

COVID-19 alerts

Published on 22 December 2020

On 22 December 2020, NSW Health has advised confirmed cases of COVID-19 on five journeys between Tuesday 15 December and Thursday 17 December on the M52 bus route, which stopped and departed from St Charles Primary School, Ryde. Passengers who travelled on these public transport routes during the time and date indicated are advised to get tested immediately and self-isolate until they receive a negative result. Passengers should continue to monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and if any symptoms occur, get tested again.

A full list of transport routes is available in the latest [public health alert](#) issued by NSW Health.

On 21 December 2020, NSW Health advised that anyone who attended the Premier Academy League Under 8s event at Macquarie University Soccer Fields, Macquarie Park, on Sunday 13 December between 9am and 11am to get tested for COVID-19 immediately and self-isolate until NSW Health provides further information.

In addition, anyone who attended the Macquarie Shopping Centre (corner of Herring Road and Waterloo Road, Macquarie Park) on Sunday 13 December between 11am and 1pm is considered a casual contact who should monitor for symptoms and get tested immediately and isolate if they appear.

More information is available in the latest [public health alert](#) issued by NSW Health.

NSW Health is also urging anyone in NSW with even the mildest symptoms, such as headache, fatigue, cough, sore throat or runny nose, to come forward immediately for testing, then isolate until they receive a negative result.

Locations linked to known cases, advice on testing and isolation, areas identified for increased testing and testing clinic locations can be found at the [NSW Health update page](#).

Please note that information is correct at time of publication. Seek official advice from NSW Health

Mayor's Christmas Card competition winners announced

Published on 18 December 2020



City of Ryde Mayor, Jerome Laxale, with entrants in this year's Mayor's Christmas Card competition

Congratulations to Michelle Lai, a Year 5 student at Ryde Public School, who won this year's Mayor's Christmas Card competition.

Michelle won a \$100 gift card and her creative design will also feature on all the Mayor's Christmas Cards.

Emma Atree, a Year 6 student from St Therese's Catholic Primary School, was awarded second place, while Danica Simic, a Year 1 student from West Ryde Public School, was awarded third place.

As an added bonus, one entry from each primary school in this year's Christmas Card competition has been turned into banners that are currently being displayed in town centres throughout the City of Ryde.

Be sure to keep an eye out for these eye-catching festive artworks as Christmas approaches.

Never dispose of batteries or objects containing batteries in your bins

Published on 17 December 2020

BATTERIES START FIRES

Never dispose of batteries or objects containing batteries in your bins



Batteries are dangerous. They contain toxic substances such as lead, cadmium, mercury, lithium, uranium, manganese, nickel and zinc. They can start fires in bins, collection trucks and recycling facilities.

If batteries reach landfill, they can pollute our environment – leaking contaminants into soil and groundwater.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Australian Battery Recycling Initiative recommends:

- Discharge batteries fully before safely disposing
- Always store batteries following the manufacturer's recommendations
- Dispose of batteries responsibly with a specialised battery recycling service

WHERE CAN YOU SAFELY DISPOSE OF BATTERIES?

You can dispose of your batteries at one of Council's [Problem Waste Drop-Off Stations](#). Many organisations collect batteries for recycling, including some retailers. [Click here for more information](#)

Tips for a Sustainable Christmas

Published on 15 December 2020



Gift-giving is a wonderful gesture of gratitude and love to our family and friends. It can, however, also be a cause of headaches especially when you're trying to reduce the use of plastic in your life and live more sustainably.

With a little imagination and thought, we can all reduce the impact of the holiday season on the environment and have a happy green Christmas!

Here are some tips to help you enjoy a sustainable Christmas:

- Avoid products with lots of packaging and consider giving a service, a donation or an experience instead
- Look for gifts that are made from recycled or upcycled materials, or make your own handmade gifts such as food, craft or artworks
- Get creative with wrapping using a scarf or tea towel as part of the gift, or use paper wrapping or gift bags that can be easily reused or recycled
- Consider sending e-cards using free online design apps
- Get crafty with decorations using cuttings from the garden or make items from last year's wrapping and cards that can be stored and reused
- Choose a tree with an FSC Certification to confirm that it has been sourced sustainably, or dress up one of your houseplants
- Switch to eco-friendly crackers or create your own for a personalised touch
- Opt for crockery and cutlery over single-use plastic items when entertaining guests. Find ways to [cut single-use plastic](#) from your life
- Plan your meals and buy only the ingredients that you need. [Get tips on food storage](#)
- Share leftovers from your Christmas celebrations with friends and family to ensure nothing goes in the bin.

