

Local students take out inaugural Battle of the Bands

Published on 29 January 2018



'A Big Mistake' with City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale and Isabella Manfredi from The Preatures

Local up and coming band 'A Big Mistake' has won the City of Ryde's inaugural Battle of the Bands competition at Council's Australia Day Concert last Friday.

A Big Mistake was up against fellow finalists The Vinyl Press and Supahoney, with their popular set winning over the judges. The band received \$1000 in cash, a mastering session at Studios 301 and a mentoring session with a music industry executive for taking out the Battle of the Bands competition.

A Big Mistake is made up of Noah Sutton (vocals), Ben Laver (guitar), Lawrence Wilson (bass) and Ed Galoustov (drums) who all met while students at Epping Boys High School. The band only formed just over a year ago, but has already made a big impression having featured on Triple J's Unearthed network and is gaining in popularity at gigs across Sydney.

The band has been described as indie or alternative rock with strong influences from bands such as The Arctic Monkeys, Foo Fighters and Queens of the Stone Age, and their catchy tunes certainly proved popular in front of the large crowd on Friday with A Big Mistake also taking out the People's Choice award on the day as well.

In a message on the band's Facebook page, the band members expressed their delight in taking out the inaugural Battle of the Bands competition.

“Shouts to The Vinyl Press and Supahoney for their awesome sets, to the judges for their time and encouragement and to everyone who voted our way... Was a great night and cheers again to the City of Ryde,” the band said.

The Battle of the Bands competition was established by the City of Ryde to recognise the outstanding young musical talent in the community.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, who was part of the judging panel, was very pleased with the event.

“I love live music and it was great to host our first ever Battle of the Bands competition right here in Ryde. Judging by the crowd’s response, they loved it too!” the Mayor said.

Clr Laxale was joined on the judging panel by APRA Amcos Ambassador Isabella Manfredi from The Preatures, Mirrah from L-Fresh The Lion, Jacob Oloughlin from 2RRR radio and Clr Penny Pederson.

Nathan Moulds named Ryde Citizen of the Year

Published on 29 January 2018



Mayor Jerome Laxale, Nathan Moulds, Rhett Prado, Australia Day Ambassador Sonia Sadiq Gandhi.

Nathan Moulds has been named as the Ryde Citizen of the Year at a ceremony at North Ryde School of Arts Hall today.

A member of the Ryde Salvation Army, Mr Moulds has worked tirelessly to support the residents of the Ivanhoe Estate during a period of transition in 2017.

Mr Moulds also works with local service providers and church communities within the Ryde community to bring about positive social change and assist those in need.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said Mr Moulds was a very deserving recipient of the Ryde Citizen of the Year award.

“Nathan’s efforts in which he has gone out of his way to help those most in need has been of enormous benefit to people in Ryde community. The kindness and generosity he has shown is commendable and his dedication to bringing about social change within Ryde will help the community in a range of ways,” the Mayor said.

The Young Ryde Citizen of the Year was awarded to Rhett Prado for his work as a student volunteer for the NSW State Emergency Service. Mr Prado also gained a bronze Duke of Edinburgh award in 2017.

“Rhett has shown dedication and commitment to the community during emergency situations and is an inspiring example to other young adults,” Mayor Laxale said.

“In congratulating the recipients of the Ryde Citizen of the Year and the Young Ryde Citizen of the Year, I would also like to give credit to all the nominees for the 2017 awards, each of whom are invaluable members of the Ryde community through their tireless contributions.”

The awards were announced at the City of Ryde Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony on Friday 26 January, 11 am at the North Ryde School of Arts Hall, 201 Coxs Road, North Ryde.

Celebrate the Elouera Reserve Upgrade

Published on 23 January 2018



Live music as well as a range of fun activities and culinary delights will be on hand at Elouera Reserve on Tuesday 6 February to celebrate the park's exciting new upgrade.

Local residents and workers are encouraged to attend the celebration between 12pm and 1.30pm which will include live music, food trucks to provide some tasty treats for those in attendance, as well as complimentary neck and shoulder massages.

Located in the busy commercial precinct of Macquarie Park, the Elouera Reserve \$1.7 million upgrade is part of the Shrimptons Creek Precinct Activation Project and Childrens Play Implementation Plan and creates a modern park design that also provides an outdoor space for workers, families, students, local residents and shoppers in the area to utilise.

One of the highlights of the park upgrade is the creation of a new state-of-the-art playground, which offers children with fun and exciting play equipment including a flying fox, an illuminated custom art work which features two cubbie houses, two trampolines, two embankment slides and six swings for a range of ages.

