

Put a freeze on your energy bill

Published on 22 June 2016

With energy prices rising by 1.5% on 1 July, Fridge Buyback's rebate increase to \$25 per appliance couldn't have come at a better time!

City of Ryde Council has partnered with Fridge Buyback, the residential energy efficiency program, since 2006 and in that time residents have save \$426,600 and prevented 11,452 tonnes of greenhouse gas from entering the atmosphere.

Fridge Buyback's professional removalists will collect, degas and recycle your energy guzzling second fridge or freezer. And as long as the removal does not involve going up or down more than six stairs, you will receive a \$25 rebate too.

City of Ryde Mayor Jerome Laxale said: "Many households use an old fridge as a spare without realizing how expensive it is to run. Old fridges and freezers are some of the biggest energy users in the home, consuming up to three times the energy of new appliances and costing an average of \$300 a year to operate."

Consider these five reasons why it's no longer cool to hang onto your spare fridge.

- They tend to be older models, and so much less efficient than new fridges and freezers, using more power and creating extra greenhouse gases.
- Second fridges also tend to be kept in out of the way places such as garages, which are not insulated, making it even harder for the fridge to work efficiently in summer.
- An additional fridge is often only partially filled. A full fridge runs more effectively. Second fridges and freezers are usually kept switched on 24/7, adding to energy and environment costs.
- Prepare to pay around \$300 a year in additional power bills to run that extra fridge.

If you're interested in turning off your second fridge or upright freezer for good, Fridge Buyback will collect, degas and recycle your appliance for free - and you may be eligible for a \$25 rebate.

Fridge Buyback has regular collections every few week. Ring 1800 708 401 to book, or see www.fridgebuyback.com.au for details.

One School A Band-Aid Fix For Education Needs In Ryde

Published on 21 June 2016

City of Ryde Mayor Jerome Laxale has called on the Government to lift funding allocated to regional infrastructure in Ryde after the announcement that funds have only been allocated for one primary school in yesterday's budget.

The Mayor said: "Ryde Council has been lobbying for the Smalls Road site to be reopened for many years. However, this is really just a drop in the ocean when you factor in State Government's own modelling that shows the City of Ryde requires three new Primary Schools and one new High School to cope with future demand.

"Years of inaction have created this problem, and providing for only one school is like putting a band-aid on a bullet wound.

"If Mr Dominello was truly committed to helping parents and school aged kids in Ryde, he would have allocated funds for a high school as well," Mayor Laxale said.

The NSW Growth Centres Commission states that an additional Primary School is required for every 1500 dwellings and an additional High School is needed for every 4500 dwellings.

The State Government's two Priority Precincts at Macquarie Park and North Ryde will see the residential population in the immediate area increase from around 6,000 to more than 21,000 people, an estimated population increase of 15,000.

Clr Laxale continued: "Be it roads, hospitals or schools, the need for adequate regional infrastructure funding is critical. Time after time we see the State Government underfunding our infrastructure needs in Ryde and this budget again fails our City."

'Pledge For Parity' Women's Art Prize Winners

Published on 16 June 2016



An enthusiastic crowd of over 150 art lovers gathered last night for the official launch of the City of Ryde Winter Arts Festival and the announcement of the winners of the 2016 City of Ryde Women's Art Prize (WAP), at See Street Gallery, Meadowbank.

Now in its sixth year WAP is inspired by International Women's Day and has the primary aim to promote creativity and talent for the great empowerment of women through art. WAP is now the biggest arts prize of its type in the nation, attracting over 300 entries from local and interstate artists, and with a total prize pool of \$3,250.

2016 WOMEN'S ART PRIZE WINNERS

Open Category

First Place Winner	Ingrid Stiertzel <i>Memoirs in the Mist</i>
Highly Commended	Linda Wilken <i>Show Us Your Tits</i>
Highly Commended	Suzanne Davey <i>Exhale</i>
Commended	Clare Unger <i>Imprint 1</i>
Commended	Soo Hee Choi <i>Sonya</i>

Community Category

First Place Winner	Rose Basile <i>Bin Night</i>
Highly Commended	Lyndall Graham <i>Ghost Homes for the Living Homeless</i>

Highly Commended Helen Oprey *Waiting*
Commended Lauren van Dort *It's No Use Going Back*
Commended Virginia Bucknell *Hope – Self Portrait*

Youth Category

First Place Winner Erin O'Neill *Window Dressing*
Highly Commended Scarlett Steven *Laissez-hair*
Highly Commended Carolyn Love *Inhabitation*

Local Artist Award Recipient

Janet Parker-Smith *Ordinary, Extraordinary*

City of Ryde Mayor Clr Jerome Laxale said: "This year's exhibition clearly resonated with the community resulting in a very strong response from artists as diverse in age, ability and culture as the mediums they have chosen.

"Ryde Council has a progressive agenda of supporting women – by promoting gender equity both within the organisation and in the larger community with our policies and services.

"We are also working hard to promote the arts and encourage arts practitioners by giving them access to more opportunities and places to display their works.

"As the opening event of Ryde's ambitious three-month long Winter Arts Festival, the Women's Art Prize brings together these objectives in the best possible way," he said.

Exhibition Curator Cassandra Hard Lawrie said: "This exhibition is a fantastic way to showcase the talent of the local community whilst bringing attention to important women's issues to the wider community.

"The Council's ongoing commitment to presenting opportunities for local artists to exhibit their works, from both professional, student and youth backgrounds should be commended."

