this darkened wasteland as the stars
gaze down on them inquisitively.

The mysteries of this place shall riddle one
with wanderlust. I hope for the day these
sacred feline creatures rule the world
in a peaceful bliss of equality across
the entirety of society.

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Ikea. I used to play hide n seek with my dad there, we would buy cinnamon rolls and meatballs.

Anastasia

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
A school courtyard while it's filled with faces
Northwest is...
Reading on my bed alone
Northwest is...
Jackets on shivering bodies
Northwest is...
Brownies from the canteen
Northwest is...
The random dodgy burger place that I can't remember the name
of
Northwest is...
Music from when I was a child
Northwest is...
Disappearing sunlight in a sunset
Northwest is...
My shadow at netball but with a smaller head so it makes me laugh
Northwest is...
My sister, people, improvement

Haibun

The gooey chocolate brownie used to warm up my crumpled little hands. The taste consumed me and I felt like this was it. This was the peak of food and of happiness. Looking back on it, the brownie tastes like my childhood. It reminds me of how I would ask for "the biggest best brownie" hoping the canteen lady would sort through the batch to procure the best. It makes me think about how time is slipping away. I can feel the last thread of my childhood - if there even is any left - leaving me to the cold of the world.

Warm chocolate brownies
Contrasts with the cold winter air
And time ticks away

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

My street which is a normal pale grey road surrounded by houses and cars yet it's mine so it makes it more special

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

Fighting but in a way that both sides understand how dumb and absurd their arguments are but they want to do it anyway because it's fun to just have that energy

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

Don't be afraid to talk. Most people will be happy to interact if you just give them an easy entrance into conversation

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

Development, improvement, technology, change, new faces

PRIYASHA

Northwest is...

Northwest is...

The city in the afternoon light

Northwest is...

Listening to music on late night drives

Northwest is...

Popular overpriced shoes

Northwest is...

Vicks when I'm sick

Northwest is...

Coffee club

Northwest is...

Train lady voice

Northwest is...

Fairy lights wrapped around trees

Northwest is...

The shadow of my player in a netball game

Northwest is...

Self-development, people I love, grades

School Haibun

Often, I like to think about my primary school's library. Looking back, it might have been one of my favourite places to be. I used to play cards and make pyramids, borrow books and listen to our librarian read a book to us. We grazed our fingertips against each title of a new book and when we found one, we'd sit down on the mats and cushions nearby the colourful posters and immerse ourselves in a new story. If it was a new book, I would feel honoured to be able to indulge in the scent of it. Even though it's not like that anymore, thinking about it feels like a bittersweet memory. I used to wonder how high school would be so much better, but I was wrong. That was the peak of school. The magic of being a kid in the black and white world is something I will always miss.

Blue winter mornings
Playing card games with my friends
Away from the cold air

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

My grandma's house where I used to live - visit on weekends, before and after school

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

When the lady on the train started swearing at my and I and tried to fight us.

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

Be wary of the people here. They're not all that and friendly and make sure you stand your ground

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

Glenwood High is gonna be very different and have a PA centre where the portables used to be. The plan they had set in place will be real. Old houses torn down and modern ones built.

PITISHA

Northwest is...

Northwest is...

Parramatta at night

Northwest is...

Being in a blanket with the heaters on, during a cold day

Northwest is...

Tops

Northwest is...

The smell of fruit reminds me of my grandma

Northwest is...

Subway

Northwest is...

Annoying and scary magpies

Northwest is...

Pretty moon-light and the stars

Northwest is...

Shadow of me with family/friends

Northwest is...

Being with family/friends, Ethnic Background, Happiness

Haibun

We join glowsticks together making neon necklaces, earrings, bracelets in the car we used to drive to the city. The buildings light up with bright neon colours matching the glowstick accessories we have on. Harbour Bridge is looking so pretty over the water underneath reflecting the moon's white rays. We get carried on our parents shoulders to have a better view. The countdown begins and then, here it comes, the fireworks celebrating the New Years. I think about how quick the year went and all the things I want to do the next year. I feel like I would never celebrate New Years as good as I celebrated that year. But each year the fun gets better, celebrations get even more fun than little me could ever imagine. I can't believe how fast time goes. And the fun times now remain only memories. What if the fun goes by too fast?

