COUNCIL SURVEY ASKS “WHAT MAKES RYDE TICK”

Council is conducting a residents’ on-line survey during January to help produce a community snapshot and to gauge more accurately the feelings, aspirations and requirements of the people who live and work in the City of Ryde.

Covering a wide range of issues, the on-line survey gives everyone the chance to comment on how they rate living in the area, the importance of various services and facilities provided, and what their vision for the future is.

“Already, over 600 households in the district have responded to our Residents’ Survey,” said Council’s Acting General Manager, Kim Woodbury.

“It’s a great way for people to express their likes, dislikes and views, in confidence, on a wide range of matters that affect them daily, from rates and rubbish, to the environment, employment or heritage issues.

“It also provides Council with a report card on how the community rates our performance in managing the city’s resources, and will assist in our current and long-term planning. It also helps us to identify the kinds of services our community wants and needs.”

The confidential, on-line Residents’ Survey (conducted by Taverner Research), takes about 15 minutes to complete and can be accessed on City of Ryde Website at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au (follow the prompts from the Home Page “Have Your Say”).

Ends

Media contact:  Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Tuesday, 10 January 2006

AUSTRALIA DAY CONCERT HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

City of Ryde has begun preparations for the countdown to the Annual Australia Day celebrations at North Ryde Common.

Council's Community Relations & Events Manager, Derek McCarthy anticipates another impressive turnout to the free Family Concert.

"We have a star line-up of acts headed by Stayin’ Alive The Australian Bee Gees Show. The live five-piece band is renowned worldwide for their definitive performances of all the Bee Gees’ classics. Sing along to some of the world’s most loved songs including “How Deep in Your Love”, Night Fever”, “Jive Talking”, “Tragedy” and “How Can You Mend a Broken Heart”.

"Especially for the children will be a performance by Master of Ceremonies, Sparkles the Clown – a big hit at last year’s Granny Smith Festival. He’s also a magician, with plenty of tricks up his sleeve.

“Plus, there’s The Jitterbugs – the newest sensation in children’s entertainment. This is a non-stop interactive musical extravaganza featuring a cast of totally unique characters, from “Frogodile” (he’s half frog, half crocodile) to the “Gorgeous Butterfly”, the “Boogying Bumble Bee”, and the “Sensational Lady Bug”.


Around the park there will be an assortment of food stalls and the usual amusement rides to entertain the children. You can even have a go at Apple Bobbing from a Hills Hoist.

The Australia Day Family Concert at North Ryde Common (cnr Twin & Wicks Roads) on Thursday January 26 starts at 5pm and finishes with a firework display at 9pm. For more information contact Customer Service on 9952 8222 or www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

-Ends-

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444.
For more photos of The Australian Bee Gees Show go to www.stayinalive.com.au

Photos attached: The Australian Bee Gees Show, Sparkles, The Jitterbugs.
City of Ryde

Media Release

Tuesday, 10 January 2006.

JOIN IN YOUR AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS

Australia Day is the single most celebrated event on our national calendar and is a chance for all Australians to come together to show their pride and joy in the place we call home.

The City of Ryde together with the Australia Day Council of NSW (ADCNSW) encourages everyone to show their national spirit by joining in the many activities planned for this Australia Day, Thursday, 26 January 2006.

Ryde Mayor, Councillor Ivan Petch said: "Australia Day means different things to different people and we are part of a community which is diverse in culture, age, religion and interests, which is why we've ensured there is a range of events for everyone to enjoy.

"Whether it is attending a special Australia Day activity like the free City of Ryde Family Concert and Fireworks display, organising a family picnic or discovering a little more about our local heritage, you don't have to travel far to find something special this Australia Day in the City of Ryde," he said.

FREE FAMILY CONCERT North Ryde Common 5.00pm – 9.30 pm
Everyone is welcome at the Free Family Concert and Fireworks display. There are kids' rides, food stalls and entertainment for all.

EXPLORE RIVERS
Ryde is a favourite place to enjoy water activities.

- Parramatta River is home to pleasure craft and the RiverCat travels from Circular Quay to Parramatta stopping at points along the way.
- Putney Punt Vehicular Ferry free for cars, pedestrians and cycles. Check times.
- Lane Cove National Park is right on our doorstep and the perfect place for a picnic or a bushwalk. Visit the Kukundi Wildlife Shelter and the Bat and Bush display or hire a rowboat.

PICNIC IN OUR PARKS
The City of Ryde has many beautiful parks in bushland and river settings.

- Putney Park* - Pellisier Road, Putney. Huge waterfront park and home to Sydney's biggest slippery dip - 23m long! Perfect for large group picnics (bookings required); with play equipment for youngsters and wading pools. Parramatta Valley Cycleway starts/finishes here.
• **Banjo Paterson Park*** - Punt Road, Gladesville. Magnificent river views. “Rockend” cottage, childhood home of poet Banjo Patterson.

• **Denistone Park** - Terry Road, Denistone. Open bushland areas with breathtaking views to Parramatta and beyond.

• **Field of Mars Reserve** - Pittwater Road, East Ryde. Protected flora and fauna. Nature walks, ideal for conservationists

• **Glades Bay Park** - Along Glades Avenue, Gladesville. A scenic riverside park. Aboriginal carvings, Wulaba Aboriginal Heritage Track.

• **Kissing Point Park** - Waterview Street, Putney. Boat ramp, sailing club. River views and RiverCat Wharf.

*Wheelchair access.

**SWIM, CYCLE OR WALK**
Diverse range of leisure activities for everyone.

• **Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre** – award winning home of the Giant Water slide (from 11am during school holidays). You can surf the 40m wave, ride the Rapid River, steam it up in the sauna or enjoy a cappuccino.

• **Parramatta Valley Cycleway** – access from Putney Park or Meadowbank Park. Provides a complete link between Parramatta and Sydney City.

• **Parramatta River Walk** - a loop beginning and ending at Rhodes Station. The walk includes a river crossing by ferry and one by train. Est. walking time 5-6 hours.

• **Canon Walk** - starts at Ryde Park (Top Ryde) and continues to Field of Mars Wildlife Refuge. Distance 5.2km, est. walking time 1hr10mins.

• **Rainforest Walk** – in Brush Farm Park and Darvall Park

• **Historic Village Walking Tour** - The heart of the 19th century village of Ryde consisted of a cluster of historic buildings including the Ryde Police Station (1837), St Anne's Church (1826), the original Court House (1863), Addington (c. 1833) and Public School (1877).

• **Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway** - Brays Bay Reserve on Concord Road, just across Ryde Bridge. A Memorial to WWII veterans.

For walking and cycling maps, timetables and more information on above and other attractions and services, contact City of Ryde Customer Service 9952 8222, or visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au)

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444
2006 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AND YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Choosing the winners of this year's Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year was particularly difficult given the calibre of the nominations received, says Mayor Cr. Ivan Petch.

"However, one thing is clear, community spirit is thriving in the City of Ryde," he said.

"It is indeed uplifting to learn about the wonderful things people are doing for others in their communities," Cr Petch said.

"What became clear from the entries this year was the broad diversity of outstanding citizens from all walks of life and of all ages.

"The judging panel had a very difficult task selecting both the 2006 Citizen of the Year and the Young Citizen of the Year. However the Category Winners have been chosen and will be announced at the Australia Day Award Ceremony on January 26 in Civic Hall commencing at 2pm," Cr Petch said.

The Panel for the selection of the 2006 Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year comprised the Mayor, Cr. Ivan Petch, the Deputy Mayor Cr. Gabrielle O'Donnell, Cr. Edna Wilde OAM, Cr. Connie Netterfield, and General Manager, Michael Whittaker.

Also present at the Award Ceremony will be 50 new Australian Citizens, local residents representing 16 countries who will receive their Australian Citizenship Certificate on our national day.

Ends

Media enquiries: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Stuart Woolstone
A “quiet achiever” and a valued and irreplaceable volunteer with Gladesville Community Aid, Stuart delivering meals every day of the week from Ryde to Putney, Gladesville to Hunters Hill. He demonstrates genuine care for his clients quietly doing small things beyond the call of duty.

Angela Kanellis
A highly respected and tireless worker for St Andrew Greek Orthodox Church and Parish for the past 25 years, Angela is described as a woman full of energy and care for her fellow man. She cooks and provides food for the homeless and gives countless hours to the maintenance of the church.

Periclis Karakaidos
A volunteer for Estia (centre-based respite care for adults with intellectual and physical disabilities), Pericles is described as ‘caring and patient’, for which no task is an effort. From mowing lawns and tending gardens to all manner of odd jobs, he is always willing to help and relates well to those with special needs.

Tony Clews
Awarded the Australian Sports Medal in 2000 for his outstanding achievements in Deaf Sports as a participant and volunteer, Tony was named Deaf Australian of the Year 2005 for his work and dedication to the deaf community. He is currently involved in setting up National Deaf TV.

Roseanne Gallo
Roseanne portrays genuine passion and sincerity for her community. A prodigious songwriter, performer and organiser, she has helped raise tens of thousands of dollars for many charities. Her ‘Singing Star’ creation helps young people to express themselves through music building their self-esteem.

Julie Stone-Powell
A past President of North Ryde Rotary Club, Julie Stone-Powell is the living embodiment of their motto ‘Serve Before Self’. A dedicated hands-on volunteer and qualified social worker Julie has served on the Board of New Horizon Enterprises and continues to gives her time and expertise to all.

Rolf Clapham
Rolf Clapham was instrumental in the establishment of Concerned Residents for Traffic Control in 1998, and campaigned tirelessly to reduce traffic flow in the suburb of Putney. He is Chairman of Coalition Against Private Overdevelopment and works vigorously in the interests of the community.
Kathryn Watkins
The North Ryde School community has benefited enormously from Kathryn Watkins’ tireless support. She helps run the School House Museum, raises funds, organises events and committees. Kathryn is also a weekly volunteer at Riding for the Disabled.

Gerard Landon
Described as a ‘model citizen’, Gerard is a well-known and tireless worker and fund raiser for several charities and organisations throughout the district. He helps run the St Vincent de Paul shop at Eastwood and is a passionate supporter of the ‘Woodies’ rugby union team.

Peggy Saunders
Her impressive credentials of voluntary service to the community reach back five decades. A dedicated mother of nine and school teacher, Peggy pioneered home tutoring, taught remedial reading, served with numerous community organisations and lobbies fearlessly for her causes.

Dorothy Mitchell
Dorothy has served the Ryde community for over fifty years and has helped build a legacy of care for generations to come. A counsellor and founding member of Alzheimer’s Association Speakers Bureau, Dorothy has raised money for Ryde SES and Guide Dogs for the Blind to name just a few.

James Johnston (Jimmy) Shaw
Jimmy Shaw is highly regarded for involving the young and not-so-young, with his inspiring community garden projects. He pioneered eco gardens at Ryde Public School and Macquarie University and his garden plans are being considered by the Dept. of Education for inclusion in the primary curriculum.

Mrs June Tooke
Through the Uniting Church at Denistone East, June has worked to raise funds for the Exodus Foundation to assists homeless and abandoned youth. Proceeds from her famous jam sales go to Christian Community Aid. June also helps run the Women’s Wellness Group based at Macquarie Hospital.
YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Edmund Cheng
A pro-active member of the Ryde Youth Council, 20 year-old Edmund has assisted with various youth initiatives, including skate days, Youth Week and Granny Smith Festivals. He is excelling in his chosen field of film production and was a finalist in NSW Health’s Play Now Act Now video competition.

Kathleen Tay
Kathleen Tay’s all-round sporting ability is exceptional. She is the only girl in the Sydney-North Primary School Sports Association competition (North Ryde to Manly) to contest area swimming and running finals. Kathleen also represented Epping Heights in netball and cross-county.

Ross Donald
Ross is a keen team player and volunteer. From AFL, to baseball umpire, or school band member, he gives his time freely. He will mow lawns, run barbeques, work the canteen, raise funds, or clean up. Ross was recently awarded life membership of the North Ryde RSL Youth Club AFL section.

Kathryn Dadd
As Vice-Captain at Ryde Secondary College, Kathryn gave the ANZAC Day address at North Ryde RSL and organised the 40 Hour Famine. An inspiration to all, she leads by example with her voluntary scouting, fund raising and church charity work. She has just completed her Higher School Certificate.

Emma Shizuka
Emma is a reliable and talented student and a highly skilled dancer. Awarded a position in the NSW Dept of Education & Training State Dance Troupe she has represented North Ryde Public School in many major events, including Northern Sydney Arts Festival and the Schools Spectacular.

Hayley Watkins
School Captain, Hayley Watkins, has achieved outstanding results in 2005 in dance, sport and debating. She has performed in several school dance spectacles, represented North Ryde School in both local and State-level debating challenges and received the Sportsperson of the Year Award 2005.

Alan Harrison
A peer leader at Marsden High School and Student Representative Council member, Alan is also a willing community service volunteer, keen photographer and West Ryde Rovers all-rounder. An outstanding student at Ryde TAFE, he won the Horticulture Fencing Design Competition.

Ends
IVA DAVIES – THIS YEAR’S AUSTRALIA DAY AMBASSADOR

Australian music icon, Iva Davies, creator of some of Australia’s most recognised popular music, is this year’s Australia Day Ambassador for the City of Ryde.

"The City of Ryde is delighted that Iva has accepted the role of Ambassador of this year’s Australia Day celebrations," said Derek McCarthy, Ryde Manager Community Relations and Events.

“Iva is a musician of world renown and the creator of some of Australia’s most recognised popular music. Residents will know many of his seminal works from the group ICEHOUSE, including Great Southern Land, Hey Little Girl and Electric Blue,” Mr. McCarthy said.

Iva Davies broad musical accomplishments also include a number of contemporary ballet scores (Sydney Dance Company) and award winning music for film (Razorback, Peter Weir’s Master and Commander: Far Side of the World, The Incredible Journey of Mary Bryant). Highlights include A Royal Command Performance, an official theme for the 2000 Olympic Games and the centre-piece of Sydney Millennium celebrations performed with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra on the steps of the Sydney Opera House.

Iva Davies will give his Australia Day address at the official ceremony at Ryde Civic Hall on Thursday 26 January from 2pm and will make an appearance at the Family Concert at North Ryde Common later in the day.

-ENDS-

Iva Davies biography attached.

Media Enquiries: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444
BIOGRAPHY - Iva Davies A.Mus.A (dist)
Composer

Iva Davies is an Associate in Music Australia (Distinction) and a formally trained classical musician (oboe, piano and composition).

Iva’s first serious musical training was during high school. His outstanding potential as an oboist won him the first of a number of consecutive scholarships to the NSW State Conservatorium of Music where he continued tertiary studies in the Performer’s Diploma Course.

His parallel interest in popular music and his ability as a guitarist/singer/composer led to the formation of the Australian musical group Icehouse (formerly known as Flowers).

As leader and founder of Icehouse he achieved substantial success both locally and internationally over a period of twenty years. Icehouse produced, roughly thirty local hit songs including Hey Little Girl, Crazy, Electric Blue, Touch the Fire and Great Southern Land, a number of European and American Top 20 hits (including international Number 1s). Album sales are presently approaching two million in Australasia alone.

His music and songs are often described as ‘cinematic’ in nature and are characterised by haunting atmospheres, by transparent beauty, and often dark and forbidding brooding.

As a composer/songwriter, Iva Davies has written over one hundred published songs and several contemporary ballet scores (for Sydney Dance Company). His first film score was the soundtrack music for Russell Mulcahy’s thriller Razorback, which won an AFI nomination and an APRA Award in 1986.

For Sydney’s Millennium Eve Celebration, Iva was invited to transform Great Southern Land into a 40-minute composition, drawing together composers and musicians from all over the world to produce a complex collaborative work. In the minutes before midnight when the clock turned from 1999 to 2000, Great Southern Land was performed on the northern forecourt of the Sydney Opera House. It was broadcast internationally to 2.5 billion television viewers.

Recently he was invited by Director Peter Weir to compose the score to Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World. This film, which starred Russell Crowe, was a 2004 multiple Academy Award Winner. The score was awarded an ASCAP award in Hollywood last year.

His most recent project was the film score to The Incredible Journey of Mary Bryant, the largest budget movie for television ever produced here. The movie has already achieved seven AFI nominations.

Iva continues to write, perform and record music for the select, challenging projects he is invited to contribute to. He has recently been described in the press as the “Godfather of Australian electronic music”.


PLANNING FOR MACQUARIE PARK CORRIDOR APPROVED BY MINISTER

The State Minister for Planning announced yesterday approval for new planning controls for the Macquarie Park Corridor under Ryde Local Environment Plan (LEP) 137 that will help boost local job numbers by up to 50 percent over the next 25 years.

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Cl. Ivan Petch welcomed the announcement: “This is an important milestone in the planning process commenced by the City of Ryde some four years ago.

“This process included the community of Ryde and the major land holders of the Macquarie Park Corridor.

“The vision to be achieved will be to transform the Macquarie Park Corridor from a low-density business park to a vibrant CBD.

“The three railway stations being built by the State Government as part of the Chatswood-Epping Railway will enhance this vision.

“My only disappointment is the decision of the Minister to make Macquarie University a State Significant Site. The University has a long-term Development Plan for the ad hoc redevelopment of the site for commercial and residential use, which has the potential to significantly undermine the economic viability of the rest of the Macquarie Park Corridor.”

The new planning controls will determine the future of the area in terms of its look, feel and function and establish a set of broad guidelines for the future development of the area.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Tuesday, 24 January 2006

“KUNG HEI FAT CHOY”
CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR (YEAR OF THE DOG) AT EASTWOOD PLAZA

Chinese New Year celebrations for the “Year of the Dog”, will take place at Eastwood Plaza on Saturday, 4th February, starting at 10.30 am.

The date of Chinese New Year changes from year to year and corresponds to the new moon (black moon) in either late January or February. Traditionally celebrations last for fifteen days, ending on the date of the full moon.

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Clr Ivan Petch said: “It is my great pleasure to invite residents to take part in our annual Chinese New Year Festival and welcome in the “Year of the Dog” at our celebrations at Eastwood Plaza.

“This is the main Chinese festival of the year. Customs vary in different parts of the world, but everywhere the main idea is the same. It is a time to re-member family and wish everyone peace and prosperity in the coming year.”

Mr. Cheesing Chen, President of the Eastwood Chinese Senior Citizens Club, said: “We have organised a great line-up of entertainment including the traditional Lion Dance performed by the Sydney Youth Dragon and Lion Dancing Troupe. There are many excellent restaurants in the plaza, and I hope all residents join us as we celebrate the arrival of the “Year of the Dog”.

Date: Saturday, 4 February 2006.
Time: 10.30 am – 12.00 pm
Location: Eastwood Plaza
Program: Live Chinese Music
Chinese Martial Arts Demonstration (Kung Fu)
Lion Dance & Dragon Dance
Tribal Dance
Multi-cultural performances

The Year of the Dog
The dog represents total loyalty and friendship. Though honest and straightforward, the Dog’s defensive nature can make them mistrustful of strangers. However, once you earn their confidence, this most humanitarian of all the zodiac signs will be your friend for life. Dogs make ideal builders, property dealers and captains of industry, bringing original ideas to whatever career they choose.

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY -
2006 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR : ROSEANNE GALLO
2006 YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR : KATHRYN DADD

At an Australia Day ceremony yesterday, City of Ryde Mayor, Councillor Ivan Petch, announced Roseanne Gallo as the 2006 City of Ryde Citizen of the Year and Kathryn Dadd as the 2006 City of Ryde Young Citizen of the Year for service to the local community.

In acknowledging their outstanding contributions, Councillor Petch said Mrs Gallo and Miss Dadd were both fine examples of how citizens, through their dedication to the needs of others in the community, help make the City of Ryde a great place to live and work.

He continued: “The high calibre of nominees for this year’s Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year made choosing the winners a very difficult task. However, all nominees should feel proud that their peers have recognised the contributions they have made. They have all added enormous value to our local area and it is especially inspiring to see so many young people keeping the community spirit alive.”

In accepting the award, Mrs Gallo said: “I am truly honoured to accept this award. I am fortunate that I can use my gifts and talent to improve the lives of others. I would like to thank the many people that I have worked with over the years for their support and dedication, and in particular my wonderful family.”

The Young Citizen of the Year, 17 year old Kathryn Dadd, who has just completed her HSC at Ryde Secondary College, said: “This is amazing. I just like being involved and helping others. It is not a conscious thing on my part, it's just what I do. My brother Peter won this award four years ago and he is a big inspiration to me, so I guess it runs in the family.”

Later in the day, Roseanne Gallo and Kathryn Dadd, were presented on stage to the estimated 10,000 strong audience at the Australia Day Family Concert at North Ryde Common where Roseanne led the singing of “Advance Australia Fair”. 
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR : ROSEANNE GALLO

A life-long Marsfield resident, Roseanne Gallo is dedicated to the community in which she lives. She has touched the lives of many people by giving freely of her time, effort and talents as a songwriter, performer and fundraiser.

Roseanne portrays genuine passion and sincerity in her community involvement within the City of Ryde. She is married with three children and works tirelessly to accomplish what she does.

Roseanne has worked closely with St Anthony’s School at Marsfield and initiated the ‘After School Care’ programme at this school. Over the past 13 years, Roseanne has been the force behind the fund raising for the school.

She has also been involved with the following:

- Charity fundraising with Willoughby Floral Centre raising funds for the Children’s Hospital at Camperdown
- Fundraising activities for a very ill student at St Anthony’s, Jake Wells, raising over $11,000.00
- Involvement with Our Lady of Grace, where monies raised contributed to the building of a nursing home
- Coordination of the successful 45th anniversary celebration of ‘Midway’
- Created ‘Singing Star’, which provides an opportunity for young people to express themselves in a way that builds their self-esteem
- Produced (at her expense) “My Animal Friend”, for World Animal Day endorsed by Dr Harry Cooper
- Coordinating North Ryde Christmas Carols by Candlelight

Roseanne played a key role in the Olympic Torch relay where she composed and produced a song “Pass the Flame”, and presented it to the Olympic team. Aided by Andrew Hill, Roseanne’s great efforts raised over $35,000 while going to schools over a period of a week with this song.

