

# Maurice Dawson named Ryde Citizen of the Year

Published on 26 January 2020



Local hockey legend Maurice Dawson has been named the 2020 Ryde Citizen of the Year at the City of Ryde Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony at North Ryde School of Arts Hall this morning.

Mr Dawson has been involved both as an administrator and a coach at Ryde Hunters Hill Hockey Club for more than 40 years.

During that time, Mr Dawson has positioned the club as one of the most successful in Australia with more than 40 players representing NSW and three playing for the Australian national team.

He was also instrumental in developing the Keith Thompson Hockey Centre in Macquarie Park – the home of the Ryde Hunters Hill Hockey Club – which is now viewed as one of the leading hockey venues in Sydney.

The Ryde Young Citizen of the Year was awarded to Cosmin Luca for his volunteer work with local youth.

A member of the Ryde Youth Council and a Ryde Youth Ambassador, Mr Luca established the City of Ryde Public Speaking Program which aims to empower more youth voices in the community, particularly those who are most vulnerable.

He is also an advocate for active citizenship and democratic values, having recently participated in the Emerging Civic Leaders program, where he worked with Ryde

Secondary College students to encourage them to become more involved in politics and the election process.

Lorraine Carter, meanwhile, received a City of Ryde Special Commendation. Ms Carter has volunteered for Royal Rehab in Ryde since 2013 in which she has undertaken various roles to assist the organisation and its patients.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, congratulated all award recipients.

“Maurice, Cosmin and Lorraine all epitomise the tremendous community spirit that is evident in the City of Ryde. They have all gone above and beyond to help others and for that they are extremely deserving recipients of these awards,” Clr Laxale said.

The City of Ryde Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Awards are held under the auspices of the Australia Day Council of NSW.

In addition to announcing the recipients of the Ryde Citizen of the Year awards, 50 local residents became Australian citizens during the City of Ryde Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony.

A special presentation was also made to honour local firefighters and emergency services personnel.

# Kings Park to provide a new open space for the community

Published on 24 January 2020



*Concept design image for Kings Park*

Construction is underway to complete a major upgrade to Kings Park in East Denistone, which once completed will provide the community with a brand new state-of-the-art open space in the City of Ryde.

Located at the former site of the Denistone East Bowling Club, the upgraded park will feature a mixture of attractions for all ages. These include:

- A neighbourhood playground including a shade sail
- Walking paths
- A large sheltered area capable of accommodating 20 people for community events
- Multi-purpose court for basketball, futsal and other activities
- Accessible toilet
- Kick-about areas
- Passive relaxation areas

Council approved the Master Plan for Kings Park last year, with a total budget of \$2.2 million allocated to the project.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said Kings Park will be another first-class outdoor facility for the community to enjoy.

“Providing more open spaces for the community is a key goal for this Council and the upgrade to Kings Park is yet another example of this,” Cllr Laxale said.

“Our community have told us that open space, along with venues to hold small family events is something they’re after. This park delivers just that.

“The design and features of the upgraded Kings Park were based on the feedback we received from the community ensuring that this new park will serve our community for generations to come.”

The works are expected to take around six months with the new Kings Park set to open to the public in July this year.

# Trial helps reduce cigarette butt litter

Published on 23 January 2020

A trial in the City of Ryde to reduce cigarette butt litter has produced excellent results.

The City of Ryde was one of 16 councils that took part in the Cigarette Butt Reduction Trial that was overseen by the NSW Government's Litter Prevention Unit.

The trial aimed to reduce cigarette butt litter by implementing different interventions at various smoking hotspots. There were four different intervention strategies trialled in total, each with different messaging and signage.

Meadowbank Train Station, West Ryde and Top Ryde City Shopping Centre were part of the trial in the City of Ryde with each site showing significant improvement in cigarette butt binning rates of between 26 percent and 48 percent.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the results of the trial were extremely encouraging.

"Council will be utilising the results of the trial to install similar messaging and methods of reducing cigarette butt litter in target hotspot locations throughout Ryde," Cllr Laxale said.

"We continually work to provide a 'Smarter, Cleaner, Greener' environment for the community and this trial has identified ways in which we can continue to achieve this objective."

In addition to guiding future initiatives to reduce cigarette butt litter in the City of Ryde, the results of the trial will also form the basis for the development of NSW's first ever targeted cigarette butt litter reduction program.

