

# New playground opens at ELS Hall Park

Published on 28 September 2018



A new, nature inspired playground at ELS Hall Park in North Ryde has opened to the public as part of City of Ryde's ongoing commitment to provide all children in the community with access to state-of-the-art playgrounds.

The playground overlooks the synthetic sports field and was designed following extensive consultation with the community, which included dedicated workshops with children.

The playground has three main play zones. They are:

- Water pump and channels
- Active zone, with slides, climbing areas, rope swing and a flying fox
- Relaxed zone with swings

The playground also has inclusive elements including a high back swing and a toddler's combination unit, each with soft-fall rubber padding.

Another highlight of the playground design is a large sculpture component featuring three 'cubbies' which children can explore and climb through. The cubbies' design was influenced by the local flora found in the ELS Hall Park.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the playground would appeal to children of all ages.

“The new playground at ELS Hall Park delivers on Council’s promise to invest in new playgrounds that are fun and exciting as well as inclusive,” Clr Laxale said.

“I would like to thank everyone who took part in the consultation that has helped shape the design and key features included in this playground. I am sure it is going to be very well received by the entire community.”

Clr Laxale recently established a Playground Panel to review Council’s current playground implementation plan to ensure future playground upgrades meet the needs and expectations of the community.

“The feedback from the panel will be incorporated when Council plan new playgrounds and make improvements to existing playgrounds,” Clr Laxale added.

**[Image Gallery on Flickr](#)**

# Schools receive Granny Smith trees to mark 150 year Anniversary

Published on 28 September 2018



*Student Leaders at Denistone East Public School and The Mayor, Clr Laxale, with Granny Smith and Sweetie Pie*

As preparations ramp up for this year's Granny Smith Festival in Eastwood, the City of Ryde has donated 10 Granny Smith trees to local schools as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Granny Smith apple.

With more than 90,000 people expected to attend the City of Ryde Granny Smith Festival, the event has become one of Sydney's largest street festivals.

This year's Granny Smith Festival on Saturday 20 October takes on added significance as festival-goers celebrate 150 years of the Granny Smith apple, which was first grown by Maria Ann 'Granny' Smith on her Eastwood property in 1868.

To mark the occasion, Granny Smith herself visited local schools this week to deliver the Granny Smith trees.

The local schools that each received two trees were:

- Denistone East Public School
- Ryde Public School
- Ryde Secondary School
- Banksia Cottage at Mac University
- Gladesville Public School

In addition, Granny Smith and City of Ryde events staff also visited Denistone East Public School, Eastwood Public School and Ermington Public School this week as part of the annual Granny Smith Schools Program. The program allows young students to take part in fun games such as apple bobbing as well as learn about the history of Granny Smith and her famous creation.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the Granny Smith Festival had become synonymous with Eastwood and the City of Ryde.

“These school visits serve an important role to involve kids in the celebrations of the festival and teach them about an important piece of community history,” Clr Laxale said.

“I really hope everyone in the community can get to Eastwood on 20 October and celebrate this important milestone of 150 years of the Granny Smith apple and also enjoy the entertainment that will be featured throughout the day as part of the festival.”

# Interim Heritage Order No.4 - 68 Denistone Road, Denistone

Published on 27 September 2018

Council on 25 September 2018 resolved to apply an Interim Heritage Order (IHO) to the property known as 68 Denistone Road, Denistone, as the property is the subject of a Local Development Application (LDA) that sought to consolidate the existing 3 lots and create a subdivision of two lots.

The LDA was available for community comment between 3 September and 19 September 2018. Council received six (6) submissions during the notification period, raising concerns over the potential heritage significance of the property. Council also received community submissions prior to the lodgement of the LDA, prompted by the sale of the property in February 2018, raising concerns over the potential heritage significance of the property.

Whilst demolition of the dwelling at 68 Denistone Road is not proposed as part of the present LDA, the application was accompanied by an indicative site plan which showed the Applicant's demolition and redevelopment intentions, demonstrating a threat of harm to the potential heritage item.

The LDA was referred to Council's Heritage Advisor for comment, as the subject site is situated within the vicinity of a number of listed items of heritage significance. As part of the review of the LDA, Council's Heritage Advisor determined the property at 68 Denistone Road, Denistone, to have cultural heritage significance and to be a good representative example of an Inter-War Californian Bungalow. The dwelling displays a high degree of design integrity and is significantly enhanced by its established landscaped garden setting, which contains a number of significant landscape features and comprises the heritage curtilage. The interior of the dwelling also displays a remarkably high degree of integrity with many fine features. It is also one of the more prominent dwellings in the streetscape, amplified by its corner orientation and having a significant contribution to the Florence Avenue and Denistone Road streetscapes.

