

Support the Big Heart Appeal this September

Published on 31 August 2015



Open your hearts and give generously to our volunteer collectors during September.

In NSW, the Big Heart Doorknock Appeal will take place between Tuesday 1 September and Wednesday 30 September and will involve 37,000 volunteer collectors knocking on doors to collect vital funds for the Heart Foundation's lifesaving research and health programs, including research into cardiovascular disease, community education programs, and services to patients to keep Australian hearts healthy.

[Register to Doorknock](#)

[Make a Donation](#)

Find out more by calling 1800 55 22 55 or visiting the [Big Heart Appeal](#) website.

Surf Ryder Wins NSW Project of the Year Award

Published on 31 August 2015



Ryde Council's Surf Ryder project management team has won two prestigious awards at the 2015 Australian Institute of Project Management (AIPM) Achievement Awards, including the hotly contested NSW Project of the Year. [View all winners.](#)

The Council also took out the AIPM Award in the NSW Community and/or Development category for the Surf Ryder from highly established organisations such as Sydney Trains, Broadcast Australia, AGL and NSW Public Works.

Both Awards recognise best practice in project management for works undertaken on the installation of the Surf Ryder and Forecourt Construction at the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (RALC).

The \$3.5 million Surf Ryder is the State's first community owned surf attraction. It was delivered on time and within budget by a team collaboration across all units of the Council. It was fully funded from RALC reserves, at no cost to the community.

The Mayor, Clr Bill Pickering, said: "The AIPM excellence awards represent an outstanding achievement for the City of Ryde, its residents and the broader community.

"Congratulations to the staff who have once again demonstrated their skills and high level of professionalism in delivering this outstanding community asset that is enjoyed by so many."

As the NSW AIPM Project of the Year winner, City of Ryde's Surf Ryder will be up against other State recipients of the Award included Queensland Police Service for *G20 – Global Summit (Brisbane)*, Department of Infrastructure NT Government

for *Cyclone Recovery Works Phase One* and Public Transport Authority of WA. The National Awards will be announced in October 2015.

About Surf Ryder

Surf Ryder is a state-of-the-art, heated surf simulator that delivers the perfect wave every time, from a 90,000 litre holding tank. It is a functional, innovative and sustainable piece of civil infrastructure that incorporates public art components, including a tensile membrane shade structure that is unique in design.

Framed by carefully crafted landscape, the Surf Ryder provides a 'sense of place' for family and community gatherings that evokes the cultural values and aesthetics of surf and seaside lifestyle, which are core to Sydney's identity. *If you can do it in the ocean, you can do it on the Surf Ryder!*

Book the Surf Ryder now. Phone 8878 5111. Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, 504 Victoria Road, Ryde. Visit the [Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre page](#).

Buy Dad a Surf Ryder experience for Father's Day

Published on 25 August 2015



Dad will love testing his balance and showing off his skills on the Surf Ryder at Ryde Pool. Buy him a gift card this Father's Day - rides are only \$18.50 each for a 30 minute session and gift cards are valid for 12 months from date of purchase. Phone 8878 5111 to purchase the Gift Card or visit reception at the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre.

Ryde Swim Teacher Named Best in the Nation

Published on 24 August 2015



Jared Wilson General Manager Austswim, Jason Smylie AUSTSWIM Teacher of the Year for Children with a Disability, Paul Hartman RALC Manager

Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (RALC) swim instructor Jason Smylie has been named AUSTSWIM National Swim Teacher of the Year Access and Inclusion, for his work with children with special needs.

The AUSTSWIM Excellence Award is the nation's highest award, recognising teachers who excel in aquatic education.

Jason Smylie has been teaching children with special needs at the RALC for seven years, passing on vital swimming, survival and participation skills.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Bill Pickering, said it is a great thrill that a local teacher has been acknowledged as being the best in Australia and is an indication of the professionalism of staff. "It's obvious that Jason is totally dedicated to his pupils and loves his job.

"The community is better off because of Jason's commitment and contribution to swimming and water safety.

