

Celebrating 30 years of the Granny Smith Festival

Published on 29 September 2015



The Granny Smith Festival is celebrating 30 years of fun, food, fireworks and family entertainment.

Enjoy the famous Street Parade, the shows and attractions with 60 acts on 6 stages. Kids can get up close with baby animals, which they can feed and pat.

Food lovers will taste treats from around the world, including the best Chinese and Korean Eastwood can offer. There will be food demonstrations and delicious fare from country kitchens at the Orange Farmers' Market ... and of course, apples galore!

Bargain hunters can browse the hundreds of street stalls offering a treasure trove of bric-a-brac, fashion and jewellery.

Young people can chill out at 'The Core' where they can hear music, discuss matters that are important to them and take part in special activities.

Families have their own time-out time zone at Glen Reserve with storytime and kids' activities, a change room and breast feeding space, plus room to put down a picnic blanket.

Right throughout the day there are competitions, a scavenger hunt, live shows, demonstrations and giveaways. At night, the fun continues with a Family Concert featuring R&B band Soul Empire, followed by a spectacular fireworks display.

There is so much to see and do at this special 30th Anniversary Granny Smith Festival, so plan on spending the whole day and evening and experience all the fun of the fair in one exciting place.

A – Z of Granny Smith

Aussie Apples
Batmobile
Cupcakes
DeLorean 'back to the future' car
Eco stall
Fire engine
Giant slide
Herbie 'the love bug'
Icecream
Jewellery
Korean bbq
Lambs
Marching Koalas
Nursery plants
Orange Council Farmers' Market
Pizza
Quiet zone for families
Roving artists
Soul Empire
Talent quest
Udon noodles
Volunteers
Worm farms
X-citement
Youth area
Zabaglione

Sponsors

Blossom Sponsor

Aussie Apples
Top Ryde City

Sapling Sponsor

Hope 103.2
Landmark Hotel
Northern District Times
Optus
Orange City Council
The Vision China Times
TVB Australia

Seed Sponsor

2RRR
Ayam
Event Cinemas
Helloworld Top Ryde City
Ryde Eastwood Leagues
Sydney Markets
Tracy Yap Realty
Yellow Brick Road - West Ryde

Ryde Mayor disappointed at State Government announcement for Macquarie Park

Published on 24 September 2015

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, is disappointed at today's State Government announcement that it will develop a community precinct around Macquarie University Station without adequate levels of social infrastructure.

"Today, the State Government announced that they would develop an area with the development potential the size of Albury-Wodonga, without the necessary funding for infrastructure to enable our City to cope.

"The \$5 Million dollars for new infrastructure announced today, is the same \$5 million that was announced in 2014. Back then we said that it was only a drop in the ocean and the Government has ignored us.

"A community this size will need new parks, child care, schools, transport interchanges and roads. This announcement shows how out of touch this Government is with Ryde. Our residents understand the need to grow, but not without the social infrastructure that our City has been crying out for."

Mayor Laxale said: "While our residents are willing to accept growth, our ratepayers can no longer shoulder the burden of providing larger scale, regional infrastructure."

Elsewhere in New South Wales where the State Government has announced the creation of new growth areas, it has been accompanied by the provision of the necessary State and Regional infrastructure and services to support the new population.

On the matter of the Ivanhoe Estate, Mayor Laxale said: "Today is a sad day for this tight-knit community. Over the past three years I have formed close friendships with many tenants, and today's announcement has hit them hard.

"I would stress to our State Member and to relevant Ministers: Do everything you can to ensure that tenants in the Ivanhoe Estate are cared for and their needs are met.

"Today, you've announced the displacement of their homes and their community. The Government must ensure a smooth transition period and the option for these tenants to return to Macquarie Park when appropriate."

Mayor Laxale Calls for More Action on Schools

Published on 21 September 2015

The City of Ryde Council welcomes the recent announcement of a new Primary School to be built on the former Ryde High School site. However, Mayor Laxale called for more action to be taken.