The International Women's Day Art competition celebrates the achievements of women and artists who live, work, study or play in the City of Ryde. The works will be on exhibition for two weeks (15 June – 2 July) at the See Street Gallery in Meadowbank.

International Women's Day Art Prize and Exhibition 'Pledge for Parity'

When: Exhibition runs Wednesday 15 June - Saturday 2 July. Open Tuesday - Saturday 11.00am – 4.00pm (closed Sunday and Monday).

Where: See Street Gallery, Sydney Gallery School, Meadowbank Campus of The Northern Sydney Institute – part of TAFE NSW.

Cost: Free entry

More information: www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/wap

The International Women's Day Art Prize and Exhibition is an initiative of the City of Ryde Status of Women Advisory Committee in association with Northern Sydney Institute TAFE.

Ryde's Sustainable Home Challenge

Published on 15 June 2016

City of Ryde is helping residents to save money on their energy, water and waste by offering a limited number of residents a free in-home sustainability assessment.

The assessment will identify cost effective tailored ways in which you can save money on your bills.

By participating in the project now, will enter you in a draw to be 1 of 3 lucky to winners of \$1,500 to spend on environmental improvements for your home.

Open to all City of Ryde residents who complete the survey and have a home assessment as completed by Council.

Survey submissions close on **31 January 2017**.

For more information on Sustainable Living, visit the [Home Waste and Sustainability Advisory Service](#) page.

Ryde Warms To Winter Arts Festival

Published on 10 June 2016

The City of Ryde is serving up a feast for the senses at the 2016 Winter Arts Festival.

The three-month long festival runs June to early September and showcases a diverse program of visual arts and community creative events designed to fire the imagination and feed your creative soul.

Three of Ryde's high profile arts events – Women's Art Prize, Sustainable Waste 2 Art Prize and Hungry for Art – are included in the Festival line up.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale said: "The 2016 Winter Arts Festival embraces our city's strong artistic communities and gives artists across Ryde the chance to express themselves.

"At a time when State and Federal Governments are cutting funding to the arts, it's important that we let our community know that the City of Ryde believe in the Arts and what value it brings to the community.

"Our diverse program offers something for art lovers of all ages, levels and persuasions. Whether you're

a painter, photographer, sculptor, multi-media practitioner, enthusiastic amateur or simply an art lover, our Festival has something for you."

The 2016 Winter Arts Festival www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/artsfestival runs from 15 June to 3 September and comprises nine feature events:

Wed 15 June

Winter Arts Festival & Women's Art Prize Gala Launch, See Street Gallery, Meadowbank

Thur 16 June

Women's Art Prize Exhibition (WAP) Pledge for Parity runs 16 June – 2 July

Wed 6 July

WAP People's Choice Winner Announcement

5 + 12 July

School Holiday Creative Workshops - Containing Trash Tues 5 & 12 July

6 +13 July

Music Doco Workshop Wed 6 & 13 July

Wed 20 July

Hungry for Art Flushed, Red, Rubicund and Scarlet Exhibition + Photo Competition Launch and Awards. Exhibition runs 21 July – 6 August

Sat 23 July

Brush Farm House Three Exhibitions—Squawk, Near Perspective & Young Contemporary Ryde + Teong-Eng Tan Book Launch

Sat 30 July

Feeling Red Art Workshops at See Street Gallery

Sun 31 July

Hungry for Art Trail

Wed 17 Aug

SWAP SustainableWaste2Art (SWAP) Launch and Awards

Exhibition runs 18 August – 3 September. See Street Gallery, Meadowbank

Wed 6 Sept

SWAP People's Choice Winner Announcement

Ryde Council Wins Double Gold Hat Trick For Annual Report

Published on 09 June 2016



For the sixth year in a row, City of Ryde Council has won the Gold Award for its Annual Report 2014/15, at the Australasian Reporting Awards (ARA).

The 2016 ARA, is the premier benchmark in government and corporate reporting and Ryde's Annual Report has taken out the Gold Award in the Local Government Reporting Division every year since 2010.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said: "This prestigious Gold Award is confirmation, yet again, that Ryde Council continues to punch above its weight and that its reporting and governance processes are of the highest standard.

"This Award is peer reviewed in competition with much larger and more sophisticated organisations, with substantial budgets. Our Annual Report is created inhouse, by committed and talented staff, and proves that size does not matter when standards of excellence in accountability, openness and effective communications are the criteria," the Mayor said.

"It is always a challenge to present complex business and financial information in a clear, concise and interesting format that the reader understands, whilst meeting the

specific requirements of a formal annual report. This Award proves that we continually achieve these high standards.

“Congratulations to all who have worked hard to achieve this gold standard again in our reporting function as it is vital that the community has a thorough understanding of the business, finances and performance measures of its local council.”

Ryde was also a finalist in the Work Health and Safety Special Award.

The Awards are run by Australasian Reporting Awards Inc., an independent not-for-profit organisation supported by volunteer professionals from the business community and professional bodies concerned with the quality of financial and business reporting. They are modelled on the Global Reporting Initiative and reflect the GRI Sustainability Reporting Guidelines.

To achieve an ARA Gold Award an Annual Report must:

- Achieve overall excellence in annual reporting
- Provide high quality coverage of most aspects of the Australasian Reporting Awards criteria
- Provide full disclosure of key aspects of its core business
- Address current legislative and regulatory requirements
- Be a model for other peer reports.

The City of Ryde received Gold in the Local Government Division for its annual Reports 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15. To view the reports go to www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/annualreport.