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FUND LAUNCHED TO ASSIST OWNERS OF HERITAGE ITEMS

A new fund which will provide grants of up to \$15,000 to eligible owners of heritage listed items and properties in Heritage Conservation Areas has been launched by the City of Ryde.

Under the Ryde Local Heritage Assistance Fund 2021, successful applicants will receive grants to help them facilitate and offset the costs involved to repair, maintain or conserve their residential heritage item.

Examples of eligible projects under the fund include the repair or reinstatement of original or missing elements, the reinstatement of traditional colour schemes, remedial works to rectify structural defects, historic garden conservation and much more.

The \$500,000 fund was an integral part of Council's landmark heritage reforms, which provided heritage protection to more than 300 items across the community.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the Ryde Local Heritage Assistance Fund would encourage the conservation of heritage throughout the local government area.

"We have listened to the community who have consistently told us to protect Ryde's heritage," Cllr Laxale said.

"By providing grants to help owners maintain and conserve heritage, we have taken another step to ensuring that Ryde's most treasured items and neighbourhoods will remain part of the community for generations to come."

Heritage Advisory Committee Chairperson, Cllr Christopher Gordon, added that the fund would continue to strengthen the City of Ryde's heritage protections.

"The City of Ryde has a long and rich history so it is essential that we do what we can to assist residents to protect their heritage listed items and preserve our community's history. The Ryde Local Heritage Assistance Fund does exactly that," Cllr Gordon said.

More information about the Ryde Local Heritage Assistance Fund 2021, including how to apply for a grant and the eligibility criteria, is available at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/HeritageFund.

Applications close on 7 April 2021.

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