

# New Ryde Council Chambers Open

Published on 30 September 2016

New City of Ryde Council Chambers have opened at Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde, above Ryde Library.

At the opening of the new Council facility, Ryde Mayor, Clr Bill Pickering, said: “These new Chambers bring Ryde Council into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with a modern, sustainable, state-of- the-art facility, positioning Ryde as the centre of local government administration in the district”.

The new multi-function facility can be remodelled to accommodate a number of meeting styles. It offers:

- Seating for 32 Councillors and executive staff
- Seating for more than 70 people in the public gallery
- Fully integrated lighting and air-conditioning systems
- A state-of-the-art audio visual system
- Two 89” LED screens providing high quality audio visual presentation including for Council Agendas and Minute taking
- Two HD web link cameras to produce live streaming of all Council meetings.

Adjacent to the Chamber is:

- A committee/meeting room
- Hot desk capability for staff and councillors
- The Mayoral suite
- A full catering kitchen.

In 2015, Councillors resolved to relocate from the Civic Centre building after the issuing of two SafeWork Improvement Notices.

Mayor Pickering said: “As the population and responsibilities of the Council have grown, the inadequacies of the ‘old’ Civic Centre to keep up to date with building standards, public expectation and technology became more and more evident.

“While the City of Ryde Council faces what seems to be an inevitable amalgamation with Hunters Hill and Lane Cove, we have a forward thinking plan and that is to fulfil the vision of building a new Ryde Civic Hub based on the very successful Design our Ryde 2016 design competition.

“I’m sure I speak for everyone when I say the uniqueness of our City gives us an undiminished sense of pride, history and cultural awareness and a feeling that Ryde is truly a place of opportunity.”

## **Ryde Council Meetings Historical Timeline**

Since 1871 when local elections were first held in Ryde, councillors (aka “aldermen”) have met in a variety of temporary locations ... firstly in a chapel, then a court house, and then a school.

In 1903 the Council moved to the first purpose built Town Hall at the corner of Tucker Street and Blaxland Road, and a new separate Chambers was built in 1923.

Forty years later in 1964 the Ryde Civic Centre was opened at 1 Devlin Street with much fanfare and for the next 52 years, the administration and civic duties of the Council were carried out there.

In 2015, two SafeWork Improvement Notices were served on the Civic Centre building and Councillors resolved to relocate from the Ryde Civic Centre.

From January – August 2016, an international design competition for the Ryde Civic Hub was held. *Design our Ryde* attracted 175 entries from 48 countries, including 41 from Australia. From a short list of four designs, including a People’s Choice, Entry 572 submitted by the Beijing Institute of Architectural Design was declared the winner.

In May 2016 the majority of administration staff moved to new premises at Binary Centre, 1 Richardson Place, North Ryde.

In June 2016 a new Customer Service Centre (incorporating the Ryde Planning and Business Centre) relocated to 1 Pope Street, Ryde, Top Ryde City shopping centre Piazza Level (below Ryde Library).

On 27 September 2016, the new City of Ryde Council Chambers opened at Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde (above Ryde Library).

# No By-Election After Resignation Of Clr Craig Chung

Published on 30 September 2016

City of Ryde Council has resolved to apply to the Minister for Local Government to not fill the vacancy in the East Ward, following the resignation of Clr Craig Chung.

The decision is in accordance with Section 294 of the Local Government Act 1993 as the vacancy is within 18 months before the next ordinary election, scheduled for September 2017.

Clr Chung announced his resignation from the City of Ryde effective 29 September 2016, following his election as Councillor for the City of Sydney.

On behalf of the Council, Ryde Mayor, Clr Bill Pickering, thanked Clr Chung for his contribution and service to Council and the City of Ryde community in his term as a Councillor.

Clr Chung was first elected to the City of Ryde Council in 2012. In 2014/15 Clr Chung chaired the Planning and Environment Committee and the Macquarie Park Forum and was also a member on the Economic Development Advisory Committee, Ryde Hunters Hill Joint Library Service Advisory Committee and the Ryde Youth Council. Clr Chung also sat on the Joint Regional Planning Panel as one of Council's two representatives.

<http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/files/assets/public/council-meetings/2016/council-meeting-27-sep-2016-late-item-8.pdf>

# Granny Smith Festival Comes To Town

Published on 20 September 2016

**Saturday 15 October 2016, 9am - 5pm | Eastwood Town Centre & Oval**  
| [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/grannysmithfestival](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/grannysmithfestival)

Festival goers are in for some serious fun with food, fireworks, bargains galore and free entertainment all-day when the Granny Smith Festival returns to Eastwood on Saturday 15 October.