Another New Years,

Lights, glowsticks and fireworks
Years past so quickly

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Parramatta - multicultural, pretty at night

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

People talking about Parramatta being the next CBD/City

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

You can get lost, always have google maps

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

Even more skyscrapers, more apartments, taller buildings, more advanced technology

Jason

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Old Windsor Road in the Afternoon
Northwest is...
Drawing
Northwest is...
Rich people clothing
Northwest is...
KFC - driving pass it everyday for 6 years
Northwest is...
Sound of the grill
Northwest is...
The sound of a motor
Northwest is...
Sunset
Northwest is...
Shadow at 4pm when I look taller
Northwest is...
Family, having a plan, being responsible

Haibun

See the passing of cars by that dreaded intersection.
As homes populate the horizon, some quaint others boasting
as they blend in with that Great Southern sunset. Every home has a
story to tell... those who went through the suburban adventure.
Every adventure has its twists and turns from that sporting
triumph to the turbulence.
That is life. Every person who has ever lived has a story. Every
person who lived and lives has made their imprint. We never do
have the time to reflect on how we fit in the picture that is the story
of Northwest.

From morning to night
Every person brings a tale.

Turning off the lights,
An adventure ends

Today ready to renew.

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Shopping malls - Rousehill, Castle Towers. Parks in Suburbia.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

“roads are crap” “rich people”

Something a visitor needs to know about the area: public transport, people

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

More trees, more green, gentrification, cool futuristic stuff.

Anonymous

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Forman Ave. Park in the middle of the summer
Northwest is...
Playing Basketball with my mates
Northwest is...
Casual pants and a t-shirt
Northwest is...
The smell of a cake baking in the oven
Northwest is...
Ribs and Burgers
Northwest is...
Car engines
Northwest is...
Sunlight lighting up a dark room
Northwest is...
The shadow of trees providing shade on a hot day
Northwest is...
Family, time with friends, playing sport

Haibun

The land continues to be red, while some areas and the wildlife within them remain untouched. Nurragingy and Yarramundi, just a few of the warriors and elders whose names live on to represent preserved land. Knowledge and stories are passed on, connecting past, present and future.

Totems are highlighted and shared as a mental representation of their duty as caretakers of the land. Their care for the land ensures that the connection is not lost and the work is not forgotten as the land changes too fast to keep up.

Trees are cut down, land is cleared, people move and buildings are built from the ground up. The natural land which stood its ground no longer remains, yet the connection to land remains as strong as ever. Development could change the land, but not the value that it gives as sunlight becomes seemingly the only naked thing left.

Preserving nature,
Nurragingy warrior,
The connection stays

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Forman Ave Park has been the meeting place for my friend group for years. Full of freedom and allowing us to unwind. My home ground for multiple sport teams.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

“The area is changing so fast that it is hard to keep up.”

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

Public transport is cheap and convenient, but there are often people everywhere.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

New technology coming into the area making life more convenient for people, but with less jobs that need to be done by humans.

EASHAN

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Playing cricket frequently
Northwest is...
Forman Avenue in the middle of summer
Northwest is...
Jeans worn by frequent travellers
Northwest is...
The smell of fragrance reminds me of an ecstatic party
Northwest is...
Icy Spicy - Seven Hills
Northwest is...
Chirping crickets
Northwest is...
Street lights
Northwest is...
The shadow of cricket nets
Northwest is...
Family, cricket games and my religious books

Haibun

Buildings glowing during night, interested during the day changed during the break in NorthWest. People of different cultures talking and embracing the environment in the North West.

It's a common belief that, obviously we all are entitled to live with each other in this world. I grow, enjoy, love, believe, in the North-West.

It's a common belief that there will be equal society with native peoples, equal society with Indigenous peoples, equal society with the unfortunate.

Could we ever reach a state of peace, where North West is more acknowledged? Everyday is better than the one before because we realise more in society!

North West has good vibes
It is industrially driven
Plus culturally high

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Alwin-Linfield Park every Saturday between 10am and 3pm for cricket.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

“Our area is developing more than other places how” an auctioneer said.

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

Diversity and various cultures dominate the area.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

An urbanised environment with advanced technology and industrial prominence.