This program, to be managed by the Litter Prevention Unit, will include the delivery of guidelines and resources, a review of existing litter enforcement strategies, and a targeted behaviour change campaign with the highly recognised Don't Be A Tosser! campaign.

## Fast facts: Cigarette butt litter

- Cigarette butts are toxic, made of plastic, leach into the environment and do not break down
- 1.32 billion butts are littered in NSW each year
- Cigarette butts make up 39 percent of all littered items in NSW. They are the state's most littered item
- You can be fined \$80 for littering a cigarette butt, or \$250 for tossing a cigarette from a vehicle. These fines are even higher if the cigarette is lit and if a total fire ban is in place.

- If the strategies from the Cigarette Butt Reduction Trial were replicated across NSW, around 795 million more cigarette butts would go in the bin. Lined up end-to-end, those butts would reach from Sydney to London and beyond.

# Family fun this Australia Day in the City of Ryde

Published on 17 January 2020

The stage is set for another day of family fun with the City of Ryde's annual Australia Day celebration on Sunday, 26 January.

The celebrations will kick off at 11am with a special citizenship ceremony and the presentation of the 2020 Ryde Citizen of the Year Awards at North Ryde School of Arts.

Local firefighters and emergency services personnel will also be honoured during the ceremony.

The citizenship ceremony will be followed by an Aussie rock concert at 5pm at North Ryde Common. Eventgoers can also enjoy a variety of food trucks, kids rides and activities, including the iconic thong-throwing competition.

This year marks the return of the City of Ryde Battle of the Bands competition, with three young bands battling it out for this year's title.

A judging panel - comprised of The Preatures' Isabella Manfredi, Thirsty Merc's Rai Thistlethwayte and Studios 301's Recoding Engineer Stefan Du Randt - will announce the winner on the night. The winning band will take away a cash prize of \$1000 and win a Mastering session at Studios 301. A \$250 people's choice award will also be presented at the event.

Sydney act Audio Vixen, which was a finalist in X-Factor Australia, will also take to the stage. They will be followed by renowned Aussie act Thirsty Merc – known for their hit single Summertime – who will headline the concert from 8pm.

The City of Ryde will not be going ahead with its planned fireworks display at the Australia Day concert.

As part of its fundraising efforts, Council will be raising money for the Salvation Army Bushfire Disaster Appeal on the day.

Eventgoers will be invited to contribute to Council's Wall of Hope, where they can purchase Eftpos gift cards, which will be donated to people affected by bushfires and help them to buy supplies and support local businesses in the process. There will also be collection buckets to raise money for the Rural Fire Service (RFS).

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, encouraged everyone to take part in the festivities planned in the City of Ryde this Australia Day.

"I hope to see you all at North Ryde Common this Australia Day for a great day of entertainment that will cater to people of all ages," Clr Laxale said.

“Crucially, the Australia Day concert will also serve as a major fundraiser for the victims of this disastrous bushfire season, so please attend and give generously.”

Further information about the Australia Day celebrations can be found at [here](#).

# Referendum to be held on popularly-elected Mayor

Published on 16 January 2020

A referendum on whether City of Ryde residents want to vote for their own Mayor will be held later this year.

Council resolved to request the NSW Electoral Commission to conduct a constitutional referendum during this year's local government elections in which voters will be asked whether they want a popularly-elected Mayor.

If the majority of voters say yes in the referendum, the position of Mayor would be elected by the public starting from the 2024 local government elections.

Under current procedures, the City of Ryde Mayor is elected by councillors every two years.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said he supported the referendum and for the mayoral position to be popularly-elected.

"A number of Sydney councils, including Hunter's Hill and Hornsby, are well-served by having a popularly-elected mayor and I think the time has come to ask the community for their views on the matter," Clr Laxale said.

"Personally, I believe that the decision as to who should be Mayor of our great City should be made by the people and not by elected officials in some biennial ritual.

"I trust the people of Ryde to choose their leader. Being Mayor is crucial for our city. It needs to be treated more than a prize handed out every two years."

The NSW local government elections and the constitutional referendum will take place on Saturday, 12 September 2020.