Given that this property is considered to have local heritage significance and is under imminent threat of harm through subdivision and demolition, it was prudent that Council resolved to follow the necessary process to impose an IHO over the property.

## INTERIM HERITAGE ORDER

- [View the Interim Heritage Order](#)

The Interim Heritage Order is also available for public inspection at the Customer Service Centre, 1 Pope Street, Ryde, and North Ryde Office, Level 1, Building 0, Binary Centre, 3 Richardson Place, North Ryde, during normal office hours (8.30 am - 4.30 pm).

### ***What is an Interim Heritage Order?***

An IHO is a temporary heritage protection measure against the demolition of a potential heritage item. It also provides Council with the time to further assess the heritage significance of a potential item and take the appropriate steps to list the item if warranted.

The legal effect of an IHO made by a local Council is that approval is required for any development for the life of the order and demolition is prohibited during that period.

One of the key requirements for imposing an IHO over a property is that Council must consider that the subject property is being or is likely to be harmed. In this case, the lodgement of the Development Application involving the subdivision of the land and foreshadowing the demolition of the property, constitutes a threat of harm.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Council will shortly commission a qualified heritage specialist to undertake an independent assessment to establish the cultural heritage significance of 68 Denistone Road, Denistone.

If the assessment confirms that the property has local heritage significance, Council will then commence the preparation of a Planning Proposal to include 68 Denistone Road, Denistone, within Schedule 5 – Environmental Heritage of the Ryde Local Environmental Plan 2014. The Planning Proposal will be submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment with a request for a Gateway Determination (which will specify conditions for the public exhibition of the Planning Proposal).

Once the Planning Proposal is on public exhibition, members of the community will have opportunity to review and comment on the Planning Proposal and the proposed heritage listing.

# Council saves another Heritage House from Demolition

Published on 26 September 2018

The City of Ryde has placed an interim heritage order on a house in Denistone, which was under threat of being demolished and potentially replaced by a duplex and triplex.

Councillors unanimously resolved to support the interim heritage order on the house located at 68 Denistone Road at Council's September meeting last night.

The house was assessed by Council's Heritage Officer who found that it does have cultural heritage significance and to be a good representative example of an Inter-War Californian Bungalow. The Heritage Officer also described the house – which is believed to have been built sometime in the late 1910s or early 1920s – as one of the more prominent dwellings in the streetscape.

An interim heritage order is a temporary protection measure that can stop the demolition of a potential heritage item. It also provides Council with the time to further assess the heritage significance of a potential item and take the appropriate steps to list the item if warranted.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said Council would continue to preserve the heritage of houses under threat from demolition and development.

"This beautiful house in Denistone is a pristine example of the fantastic homes we have in the City of Ryde, and as a Council we will do all we can to ensure it remains in its current form for generations to come," Clr Laxale said.

"This is the third interim heritage order Council has placed on a house since I became Mayor and we will continue to take such action during my tenure to stop bulldozers from destroying Ryde's history.

"I would like to say a big thank you to the long-standing residents who addressed Council about this issue and have put in a lot of effort in a short amount of time to save the Denistone house."

While demolition of the Denistone house is not proposed as part of the current development application, the application is accompanied by an indicative site plan which shows the applicant's intention to demolish the current dwelling and redevelop on the site with the construction of a duplex and triplex.

With the interim heritage order now placed on the Denistone house, Council will prepare a planning proposal to permanently list the house as an item of local heritage significance and forward it to the Department of Planning and Environment with a request for a gateway determination.

Once gateway determination is received, the planning proposal will be made available for community consultation, with the outcomes of that community consultation to be presented to Council.

# Granny Smith Festival Promises to be Bigger than Ever

Published on 25 September 2018

More than 90,000 people will descend on Eastwood on Saturday 20 October to take part in one of Sydney's largest street festivals – the City of Ryde Granny Smith Festival.

This year's event takes on added significance as festival-goers celebrate 150 years of the Granny Smith Apple, which was first grown by Maria Ann 'Granny' Smith on her Eastwood property in 1868.

Fittingly for such an occasion, the City of Ryde has a range of wonderful free entertainment for people of all ages to enjoy throughout the day.