Hiral

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Glenwood Woolworths - 24/7 as my go to store
Northwest is...
Painting, Diamond art - Art in general
Northwest is...
Coats and suits
Northwest is...
Newly painted homes - fresh and refreshing
Northwest is...
Oliver Brown and Gong-cha
Northwest is...
Twigs and leaves - Crushing under my feet or sound of rain
Northwest is...
Sunlight peeping through trees - looking up towards the tree
Northwest is...
The shadow of a car
Northwest is...
God, family, food

School Haibun

I hear the school bell ring resoundingly. Trapped inside darkness it's getting hard to breathe. Pens and pencils violently clash with each other inside the case that is inside me. Ink seeps out onto my clothes damaging me. Being dropped, kicked and bounced up and down I struggle to breathe. I patiently wait to be fueled from the light of the atmosphere.

Times have changed. I wonder what my owner is up to leaving me still. Silence kills me on the inside. Eager for the weekend, as that's the only time I get cleaned. Some people think I'm overreacting: being thrown down every afternoon, my lifeless self stands up with pride.

Each afternoon is the repeated broken radio of tomorrow's day. What will it be like? The ambitions that are forever following me

are - something to look forward to, something to be excited for and something to work for. Voices talk inside of me, I listen to all the things it says.

Lying down lifeless
What the future holds for me
May not be happiness

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

The temple I go to. It's very spiritual and has different atmosphere in general. It brings me joy. I always look forward to going and helping out.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

My friend once said, "This world is a big place. A big place for everyone to work together and build. Glenwood is just a small speck and look how much diversity. Imagine how the rest of Australia, or even the world in general would be like?"

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

Stay safe, got to eat vegemite, have to go shopping.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

Electrical cars (more than what they are right now. More robotic appliances. A more technology reliant world, maybe online school.

Anonymous

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Sunnyholt Road - Afternoon
Northwest is...
Reading
Northwest is...
Masks
Northwest is...
Bread (Freshly Baked)
Northwest is...
7/11
Northwest is...
That dog on Glenwood Park Drive
Northwest is...
Oven light
Northwest is...
Pergola shadow
Northwest is...
Reading, music, family

Haibun

A flock of birds fly in one direction as a dog begins to chase after them, barking, so excited. A soft wind blows, slightly moving and swaying the grass and trees. Children's laughter can be heard in the background, a family playing a game of footy on the field, enjoying their time together.

A young couple on a walk stop their conversation, marvelling at pretty pink blossoms on a small tree, planted in the ground. Perhaps the tree blushes in their loving gaze, shying away in the breeze, perhaps it tries to warn them of what is to come.

A wondrous, disastrous storm making its way through the land, having hit so many homes already, destroying them to create bland factories and buildings. A storm that will destroy the trees, the future memories and moments from ever happening.

Our country is home.
Perhaps not at first glance but
Through kind caring eyes.

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Sikh Temple (Gurudwara), religious place, Meditation, peace,
Meurants Lane

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

'Glenwood's just a vibe. A weird one but still a vibe.'

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

TRAFFIC AT SCHOOL

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

More development/ offices and houses, Probable less
traditional-style houses (brick), Taller buildings/flats

zahrāh

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Stanhope Village morning and afternoon
Northwest is...
Sewing/knitting
Northwest is...
Tote bags
Northwest is...
Petrichor
Northwest is...
Donut King
Northwest is...
Driving Cars
Northwest is...
Golden hour - sunlight dimmed during the
afternoon/evening/early morning
Northwest is...
The shadow of a large tree with flowers
Northwest is...
Money, Ambition and Realism

Haibun

Hues of indigo, pink and orange stain the vast blue canvas as the sunlight bleeds golden thread through the miniscule cracks in between the large grey cotton balls. It cunningly sneaks into my room, illuminating the room in an ethereal golden glow. The sunlight only exacerbates the safety that is already present. It provides a tingling warmth on my skin and in my heart.

My room is already a vessel of comfort; a jewellery box of treats and treasure, my emotions, my memories and my being like dainty rich diamonds.