In 2002, Roseanne presented the Honourable John Howard PM with a song, “Together as One”, at the flag raising ceremony for the Granny Smith Festival. Her talent and contribution continued as she wrote yet another song for the Granny Smith Festival. Involving the children of surrounding schools, she has sung this song for the past three years at each opening of the festival.

Everyone around her shares Roseanne’s passion for music. Not only is she able to entertain, but also more importantly she simply likes to please people and make them happy! And with this in mind, she is inspired to continue and humbly accept that this is her fulfilment in life.
YOUTH CITIZEN OF THE YEAR : KATHRYN DADD
Kathryn has just completed her Higher School Certificate at Ryde Secondary College, and represented the college as Vice-Captain.

Despite the busy year of study, Kathryn continues to be an outstanding role model for youth in Ryde, not only through the College but also through her work with the 1st Meadowbank Scout Group and the West Ryde Anglican Church.

She willingly gives of her time to lead young people, represent the Ryde Community youth, and involve herself in volunteer charity work.

Kathryn has been involved with numerous community groups for many years, and her achievements include:

At Ryde Secondary College:

- Presented the ANZAC Day address at the North Ryde RSL.
- Coaching the College dance group.
- Organising the 40 Hour Famine and the North Ryde Community Aid food and clothing drives.
- Receiving an unprecedented 9 Ryde Secondary College Gold Medals for service to the College and the community.

Scouting:

- Chairperson for her Venturers group
- Assisting at a camp for disabled scouts for the 1st Cromehurst Scout Group
- Cub Instructor at Meadowbank
- Involvement in charity collection for the local Smith Family

Church:

- Student leader assisting the running of the Youth Group
- Participating in sewing evenings to make school uniforms for students in a Sri Lankan school, where locals cannot afford uniforms.

Kathryn who is fluent in Indonesian, is planning a 6 month trip to West Irian Jaya to assist local adult people studying English to improve their language skills, so they may take a more significant role in the development of their homeland.

-ENDS-

Media enquiries: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
STAR GAZING IS FREE AT CINEMA IN THE PARK

Watch the stars come out on and off the big screen at the Free annual City of Ryde Open Air Cinema in the Park during February and March.

“Now in its fifth year, the Cinema in the Park festival is getting bigger and better with each season, and of course there’s no entry fee,” says Derek McCarthy, Manager - Community Relations and Events for the City of Ryde.

“This year we have added one of our most picturesque riverside locations - Meadowbank Park - to our list of outdoor venues. Another first is subtitles for the hearing impaired for the romantic comedy Hitch, starring Will Smith, and the smash tearjerker Indian classic Kal No Haa No will carry English subtitles. We’re also giving away FREE Incredibles face masks to the first 250 kids.”

There’s something for everyone this year with a very diverse line up of movies. From action and animation to romance and drama. A fitting finale for the Festival is a splashy “Bollywood” classic that leads into the City of Ryde’s Harmony Festival in March.

“There’s something for everyone this year with a very diverse line up of movies. From action and animation to romance and drama. A fitting finale for the Festival is a splashy “Bollywood” classic that leads into the City of Ryde’s Harmony Festival in March.

“People love the informal, relaxed atmosphere of enjoying a picnic with friends and family while they watch the movie. The kids can dress up as their favourite movie heroes and everyone has a great time,” Mr. McCarthy added.

Entry is free and movies start at approximately 8.00 pm (sundown). So pack a picnic, bring a blanket or a low-chair and watch the stars come out. And don’t forget the aeroguard!

FEBRUARY – SATURDAY NIGHT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>MOVIE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Batman Begins</td>
<td>Meadowbank Park, Constitution Road.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>explores the origins of the Batman legend and the Dark Knight's emergence as a force for good in Gotham. Staring Christian Bale as Batman. Rated PG 141 mins</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>Hitch (subtitles for hearing impaired).</td>
<td>Fontenoy Park, Fontenoy Rd, Macquarie Park.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>While helping his latest client woo the lady of his dreams, a professional &quot;date doctor&quot; (Smith) finds the game doesn't quite work on the gossip columnist (Mendes) with whom he's smitten. Rated PG 118 mins</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>The Incredibles*</td>
<td>Morrison Bay Park, Frances Rd, Putney.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oscar winning animation. A family of undercover superheroes, while trying to live the quiet suburban life, are forced into action to save the world. 115 mins rated PG. FREE INCREDIBLES FACE MASKS (first 250) PLUS KIDS' RIDES</td>
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**MARCH – FRIDAY NIGHTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Movie</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Sideways</td>
<td>Two men reaching middle age with not much to show but disappointment, embark on a week-long road trip through California's wine country, just as one is about to take a trip down the aisle. Rated R. 123 min</td>
<td>Macquarie University Lakeside Lawn</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Kal Ho Naa Ho</td>
<td>(Bollywood classic in conjunction with the Harmony Festival) English subtitles. Naina is a very serious girl with a very serious life. But one day her soul is awakened by the happy-go-lucky Aman who teaches her that life is meant for living.</td>
<td>Ryde Park Lower Oval</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Movie snacks are available: coffee, fairy floss, and gelato. *Free Incredibles mask and kids' rides (The Incredibles only).*

Open Air Cinema in the Park is brought to you by: City of Ryde Council, MECU intelligent banking, Macquarie University and Northern District Times.

**Ends**

**Media contact:** Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
ROAD SAFETY OUTSIDE SCHOOL IS THE GOLDEN RULE

Amidst all the confusion and excitement of the new school term, road users are being asked to observe the golden rules of Road Safety Outside School.

- Obey the GO 40 FOR ME/40 kph speed limit in school zones and around school buses;
- Park legally near schools and walk with children to the school gate;
- Drop off and pick up children from the same side of the road as the bus stop;
- Children under 10 years require adult supervision especially when crossing roads;
- Always hold the hand of children, especially those under 8 years of age when crossing roads;
- Children should always use the vehicle ‘Safety Door’ (rear left hand side door of the car closest to the kerb – stickers available from the RTA); and
- Slow down in areas where there are children walking, cycling or playing because child pedestrians may behave unpredictably.

City of Ryde Council’s Road Safety Officer, Leanne Birks, said: “Safe travel to and from school is a key community road safety issue that should always be top of mind for road users.

“However, drivers often do not comply with speed limits around the vicinity of schools and buses carrying school children. Failure to do so puts all children at risk of serious injury.
“Illegal stopping and parking around schools is also a serious safety issue and drivers should be aware that failure to adhere to speed and parking signs can result in hefty fines and demerit points,” said Leanne.

According to RTA statistics, in 2004 almost 11% of pedestrian casualties in the Ryde area involved school children aged 5-12 years. The majority of these accidents occurred near schools.

The **Safety Outside Schools** educational and enforcement campaign is a joint strategy between Ryde Council, the RTA, the Police and local schools to cut the number of young pedestrian accidents.

City of Ryde Council is committed to safeguarding young pedestrians by heightening awareness and encouraging long-term behavioural change in all road users

-ends-

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
WATCH YOUR WASTE
A new Waste and Recycling Service for Residents

Residents of the City of Ryde are set to receive a superior waste and recycling service, including more recycling options and double the number of kerbside cleanups per year.

From late February a new bin rollout will begin to replace existing bins and every household will receive a comprehensive WATCH YOUR WASTE Information Kit explaining details of the new service.

A customer service Hot Line has been set up to provide quick answers to resident queries, and information displays will be placed in various Council and community sites, including Libraries, shopping centres and clubs.

The WATCH YOUR WASTE Information Kit uses the bin lid colours of red/garbage, yellow/recycling and green/garden vegetation as easy reference points and it includes a multi-lingual DVD, a calendar highlighting collection dates and a magnetised information directory.

Waste Services Officer for City of Ryde Council, Jude Colechin, said: “To ensure a smooth transition to the new waste and recycling services, the new bin rollout will be staggered over eight weeks, commencing 1 March.

“The WATCH YOUR WASTE Information Kit explains the many innovations Council’s new Waste and Recycling Services will provide residents, including:
• Details of the new waste collection service
• What can and cannot be recycled
• What can and cannot be placed in the garden vegetation bin
• Correct method of presentation for bulk household collections
• How to minimise waste at the source
• Other waste management initiatives provided by Council
• Chance to win a holiday.

“Residents will soon be able to recycle a much wider range of recyclables including plastics 1-7, steel and aluminium cans, milk and juice cartons, glass bottles and jars, liquid paperboard, paper, cardboard, magazines and junk mail. One of the major noticeable changes is the removal of the divider. All recycling will be placed into one receptacle, so there’s no need to sort. Sorting will take place at the recycling facility,” she said.

Single dwellings will be rolled out first and will have five bins for a short period of time - 3 new bins and 2 old bins. Old bins will be collected from households in the final two weeks of April, so residents are asked to leave old bins out after the last recycling collection in April. The old bins will not be emptied after 1 May 2006.

In the first two weeks of April, multi-unit dwellings will have their old bins removed once they have been emptied. The new bins will be delivered on that same day to alleviate the problem of storing two sets of bins in the limited bin bay areas.

The new bin lids will be held down with stickers instructing residents not to use the bin prior to 1 May.

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Cr. Ivan Petch, added: “The reality is, we are running out of landfill space for rubbish. This new waste management service is designed to maximise the recovery of recyclable material and minimise the amount of waste requiring disposal, whilst at the same time meeting the needs of the community.

“This new service demonstrates the Council's commitment to the State Government's goal of a 60% reduction in waste. We intend to achieve a recovery rate of up to 95% of recyclables, that is
glass, plastics, cardboard and paper, and 100% of garden waste,” he said.

O 0 O

SUMMARY

What new bins will I receive?

Single dwelling households will receive three new bins:
- 140L Garbage Bin, - 240L Recycling Bin, - 240L Garden Vegetation Bin.

Multi Unit Dwellings will receive:
- 1 x 240L Garbage Bin shared between two units, - 1 x 240L Recycling Bin shared between two units, - 240L Garden Vegetation Bin as required.

Each property will receive five scheduled household waste collections per year. Council will consider providing extra bins at an additional fee. Contact the City of Ryde on 9952 8222 to discuss requirements.

When will bin changeover happen?
8 weeks March and April.

New service starts 1 May 2006.

For more information on new Waste and Recycling Services,
Phone City of Ryde Customer Service 9952 8222
Website: www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/services/waste

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Thursday, 16 February 2006

“HARMONY FESTIVAL BRINGS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TOGETHER”


On Tuesday 21 February, students from 4 local schools – Ryde Secondary College, Marsden High, Holy Cross College and Riverside Girls High – will be meeting together to interview Rosanne Gallo, (Ryde Citizen of the Year) and Shubha Kumar (President of the India Club) to workshop migration themes and community harmony issues for a joint project which will be presented at Harmony Festival 2006.

City of Ryde Manager Community Services, Kevin Moloney, said, “the Harmony Festival will celebrate our cultural differences and showcase our ethnic diversity. It will focus on the participation of children and young people in our community and will promote mutual respect and understanding. The City of Ryde hopes that families come along to this fun event where there will be something to interest and engage all ages.”

The festival to be held in the grounds of Ryde Public School on Saturday 11 March will focus upon intercultural activities and sports of different cultural groups living in the Ryde area, including Korean, Chinese, Armenian, Indian, Indonesian and Italian.

There will be food stalls and performances by local kids and schools, demonstrations of different sports, dances, songs and cooking. Another component of the Harmony Festival will be the Migrant Information Expo that aims to provide the range of services and activities available to residents from a non English speaking background in a range of community languages.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Tuesday, 21 February, 2006.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>2.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Workshop with school students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>To be confirmed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For more information on the City of Ryde’s Harmony Festival 2006, contact Customer Service on 9952 8222 or www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

Ends
Media contact:  Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083  M 0434 306 444
SYDNEY’S NORTH 2030
A Bold and Exciting Initiative for Economic and Sustainable Development

A group of business leaders and influences have embarked on a bold and exciting initiative to secure a successful and sustainable future for Sydney's North.

Based on an approach that has proved successful in North America, the starting point is to bring a cross-section of business, government, education and the community together for two days (8 & 9 March) to develop an agreed vision and strategic plan.

The move represents a step towards a different approach to governing our regions with responsibility being taken by the people rather than relying on Government to solve all the problems.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cr Ivan Petch has said, “This is a great initiative. The key to success is to build connections in the region so that everyone continually learns from everyone else”.

The initiative has support from a number of the local Chambers of Commerce, Telstra, Australian Business Limited, Macquarie University, TAFE, The International College of Management, LJ Hooker Commercial North Shore, Eden Gardens and most of the local Councils, including the City of Ryde.

Former NSW Sustainability Commissioner, Professor Peter Newman, said, “I whole heartedly support this exciting initiative. I know that significant benefits and outcomes will eventuate for both the region and the individual organisations from such a collaborative approach.”

The Sydney’s North 2030 two-day summit takes place on 8 and 9 March at Macquarie University. Those interested in attending can contact Richard Sainsbury 9417 2888, who is a former President of the Chatswood Chamber of Commerce and local businessman in the region.

For further information, contact Sam Cappelli, Manager, The Environment, City of Ryde on 99528263.

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, 9952 8083, 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Thursday, 23 February 2006

COUNCIL TELLS GOVERNMENT ROYAL REHAB CENTRE PLAN IS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN ITS CURRENT FORM

Poor quality drawings, inappropriate street patterns and lack of open spaces are among issues raised by Council staff at a recent meeting with the Department of Planning, over the proposed redevelopment of the Royal Rehabilitation Centre site.

Council made it clear that the proposed Concept Plan was not supported in its present form and should be abandoned. It did not resolve the issues raised by both the Council and residents and represented a very poor design for the site which would be problematic once the proposal reached development application stage.

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Cl Ivan Petch said, “This is a very large and complex project. It requires co-operation on both sides to gain the best outcome for the community as a whole.

“Council is not against some development of the RRC site, however, we must have a clear picture of what the State Government intends for this site. Unfortunately, our discussions was not very enlightening and the applicant remains inflexible in its approach,” he said.

In early February the Department of Planning provided Council with a copy of their draft without prejudice conditions associated with the revised Concept Plan for the site. In response, Council provided preliminary comments and requested an extension of time to fully review the document. However, to date, no response to the request has been received.

ENDS

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
HARMONY FESTIVAL SHOWCASES INTERCULTURAL SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

City of Ryde Harmony Festival 2006 - Saturday, 11 March

The City of Ryde’s Harmony Festival 2006 will take place on Saturday 11th March at Ryde Public School from 10am to 2pm.

City of Ryde Manager Community Services, Kevin Moloney, said: “This year’s Harmony Festival will celebrate our community’s unique cultural and ethnic diversity. It will focus on the participation of children and young people in our community and will promote mutual respect and understanding. The City of Ryde hopes that families come along to this fun event where they will be something to interest and engage all ages.”

The festival will focus upon intercultural activities and sports of the five main cultural groups living in the Ryde area (Korean, Chinese, Armenian, Indian & Italian) there will be opportunities to be actively involved in learning more about our neighbours, trying their food, playing their games and enjoying their culture.

There will be food stalls and performances by local kids and schools, demonstrations of different sports, dances, songs and cooking. There will be lots of activities for children and of course free showbags!

Displays from Holy Cross College, Marsden High School, Riverside Girls High School and Ryde Secondary College on migration and community harmony themes will be showcased for each community.

Another component of the Harmony Festival will be the Migrant Information Expo that aims to provide the range of services and activities available to residents from a non English speaking background in a range of community languages.

This year the Festival is being organised and managed through the Community Harmony Reference Group. The Community Harmony Reference Group is chaired by the Mayor of the City of Ryde. It was formed in November 2004 to promote local community harmony. It comprises of twelve local representatives from multicultural backgrounds and six Councillors.
The City of Ryde festival has received strong support by the Community Relations Commission, NSW Department of Education and Training, Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service, Ryde Public School, Ryde Hunters Hill Multicultural Network, local schools and community groups.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>10am to 2.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Harmony Festival 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>Ryde Public School Tucker Street Ryde</td>
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</table>

For more information on the City of Ryde's Harmony Festival 2006, contact Customer Service on 9952 8222 or www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083  M 0434 306 444
‘CALLING ALL INVOLVED IN THE ARTS’
YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU

Want to contribute to a robust and energetic arts scene in the City of Ryde?

Are you an individual or community organisation that makes art or craft, or a company involved in the arts industry? Do you live or are you located in the Ryde Local Government area? If so, Council would like to hear from you.

City of Ryde Council is currently undertaking a research project to look at the current state of the arts in the City. The project provides opportunities for individuals, cultural and community organisations involved in arts and crafts, as well as cultural industries and business, to assist future planning for arts development in the City of Ryde.

“The City of Ryde has a strong history of arts activity. There are many established artists and arts groups in the area, including music, theatre and visual arts groups, distinguished art schools at Macquarie University and Meadowbank TAFE, a popular local Eisteddfod and much more”, Paul Graham, Council’s Art and Cultural Development Coordinator said, “There is enormous potential for an energetic and vital local arts scene in Ryde”.

Whatever your interest or involvement in the arts in Ryde, you can get involved in the study by filling in a questionnaire, and coming along to our community workshops in April. If you would like to provide input and you are an individual, community organisation or company, you can download an Arts Review questionnaire from www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/news/publicnotice, or telephone 9952 8312 to receive a copy by fax or mail. Details of the April community workshops will be sent by mail and listed on Council’s website.

Your information will be of great value to the research process and arts development in Ryde.

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Thursday, 2 March 2006

NO PARKING METERS IN LOCAL SHOPPING CENTRES

City of Ryde Council passed a resolution on Tuesday 28 February 2006, endorsing a Mayoral Minute that parking meters will not be installed in local shopping centres.

“The community as a whole needs to be assured that this Council has no intention of installing parking meters in local shopping centres like Gladesville, Eastwood, West Ryde, Top Ryde or in any other local shopping precincts in our City,” says City of Ryde Mayor, Cr Ivan Petch.

“We are concerned at rumours and a degree of misinformation circulating in the community at the moment regarding this issue and want to make it very clear to both residents and businesses that parking meters have never been considered for our local shopping centres,” he said.

“The City of Ryde is currently looking at a range of solutions to parking issues in two specific areas – the Macquarie Park Corridor and the vicinity of the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre.

“Both these independent studies were initiated by Council in response to community concerns and should not be confused with any other locations within our city,” Cr Petch concluded.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
SAVINGS FOR WEST RYDE LIBRARY
Final figures for the construction and fitout of the new West Ryde Library at 2 Graf Avenue have come in revealing a $380,000 saving. State of the art Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology has improved productivity and customer service. The community has responded enthusiastically with 60,048 people using the new library Dec-Feb, a 100% increase on previous year. Council will consider rolling out the RFID system for Eastwood and North Ryde Branch Libraries next financial year.

FREE CHIPPING & MULCHING SERVICE TO STAY
Council’s free greenwaste chipping and mulching service has proved so popular with residents that it will be continued for a further twelve months. “This is a win-win situation, for both residents and our new Waste Management Strategy,” says Jude Colechin, Co-ordinator Waste Management. “The kerb-side service is free, it reduces waste at the source, and produces valuable mulch for residents to distribute over their gardens, which in turn, saves water.”

For further details and bookings contact Customer Service on 9952 8222.

PROMOTING SAFER SPORT & RECREATION
NSW Sport and Recreation in conjunction with the Ryde Sports Safety Committee will present a series of informative sports and recreation safety workshops throughout the year, starting on 27 March. Whether you’re looking to implement child protection practices, attract more volunteers or learn more about your legal responsibilities, these workshops are for you. Bookings are essential. For further information, please contact: NSW Sport & Recreation on 13 13 02. For deaf, hearing or speech impaired TTY (02) 9006 3701, or www.dsr.nsw.gov.au

EASTWOOD & TERRY’S CREEK FLOODPLAIN COMMITTEE MEMBERS ENDORSED
Following discussions with the Department of Natural Resources, Council has endorsed membership of the Eastwood & Terry’s Creek Floodplain Risk Management Committee. Six members of the local community will join three Councillors (Clrs Ryan, Perram and Wilde), staff and government
representatives to oversee and guide the management of the floodplain risk management study and plan for Eastwood and Terry’s Creek subcatchment areas.

**TREE TO BE REMOVED**

Following community consultation and advice from an independent arborist, Council will remove a *Liquidamber* tree from a narrow nature strip in Mason Street, Denistone East.

City of Ryde Manager – Parks, Mr. Peter Hickman, said: “The 16-metre tree has suffered two recent branch failures and the arborist report confirmed that the tree shows signs of wetwood infection and possible termite activity. The report also concludes that ‘the planter bed is too small to accommodate root growth’. Council will replace the *Liquidamber* with three Australian Red Cedar trees to be planted in the adjacent park.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR ALL**

Council has adopted in principal a Social Justice Charter to strengthen community well-being and provide a framework of citizens’ rights to underpin all future policies and objectives. The Charter aims to recognise basic civic and human rights, reduce disadvantage, dispel discrimination and improve quality of life for all citizens, workers and visitors to the City of Ryde.

To raise public awareness of the Social Justice Charter, copies will go on public display following further community consultation.

**HARMONY A HIT**

City of Ryde’s new-look Harmony Festival has been a big hit with the community. Group Manager – Community Life, Sue Coleman: “This year the festival unofficially opened with the Bollywood classic “Kal Ho Naa Ho” at Cinema in the Park on Friday night - a great innovation that proved popular with the community. It continued on Saturday with the Community Harmony Festival, which has blossomed with strong community participation and attendance.”

Ends

*Media contact:  Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444*
City of Ryde

Media Release

Wednesday, 15 March 2006.

COMMUNITY VIEWS SOUGHT ON PARRAMATTA RIVER PATHWAY

Ryde’s natural environment brings to mind images of healthy lifestyles shaped through the enjoyment of one of Sydney’s most beautiful locations.

To make the most of our natural environment and its contribution to the health and well being of residents, City of Ryde is looking to continue the construction of its pedestrian and cycle path, creating more opportunities to access the Parramatta River shoreline. Completion of the path will add a key link in greater Sydney’s pedestrian and cycle network.

