

MAYOR'S COMMUNITY MESSAGE

RYDE CIVIC CENTRE

In this second instalment of my narrative on how Council is finally moving ahead with the vitally important Ryde Civic Centre project, I'll be explaining why we won't be repeating the financial mistakes of the past.

Our plan to pay for the construction of a new civic centre on the 150-156 Blaxland Road site through the long-term lease of the adjacent 1 Devlin Street site will not only ensure that Council retains ownership of both lots but also represents a sound financial strategy that will not impact our ongoing community services.

The 'hole in the ground' exists at 1 Devlin Street now because a former Council body demolished the previous civic centre in 2021 without having a viable plan for building its replacement. You will recall that Council had to rectify the improper internal funds transfer of \$95 million in 2022, which included \$35 million

inappropriately allocated to what was then known as the Ryde Central project.

You only have to look at the example of North Sydney Council – which is proposing an 87 percent rate increase for its residents to pay for cost blowouts to the botched Olympic Pool redevelopment – to understand what happens when councils get major project funding wrong.

Our plan to build a new, long overdue civic centre is based not only on the needs of the community but also carefully considered and well-planned financial objectives.

EASTWOOD CAR PARK

I know many of you are interested in the progress of Council's plans for the future use of the Glen Street Car Park site in the Eastwood town centre.

I am pleased to say that Council was presented with an update at the 25 March 2025 Ordinary Meeting and resolved that a workshop will be

undertaken with Councillors in July 2025 to discuss spatial optioneering and feasibility options for the Eastwood Central site.

A further report will be tabled for Council's consideration by September 2025 to determine the next stages.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Our Libraries, Active Kids and Active Youth School Holiday Programs are packed with fascinating and fun activities these school holidays, ensuring an educational, action-packed vacation.

The Libraries are combining music, science, and art in a wonderful series of events, while the Active Kids and Active Youth programs bring together a carefully curated selection of activities ranging from break dancing to archery, rollerblading and dragon boat racing.

For full details go to:

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/SchoolHolidays



Sincerely,

Trenton Brown – Mayor

Email: mayor@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Phone (via Customer Service): 9952 8222

LIBRARY NEWS



TOY LIBRARY AT NORTH RYDE LIBRARY

Looking for ways to keep your children engaged and entertained over the school holidays? We've recently restocked over 80 new toys in our Toy Library from puzzles to construction blocks, cars to percussion and musical toys! Toys are free to borrow with your City of Ryde Libraries card.

Please note: A maximum of three toys can be borrowed at a time per library card.

Find out more: www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ToyLibrary



HAVE YOUR SAY

Your views and suggestions are important in shaping the City of Ryde's future. We invite you to have your say on initiatives, plans and proposals that are open for community feedback, including:

- Putney Park – Regional Playground Upgrade (Closes 18 May)
- Meadowbank Park – Draft Plan of Management (Closes 1 June)
- Draft Social Strategy and Creativity Strategy 2025-2030 (Closes 8 June)

Want to find out more?

Please visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/HaveYourSay or call Customer Service on 9952 8222 to learn more about the above project(s) and for information on how to have your say.

GARAGE SALES

**TUE
22
APR**

When: 12.00 – 6.00pm

Where: 28A Christine Ave, Ryde

List your garage sale for free at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/GarageSales

EVENTS IN OUR CITY







**ACTIVE
IN RYDE**
City of Ryde

Active Seniors


Semester 2
Monday 28 April –
Friday 27 June 2025



Find out more and book
www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ActiveSeniors



ANZAC DAY
Let's We Forget



Find out more ryde.events/AnzacDay



Commemoration Service

When: Friday 25 April
Time: 9.00am
Where: ANZAC Park, West Ryde

All members of the public are welcome.

The ceremony will be followed by morning tea at the Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club Auditorium.