# Government grants available to increase resilience to climate change

Published on 16 January 2020

The NSW Government recently announced 'Increasing Resilience to Climate Change' grants for community groups. These grants will fund community-led adaption projects that deliver positive social, environmental and economic outcomes, while supporting community participation, preparation and resilience to climate change impacts.

Community groups can apply for between \$10,000 and \$30,000 for individual projects, with a total grant pool of \$600,000 available.

**Applications close on 28 February 2020.**

The program will fund two categories of projects:

- 1. Building Adaptive Capacity**

Projects that build the capacity of communities to better plan for, coordinate and deliver actions that support communities to adapt to current or future climate change impacts, eg projects that promote and share information about community resilience to climate change impacts.

- 2. Delivering Adaption Action**

Projects with practical applications that will support communities to adapt to climate change impacts. For example, projects that increase resilience to changing climate conditions, eg more resilient revegetation techniques or improved community management of heatwave or extreme weather events.

The project needs to be led by a not-for-profit organisation or community group, or implemented in partnership with either a local council, land council or traditional owner corporation.

For more information including application guidelines please visit the [AdaptNSW website](#).

# **Your City Summer 2020**

Published on 16 January 2020

**View Interactive Version**

**View PDF Version**

View the full newsletter: [Your City - Summer 2020](#)

# Have your say on the DA for The New Heart of Ryde

Published on 15 January 2020



*Please note: This image is indicative of how the redeveloped Civic Centre site could look and are subject to change.*

The development application for The New Heart of Ryde is now on public exhibition until 12 February.

[The New Heart of Ryde](#) is the new vision for the Ryde Civic Centre, located at 1 Devlin Street, Ryde. It will deliver a four-fold increase in community facilities without the introduction of any residential development on the site.

A copy of the plans and details accompanying the development application can be viewed online on Council's [Major Development Applications page](#).

The information can also be viewed at the Ryde Customer Service Centre, 1 Pope Street Ryde between 8.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday during the public exhibition period.

Members of the public can make written submissions regarding the development application during the public exhibition period by:

- Email: [cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au)
- Post: General Manager, City of Ryde, Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670

These submissions must be lodged no later than 12 February 2020. Council has resolved that all submissions received in relation to rezoning and development applications will be publicly accessible on request.

The development application allows for the construction of a multi-purpose community and cultural building which will contain a hall seating up to 700 people, as well as activity rooms, meeting rooms, an art gallery and refreshment rooms.

It also allows for the construction of an office building which will accommodate City of Ryde staff and two floors of commercially lettable space, an integrated public plaza, extensive landscaping throughout the site, 236 on-site basement car spaces, and space for food and beverage offerings.

The capital investment value is estimated to be \$108 million, which is within Council's budget parameters.

The Sydney North Planning Panel will be the determining authority for the development application as the capital investment value exceeds \$5 million.

Council endorsed progressing with its plans for The New Heart of Ryde following the release of a report which identified 85 percent community support for the proposal during community consultation conducted in 2019.

# City of Ryde's Australia Day celebrations to go ahead without fireworks

Published on 13 January 2020

City of Ryde will not be going ahead with its fireworks display at its Australia Day concert on 26 January. Council will be proceeding with other planned activities, including a Battle of the Bands competition, food trucks, kids amusement rides and live entertainment featuring headline act Thirsty Merc at North Ryde Common.

As part of its fundraising efforts, Council will be raising money for the Salvation Army Bushfire Disaster Appeal on the day. Eventgoers will be invited to contribute to our Wall of Hope, where they can purchase Eftpos gift cards, which will be donated to people affected by bushfires and help them to buy supplies and support local businesses in the process.

There will also be collection buckets on the day to raise money for the Rural Fire Service (RFS).

Further information can be found on Council's [Australia Day page](#).

# Development application submitted for The New Heart of Ryde

Published on 09 January 2020



The development application for The New Heart of Ryde has been referred to the Sydney North Planning Panel and will be placed on public exhibition next week.

[The New Heart of Ryde](#) is the new vision for the Ryde Civic Centre, delivering a four-fold increase in community facilities without the introduction of any residential development on the site.

The development application allows for the construction of a multi-purpose community and cultural building which will contain a hall seating up to 700 people, as well as activity rooms, meeting rooms, an art gallery and refreshment rooms.