Highlights include:

- Grand Street Parade: With more than 2,000 people participating, this parade will celebrate Ryde's vibrant community transforming Eastwood's streets into a sea of colour and sounds featuring marching bands, community floats and dancers;
- Granny's Cider Bar: Located at West Parade, the new Granny's Cider Bar will provide festival-goers with the chance to take a break and sit back while sampling delicious beverages and listening to some acoustic tunes;
- Finale concert: Starting from 5.30pm the finale concert will provide a fitting finish to a great festival with ARIA Award-winning singer Samantha Jade performing along with popular cover band Soul Nights, capped off with a spectacular fireworks display;
- Kids Hub: Children between 0 and 12 years of age will have plenty to keep them entertained at the Kids Hub situated at Eastwood Public School as well as a number of popular entertainment acts across all of the stages throughout the day, including Hi-5 who will deliver two performances and a meet and greet on the Oval; and
- The Core: Operated by the Ryde Youth Council, The Core is aimed at 12 to 25 year olds and will be highlighted by the Apple Jam Block Party which includes open dance battles, silent disco and a talent quest.

In addition, there will be more than 200 stalls, a singing competition as well as performances throughout the day at four of the festival's dedicated stages.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said now in its 33rd year, the Granny Smith Festival had become a great way for the local community to come together and celebrate its diversity while also honouring the life and legacy of Granny Smith.

"This year's Granny Smith Festival promises to be bigger than ever with something to cater for everyone and the fact that we are celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Granny Smith apple," Clr Laxale said.

“We are so lucky to have an event such as the Granny Smith Festival here in the City of Ryde which allows us to come together and celebrate with a range of fun-filled activities. I hope to see you all in Eastwood on Saturday 20 October.”

As City of Ryde is committed to phasing out all single-use plastics at its events, there will be no plastic bags, straws, balloons or single-use plastic water bottles at this year’s Granny Smith Festival. Festival-goers are encouraged to bring their own water bottle and refill it throughout the day at any of the dedicated Sydney Water stations located across the Festival site.

# New Morrison Bay Seawall Open to the Public

Published on 21 September 2018



A new seawall at Morrison Bay Park in Putney has been unveiled to the public by the City of Ryde as part of efforts by Council to protect and enhance the local Parramatta River foreshore.

The eye-catching seawall was constructed with sandstone blocks to preserve the natural character of the foreshore. The project took 11 months to complete.

In addition to the seawall, the following improvements were made along the water at Morrison Bay Park as part of the project:

- Upgrade of the existing path to a new concrete shared-path for pedestrians and cyclists;
- Installation of scenic viewing and new seating areas along the path; and
- Planting of saltmarsh grasses and improvements to the stormwater drainage system.

The new seawall at Morrison Bay Park is part of the City of Ryde's program to improve seawalls along the Parramatta River foreshore, which has also resulted in the upgrade of the Meadowbank Park seawall in 2016.

The next stage will be improvements to the seawall at Banjo Patterson Park in Gladesville.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the new seawall at Morrison Bay Park served a practical purpose while also being a welcome aesthetic addition to the area.

“We call this new seawall Ryde’s Barangaroo. It’s been a promise of mine to increase funding towards open space, passive recreation and place making. This facility at Morrison Bay will benefit young and old for generations and is a sign of things to come,” Clr Laxale said.

In addition to the new seawall and other completed improvements, Morrison Bay Park is also set to receive further upgrades throughout this 2018/19 financial year.

# Hazard reduction Burn at Pages Creek, North Ryde

Published on 21 September 2018

The National Parks and Wildlife Service and Fire and Rescue NSW will be conducting the Pages Creek Hazard Reduction Burn adjacent to Magdala Rd (east), Gilda St, Epping Rd and the Lane Cove River in North Ryde.

The Hazard Reduction burn is planned for **25-26 September 2018**.

Traffic control, including partial lane closure, will be in place on Magdala Rd (east).

For more information, please contact the [Rural Fire Service](#) or visit the [NSW National Parks safety page](#) for park safety guidelines.

For general enquiries, please call the Lane Cove National Park office Monday to Friday on 8448 0400.

The purpose of this burn is to reduce bush fire fuel levels and provide protection to residences and local community assets.

# Switching On Cyber Safety At The Libraries

Published on 20 September 2018

The City of Ryde Library Service is delighted to announce that it has now attained eSmart accreditation, highlighting its commitment to cyber safety, well-being and digital inclusion.

eSmart Libraries is a cyber safety framework designed to fully equip libraries, staff and library users with the skills they need for smart, safe and responsible use of digital technology. Developed by the Alannah and Madeline Foundation, the framework has been developed from a holistic and evidence-based approach, and considers how libraries and communities can develop smart, safe and responsible digital behaviours.