A barbeque facility is also now available as well as four picnic settings, new terraced grass areas for recreational activities and a water bottle refill station. In addition, there is a new illuminated footpath connection through the park to improve pedestrian visibility from the residential units through to the train station.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the City of Ryde had been working hard to deliver park upgrades for the community.

“Last year, we completed 11 park upgrades, and this is a great start to the new year as we celebrate another upgrade completion,” the Mayor said.

“As Ryde continues to grow, it is imperative that the Council continues to undertake upgrades like the one that has just been completed at Elouera Reserve so that people of all ages in the Ryde community have access to outdoor living spaces now and well into the future.

“I would encourage everyone to come down to Elouera Reserve on Tuesday February 6 to see the upgrade first-hand and celebrate these fantastic new facilities that are now available for the entire Ryde community to enjoy.”

The Elouera Reserve celebration will take place between 12pm and 1.30pm on Tuesday February 6 at Elouera Reserve, 84 Waterloo Road, Macquarie Park.

Essential Stormwater Drainage System Improvement - Shepherds Bay

Published on 23 January 2018



Construction Work Area - Constitution Road

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS BACKGROUND

The NSW Planning and Assessment Commission on 6 March 2013 approved a concept for a multi-stage development including a number of sites bordered by Bowden St, Constitution Road, Hamilton Cr and Nancarrow Ave, Meadowbank, and a further site located on Church St, Meadowbank.

The concept approved 12 buildings and various associated infrastructure works. Amendments to the original concept were approved by the NSW Planning Assessment Commission on 16 October 2014 and 16 January 2017.

Under the concept approval, the developer is required to undertake essential drainage upgrade works in order to improve existing flooding problems in Shepherds Bay catchment from Ann Thorn Park to Parramatta River. The works include installation of drainage culverts under Constitution Rd to ensure the structural integrity of the road.

In addition, the Roads and Maritime Services also required that upgrades to the Constitution Rd and Bowden St intersection and the Railway Rd crossing at Meadowbank Station be undertaken when warranted by the increased pedestrian and vehicle traffic for those locations.

In 2015, the City of Ryde received two Development Applications (DAs) from Holdmark Pty Ltd for Stages 6-7 and Stages 8-9 of this development which were subsequently approved by the Joint Regional Planning Panel in December that year.

JANUARY 2018 UPDATE

Council has now received the provision of additional information relating to the stormwater drainage upgrade works required by the concept approval, including information on undergrounding of electricity cables, vegetation along the embankment, public domain (footpaths), and traffic management.

These plans have been reviewed and approved by Council. Works to deliver these infrastructure improvements will commence in the coming months.

ESSENTIAL STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

Diona Pty Ltd has been engaged by Holdmark Property Group to design and construct the stormwater drainage system from Shepherds Bay Catchment to Parramatta River to improve on the existing flooding issues in the area arising from storm events. These improvements form part of the Local Development Applications LDA2015/0031 and LDA2015/0032.

This project has been approved by the NSW Government Joint Regional Planning Panel.

What works will be involved?

As part of these works, Constitution Road will have detours in place to facilitate the installation of the trunk drainage and culverts under the road.

Traffic control will be in place and vehicle detours will occur via Nancarrow Ave. There will be access for local residents only.

To allow the construction of these essential works, some trees along Constitution Road will need to be removed. A detailed Arborist Report was compiled on the affected trees to ensure that no threatened species will be removed. Any trees removed will be replaced as part of the public domain renewal in future staged works.

Construction works will not impact the pedestrian access or the playground in Ann Thorne Park.

When will the works occur?

Preliminary works involving tree removal and utilities service re-locations will commence in February with a view to completing all major works by April 2018, weather permitting.

Work will be done during the day between 7.00am – 7.00pm Monday to Friday and 8.00am – 4.00pm Saturday.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

Join us a free sausage sizzle and learn more about our work.

The project team, including the Project Manager Ian Robbins, will be on hand to discuss the work and answer your questions. City of Ryde Council representatives will also be in attendance.

Date: 4.00pm to 6.00pm, Thursday 1 February 2018, and 10.00am -12 noon, Saturday 3 February 2018

Where: Ann Thorn Park located at 35a Constitution Rd, Meadowbank

If you are unable to attend the information session and would like to know more please contact Diona on 1300 131 338.

Spencer Jones from The Voice Headlines Australia Day Concert at North Ryde

Published on 22 January 2018

Australia Day Concert and Fireworks Spectacular at North Ryde Common from 5 - 9 pm.