Creative Spotlight | James Gray

Published on 14 December 2020



Tell us a bit about who you are and what kind of creative work you make

My name is James Gray, I'm a photographer mostly interested in landscapes and portraiture. I have a full-time job as a software developer which keeps the bills paid and I have a background in industrial design which introduced me to digital imaging.

My interest in photography started with my father's darkroom under the house. I love the magic of film development but these days I work almost exclusively with digital images, the flexibility provided is invaluable when producing a body of work.

I find myself drawn towards minimalism and the details in the landscapes, looking for colour, tone and form. My portrait work is mostly in the studio but invariably with strobe lighting, I love manipulating the light to bring out mood and expression in my subjects.



What is a creative project that you've worked on that you're really proud of? Why?

My first solo exhibition was in September. It came on the back of a very challenging year that saw me unable to do what I'd planned, but in the end provided unexpected direction and new opportunities to explore.



Whereabouts do you look for creative ideas? Who or what inspires you?

I spend a good deal of time in the bushland around Sydney, cycling or camping with my family or the local Scout troop. This gives me the time to sit and absorb the moods of the landscape around me. I'm a big believer in the maxim of "the slower you go, the more you see" and spending days in one environment allows me to see it in many different ways.

What's your favourite part of working as an artist / creative?

The feedback, hearing what people see and feel in my images. The best kind of feedback is when someone buys one of my prints, it's a humbling experience.



What creative project are you working on at the moment?

I'm working on a couple of ideas to create narratives through portraiture. This is new ground for me and requires working to build the story in the studio rather than piecing it together from observations in nature.

We always love recommendations! Who are some other local artists we should check out?

[Melony Smirniotis](#), talented artist, gallery owner, and great source of inspiration for myself and many other artists.

What's the most challenging part of working as an artist / creative?

Finding my worth. Photography has changed so drastically in the past 10 to 15 years. Almost everyone carries a camera in their pocket that allows them to instantly publish worldwide. Creating works of value to others in this environment is challenging.



Do you have any top tips for emerging artists and creatives just starting out?

Practice. Whenever you can. The best camera is the one you have with you. Even if you are using your phone you are still creating an image with colour, composition and a story.

Where can we find out more about your work and get in touch?

Website: jamesgray.com.au

Instagram: [@jamescamerongray](https://www.instagram.com/jamescamerongray)

Facebook: [@jcgrayphotography](https://www.facebook.com/jcgrayphotography)

Creative Spotlight | Good Practice

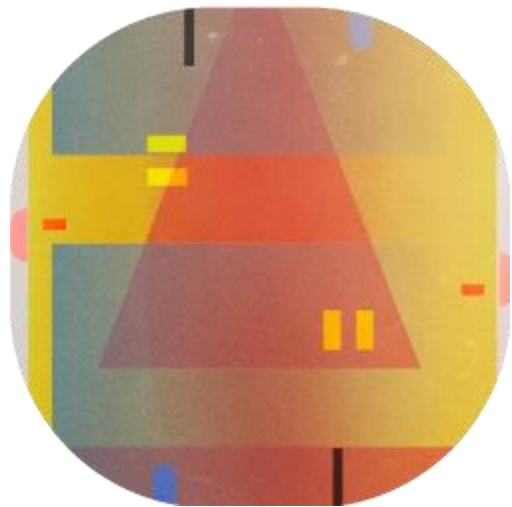
Published on 14 December 2020



Tell us a bit about who you are and what kind of creative work you make

Good Practice (GP) is an independent design studio founded by Helen Chang and Maggie Cheung. Beginning as two friends in design school, GP emerged as an outlet for experimentation and realising our own design vision.

Intuition and collaboration are important factors in our process, as well as a value for unique perspectives and ideas. We don't believe in following a single aesthetic, rather that each project comes with its own voice. Whether it be in the fields of art, commerce or culture, we offer insight and expertise in crafting rich creative solutions that elevate the everyday and enable businesses to flourish.