“The completion of the path will create more pedestrian and cycling opportunities along the shoreline between Wharf Road, West Ryde and Punt Road, Gladesville”, Elizabeth Read, City of Ryde’s Landscape Architect said. “As well as improved access we’d like to add to the experience by incorporating meeting and resting areas, and local historical and cultural information”.

Ms Read says the first step will be to develop a masterplan. “Identifying the exact course, links to the paths already completed, potential connections with public transport and education facilities, and opportunities for public art will be included in the masterplan”.

To provide an opportunity for residents to discuss ideas for the pedestrian and cycle path, City of Ryde is holding a Fun Day at Kissing Point Park on Sunday 26 March between 10am and 2pm.

There will be activities for the kids, a free BBQ and Council staff to discuss ideas for the path. Invitations and questionnaires will be sent to as many households as possible so residents can have a say. Everyone’s invited.

For further information contact 9952 8222 or www.ryde.nsw.gov.au and click News and Events/Public Notices.

Additional opportunities for public comment will also be made available.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 99528083 M 0434 306 444
COMMUNITY TO HAVE SAY IN CITY OF RYDE’S FUTURE

As part of the City of Ryde’s on-going commitment to consult with the community and to gain valuable public input on the list of proposed works to be undertaken over the next four (4) years, residents are invited to attend a public meeting at the Civic Centre, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde, on Monday 27 March, 2006, commencing at 6.30 pm.

The Mayor and Councillors of the City of Ryde are proposing to make an application to the Minister of Local Government for an additional $3million per year for specific infrastructure projects to be delivered in the areas of roads, footpaths, parks and drainage/stormwater. The proposed increase would mean residential ratepayers would pay on average an additional $1.40 per week for the delivery of this additional infrastructure program.

Examples of key projects proposed for delivery in 2006/2007 are:

- new footpath construction works totalling $176,000, including sections of Ida Street, Morrison Road and Rutledge Street,
- new roundabouts at Pittwater Road/Field of Mars and Melville Street/Goodwin Street,
- new cycleway at Waterloo Road (Herring Road to Shrimptons Creek),
- renewal of parks at Meadowbank Park (fields 8 and 9),
- resurfacing Christie Park,
- additional upgrades to playground equipment at North Ryde Park, Jennifer Park, Acacia Park and Santa Rosa.

The meeting will be addressed by a number of speakers in respect of this proposal.

Members of the community are encouraged to attend the public meeting and if they have enquiries in respect of this proposal can either contact Council’s Customer Service Centre on 9952 8222 or access information on Council’s website on www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

Ends

Media contact:  Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Friday, March 17, 2006

SENIORS WEEK 2006 - 2 to 9 April “LIVE LIFE”

Ryde seniors will be spoilt for choice when City of Ryde launches its “LIVE LIFE” program for Seniors Week.

City of Ryde’s Community Project Officer, Cathy Buining, said: “The program offers a variety of activities, from educational to entertainment, and reflects seniors’ vast range of interests.

“One of the key activities is the Older Men’s Health Forum, bringing together a range of health professionals and community groups presenting on issues relevant to older men. This seminar will be held at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club on Wednesday 5 April,” said Ms Buining.

Manager Community Services, Kevin Moloney said the Seniors Gala Concert on Thursday 6 April at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club would be a highlight of the week.

“It will feature the Three Irish Tenors and Karen Bruce presenting classic popular songs and Irish evergreens, “said Mr Moloney.

Other activities to look out for include the:

- Easy Care Gardening Training Morning - Fri 7 April,
- Internet Training for Seniors Series - April 3, 4 and 6
- Italian Memory and Wellness Seminar, Tue April 4
- Financial Information Seminars, Wed April 5
Bookings for activities are now open. Residents are encouraged to make bookings in advance to avoid disappointment. Refreshments are provided at some activities.

Copies of the full Seniors Week 2006 program can be downloaded from the Council website: http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au. Alternatively, they can be obtained from City of Ryde Customer Service, Civic Centre, 1 Devlin Street Ryde, or by contacting 9952 8222.

- ENDS -

Media contact: Lee Kirkland Media Officer, ph: 9952 8083 or 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Thursday, 23 March 2006

CITY OF RYDE LIBRARY SERVICES presents …
APRIL ANTICS FOR KIDS
All sessions Free. Bookings essential @ your local Ryde library in person or contact: 9952 8357. More www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

ANIME ANTICS
Pizza and Anime film nights for teens aged 11+. DVD giveaway – must be there to win!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SESSIONS 6-8pm</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laputa: Castle in the Sky. G.</td>
<td>West Ryde Library</td>
<td>Thursday 20 April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind. PG.</td>
<td>Ryde Library</td>
<td>Friday 21 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Neighbour Totoro. G.</td>
<td>Eastwood Library</td>
<td>Thursday 27 April</td>
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AUSSIE ANTICS
Legends and heroes who make Aussie Folklore. Sheep shearing, sing-a-long, didgeridoo, stories, music.
All ages

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<tr>
<th>All Performances</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>10.30-11.30 am</td>
<td>Ryde Library</td>
<td>Monday 24 April</td>
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<td>North Ryde Library</td>
<td>Wednesday 26 April</td>
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<td></td>
<td>West Ryde Library</td>
<td>Friday 28 April</td>
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KOALA CRAFT
Make a cuddly koala of your own. Ages 2+

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>All sessions</th>
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<tr>
<td>2.30 – 3.30 pm</td>
<td>Eastwood Library</td>
<td>Wednesday 19 April</td>
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<td>North Ryde Library</td>
<td>Thursday 20 April</td>
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<td>Gladesville Library</td>
<td>Friday 21 April</td>
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BOOMERANG CRAFT
Making patterns with sand. Decorate your own boomerang.
Age 5+

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<td>Gladesville Library</td>
<td>Friday 28 April</td>
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Exploring Gregory Blaxland (Heritage Festival)
Celebrating 200th Anniversary of famous explorer’s arrival in colony of New South Wales. Learn more about the life and legacy of this great pioneer when local historian Gregory Blaxall holds a morning talk on the subject. Contact: 9952 8377 www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SESSION</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>10.30 am followed by morning tea</td>
<td>North Ryde Community Hall (above North Ryde Library)</td>
<td>Monday 24 April</td>
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Other events
Ryde Youth Council presents:
YOUTHWEEK 2006 - BATTLE OF THE BANDS
Thursday 6 April, 2006, 4.30 pm – 7.30 pm
Holy Cross College Hall, 517 Victoria Road, Ryde.
Phone 9952 8313 www.ryde.nsw.gov.au
11 local bands battle it out for prize money $750.
Open to all students attending Secondary School in the Ryde area.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
COUNCIL OPENS WAY TO STREET PARTY RETURN

The popular Street Party looks set to return with an innovative Council policy that allows organisers to temporarily ‘hire’ their street, in much the same way they would hire a hall or a local park, avoiding crippling public liability insurance.

City of Ryde Group Manager Public Works, Kim Woodbury said: “Local street parties have always been popular, but they became a thing of the past when the spiralling cost of public liability put insurance cover for these events past the pockets of local residents.

“Following repeated requests over the years from residents wishing to hold street parties, Council sought a solution and was able to renegotiate the Casual Hirers Policy to cover temporary road closures.

“This is a great outcome for our residents and one we expect to be embraced by the community especially in the lead up to Christmas,” he said.

Organisers will be charged a fee of $170, which includes $20 for the provision of the insurance, a $50 administration fee and $100 for the supply and return of barricades.

Details of how to Conduct a Street Party can be obtained from Council’s website on www.ryde.nsw.gov.au or phone Customer Service on 9952 8222.

The Casual Hirers Policy does not extend to incorporated bodies, profit-making entities or sporting clubs.

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 360 444
Monday, 3 April 2006

CITY PROPOSES AN EXTRA $3.1 MILLION EACH YEAR FOR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

At the public meeting held on Monday 27 March 2006 at the Ryde Civic Hall, residents were presented with a proposal to consider an additional program of works that would require each residential ratepayer to pay on average an extra $1.40 per week.

All funds raised would be dedicated to the delivery of an infrastructure and stormwater management program totalling $3.1 million per year.

The meeting was addressed by a number of speakers, including Mr Shaun McBride (NSW Local Government and Shires Association), who provided an overview of the Interim Report of the Independent Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of NSW Local Government, Mr Malcolm Morrison, Morrison Low who has assisted the City of Ryde in the completion of a twenty (20) year Long Term Financial Strategy. The Mayor, Councill Ivan Petch also gave an overview of Council’s current position and the proposed special rates.

The residents raised a number of good suggestions including a request that Council send out a ‘simple plain English’ information sheet in the next rate issue advising what the $1.40 per week would be spent on. The meeting also reinforced the results Council recently received from our community survey, where residents want Council to spend more funds on existing services, especially infrastructure.

Councillor Petch stated the meeting clearly acknowledged the difficult job Council has in balancing the books and providing services at acceptable levels while maintaining its $1.8 Billion of infrastructure (roads, drainage, parks, etc.) all within the current levels of revenue.
“There was general consensus that the City of Ryde and Local Government generally required additional revenue,” he said.

NSW is the only State where rate pegging exists. Rate pegging restricts the total rate income Council can raise from year to year. The yearly increase is determined by the Minister for Local Government and is the same amount for all 152 Councils in NSW.

“If Council cannot receive approval for this additional income, then it will have to significantly reduce its annual capital works program,” Councillor Petch said.

Examples of some of the projects proposed to be delivered are:-

- new footpath construction works totalling $176,000, including sections of Ida Street, Morrison Road and Rutledge Street;
- new roundabouts at Pittwater Road/Field of Mars and Melville Street/Goodwin Street;
- new cycleway at Waterloo Road (Herring Road to Shrimptoms Creek);
- renewal of parks at Meadowbank Park (fields 8 and 9);
- resurfacing Christie Park;
- additional upgrades to playground equipment at North Ryde Park, Jennifer Park, Acacia Park and Santa Rosa.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
BLAXLAND BICENTENARY CELEBRATION
Special Events including Commemorative Plaque Unveiling – Eastwood Plaza, April 11

Gregory Blaxland arrived with his family in New South Wales on 11 April 1806. He soon took up land and also purchased a farm at Eastwood known as ‘The Brush’. ‘The Brush’ became Brush Farm and the house he built there is listed under the National Estate and regarded as one of the most significant country houses in Australia. It is currently in the process of restoration.

To celebrate the arrival of this significant pioneer, the Brush Farm Historical Society in conjunction with the City of Ryde have planned a series of events to mark the occasion.

The Council, through its cultural grants program and in conjunction with a grant administered by the Royal Australian Historical Society, partially funded the publication of a book titled *A Short History of the Life of Gregory Blaxland* by Ron Buttrey. The book will launched at 6.00pm on 11 April by Andrew Tink, Member for Epping.

A dinner will also be held on the same evening, attended by City of Ryde Councillors, representatives from Councils surrounding Ryde, descendents of the Blaxland family, members of the Brush Farm Historical Society and other invited guests. The Principal Speaker will be Assoc. Prof. Carole Liston, University of Western Sydney.

However, a significant and very appealing event will be the unveiling of the Gregory Blaxland plaque in the Eastwood Mall.

The students of the City of Ryde are the focus of this commemorative event.
The ceremony commences at 11am. The Mayor, Cl Ivan Petch will give a short address on the local and national significance of Gregory Blaxland. He will then unveil the plaque.

Students, teachers and the general public will have an opportunity to inspect the plaque.

It is anticipated that the Gregory Blaxland plaque will be the first of several to be placed in the Eastwood Mall that was once known as Blaxland’s Road.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY
A commemorative brass plaque will be unveiled in Eastwood Plaza on Tuesday 11\textsuperscript{th} April 2006 at 11.00am marking the 200\textsuperscript{th} anniversary of the arrival of Gregory Blaxland in the fledgling colony of New South Wales.

Ends

For further information on the life of Gregory Blaxland and Centenary Celebrations, please contact: Gregory Blaxell on T 9874 2266, M 0408 419 332 or email blaxellg@ozemail.com.au.

Media enquiries: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444
NO RESOLUTION ON JOINT LIBRARY SERVICES FUNDING

The City of Ryde has again rejected Hunter’s Hill Council’s proposal to halve its financial contribution to joint library services that would see City of Ryde residents paying twice as much per capita for library services as Hunter’s Hill residents.

Members of the City of Ryde Council are disappointed by Hunter’s Hill Council’s failure to review its position after nearly fifty years of enjoying a joint funding agreement supporting the provision of Joint Library Services, including Gladesville Library, across the community.

At a public Council meeting last week, Hunter’s Hill Council recognised the critical nature of library services and its responsibility to provide the community with a high-quality library service. However, while committed to providing these services to residents, Hunter’s Hill Council did not review their original offer of about $240,000, half their past annual contribution.

City of Ryde Council has agreed to participate in mediation to try and reach a fair and equitable outcome that will enable the Joint Library Service to continue and hope that negotiations will proceed with some urgency. It is critical for this issue to be resolved quickly so outcomes can be reflected in the new Council Budget to be publicly exhibited at the end of April.

“We hope for an equitable resolution to this issue so we can continue to provide the current levels of service to the community,” says City of Ryde Mayor, Cr Ivan Petch. “Hunter’s Hill residents have greatly benefited from this arrangement over the years. The City of Ryde has assumed all capital costs and it is only fair they contribute not only to the cost of running Gladesville Library but to ongoing administration expenses to sustain such an extensive and valuable service.”

Comments from representatives of Hunter’s Hill Council and members of the public supported recent surveys indicating a high level of satisfaction from residents with the current Joint Library Services.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444

29 March 2006
City of Ryde

Media Release

Wednesday, 5 April 2006

COUNCIL SPONSORS SPECIAL OLYMPICS AT RYDE AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRE
Saturday, 20 May 2006, 10am – 5pm

The Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (RALC) will host the Special Olympics Regional Swimming Carnival on Saturday 20 May 2006, and provide sponsorship by waiving the pool hire fee for the Carnival.

Organisers of the Special Olympics Regional Swimming Carnival anticipate that more than 200 competitors from all over the State will attend, including many of the special swim-quad who currently train at the RALC.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cl Ivan Petch who, along with other Councillors, will officiate at the Medal Ceremony, said: “We are delighted to have the opportunity to once again contribute to the success of the Special Olympics NSW Regional Swimming Carnival and look forward to many magical sporting moments.

“Thanks to the dedicated mix of parents, volunteers and supporters, the Special Olympics offers children and adults with an intellectual disability, year round training and competition opportunities in Olympic-type sports.”

The swim carnival is run as an Olympic style event complete with formal Opening and Closing Ceremonies as well as medal presentations. Every competitor is acknowledged.

Special Olympics is a worldwide organisation committed to empowering individuals with an intellectual disability to become physically fit, productive and respected members of society through sports training and competition.

Photo Opportunities:
1. Swim-squad training at RALC (w/c 8 May).
2. Medal presentations Saturday 20 May

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
COMMUNITY INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE TO FUTURE VISION OF CITY’S PARKS

Council’s commitment to the long term management of our city’s open spaces has been further consolidated with the endorsement of a program of public consultation on a new visionary parks masterplan project.

Currently still in draft form, the strategic plan entitled “Parks on Track for People 2025” will shape the development and use of Parks and Reserves in the City of Ryde over the next twenty five years.

City of Ryde Group Manager Community Life, Sue Coleman, said: “It is important that a wide section of the community has the opportunity to comment, as this is a far reaching initiative that will ensure our natural environment is well managed both now and into the future.

“By identifying local trends and forecasting future demands for recreation and leisure facilities, Parks on Track for People 2025 will ensure that our parks and open space respond to the needs and demands of the community as it changes.

“The parks masterplan will also provide guidance to Council in preparing plans of management, capital works programs and maintenance standards,” Ms Coleman said.

Community consultation will commence after the Easter School Holidays. Organised groups such as sports clubs and bush care groups will be invited to information sessions. Others wishing to have an input such as casual park users, parents and residents who enjoy sport and leisure time in our vast network of parks will also have the opportunity to comment.
Information session details can be obtained from Council’s website www.ryde.nsw.gov.au, Customer Service on 9952 8222 as well as Council’s newspaper advertising.

The “Parks on Track for people 2025" strategic plan will be placed on the Council web-site from 1 May with an invitation to comment as well.

**Update on Blenheim & Ryde Parks**

Council is considering detailed design plans for Blenheim Park and Ryde Park. The Blenheim Park plan will be the last stage of the $1 million upgrade at the park that has been staged over the last three years. The Ryde Park plans are the first stages of the redevelopment of Ryde Park that will continue for a number of years. Council has consulted widely with the community on both projects and is grateful for the suggestions that have been offered.

The last stage of the Blenheim Park works include additional playground equipment for the under 12’s, completion of the walking track, more landscaping and additional furniture.

**Ends**

*Media Contact:  Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0436 306 444*
City of Ryde

Media Release

Thursday, 6 April 2006

**19% WATER SAVING PUTS COUNCIL IN TOP 4 SPOT**

Water consumption across Council operated facilities has dropped an impressive 19%, earning Council a healthy 3 Stars in the national water rating system. This good performance has placed the City of Ryde in the top 4 out of 63 Councils participating in the ‘Every Drop Counts’ (EDC) program.

The water saving practises are spread across 11 identified sites, including the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, and since the initiatives started in 2004 have delivered water savings enough to fill 16 Olympic size swimming pools from the average daily savings of over 30 kilolitres (KL).

The Star Rating Analysis by Sector also puts the City of Ryde in the top 33 of all sector types, rating ‘above average’ in every category for both the local government industry sector and across Australia for all sector types.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch, said: “This is a great outcome for Council, the community and the environment. It demonstrates the commitment of both staff and Council to achieve sustainable water conservation and how co-operation across all levels of government and industry can deliver good outcomes for the sake of our natural environment.

“Our challenge now is to achieve a 4 Star rating and we hope to do this through the adoption of the Water Savings Action Plan that will set the City’s strategic direction for water saving initiatives for the next four years.”


Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0436 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

12 April 2006

Recycling campaign takes flight!

City of Ryde residents are being called to get onboard the ‘Cartridges 4 Planet Ark’ campaign, which aims to get Australians recycling more printer cartridges.

“With 18 million printer cartridges ending up in Australia’s landfills every year, it’s important that everyone stops dumping and starts recycling their old printer cartridges,” says Joanne Hill, Waste Education Officer with the City of Ryde.

The ‘Cartridges 4 Planet Ark’ campaign has set up special printer cartridge recycling bins in over 2,300 participating Australia Post, Officeworks, Harvey Norman, Tandy, Dick Smith Electronics and PowerHouse stores.

The equivalent of 30 Boeing 737 planes in weight have already been diverted from landfill as a result of the campaign. With Sir Richard Branson also fronting this latest Planet Ark campaign, <insert council name> want the public and business to improve on the nearly 2.5 million printer cartridges collected to date.

Ryde Council residents can drop off any kind of printer cartridge for recycling – regardless of its make or condition. Over 10,000 businesses are already recycling their printer cartridges with special Planet Ark recycling bins. “City of Ryde businesses wanting free cartridges recycling pickup only have to call 1800 24 24 73,” said Joanne Hill.

Everything collected by the ‘Cartridges 4 Planet Ark’ program is remanufactured where possible and what is not is recycled in the Close the Loop® ‘zero waste to landfill’ recycling facility. This means that none of the donated cartridges end up in Australia’s landfills.

About ‘Cartridges 4 Planet Ark’ Since 2003, Planet Ark has joined forces with Lexmark, Hewlett-Packard, Brother, Konica Minolta, Panasonic, Epson and Canon to divert millions of printer cartridges from landfill. These leading cartridge manufacturers support the program by covering the cost to collect and recycle the cartridges.

ENDS

Contact: Derek McCarthy
Manager Community Relations and Events
Ph: 9952 6384
0418 465603
The ultimate benefit of donating cartridges to Planet Ark is that it is a zero waste to landfill program. All cartridges collected are remanufactured where possible and those that cannot are recycled using the unique ‘Green Machine’ technology. This shreds them back into component raw materials for recycling – guaranteeing that nothing ends up in landfill.

To date, the public and business have helped Planet Ark to recycle almost 2.5 million printer cartridges. Whilst this is a positive start, the organisation says far too many cartridges are still ending up in landfill being thrown in the garbage bin.

“Printer cartridges can be harmful to the environment when they’re disposed of in landfill,” said Planet Ark Founder Jon Dee, who directed Sir Richard’s TV advert.

“That’s why we’re publicly calling on everyone to stop dumping and start recycling.”

Sir Richard’s TV and radio adverts were directed by Jon Dee on location in New York. “With Sir Richard Branson fronting the ‘Cartridges 4 Planet Ark’ program, we’re hoping to get many more businesses and members of the public recycling printer cartridges. Simply far too many of them are currently ending up in landfill,” said Dee.
City of Ryde

Media Release

Wednesday, 19 April 2006

‘PARKS ON TRACK FOR PEOPLE 2025’ PROJECT OPEN FOR COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Parks on Track for People 2025 is a visionary Council project that will lay the framework for the future development of the entire network of open spaces, parks, reserves, playing fields and bush areas in the City of Ryde. It will give direction to investment decisions over the next twenty years.

Council is keen to obtain community feedback on the strategy and invites all interested groups to take part in Information Sessions during May to discuss the draft Masterplan.

All Information Sessions will be held at: 5th Floor, Main Civic Centre Building, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde.

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 11 May</td>
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<td>Natural Areas</td>
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Parks on Track for People 2025 document can be found on City of Ryde website www.ryde.nsw.gov.au or contact Parks Section on 9952 8251 for more information.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Thursday, 20 April 2006

HIGHER THAN AVERAGE PEDESTRIAN CASUALTIES PROMPT COUNCIL SAFETY SEMINARS FOR OVER 55s

In response to an increase in the number of older pedestrian casualties in the Ryde area, Council will host two free pedestrian and road safety seminars for the over 55s during May.

The workshops are designed to provide the over 55s with access to the latest information, advice and practical skills to help enhance their knowledge, safety and ability to move around the community.