“The State Government’s own modelling shows that on the Herring Road Urban Activation Precinct alone, Ryde will require three new primary schools and one new high school.

“One new primary school is just a drop in the ocean compared to what is needed when you factor in the number of new dwellings to be built across the city” said Councillor Laxale.

“Ryde Council remains ready to work with the NSW government to ensure enough schools are built to keep up with the growth in our area” he said.

The State Government’s Growth Centres Commission has indicated that an additional Primary School is required for every 1500 dwellings and an additional High School is required for every 4500 dwellings. Based on these benchmarks, the Herring Road Urban Activation Precinct alone will require the delivery of three additional Primary Schools and an additional High School.

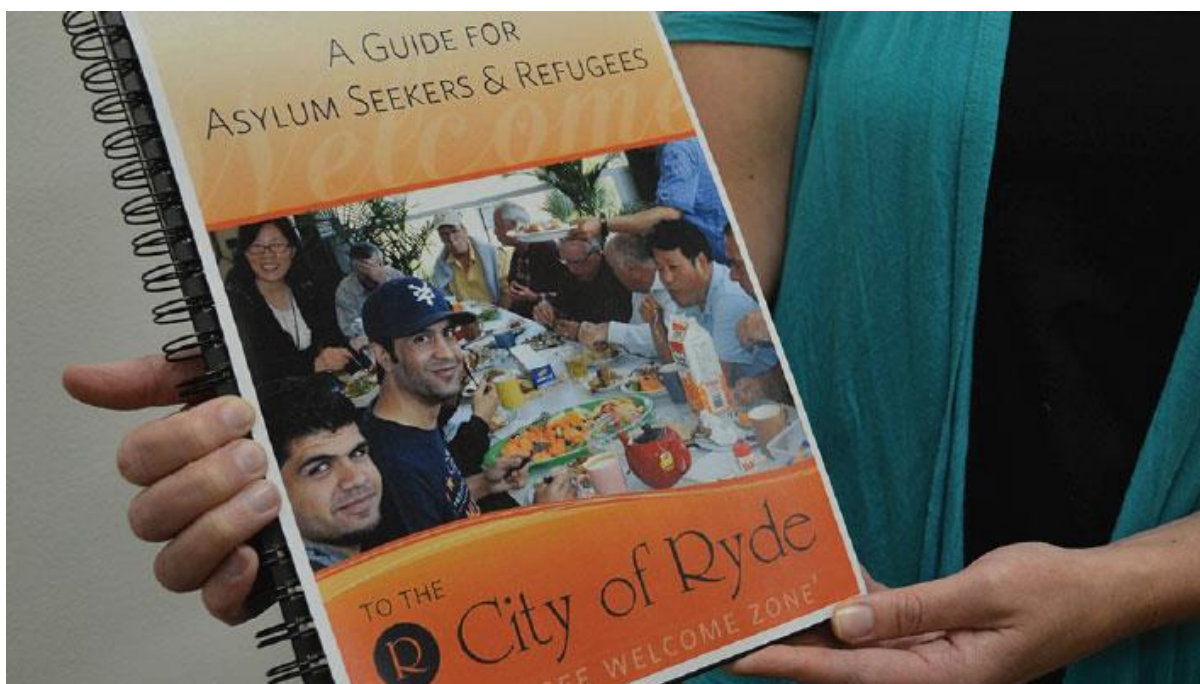
While these benchmarks were developed for ‘new release areas’ and the existing school vacancies need to be taken into account, given the majority of local schools in the City of Ryde are at or near capacity, Council remains concerned that education infrastructure will not meet the demand anticipated as a result of significant growth across the City of Ryde.

The Mayor also repeated calls for the State Government to match the \$10million in Council funding that the City of Ryde has committed towards the upgrade of regional roads intersections, and to establish a Special Infrastructure Contribution to fund regional infrastructure in the Macquarie Park Corridor.