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Stanhope Village is a shopping centre located within Stanhope Garden. It contains groceries, clothing stores and food shops. It makes me feel comfortable and happy as it puts me at ease.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

The gossip of two young adult women in a cafe, sitting at the table next to me. They were strangers and I loved hearing them talk about the well loved and popular food store.

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

The cafes that sell Lamingtons are a place that they should visit as it is a classic desert of Australia

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

More buildings and more advanced versions of the current shopping centres

ABIGAIL

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
The secret garden at sunset
Northwest is...
Sewing costumes while listening to Hamilton
Northwest is...
Kids wearing wet towels with hoods
Northwest is...
The smell of cut grass on a summer day
Northwest is...
Oranas hot food & chips
Northwest is...
Little kids playing and laughing
Northwest is...
The glistening of light hitting oil on a road
Northwest is...
When a plane passes, the shadow
Northwest is...
Musical soundtracks, nature, happiness

School Haibun

The tune of conversation. Lips moving. Eyes glaring. Voices fighting to be louder. Ears searching for silence in the corners of all the conversations of a school classroom. The wave of simultaneous bells ringing, doors opening, similar conversations gathering into larger groups.

The passion of an argument clouding someone's vision, as the thunderstorm of an event makes one question what they actually heard. Does one choose to hear the birds singing or the thunder clapping or the whistle of the trees.

The stories that lie between sentences are left unheard. I like to train my ears to hear them. To hear the undiscovered beauty of a voice instead of letting mine drown it out. There I find the hidden

melody under one's story where their message is clear and beautiful.

Worlds begin to slow
Songs of stories grow clearer
Ears stop to listen

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

The small park on my street

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

"You can only see what you want to see in the world, and I choose to see the past the beauty of the trees to the insects that lay underneath them

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

When dogs bark while you're walking past it's because they're excited not aggressive.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

In 2066 there will be cool new kids playgrounds that all adults secretly long to play on.

CHanel

Northwest is...

Northwest is...

Rouse Hill Town Centre in the holiday

Northwest is...

Dancing and blasting music

Northwest is...

Nike tech fleece

Northwest is...

Chai Vanilla tea in winter

Northwest is...

The Glenwood Woolies, Kebab shop

Northwest is...

Whistle of the wind through the trees

Northwest is...

The light the sun creates as it sets

Northwest is...

The shadow of the birds at the park

Northwest is...

Family, culture, nature

School Haibun

Face curious, guard up, eyes locked, eyes soft. Body language uncomfortable but intrigued to listen and learn more. The slight panic of what to say next is evident, while willing word vomit of their life in a nutshell. Able to see the potential of the role they'll play in the future.

Talking to new people allows a visual glimpse of all past encounters and experiences. The past moments are the pieces in which puzzle a persons. Each character on the Earth being a combination of their birth given traits and all they have walked through life.

Each character in my life gives such purpose. Characters who may pass in and out quickly still manage to produce a great effect by teaching something and adding to who I am. From the first curious, nervous and uncomfortable encounter to the moment feeling closest with the person, impact to the unique life I live is added.

Guard up, Eyes locked
Glimpse past experiences
Each character impacts

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Forman Avenue Park

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

Hey how you going

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

This area isn't this area without the children

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

More developed units and buildings, Technology implemented everywhere, more clean, more uniform designs, little mess

AVINASH

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Rouse Hill shopping centre
Northwest is...
Going on road trips
Northwest is...
White shoes
Northwest is...
Soil that's been wet by rain
Northwest is...
Oporto
Northwest is...
Cars and buses driving
Northwest is...
Streetlights on a highway at night
Northwest is...
Trees
Northwest is...
Family, dogs, positive people

Haibun

Streets bustling with people. Walking on the footpath are people, from different places on Earth but walking together as one. Towards the same direction. All around, you see different faces, food and clothes.

Our communities are changing and so are people's perspectives. Exposure to cultures forming a sense of inclusion and safety. The community becomes a library, as everyone has their own story writing to be shared.

This community depends on each other listening to different conversations hearing different tongues.

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

A beach in Helensburgh and we eat lunch at the nearby temple.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

A person talking about the rats and crazy people she saw at Blacktown station

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

More access to public transport and it being quieter, more high rise buildings

callum

Northwest is...

Northwest is...

Sunnyholt road at peak traffic

Northwest is...