The seminars are targeted at two particular groups in the community – foot pedestrians and those using or intending to use the popular motorised wheelchairs or scooters.

City of Ryde Road Safety Officer, Leanne Birks, said: “The increased popularity of motorised wheelchairs and scooters in the community is creating a new ‘user group’. The practical skills workshop provides users and potential users with the information and confidence required to manoeuvre a scooter/wheelchair in various situations safely and confidently.

“However, the increase in pedestrian casualties in the Ryde area, now standing at a above the five-year average, is cause for concern and is being examined in detail as part of the RTA and City of Ryde Local Government Road Safety Program,” she said

In 2004, 21% of the 48 pedestrian casualties in the Ryde area came from the 60+ age group, making it the second highest group after the 17-25 age group.
Ms Birks continued: “When examining the 60+ year age group, the majority of pedestrian accidents occurred on main roads including Epping, Lane Cove, Victoria and Pittwater Roads. Most of these accidents occurred in the morning between 9.25 am and 11.30 am and early afternoon between 1.20 pm and 4.10 pm.

“One reason for the high percentage of older pedestrian casualties may be an increased number of older pedestrians who are more fragile with slower reaction times to dangerous situations. Making this group aware of risk factors, road rule changes and mobility alternatives is a step towards reducing this unacceptable accident rate,” she concluded.

Seminar #1
Motorised Wheelchair and Scooter Safety Awareness Workshop
For current and those considering using a motorised wheelchair or scooter. Representatives from the City of Ryde Road Safety Unit, Gladesville Police, Mobility Options and the NRMA will be discussing:

- Types of scooters
- Purchasing
- Registration and insurance
- Basic maintenance
- Road rules and responsibilities
- Skills and abilities
- Pedestrian safety
- Access in Ryde

Date Tuesday 9 May 2006
Time 9.00 am – 1.00 pm
Venue St Anne’s Anglican Church Hall, 42-50 Church Street, Ryde, (wheelchair and scooter accessible)
Bookings Free of charge. Bookings essential 9952 8303. Bookings close Monday 8 May
Refreshments A light lunch, tea, coffee and refreshments will be provided
Seminar # 2  
Walking to Safety  
A free road and community safety seminar for the older pedestrian

Representatives from City of Ryde Council Road Safety Department, NRMA, Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney Buses, Gladesville and Eastwood Police will cover the following topics:

- The risk factors of being an older pedestrian
- What happens when a pedestrian crash occurs
- Changes in road rules
- Health and medication
- Pedestrian crossings and other pedestrian facilities
- Your vision
- Mobility alternatives
- How to keep safe in your community
- Driver safety

Date Wednesday, 10 May 2006
Time 9.00 am – 2.00 pm
Venue Ryde Eastwood leagues Club, 117 Ryedale Road, West Ryde (wheelchair and scooter accessible)
Bookings Free of charge. Bookings essential 9952 8303 (bookings close Monday 8 May
Refreshments A light lunch and refreshments will be provided

Photo Opportunity  
Thursday 27 April, Pedestrian Crossing, Graff Avenue, opp West Ryde Library.  Time tbc

Media Contact:  Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
FURTHER GROWTH FOR WEST RYDE RETAIL PRECINCT

The revitalisation of the West Ryde Retail Precinct continues to gather momentum as Council awaits submissions from the shortlisted tenderers.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch said: “Council is committed to continuing the upgrade of the West Ryde Retail Precinct. We have seen how the community has responded so positively to the completion of the Woolworths site and the opening of the new West Ryde Library. Further redevelopment of the area will complete the creation of a vital and attractive retail hub with additional facilities and services as well as the creation of employment opportunities.”

This important civic project provides for the redevelopment of the old car park site and adjacent properties on Anthony Road together with new road construction. The key components of this development opportunity are detailed as follows:

- A new Council owned community building that incorporates the existing community service providers of West Ryde, into the one functional location.
- A Village Square, which shall be utilised by the West Ryde community on a daily basis. It will also cater for pre-programmed community events and festivals.
- A NRMA rated secured public carpark facility for 134 vehicles
- A retail/commercial/residential mixed-use development that will compliment Council assets and other neighbouring sites creating an attractive retail hub.
- Renewed infrastructure of utility services, facilities, paths, cycleways and roads.

Council called for Expressions of Interest back in 2005 to develop the West Ryde Retail Precinct. Following the expressed interest submissions, Council resolved to tender the development opportunity to the short listed tenderers.

Tender documents were prepared and issued in March 2006 and Council is awaiting submissions by the two short listed tenderers in late May 2006 for assessment and resolution.

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS FORCES COUNCIL TO CONSIDER CLOSING GLADESVILLE LIBRARY

The City of Ryde has taken the difficult decision to prepare for the closure of Gladesville Library from 30 June 2006, as a result of Hunters Hill Council reducing its contribution to a level that does not allow the branch library to continue operating.

This will bring to an end a partnership between the two Councils for the joint library service that has stood since 1957.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch, said: “The decision to reject Hunters Hill Council’s final offer has not been easy. After what appeared to be constructive mediation between the two Councils last week, we were optimistic of a positive outcome that would allow us to move forward. Our discussion included a new management structure, joint branding and potential long term plans for bigger and better library services.

“However, following further deliberations, Hunters Hill Council decided to only offer a six-month extension at the current level of funding, or 12 months at a vastly reduced rate.

“Neither of these offers is acceptable to the City of Ryde Council, as they would result in Ryde ratepayers paying more for the service and in effect subsidising Hunters Hill residents by approximately $250,000 a year.

“It would also mean that the future of the library service would remain in doubt, causing considerable stress to staff and uncertainty to library members.

“The City of Ryde Council has done everything it can to resolve this issue by keeping open these year-long negotiations to the
eleventh hour. However, as we cannot rely on Hunters Hill Council’s financial contribution for the future operation of Gladesville Library, we have been forced to make this difficult decision and plan for the close of this valuable and much loved library,” he concluded.

The closure of Gladesville Library is now reflected in the City of Ryde Draft Management Plan and Budget for 2006-2009.


Members of community are invited to provide feedback to Council on the closure of Gladesville Library or any other aspect of the Draft Management Plan by mail, email or electronically via the web.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444. 

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NEW WASTE SERVICE GETS GREEN THUMBS UP

In a mammoth logistical effort over the past six weeks, Council has transported over 170,000 garbage bins, replacing 70,000 “old” bins with over 100,000 new bins, including 26,000 new garden vegetation bins. The new service will reduce waste to landfill through increased recycling and composting of vegetation.

The recycling/garden vegetation/garbage bin combination provides residents with a total collection capacity of 760 litres per fortnight, 40 litres more than the old service. This increased 40 litre capacity focuses on recyclable material and garden waste for reuse.

City of Ryde Waste Education Officer, Joanne Hill, said: “Residents can now recycle a much wider range of products, further reducing the average waste disposal of 305kg per person per year. And the new commingled recycling bins make it so much easier because there is no need to sort before you bin it,” she said.

Each week the average Australian household saves an amazing 3kg of greenhouse gas emissions through recycling. That equates to enough electricity to run a 40 watt light bulb for 72 hours, air pollution equivalent to 4.5km of travel in family car, over 90 litres of water and 3.6 kilograms of solid waste.

Australia has the best reputation in the world for paper recycling and paper products account for just under two-thirds of kerbside recycling in the City of Ryde. Glass comes in around 27%, plastic 5%, steel 3% and aluminium cans less than 1%.

This equated to each person in 2005 recycling approximately 56 kilograms of paper, 28 kg of glass containers, 1 kg of plastic containers, and less than 1 kg of aluminium cans and steel cans each year.
Here are some handy hints to make the most of your recycling effort:

1. **Rinse** out your bottles and jars before putting them in your recycling bin.

2. **Drink** cartons (milk & fruit juice) and aerosols CAN be recycled (yellow lid). Rinse cartons and flatten for extra space.

3. **Purchase** a worm farm or compost bin to reduce the amount of fruit and vegetable scraps you put in your bin.

4. **Consider** purchasing low waste packaging.


The new bins will be serviced by 14 new City of Ryde Trucks branded with Council’s ‘Watch Your Waste’ logo. There is a total of 24 staff from WSN and Council working on the Waste Collection and Disposal Service. Waste is taken to WSN’s facility at Eastern Creek and Recyclables are taken to Chullora for sorting and processing. Garden vegetation is processed at Chullora and utilised in many projects around Australia including mine remediation at Catherine Hill Bay near Newcastle.

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*Photo opportunity*

Mayor Cllr Ivan Petch and Councillors inspect the new 25 tonne City of Ryde garbage trucks

Date: Thursday, 11 May 2006
Time: 1.30-2.00 pm
Location: Civic Centre Car Park

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

COUNCIL SUPPORTS PROPOSAL TO SAVE GLADESVILLE LIBRARY

City of Ryde Council has voted to continue dialogue with Hunter's Hill Council in an effort to keep Gladesville Branch Library from closing after earlier negotiations with Hunter’s Hill Council failed to reach an agreement over the joint funding of the Library Service.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch said: “City of Ryde is tremendously proud of its excellent Library network, recognised not only as the best in the Northern Sydney Regional Council area but as one of the best in the State.

“The City of Ryde has demonstrated its strong commitment to a thriving library culture with its program of refurbishing or rebuilding four of its five library branch, including Gladesville, in recent years. Currently, we are considering options for the redevelopment of the Top Ryde Library.

“So it is with a certain sense of leadership that I can advise that on Tuesday, 9th May 2006, City of Ryde Council voted unanimously in favour of a two-part recommendation put forward by the recently formed Save Our Library community group,” he said

The first resolution involves the current Joint Library agreement continuing for a further 12 months providing an opportunity for the City of Ryde to work collaboratively with the community and Hunter’s Hill Council in resolving the outstanding issues.

The second resolution proposes both Councils commit to a 6-month extension of the current joint agreement, if Hunter’s Hill Council still wishes to pursue its own library service. This will ensure residents continue to be provided with much valued library services while Hunter’s Hill prepares to establish an alternative service.
“This action and our past record clearly shows that the City of Ryde is in the business of enhancing libraries, not closing them down,” the Mayor added.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0436 306 444
MOBILE BREAST SCREEN VAN MAKES FOLLOW UP CHECKS EASY

BreastScreen's mobile breast cancer screening van is now in Ryde until 30 June, 2006. Supported by the City of Ryde, the van is located outside the Civic Centre, Devlin Street, Ryde. BreastScreen NSW and the City of Ryde are urging local women aged 50-69 to make an appointment for a free screening mammogram.

The free service aims to detect breast cancer in its early stages when treatment can be most effective.

"Breast Cancer is the most common cancer in women and increasing age is the most important factor, with over 70% of cases occurring in women over 50," says Mairead McLaughlin, Marketing and Client Recruitment Officer, BreastScreen NSW. "State cancer results show that death rates from breast cancer have reduced by 22% in the last ten years. Mammography screening can detect cancer long before a lump can be felt by a woman or her doctor. Early detection gives you the best chance of surviving breast cancer," she said.

Screening takes around 15 minutes and is done by highly trained female radiographers with the latest technology. City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Ivan Petch said Council had been supporting the program for six years.
“Of the 1,170 local women who used the service last year, 29% were from a non-English speaking background. This is a good sign that more women are aware of the serious need to have mammograms every two years and are using the interpreter services,” he said.

“One of the benefits of the mobile van is that it enables the program to go out to the community, and the quick and easy service is proof it is encouraging bookings and attendance,” he said.

Bookings are essential; appointments can be made by calling 9926 7236 or 13 14 50 for the assistance of a free interpreter, or www.bsnsw.org.au

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland T9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
$40 REGISTRATION COULD SAVE YOUR PET’S LIFE

A new “one stop” Companion Animal Registration service has been successfully trialled by the City of Ryde Council and is now available to residents at the City’s Customer Service Centre.

The service is designed to fast track the processing of Companion Animal Registration papers after residents have had their animals micro-chipped at the vet.

City of Ryde Group Manager Environment & Planning, Sue Weatherley said: “We are urging all responsible pet owners to ensure their companion or breeding animals are properly registered with the Council.

“Many people are under the misconception that their animal is registered once they have been micro-chipped at the vet. However, this is only stage one of the process.

“Owners need to complete a Companion Animal Registration form and pay a one-off fee, in most cases, as little as $40.

“Then, should your beloved pet wander or get lost, there is a good chance they will be returned safely with a minimum of delay and stress to both owner and animal,” she said.

Earlier this year a resident was reunited with his dog three months after the Staffordshire Terrier went missing. The “Staffie” was located in South Australia.

On average, Council officers pick up between five to ten animals every week in the City of Ryde. About 70% of those are returned to their owners. The remainders, if not rescued by their owners, are sent to Blacktown Pound where, regrettably, an increasing number are euthanased.

Unidentified/Unregistered animals are difficult to identify and the risks of not being rehomed are very high.

All Companion Animals (Dogs and Cats) MUST be identified (ie micro-chipped) before 12 weeks of age, and entered onto the Companion Animals Register (CAR) through their local Council.
All Companion Animals of 6 months of Age **MUST** be Registered, and wear identification collar and tags.

**Once Only Lifetime Registration Fees are as follows:**

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>De-sexed animal (owned by pensioner)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non de-sexed animal</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal kept by a recognised breeder for breeding purposes</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance animal</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fine for Unregistered Non-Restricted Companion Animals - $165  
Fines for Unregistered Restricted Breeds range between $550 - $1320.

For more information on pet ownership responsibilities, contact 9952 80222 or go to [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/services/animals](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/services/animals)

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**Photo Opportunity**

Date: Friday, May 19, 2006  
Time: 4.30 pm  
Theme/Location: 12 year old Kayla Marskall with “Whitlam” her 5½ month old Labrador/Revriever cross receiving their registration papers at Ryde Civic Centre Customer Relations Desk.

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Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
COUNCIL ACTION ON BEHALF OF RESIDENTS COULD SEE TELSTRA RELOCATE FACILITY

A “low impact” telecommunications facility proposed for 32 Ferrebetta Avenue and opposed by residents, could be moved after Council raised objections with Telstra.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch, said: “Council took up the matter with Telstra after residents raised strong objections to the telecommunications facility on both health and aesthetic grounds.

“In an attempt to resolve the issue, a meeting was held with representatives of Telstra, Council and residents in John Howard’s local office.

“At that meeting, Telstra proposed Kotara Park as an alternative location for the “low impact” telecommunications facilities.

“After further consideration, Council believes that Kotara Park offers a location which will have less impact on local residents, and has invited Telstra to make a formal proposal for Council to fully consider,” he concluded.

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
HELP MAKE THE WORLD A BEAUTIFUL PLACE ON
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY – Monday 5 June

The Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch is calling on all citizens to “help make the world a beautiful place” on World Environment Day, Monday 5 June.

“Everyone has a responsibility to help protect the environment, now and for generations to come.

“Local councils can take many positive steps towards addressing environmental issues at a local level and this Council has embarked on developing many strategies and programs to respond to some important environmental concerns.

“Already, our new Waste and Recycling Service is working hard for the community and the environment by reducing rubbish going to landfill by over 600 tonnes a week. Also, water saving initiatives has earned Council an impressive 3 Stars in the national water saving rating system, with a 19% drop in water consumption across Council sites,” he added.

As citizens of the world, everyone in our local community can help make a difference. Here are just a few ways:

- Recycle, recycle, recycle
- Hold your own tree planting ceremony
- Think before you print
- Walk and bicycle more often
- Switch off the lights when closing the office
- Increase heating efficiency by drawing the curtains

To promote awareness of World Environment Day, City of Ryde Council will mount displays in the Civic Centre, each of Council’s
branch libraries, and the Mayor will take part in a ceremonial tree planting in a local park.

An Ecotastic Sustainability Board Game is also being supplied to each of our Primary Schools with a World Environment Day Greeting Card.

To learn more about ways you can live more sustainably, Council in partnership with the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) has organised a series of GreenHome workshops. These will be starting on Wednesday 28 June and will be running over 6 months. To find out more, or register your interest in the workshops, call ACF on 1800 223 669.

Ends

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photo Opportunity:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What: Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch will plant 3 <em>toona australis</em> (fragrant red cedar) trees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where: Community Park, Cnr Richmond &amp; Doig Ave, East Denistone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When: Monday, 5 June, 2006, time TBA</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444*
MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, May 29 2006

GREEN HOMES FOR RYDE

City of Ryde residents will soon have help to green their homes and lifestyles, thanks to a new program the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) will kick off on Wednesday, 28 June, in Ryde.

Residents are invited to join in the GreenHome program, which involves a series of six workshops where participants will receive free environmental products and assistance to help them make changes to their homes and lifestyles.

Working in partnership with the City of Ryde, ACF hopes to involve around 150 residents and assist them to save water, reduce energy and fuel usage, cut household waste, and create drought-resistant native gardens and vegetable gardens.

Sophie Scott from ACF’s GreenHome said: “The workshops show people how easy and how much fun it is to make changes to their homes and lifestyles that will help the environment. But it will help them too – they’ll save on their electricity, gas and water bills and make their homes more comfortable,” she said.

“Every month there will be environmental products to win to help people to make the changes. For example, ten people at the Waste Workshop will win a compost bin or worm farm – this will allow them to cut their household waste by up to 40 percent.”

“Local businesses will also be there to help residents make the bigger changes like fitting a rainwater tank or a greywater system, plus speakers who will explain how our actions fit into the bigger environmental picture.”

The Mayor of the City of Ryde, Clr Ivan Petch, said: “Everyone has a responsibility to help protect the environment, now and for generations to come.”

The first workshop of the series will take place on Wednesday 28 June 6.30-9pm at Ryedale/Denistone Function Rooms, Ryde - Eastwood Leagues Club, 117 Ryedale Rd, West Ryde. (Five minutes walk from West Ryde Train Station).

To register, call ACF on 1800 223 669 or membership@acfonline.org.au

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

What: Meet resident Trina Tune, Ryde GreenHome participant at her home when ACF presents her with some tools to get started. Also attending - Sophie Scott from ACF’s GreenHome program and The City of Ryde’s Environment Officer.

When: Tuesday, June 6 at 10am

Where: 17 Farrington Parade, North Ryde, 2113

For further information: Sophie Scott, ACF NSW GreenHome Officer 8270 9903 or 0412 218 081 or Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Thursday, 1 June 2006

GLADESVILLE LIBRARY STAYS OPEN

The immediate future of Gladesville Library is looking more positive after Hunter’s Hill Council agreed to a City of Ryde proposal to provide adequate funding to keep the Library open in the short term and to work together, with the local community, to review the partnership framework.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch said: “We had sought to secure a twelve months commitment from Hunter’s Hill Council to enable both the review of library services to be undertaken and a suitable period of notice for any changes to services. However, we welcome their decision to extend funding for a further six months and commitment to enter into further negotiations.

“I am confident when Council sits next week, that the City of Ryde will resolve to amend its draft Management Plan to include the continuation of Gladesville Brand Library by increasing both the income and expenditure on the Joint Library Service by $253,100 to reflect the six month contribution offered by Hunter’s Hill Council.

“I would like to thank all our residents who have supported Council on this issue. In particular, I’d like to thank the Save Our Library group for helping to persuade Hunter’s Hill Council to maintain existing funding for the Joint Library Service and assisting both Councils to work more closely with the community to develop a new framework that may enable this partnership to continue.

“We look forward to the opportunity to sit down with representatives from Hunter’s Hill Council and the community to develop a framework for a new agreement that will serve the residents of Gladesville, Hunter’s Hill and indeed the wider community of the City of Ryde.”

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
Moving Pictures … Garden Competition … Prayer Breakfast … Holiday Fun

“MOVING PICTURES” FOR NAIDOC
Celebrating the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
The City of Ryde invites you to attend "Moving Pictures" - NAIDOC Week 2006 Free Film Night, 6.30 pm Thursday 6 July 2006 at the Auditorium, Ryde College of TAFE. The event will showcase five Indigenous short films produced by the Australian Film Television and Radio School and include Bad Habit, BLACK, Redreaming the Dark, Too Little Justice, The Third Note.

Places are limited and bookings are essential. To book call City of Ryde Community Services on 9952 8303.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?
Council is asking for a show of green thumbs for the annual City of Ryde Spring Garden Competition. The theme this year is ‘Water Wise Gardens’.

Manager Parks, Peter Hickmans said: “The competition encourages residents, organisations and complexes to showcase how they have created, adapted or modified existing gardens to become more water efficient. Local sponsors have helped provide a great array of incentives, including plaques, certificates, cash prizes and vouchers.”

Categories include
- Champion Garden over 550sqm (Residential only)
- Front Gardens – (Viewed from the street – Residential only)
- Single Compartments – (Townhouses, Units & Villas front and/or back gardens)
- Complexes – (Nursing & Retirement Villages and Strata common grounds only)
- Organisations – (Businesses, Shopping Centres, Schools & Higher Education)

Pick up an entry form at: Civic Centre, City of Ryde Libraries, Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, Sponsor’s Locations (Australian Native Landscapes, Eastwood Shopping Centre, Top Ryde Shopping Centre, Eden Gardens & Garden Centre, WSN Environmental Solutions) or download from www.ryde.nsw.gov.au Entries close Friday 1 September.
RYDE COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST
Daniel Willis, the CEO of the Bible Society will be the special guest speaker at the Annual Ryde Community Prayer Breakfast to be held on Friday 11 August at the Ryde Civic Hall.

GREAT HOLIDAY FUN @ YOUR LIBRARY
Ryde Library Services has organised a great variety of holiday workshops to keep the kids amused. But hurry, they’re booking out fast. Phone 9952 8352.