“Work is well underway in the North Ryde Station Precinct and Council is expecting the State Government to proceed with the Herring Road Precinct in the near future, so the need for adequate regional infrastructure funding is critical.”

Ryde Ready to Welcome Refugees

Published on 18 September 2015



A guide for Asylum Seekers & Refugees

City of Ryde new Mayor Cllr Jerome Laxale has welcomed the federal government's announcement that Australia will take an extra 12,000 refugees from Syria and has offered that the City of Ryde play a role.

"Images of the crisis in Syria and the Middle East have touched us all and it is clear that the humanitarian situation in the region is dire. As a City we need to do what we can to help.

"As Mayor, I want to ensure that those in need are looked after and that our Council can provide a voice for the vulnerable.

"We stand ready to help refugees find their feet and settle into our community," Mayor Laxale said.

The City of Ryde declared itself a Refugee Welcome Zone in April 2013 and is proud of its status as one of the State's most culturally diverse communities, with more than 110 different nationalities living in Ryde.

The Mayor continued: "Through our close partnership with the Migrant Resource Centre and other agencies we have developed the infrastructure and capacity to welcome migrants and refugees to our community.

"There is broad community support to help this group of people who are fleeing an extraordinarily deadly conflict. I am writing to NSW Premier, Mike Baird, requesting a meeting to discuss how we can assist in welcoming refugees to the City of Ryde," he said.

In the past five years, it is estimated that 247 Humanitarian Entrants have settled in the Ryde area.

City of Ryde assistance services for migrants and refugees include a Welcome Guide for Asylum Seekers and Refugees that is printed in English, Farsi, Arabic and Tamil and can be [viewed online](#).

The Eastwood office of the [Community Migrant Resource Centre](#) is located at 159 Shaftsbury Road, Eastwood. Bilingual services for the Iranian, Afghan, Chinese and Korean communities, as well as a number of other communities are available. The Centre is open Monday – Friday.

Settlement Services International (SSI) provides humanitarian settlement services to all eligible clients in Sydney but currently have had no new referrals for Ryde.

Currently more than one third of Ryde's population of 105,000 comes from countries where English is not the first language and 42% speak a language other than English at home.

Get rid of your spare old fridge to save on power bills

Published on 15 September 2015



Please note this service will cease on 30 June 2017.

Goodbye fridge. Hello savings.

Getting rid of your spare old fridge or upright freezer is one of the easiest steps you can take to cut your power bills.

Inefficient second fridges and freezers are one of the home's biggest energy guzzlers, consuming up to three times the energy of new fridges. Running a second fridge adds an average of **\$300** a year to your power bills and results in greenhouse gases being released into the atmosphere. Old upright freezers use almost as much power as an old fridge.

Fridge Buyback is a residential energy savings program that actually pays you to reduce your power bills and help save the environment by giving up your old second fridge or upright freezer. The appliances are professionally degassed and the metals recycled.

To participate, your fridge or upright freezer must be a working, second appliance that has been in regular use and is 200 litres (7.06 cubic feet) or more in volume.

Fridges and freezers are collected by professional removalists and a \$15 rebate is paid if the removal involves stairs with six steps or less. Collection is free, but no rebate is paid, where collection involves between seven to 20 steps). A fee will apply only if the property has more than 20 steps.

There are regular collection runs every few weeks in most built-up areas.

Ring 1800 708 401 to book or see www.fridgebuyback.com.au for more information.

Fridge Buyback is an energy savings program operating under the NSW Government's Energy Savings Scheme and is supported by Council. The program is independently operated by Next Energy Pty Ltd.

Power Outage across Suburbs of Ryde - Thursday 10 September 2015

Published on 11 September 2015

An investigation is currently in progress by authorities including WorkCover, to confirm the cause and reasons why a power outage occurred across suburbs in the Ryde area on Thursday 10 September 2015 following damage to a high voltage cable servicing the Meadowbank Substation.