**Whereabouts do you look for creative ideas?
Who or what inspires you?**

It's hard to pinpoint specifics, the reality is that we get our inspiration from many places, more commonly it's books, art, music or film. Maggie loves history and looking at archive material like old books or typography to spark an idea. More specifically, some of the graphic designers that we look up to include Karel Martens, Ikko Tanaka and Tadanooori Yokoo.



How does your personal history, culture or experience inform your creative work?

Because of our heritage as Australian-born Asians we don't feel tied to any specific aesthetics. Both of us have also been fortunate to have lived overseas at some point; Helen in Lausanne, Switzerland and Maggie in Kyoto, Japan. Being multilingual as well has meant that our influences are an uninhibited melting pot which is creatively liberating. Of course, we respect our roots (Helen has a Korean background and Maggie has a Chinese background), however we're not particularly conscious of this which gives us the freedom to build a visual language that is uniquely ours.

What creative project are you working on at the moment?

Currently we're in the process of designing for a film/art collective based between Los Angeles and New Delhi. There's an interesting synergy when working with creatives outside of graphic design so we're keen to see what the outcome will be. It's also quite incredible that we're able to work together despite having never met, all with the power of technology!



What's your favourite part of working as an artist / creative?

Working in graphic design means we have to think on our feet as no projects are ever the same. What we love about design is that it challenges us to consider different perspectives, cultures, processes and really engage with the world. And since our work is visual and often tangible, getting to see how people respond to it is always exciting too.

What's the most challenging part of working as an artist / creative?

The first thing that comes to mind would be the culture of comparison that we often find ourselves in with social media. Being overexposed to content everyday, it can be hard to find your own creative voice and not feel pressured to compare yourself. With that said, it does give us a lot of access to content we may not have known about otherwise and brings about a lot of discussion between us as co-workers.



Do you have any rituals or routines that help you to be more creative?

We don't have any set rituals but we believe that having interests outside of design is important to break from strictly being in that "creative" mindset. Surrounding yourself with people that aren't in the industry is also refreshing, being able to have diverse conversations and interactions can be unexpectedly insightful. Breaking routine can also be good, Helen often spends time alone exploring new places and documents it through photography to recharge her creativity.

Where can we find out more about your work and get in touch?

Website: good-practice.com.au

Instagram: [@goodpractice](https://www.instagram.com/goodpractice)

Email: info@good-practice.com.au

Creative Spotlight | Anna Lloyd

Published on 14 December 2020



Tell us a bit about who you are and what kind of creative work you make

I am a freelance illustrator. I have always loved drawing and painting. Out of high school I studied Graphic Design at University majoring in Illustration, and Visual Merchandising for retail. I moved to Perth with my husband for six years in our 20s and we moved back to Sydney when we had our first child.

Whereabouts do you look for creative ideas? Who or what inspires you?

I observe everyday details and beauty in nature and I depict this in my artworks. I like to take photos of things I see that catch my eye. I often get asked to draw birds, native animals and florals. I'm inspired by my favourite artists who I follow online. I try to do any short courses I can which keeps my work up to date with technology and trends.



How does your personal history, culture or experience inform your creative work?

I grew up in the suburb of Ryde in Sydney, however, my maternal grandparents had a small hobby farm with beehives and fruit trees and native bushland surrounding it, and my paternal grandparents retired in the seaside town of Kiama. As a child my parents took my sister and I on lots of bush walks. They were scientists interested in botany, so I had an early interest in natural history and science.



Are there any special processes, techniques or tools you use to make your creative work?

I usually start by looking at my photos and draw a variety of rough pencil sketches from those. I assemble my sketches together in Photoshop and print the image out to then trace onto my paper, digital or canvas surface to paint. I finish my final illustration in watercolour, gouache, acrylic paint, markers or digitally.

What is a creative project that you've worked on that you're really proud of? Why?

A few years ago I did a mural for a paediatric office. I painted all the different elements in watercolour, scanned them and drew over some parts of them digitally. They were printed on vinyl and applied to the walls in the waiting room, hallway and clinic rooms.



What creative project are you working on at the moment?

I have just finished a collection of fabric designs for a client to be launched next year. Now I am completing some artworks for a group exhibition at Brush Farm House in March – April 2021. [You can find out more about that exhibition here.](#)

What has been the highlight of your creative career so far?