Treasure Chest – make your own mini treasure chest
Ages 5+ - parent assistance required. 11am – 12 noon
Monday 3 July Ryde Library
Tuesday 4 July West Ryde Library
Wednesday 5 July Gladesville Library
Thursday 6 July North Ryde Library
Friday 7 July Eastwood Library

Be a Star! Bring out the inner you in this active drama workshop
11+ years only. 1.30 – 3.00 pm
Wednesday 12 July West Ryde Library

Beading Workshop – learn how to create beautiful bead jewellery
12+ years only. 1.30 – 3.00 pm
Friday 14 July Gladesville Library

Pirate Party – stories, craft, song and nibbles
0-8 years – come dressed in your pirate clothes. 11am – 12 noon
Monday 10 July Ryde Library
Tuesday 11 July Eastwood Library
Thursday 13 July North Ryde Library

Cartooning Workshop – join Cartoon Dave for swashbuckling fun
7+ years only. 1.30 – 3.00 pm
Saturday 8 July West Ryde Library

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN GAZETTAL IS NEXT STEP IN THE FUTURE REVITALISATION OF RYDE TOWN CENTRE

With the announcement early this week of the approval of the new Local Environmental Plan (LEP143) for the Ryde Town Centre, the City of Ryde is poised to proceed on the next step of an historic journey that will lead to the revitalisation and reinvigoration of the Ryde Town Centre.

City of Ryde Mayor, Councillor Ivan Petch, on behalf of his fellow Councillors said: “This is an historic event for the City of Ryde and will enable a vital rejuvenation of the town centre to occur. By implementing the new Planning Instruments, the City of Ryde will be able to attract investment, business, employment, residents and visitors to a vibrant and exciting new town centre.

“Further, it is envisaged that extensive infrastructure improvements, including the public domain, will deliver better services and facilities to all who work, live and visit the town centre.

“It is befitting that the City of Ryde will once more position itself as a major centre for employment, shopping and leisure.”

In acknowledging this milestone, the Mayor paid tribute to all those who had worked so tirelessly in advancing this visionary concept. “A project of this scope and size can only be achieved through strong leadership, united vision and the thoughtful dedication of committed Councillors and staff. I pay tribute to all who have worked tirelessly for so many years, in bringing this project to this critical stage in its evolution.”

The Local Environmental Plan introduces new zoning, planning and design provisions for the Ryde Town Centre. It encourages a mix of land uses as well as high quality design. That plan, together with the
associated Development Control (DCP 56) and Public Domain Plans will provide the framework to embark upon development that will establish an important retail, business, employment, recreational, entertainment, civic and residential centre.

The Plans have been developed by the City of Ryde with care to ensure that sustainable development is encouraged. This has been a journey of many years and the result is a set of visionary planning instruments that will guide the City for years to come. The objective is to provide the enablers for a new, modern, vibrant town centre.

A number of Precincts have been created in the instruments that will develop unique characteristics and provide diversified development across the entire town centre. These include:

- **Civic/Mixed Use Precinct** that has the potential to have up to 100,000 sqm of nett useable floor space constructed on it.
- **Town Core Precinct** that will allow the main retail centre to be redeveloped with up to 150,000 sqm of nett useable mixed use floorspace.
- **Heritage Precinct** that is intended to preserve the charm and history of the Victorian era civic and public buildings.
- **Main Street Precinct** preserving the early 20\textsuperscript{th} century architectural design as a unique retail experience.
- **Commercial Edge Precincts** providing a transition from the Town Centre to adjoining residential areas.
- **Ryde Park Precinct** that has its own Master Plan for this important green space.
- **Low Density Residential** and **Ryde School Precincts**.

**OOO**

Attachment: LEP 143 Extent.jpg – Aerial View

Media Contacts:
Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0436306444
Ryde Town Centre - FAQs

Q. Why is Council doing this?
A. The Ryde Town Centre had little or no development occurring for some time leading to a decline in amenity and the quality of local services. Council has undertaken a number of initiatives since 1998 in an effort to redress this. With the adoption of these Planning Instruments it is envisaged that the Ryde Town Centre will attract over $3 billion of investment over the next 10 years.

Q. What has been agreed to do?
B. By gazetting the new LEP, the Minister for Planning has endorsed the work undertaken by the City of Ryde community and Council, as a framework to guide the revitalisation of the Ryde Town Centre.

Q. What effect will the plans have on Devlin Street and surrounding streets?
A. The new DCP provides for a Traffic Management Plan that will have most traffic in the future accessing the Top Ryde Shopping Centre from Devlin Street via ramps under the road so that the impact from vehicular traffic on nearby development is minimised. It further provides for two pedestrian overbridges across Devlin Street with accessibility for all, to improve the safety of pedestrians and cyclists crossing this busy thoroughfare.

Q. What happens now to the Top Ryde Shopping Centre?
A. It is understood that there is work being undertaken currently on the preparation of plans for lodgement for a development application that will involve redevelopment of the shopping centre. It will provide an opportunity to revitalise the shopping centre into a modern and vibrant destination for workers, shoppers and visitors.

Q. What facilities are going to be developed in the new Ryde Town Centre?
A. Council is currently considering options for a new library and Customer Service centre that could form part of any redeveloped shopping centre. Further details will be available after negotiations have been progressed to an agreement between the two parties. Further there are plans to improve Ryde Park as well as enhance the public domain in the area, including footpaths, street furniture and lighting.

Q. Will there be any impact on the Cenotaph (War Memorial) and Eternal Flame?
A. There will be a need to temporarily relocate these important monuments to a more accessible and safe location whilst works are being undertaken. Discussions have been held with the four local RSL sub-branches but further consultation will be required.
**Q** What effect will the new Planning Instruments have on the local road network?

**A.** One aim of the LEP is to improve access to the Ryde Town Centre and Council has engaged specialist traffic consultants Parsons Brinckerhoff to advise on this aspect. A report on options is expected shortly and will be included in the public consultation.

**Q** What type of development is envisaged in the new Ryde Town Centre?

**A.** The Planning Instruments have been specifically framed to introduce a mix of land uses within the centre that will create an attractive, accessible and unique urban environment in which to live, work, shop and visit. A feature to be included in proposed developments will be environmental sustainability to at least 4 green stars or better. In Precincts 2 around Devlin Street, there is the ability for the construction of high rise towers to give a town centre built form around this road. Different treatment is available to all parts of the Town Centre including Ryde Park and the heritage areas of Church Street (in particular St Anne’s Church).

**Q** Where did the Ryde Town Centre name come from?

**A.** The name Ryde was derived from Ryde on the Isle of Wight and first appeared on a subdivision plan for the proposed village to be created around St. Anne’s Church. The English Ryde was the birthplace of the wife of the vicar of St. Anne’s. The intent is to create a town centre that recognises the need for the city to have a Central Business District defining its core and heart.

**Q** What happens next?

**A.** An extensive public consultation program will be undertaken to inform businesses, residents and visitors of the potential for revitalisation and reinvigoration of the Ryde Town Centre. Hopefully investors, property owners and occupiers will commence developing plans in line with the new planning controls to inject much needed investment and development into the precincts.

Ends

2 June 2006
FOUR YEAR PLAN SETS BLUEPRINT FOR MANAGEMENT OF CITY’S ASSETS AND SERVICES

The City of Ryde Budget for 2006/07 and Management Plan 2006/09 has been adopted at an Extra-ordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday, 6 June 2006.

With an annual turnover of $160 million, 700 employees, and $1.8 billion in assets (including libraries, parks, community/child care centres and heritage buildings), the Management Plan sets decision making guidelines to ensure Council maintains the status of the City of Ryde by providing quality services and assets.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch, said: “The City of Ryde runs a wide range of services and programs that directly benefit the community of Ryde. While maintaining these services, a major focus of this Plan is the $100 million Capital Works Program allocated over the next four years.

“It is a fundamental responsibility of Council to maintain the condition of the community’s assets and infrastructure. Over the past five years alone, because inadequate funds have been spent on our infrastructure, the value of our assets has declined. Clearly this cannot continue,” Clr. Petch said.

During 2006/07, $24.3 million is budgeted for the upgrade of existing infrastructure such as roads, footpaths and parks, shopping centres, water harvesting, drainage and heritage maintenance.

Highlights of the Capital Works Program for 2006/07 include:

- New Footpath Construction - $687k
- Road reconstruction/rehabilitation - $4.246m
- Parks & Playgrounds - $2.57m
• Shopping Centre upgrades - $2.55 m
• New Traffic Facilities - $595k
• Cycleways - $836k
• Total Catchment Management -$3.4m
• Water Harvesting - $125k
• Brush Farm House - $1.7m

The Management Plan and Budget represents more than eight months of planning, analysis and extensive community feedback, and has been hailed by Councillors as “an comprehensive and easy to understand document, both in content and presentation”.

“I believe this ‘readability’ is one of the reasons why we had such a high volume of submissions from the community on various aspects of the Draft Management Plan when it went on public exhibition,” Mayor Petch said.

“This three-way partnership between Councillors, staff and the community has delivered us a truly representative document to guide Council’s decision-making and programs for the next four years,” he added.

The City of Ryde Management Plan 2006-2009 and Budget 2006-2007 can be viewed at each of the City’s five branch libraries, Customer Relations, Ground Floor, Civic Centre, Devlin Street, Ryde, or via the website www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
LOCAL DRUG & ALCOHOL SERVICES LIST
Drug Action Week 18-24 June 2006

A quick reference fridge magnet listing drug and alcohol services in the Ryde area is now available from Council as part of Drug Action Week (18-24 June).

Developed by the Ryde Community Drug Action Team (Ryde CDAT) and funded by City of Ryde Council, the free fridge magnet is aimed at all members of the community.

City of Ryde Manager Community Services, Kevin Moloney, said: “If you are concerned about someone who may have an alcohol or drug problem, this simple tool can help you access the help you need.

“It lists telephone help lines to information, counselling and referral services in the area for all drug and alcohol related issues, plus quick reference for other emergency services.

“Through its Ryde Safe Communities Project, Council is committed to establishing working groups like the Ryde CDAT to help reduce the local impact of drug and alcohol problem on the community,” Mr. Moloney said.

Drug Action Week is a national initiative aimed at raising awareness about alcohol and other drug issues through public debate and to promote the achievements of those who work to reduce drug related harm.

To order your free magnet, contact City of Ryde Council on 9952 8303. For information about Ryde Community Drug Action Team visit www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/drugs_action/csyd_index.html or City of Ryde website www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

Ends
BRUSH FARM HOUSE SUCCESSFUL IN RECEIVING $500,000 FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Brush Farm House has been successful in being one of the eighteen (18) projects that have been awarded funding under the first round of the Australian Government’s new $10.5 million programme to protect and conserve the nation’s most historic places.

Brush Farm House will receive the maximum grant of $500,000 available under this program.

The announcement was made by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator, the Hon. Ian Campbell on 22 June 2006.

“This is a great result for both the City of Ryde’s community and for the restoration of Brush Farm House,” said the City of Ryde Mayor, Councillor Ivan Petch.

“This result is a reflection of Council’s commitment to restore Brush Farm House and the long history of Council attempting to secure Federal Government grants towards this important project,” he said.

The City of Ryde’s application was supported by all key stakeholders comprising the Brush Farm House Historical Society, all Local State members and the local Federal Member and Prime Minister the Hon. John Howard.

“I would like to express my appreciation on behalf of the City of Ryde, to the various members of our community, in particular, the Brush Farm House Historical Society, for their dedication, and on-going efforts, to ensure that the community has been made aware of the significance of Brush Farm House. I would also like to acknowledge the continued support that Council has received from
all our local members, both State and from the local Federal Member for Bennelong, and Prime Minister, the Hon. John Howard,” Councillor Petch stated.

“The City of Ryde is very appreciative of the personal interest that the Hon. John Howard, Prime Minister has shown in this project and his willingness to understand and support the full details of Council’s application,” he added.

Councillor Petch indicated that Council would be considering this matter at its meeting on Tuesday 27 June 2006 and was confident that with the receipt of this funding, Council would now be in a position to confirm the completion of the whole building.

Work on Phase 1 of the restoration commenced on 1 May 2006 and includes the restoration of the west wing, central wing, front balcony, rear verandah and the roof over the entire building. This phase is due for completion in February 2007. Phase 2 comprising the east wing and hall, could be completed by May 2007, which would complete the total restoration of the building.

Ends

Media contact:  Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
‘TUNE OUT TO RACISM’
Youth Anti-Racism Project

Local youth will be encouraged to “tune out to racism” as part of a state-wide education campaign to promote harmony in the community.

Ryde Youth Council have utilised a $2000 grant from the NSW Department of Community Services to develop a series of educational materials aimed at promoting community accord and reducing the evidence of racism in the community, particularly amongst young people.

City of Ryde, Community Services Manager, Kevin Moloney, said: “The City of Ryde has one of the most diverse ethnic and religious communities in the State with more than 30 nationalities living in the area.

“Whilst there is no specific data to indicate that racism and discrimination is a local issue, the Ryde Youth Council has identified the need to reinforce anti-racist values within the community.”

The Anti-Racism project uses posters, stickers and postcards to carry the message. The material features a strong black and white image of a youth’s head wearing headphones, and has been distributed to all local secondary schools, youth services, libraries and tertiary institutions in the LGA in an attempt to minimise racism amongst local young people.

For further information or to order promotional material please contact City of Ryde Community Project Officer - Young People & Leisure on 9952 8222 or email cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0436 306 444
CITY OF RYDE EXPRESSES INTEREST IN PURCHASING PETER BOARD HIGH SCHOOL SITE FROM THE NSW GOVERNMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY

The City of Ryde is hopeful it will be included in a short list of tenderers to be announced on 26 July, for the old Peter Board High School site at 144 Wicks Road, North Ryde, which lies within the boundaries of the Macquarie Park Corridor.

City of Ryde General Manager, Michael Whittaker said: “If the City is successful in acquiring the site, it would allow the preservation of this valuable public asset to be retained as a facility where major community/sporting/civic uses can be built for people working and living in the Macquarie Park precinct.

“In its submission the City has outlined a proposal to redevelop the site to cater for the essential social infrastructure required for the area.

“The City of Ryde hopes its submission will be viewed favourably by the NSW Government for the social outcomes which are as important, if not more important, than any potential economic benefits that could arise by selling the site to the private sector,” he said.

The City of Ryde is strongly committed to the development and urban renewal of the Macquarie Park Corridor, the second largest concentration of office space in the Sydney metropolitan area.

The City sees this submission as an ideal opportunity to enhance the public amenities and vitality of this important employment centre.

Support for the City of Ryde’s proposal has been received from the Prime Minister and Member for Bennelong Mr John Howard, the Deputy Premier and State Member for Ryde Mr John Watkins as well as the State Member for Lane Cove Mr Anthony Roberts.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
GLADESVILLE LIBRARY JOINT COMMITTEE MEETS

The first meeting of the Joint Library Service Advisory Committee took place on Wednesday 5 July 2006.

The Committee, made up of six members of the Ryde and Hunters Hill communities and representatives of both the City of Ryde and Hunter’s Hill Councils, will review the existing library services, and the framework for funding.

As the first order of business, the Committee elected the Chair, Clr Richard Quinn (Hunter’s Hill Council) and Deputy Chair Clr Vic Tagg (City of Ryde) and reviewed the draft Terms of Reference. The Group then concentrated on identifying the issues it felt needed to be considered.

Issuing a joint statement, the Mayor for the City of Ryde, Clr Ivan Petch, joined Hunter’s Hill Mayor, Clr Susan Hoopmann in praising the efforts of the committee. “We are pleased to hear that the first meeting of the Joint Library Service Advisory Committee has been productive.

“Issues discussed ranged from branding, service delivery and financial contribution, to the broader role the library plays in the social and economic life of the community.

“We are confident that an equitable solution can be reached and that the partnership that has supported this valuable library service for almost fifty years will continue and strengthen.

“We wish this Committee great success in its work over the coming months,” they said.

The Joint Library Service Advisory Committee will meet twice a month and meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 26 July at 5.30pm at Gladesville Library.

Ends

For more information, please contact:
City of Ryde: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444
Hunter’s Hill Council: Annie Pool, Community Relations Officer, T 9879 9432
MAYOR EXPRESSES CONCERN AT METHOD OF NOTIFICATION ON APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL RATE

The City of Ryde’s Mayor, Councillor Ivan Petch has expressed concern and surprise that the Member for Ryde, John Watkins, has issued a press release headed “Ryde Council’s Rate Hike Rejected” prior to the Council being formally advised by the Minister of Local Government on the outcome of its application for special rates.

“I find it incredible that this information is not communicated directly to the Council before the Local Member, however it is not the first time that this has happened. I believe that the community and the Council deserve better treatment. Council should be advising its community on such matters, not the Local Member,” Councillor Petch stated.

Councillor Petch also said that it would be interesting to see the documentation that backs up the survey results that Mr. Watkins keeps on referring to, as to date this has never been provided or offered by Mr. Watkins.

The City of Ryde made an application to the Minister for a Special Rate for Infrastructure ($2.1 million per annum) that would have resulted in the average residential ratepayer paying an extra 90 cents per week or approximately $50 per annum.

From the verbal advice received from the Department of Local Government, the application relating to Infrastructure has been refused. This means that the additional funding of $2.1 million will not be available for the Infrastructure Works Program highlighted in Council’s Management Plan. This will result in none of these works being delivered Councillor Petch stated.
Key projects proposed for 2006/2007 (as attached) that will now not be delivered include:

- new footpath construction works totaling $176,000,
- reconstruction works including sections of Ida Street, Morrison Road and Rutledge Street,
- new roundabouts at Pittwater Road/Field of Mars and Melville Street/Goodwin Street,
- new cycleways at Waterloo Road (Herring Road to Shrimpents Creek),
- renewal of parks at Meadowbank Park (fields 8 and 9), resurfacing Christie Park and additional upgrades to playground equipment at North Ryde Park, Jennifer Park, Acacia Park and Santa Rosa.

Clr Petch indicated that it was interesting to note Mr Watkins comments for Council to “live within its means”, yet State Government charges continue increasing at a disproportionate rate. Over recent years the amounts required to be paid by Councils have far exceeded the rate pegging amount, with the City of Ryde due to pay the State Government a staggering $4.5 million in the 2006/2007 year.

In the preparation of the 2006/2007 Budget, various initiatives had been undertaken in improving Council’s operations and in reducing the Council’s reliance on rate revenue. Council Petch indicated that since 2005 efficiency savings in excess of $2 million had been achieved. Council had reduced its full time equivalent staff numbers by 22 down to 475 and opportunities through Public / Private Partnerships had been explored to reduce the burden on City of Ryde ratepayers.

“This will mean that local amenity will be impacted and the condition and value of the City’s assets will continue to reduce, noting that the value of the City’s assets declined by over $10 million in value in the past 4 years,“ Councillor Petch said.

Council has been advised that its application in respect of Macquarie Park Corridor, North Ryde was approved.

Ends

Further Information: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Thursday, 13 July 2006

COUNCIL ENTERS INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH PREFERRED TENDERER FOR WEST RYDE RETAIL PRECINCT DEVELOPMENT

The revitalisation of the West Ryde Retail Precinct has received a further boost with Council selecting a preferred tender for the estimated $100 million redevelopment of the carpark site adjacent to the new Woolworths, and Council’s old Library site.

Council will now enter into negotiations with the Remo Group of Companies over the next two months prior to signing off on a Deed of Agreement.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch, said: “This is an important decision by Council and provides the impetus for the completion of the ongoing upgrade of the West Ryde Precinct.

“The Remo Group of Companies has extensive experience in this type and size of civic development coupled with sound financial capacity rating.”

The creation of a vibrant community and retail centre in West Ryde that began with the development of the Woolworths site and the opening of the new West Ryde Library has been embraced by the community.

“Public consultation, with key stakeholders and the community, has been an integral part of this project and will continue on all future stages of the development.

“The transformation of existing Council assets, including the old car park site and adjacent properties on Anthony Road, and a new mixed-use development with new community facilities, will open up
the area to exciting investment and employment opportunities and breathe life into the region,” Mayor Petch added.

The proposed $100 million development includes the following community assets and public amenities:

- New retail/commercial/residential mixed-use development (up to 7 storeys)
- Creation of a 1,500m² Village Square adjacent to the Woolworths site, for use by the community to stage community events and festivals
- New undercover secure public car park for 134 vehicles in addition to the carparking required for the mixed-use development.
- A new Community Facility Building (up to 4 storeys) that will integrate existing community services into one convenient location and provide an extensive range of services to the local community.
- Existing public areas to be preserved and improved with the linking of the carpark site and Anthony Road site to provide safe pedestrian access and allowing closure of the public domain area to allow larger community festival type events to be held.
- Improved infrastructure including roadways, cycleways and traffic controls.
- Enhanced drainage and overland flow.

At the conclusion of successful Deed of Agreement negotiations and ratification by Council, the tenderer will be invited to submit detailed designs and lodge a development application. Extensive community consultation will be undertaken during the development assessment period.

A target date for completion of the development has been set for 30 June 2009, although Council hopes to deliver an earlier outcome.

Further details of the proposed development will be advertised in the next few weeks.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
BE PART OF NATIONAL TREE DAY  
SUNDAY 30 JULY

Calling all green thumbs! City of Ryde is calling on schools, community groups and individuals in the Ryde area to get down and dirty and help it plant National Tree Day's 10 millionth tree.

National Tree Day will be held on Sunday 30 July with a mass planting of over 200 trees at Blenheim Park, North Ryde.

Local organiser Adam Smith, Natural Areas Co-ordinator for City of Ryde Council says that volunteers are welcome to join in and help out on the day.

"This year, the Macquarie Centre has generously donated 150 locally grown indigenous shrubs, grasses and groundcover, and these, together with 40 Corymbia maculata (Spotted Gum) will be part of the mass planting at Blenheim Park to help in the recent renewal works within the park.

"Blenheim Park was chosen so the community can see for themselves the development of the park over the last few years with its playground, picnic, dog exercise area and model car track. Even more improvements are being made to the park at the moment. National Tree Day planting will add to the landscape making an attractive park as it grows and matures," he said.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Ivan Petch added: “Planting native trees in the City of Ryde not only beautifies our already leafy city, it also helps the environment and is a great day out for our community. It is especially rewarding for children to plant a tree or shrub and see it grow.”
Special Tree Day for Schools
The City has not forgotten about local schools that want to include National Tree Day in their student activities and curriculum. For many years, Council has supported Schools Tree Day (Friday 28 July 2006) with the donation of plants to individual schools. Each year some 800 locally indigenous plants are given to schools to plant around their school grounds.