Playing games with friends

Northwest is...

The white lines of Adidas track pants

Northwest is...

Smell of melting butter

Northwest is...

The Coles Servo

Northwest is...

Lorikeets

Northwest is...

Sunlight on a cloudy day

Northwest is...

Shadow of my dad

Northwest is...

Caity, my Parents, my Bird

Haibun

I hear the prayers being said, an oath to a god to remain holy. The sight of the cultures mingling, co-existing. The lights of a temple shines brightly, breaking the darkness of the street.

The community is built on this, the chances that all humans have, the acceptance that we give. The way we grow together learning and being inspired by one another.

It makes you think, or hope for the world to be free of the sea of discrimination, an ever burning fire or hope burns deep within this community, to keep away the negativity.

Conjoined cultures
Coexisting peacefully
A good tomorrow

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

A part off of Sunnyholt Road, with a small swing set. There's an overgrown creek, and it's quiet

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

It's a very multicultural place, so you can experience new things.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

Less houses, more units, hopefully less pollution

CELESTE

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Parramatta River after a beautiful sunrise.
Northwest is...
Listening to music while drawing during a warm morning.
Northwest is...
Jeans, whether baggy or skin-tight.
Northwest is...
The smell of mint reminding me of grandma in Pearly Beach.
Northwest is...
Grill'd in Rouse Hill.
Northwest is...
Magpies, Cockatoos and Kookaburras calling out.
Northwest is...
Sunlight you see as soon as you wake up.
Northwest is...
Shadow of a dog running up to me for affection.
Northwest is...
Jesus, family and faith.

Nurragingy Reserve Haibun

Mother nature always speaks to us. Whether we listen or not is the problem

Green grass as health, smoke arising as a warning, flames and floods as punishment, and regrowth as a second chance
What we do will always end with her say.

She provides, gives and listens while we do what? Cover her beauty, release our own smoke as retaliation and hurt her continuously.

If we are forgiven now or next time is up to her. Changing our ways for the better, however, will always benefit both sides.

She has now listened,
to our cries, pleads, and whispers
When did we to her?

School Haibun

The land is no longer what it was, nor shall it stay as it is now.
Places we remember have lost their beauty and power while others
gained and blossomed a new start.

As the morning light shines on a new day, the history of areas have
been extended, changed and sometimes completely forgotten. The
reminiscing of memories, both good and bad, lay buried in the
ground. The changes covering the history even further, smothered
in brick and concrete.

The land always remains with us, whether the same, damaged or
covered up. The land calls out to us, through the calls of cicadas or
cawing of cockatoos. Just giving it a minute to listen to what she has
to say can just help bring back that connection, that responsibility
relied upon us to care for it, not construct over it.

The land here has changed
Nothing like we remember.
Yet the beauty stays.

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Forman Avenue
(Basketball courts in and park in particular)

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

Let's meet at Forman because everyone knows it and how to get
there.

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

That there's a lot of activities you can do here with friends e.g.
basketball, picnics, walks, etc.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

It could possibly be that they tear down the basketball and tennis
courts for new buildings, whether it be an indoor basketball /
tennis court or a small library / canteen.

Hannah

Northwest is...

Northwest is...

Parramatta River at dawn

Northwest is...

Exploring native bushland.

Northwest is...

Flare jeans / Bootcut jeans.

Northwest is...

The smell of cornflakes.

Northwest is...

Enigma at Castle Towers.

Northwest is...

Magpie calls.

Northwest is...

Sunlight at sunset when the sky turns orange, pink and yellow.

Northwest is...

Shadows of trees rustling in the wind.

Northwest is...

My family, kindness and love.

Nurragingy Reserve Haibun

They all live together, the people from the same country. But some do not look the same, whiteness shining brighter in others. They all call themselves family, people of the same land.

Innocent people were forced to live in ways that they despised. They were not accepted in this new society, outcasts. The people who shared their home were paid with torture.

These people carry scars, not just by themselves, but through the generations. To be made to feel inferior, to be ashamed, nothing any human should endure. The damage is done, greater than what anyone imagined.

The people have changed
Under rules they cannot change
Reconcile for peace

Haibun

The river flows, like it always has, but it was never always called the Parramatta River. Buildings stand tall, they tower over the river banks and cast unnatural shadows against the water. Bridges go from one side to the other, people do not stay on their side, they must walk over.