City of Ryde's new Mayor, Clr Bill Pickering, said: "We'll be rolling out the welcome mat for an expected crowd of 90,000 people to help us celebrate our biggest festival.

"We are very proud of our famous Granny Smith Festival and its name sake, the original 'Granny' Smith, a local orchardist who, back in 1868, accidentally grew the first crop of little green apple that are now grown all over the world.

"You won't want to miss this truly memorable and remarkable event. So, bring your family and friends along for all the fun of the fair."

Eastwood's town centre and oval transform into a world of colour and excitement with hundreds of stalls, selling everything from exotic foods and plants, to hats, joy rides and showbags.

Day-long entertainment includes a colourful street parade, 60 acts on 6 stages, roving street artists and a family concert featuring Nada & Jasmin of the 'The Voice'.

The festival climaxes with a spectacular fireworks display at sundown.

Come to the Granny Smith Festival, where you can ... test your tonsils in the singing competition ... learn how to hoola-hoop ... listen to poetry ... cuddle baby animals ... hear local bands ... pick up a bargain ... ride the giant slide ... hip-hop at the dance off ... enjoy a quiet cuppa ... chill-out with your mates ... buy some bling ... eat an apple pie ...and enjoy all the fun of the fair!

**History** The Granny Smith Festival, now in its 31<sup>st</sup> year, celebrates the life and legacy of one of the district's most famous citizens, Maria Ann 'Granny' Smith – who, back in 1868, accidentally grew the first batch of tangy green apples that now bear her name and are grown all over the world.

**Interact and Share** Share your Festival experiences with our official event hashtag #WeLoveGSF, on facebook.com/grannysmithfestival and social networks like Pinterest, Twitter, Instagram. Share photos on Snap Chat (app) with Granny Smith Festival filter.

**Here's a glimpse of what's in store at this year's Granny Smith Festival**

Apple pies, arts and crafts-

Block party, bands, bagpipes, books

Cupcakes, competitions, chocolate, candles, crepes

Dancing, demos, drinks, dodgem cars

Enviro-friendly, ear rings, education stalls

Family chill-out zone, fireworks, fire fighters, face painting, fairy floss

Giveaways, games, guitars, girl-guides

Hoola-hoops, herbs, honey, hats

Ice cream, iced coffee, information displays

Juice, jam, joy-rides, jumping castle

Koalas (the marching type) kebabs, karaoke, korean bbq

Live shows, lavender, lemonade, liquorice

Music, munchies, macarons

Nada & Jasmin (The Voice), noodles, necklaces

Orange Farmers' Market, oils, op shop

Parade, party brigade, plants, pancakes, photo booth

Quilts, quesadilla

Rides, recycling, racing

Showbags, snow cones, singing, selfies

Thai, tapas, traditional costumes

Umbrellas, udon

Vintage cars, video games, vindaloo

Who's your granny, worm farm, wooden toys

X-citement galore

Yo-yos

g-Zillions of treats!

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# Mayor Acknowledges Suffering Caused To Councillors By ICAC

Published on 19 September 2016

At an Extraordinary Council Meeting on Friday 16 September 2016, the new Mayor of the City of Ryde, Clr Bill Pickering, tabled a Mayoral Minute that acknowledges the current status in relation to the previous investigation undertaken by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC).

In his first act as Mayor, Clr Pickering said: "It is important to put the record straight that three serving Councillors – Clr Jeff Salvestro-Martin, Clr Justin Li and Clr Terry Perram – had been excluded from any charges whatsoever following the ICAC investigation and hearings commenced in 2012.

"As Mayor, I wish to personally acknowledge the personal hurt and suffering that has been caused to these three Councillors and their families by the investigation process.

"The City of Ryde needs to move on from this short, but dark time in our history. We must look to the future with all Councillors playing their role for the betterment of our City."

The Mayoral Minute was adopted by Council.

For a full transcript of Mayoral Minute # 14-16 go to [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/MM14](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/MM14)

# New Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elected to City of Ryde Council

Published on 19 September 2016

## **Mayor – Clr Bill Pickering / Deputy Mayor – Clr Jane Stott**

The City of Ryde has a new Mayor and Deputy Mayor following elections held in the Council Chambers on Friday night (16 September 2016).

Central Ward Councillor Bill Pickering was elected Mayor. Clr Pickering previously held the Mayoralty in 2014. East Ward Councillor Jane Stott was elected as Deputy Mayor.