National Tree Day:

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date</strong></td>
<td>Saturday 30 July, 2006.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Time</strong></td>
<td>Planting begins 9.00 am – 12 noon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>Blenheim Park, off Blenheim Road (UBD ref. Page 194, F10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Refreshments</strong></td>
<td>Sausage sizzle lunch and refreshment provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Volunteers</strong></td>
<td>Gloves and tools supplied, but wear a hat and sunscreen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information</strong></td>
<td>Adam Smith, Natural Area Co-ordinator, 9952 8222</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Photo Opportunity: Details to be advised.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Monday, July 17, 2006

GROWING THE ARTS IN THE CITY OF RYDE
Arts Vision Workshop, Thursday 3 August

An essential part of a great city mix is its cultural life, and vibrant artistic expression gives a community vitality and a strong identity.

The City of Ryde is holding an Arts Vision Workshop on Thursday, 3 August to bring together artists, community organisations, business and others from across the community to develop ideas and have their say on growing the arts and cultural life of Ryde.

City of Ryde Arts & Cultural Development Co-ordinator, Paul Graham, explained: “The most obvious expression of a city's culture is the local arts scene. Music, drama, galleries, public art, street festivals, craft and many other art forms provide a forum in which local cultural values are transmitted to those outside the city.

“But it is not only the outward expression of the arts that contributes to a city's vibrancy. Benefits arise from the creative experience of doing art, and from people taking an active part in their own development and community life to build a healthy and vital culture.

"We're asking local people to come and tell us what a vibrant arts scene in Ryde would look like. We'd like residents to tell us where they think the opportunities are for arts to grow, and how we can make the most of local arts and artists to contribute to the City's well being,” he said.

ARTS VISION WORKSHOP DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Thursday, 3 August 2006.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>6.30 pm – 9.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place</td>
<td>Argyle Community Hall, Cnr Blaxland Road and Argyle Avenue, Top Ryde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSVP</td>
<td>To assist with catering, contact Paul Graham 9952 8312 or <a href="mailto:pgraham@ryde.nsw.gov.au">pgraham@ryde.nsw.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ends

Media contact:  Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde
Media Release

Wednesday July 26, 2006.

RYDE COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST
GUEST SPEAKER: DANIEL WILLIS, CEO BIBLE SOCIETY NSW

The City of Ryde, in partnership with the Ryde Interchurch Task Force, presents the annual Ryde Community Prayer Breakfast, on Friday, 11 August 2006 in the Ryde Civic Hall, from 6.45am to 8.30am.

The Prayer Breakfast, now in its 15th year, celebrates the Christian faith through music, song and learning. It was first held as part of the City’s Bicentenary festivities in 1992 and has since become a much anticipated event on the local Christian community’s calendar.

Special guest speaker on the day will be Daniel Willis, CEO of the Bible Society NSW, a role he has held since 2001. The scripture will be read by City of Ryde Citizen of the Year, Roseanne Gallo, and the Juan Korean Church Chamber Orchestra will provide the music.

For the past 23 years, Daniel Willis has worked in Bible and parish ministry. He has lectured at Bible Colleges on both the Old and New Testaments, as well as the Pastoral Epistles and Revelation.

He serves on the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelisation as the International Deputy Director of Oceania & Australia assisting evangelical networks come together in their endeavours to work amongst the various peoples of the world. He mentors a number of younger people in Australia.

Holding degrees in business, theology and education, Daniel has served as a director with a number of businesses and Christian organizations. He is on the committee organising Australia’s Christian Heritage National Forum in Canberra on 6-7 August 2006.
and is on the Board of Reference and an Editorial Advisor for Christian Today.

He and his wife Karen, a woman’s pastoral care worker and caterer, have three adult children.

The Bible Society works in over 200 countries using the Bible in a range of ways to assist people raise their literacy levels and increase their understanding of ethics, morality and health issues. Currently, Bible Society is running the Jesus All About Life Project in Australia, is involved with literacy in China, HIV/Aids projects in Kenya and Uganda and Faith Come by Hearing projects across the Asia Pacific region to name but a few.

Tickets for the breakfast are $15 per person. Bookings are essential and can be made by visiting Council’s customer Service Centre, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde, or downloading the booking form from www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

Attachment: Photo Daniel Willis

- ends -

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T: 9952 8083, M: 0434 306 444
ADDITIONAL CUSTOMER SERVICES NOW AT WEST RYDE LIBRARY
Residents can now conduct across-the-counter business at the new West Ryde Library. As an extension of Council’s Customer Service Centre available at the Civic Centre, Ryde, and with the exception of cash payments and development matters, residents will now be able to receive assistance in a wide range of services provided by the City. These include payments, general enquiries on rates, waste, roads, footpaths, trees, companion animals, permits, community and any other services.
The hours of operation are:
Mon/Wed/Fri 2pm-5pm
Tue/Thur 2pm-6pm
For further information contact City of Ryde Customer Service Centre on 9952 8222 or www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

RYDE PARRAMATTA RIVER FORESHORE PARK
A ribbon of land holdings stretching three kilometres along the Parramatta River could soon be amalgamated into one reserve under the management of the City of Ryde to form the Ryde Parramatta River Foreshore Park.

City of Ryde Parks Manager, Peter Hickman, said: “The parkland presently consisting over 50 parcels of land, vary in size from nearly nine hectares to only 15 square metres. The areas include Meadowbank Park and unused roadways and present a patchwork of ownership, classification and regulations. Gathering them into one reserve under the care of the City of Ryde will ensure that the parkland is preserved for the benefit of the community in perpetuity.”
EASTWOOD VILLAGE MAKEOVER
Council has entered into a joint project with the Eastwood Village Owners Corporation to undertake major landscaping and paving works in the shopping precinct bounded by Progress Avenue and Lakeside Road, Eastwood.

Work has begun on the installation of conduits for the future undergrounding of overhead power and Telco cables. Landscaping improvements including new footpath pavements, an outdoor dining terrace, street furniture including umbrellas and footpath lighting will commence at the end of August.

Works should take approximately four months and when complete will create a major improvement to the look, feel and functionality of Eastwood Shopping Precinct.

KIT TO WEED OUT ASTHMA CAUSE
An Education Kit is now available to help residents identify and control Asthma Weed, one of the main triggers of asthma. The kit also contains a bookmark, gloves, mask, vouchers for native plants or mulch, and garbage bags for appropriate weed disposal.

City of Ryde Co-ordinator Natural Areas, Adam Smith, said: “Asthma Weed grows just about anyway, in any conditions and is common in gardens, laneways and brick walls. The sticky hairs on the plant’s leaves and stem may produce a skin rash in people who come into contact with it and the pollen can cause hay fever, conjunctivitis, rhinitis and asthma.”

The City of Ryde has joined other councils across the Sydney metropolitan region in this noxious weed eradication program.

To get your kit, contact City of Ryde Customer Service on 9952 8222, or visit www.sydneyweeds.org.au for more information.

ENDS

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
FOOD SAFETY HANDLING COURSE

The City of Ryde will conduct a two-session Food Safety Handling Certificate Course in association with Ryde TAFE on Wednesday 13 & 20 September, 2006.

Environmental Health Officer for the City of Ryde, Isan Tchan, said: “The Australian Food Safety Standards require that anyone supervising or conducting food-handling activities in a business must have the appropriate skills and knowledge in food safety and hygiene.

“The certificate course is aimed at local business owners and food handlers and will provide them with the practical skills and information on all matters relating to food safety and hygiene.

“Participants who complete both sessions of the Course will receive a nationally recognised TAFE Food Safety Handling Certificate.”

Subjects covered in the two-session Course include:
- Food/workplace hygiene procedures
- Handling food in a safe and hygienic manner
- Identifying major causes of food poisoning and food spoilage
- Legal procedures and regulations
- Cleaning and maintenance practices
- Pests and pest controls
- Personal and environmental hygiene
- Rubbish storage and environmentally sound methods of disposal
- Food safety plans

Dates: Wednesday 13 and 20 September 2006
Time: 6pm to 9pm each evening
Where: Level 5, Civic Centre, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde.
Cost: Both sessions - $75 inclusive
To enrol: Ryde TAFE on 9448 6301 or City of Ryde Council on 9952 8271
Bookings are essential.

Council’s Environmental Health Officers carry out regular inspections of all local food outlets to ensure Australian Food Safety Standards are met.

Ends

Media Enquiries: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, 9952 8083.
COUNCIL WITHDRAWS SKATEPARK PROPOSAL

Council has withdrawn Development Applications for the proposed skatepark facility at Meadowbank Park and Shepherd’s Bay. This decision follows consultation with the wider community that concluded with a Council sponsored information session held on Sunday, 6th August.

77 residents completed a survey during the open day and the community response was evenly split in its support for a skate facility at Meadowbank Park.

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Councillor Ivan Petch said: “While the community response was fairly evenly divided on the proposal, it became clear that there were wider issues regarding use of the Park that were negatively impacting on the local residents, that needed to be resolved.

“In withdrawing the current proposal, Council is acknowledging the persistent concerns expressed by some residents regarding the proposed skatepark.

“At the same time, Council confirms its commitment to the young citizens of Ryde to provide them with suitable, safe and easily accessible recreation facilities and we will work with both groups to reach an appropriate outcome,” the Mayor concluded.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
MAYOR SAYS ‘DON’T RUBBISH THE CITY OF RYDE’

A number of incorrect statements have been made by the Deputy Premier in respect to the City of Ryde ‘tagging’ of waste bins.

With Sydney fast running out of rubbish landfill sites, the City of Ryde’s new waste and recycling initiatives continue to deliver better than expected results as residents respond to the recycling message.

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Clr Ivan Petch, said: “Council entered into a new waste and recycling contract with State Government owned corporation, WSN Solutions, from 1 May 2006. This involved some 90,000 new bins, tag identified and delivered to residents.

“With such a large logistical operation to execute, bin identification or “tagging”, was not carried out on all bins, and WSN staff have been retrofitting tags in recent weeks. Bin tagging is a common practise for most waste collection services. Our bin identification has gone from the old serial number on the side of the bins to electronic form. This is just moving with the times.

“I reject the suggestion that the Council is acting like ‘big brother’ and snooping on residents’ rubbish. This is simply scare mongering and I am surprised that the Deputy Premier, John Watkins, has made these suggestions and inferred that the City of Ryde is going to use this as part of a charging strategy. This is just not true as our charge will remain the same until 1 May 2013, excluding CPI and other State Government increases. This is despite recent increases of 150% by the State Government for Landfill Dumping Charges – up from $22 per tonne to $50 per tonne over the next five years.”
“Clearly the Deputy Premier is trying to beat up a story leading up to elections next year. He should stick to matters of transport and ensure that the travelling public are looked after before he starts pointing the finger at a Council that is working effectively and efficiently and meeting its projected targets on waste disposal.

“As a State Minister and a former Councillor of Hunters Hill Council he should well know that the State Government has set recycling targets that all Councils have to reach. He should be aware also from his own Labour colleagues who sit on the City of Ryde Council that these targets exist.

“In conclusion, perhaps the Deputy Premier should be doing his job and ensuring that no rubbish is going to be dumped on the City of Ryde by guaranteeing filtration of the Lane Cove Tunnel,” Mayor Petch said.

The Facts

- New waste serviced with WSN commenced 1 May – part of the agreement was that all bins would be tagged.
- 90,000 new bins were rolled out to residents from 1 May.
- WSN staff (not Council staff) are retrofitting those bins that were not initially tagged before delivery.
- Bins are not microchipped
- Bins are tagged – it is now done electronically replacing the previous method of placing a serial number on the side of the bin.
- Bin information is contained on a data base
- Council does not inspect content of bins
- Council staff are not involved in tagging bins.
- Tagging does not give information on contents or contamination.
- Once rubbish is placed on the street, it becomes the responsibility of WSN Solutions (a State Government owned corporation and the provider of waste services for the City of Ryde)
- State Government has set a 2014 target that 66% of rubbish produced by households to be recycled (thus reducing the amount of rubbish that goes to landfill.)
Already City of Ryde has almost reached the 2008 recycling target of 44%. Since May 2006 recycling has increased from 20% to over 40%

The Service
For a fee of $272 per annum, residents receive:
- 52 rubbish collections
- 26 recyclable collections
- 26 greenwaste collections
- 5 kerbside collections
- Free chipping and mulching of vegetation at kerbside (on request)
- Free chemical drop off (include pesticides and dioxins)

The Cost
The annual cost of approximately $272 will remain the same until 1 May 2013 (excluding CPI and other Government increases).

Media Contact: Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch, City of Ryde, T 9952 8330

Ends
CITY OF RYDE EXPANDS LANGUAGE AIDE PROGRAM

The City of Ryde’s Language Aide Program has received a boost, with seven new accredited staff members joining its ranks.

The Language Aide Program was formed in 2002 to meet the diverse cultural and linguistic needs of the community through better communication.

The new Language Aide Officers will be presented with their Accreditation Certificates and officially welcomed into the Program at a special ceremony at the Civic Centre on Friday, 25th August, 2006.

The Program uses the accredited language skills of City of Ryde staff to assist customer enquiries from people who do not speak English well, or at all, either face-to-face or via telephone.

City of Ryde, Manager – Community Services, Kevin Moloney, said: “Our local government area is made up by many community language groups and Language Aides are an important link between the City and those members of the community who come from a non-English speaking background.

“It is a vital and necessary service given that 35% of the total population of Ryde were born overseas and of these 32.3% speaks a language other than English at home.”

The seven new Language Aide Officers are all speakers of either Cantonese, Mandarin or both of these languages. They will join the eight existing Language Aide Officers who have skills in Italian, Spanish, French, Tamil, Cantonese and Mandarin. The Program is set to expand to 25 Language Aide Officers with a second round of accreditation testing for 2006 scheduled in October.
Mr. Moloney continued: “The expansion of this Program will greatly assist residents and visitors to the City to receive a service that is non-discriminatory.

“The Program demonstrates further our commitment to building a strong relationship with our diverse community and to enhance our ability to communicate effectively with the many groups in the area.”

This is only one of a number of initiatives aimed to ensure that City of Ryde services and facilities are appropriate and accessible to everyone in the community.

If you would like more information on the Program please contact Kevin Moloney – Manager Community Services on 9952 8310 or Cathy Buining – Community Project Officer Access and Equity on 9952 8304.

Ends

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<tr>
<th>Photo Opportunity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Aide Accreditation Certificate Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25 August 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.10 – 12.40pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Room 2, Level 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryde Civic Centre,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Devlin Street, Top Ryde</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
THE TRUTH ABOUT PARKING METERS

Council's decision to install parking meters in limited non-residential, non-retail sections of the Macquarie Park Business Corridor is in response to calls from both the corporate sector and State Government to manage demand for on-street parking in the area and will no impact adversely on residents or small business.

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Clr Ivan Petch, said: “On-street parking is already at a premium in this area and clearly some measures must be taken. The Macquarie Park Business Park is now the second largest CBD in Sydney and attracts more than 11,300 car movements during peak hour every day.

“Creating parking stations in the area is not a viable solution as this can lead to even greater traffic congestion and gridlock as more cars attempt to drive into the area.”

“Traffic and parking congestion in the area may be eased when the new railways stations open at Macquarie University, Macquarie Park and Delhi Road in 2008," he said.

When Council took the decision to instigate parking controls in the area it also resolved unequivocally that parking meters would not be installed in residential or local shopping/retail area in this or any other locations in the City of Ryde.

Council is, however, consulting with residents regarding the introduction of a Free Resident Parking Permit Scheme around the Macquarie Park Corridor that would exempt them from proposed two-hour time restrictions (Monday to Friday only between 8am and 6pm).
Councillor Petch continued: “Council agrees with the 'no parking meters in shopping centres' campaign being run by the Chambers of Commerce to ensure that parking meters are not installed in local shopping area. This would be detrimental to local business and shoppers and Council has formally resolved that parking meters cannot be install in residential or local shopping areas.”

Further information, including maps of the proposed parking management strategies for the City of Ryde, can be found on Council’s website on www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
COMMUNITY NOTICE
“Caring for Kids with Disabilities” Information Session

In collaboration with NSW Health Carer Support Services, the City of Ryde is running information sessions for parents/carers of children with disabilities during Term 3. For more information contact City of Ryde Community Project Officer – Access & Equity on 9952 8222.

Topic: “Tips to Help You Promote Your Child’s Interests”
This session will focus on advocacy and negotiation techniques to get the best results for you and your child, for example -dealing with the education system.

Date: Tuesday, 12 September 2006
Time: 10am – 12noon
Venue: The Lodge Conference Room (Cnr Badajoz & Twin Roads, North Ryde)
Free of charge: Free morning tea
Registration: ESSENTIAL: 8877 5108
RSVP: Friday 8 September 2006

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
The City of Ryde today welcomed the Prime Minister and Member for Bennelong, the Hon. John Howard, on an inspection of the $3.3 million restoration of Brush Farm House.

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Clr Ivan Petch, said: "On behalf of Council and all those in the community who have shared our vision for Brush Farm House, I am delighted to welcome the Prime Minister, our local Federal Member, the Hon. John Howard, here today.

“The Prime Minister has been a strong supporter of Council’s plans to restore this great historic house and it is most opportune that I am able to thank him personally for his special interest in the project and help in obtaining the $500,000 Federal Grant, so vital to the realisation of this important heritage project,” he said.

Funding for the $3.3 million restoration of Brush Farm House (Phases 1 and 2) is made up as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Ryde</td>
<td>$1,950,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Government</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCS</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW Heritage Office</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,300,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The Mayor continued: “All those in our community who have worked so hard over the years, will no doubt share in our sense of excitement as we now witness the gradual re-emergence, phoenix like, of this great house that embodies so much of our rich colonial heritage.
"When Brush Farm House is fully restored to its former it will undoubtedly be the jewel in the crown for the City of Ryde.

“We look forward with anticipation to its official reopening in April 2007 when Brush Farm House will be unveiled for the enjoyment of all in the community and for future generations,” Mayor Petch concluded.

**Works Schedule**

**Phase 1** - restoration of the west wing, central wing, front balcony, rear verandah and roof.

Works completed since May 2006 include demolition and excavation works, repairs and reconstruction of flooring and roof structures, installation of amenities partitioning, sewer line, concrete footings, brick walls and floor structures.

Works currently in progress include installation of electrical, mechanical and hydraulic services (lighting, data, telephone, air-conditioning, sewer, water); installation of floorboards and ceilings in ground and floor first, front verandah columns and floor structure; desalination of stone walls in basement and waterproofing of brick walls.

**Phase 2** works (east wing and hall) are due for completion by early April and the fully restored Brush Farm House will be officially opened mid April.

**Phase 3** works (landscaping/front garden/access) estimate between $1 – 2 million is currently unfunded.

*Ends*

**Media Contact:** Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444
GRANTS ENRICH COMMUNITY CULTURE

Every year, the City of Ryde Council provides one-off support for a wide range of local, non-profit arts and community groups through the Cultural Grants Program.

Manager Community Relations & Events for the City of Ryde, Derek McCarthy said: “The purpose of the Grants is to support and stimulate artistic expression throughout our diverse community, from school bands and small performing groups, to local musical or historical societies.

“The Grant can take the form of either a direct financial donation, or assistance in-kind such as free hall use for performances or meeting, or administrative assistance. Grants can help a fledgling project get off the ground or guarantee the ongoing success of an established event,” he said.

This year, Council received a wide range of requests for assistance from groups seeking various levels of support, and is delighted to announce the recipients of the 2006/2007 Cultural Grants Program, as follows:

- Ryde Schools Spectacular
- Ryde Art Society
- City of Ryde Eisteddfod
- Ryde District Historical Society
- Ryde Lantern Club
- Rotary Club of North Ryde
- Rotary Club of Gladesville
- Ryde City Concert Band Inc.
- Ryde Eastwood Music Club
- St. Kevin’s School Band
- Ryde Argyle Performing Arts Inc.
• Brush Farm Historical Society
• Ryde District Historical Society
• Sydney Korean Women’s Welfare
• Eastwood Chinese Senior Citizens
• Erin’s Place
• Denistone East Public School

For information or applications for the 2007/2008 Cultural Grants Program, contact City of Ryde on 9952 8000 or visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
Wednesday, 13 September 2006.

COUNCILLORS IVAN PETCH AND GABRIELLE O’DONNELL RE-ELECTED TO OFFICE

At a full Council Meeting last night, Councillor Ivan Petch was re-elected as Mayor for the City of Ryde for the next 12 months.

Councillor Gabrielle O’Donnell was also re-elected as Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Petch said: “I am indeed honoured to accept the role of Mayor for the City of Ryde once more and thank Council for the faith shown in me.

“The demands of the office of Mayor have grown considerably and together we will work diligently to progress our vision for the City of Ryde as it evolves into a more dynamic and attractive place in which to live, work, invest and enjoy.

“We have many challenges ahead of us with several major initiatives to manage simultaneously, including the redevelopment of Top Ryde, the Gladesville Masterplan and the Macquarie Park Corridor.

“Working as a united team and in harmony with our community, I am confident that we will make real progress in achieving these dreams.

“Supported by a framework of sound economic management and backed with a solid program of community services and events we will continue to work hard for the people, and to identify new projects to showcase the City of Ryde as an environmental, economic and social leader.”

On her re-election, Councillor O’Donnell said: “It is an honour to be elected Deputy Mayor by my fellow Councillors again. I look forward to working closely with my colleagues in taking the City of Ryde towards our stated goals and to providing our community every opportunity to contribute in the decision making process.”

Ends

Media enquiries: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T9952 8083, M0434 306 444.
Sharpen your pencils! Load up your laptops!
FOR THE CITY OF RYDE WRITERS’ FESTIVAL
October 26 – November 2

Ryde Library Services has invited six of our most respected literary talents to take part in the City of Ryde’s Inaugural Writers’ Festival (October 26 – November 2).

Through a combination of author talks and creative writing workshops, local wordsmiths can learn from the best in the business, and find out what it makes to become a successful writer.