Drawing decorations on a 3D printed leg brace for a two-year-old girl with cerebral palsy. The 3D plastic soaked up the pigments in a way that I really didn't expect! It was a bit like working in watercolours as the ink spread in a crazy unpredictable way.

What's your favourite part of working as an artist / creative?

The variety of work you get. You never know what you will be asked to create next!

Website: www.annalloyd.com.au

Instagram: [@annalloydstudio](https://www.instagram.com/annalloydstudio)

Facebook: [@annalloydstudio](https://www.facebook.com/annalloydstudio)

Redbubble: www.redbubble.com/people/annalloyd



Creative Spotlight | Lester Chan

Published on 14 December 2020



Tell us a bit about who you are and what kind of creative work you make

I'm a 25-year-old animator, specializing in 2D cel animation (where you make an animation frame by frame and use hand drawing) but dabbling in all sorts of other stuff. My personal practice is all over the place, but often it is informed by pretty uncontroversial and not-very-subtle political opinions! Recently I've been getting more into creating music, but it's usually in service of the animating.

I'm currently freelancing, animating mainly on ads and music videos. I've also occasionally been given opportunities to direct idents (the footage with a station's identification or logo) for companies like MTV and FX.



Are there any special processes, techniques or tools you use to make your creative

work?

As a 2D digital animator I was taught to use drawing tablets for most of my work. I'm currently running a 16-inch Cintiq tablet.- The technique that I've found works best with this tablet is to work with my face really, really close, though it does come at the expense of your eyesight and posture!



Though most of my work is on the computer, I'm finding more and more that I enjoy blending it with analogue techniques. I've started colouring in my frames on paper, rather than digitally, which adds a lot more texture once the animation is put together. This process also gives me a menial activity to do while I listen to podcasts. I'm not great at colouring within the lines, but I find that having the pictures in motion does a great job of hiding mistakes!

What's the most challenging part of working as an artist / creative?

Recently, the challenge has been finding the focus and motivation to start personal work. Getting an initial idea is usually the easier part for me, but then committing to fleshing out a concept and story can be really challenging. There's a lot of tunnel vision that I'm not conscious of when I'm set on a certain story element (and it's usually not as brilliant as I think it is). This block can really hinder experimentation and obscure other paths of creative iteration.

This is especially true if I'm trying to make something funny, but I'm way too precious about keeping the first punchline that I come up with. I end up missing narrative opportunities, or I overcomplicate the story beats to accommodate a single joke. Feedback from friends end up being essential to working through these kinks, though I definitely don't follow their advice as much as I really should!

Do you have any rituals or routines that help you to be more creative?

Eating breakfast before working and staying well hydrated definitely helps, especially when you're going to be animating for a long stretch. It's definitely advice I need to take more often, especially the brekkie bit. I go bouldering for exercise, so I also find myself doing a lot more finger exercises to keep them nimble and stop them from getting injured, which probably wouldn't be great for drawing.

Personally, I don't animate as well with music on. To keep from being bored, I usually listen to longform podcasts. The only time I can't do that is if I'm animating lip-sync, in which case it interferes too much with the work. I've been finding recently that I can't listen to too many news podcasts, because it can drag me down and affect the work.

Where can we find out more about your work and get in touch?

You can find me [@lstrchn](https://www.instagram.com/lstrchn) on instagram!

City of Ryde Council meeting summary - November 2020

Published on 11 December 2020

Council held its latest Ordinary meeting on 24 November 2020. The following is a summary of the outcomes from the meeting:

Council extends rates rebate

The one-off \$400 council rates rebate [has been extended](#) for approved JobSeeker and JobKeeper to 31 March 2021 as part of Council's ongoing support for those within the community impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The one-off \$400 rates rebate was first endorsed by Council in April this year as part of a new COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy with applications initially closing on 30 September 2020. The initial round of the rates rebate resulted in 220 rebates being granted, totalling \$88,000.

Outdoor dining fees and food inspection fees waived

Outdoor dining fee and food inspection fees will continue to be [waived](#) until the end of March 2021 to support local businesses recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, Council has waived more than \$112,000 in fees for businesses.