Spencer Jones appeared on The Voice last year and the crowd erupted every time he took to the stage and won the hearts of Australians everywhere. With his raspy vocals and bluesy rock tone he was quickly hailed as a “Rock God” and will headline this year’s City of Ryde Australia Day Concert.

Spencer’s music career started in his homeland of the UK, recording and touring with some of the nation’s best musicians – Adrian Smith (Iron Maiden), Jimmy Page (Led Zeppelin), Scott

Gorham (Thin Lizzy), Deborah Bonham, Kim Mazelle (Soul2Soul), Mica Paris, Asia, Andy Barnett (FM) and more.

While singing on stage in London, he walked the girl of his dreams, an Australian named Claudia. Spencer couldn’t let her go, followed her down under, got married, had 2 adorable children, and for the past 20 years has made Australia his home.

Just as he had left off in London, Spencer picked it right back up when landing in Australia, recording and singing live with Australia’s best – Jimmy Barnes, Dave Leslie (Baby Animals), Eddie Parisi (Baby Animals), Craig Portails (Richie Sambora), the multi Aria and Grammy award winning Eric J Dubowsky and many more.

Spencer will be performing his current releases and epic rock classics on the stage and will end with the fireworks spectacular!

Album: *‘Your World’* - produced by Andy Reilly (Bon Jovi, Iron Maiden, Poison)

New release: *“Warrior”* - partnering to write with Ash Maklad (Shannon Noll, Wendy Matthews) who also produced the new single, has proven to push them beyond their limits.

Australia Day ceremony to welcome 50 new citizens who call Australia home

Published on 19 January 2018

The City of Ryde will welcome 50 new citizens who will pledge their *“loyalty to Australia and its people”* on Australia Day Friday 26 January.

Australia Day Ambassador, entrepreneur and champion of cultural diversity Sonia Sadiq Gandhi, will join Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, at a special Citizenship Ceremony to welcome the families, couples and individuals from over 20 nations. They include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Colombia, England, France, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Ireland, South Korea, Lebanon, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

Mayor Laxale said “We are proud to celebrate our diverse community in Ryde and it’s such a privilege to welcome our new citizens and share the moment with their families and friends on Australia Day. This Australia Day, we are also proud to welcome back Indigenous Educator Gumaroy Newman, who will present a special indigenous focus.”

Sonia Gandhi is a proud Australian Indian Muslim who arrived in NSW from India in 1997. Since then she became an elected representative for CAPA (Council of Australian Post Graduate Association) and worked on the International Student Policy and was actively involved in cultural integration of overseas students in Australian Universities. In addition, Sonia established a multi-award winning multicultural marketing company. Her work directly promotes a more diverse Australia by engaging with multicultural communities.

Sonia said “I am blessed to live in Australia, a land of opportunities and will continue to promote intercultural connectivity and community collaborations, working towards a stronger, more unified Australia.”

Ryde’s Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony will take place at the North Ryde School of Arts Hall, 201 Coxs Road, from 11.00am and will see the new citizens sing the national anthem for the first time as Australians. They will then be invited to enjoy a light lunch including traditional lamingtons.

Ryde Council Celebrates Australia Day on January 26

Published on 16 January 2018

There has been recent media publicity around celebrating Australia Day on 26 January. Ryde Council has not discussed nor has it resolved to move Australia Day Celebrations from 26 January.

City of Ryde's Annual Australia Day Celebrations including Citizenship Ceremony and Family Concert with fireworks will be going ahead as planned.

Council can confirm that the Deputy Mayor Clr Gordon's comments in the press regarding the date-change have been taken out of context. "I am looking forward to welcoming new Citizen's at the Citizenship Ceremony on Australia Day" Clr Gordon said.

Australia Day Ambassador, entrepreneur and champion of cultural diversity Sonia Sadiq Gandhi, will join Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, at a special Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony to welcome 50 new Citizens from over 20 nations who now call Australia home. Uncle Greg will provide the Welcome to Country and this Australia Day, we are pleased to welcome back indigenous educator Gumaroy, who will open the ceremony and educate new citizens about indigenous culture and customs.

Ryde's Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony will take place at the North Ryde School of Arts Hall, 201 Coxs Road, from 11.00am.

The City of Ryde Annual Australia Day Family Concert will take place from 5.00pm at the North Ryde Common, cnr Wicks and Twin Roads, North Ryde.

This is an inclusive event for all Australians and includes a Welcome to Country, Battle of Bands youth competition, family concert and fireworks finale at 9.00pm. It also includes multicultural food, kids rides and activities.

All are welcome.