Well known actor and author Judy Nunn kicks off the program with an author talk, followed by a week of fascinating insights into the world of writing. The program includes:

- Lynette Ramsey Silver, author/historian, talks about the importance of research.
- Monique Choy, a Lonely Planet author, joins us for an exciting look at travel writing.
- Deb Westbury will help you write the great Aussie novel!
- Marguerite van Geldermalsen talks about her life married to a Bedouin.
- Stephen Measday, TV script writer of Blue Heelers, will hold a TV/film script writing workshop. You never know, you could be heading to Hollywood.

City of Ryde Community Life Group Manager, Sue Coleman, said: “We have secured an exceptional panel of authors for our first Writers’ Festival, covering a broad scope of styles and genres.”
“From best selling novelists, poets and historians to travel and screen writers, our community will have the opportunity to meet and learn from these talented communicators. Whether it’s a chat with your favourite author or practical advice from one of the creative writing workshops, our Writers’ Festival is for anyone who loves the written word,” she said.

So, if you want to write a ripping yarn, turn your own life adventure into a best seller, express your deepest feelings through poetry, learn the ins and outs of travel writing, or turn your talents to screen writing … then make a date at the Ryde Writers' Festival.

**Spaces are limited, and bookings are essential.**  
**For Bookings and Enquiries call Ryde Library Services 9952 8367.**

**PROGRAM OF EVENTS**

**Judy Nunn – Author/Actor (Author Talk)**  
After combining her internationally successful acting career with scriptwriting for television and radio, Judy decided to turn her hand to prose. The result includes novels for children, and no less than eight best sellers, confirming her position as one of Australia’s leading popular novelists. Enjoy a light supper and discuss Judy’s new book “Heritage”

- **Date:** Thursday, 26 October, 2006.  
- **Time:** 6.45 pm for 7pm start.  
- **Venue:** North Ryde Community Hall, 201 Coxs Road

**Lynette Ramsay Silver – Author & Historian (Author Talk)**  
Australian history and Australians at war in the Far East have been the passion of Sydney-based author Lynette Ramsay Silver for the past 20 years. Have a conversation with Lynette on what it takes to be an author as well as an advisor and historical consultant to other writers.

- **Date:** Monday, 30th October.  
- **Time:** 2.45 pm for 3pm start  
- **Venue:** West Ryde Library, 2 Graf Avenue
**Monique Choy – Travel Writer (Author Talk)**
Monique has sipped tea with a Templar knight, cooked turtle eggs with Yolngu people and fallen into a pig trough in Canada! Come and learn what it’s like to be a Lonely Planet writer.

Date: Tuesday, 31st October  
Time: 6.45 pm for 7pm start  
Venue: North Ryde Community Hall, 201 Coxs Road

**Deb Westbury – Author, Poet & Teacher (Creative Writing Workshop)**
If writing is your passion then you must not miss this creative writing workshop with one of the most respected voices in Australian literary circles. Deb is an inspirational educator and speaker, as well as an entertaining reader of her own poetry. Hone your writing skills.

Date: Wednesday, 1st November  
Time: 10.00 am to 12 noon  
Venue: Gladesville Library, 6 Pittwater Road

**Marguerite van Geldermalsen – Biographical Author (Author Talk)**
Meet the author of ‘Married to a Bedouin’, an amazing true tale of love across cultures. As a 22 year old backpacker, Margeurite learned to live the simple life of a Muslim Bedouin in a two thousand year old cave at Petra in Jordan. Find out what inspired her to write.

Date: Thursday, 2nd November  
Time: 10.15 am for 10.30 am start  
Venue: West Ryde Library, 2 Graf Avenue

**Stephen Measday – TV Screen Writer/Author (Workshop)**
Lights! Camera! Action! Learn the ins and outs of writing for TV and the cinema in this ‘must not miss” workshop with award-winning Stephen Measday. Stephen writes for both adults and children in film, television and radio as well as novels. His credits include HI-5 and Blue Heelers.

Date: Thursday, 2nd November  
Time: 6.45 pm for 7pm start  
Venue: North Ryde Community Hall, 201 Coxs Road

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444
CREATION OF NEW RYDE RIVERSIDE RESERVE FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF ALL

City of Ryde has received formal approval to create a 36.5 hectare Parramatta River foreshore parkland, for the enjoyment of the community, to be known as Ryde Riverside Reserve.

As the Reserve Trust Manager, Council will oversee the amalgamation of over 50 parcels of land, including large established parklands, unused roadways and small pockets of vacant land into one parkland to create the new Ryde Riverside Reserve.

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Clr Ivan Petch, said: “Council has worked hard to preserve the foreshore environment and improve public access to the Parramatta River.

“The new Ryde Riverside Reserve is the culmination of years of planning and negotiation and the result will not only improve the visual beauty of the area, but also enhance accessibility and guarantee greater community interaction with the local environment for generations to come.”

The new Ryde Riverside Reserve will run from the western boundary of Meadowbank Park along the Parramatta River to approximately Dyson Street, Putney (Kissing Point Park) and includes the old Council Works Depot site.

See Map next page.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444
WIN-WIN RESULT AS CITY OF RYDE ENDorses UNANIMOUSLY THE FUTURE OF GLADESVILLE LIBRARY

City of Ryde Council has voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Joint Library Advisory Committee formed to resolve the uncertainty over the future funding of Gladesville Library and other local library services.

The new agreement acknowledges Hunter’s Hill’s and the community’s desire for a more active role in the management of the joint library services, and proposes that a committee be formed, with membership coming from the two Councils, to deal with the management of the library and other related matters. There will be also significant involvement in the future from the Friends of the Library.

Under the new agreement, Hunter’s Hill Council would contribute approximately $470,000 for the first year of a 5 year term. Future financial commitments would be pegged each year to the General Rate Increase as issued by the Minister for Local Government.

After the decision was taken, the Mayor for the City of Ryde praised members of the Joint Library Advisory Committee for their commitment and hard work: “This is an excellent outcome for all parties involved, but especially for the community who clearly want this first-class library service to continue and prosper.

“In reaching this workable solution, Councillors, staff and the community have collaborated closely to produce a model that promised not only productivity gains and resource sharing, but importantly strengthens a unique partnership that has lasted for 50 years and I trust, very much longer.

“We look forward to working closely with Hunter’s Hill Council and the community in formalising arrangements for a new Joint Library Service,” the Mayor concluded.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
RYDE AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRE TEACHER HONOURED WITH AUSTSWIM’S TOP AWARD

Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (RALC) swim instructor, Tim Paul, has been named Swimming & Water Safety Teacher of the Year by Australia’s peak swimming education industry body AUSTSWIM.

29 year-old Tim Paul received the honour at the AUSTSWIM Awards of Excellence. The Awards recognise individuals and organisations that have made significant contributions to aquatics and water safety in NSW or have helped reduce drowning and water related injuries in their community.

RALC Centre Manager, Paul Hartmann, said: “This is a terrific result for both Tim and the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre and adds to our world-class reputation.

“‘Teacher of the Year’ is fitting recognition of Tim’s outstanding dedication and talent and demonstrates the high quality of expertise we require of our staff.”

“Tim is one of our most popular instructors and has made a significant contribution to our aquatic teaching and water safety skills. His versatility, patience and effective teaching methods see him achieve great result and he is equally at home teaching infants, high school students or adults,” Mr. Hartmann said.

The ‘Teacher of the Year’ honour caps off a string of prestigious awards and nominations for the world-class Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre facilities and staff, including:

• Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre - the AUSTSWIM (NSW) Swim School of the Year 2005
• Janet Sawatsky - AUSTSWIM (NSW) Teacher of Infant and Pre-School Aquatics Award 2006

• Joanne Furlong - Commendation Award for Specific Swim Teacher of the Year for Infants and Pre-schoolers 2005.

In 2005 (Jan-Dec), the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, which is owned and operated by the City of Ryde Council, hosted more than 800,000 visits and accepted more than 10,000 enrolments in its award-winning program.

The Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre provides the very best swimming tuition and lifesaving education for the community, catering for all ages and abilities as well as school and community groups.

For more information on RALC programs and facilities, phone 8878 5111 or go to www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ralc.htm.

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0436 306 444
CITY OF RYDE WELCOMES MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY
NEW VICE-CHANCELLOR AND NEW ERA OF PARTNERSHIPS

Acknowledging the close relationship between the City of Ryde and Macquarie University, the Mayor Cllr. Ivan Petch will host a meeting with the new Vice-Chancellor of Macquarie University, Professor Steven Schwartz.

On the eve of the meeting, Cllr Petch said: “This is the first opportunity we have had to formally welcome Professor Schwartz to the City of Ryde.

“The meeting provides us with an ideal platform to discuss a number of projects and partnership opportunities between the City of Ryde and Macquarie University that have been initiated and developed over the last five years,” he said.

The Joint Projects include:

- **Community Capacity Research Study – Families First**
  A Community Capacity Research Study (completed April 05) to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the community in providing appropriate services for new mothers. The research was undertaken by the Research Centre for Social Inclusion in collaboration with Community Services Unit.

- **ARC Longitudinal Study into Families & Children in Ryde**
  A joint research proposal has recently been successful for an Australian Research Council Grant for a 3 year longitudinal study. The Doctoral Research Project will follow a group of immigrant and Australian born parents in the city of Ryde from the birth of their child until 3 years old to assess their experiences of local services.

- **Social Mapping/Community Profiling Project**
  Council’s Community Services Section has completed a pilot project with the University regarding social mapping/community profiling software development. The project will develop and further enhance Council’s information and mapping capability through the collation and analysis of available data in partnership with the Centre for Research on Social Inclusion at Macquarie University. Discussions include
negotiating a five-year contract ($25 000 P/A) with the University for investigation and evaluation of data provided by the City of Ryde on internal and external (ABS) datasets.

- **Children’s Conference 2006**
  
  Partners City of Ryde, Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, Chair in Education - Teachers for the Future, Australian Centre for Educational Studies, will jointly present a multi-media, internationally-linked Children’s Conference on 1st December, 2006, at Macquarie University. The theme of the conference is ‘Technology Health Education - schools and the community in the future’. Over two hundred pupils from 6 local primary schools will participate.

- **Community Harmony Projects**
  
  The Community Harmony Reference Group was established in 2004 with local representation from a range of cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Dr. Armen Gakavian (president) and Dr. Amanda Wise are assisting the development of this reference group. Projects include - Aboriginal Needs, Childcare Youth Council and Youth Week, NAIDOC Week 2005, Crime Prevention, The Ryde Safe Communities Project.

- **Cities Climate Protection Plan**
  
  Since March 2005 City of Ryde has been a member of the Cities for Climate Protection Australia Program, an international campaign to assist local governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. City of Ryde has committed to achieving 5 milestones.

  After winning seed grant funding ($4k) Council engaged a team of post graduate Environment Management Masters students to assist in completing Milestones 1 and 2 stages of the program and further suggest elements which should be included in a local action plan for Milestone 3. This task was successfully completed in December 2005 and since that time other opportunities to use students from the University in tasks like helping Council formulate its Green Purchasing Policy have also resulted in positive outcomes.

**Ends**

**Media contact:** Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
Professor Steven Schwartz,  
Vice Chancellor Macquarie University  
Professor Steven Schwartz is the Vice Chancellor of Macquarie University (took over officially in February 2006). He has also served as Vice Chancellor of Brunel University in London, England and Vice Chancellor of Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia.

In April 2003, following the publication of the UK Government's Education White Paper, he was asked to lead a national taskforce to produce a set of guidelines on university admissions. Final recommendations were accepted by the Blair Government in 2004. In 2005, Professor Schwartz led a UK national taskforce for the Council for Industry and Higher Education. The taskforce produced an ethical framework for universities.

Steven Schwartz was born, raised, and educated in New York City before moving to Washington DC, where he worked at the National Institute of Health. After completing post-graduate work at Syracuse University in New York, he began an academic career which took him to the University of Illinois, the University of Texas and then, in 1978, to the University of Western Australia. From the University of Western Australia he moved to the University of Queensland were he held a number of positions including President of the Academic Board. In addition to his academic duties, Steven maintained a second life as a journalist writing for many magazines and newspapers.

Steven moved from the University of Queensland back to Perth to take a position of Executive Dean of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Western Australia and then, several years later, Vice Chancellor of Murdoch University. In the meantime he was also elected a fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, was an Academy of Science-Royal Society Exchange Fellow, a NATO Fellow, a WHO Fellow, a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management and the Australian Institute of Company Directors. In addition to management recognitions (Prime Minister's Institutional Award, Premier's Award for Excellence in Public Sector Management, Telstra National Employer of the Year), Steven has also received numerous scholarly prizes and more than $1 million in research grants. He is the author of 13 books, more than 120 scientific articles and hundreds of newspaper and magazine articles. He serves on the Boards of charitable, government and private organisations and is a Director of the Council for International Educational Exchange (USA).

Steven is married to Claire, originally from Inverness. His main extra curricular interests are rambling, writing and theatre.
LEADERS GATHER TO PROMOTE HARMONY
Learning Tolerance Seminar
Thursday 16th November, 2006. 9.30am-1.30pm

A diverse group of religious, cultural, civic and academic leaders will gather at the Ryde Civic Centre to mark International Tolerance Day.

The Learning Tolerance Seminar, held on Thursday, 16th November (9.30am-1.30pm) is an annual event organised by the City of Ryde Community Harmony Reference Group to promote religious and cultural harmony in our community through open discussion, co-operation and understanding.

Chairperson of the Community Harmony Reference Group and City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch, will launch a ‘Harmony’ wristband to celebrate the occasion. “The ‘Harmony’ wristband will instantly identify the wearer with our message of harmony and tolerance. We hope they become a ‘must have’ item, not only for our youth, but for all people,” he said.

The wristband embossed with the symbols of Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Baha’i, represents not only the diversity of faiths within our community but also of the speakers and delegates taking part in the Seminar. These include:

- The Hon John Watkins - Member for Ryde, Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport and Minister for Police
- Most Reverend Kevin Manning - Bishop of Parramatta
- Mrs. Zuleyha Keskin - Vice President, Affinity Intercultural Foundation
- Prof. Stuart Reece - Director Sydney Peace Foundation
- Rabbi Lewin – Chief Minister of North Shore Synagogue Lindfield
The Venerable Ban Ruo Shi – Abbot Hwa Tsang Monastery & Buddhist Chaplain, NSW Police Force
Chris Tobin - Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation
Dr Vimala Nayanar – Society of Hinduism & Women’s Interfaith Network
Natalie Mobini – Secretary Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’i of Ryde & Convenor of Women’s Interfaith Network
Students from Ryde Secondary College & Marsden High School

The Community Harmony Reference Group was formed in November 2004 to promote local community harmony. It is comprised of twelve local representatives from multicultural backgrounds and six Councillors.

Entry is free.

For enquiries and registration please contact Carol Ferguson on 9952 8303 or email cferguson@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444

Attachments x 2: Program. Biographies.
# City of Ryde Community Harmony Reference Group

**LEARNING TOLERANCE SEMINAR**

**Thursday, 16th November, 2006**

9.30 AM – 1.30 PM

Civic Hall, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde.

## PROGRAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30 AM-10.00 AM</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00am-10.20am</td>
<td><strong>Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country</strong>&lt;br&gt;Chris Tobin, Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation (outside adjacent to Council Chambers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.20am-10.35am</td>
<td><strong>Opening Address by The Hon John Watkins</strong> –&lt;br&gt;Member for Ryde, Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport and Minister for Police</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.35 am-10.45am</td>
<td><strong>Launch of HARMONY Wristband</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mayor for the City of Ryde, Clr Ivan Petch</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.45am-11.15am</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Address by Most Reverend Kevin Manning</strong>, Bishop of Parramatta</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.15-11.45am</td>
<td><strong>Peace and Harmony in Local Communities</strong>,&lt;br&gt;Prof. Stuart Rees, Sydney Peace Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.45am-12.00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Religious and Cultural Understanding in a Multi-Faith Community</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mrs Zuleyha Keskin, Vice President, Affinity Intercultural Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00pm-12.15pm</td>
<td><strong>Tolerance and Harmony in School Communities</strong>&lt;br&gt;Students from Ryde Secondary College and Marsden High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.15pm-1.00pm</td>
<td><strong>Open Panel Discussion</strong>&lt;br&gt;Speakers will be joined by:&lt;br&gt;- Rabbi Lewin – Chief Minister North Shore Synagogue Lindfield&lt;br&gt;- Dr. Vimala Nayanar – Society of Hinduism &amp; Women’s Interfaith Network&lt;br&gt;- Natalie Mobini – Secretary Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’i of Ryde &amp; Convenor of Women’s Interfaith Network&lt;br&gt;- The Venerable Ban Ru Shi – Abbot of Hwa Tsang Monastery Homebush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.00pm-1.30pm</td>
<td><strong>International Day of Tolerance Lunch &amp; Close</strong></td>
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LEARNING TOLERANCE SEMINAR  
Keynote Speakers & Panel Delegates  
BIOGRAPHIES

Most Rev Kevin Manning, Bishop of Parramatta, Catholic Diocese of Parramatta
Bishop Kevin Manning is the second Bishop of Parramatta. He was appointed on 10 July 1997. The Diocese of Parramatta was established in 1986 and today is the fifth-largest Catholic Diocese in Australia. He is a member of the Australian Catholic Bishops’ Committee for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations.
Bishop Manning was born in Coolah, NSW in 1933. He is the second eldest in a family of five boys and two girls. He attended the convent school in Coolah before going on to St Columba's College, Springwood, where he later began his studies for the priesthood. He was selected to complete his studies at Propaganda Fide College in Rome, where he was ordained on 21 December 1961.
1991-97: Bishop of Armidale
1983-91: Secretary to the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference.
1978-83: Assistant Secretary to the Australian Catholic Bishops’ Committee for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations; Australian Catholic Bishops' Committee for Liturgy; National Liturgical Commission; NSW Catholic Commission for Employment Relations.

Emeritus Prof Stuart Rees AM, Director, Sydney Peace Foundation
Stuart Rees is the Director for the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Sydney. He has worked in community development and as an academic in many countries and was previously Professor of Social Work at the University of Sydney. He has practised conflict resolution within organisations and has been involved in peace negotiations in Cambodia, Israel/Palestine and in relation to the Indonesian West-Papuan relations.
Stuart is the author of over ten books, including Passion for Peace: Exercising Power Creatively (2003) and Tell me the truth about war (2004).

Zuleyha Keskin, Vice President, Affinity Intercultural Foundation
Zuleyha was born in Sydney with a Turkish background and completed her schooling in the inner west. She studied Bachelor of Pharmacy at the University of Sydney. Through her schooling and university years, she was involved in youth activities in the areas of education and personal development. She is continuing to practice in her profession as a community pharmacist as well as doing work in the area of interfaith dialogue. She is the Vice President and a Team Executive Manager of Affinity Intercultural Foundation. She regularly gives classes at Auburn Gallipoli Mosque, delivering courses such as "20 Questions Everyone Should Be Able to Answer About Islam" and "Overview of Islam". She is also involved in the Auburn Gallipoli Mosque visitor services team, which involves providing mosque tours for the wider community and organising the annual Auburn mosque open day. She continues to do talks at churches, schools and other functions regarding dialogue and Islamic issues. She is currently doing her Masters in the Arabic and Islamic studies department at the University of
Sydney, writing her thesis on "Interfaith Dialogue from a Muslim Perspective". She is married and is the mother of two young children.

**Rabbi Lewin – Chief Minister, North Shore Synagogue**
Rabbi Paul Lewin was born in South Africa. After completing high school he studied in Israel where he completed his Rabbinic ordination in 1999. Since 2000 he has been in Sydney working within the Jewish community as a Rabbi and teacher. He lectures regularly at schools throughout NSW on the topic of Judaism for the HSC Studies of Religion course. He is the currently the Chief Minister of the North Shore Synagogue in Lindfield, and the Campus Rabbi of Masada College.

**Dr. Vimala Nayanar – Hindu representative, Women’s Interfaith Network**
Dr. Vimala Nayanar was born into a Hindu family in India. Her Father was a follower of Ramana Maharshi the renowned Saint of South India. She is quite familiar with Hindu scriptures and religious texts. She was the Vice-President for many years of the Ramakrishna Sarada Vedanta Society of NSW and has represented the Society and Hinduism in many Interfaith functions. She is also one of the three Hindu representatives in the Women’s Interfaith Network (WIN).

**Natalie Mobini – Spiritual Assembly of Baha’i**
Natalie Mobini is the secretary of the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai’i of Ryde. She is also the convenor of the Women's Interfaith Network branch for western Sydney, and has been actively involved in inter-faith dialogue. The mother of two young children, she holds a doctorate in Indonesian history and is presently working part-time for the Bahai’i national office.

**The Venerable Ban Ruo Shi – Abbot, Hwa Tsang Monastery, Homebush, and first Buddhist Champlain, NSW Police Force**
Ban Ruo Shi was born in China in a rural village in Anhui Province. At the age of twelve he took renunciation and began his formal Buddhist studies as a monk. Graduating from the Fujian Buddhist College at the age of 18 he stayed at the college carrying out human resource duties. Ban Ruo Shi arrived in Australia in 1990 to take on the post of the Assistant Abbot at the Hwa Tsang Monastery (HTM). Duties at HTM include looking after the general running of the monastery and the social welfare activities such as visiting the sick in hospital, visiting the elderly at nursing homes and visiting inmates in jail. He has also provided regular teachings at Sydney, NSW and Macquarie University with the thanks of organisation from the Buddhist societies on campus. In 2000 Ban Ruo Shi took part in the Olympic religious centre providing support to the athletes at the Olympic village. From 2003-2005 he took leave from HTM to go to Taiwan to study at the Nan Pu Tuo Buddhist Institute focusing on the study of the Buddhist precepts.

Recently he has also taken up a position as the first Buddhist Chaplain for the NSW police force.
City of Ryde

Media Release

Wednesday, 15 November 2006.

