

# LIVE.WORK.PLAY.

## *New Auslan Storytime Program*

An exciting new program coming to North Ryde Library

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## *Finding Bennelong*

Learn more about Ryde's Aboriginal history

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## *What's on in your City*

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**NEW MURAL  
BIG BIRD LANDS  
IN WEST RYDE**

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To view the online magazine visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/LiveWorkPlay](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/LiveWorkPlay)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander viewers are warned that this publication may contain images of deceased persons which may cause sadness or distress.

# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

A MESSAGE FOR CITY OF RYDE



## Welcome to the winter edition of Live.Work.Play – City of Ryde's community magazine.

We might be in the depths of winter, but that doesn't mean City of Ryde goes into hibernation and there are plenty of great activities and events happening over the next few months to help keep you warm and engaged with our wonderful community.

The biggest sporting tournament happening in Australia this year is the FIFA Women's World Cup in which our mighty Matildas are expected to play a prominent role and you'll be able to watch all the home team's matches at special Council live sites starting on 20 July. Visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/FIFA](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/FIFA)

Another important national event is NAIDOC Week, which celebrates and recognises the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

City of Ryde has some terrific events, and you can visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/NAIDOC](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/NAIDOC) for more information.

One of Ryde's most enduring annual events is the Spring Garden Competition, which has been running for more than 30 years.

This competition not only aims to showcase some amazing garden spaces, but it also gives the community a chance to keep both active and creative.

Entries to the 2023 competition are open from 1 July – 31 August. Visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/gardencomp](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/gardencomp)

North Ryde Library is the venue for a 12-month trial of a Council-initiated Auslan Storytime program, which could play an important role in the support of local Deaf and hard-of-hearing children. The first session, which will feature Auslan interpreters translating specially selected children's books, is scheduled for 22 July.

And if you're looking to brighten up a dull winter's day, why not make a trip to West Ryde and have a look at the spectacular new mural of a beautiful and colourful rainbow lorikeet on the side of 59A Ryedale Road that was created as part of Council's Graffiti Management Project.

So, pack a thermos and put on your warmest hats and scarves because winter in Ryde is going to be a season of fantastic outdoor fun.

Sincerely,

Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM - Mayor

Phone 9952 8222

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# NEWS

## New traffic lights to improve pedestrian safety in Eastwood



City of Ryde has taken another significant step to reduce traffic congestion and increase pedestrian safety in Eastwood with the installation of new traffic lights at the formerly unsignalised pedestrian crossing on The Avenue, at the intersection of Rowe Street.

The traffic lights were officially turned on at the start of June 2023 after a four-stage construction process that began in February 2023.

It's the second set of new traffic lights to be installed in the Eastwood CBD within the last 12 months – a set of new lights became operational on West Parade in June 2022, also replacing a former pedestrian crossing.

## Waive your fines goodbye!



From 1 July 2023, items borrowed from City of Ryde Libraries will no longer attract overdue fines! In an ongoing commitment to equity and inclusion, City of Ryde Libraries are inviting all members with overdue items at home to enjoy many happy returns as they bring these items back to the libraries, with the overdue fines waived.

Under the new scheme, due dates still matter, and any late items will result in a temporary suspension of membership until the items are returned, ensuring all members in the community can enjoy equal and timely access to the thousands of free resources on offer.

In addition to closing the book on overdue fines, City of Ryde Libraries are also offering a special welcome back goodie bag from 1 July – 30 September for all returning or expired members who return their overdue items on their record prior to 30 June 2023.

We all know the best things in life are free, and going overdue fine free adds to the long list of free services provided at the libraries, including free membership, free Wi-Fi, free reservations, free eBooks and eAudio books, free streaming, free toy library, free meeting rooms, free community programs and many more.

For more information and membership conditions, head to [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/finefree](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/finefree)

## New Auslan storytime program for deaf children



The City of Ryde is set to play an important role in the support of Deaf and hard-of-hearing (HoH) children with the establishment of an Auslan Storytime program at North Ryde Library.

Working in collaboration with Deaf Connect, the largest service provider for Deaf, Deafblind and HoH Australians, Council will begin a 12-month trial of the program at the library on Saturday 22 July 2023.