By being eSmart accredited, the City of Ryde Library Service has demonstrated that its staff has the knowledge and skills to guard against security and privacy risks, through ongoing training and development. It also helps staff improve their guidance and training for users of digital technologies at each of the libraries in the City of Ryde.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said while the internet was great for learning and socialising, it also had its pitfalls that library staff needed to be aware of, including cyber bullying and online fraud.

“Achieving eSmart accreditation shows how serious our library staff take the issue of cyber safety and how determined they are to ensure all users at the library are protected from the dangers that can crop up in the online world,” Clr Laxale said.

“This achievement means our library staff now have the knowledge to guard against security and privacy risks, to research and download content in an ethical and legal manner, and manage reputation and relationship-based issues online.”

Find out more about the [eSmart Libraries](#) program.

# SWAP 2018 Winners revealed at Exhibition's Opening Night

Published on 20 September 2018



A giant hare made out of noxious weeds and a piece of art depicting a legendary musician with nothing more than buttons were among the winners announced for the City of Ryde's Sustainable Waste to Art Prize (SWAP) at the opening night of the SWAP Exhibition on Wednesday.

SWAP is a unique competition in which local artists are asked to produce artworks that are made from repurposed material or that have a sustainable theme. This year's competition attracted more than 200 entries with 79 shortlisted for the exhibition at See Street Gallery in Meadowbank.

Meadowbank TAFE student Penny Simons was awarded first prize in the open category for her work 'Flying Hare', which is a woven hare made completely out of the noxious Willow weed sourced from the NSW Southern Highlands.

Local resident Trinity Myres took out the Youth Environment Prize (for 14 to 17 year olds) for her artwork 'Perish', which uses plastic, aluminium cans and other recycled materials to depict the damage caused by deforestation to the environment.

Ryde student Dane De Braekeleir-Cleal, meanwhile, was awarded the Junior Youth Environment Prize (10 to 13 year olds) for 'Kurt Cobain in 4,438 Buttons' which is an eye-catching piece of work that portrays the iconic musician with reclaimed clothing buttons.

The Functional award – for the design object judged to have best used reclaimed material to form a functional piece – was taken out by Monique Bedwell and her

work 'It's Not Just A Cup Of Tea', which is a dress made from more than 500 used tea bags .

The winners were determined by the SWAP panel of judges, which was made up of Dean of UNSW's Faculty of Art and Design Professor Ross Harley, co-founder and CEO of Take 3 Tim Silverwood, and renowned Australian artist Wendy Sharpe.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, congratulated all the award recipients as well as those shortlisted for exhibition.

"Once again, SWAP has highlighted how talented and creative our local artists are, while also helping promote the sustainable living theme within the Ryde community. I would encourage everyone to get down to See Street Gallery over the next two weeks and see firsthand this terrific exhibition," Clr Laxale.

The SWAP Exhibition runs until Thursday 4 October. Attendees can vote for their favourite work in the exhibit with the work receiving the most votes to be awarded the People's Choice Award at the conclusion of the exhibition.

The exhibition is presented by City of Ryde in partnership with TAFE NSW - Sydney Region and Ryde Environmental Education Network. The exhibition is open Tuesday to Saturday between 11am and 4pm.

[View photos of the Opening Night on flickr](#)

# Taking it to the Streets: More street libraries coming to Ryde

Published on 18 September 2018



*City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, with Putney Public School students (from left) Kristian Grbic, Hayley Phipps, Isobel O'Toole and Alexander Wong at the Putney Street Library*

The City of Ryde has teamed up with Street Library Australia to give away 10 street libraries to local residents, childcare centres, schools, community organisations, community members, volunteers or businesses.

A street library is a home for books that is publicly available for anyone to take or leave a book. They offer a range of benefits to the community such as:

- encouraging books to be recycled and shared;
- providing easy access to literature for any member of the community;
- providing opportunities for community members to meet, connect, and socialise; and
- enlivening and activating public spaces

To date there are six registered street libraries in the City of Ryde. Four of these have been installed by Council on public land, with two installed by residents on their land.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the street libraries have attracted lots of interest from community members wishing to get involved through installing a street library for the community on their own property.