2018 Citizen & Young Citizen of the Year Awards

Published on 16 January 2018



Pictured: (Left to right) Rhett Prado, Nathan Moulds, Ryde Mayor Clr Jerome Laxale, Julie Hill, Joanne Taranto, Corina Seeto and Alexander Chorley. Absent: Josie Howes

The City of Ryde Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Awards recognise outstanding accomplishments by individuals in our community who have excelled in their chosen field.

The awards are open to all Australian citizens living in the City of Ryde.

The seven nominees for this year's awards represent the high values and diversity of our community. They include community and business leaders and volunteers.

Winners will be announced at the Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony on Friday 26 January, 11.00am at the North Ryde School of Arts Hall, 201 Coss Road, North Ryde.

Mayor Laxale said "All the nominees are local legends, who have earned the admiration of the community and are deserving of this recognition"

YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Alexander Chorley

Alex is an inspirational force for young performers. The multi-award-winning actor, extra and musician has competed at Ryde Eisteddfod for more than a decade and taken to the stage at many local events. He was also the winner of the prestigious Cub Scouts' Grey Wolf Award.

Rhett Prado

Since joining the NSW State Emergency Service Ryde Unit as a student volunteer, Rhett has shown dedication and commitment to his community in their time of need. He is a Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award recipient.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINEES**Julie Hill**

Julie works collaboratively with community leaders and organisations to advocate for people living with disability. Through Royal Rehab Ryde, she spearheaded a choir and organises a variety of socially inclusive events.

Josie Howes

A stalwart of the Lady of Grace Nursing Home Fraternity, Josie is known for going above and beyond to care for people in her community. As volunteer editor of La Campana Magazine, she helps connect Italian migrants with their traditions and culture.

Nathan Moulds

Part of the Ryde Salvation Army, Nathan has been a tireless supporter of the residents of the Ivanhoe Estate during a time of transition. He works with local service providers and church communities to bring about positive social change.

Corina Seeto

Corina is on the frontline of the war on waste. As co-founder of 5forRyde, she has been instrumental in increasing community awareness of waste issues. She also established the Martin Reserve bushcare group, transforming the area into an oasis for native wildlife.

Joanne Taranto

As co-founder of 5forRyde, Joanne has helped sign up some 70 local cafes to the Responsible Cafes movement. This has created an incentive for coffee lovers to limit waste by getting a discount for bringing their own reusable coffee cup. Joanne has also been involved in the Martin Reserve bushcare group.

Bands battle it out on Australia Day

Published on 15 January 2018

Battle of the Bands finalists kick off the Australia Day Concert, from 5.00pm on Friday 26 January, North Ryde Common, North Ryde

This Australia Day, the City of Ryde Battle of the Bands competition finalists will compete for the 2018 title.

The competition was open to all youth bands with members aged between 12 and 25 years and submissions came from all over Sydney.

Following an intense deliberation by our judging panel that included Guest Judge and APRA AMCOS Ambassador Isabella Manfredi from *'The Preatures'*, three bands have been chosen to play in the final at the City of Ryde Australia Day concert.

Come and watch them perform live on stage on Australia Day and vote for your favourite band on the day for the 'People's Choice' award.

The winning band will receive, \$1,000 Cash, a mastering Session at Studios 301 and a mentoring session with a leading Australian music industry executive.

[Find out more about the finalists](#)

Ryde Rocks Australia Day

Published on 12 January 2018

Join the community to celebrate Australia Day at the City of Ryde's annual family concert at North Ryde Common from 5 - 9 pm.

Ryde rocks Australia Day with the Battle of the Bands kicking off at 5.00pm as they compete for the 2018 title, followed by 'Jay Parrino & The Rockers of Oz' and the headline act 'Spencer Jones' from The Voice 2017.

Bring your own picnic rug or deck chair and enjoy the concert with family and friends. There will be rides, sports, food trucks and a great line up of entertainment, ending with a spectacular firework display at 9.00pm.

- **Kids' activities include:**

Amusement Rides, Mini Tennis, Volleyball, Parachute, Soccer, Cricket, Scoop Ball, Frisbee throwing, and face painting.

- **Food trucks include:**

Miss Mabel's, Gozleme, Pro Catering, Bar Coco, Pimp My Chimney and more.

- **Battle of the Band finalists include:**

'The Vinyl Press', 'A Big Mistake' and 'Supahoney', come and watch them perform on Australia Day and vote for your favourite band on the day for the 'People's Choice' award. The winning band will receive \$1,000 cash, a mastering session at Studios 301 and a mentoring session with a leading Australian music industry executive.

- **Enter the thong throwing competition for your chance to win freebies for whoever can throw it the furthest in the kids and adult categories.**

Parking available on site - arrive early to get your spot (spaces are limited).