This followed a Council resolution on 22 November 2022 that resolved that staff collaborate with Deaf Connect to establish an Auslan Storytime program.

The Storytime sessions will be facilitated by a Deaf storyteller proficient in Auslan, with an Auslan interpreter who reads a story out loud in English with the support of a City of Ryde librarian. The sessions are fun interactive storytelling sessions, aimed at supporting early literacy development in Auslan and written English.

The 30-minute sessions are tailored for deaf and hard of hearing children, ages 3 to 7 years and their care givers, families and other support people and will run fortnightly on Saturdays from 9.45am at North Ryde Library.

Deaf Connect will train and work collaboratively with City of Ryde Libraries in selecting books suitable for the sessions from the library's collection.

There are 16,242 Deaf, Deafblind, HoH people, as well as non-verbal children and adults, in Australia who use Auslan as their primary form of communication.

In Australia, one in 1,000 two-year-olds are diagnosed as having hearing loss. City of Ryde Libraries anticipates that local children, their families, professionals, and support services could benefit either directly or indirectly from the Auslan Storytime program.

To register for the sessions, head to: [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/auslanstorytime](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/auslanstorytime)

## Big bird lands in West Ryde

A spectacular giant rainbow lorikeet has taken up residence on Ryedale Road, West Ryde, thrilling residents, commuters, and visitors to nearby Anzac Park with its gloriously coloured plumage.

The dinosaur-sized native bird is not an escapee from Jurassic Park, but rather the creation of the talented team from Blackbook Ink who recently painted it in mural form on the side of 59A Ryedale Road as part of City of Ryde's Graffiti Management Project.

The process for selecting the eye-catching design was fully inclusive, with Council, the building owner, Blackbook Ink, and the community all involved.

After Blackbook Ink was awarded the tender, lead artist Brode Crompton conducted a site visit with both the Council and the building owner to discuss potential designs.

A call then went out to the community for its input and in response the artist came back with three different flora and fauna concepts. The image of

the lorikeet with a bokeh background was selected because it symbolises all the lorikeets found daily in Anzac Park.

It took the artist two weeks to complete the mural, which included applying an anti-graffiti coating to increase its longevity.

The Ryedale Road mural is the second of three that Council is commissioning as part of the NSW Government funded Graffiti Management Project, designed to beautify our City, instil a sense of community and belonging and to discourage graffiti.

The first, at Meadowbank train station, was completed in December 2022 and brings together elements of water and land in an art deco abstract design. The third is still in the process of being commissioned by Council but will be situated at ELS Hall Park in North Ryde.



## North Ryde Library granted a shelving do over



In March 2023 City of Ryde Libraries was awarded a \$100,000 NSW Public Library Infrastructure Grant from The State Library NSW.

The grant will be invested into the North Ryde Library to replace the ageing book shelves with new fit-for-purpose shelving, including shelving on castors. The funds will also allow for the replacement of current tables with new lighter weight tables with wheels.

The new shelving and furniture will allow for greater flexibility and smarter use of the library space as the layout can be changed to accommodate the many different events and activities hosted throughout the year.

In addition, the front service desk will be replaced with a new comfortable lounge area for the community to relax and read for leisure or learning. This new zone will increase the useable space for the community.

These exciting updates will take place in September 2023.



# FINDING BENNELONG

## The Aboriginal history of City of Ryde

During NAIDOC Week (2 July – 9 July) many took the opportunity to join in free local events and get to know more about the fascinating Aboriginal history of our City.

NAIDOC Week, held across Australia each July, is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories, and join in recognising and celebrating the culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The theme of NAIDOC Week 2023 was *For Our Elders*. This paid tribute to the vast contributions, knowledge and experiences that Elders bring to their communities and families. For more information on NAIDOC Week visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/NAIDOC](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/NAIDOC)

When Europeans arrived at Sydney Cove in January 1788, the Wallumedegal or Wallumattagal were the traditional owners of the area we now call Ryde and had lived here for thousands of years.

If you live or spend time around our City, you're likely to be familiar with some Aboriginal words, whether you know it or not!