“In response to this, Council is now giving away a street library (valued at \$300) to 10 successful applicants,” Cllr Laxale said.

“Council’s first six street libraries have been highly successful at activating what were once bare spaces, and the community love the fact that a good read is never far away.”

The street library project is led by the City of Ryde’s City Activation team. All street libraries must be installed on a property in the City of Ryde local government area that is in an applicant’s control. Recipients of each street library are also responsible for its installation and upkeep.

Preference will be given to locations that will serve a wide and diverse community, as well as applicants that can demonstrate a genuine commitment to installing and caring for the street library to ensure it thrives.

Applications for the 10 new street libraries opened on Monday, 17 September and will close on Thursday, 18 October.

**Apply for a Street Library**

# Parramatta Council and State Planning Panel Turn Back on Ryde Community

Published on 14 September 2018



*The Mayor with the Melrose Park Residents Action Group (Source: The Weekly Times)*

The Sydney Central City Planning Panel has approved three more applications in the Melrose Park precinct at Victoria Road and Wharf Road, which will result in 413 additional apartments and 419 car parking spaces.

The decision was made by the planning panel this week despite concerns lodged by the City of Ryde about the lack of consultation with all residents living in the vicinity of the development and the lack of adequate infrastructure.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the development at the Melrose Park precinct needed a regional approach because of its size and the fact it was on the border of the Sydney North and Sydney Central City Districts, the City of Ryde and Parramatta Councils, and the Ryde and Parramatta State electorates.

“While the development rolls on with approval after approval by the State Government appointed planning panel, there is no consideration of the impacts on our community in Melrose Park and beyond or any guarantees of appropriate infrastructure,” Clr Laxale said.

“Of major concern is that this development was approved without a Traffic Management Action Plan (TMAP) in place and with Parramatta Council failing to provide appropriate notification.

“This blatant disregard for proper process should send alarm bells through State Parliament at a time when Parramatta Council is in ‘chaos’.”

The City of Ryde provided a letter to the planning panel and the Acting CEO of Parramatta City Council highlighting that the processes around advertising and notifying the relevant application were flawed and inconsistent with that council’s own notification requirements.

The City of Ryde subsequently requested that the applications be deferred to allow notification of the proposals to all residents whose amenity will be impacted by these developments including those in the City of Ryde. No response to the letter was received from Parramatta City Council.

“This is just another example where the local member Victor Dominello and the Minister for Planning Anthony Roberts spruik concerns about overdevelopment and the need for infrastructure to ‘catch up’, while development continues unabated with massive impacts on our local roads, schools and open space,” Clr Laxale added.

“At a minimum no further applications in this precinct should be lodged or determined until the TMAP process is finalised, necessary infrastructure identified which includes funding and timing of delivery relative to the stages of development and density increases, as well a fair and comprehensive community consultation process discussed and agreed to between Parramatta City Council and the City of Ryde going forward.”

The City of Ryde will review the written decision of the panel and consider its position.

# Speed limit changes to Waterloo Road during the rail closure

Published on 14 September 2018

Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) has announced that the speed limit along Waterloo Road, Macquarie Park, will be reduced from 60km/h to 50km/h during the Epping to Chatswood rail closure.

The reduced speed limit along Waterloo Road will be in place from Tuesday 18 September, with RMS pointing to the increased number of pedestrians crossing roads during the rail closure as the reason behind its decision.

From 30 September, new Station Link buses will run between the five stations impacted by the rail closure.

The new 50km/h speed limit will be in place on Waterloo Road from Herring Road to the intersection of Wicks Road.

RMS said it was investing in other ways to improve pedestrian safety on Waterloo Road, with work also being carried out to build two new pedestrian refuges, install pedestrian fencing and safety signs as well as install bus friendly speed cushions on approach to the pedestrian refuges.

Motorists are reminded the 50 km/h speed limit on sign-posted roads is legally enforceable by NSW Police.

Work to install the new signs and road marking will be carried out on Monday 17 September between 8pm and 5am, weather permitting.

For more information about speed zones visit [www.rms.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au)

# City of Ryde resolves to save historical house from demolition

Published on 13 September 2018

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, has called on the NSW Government to support a Council recommendation and save a historical Eastwood home from demolition.

At its August meeting, councillors unanimously resolved to support a planning proposal that recommends the Ryde Local Environment Plan be amended to list the home located at 330 Rowe Street as an item of local heritage significance.

The house was built in 1907 and has been described by a heritage consultant as a site of local historical significance and evidence of the early development of the Eastwood area. It is also an example of work of the prominent local architect Charles Robert Summerhayes.