In taking up office, Mayor Pickering thanked those who supported him, adding that he now had the sad honour of probably being the last Mayor of the City of Ryde given the likely amalgamation of Ryde with Hunters Hill and Lane Cove Councils.

“It is a great privilege to serve a second term as Mayor and I promise to do all I can to make it a successful one. My biggest focus will be to work with all councillors and staff to continue the work I started in my last term to secure a sustainable financial future for our city.

“I will also progress the development of the new civic centre precinct, and promote the public benefit to Ryde in the areas of key worker housing and community amenity in return for the significant development construction taking place locally. Most importantly, I have the job of preparing and best positioning our city for the impending amalgamation.”

The Mayor said the City of Ryde is unique with its diverse mix of people, thriving neighbourhoods, prosperous business precincts, its proud cultural heritage and an abundance of open spaces and recreational facilities.

The Deputy Mayor thanked Mayor Pickering and her fellow Councillors for entrusting her with the role of Deputy Mayor. Clr Stott said: “I look forward to serving both the Council and the community in this new role. I believe the most important thing we can do as a community is to connect with each other and work together.”

The next full meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday, 27 September. It will be held in the new Council Chambers on Level 1a, 1 Pope Street, Ryde, (above Ryde Library), commencing at 7.00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend. [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings)



# New Outdoor Gym At Meadowbank Park

Published on 16 September 2016

City of Ryde Council has installed a state-of-the-art outdoor fitness station at Meadowbank Park, adjacent to the popular Ryde River Walk.

Consisting of ten bright orange pieces of equipment, the outdoor gym offers both cardio and strength training and is designed to inject variety into any outdoor routine.

The new outdoor gym is a cost-effective way for the community to participate in healthy activities and is a welcome addition for users of the iconic Ryde River Walk.

Council consulted park users and sections of the community to find out their needs and the final design of the fitness station incorporated their feedback.

The outdoor fitness station is located at the eastern end of Meadowbank Park, in easy reach of walkers, joggers and cyclists and offers both dynamic and static workouts in two, semi-circular zones.

## **Dynamic Zone**

- Stationary Bike
- Body Twist
- Leg Press
- Dexterity Builder
- Chest Press
- Pull Down

A Step Section with handrail is also located in the Dynamic Zone.

## **Static Zone**

- Parallel Bars (dips)
- Push Up Bars (100mm and 200mm)
- Sit Up Bench
- 2 x Chin Up Bars

Staggered sandstone blocks border both zones for step workout and stretching.

The \$90,000 Meadowbank Outdoor Fitness Station is part of a three year City of Ryde Council program to introduce fitness stations along the Ryde River Walk providing further opportunities for the community to take part in regular exercise and obtain the associated health benefits. These include improved heart and lung function, increased strength, and mobility, reduced stress and maintenance of a healthy body weight.

# Mayor TV Episode 14

Published on 14 September 2016



Clr Jerome Laxale - City of Ryde Mayor

The Mayor of Ryde, Clr Jerome Laxale visits ELS Hall Park to check on the start of the synthetic turf project. #MayorTV

# For The Diary - She's Apples At Granny Smith Festival

Published on 05 September 2016

One of Sydney's biggest one-day community festivals is on again, so make your way to Eastwood on Saturday 15 October to taste all the fun of the fair at the famous Granny Smith Festival.

There'll be fun, food, fireworks and entertainment for the whole family, from sun up to sun down.

Highlights include:

- Street Parade at 9.30am
- 250 stalls selling everything from apples to antiques
- Visit Orange Farmers' Market
- International Food to munch, crunch and slurp – cultural dishes from Mexico, Nepal, Germany, Thailand and Cuba
- Kids' rides and slides, animal farm, face painting, show bags
- Live entertainment all day – 60 acts on 6 stages
- Big Apple singing competition and giveaways
- The Core Youth Dance Off
- Family Concert – featuring Nada & Jasmin of 'The Voice' 6.45pm plus Splash Dance from ABC Kids and DJ Jazzy from Saturday Disney
- Fireworks Spectacular 8.00pm.

[www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/grannysmithfestival](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/grannysmithfestival)

[facebook.com/grannysmithfestival](https://facebook.com/grannysmithfestival)

#WeLoveGSF

# No elections for the City of Ryde Council

Published on 05 September 2016

The NSW Local Government elections on Saturday, 10 September 2016 does NOT include the City of Ryde Council. If you are a resident of the City of Ryde you are not required to vote.

The election applies to Councils that are not affected by a merger proposal.

For more information visit the Electoral Commission at [www.votensw.info/is my council holding an election?](http://www.votensw.info/is_my_council_holding_an_election?)