"Teachers like Jason are making a huge difference teaching Ryde kids of all abilities how to enjoy the water safely," he said.

Jason Smylie said he was honoured to receive the award. "I wouldn't be where I am today without the assistance of my colleagues, students and parents. They mean so much to me. I just want to thank them for their support and trust in me," he said.

Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre Manager, Paul Hartman, said Jason continually tried to improve his skills with aquatic industry qualifications.

“He can identify student needs and implement programs that cater for each individual child’s ability. He works inclusively with parents and students and believes a collaborative effort is important.

“Jason is always looking for what’s new in the aquatics industry and is a wonderful example of how dedicated and knowledgeable all our staff at the RALC are.”

In 2013 Jason Smylie was also named the NSW Teacher of Aquatics to People with a Disability by AUSTSWIM.

In recent years, Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre staff have been recognised with several AUSTSWIM Awards including Swim School of the Year.

The AUSTSWIM accreditation is the industry standard for Swimming and Water Safety Teachers™ and is delivered and recognised in each state and territory of Australia and many countries overseas. There are currently over 32,000 AUSTSWIM Teachers in Australia and internationally with over 10,000 licensed in teaching specific programs such as infants, people with a disability and adults.

City of Ryde Council Wins Prestigious Communication Award

Published on 11 August 2015

City of Ryde Council has won the coveted Excellence in Communication Award at the 2015 Local Government NSW Awards for its successful 'Securing our Future' Special Rate Variation (SRV) Campaign.

City of Ryde took out the top honour for Excellence in Communications (populations of 100,000+) which included entries from Councils right across NSW.

Ryde Mayor Cllr Bill Pickering said the Award recognises the incredible effort and professionalism that Council staff demonstrate in handling very difficult subjects.

"The work was thorough, thoughtful and showed mature handling of what can only be described as a complex subject in seeking a mandate from residents to increase rates over and above the annual rate peg.

"This, combined with intelligent planning, excellent stakeholder engagement and analysis, and a clear concise publication with plain English wording, resulted in a project that significantly over-achieved its communications and end-result goals.

"I congratulate our talented and professional staff for their outstanding work. Their efforts have ensured that Council has secured long-term financial sustainability for current and future generations" Cllr Pickering said.

Local Government NSW Awards are held annually to recognise outstanding examples of communication excellence and community reporting in line with best practice standards. They are presented to those organisations and communicators who have achieved outstanding success from innovative and effective communication practices in the local government sector.

Local Government NSW judges described the City of Ryde's entry as "a well thought out campaign and a strong communication message for what is a hard topic to inform on and especially engage about. Ryde showed great innovation and one of the stand-outs was the educational video that delivered a complicated topic in a clear message and made it interesting and relevant."

City of Ryde General Manager Gail Connolly said the SRV was a difficult and complicated message to take to a diverse audience with complex communications needs. "Our staff did a brilliant job, working across all units of Council to streamline messaging, consolidate resources and package communications so that it was understood by all.

"The positive feedback Council received from a large section of the community, the success in securing the support of residents and the ultimate granting of a Special Rate Increase by IPART was the result we were seeking. The receipt of this Award is further testament to the quality of our staff who work with limited resources, very

tight budgets and generally in very restricted timeframes. We are indeed proud of the result."

To view the City of Ryde Securing our Future campaign visit [Securing our Future Councils Special Rate Variation](#)

Wave Ryding made easy with Surf Ryder Master Class

Published on 10 August 2015



Jack Entwistle riding the Surf Ryder

Updated: 26 August 2015

This event has been cancelled.

Learning to Ryde 'The Wave' has never been easier for water loving teens thanks to a Surf Ryder Master Class hosted by special guest coach and professional longboard surfer, Jack Entwistle.

Tweens and teens aged 10 to 15 years will have the opportunity to learn to surf and improve their skills on Sunday 30 August under the accomplished eyes of Jack.