It also allows for the construction of an office building which will accommodate City of Ryde staff (who are currently occupying leased premises at North Ryde) and two floors of commercially lettable space, an integrated public plaza, extensive landscaping throughout the site, 236 on-site basement car spaces, and space for food and beverage offerings. The capital investment value is estimated to be \$108 million which is within Council's budget parameters.

Council endorsed progressing with its plans for The New Heart of Ryde following the release of a report which identified 85% community support for the proposal.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said The New Heart of Ryde will address the chronic shortage of community space in the City of Ryde, whilst also providing first-class facilities for performances, meetings and cultural activities to take place.

“The New Heart of Ryde will deliver community space and facilities that the City of Ryde has been crying out for,” Clr Laxale said.

“As promised, the project has come in under budget and excludes any form of residential development.

“Under the plan, Council will retain 100% ownership of the site and the project will be funded without raising rates or reducing services. It is financially sustainable and for the first time, delivers what our community want.”

The development application for The New Heart of Ryde will be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from Wednesday 15 January to 12 February.

During this period, the plans for the application will be available to be viewed on the City of Ryde website as well as Council’s Customer Service Centre and North Ryde office.

All members of the public will be able to make submissions on the development application during the public exhibition period.

# Recognising our local firefighters

Published on 08 January 2020

In honour of City of Ryde's local Rural Fire Service (RFS) and SES volunteers and local NSW firefighters, a special presentation ceremony will take place at our [Australia Day ceremony](#) on 26 January.

The ceremony will take place at 11.00am in the [North Ryde School of Arts Hall](#) at 201 Coss Road, North Ryde.

Council encourages all firefighters that reside in the City of Ryde to contact our Events team at [events@ryde.nsw.gov.au](mailto:events@ryde.nsw.gov.au) and provide their full name and contact details. Please register before **Sunday 12 January 2020**.

This follows a Mayoral Minute at the [12 December 2019 Council meeting](#).

# Ryde offers help to communities impacted by bushfires

Published on 06 January 2020



The City of Ryde has registered its interest with the NSW Disaster Recovery Council Co-ordination Service to provide assistance to communities devastated by the bushfire crisis.

With NSW in the grip of one of the worst bushfire seasons in living memory, the State Government has established the NSW Disaster Recovery Council Co-ordination Service to link councils that are offering support with bushfire-affected councils in need of assistance.

The disaster recovery is likely to require significant clean-up works including arbor works, street cleaning, waste collection and road maintenance. Specific details on how councils might be able to assist will be made available in the coming days.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said his heart went out to those who have endured the tragic loss of life and property.

“The City of Ryde will work with the State Government to provide whatever practical resources we can to help those who have had their lives turned upside down due to these horrific bushfires,” Clr Laxale said.

“We have staff who can provide assistance to local communities, as well as equipment we can loan that will help with the rebuilding effort.”

In addition to providing Council’s resources, the City of Ryde is also undertaking a fundraising campaign for the Salvation Army Bushfire Disaster Appeal.

Money raised for the Bushfire Disaster Appeal will go towards supporting the Salvation Army's relief teams provide assistance to emergency services personnel and people displaced due to the bushfires.

Collection buckets are located at various Council locations including the Customer Service Centre, all five City of Ryde Library branches, the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre and Council's North Ryde Office. Donations can also be made online [here](#).

Members of the community can also donate to the Red Cross' Disaster Relief and Recovery fund which is offering support to the thousands of people currently in evacuation centres.

Donations can be made by visiting [here](#).

# New in-river seawall at Bennelong Park

Published on 03 January 2020



A new in-river seawall has been constructed at Putney's Bennelong Park as part of efforts to improve access to the Parramatta River.

The in-river sea wall (also known as a groyne) will minimise erosion of the beach area at Bennelong Park as well as reduce exposure of underlying bedrock and protect existing mangroves.

In addition, the in-river sea wall will provide easier launching opportunities for sailing vessels including for members of the Concord and Ryde Sailing Club, which is based at Bennelong Park.

The in-river sea wall was a joint project undertaken by the NSW Government, the City of Ryde and the Concord and Ryde Sailing Club.

Outcomes of this project deliver on Council's commitment under both the Greater Sydney Commission's North District Plan and the Parramatta River Catchment Group's Masterplan for foreshore activation and accessibility.

