

“ The Minister for Transport released a \$100 million blitz of urgent station works, but Redfern was once again overlooked

“ It is unacceptable that a key station on our rail network is shut off to some members of our community

REDFERN

RESIDENTS DEMAND A LIFT

“

It is unacceptable that a key station on our rail network is shut off to some members of our community

MORE than 11,000 people have signed a petition demanding a lift at Redfern station.

The Lift Redfern campaign draws on a coalition of residents, workers, business, disability and community groups, demanding better access at the busy inner city railway.

The campaign began in January and has now gathered enough support to trigger a debate in state parliament.

Campaigner Joel Pringle said despite Redfern being one of the city's busiest stations, with more than 42,000 people using it every day, accessibility issues continue to be ignored.

"Last week the (Gladys Berejiklian) Minister for Transport released a \$100 million blitz list of urgent station upgrade works, but Redfern was once again overlooked," Mr Pringle said.



Kristina Keneally receives some of the 11,000 signatures demanding a lift be installed at Redfern station.

Picture: PHIL BLATCH

"People with disabilities, older people, parents with young children, pregnant women, people with short-term mobility issues and people with luggage or shopping have great difficulty in accessing

the station. It is unacceptable that a key station on our rail network is shut off to some members of our community."

A parliamentary debate on access at Redfern station is expected by the end of August.

Supporters of the Lift Redfern campaign include the University of Sydney, community organisations such as The Factory, South Sydney Community Aid and The Settlement, South Sydney Business

Chamber, Gadigal Information Services and South Sydney Rabbitohs.

Visit the website of community group REDWatch for info on the campaign, at redwatch.org.au.

PHOTO FEST



Roller derby portraits by Gunther Hang Brutal Beauty.

RAVISHINGLY RUTHLESS

BRUTAL BEAUTY

■ Sun Studios, 42 Maddox St, Alexandria
■ Until May 14
■ Artist's talk, 1pm, May 13

PHOTOGRAPHER Gunther Hang has been lurking around the roller derby flat track, earning himself the name g-love.

His photos of the tough and sassy competitors in the sport are on show at Sun Studios, Alexandria, as part of the Head On Photographic Festival.

With more than 70 leagues across Australia, roller derby is one of the fastest-growing sports among women.

Each skater adopts a pseudonym, such as Liv Vicious, Thigh-dal Wave and Shona Mercy, and customises her uniform to retain a sense of individuality.

"Known for having an 'anything goes' approach to uniforms, from fishnets to feathers, nothing is off the table in roller derby," Hang said. "Documenting the inventive costumes and ironic pseudonyms of the sport while hinting at the individual story, these portraits celebrate this dynamic sport in all its diversity and colour."

MOTHER'S DAY

WOMEN RELEASE CHILDREN'S BOOK IPAD APP



Niki Bern and Ana Vivas.

TWO local mothers-to-be have started a company animating children's books for touch-screen tablets.

Niki Bern and Ana Vivas have released their first iPad app, My Mum's the Best, in time for Mother's Day.

The app is an interactive animated adaptation of the best-selling Australian book with the same name by Bruce Whatley and Rosie Smith — *Diary of a Wombat*.

It took the pair two years to

grow their business, Snappyant, to the point of releasing their first app.

At first, Vivas, a children's book publisher, could not get people in her company interested in digital media. So she contacted Bern, a friend from primary school who had a background in visual effects and the film industry. Together they embarked on a new adventure in life and in business.

"We started work on our first app but at this stage we re-

alised we needed a specialist in sound," Vivas said.

"Niki approached an old friend from film school who works in LA as a sound designer. Katy Wood has worked with directors such as Peter Jackson and Clint Eastwood. She and her musician friends in LA created a music track for the app.

"Before long we had a contract with Scholastic Australia, which led to our first app release, My Mum's the Best."