“LANTERN WALK” ILLUMINATES CAMPAIGN TO STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN


City of Ryde in partnership with the Ryde Hunters Hill Domestic Violence Committee is holding a “Lantern Walk” at Eastwood Plaza on Friday, 24 November for White Ribbon Day - to show this community’s commitment to helping stop violence against women.

White ribbons are worn by men in countries all around the world to show their commitment to helping stop violence against women. White Ribbon Day was the first male campaign against violence in the world. It is held on the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (November 25 each year).

City of Ryde Manager Community Services, Kevin Moloney, said: “Anyone can be part of the White Ribbon Day campaign as a way to demonstrate the positive roles that men and boys can play in helping to stop violence against women.

“The Lantern Walk will bring members of our community together to make a symbolic statement that violence against women in any form is not tolerated in our society. The buying and wearing of a white ribbon not only shows support but also provides much-needed funds to help those affected by domestic violence,” he said.

Australian research has shown that:

• More than 1 million Australian women have experienced violence during a relationship
• 600,000 of these women have said they lived in fear during the relationship
• 20% of women who have experienced violence were pregnant when violence first occurred.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Friday, 24 November, 2006.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>7.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td><strong>Make a Lantern</strong> at the kiosk – join in the fun, bring a torch and learn to how to make a Paper “torch” Lantern. Musical entertainment provided. <strong>Buy and Wear a White Ribbon</strong> – fundraiser for the Ryde Hunters Hill Domestic Violence Committee <strong>7.30 pm Walk through Eastwood</strong> with others in your community and make a symbolic statement about violence against women. Bring along your whistles and drums.</td>
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For more information on the City of Ryde’s Lantern Walk, contact Customer Service on 9952 8222 or [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au)

Ends

Media contact:  Lee Kirkland, Media Officer, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083  M 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Monday, 20 November 2006

TECHNOLOGY HEALTH AND EDUCATION ARE HOT TOPICS AT INAUGURAL CHILDREN’S CONFERENCE 2006

Primary school children from three continents will take part in the inaugural City of Ryde Children’s Conference on Friday, 1st December, 2006, at Macquarie University, to discuss what Technology Health and Education means to them.

Over 200 students from five local primary schools will link by computer and the internet with students from Pleasantview Academy, a primary/middle school in Kansas, USA, to share their views.

Kenyan students from the Mukuru Project, which is introducing technology as a learning tool in the slums of Nairobi, will provide a different perspective, via video footage shot by project partner Prof. Ian Gibson from Macquarie University on what Technology Health and Education means to them.

The forum is the result of an on-going partnership between the City of Ryde, the Department of Education and Training and Macquarie University and gives primary aged school students an opportunity to exchange ideas and develop communication skills while using interactive technology in an atmosphere of fun, friendship and learning.

Special Guest Presenters include the new Vice Chancellor of Macquarie University, Prof. Steven Schwartz, and two high-profile, youth-savvy speakers -

• Dr. James Bradfield Moody (scientist, engineer, television presenter)
• Teen sprint sensation Jaimee-Lee Hoebergen (HSC student, Commonwealth Games & World Juniors competitor)
Conference Co-ordinator, City of Ryde’s Children & Families Community Project Officer, Sandip Bhattacharjee said: “The opportunity for young students to visit a major university as Conference Delegates is both exciting and unique for them.

“In letting the students choose the key topics of discussion, and to be part of the whole proceedings, we have empowered them to tell us where they feel their future learnings should focus, giving us the opportunity to learn from them,” he said.

Forty students from the Student Representative Council will facilitate Student Break-Out Sessions where the themes will be discussed, recommendations developed and then creatively presented back to the conference.

Ryde Secondary College Media Unit will develop their documentary making skills by filming the proceedings for podcast via a Children’s Conference website.

In co-ordinating the event, the City of Ryde Community Services Unit has joined in partnership with peak educational bodies –

- Department of Education and Training (DET)
- Macquarie University
- Teacher Representatives of the five participating schools:
  - Truscott Street Public School
  - Ryde Public School
  - West Ryde Public School
  - Eastwood Public School
  - Eastwood Height Public School

A final evaluation of the Children’s Conference will be forwarded to the Minister for Education presenting a positive youth message.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Children’s Conference 2006</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Friday, 1\textsuperscript{st} December, 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>9.30 am – 2.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>Lecture Theatre, X5B, T1, Macquarie University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444

Biographical Notes …/3
GUEST SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES
Dr James Bradfield Moody

James Bradfield Moody is currently the Director, Divisional Business Strategy at the CSIRO Division of Land and Water, the largest water research and development organisation in Australia. In this role he undertakes work with major government enterprises and private companies, focussing on some of the key areas of water and catchment management, interoperability and data use for environmental outcomes.

James received his PhD from the National Graduate School of Management, where he undertook research on the applications of Complex Product Systems to the international and Australian satellite industries.

In 2000, James was named Young Professional Engineer of the Year and in 2005 was named one of the 100 most influential engineers in Australia. In 2000 James was also awarded Young Queenslander of the Year and in 2001 was awarded Young Australian of the Year in Science and Technology. He was a participant in the Forum for Young Global Leaders at the World Economics Forum in January 2005 and again in 2006.

James is an Advisory Board Member of the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Bureau of Meteorology and board member of the Brisbane Institute and the National Australia Day Council. He is also a panel member of the ABC Television show “The New Inventors”.

Jaimee-Lee Hoebergen

Ranked 1st in Australian Under 20’s female 400m, and 6th in Australian Open women’s 400m, 18 year old sprint star, Jaimee-Lee Hoebergen has just completed her HSC at Illawarra Christian School.

Her ambition is to compete at the Beijing Olympics and to continue her studies at university to become a Personal Development & Health, & Physical Education (PDH/PE) teacher.

Earlier this year Jaimee-Lee competed in the Melbourne Commonwealth Games in the 400m, reaching the semi-finals, and
has represented her country at international level and regularly participates in State, National and Schools competitions with distinction.

- Pacific School Games, 2000 – Bronze, 200m.
- IAAF World Youth Championships, 2003 – Bronze, 400m.
- IAAF World Junior Championships, 2004 – Semi-finalist, 400m.
- IAAF World Youth Championships, 2005 – Silver, Medley relay.
- Melbourne Commonwealth Games, 2006 – Semi-finalist, 400m.

A natural leader, Jaimee-Lee was elected Vice-President of her school Student Council Organization. She was team captain at the IAAF World Youth Championships (Morocco) and also led the NSW Little Athletics under 13’s national team.

She has represented her school in debating and numerous Public Speaking competitions achieving two 1st places and one 2nd place and has actively mentored others both at school at in the community as a Church Youth Group Leader at South Coast City Church, Thirroul, for 15-18 year olds.

Achievements and Awards include:
- ‘Pierre De Coubertin Award 2006’ – a part of the Australian Olympic Committee.
- Representing school in NSW & Australian All Schools Championships – achieving primarily 1st places, and always consistently in the 400m.

“I do athletics because of my natural ability, belief and longing to see my talent developed to its full potential. I also love the friendships I have within the sport and the many great experiences I have had from being involved.” – Jaimee-Lee Hoebergen
City of Ryde 2006 Access Awards

The City of Ryde Access Committee is holding its annual Access Award presentation on Wednesday 29 November 2006 as part of celebrations for International Day of People with a Disability.

“We have received some fantastic nominations for awards including local community organisations and individuals who have improved access for people in Ryde,” said City of Ryde - Community Services Manager, Kevin Moloney.

Among the nominees are Side By Side Advocacy, Taxi Driver Kim Gregan and SPA Dental.

The Awards will be presented at an afternoon celebration at Next Generation Ryde.

City of Ryde – Access and Equity Coordinator, Cathy Buining said celebrations around this day provide an ideal opportunity to increase awareness of disability issues in the community.

“The organisations and individuals nominated for Access Awards have all made a special effort to improve access to goods and services or increase community participation opportunities for people in Ryde including those with a disability.
“The City of Ryde Access Committee would like to congratulate all the nominees for their efforts in improving access and encourages other businesses, organisations and individuals to make a difference too.”

- ENDS -

Photo Opportunity - Between 5.00 and 6.00pm at Next Generation, 504a Victoria Rd, Ryde.

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 or 0434 306 444
City of Ryde

Media Release

Friday, November 24, 2006

“EASTWOOD FLOWS TO THE RIVER” POLLUTION REDUCTION CAMPAIGN

City of Ryde Council and members of the Eastwood community have worked together to launch Eastwood Flows to the River - an environmental education project to reduce stormwater pollution entering the Eastwood canal.

The project has the backing of a pro-active group comprising of local residents, real estate agents, representatives from the Chambers of Commerce and Council staff.

City of Ryde Environment Manager, Sam Cappelli said: “Reducing the amount of pollutants, such as litter, food scraps and illegal dumping material from entering the concrete canal which runs along the town centre of Eastwood, and ultimately into Parramatta River and beyond is important for protecting the aquatic environment.

“The campaign is focused on educating households and businesses in the Eastwood area on waste management and how everyday practices affect the water quality in local creeks”, he said.

Information kits have been prepared and are being distributed to over 1,000 households located around the eastern side of Eastwood Station and over 100 businesses located in the Eastwood shopping locality. In addition Council Environmental Health Officers along with translators (Korean and Chinese) will be visiting food retailers in Eastwood and providing guidance on correct waste management practices.

Follow up inspections will be held in a few months to ensure the project has been successful and that businesses are following correct procedures.

Eastwood Flows to the River information kits contain:

RESIDENT KIT - a magnetic fridge whiteboard and information sheets translated in English, Chinese and Korean covering issues like illegal dumping, correct recycling practices, and the journey of water from rain to drain, to creek.
BUSINESS KIT - developed and translated in English, Chinese and Korean for food retailers in Eastwood includes information on correct waste management practices, contact details of businesses offering pest and waste services and food business booklet.

Improving the quality of waterways in the City of Ryde is one of Council’s Green City initiatives and has been made possible through funding from the NSW Department of Conservation’s Our Environment – It’s a Living Thing program.

For more information, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au or phone Customer Service on 9952 8222.

Ends

Media contact:  Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde T 9952 8083, M 0434 306 444

Details of Photo Opportunity

TWT
Thursday, 30 November, 2006, 11am.  Hillview Car Park, Hillview Lane, Eastwood.  Environmental Health Officer and translator inspect rubbish that ends up in Canal.

Ndtr
Thursday, 30 November 2006, 11.15 am.  Eastwood Mall fountain.  Greg Lewin and Narrelle Hanger (Environmental Health Officers) and associated translators meet local business representative to present Information Kit.
Media Release

Monday, 27 November 2006

CELEBRATIONS GALORE FOR RYDE LIBRARY SERVICES 60TH BIRTHDAY

A birthday party for young and old will kick off a fortnight of festivities when Ryde Library Services celebrates 60 years of service.

The celebrations start with a huge birthday party on Saturday, 2 December, 2006, outside the Ryde Civic Centre, where everyone is welcome to join in the fun with a sausage sizzle, storytelling, jumping castle, lucky dip, face painting, a book parade and much more. Come dressed as your favourite book character and you could win a special ‘birthday’ prize.

Ryde Library Services Manager, Deborah Lisson said: “December 2006 marks two significant milestones in the history of library services in the Ryde area.

“Not only are we celebrating the first anniversary of the opening of the West Ryde branch in December last year, but also the 60th anniversary of the Ryde Municipal Library service, which opened its doors to patrons on Wednesday, 4 December 1946 at 89 Blaxland Road.

“To mark both occasions, each Library branch will celebrate with birthday cake and a ‘decade display’ highlighting the fashions, cars, books and movies of the six decades from the 1940’s through to the present.

“We’re also running a special ‘design a 60th birthday card’ competition. It’s open to all ages and a selection of entries will be displayed in the Ryde Library and winners announced at our big Birthday Party on Saturday, 2 December,” she said.

Looking Back

Free public libraries in New South Wales only began to operate in any numbers after World War II as a result of the Library Act that was proclaimed on 1 January 1944. By the end of 1946 a quarter of the 3 million inhabitants of New south Wales were being served by a free public library.

In 1946 it was announced that at the Ryde Municipal Library, ‘there are books on all topics for adults and children’. Books could be borrowed free of charge with the exception of adult fiction for which there was a charge of 3d per book. Intending borrowers had to obtain and lodge their registration cards with the Chief Librarian.
RYDE LIBRARY SERVICES 60TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS PROGRAM

The Main Event
Celebrating 60 Years of Library Services Birthday Party
Saturday, 2 December, 2006. Outside Ryde Civic Centre, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde. 11am-2pm

The Party Continues with displays of fashions, cars, books and movies from 6 decades from the 1940s to present times.
Join us for tea, coffee and birthday cake and a look back in time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>DISPLAY ERA</th>
<th>PARTY DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ryde Library</td>
<td>1940s &amp; 1990s</td>
<td>Monday 4 December</td>
<td>11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Ryde Library</td>
<td>1950s</td>
<td>Tuesday 5 December</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Ryde Library</td>
<td>1960s</td>
<td>Wednesday 6 December</td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastwood Library</td>
<td>1970s</td>
<td>Thursday 7 December</td>
<td>2.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gladesville Library</td>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Friday 8 December</td>
<td>3.00pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

West Ryde Library 1st Anniversary Celebrations …Cake … Cards …. Films …. Fun for all!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>BOOKINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Xmas Card Craft Workshop Make your own Xmas cards!</td>
<td>5 Dec</td>
<td>10.30 - 12.30</td>
<td>Bookings Essential - Limited Numbers 18+ Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthday Cake</td>
<td>6 Dec</td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Night &quot;My Big Fat Greek Weddings&quot; (PG)</td>
<td>7 Dec</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>No bookings required Refreshments supplied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Matinee &quot;Arsenic &amp; Old Lace&quot; (G)</td>
<td>14 Dec</td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>No bookings required Refreshments supplied</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enquiries: 9952 8376

For more information, go to www.ryde.nsw.gov.au or phone Ryde Library Services on 9952 8376.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: VARIOUS AS ABOVE

Ends

Media contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
FESTIVE SPIRIT LIGHTS UP OUR CITY

The City of Ryde is lighting up with the spirit of the festive season with celebrations ranging from the traditional Christmas Carols, to Christmas in the Bush (an event for the aboriginal community), and the spontaneous Christmas house lights spectacular presented by residents for the entertainment of all.

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Clr Ivan Petch, said: “Our Christmas Carols in the Plaza at Eastwood is one of the most popular community gatherings of the year. It’s a chance for all members of the community to come together to enjoy an evening of festive celebration.

“Special invitations have gone out to a large variety of local community organisations, including disabled services and nursing homes to bring the spirit of Christmas to young and old. There will be extra seating and wheel chair access provided to ensure that everyone can enjoy the entertainment in comfort and safety,” he said.

Christmas in the Bush at Putney Park gives indigenous families and children the chance to gather and to develop the informal networks in Aboriginal communities through interaction, fun activities and sport. Christmas in the Bush, is a City of Ryde celebration in association with the Northern Sydney Aboriginal Child Youth and Family Strategy.

The Salvation Army will also hold their annual Carols by Candlelight event in Wilga Park on Sunday, 17 December (7-9.30pm) for local residents.
Another unique event is the spontaneous and spectacular house lights that decorate many streets and individual homes in our City. Some of the most popular sites are Cutler Parade and Chavel Street, North Ryde; Stephens Street, Quarry Road and Boyce Street, Ryde; Blundell Street and Parks Street, Marsfield.

FESTIVE SEASON ACTIVITIES IN THE CITY OF RYDE

**Thursday, December 14**

**CAROLS IN THE PLAZA**  
Sponsored by the City of Ryde  

**Time:** 6.30pm - 9.00pm  
**Where:** Eastwood Plaza  
**Phone:** 02 9952 8222

Chairs and wheel chair access provided.  
Fairy floss  
Gelato

Join our community in celebrating the festive season with a night of merriment and carols performed by local community groups and school choirs with an appearance from Santa. Invitations have gone out to a large variety of local community organisations including nursing homes to bring the spirit of Christmas to young and old. For the kids, we've got free Glow-sticks, and glow-bangles Santa hats and sweets. Santa on stage. Performing your favourite carols and songs:
- Diva-licious Opera  
- John Shearer and Roseanne Gallo  
- Davin Griffiths-Jones School of Performing Arts  
- St Anthony’s Parish Youth & Adult Choir  
- Chinese Australian Baptist Church Choir

**Saturday, 16 December**

**CHRISTMAS IN THE BUSH**  
An Aboriginal Event for Aboriginal People  
Brought to you by City of Ryde and Aboriginal Child Youth & Family Strategy  

**Time:** 10.30am – 3.30pm  
**Where:** Putney Park, Pellisier Road, Putney  
**Enquiries:** Herb Smith 9847 6052

An Aboriginal Event for the Aboriginal Community. Plenty for fun, prizes, Christmas gifts, food and activities for all ages.  
- Indigenous Ceremony  
- Aboriginal Cultural Dance  
- Sports Activities  
- Black Santa  
- Christmas Gifts

**Sunday, 17 December**

**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**  
Time: 7-9.30pm  
**Where:** Wilga Park

Salvation Army Annual Event to promote a sense of community amongst residents

**Ends**

**Media Contact:** Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083 M 0434 306 444
ARCTIC ANTICS AT RYDE LIBRARY SERVICES
JANUARY ’07 SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENTS

Ryde Libraries Services has a ‘cool’ program of holiday activities. From penguin craft and pyjama storytimes, to Ice Age movies and murder mysteries, there’s something to keep kids of all ages entertained.

These holiday activities will book out quickly, so reserve a space for your toddler or teen now. Enquiries and Bookings - Phone 9952 8352. Late arrivals not admitted.

**Snow Window Craft**  Ages 8+ years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Ryde</td>
<td>8 January</td>
<td>2.30pm - 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastwood</td>
<td>9 January</td>
<td>2.30pm - 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryde</td>
<td>10 January</td>
<td>2.30pm - 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gladesville</td>
<td>11 January</td>
<td>2.30pm - 3.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Ryde</td>
<td>12 January</td>
<td>2.30pm - 3.30pm</td>
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**Abstract Penguins Craft**  Ages 5+ years

Felt collage craft penguins in abstract design

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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ryde</td>
<td>8 January</td>
<td>10.30am - 11.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gladesville</td>
<td>9 January</td>
<td>10.30am - 11.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Ryde</td>
<td>10 January</td>
<td>10.30am - 11.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastwood</td>
<td>11 January</td>
<td>10.30am - 11.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Ryde</td>
<td>12 January</td>
<td>10.30am - 11.30am</td>
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**Trick Seals and Penguin Craft**

Peg craft for toddlers. Parental assistance required!

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<th>Library Location</th>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gladesville</td>
<td>15 January</td>
<td>1.30pm - 2.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastwood</td>
<td>16 January</td>
<td>1.30pm - 2.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Ryde</td>
<td>22 January</td>
<td>1.30pm - 2.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Ryde</td>
<td>24 January</td>
<td>1.30pm - 2.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryde</td>
<td>25 January</td>
<td>1.30pm - 2.30pm</td>
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**Questacon Shows - Liquid Nitrogen and Slimy Bubbles**

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<tr>
<th>Library Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Ryde</td>
<td>17 January</td>
<td>2.30pm - 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Ryde</td>
<td>18 January</td>
<td>2.30pm - 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Arctics Antics - Pyjama Storytime**
Stories, songs and fun!
Wear your pyjamas and bring teddy!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ryde</td>
<td>16 January</td>
<td>6.00pm - 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gladesville</td>
<td>22 January</td>
<td>6.00pm - 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Ryde</td>
<td>24 January</td>
<td>6.00pm - 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Pizza & Movie Nights** Ages 11+ years

**The Chronicles of Narnia (PG)**
Location: Ryde Library
Date: 17 January
Time: 6.00pm - 9.00pm

**The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy (PG)**
Location: Eastwood Library
Date: 18 January
Time: 6.00pm - 9.00pm

**Movie & Munchies - It’s an Ice Age!**
Bring your polar bear along to see Ice Age 2 (PG)
Location: Gladesville Library
Date: 19 January
Time: 4.00pm - 6.00pm
Popcorn and lollies provided!

**Cartoon Dave's Iced Toons Workshop** Ages 8+ years.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ryde</td>
<td>23 January</td>
<td>11.00am -12 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastwood</td>
<td>23 January</td>
<td>2.00 – 4.00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Murder Mystery Cruise**
There’s murder afloat the S.S. Rytanic!
Location: West Ryde Library
Date: 25 January
Time: 6.00pm - 8.00pm
Ages 11+ years
Tickets $6.00 each. Supper included

Ends

Media Enquiries: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083
City of Ryde

Media Release

Wednesday, 13 December 2006

CITY OF RYDE KICKS OFF CHRISTMAS CARD RECYCLING CAMPAIGN

City of Ryde Council is encouraging residents to be kind to the environment this holiday season by taking part in the ‘Cards 4 Planet Ark’ campaign. Now in its 13th year, the initiative has seen over 550 million greeting cards recycled.

“Australians love giving cards to one another at Christmas,” said Mayor, Clr Ivan Petch. “In fact, we will post over 100 million cards and envelopes to each other this holiday season. With so many being sent, it’s great to know that we can recycle them so easily.”

As part of the popular recycling push, Australia Post outlets are giving away one million ‘Cards 4 Planet Ark’ envelopes. Used cards can be placed inside and posted for free at any of the 15,000 post boxes nationwide.

Any type of greeting cards and envelopes can also be dropped into the specially marked Planet Ark recycling bins at most Coles Supermarkets. They will be turned into items we can all use such as cardboard packaging and SAFE toilet tissue.

The campaign has produced a tangible environmental benefit with over 100,000 trees having been saved.

Recycling your Christmas cards is a great way to help give the environment a Happy New Year”.

For details of greeting card recycling locations in your area, call the National Recycling Hotline on 1300 733 712 or go to recyclingnearyou.com.au and simply type in your postcode.

‘Cards 4 Planet Ark’ runs until the end of January.

ends

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland, City of Ryde, T 9952 8083
For more information or to arrange a photo opportunity with your local Australia Post outlet or Coles Supermarket, contact the Planet Ark PR staff on (02) 8484 7200.