Council has had to move quickly to preserve the house's heritage status after it received a development application last October to demolish the house and construct a two-storey childcare centre.

Following receipt of the development application, Council placed an Interim Heritage Order on the Rowe Street house and prepared its own planning proposal to permanently list the house as an item of local heritage significance. As part of this planning proposal, Council undertook community consultation which overwhelmingly supported listing the house as a heritage item.

Cllr Laxale said while he was delighted all City of Ryde councillors supported the decision to save the historic house, the final decision ultimately rests with the NSW Government.

"The City of Ryde's decision to recommend that our Local Environment Plan be amended to list the home as an item of local heritage significance shows that as a Council we are genuine about preserving our area's heritage," Cllr Laxale said.

"As the State Government has complete power over Local Environment Plans, I now call on the government to endorse Council's recommendation without delay so that bulldozers can get nowhere near this historic house and it can be preserved for generations to come."

# Clr Simon Zhou elected as Deputy Mayor for City of Ryde Council

Published on 11 September 2018



*Deputy Mayor Clr Simon Zhou and Mayor Clr Jerome Laxale*

Clr Shuo (Simon) Zhou has been elected unopposed as Deputy Mayor of the City of Ryde following an Extraordinary Council Meeting tonight.

Clr Zhou - an independent from the West Ward – was elected Deputy Mayor for a one-year term. He replaces Clr Christopher Gordon, who did not stand for re-election as Deputy Mayor.

Prior to the election for Deputy Mayor, Council determined to hold the vote as an open vote, with Clr Zhou being the only councillor to nominate for the role.

Clr Zhou said he was honoured to be elected as Deputy Mayor for the City of Ryde.

“I promise that I will continue to work hard, listen to the community’s concerns and be a good example to all members of the community in Ryde,” Clr Zhou said.

“We have wonderful staff here at the City of Ryde and I look forward to working with them and my fellow councillors as we continue to achieve the best outcomes for this city.”

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said he looked forward to working with Clr Zhou over the next 12 months.

“Clr Zhou has shown to be a proactive and productive councillor and I congratulate him on his election as Deputy Mayor,” Clr Laxale said.

“I would like to thank Clr Gordon for his work as Deputy Mayor and the assistance he has offered me during this time. “He has opened my eyes on a range of issues and I am sure he will continue to work hard for the community and be a voice for local arts and environmental issues.”

# New Flag Poles At Kissing Point Park

Published on 11 September 2018



Two new flag poles have been unveiled at Putney's Kissing Point Park with a formal flag raising ceremony.

Putney Public School captain Kristian Grbic and vice-captain Hayley Phipps were given the honour of raising the flags during the ceremony with City of Ryde Mayor Clr Jerome Laxale, Deputy Mayor Clr Chrstopher Gordon, Clr Edwina Clifton and Clr Roy Maggio also in attendance.

The two flag poles will fly the Australian and Aboriginal flags near the entrance to the Kissing Point ferry stop. They will also be illuminated at night, with lighting installed at the base of both flag poles. The flag poles were installed by the City of Ryde following a Council resolution in February. The resolution can be viewed [here](#) (Notice of Motion 6).

# Response to inaccurate comments made about combustible cladding in our City

Published on 07 September 2018

The City of Ryde completely refutes the statements made in the Northern District Times and the Daily Telegraph online by NSW Better Regulation Minister Matt Kean that it has failed to address the very serious issue of combustible cladding in our city.

Mr Kean's statements are incorrect and misleading.

The City of Ryde has been and still is working closely with the Department of Planning and Environment and NSW Fire and Rescue, who are coordinating the response.

In Ryde specifically, the Department of Planning and Environment has commenced fire safety compliance action against 10 properties where Concept Plans were approved by the Minister for Planning. Council is undertaking the same audit reporting on 17 other properties and is following the same methodology as the Department of Planning and Environment in completing the audit process.

Notices of Proposed Fire Safety Orders are being sent to any affected property owners and Council staff are providing them with assistance throughout this process.

What should be noted is that Councils are still awaiting on the release of specific regulations from the State Government particularly on how the cladding testing regime will be managed.

# Outcomes from Council Meeting 28 August 2018

Published on 07 September 2018

Council held its latest Ordinary meeting on 28 August 2018. Here is a summary of the main outcomes from the meeting:

## **RYDE DEMANDS SAY ON FUTURE MELROSE PARK DEVELOPMENTS**

The City of Ryde called on Parramatta City Council and the NSW Government to factor in the views of Melrose Park residents in their future planning decisions after objections raised to the development at the old Putt-Putt complex on Victoria Road were seemingly ignored.