This resulted in power failure to the suburbs of Denistone East, Eastwood, West Ryde, Meadowbank and parts of Ryde. A contractor engaged by Council was undertaking kerb and gutter and stormwater works in Pittwater Road, East Ryde area at the time.

The City of Ryde immediately provided full assistance in making staff available, who remained at the site until the power had been fully restored.

In preparation for these works, Ausgrid together with the appointed contractor had several on-site visits in confirming the location of the high voltage cables prior to excavations commencing on the site. Confirmation was also made with the Dial-Before-You-Dig service in confirming the location of the cables.

As a result of this incident, this matter is under investigation and a meeting has been scheduled for Monday 14 September 2015 between Ausgrid, the contractor and City of Ryde to coordinate the repair work to ensure minimal disruptions to the network and the community.

New Council and Committee Meeting Calendar

Published on 11 September 2015

A new Council and Committee Meeting calendar comes into effect from October 2015.

This new meeting schedule sees a once-a-month meeting cycle for all Standing Committees and Council Meetings, new starting times and the formation of a new Finance and Governance Committee.

New Meeting Monthly Schedule (Commences October 2015)	Meeting Time	Occurrence
Planning & Environment Committee Meeting Ryde Civic Hub Committee Meeting	5 pm 6 pm	2 nd Tuesday of the month
Works and Community Committee Meeting Finance and Governance Committee	5 pm 6 pm	3 rd Tuesday of the month
Council Meeting	7 pm	4 th Tuesday of the month

One of the considerations in changing Meeting Times is to make it easier and more convenient for members of the community to attend meetings and to engage in two-way conversations with Councillors. The one-a-month format also conforms to industry best practise.

Members of the community are welcome to observe any Committee or Council meeting. If you wish to speak at a Committee or Council Meeting you can register online, or complete the 'Request to Address' form on Council's website. Meeting Guidelines can also be viewed at [Council Meetings](#).

Bike Giveaway Winner Announced

Published on 10 September 2015

The City of Ryde is pleased to announce the winner of the brand new bike giveaway valued at up to \$750.

Congratulations to H. Buckle of East Ryde.

Following the recent launch of the new website in early August 2015, Council was pleased to receive almost 500 survey responses from the community.

Overwhelmingly, the majority of responses were very positive with most agreeing that the new website has delivered a renewed online experience for users – overall, a more user-friendly, responsive and readily searchable site with a focus on local community needs.

Power outage affects parts of City of Ryde

Published on 10 September 2015

***** LATEST UPDATE: Areas affected by the power outage yesterday have now been restored. For those still experiencing difficulty please contact Ausgrid on 13 13 88 *****

It is advised that Denistone East, Eastwood, West Ryde, Meadowbank and parts of Ryde have been affected by a power outage.

The estimated time for reconnection is approximately 10 pm this evening, 10 September 2015.

The following Council venues are affected:

- Council Offices and Civic Hall
- Operations Centre
- Eastwood Library
- West Ryde Library
- West Ryde Community Centre
- West Ryde Hall
- Eastwood Community Centre
- Shepherds Bay Community Centre
- Meadowbank Park (sportsfield lighting)

For further information and updates on the power outage, phone Ausgrid on 13 13 88 or visit www.ausgrid.com.au.

What to do if there is a power outage in your area

- Check to see if other lights and electrical equipment are working.
- Look outside for damage such as wires down or trees lying across powerlines. Stay away from any fallen powerlines and/ or trees lying across powerlines.
- Check to see if your neighbours have power.
- Once you have assessed the situation, call Ausgrid's emergency service on 13 13 88. Most telephones should not be affected during an electrical outage, however some cordless phones may not operate.

[Click here to read more on Blackouts and Power Restoration on Ausgrids website.](#)