



MAYOR'S COMMUNITY MESSAGE

Clr Bill Pickering - Mayor

Fit for the Future

At an Extraordinary Council meeting held last week, Councillors voted again to reject a forced amalgamation of the City of Ryde that would see our community split between two new enormous councils.

In a positive development, Councillors also endorsed examining the proposal of forming a joint 'regional' organisation, with likeminded northern Sydney communities. This proposal would see the City of Ryde not only retain its identity but become an equal partner with neighbouring councils to deliver strong and sustainable local representation for all.

It is proposed to explore the formation of a joint organisation that would be responsible for the strategic management of the region and would include planning, land use and infrastructure planning, community and cultural planning, economic and tourism development and other joint service initiatives.

The model of a streamlined joint organisation was discussed at length at a recent meeting of Hunters Hill, Lane Cove, Mosman, North Sydney, Ku-ring-gai and Willoughby mayors. At that meeting it was agreed that the City of Ryde's excellent community consultation framework would be fully utilised to gauge community support for the proposal.

There is a lot of work to be done and we will call on your support to ensure that Ryde retains its place as a strong force in local government.

Quarterly Review

The latest Quarterly Review was published this week showing that Council is on track to achieve the goals as detailed in our annual budget and four-year delivery plan.

This quarterly review provides a snap shot of the organisation's health and achievements and I'm pleased to report that we are tracking well with our schedule of projects and financial management.

The wide scope of projects include the completion of works at Sager Place and Quarry Road, a new playground at Monash Park, sportsfield upgrades, library and community building maintenance, plus tree plantings, termite eradications, stormwater improvements, footpath and roadway resurfacing and social programs.

While the report is made up of facts and figures, projections and budgets, and may not look particularly exciting, what it does demonstrate is how committed this Council is to providing good governance and conscientious financial management and the best services for the community.

Lunar New Year

Everyone is invited to join in the celebrations at Eastwood this Saturday for our annual Lunar New Year festival.

Now in its seventh year, the festival gives everyone a chance to celebrate our unique diversity and to wish our neighbours 'good health and good fortune for the coming year'.

There will be a Street Parade, food and fireworks, lanterns and lions, drums and dragons, as we welcome in the Year of the Sheep. Kung hei fat choi!

I would like to thank everyone for their support and well wishes after the incident on the weekend. I am OK and will back at work soon.

Sincerely,
Clr Bill Pickering - Mayor

Phone 9952 8222 or email mayor@ryde.nsw.gov.au

EVENTS AT YOUR LIBRARY

Game On!

Come along for a morning of fun with either Wii games, board games or lego!



Ages 5 years+
When Every Saturday
Where Ryde Library
Time 11.00am - 12 noon

Kids Online Library



Great range of popular and engrossing books, picture books and readers for kids. Call the library for more information on 9952 8352 or visit our website: www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Library

Authors Platform: Lex Marinus

From *Kingswood Country* to *The Slap*, Lex Marinus has enjoyed a full life as an actor on stage and on film. *Blood and Circuses* is the wry and charming story of a young Greek Australian boy, whose family ran a cafe in Wagga Wagga in the 1950s and who dreamt of making his life in the theatre.



When Thursday 26 February
Time 6.30 - 7.30pm
Where Ryde Library
Cost Gold coin contribution
Bookings 9952 8352

InFocus: Ryde and the Homefront

What was Ryde like in the First World War? New suburbs, new movies, new innovations! Come along for an insight into how the trials of war shaped our growing community. Light refreshments provided.



When Thursday 19 March
Time 6.30 - 7.30pm
Where Ryde Library
Cost Gold coin contribution
Bookings 9952 8352

Eastwood and Gladesville Libraries

One Day Closure - Friday 13 March

Eastwood and Gladesville Libraries will be closed on Friday 13 March and will reopen on Saturday 14 March at 9.30am. Our libraries at Ryde, North Ryde, West Ryde and the Online Library will be open as usual, and after hours chutes will be available at Eastwood and Gladesville. We apologise for the inconvenience.

EASTWOOD PLAZA SMOKE FREE ZONE

In October 2014, Council received a petition from 240 regular users of Eastwood Plaza, requesting Council consider making it a 'Smoke Free Zone'.

Following this community feedback, Council is undertaking community consultation through a survey on this issue and is seeking your input.

We encourage you to give us your feedback through:

- Completing the online survey at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay
- Completing the survey over the phone by calling Customer Service on 9952 8222

We will be at Eastwood Plaza during the Lunar New Year Festival on Saturday 28 February from 10.00am to 12.00 noon conducting surveys.

Closing date for the survey is 4.00pm Friday 13 March 2015.

For more information call Customer Service on 9952 8222.



Want to keep your mind healthy and active?

Did you know that when you volunteer you:

- Give a boost to a cause you believe in
- Put a lifetime of skills and experience to good use
- Give back to society
- Enhance your health and wellbeing

Who knew that volunteering could do all of this?

Volunteering opportunities now available in the Ryde area include:

- Meals on Wheels
- Home Visits
- Gardening
- Linen services
- Recreational activities
- Shopping assistance
- Many more fulfilling activities

Volunteer now!

For more information, please visit the City Of Ryde website: www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/volunteers or call us on 9952 8222 or email: volunteers@ryde.nsw.gov.au

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Council has received the following Local Development Application

Property: Shop 3390, 197-223 Herring Road, Eastwood
Local Development Application No. LDA2015/0074

Applicant: Dreamtime Australia Design

Fitout and use of premises as a restaurant and liquor licence for Chinese Dim Sum restaurant at Macquarie Shopping Centre.

Submissions regarding the above application must be lodged no later than 11 March 2015.

The above application is not 'designated development' under the terms of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, and the City of Ryde is the authority responsible for the determination of the application.

Anyone may make submissions concerning this application. Submissions are required to be in writing. They should be addressed to the General Manager and sent by post, email or fax or delivered in person to the Civic Centre or the Ryde Planning and Business Centre. Should the submission be by way of objection to the proposal, the submission should specify the grounds of objection.

The City of Ryde has resolved that all submissions received in relation to rezoning and development applications will be publicly accessible on request.

The supply of personal information is voluntary. However if you choose to make an anonymous submission it may be given less weight (or no weight) in the overall consideration of the application.

All of the above applications and accompanying information may be inspected electronically at the Ryde Planning and Business Centre, 1 Pope Street, Ryde (within Top Ryde City shopping centre) between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday during the period in which submissions may be made. (Please note: on the second Thursday of each month the hours are 10.00am to 5.00pm.) To make an appointment go to www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/planningandbusiness or call 9952 8222.