These structures weren't always here, not long ago they didn't exist. Maps aren't drawn in the dirt, carvings not on trees. Instead the world has changed, for the convenience of people like me.

Each day breathes unnaturally, in a way that the world was not made for. The people that called this place home had to run because of the invaders, the people who were unnatural, strange. We call the same land home, but the sound is not the same.

Burning wildfire
They arrived with no welcome
Here they are to stay

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Parramatta River and surrounds (Homebush, Wentworth Point, Rhodes)

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

"That sunset was absolutely beautiful, but the high-rise building blocked the actual sun setting, but the sky turned into marvellous pinks, oranges and yellows."

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

The traffic in this area can be intense, especially during school drop-off and pick-up, end of work time and 9 o'clockish. Old Windsor Road is especially busy at this time.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

The roads will be more developed, maybe a new material will be used.

Solar panels and pristine white buildings may also be common.

Petrol stations may also be replaced with car battery changing stations.

YENUKI

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Castle Towers during the holidays
Northwest is...
Creating music and writing stories while listening to music
Northwest is...
Doc Martens boots with baggy jeans
Northwest is...
Warm steamed rice or hot loaves of bread
Northwest is...
Nandos at Rouse Hill
Northwest is...
Crows, crickets and magpies
Northwest is...
Sunrise and early morning light
Northwest is...
Shadow puppets with my sister
Northwest is...
Specific members of my family, my idols, family friends

Nurragingy Reserve Haibun

A new statue unveiled, a famous hero to all. Artworks and stories
Be being told through the eyes of the elders to wide-eyed children
in awe.

Loud cheers and yells, days marked down in the calendar. Family
gatherings never seemed so big, so open. More artworks and stories
for
the public.

Rallying cheers of support, difference does no longer divide us.
Difference is now brushed aside. Here comes change.

New hero statue
A new day in calendar
We cheer, here comes change.

School Haibun

Large, bleak buildings rising to block out the sun. Bustling, loud stations,
a sleek, shiny metro zooming past.

Yells and whirs of construction workers, traffic slowing you down.
Crowds larger
than life, pushing you through town.

Shops and places filled to accommodate bright colours and neon signs.
The mouth-watering smells of noodles, pastas and curries from all the way
down a line.

New buildings, new crowds
More construction and traffic
Mouth-watering smells

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Castle Towers or Rouse Hill Town Centre, always busy and has lots to do with plenty of shops and food choices.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

“You going to Rouse?”
“You going to Towers?”

- because both are common meet up areas for the youth in the area.

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

Always busy on weekends but places have a lot of diverse food and clothing options.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

More apartment buildings and the area looks more like a city than a suburb. The schools have multiple storeys in a singular building rather than spread out in a large block of land.
Most activities are now indoors.

Brianna

Northwest is

Northwest is...
Rouse Hill Town Centre on the weekend
Northwest is...
Reading in my bedroom
Northwest is...
Black Doc Martens boots
Northwest is...
Pomegranate reminds me of home
Northwest is...
The Bavarian
Northwest is...
Kookaburras
Northwest is...
Sunlight coming through the window in the morning
Northwest is...
Shadows of trees and their leaves
Northwest is...
My family, cats, books

Nurragingy Reserve Haibun

All walks of life on this land – the people, the animals, the trees. A string of harmony weaves itself through our homes, our bush, our waters, listening all together.

We nurture our earth, breathe the air, grow with leaves and trees. Our earth grows with us, changes with us, sharing a bright, beating heart.

Everyone shares this special feeling with the land, the water, the soft whisper of the breeze. Mine may not be the same as yours, but we are forever interwoven together.

Here we share this earth
Linked by a beating heart

Stand interwoven

School Haibun

Shiny trains are zooming, tall buildings and towers loom proudly over bustling, busy sidewalks. Trees and bushes of the land that once were swaying lightly in a cool breeze, not lost, but perhaps forgotten.

The land is shifting, roads are changing, things are different but still somehow familiar. A memory what once stood here before is hidden beneath these layers.