The development at the old Putt-Putt complex, which is located just on the Parramatta side of the boundary between Parramatta and Ryde local government areas, is a four-stage development comprising up to 10,000 new dwellings as well as a new street network. [View more information.](#)

## **RYDE SUPPORTS THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART**

Council supported the Uluru Statement from the Heart. The Uluru Statement from the Heart calls for a constitutionally enshrined "First Nations Voice". This would see the creation of a new representative body within the Federal Parliament to advise on matters affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, while a Makarrata Commission would lay the foundation for a Treaty between federal and state governments and the First Nations. [View more information.](#)

## **CITY OF RYDE PAYS TRIBUTE TO ROY NEWSOME**

Roy Newsome, who retired from Council at the end of August, received a standing ovation as Council paid tribute to him.

Mr Newsome worked at the City of Ryde as Director Corporate Services since 2001, and had more than 40 years' experience in local government having previously worked at Burwood and Liverpool councils. [View more information.](#)

## **ROWE STREET HOUSE SAVED FROM DEMOLITION**

Councillors unanimously resolved to save a historical house in Eastwood from demolition.

The house on Rowe Street was built in 1907 and has been classified as a site of local historical significance as evidence of the early development of the Eastwood area.

Following receipt of a development application to demolish the house last year, Council moved to preserve the house's heritage which culminated in the decision by Councillors last week to recommend to the NSW Government that the City of Ryde's

Local Environment Plan be amended to list the home as an item of local heritage significance.

## **IMPROVEMENTS FOR MEADOWBANK PARK**

A number of improvements were committed to for Meadowbank Park, including the reconstruction of two netball courts (11 and 26). Council accepted a contribution of \$150,000 from the Eastwood Ryde Netball Association to co-fund this project.

Fencing will also be installed between the new Meadowbank skate park – known as the Ryde Outdoor Youth Space – and Constitution Road. Council staff will also investigate whether there is a need to upgrade the traffic refuge island on Constitution Road and the opportunity for restoration works to the cast iron gate located near the new skate park.

## **CITY OF RYDE EVENTS**

Council recognised the outstanding efforts of the City of Ryde events and operations staff in delivering a highly successful Cork and Fork Festival, and thanked the community for their generous donations in raising \$2220 at the event for drought-stricken NSW farmers.

## **SESQUICENTENARY OF THE CITY OF RYDE**

A report will be prepared by Council staff on how the City of Ryde's sesquicentenary (150th anniversary) can be celebrated, through both existing and specifically-created events, when it occurs in 2021. The report is due to be presented to Council by March 2019.

## **ALCOHOL FREE ZONES TO BE RE-ESTABLISHED**

Public consultation will be undertaken on the re-establishment of Alcohol Free Zones in the City of Ryde. Council approved the request from Ryde Police Area Command to re-establish the Alcohol Free Zones at Trim Place Gladesville, West Ryde Railway and Bus Interchange, Eastwood CBD as well as Meadowbank's Bowden Street, Bay Drive and Meadowbank Wharf.

## **NEW MEMBERS FOR THE COMMUNITY HARMONY REFERENCE GROUP AND RYDE YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Badawe Abboud, Huiting (Lisa) Liu and Tony Tang had their nominations for the Community Harmony Reference Group endorsed by Council. Meanwhile, Matthew Choi's nomination for a position on the Ryde Youth Advisory Council was also endorsed.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 25 September.

# Local Kids Join the War on Waste

Published on 07 September 2018



*Year 3 students at West Ryde Public with Mayor, Clr Laxale*

Students from West Ryde Public School have joined the war on waste, writing to a local restaurant and providing them with suggestions about how they can reduce the build-up of rubbish from the restaurant ending up in surrounding streets.

The Year 3 students have been learning to write persuasive texts along with developing a strong awareness of how rubbish and single-use plastics impacts on the environment and wildlife.

As part of their studies, the students started a campaign in which they wrote to the McDonald's restaurant seeking its assistance in minimising the amount of rubbish that is generated by the business.

As part of the campaign each student wrote a letter to the restaurant, providing them with their own suggestions about they could help reduce the amount of rubbish found in the area.

The campaign grabbed the attention of the City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, who paid them a visit earlier this month to congratulate the students on the initiative they showed.

