

Mayor Calls for Child Care Strategy

Published on 24 March 2016

City of Ryde Council will develop a Child Care Strategy in response to a Mayoral Minute to address the current and future child care requirements of the Ryde community.

Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said it was important for the Council to provide leadership to address the needs of the community and to support local families: "As a father of young children I know the constant struggle that parents face in finding suitable and affordable childcare.

"Despite the obvious benefit to communities and to our local economies, we consistently see higher levels of Government slashing funding and reducing services in this sector.

"I'm glad that Ryde is bucking the trend and that my plan received support last night.

"Child care is an important service in the community and demand in our area is far greater than supply.

"Addressing this need is in everyone's interests. It will help provide affordable care for low income earners, more spaces for kids and help unlock employment potential for those with limited family support structures."

The Child Care Strategy will address all categories of the child care sector to ensure that families have flexible, affordable and accessible child care, including before and after school care.

First steps in preparing the Strategy include consultation with Councillors and key stakeholders before engaging more broadly with the community.

Mayor TV Episode 10

Published on 23 March 2016



With Easter just a hop, skip and a jump around the corner, the Mayor of Ryde, Clr Jerome Laxale visits the Salvos in Macquarie Park to chat about services they offer to the community.

Save the Dates in April for Youth Week 2016

Published on 21 March 2016

Youth Week is a week-long celebration (April 12 – 17) organised by local young people for young people aged 12 – 25 to express their ideas and views, act on issues that affect their lives, and create and enjoy activities and events.

Last year, more than 2,200 young people from the Ryde area attended events where they shared ideas, showcased their talents and celebrated their contribution to the community. And there's more in store.

The Ryde Youth Council has again worked with Ryde Council to put on an awesome program of events under the banners of Connecting Culture and Community – It Starts with Us.



Mayor TV Episode 9

Published on 18 March 2016



The Mayor of Ryde, Clr Jerome Laxale visits one of our newest playgrounds in the Ryde local Government area. Hardy Park is located at Buffalo Road, Ryde, near Bright Street.

Keeping Track of Birds in our Backyards

Published on 18 March 2016



Photo of powerful owls captured by Simon Tout during a Boronia Tour

They are described as ‘eagle eyed’, ‘happy as larks’ and they sometimes ‘get in flap’. They are the 113 local observers (aka ‘twitchers’) who took part in the nationwide Aussie Backyard Bird Count that helps to keep track of bird populations on a massive scale.

The Ryde twitchers were part of a 42,000 strong army of nature-loving Australians who took time out of their busy schedules to enjoy and register the birds around them, resulting in a total of 3,152 birds and 82 bird species recorded in the City of Ryde in one week.

Ryde’s Top 3 most common bird species reflected the rest of the nation, with the Rainbow Lorikeet taking out the number one spot with 865 local sightings.

Two of the country’s most vulnerable birds, the Powerful Owl and the Brown Treecreeper, were spotted in the Ryde environs, as was the endangered Australasian Bittern.

Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said Ryde is a natural for bird-watchers. “The great thing about Birds in Backyards is it’s happening right on our doorstep.

“Our city is known for its beautiful parks, leafy glades, open spaces and beautiful bushland areas and we see the benefit of protecting our natural environment in our own backyards.

“We also have strong environmental policies in addition to the maintenance of local parks, open spaces and tree planting programs. These include initiatives that help our bird life flourish such as bushcare programs, the Spring Garden Competition, which includes a new Native & Habitat-friendly section, and the recent Corridor-to-Corridor project that helped to create bird-friendly spaces in gardens and local communities. The Council also coordinates the Ryde Environmental Education Network (REEN) through our schools community.”

City of Ryde Council will conduct a Flora and Fauna Survey later this year. The Aussie Backyard Bird Count will be back again in October 2016, so stay tuned to the Council website for event details.

[View the Ryde Aussie Backyard Bird Count 2015 Results](#)

For the National Aussie Backyard Bird Count 2015 Results visit www.aussiebirdcount.org.au/results.

Western Sydney Wanderers FC Schools Cup

Published on 17 March 2016

Schools Cup is a Round Robin football tournament held over Terms 2 and 3 of the school year with the aim to encourage football participation in a safe and supportive environment.

Schools Cup endeavours to get students involved from Primary School Year 5 & 6 to High School Year 7 & 8 in a healthy competition that embraces sportsmanship, physical activity and social interaction.



2016 ClubGRANTS - Applications Now Open

Published on 16 March 2016

Applications for the 2016 Ryde ClubGRANTS Scheme are now open.

The ClubGRANTS Scheme provides one-off, non-recurrent funding to non-government organisations and community groups for projects and programs which address demonstrated welfare needs of the local community.

The scheme is sponsored by local clubs and administered by the City of Ryde.

Participating Clubs in the City of Ryde area are:

- Gladesville RSL and Community Club
- North Ryde RSL Community Club
- Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
- Club Ryde X.

Applications close at **5 pm on Sunday 22 May 2016.**



Interim Heritage Order No.2 - 87 Bowden Street Ryde (Lot 17 DP 663261)

Published on 16 March 2016

This Notice is to advise that:

- Interim Heritage Order No.1 dated 26 February 2016 on the property known as 87 Bowden Street, Ryde being Lot 17 in DP 663261 has been revoked via Government Gazette No.19 dated 11 March 2016 and
- Interim Heritage Order No.2 has been placed on the property known as 87 Bowden Street Ryde being Lot 17 in DP 663261 via Government Gazette No.19 dated 11 March 2016.

INTERIM HERITAGE ORDER

[View the Interim Heritage Order](#)

The Interim Heritage Order is also available for public inspection at the Customer Service Centre, Ground Floor, Civic Centre, Devlin Street, Ryde during normal office hours (8.30 am – 4.30 pm).

DTPa booster dose added to the National Immunisation Program

Published on 09 March 2016

An 18 month DTPa (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough) booster dose has been added to the National Immunisation Program. This booster dose is an additional booster and does not replace the booster due at 4 years.

It is free for children born from October 2014. This vaccine is now available at the City of Ryde's Immunisation Clinic.

Is this vaccine required for family assistance payments?

Children born from 1 October 2014 will require DTPa vaccine for their family assistance payments.

Where can I get further information?

See www.immunise.health.gov.au or www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation

Giant Wombat Bones “Found” In Ryde Playground

Published on 08 March 2016



The science world is abuzz with the news that bones of a *Diprotodon*, also known as the Giant Wombat, the largest marsupial that ever existed, have been ‘uncovered’ at a newly-built playground at Hardy Park in Buffalo Road, Ryde.

The discovery of the fossilised dinosaur, that measured 3.5 metres (10 ft) from head to tail and weighed upwards of 3,000 kg (3 tonnes), was made by Ryde Council while installing the new pocket playground at the popular neighbourhood park.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the discovery of huge footprints imbedded in the rock led work crews to the exciting find of a fully intact skeleton of the megafauna mammal that lived around 1.6 million years ago and became extinct just 50,000 years ago.

“We decided to leave the bones where we found them and turn the site into a Dinosaur Digging Pit for local children. Who knows what future budding palaeontologists might discover?” he said.

Along with the Dino-Dig site, there is a giant femur bone modelled into a seat, as well as slides, swings, climbing elements and a boardwalk through a grove of casuarinas.

Final touches, including a safety fence to protect the important archaeological site on busy Buffalo Road, are being made to the \$112,364 project that is scheduled to open mid-March.

The Hardy Park playground is the latest of seven playspaces to be upgraded by Ryde Council during the 2015/16 financial year. Construction of a new playground at Melrose Park has already begun.