This place is a collage of memories and stories. Although we cannot see them, I hear them, and they tell me the wonder of the past. Everything may be different but it is for the better, for we are breathing the future.

See new beginnings
A blend of past and present
Change for the better

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Glenwood High School

It's a high school in Glenwood that's significant to me because it's where my friends are and where I learn.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

People asking 'Are you going to Rouse' after school.

It's like part of everyday life for students to hang out at the shops after school, and to take the metro to get there.

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

The traffic gets really busy in the morning.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

There are going to be more houses and apartments everywhere.

Anonymous

Northwest is...

Northwest is...

Meurants Lane

Northwest is...

Drawing

Northwest is...

A fancy jacket

Northwest is...

Freshly baked cookies

Northwest is...

Pizza Hut

Northwest is...

Motorbike speeding

Northwest is...

Dim lighting

Northwest is...

Shadow of trees

Northwest is...

Family, friends and hobbies

Nurragingy Reserve Haibun

I look to the past and look at myself,
So much has changed, for it is never the same,
My memories, good and bad, shape me,
The laughter, gifts and family,
The pain, torment and sadness,
All of these things shape me unconsciously,
Though they are my memories, they do not
define me unless I choose so,
And though the bad may over shroud the good,
I wouldn't give them up
to make things better,
because the bad things won't last forever.

Eternal darkness
And the light that shines anew
Guide me in my life

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Somewhere that I go often is school.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

The 3 Rs: ready, respect and responsible.

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

There is a wide range of subjects to pick from.

People are helpful and kind.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

I think that there will be a larger library with even more books.

There will also be more students, and the new block will be built.

LUCY

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Park – (Refalo Reserve)

Northwest is...

Music

Northwest is...

A jumper

Northwest is...

Flowers (or perfume)

Northwest is...

George's Pizza

Northwest is...

Birds

Northwest is...

Warm sunlight

Northwest is...

The shadow of people (shadow puppets)

Northwest is...

Family, friends, health

School Haibun

Family and friends, the people in our life, light us up. The moments, the memories, that they create for us. The significant effect they have on us.

Think about the people you love and care about. When you're with these people you feel happy. This is important, to have these people.

These people are our anchors, but that doesn't mean they don't change. The people who were there for you 10 years ago may not still be there. Are these people really there for you? Time will tell.

Memories of love

People you care for so much
And they care for you.

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:
School.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:
An opportunity to learn and connect with people.

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:
Pay attention
Make friends
Learn what you're interested in, not anyone else.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:
New buildings
Renovations
Different people
More opportunities for students to grow

samra

Northwest is...

Northwest is...
Old Windsor Road anytime
Northwest is...
Swim in the family pool during the summer
Northwest is...
Cardigans or coats
Northwest is...
Petrol or gasoline smells
Northwest is...
Nandos
Northwest is...
Cars and also noise of pool vacuums / monitors (around my house)
Northwest is...
Natural orange light shining through the house in summer
afternoons
Northwest is...
Shadows of curtains
Northwest is...
Religion, family, culture

School Haibun

Forms of life depend on each other. People are too busy to realise. When I'm free I try to understand other forms of nature, even between ourselves there is not much of a moment or chance to communicate. We hear the effects of busy roads and workspaces, but when do we ever listen to the winds and the rustling bushes of leaves and trees?

Most wish in their minds to make time and explore another world within, can we really think of when this happens? When people retrieve to their homes, they hide behind their doors and begin to reflect on what they have done instead of what they haven't done, which is the calling of nature for help

As we fall asleep the
next day is yet to come
where change has not come.

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Blacktown (mostly the shopping centre)

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

How multicultural and diverse the area is with people.

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

How busy it can become

How you may find someone you know there.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

It will be busier

There will be direct forms of transport

People will visit more frequently.

VINCY

Northwest is...

Northwest is...

The sign "Welcome to Glenwood"

Northwest is...

Playing games

Northwest is...

School uniforms / work uniforms

Northwest is...

Durian

Northwest is...

KFC

Northwest is...

White noise

Northwest is...

Visible light

Northwest is...

Fire

Northwest is...

Cochlear implant, my family and people who help me

School Haibun

Buildings grow tall and march through the thick grass.
Nature forced to bloom through bricks and concrete cracks.
They cry huge waterfalls full of plastic and dirt.