“The efforts of these students should be commended as they have taken it upon themselves to try and reduce the amount of rubbish in the local area but ultimately it is the responsibility of the community to dispose of their rubbish properly ,” Clr Laxale said.

“The City of Ryde has worked very hard in encouraging the community to take measures to reduce waste and landfill, and it is terrific to see children like the students at West Ryde Public School to take such an interest in environment matters such as this.

“It was also great to meet each of the students first hand and hear how much of an interest they take in the local environment and also how Council operates and other important issues within the Ryde community.”

West Ryde Public School has reported that since the letters were sent to McDonald’s, the restaurant has taken proactive steps to reduce the amount of rubbish found in the area.

# A win for Ryde as court refuses development for Dunbar Estate

Published on 06 September 2018



*The Mayor and residents (Source: The Weekly Times)*

In a huge win for residents, the Land and Environment Court has ruled in favour of the City of Ryde and refused a development application for a residential flat building to be built at Marsfield's Dunbar Park Estate.

The ongoing court battle has been running for just over a year after the City of Ryde rejected the development application which would have demolished an existing dwelling in Lexcen Place and replaced it with a two-storey residential flat building comprising four apartments over basement parking for five vehicles. This form of development is permitted under a NSW Government policy – the State Environmental Planning Policy (Affordable Rental Housing) 2009.

The City of Ryde refused the application based on a range of factors, including the proposed development being inconsistent with the character of the local area.

The developer appealed Council's decision which took the matter to the Land and Environment Court.

Handing down its decision this week, the Land and Environment Court dismissed the appeal and refused the development application.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the decision from the Land and Environment Court was a massive result for the community.

“Council has fought this proposal all the way as it was completely out of step with the area’s amenity and character and would have seen the ludicrous notion of basement parking being introduced in a quiet residential street,” Cllr Laxale said.

“This win will send a message to NSW MPs Victor Dominello and Anthony Roberts who are determined to impose the Medium Density Housing Code in the City of Ryde. Flat buildings do not belong in quiet residential streets, and the deferral they’ve suggested just isn’t good enough. Ryde needs a complete exemption.

“Throughout this process we were supported by our community who are determined to save our streets from overdevelopment forced on us by ill-conceived NSW Government planning policies.

“This week’s decision from the Land and Environment Court has made the fight worthwhile. Thanks must go to all the residents involved, particularly those residents who have been involved in this process since my first notice of motion to Council way back in August 2017.”

# Ryde demands say on future Melrose Park developments

Published on 05 September 2018

The City of Ryde has called on Parramatta City Council and the NSW Government to factor in the views of Melrose Park residents in their future planning decisions after objections raised to the massive development at the old Putt-Putt complex on Victoria Road were seemingly ignored by both authorities.

The development is located just on the Parramatta side of the boundary between Parramatta and Ryde local government areas, and is one of a range of developments proposed for Melrose Park that could result in up to 10,000 new dwellings as well as a new street network.

Despite its close vicinity to Melrose Park residents in the City of Ryde and the strain it will put on existing infrastructure in Ryde, Parramatta City Council and the NSW Government approved the development with insufficient consultation with Council or affected residents not located in the Parramatta local government area.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, put forward a mayoral minute on the development and the effect it will have on the City of Ryde.

Clr Laxale said Council and nearby Melrose Park residents lodged objections to the development, but these seemingly had no influence on the final development that was approved by Parramatta City Council and the NSW Government.

“It is simply not right that this monster of a development can be built over the border with no consideration given to the poor residents living next door to it, not to mention the strain it will put on services and facilities in the City of Ryde,” Clr Laxale said.

“It is imperative that Parramatta City Council include all residents of Melrose Park in future planning notifications so that their concerns can be appropriately heard and considered before any more development takes place in the area.”

Clr Laxale also plans to make representations to the NSW Planning Minister, local Members of Parliament, Parramatta City Council, the Greater Sydney Commission and developer Payce, seeking a regional approach to road network and other infrastructure upgrades in Melrose Park, Meadowbank and surrounds.

“We had no say on this development, yet all the promotional material for it points to infrastructure, services, facilities and schools all found in the City of Ryde. On top of that, the influx of new residents will make existing rat runs far worse,” Clr Laxale added.

In addition, a meeting with Melrose Park residents and City of Ryde’s planning and traffic staff will be held, with the concerns raised by residents in that meeting to be forwarded to relevant planning and traffic authorities.