Draft Ryde Local Housing Strategy and Multi-Dwelling Housing Planning Proposal

Council will consider the City of Ryde [draft Local Housing Strategy and draft Multi-Dwelling Housing Planning Proposal](#) at its December meeting.

The draft strategy and planning proposal were exhibited between 16 October and 16 November 2020.

Annual Report on Code of Conduct Complaint Statistics

Council's Annual Report on Code of Conduct Complaint Statistics will be provided to the Office of Local Government as is required by the Model Code of Conduct.

Local organisations benefit from latest round of Small Grants program

More than \$11,000 was allocated to six community organisations as part of round two of the 2020 City of Ryde Small Grants program.

New operator for Ryde Youth Theatre

Shopfront Youth Arts CoOp will be the new operator of the Ryde Youth Theatre from 2020/21 to 2024/25 after Council accepted its tender.

New car share parking spaces authorised

Twenty-five new locations in the City of Ryde have been authorised for single-use fixed car share parking.

Kiss and Ride zone at Denistone East Primary School

A Kiss and Ride zone will be permanently installed on Henderson Street at the front of Denistone East Public School after a petition was submitted by the school supporting the move.

Level of food and emergency relief to be monitored

The level of food and other emergency relief in the City of Ryde will be monitored by Council to ensure an adequate level of support is available to meet the community need during the COVID-19 pandemic. Council will continue to support the work of community and religious organisations in providing food and other emergency relief to local residents who are in need of support.

Meeting with Eltham Street residents

Council staff will facilitate a meeting with residents who live on Eltham Street in Gladesville to address their concerns with the abrasive roots causing problems to their houses.

Next meeting

The next Ordinary Council meeting was scheduled to take place on Tuesday 8 December 2020. It was adjourned due to a lack of a quorum and will reconvene on Tuesday 15 December 2020.

[Click here](#) for the minutes of the November Ordinary Council meeting.

Public Safety Cameras to be installed in Coolgun Lane, Eastwood

Published on 09 December 2020

Work will begin in early 2021 on the installation of CCTV cameras and additional lighting in the pedestrian laneway between Coolgun Lane and Princess Avenue, Eastwood.

City of Ryde Council received \$20,000 from a Federal Government Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Grant to implement the project.

In contributing to community safety, the cameras will assist Council in maintaining the immediate area's cleanliness and ensuring the area is appropriately maintained for pedestrian use and traffic flow.

Comments or concerns may be directed to waste@ryde.nsw.gov.au.

Council recognises International Day of People with Disability

Published on 03 December 2020



The new para-hoist at Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre

Today (3 December) is International Day of People with Disability and to recognise this, the City of Ryde would like to remind the community some of the services and support it provides for people with disability.

The City of Ryde is committed to ensuring people with disability are welcomed, accepted and respected within the community, and that disability inclusion is supported in all areas of Council's operations.

Initiatives and programs Council provides for people with disability include:

- **Assisted Bin Collection Service:** The City of Ryde offers an [assisted bin collection service](#) for residents who cannot move their household bins out for collection due to age, disability or ill health, and do not have anyone to assist.
- **Home Library Service:** A [free home delivery](#) and collection service for City of Ryde residents who are unable to attend the library due to frailty, illness or disability. Resources available include books, audiobooks, DVDs, CDs and large print.
- **Companion Cards:** Allows people who have significant and lifelong disability to take a carer on public transport and to recreational activities and events at affiliated organisations for the price of a single ticket. Council accepts the companion card for all Council events and activities including those at the

Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, City of Ryde Library events and Council run workshops.

- **The Ryde/Hunters Hill Home Modification and Maintenance Service:** This provides a subsidised cost modification and [maintenance service](#) for people living in the Ryde and Hunters Hill local government areas. The aim is to assist frail people (65 years and over) with access, safety and independence in daily living activities so that they may remain living in their own home or with their carer.
- **Report an access issue:** The public can [report](#) any access or safety concern that may require Council's attention. Examples may include issues with footpaths, kerb ramps, lighting, or accessible parking and amenities. Concerns can be lodged online and a Council representative will be in contact as soon as possible.
- **Disability Hoist at the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre:** A new para-hoist was installed that now allows a person living with any disability to access the competition or the program pool without any manual lifting in wet areas.