A single tree exhales oxygen as the
humans desperately try to breathe. The plants die from
the dark shadow cast by the tall buildings. Cars and
buses pump more toxic gas into soft and calm sky.

Humans have a large brain for intelligence but will they
ever actually think? Soon enough, they might forget to even blink.
Will they ever invent a wonderful dream or revert the damage
done to the
pure land and sea?

Buildings eat nature
Trees exhale, humans try to breathe.

Humans stop working.

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

Woolworths

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

Amazing army of trees

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

Avoid driving at the start of school hours

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

Robots, AI, less nature

or

Buildings, barely any nature

ALISA

Northwest is...
Northwest is...
Yoghurt Land at Castle Towers on a hot afternoon
Northwest is...
watching the sunrise on a beach
Northwest is...
colourful running shoes
Northwest is...
the smell of a hot, crackling campfire
Northwest is...
Oporto at Stanhope Gardens
Northwest is...
the sound of the metro arriving
Northwest is...
the light of a campfire
Northwest is...
the shadow of my dog wagging her tail
Northwest is...
my friends, my dog, my culture

School Haibun

A heartfelt masterpiece. Love and care, ringing laughter in the air and stories as old as time itself. Not an object out of place and not a person unwilling to put heart and soul into their piece of this earth.

There is not an office building or new shopping centre on this planet which can conceal the stories imprinted into the soil below them. Generations of community. A tree stump which was once a being observing babies grow up to become something more now stands, its history drowned out by the sounds of mindless chatter.

I walk past wondering where I fit in, which part of the stomped up soil belongs to me. All the places which were once mine now seem like a silly passing fad which has been concealed by new noises. I hope that one day I find some soil which can become the focus of my narrative.

A piece of the land
Somebody's passing story
Settled once again.

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

The city, specifically Town Hall.
In North-west; the Parklea Hungry Jacks.

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

Hey, how's it going?

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

Keep it quiet and be friendly with the locals.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

More apartments, more people, noisier, more "futuristic", less trees and greenery.

CHANCHAL

Northwest is...

Northwest is...

The walk towards the entrance of Bella Vista station

Northwest is...

Reading in my room in the evening

Northwest is...

Jeans

Northwest is...

The smell of back burning in the cold

Northwest is...

Frangos and Gongcha

Northwest is...

Dogs barking

Northwest is...

Sunset projector lamp

Northwest is...

The shadow when walking in the dark

Northwest is...

Family, Entertainment, Culture

School Haibun

School kids rushed into the malls with their friends while they shared stories with one another.

Walking into a room filled with people eating and laughing. Taking the train to the city in the evening to go to a concert I long awaited.

Teenagers minds blocking out the term long's worth of torture. The sound of the next song evoking a roar from the audience, bringing the people together. The laughter and conversations filling up the rooms while they ate food.

These never-ending days were the highlight of my school life. I was connected with my culture and interests over these golden days. The smiles that effortlessly appeared on the faces of many occurred simply because of the freedom presented in front of us, away from all the misery

and dullness.

As the sun goes down
We return back to the dark
And smiles fade away

Know Your North West

A Place you know and often visit:

The metro line connecting to Castle Towers and Rouse Hill Town Centre

A Fragment of imagined or remembered conversation that captures an aspect of the area:

Teenagers sharing gossip with their friends as you walk pass and overhear.

Something a visitor needs to know about the area:

You will somehow run into someone you know. It is quite busy and it becomes common to go around via transport.

A glimpse of the future...say 2030....2050:

The town centres will have become advanced and renovated.
New transport and technology.
Modernised housing.

It's Transformation 2022

It's Transformation is a free creative writing project supported by Landcom and delivered by Story Factory with schools in North West Sydney.

The It's Transformation project gave students the chance to think about the history of their local area, the way they exist in their area and the messages they would like to leave for others to think about. In this program students worked with facilitators from Story Factory to create texts to be incorporated in public works and public spaces in the north west of Sydney. Using a variety of short texts, students explored the concepts of transformation and change; in particular how an individual's view of the world is constantly changing in response to the transformations occurring around us.



SYDNEY METRO
NORTHWEST
PLACES

StoryFACTORY