Council facilitated the project to deliver the design of the in-river sea wall while the NSW Government provided \$530,000 in funding under its NSW Boating Now Program to install the structure.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the foreshore improvements at Bennelong Park were another example of how Council was making the Parramatta River more accessible for everyone.

"This structure will buffer sand movement and RiverCat wash to protect the beach at Bennelong Park. A safe beach means easy access to the river for canoes, inflatables and paddle-boards and of course sailing boats," Clr Laxale said.

"A big thank you to the Member for Lane Cove, the Hon. Anthony Roberts, and the NSW Government for working with the City of Ryde and the Concord and Ryde Sailing Club to deliver a much needed groyne for our community."

Mr Roberts said the NSW Government was delighted to give back the beach area to the local community and visitors so they can safely enjoy their time on the water.

"The NSW Government and Transport for NSW worked closely with the City of Ryde and the Concord and Ryde Sailing Club to determine the best solution for restoring safe access and minimising future erosion of the beach and the improvements at Bennelong Park are a result of this close collaboration," Mr Roberts said.

# City of Ryde Council meeting summary - December meeting

Published on 02 January 2020

Council held its latest Ordinary meeting on 12 December 2019. Here is a summary of the outcomes from the meeting:

## Heritage reforms endorsed by the City of Ryde

The City of Ryde endorsed reforms that will provide stronger protections for items and areas of heritage significance across the local community.

Under the reforms, more than 300 items will have various forms of heritage protection. This includes three new heritage conservation areas, individual Federation buildings and Inter-War bungalows, public parks and street tree boulevards.

Council also endorsed a one-off budget allocation of \$500,000 to the Heritage Assistance Fund, which is designed to assist owners with the cost involved of repairing, restoring or conserving their residential heritage item.

[Click here for more information.](#)

## Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement referred to commission

The [Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement](#), which provides a 20-year vision and direction for land-use planning within the City of Ryde, will be referred to the Greater Sydney Commission.

The referral will allow the Greater Sydney Commission to complete its assurance review on planning in the Ryde local government area

Council endorsed the Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement after it was placed on public exhibition earlier in the year. Under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, all councils in NSW are required to prepare, exhibit and adopt a Local Strategic Planning Statement.

## New event to be trialled at Coulter Street

A new event will be held at Coulter Street in Gladesville each month to activate the area, [which has recently undergone an upgrade.](#)

The Coulter Street event will be trialled for three months with the outcomes to be reported back to Council.

## **Women in local government to be recognised**

A plaque will be installed in the City of Ryde to commemorate 100 years of women in local government. The plaque will list the names of the 17 women who have served on Ryde and Eastwood councils between 1919 and 2019.

## **Community to have their say on popularly elected Mayor**

A constitutional referendum will be held at the 2020 local government elections seeking a response to the question as to whether the City of Ryde wants a popularly elected Mayor.

## **New Permit Parking Policy**

The [Draft Permit Parking Policy](#) was adopted by Council. All new parking permits will be assessed against the new policy which has been amended to reflect the Roads and Maritime Services Permit Parking Policy. Existing parking permits will remain valid until 30 June 2021.

## **Ceremony to be held for volunteers and local fire brigades**

A special presentation ceremony to honour the efforts of Rural Fire Service volunteers, State Emergency Service volunteers and members of the local fire brigade will be held at the upcoming City of Ryde Australia Day Concert.

## **Christmas Card Design Competition winners announced**

Denistone East Primary School student, Joshua Park, was announced as the winner of the City of Ryde Mayor's 2019 Christmas Card Design Competition. Putney Public School student Tess James was awarded second place and Denistone East Primary School student Naomi Williams was third.

## **Online Council policy register**

The City of Ryde will investigate options for improved access to Council policies.

## **Annual rate receipt**

A report will be prepared for Council exploring options for a personalised annual rate receipt to be issued to each household.

## **Certificates of Appreciation**

The Harmony Culture Group from West Ryde was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for the successful Korean Senior Festival held in November.

City of Ryde Manager of Corporate Governance, John Schanz, was also presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his work in organising the delegation visit from the City of Jongno-gu, South Korea.

## **Next meeting**

The next Ordinary Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 25 February 2020.

[Click here for the minutes from the December Ordinary meeting.](#)