In addition, the City of Ryde has recently developed a draft Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) for the Top Ryde Centre and the North Ryde Small Centres (located at Coxs Road and Blenheim Road).

The purpose of the PAMP is to provide a strategic framework for developing safe and accessible pedestrian routes and fostering improvements in pedestrian mobility.

Many of the City of Ryde's initiatives to assist people with disability are guided by Council's Social Inclusion Advisory Committee.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Further information on what the City of Ryde is undertaking to deliver services for people with disability can also be found in Council's [Disability Inclusion Action Plan](#) and [Social Plan 2019-2024](#).

There are also a number of community organisations who provide support services for people with disability. More information on these organisations can be found [here](#).

City of Ryde's heritage reforms become law

Published on 01 December 2020

Landmark heritage reforms developed and endorsed by the City of Ryde have become law, providing heritage protection to more than 300 items across the community.

Items included in the [heritage reforms](#) include Federation buildings and Inter-War bungalows, public parks such as Eastwood Park and Anzac Park, the West Ryde Hotel, as well as street tree boulevards.

There are also three new heritage conservation areas located at Chatham Road, Denistone, Darvall Estate, Denistone and Tyrell Street, Gladesville, meaning the City of Ryde now has eight heritage conservation areas in total.

In addition, the former Squire's Brewery and Halvorsen's Boat Yard in Putney and the Glades Bay Baths in Gladesville are now listed as archaeological sites.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the heritage reforms were the most wide-ranging ever undertaken by Council.

"Our community have consistently told us to protect Ryde's heritage, yet we had some of the worst heritage protections in our region. Our history was being lost to development," Clr Laxale said.

"The approval of this city-wide heritage review will ensure that some of Ryde's most treasured items and neighbourhoods will remain part of the community for generations to come.

"Crucially, Council undertook widespread community consultation throughout this process and struck a balance between the views of the community as well as those held by owners of significant heritage properties when endorsing these reforms

"By working together, we have saved Ryde's history."

The reforms were adopted as an amendment to the Ryde Local Environmental Plan 2014 after the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment authorised Council to be the local plan making authority for the changes.

Each item that has been heritage listed was identified by an independent heritage review of the Ryde local government area that was undertaken in 2019.

Heritage-listed items and neighbourhoods are provided with protections guarding them from inappropriate development as new works are required to be sympathetic to the character and style of the heritage area and/or heritage conservation area.

New Problem Waste Drop-Off Stations in Ryde

Published on 01 December 2020



City of Ryde Waste Project Coordinator Emma Tang at the new Problem Waste Drop-Off Station at Bunnings Warehouse Gladsville

The City of Ryde has installed new Problem Waste Drop-Off Stations at Bunnings Warehouse Gladsville and the Macquarie Centre.

Problem Waste Drop-off Stations are for City of Ryde residents to safely dispose of household problem waste items that are not allowed in your kerbside red, yellow or green lid bins.

Problem waste items in kerbside bins contributes to contamination of landfill sites and may cause fires or create other harmful effects to human health and the environment.

Items that can be disposed of in Problem Waste Drop-Off Stations include:

- Household batteries
- Mobile phones and accessories
- Ink cartridges
- Fluoro Light bulbs and globes.

In a first, the new Problem Waste Drop-Off Station at Bunnings Warehouse Gladsville also accepts smoke detectors.

There are now nine Problem Waste Drop-Off Stations around the City of Ryde. In addition to the new stations at Bunnings Warehouse Gladesville and the Macquarie Centre, Problem Waste Drop-Off Stations are also located at:

- City of Ryde Operations Centre
- City of Ryde Customer Service Centre
- Eden Gardens
- Macquarie University
- Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (light bulbs are not accepted here for safety reasons)
- Tzu Chi Eastwood
- West Ryde Library.

Please note that no regular household rubbish, particularly coffee cups, are accepted at the Problem Waste Drop-Off Stations.

Commercial quantities are not permitted. Larger problem waste items (such as car batteries, paint tins, TVs, computers and gas bottles) can be taken to CRC Artarmon (8 Waltham Street, Artarmon) to be disposed of for free. [Click here](#) for more information and for the opening hours.

To find out what you can dispose of and the locations of the stations, visit our [Problem Waste Drop-Off Stations webpage](#).