Manager of the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, Paul Hartmann said: "As a professional longboard surfer and an advocate of the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre's Surf Ryder attraction, Jack's class is a fantastic addition to the winter school holiday repertoire of events taking place in the City of Ryde.

"We're really lucky to have someone as talented as Jack hosting the Master Class and it's a great inspiration to local kids who covet a career in surfing or have a passion for water sports.

With five levels to achieve and catering from beginners to more experienced young surfers, Master Class students will be put through their paces under Jack's expert guidance, finishing with an introduction to tricks including the popshuvit, 180 degree, 360 degree and Hang 5.

“The Surf Ryder is a great way for kids, big and small, and the young at heart to develop balance, new skills and learn some impressive tricks in a controlled environment.”

Places are strictly limited for this special class and parents are advised to book early to avoid disappointment.

Jack Entwistle started surfing at Sydney’s Manly Beach at the ripe age of six, guided by his father, Stuart Entwistle, a 1988 World Longboard Champion. Now in his early twenties, Jack has a promising career ahead of him with a long list of achievements, including:

- 2014 25th CJ Snowy McAlister Festival – 1st Open Men’s / 2nd Professional Longboard
- 2014 WSL LQS Taiwan Open of Surfing – 3rd Place
- 2014 WSL Australasian Longboard Qualifying Series – 4th Place
- 2014 WSL GoPro World Longboard Championships – 25th Place

Event Details - Surf Ryder Master Class

When: Sunday 30 August 2015, 12.00noon – 2.00pm

Where: Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, 504 Victoria Road, Ryde

Age: Children 10 – 15 years, beginner through to experienced surfers

Cost: \$35 per child, includes a surf pack and pool entry at the conclusion of the class

Bookings: Essential. Phone 8878 5111

For more information, visit the [Surf Ryder](#) page.

The Surf Ryder was officially opened to the public in August 2014 and since then has seen more than 7,000 people ‘Ryde The Wave’. It is currently available for individual or group bookings, including corporate team building, bucks parties and birthday events.

To make a booking or to enquire about an upcoming event, phone 8878 5111.

City of Ryde to sign Friendship Agreement with Dongguan City

Published on 07 August 2015

The City of Ryde will host a delegation of 12 officials from Dongguan City, People's Republic of China, at a Civic Reception for the signing of a Friendship Agreement – Together in Prosperity between the two cities on Wednesday 19 August 2015.

Dongguan is a major electronic manufacturing city in the trade-focused south of China, with established ties to the Macquarie Park economic corridor through Macquarie University and the telecommunications sectors. It is China's fourth largest export city.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Bill Pickering said: "City of Ryde has an established reputation for innovation and the celebration of cultural diversity.

"The formalising of this relationship, through the signing of a Friendship Agreement, provides opportunities for mutual growth and prosperity, through business, technical, cultural and educational exchanges."

Dignitaries and special guests attending the Signing Ceremony include Consul General staff, Federal and State members of parliament, business associations and community representatives.

Wednesday 19 August 2015, 9.30am – 10.30am, Council Chambers, Ryde Civic Centre.

Have your say on local government and the Fit for the Future reform agenda

Published on 03 August 2015

The parliamentary committee inquiring into local government in NSW will hold public forums following its hearings in Sydney and Armidale on 10 and 18 August 2015.

***Please note:** You must register if you wish to address the committee at the public forum. While there may be opportunity to register on the day, limited places are available so you are encouraged to register as early as possible. Each speaker will be limited to five minutes.*

WHEN AND WHERE

Monday 10 August 2015

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney

- Public hearing: 10am – 5.30pm
- Public forum: 6pm

HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE PUBLIC FORUM

1. Register by Wednesday 5 August 2015.
2. Email your name, phone number and a short statement of why you want to address the committee to gpsc6@parliament.nsw.gov.au.
3. The Committee Secretariat will inform you of the outcome of your registration.*

**Speakers will be required to take an oath or affirmation before addressing the committee*

For more information, visit the [Parliament of New South Wales](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au) website.