Dozens of local street names are based on Aboriginal words. But do you know what they mean?

Carramar Avenue ('shade of trees'), Koorong Street ('canoe'), Orana Street ('welcome') and Warrawong Street ('side of hill') are just a few. To find out more about the origins of Ryde street names visit [www.rydehistory.org.au](http://www.rydehistory.org.au)

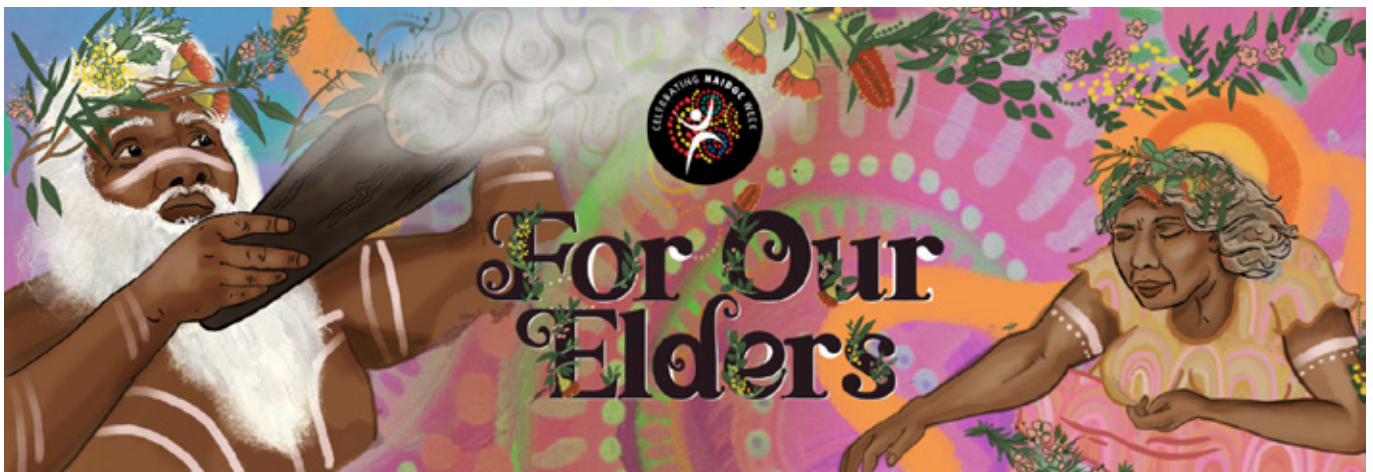
You may have visited the beautiful Bennelong Park. But do you know much about the man in whose honour it was named?

Visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/findingbennelong](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/findingbennelong) to read information and watch a series of short videos about Eora Elder, Woollarawarre Bennelong, and his significant role in our local and national history.

Read more about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and history of City of Ryde at [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ATSIC](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ATSIC)



*Portrait of Bennelong 1798, James Neagle, National Library of Australia.*



# PRESERVING OUR LOCAL TREASURES

## Ryde Local Heritage Assistance Fund

Protecting our local heritage requires proactive and regular maintenance and attention to ensure that individual landowners and the wider community can continue to benefit from these treasured heritage items for years to come.

The Ryde Local Heritage Assistance Fund encourages the regular maintenance and conservation of residential heritage properties of significance to the City of Ryde. The program provides monetary support to owners of eligible properties to assist with offsetting costs associated with undertaking approved conservation works (development consent or heritage minor works exemption).

Approved works may include repairs, minor works, major works and heritage reports that help conserve a residential heritage building.

Owners of residential properties that are Local Heritage Items and properties that are 'Contributory Buildings' in Heritage Conservation Areas are encouraged to apply, once approved works have been completed.

Successful applicants may receive a financial grant of up to \$15,000 per funding year.

For more information, visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/heritagefund](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/heritagefund), or contact Council's Heritage Officer on 9952 8222.

### BEFORE



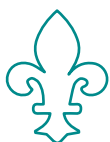
### AFTER



*Reconstruction of window hood, reinstatement of casement window and leadlight glass in traditional pattern.*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The City of Ryde has



**195**

Local heritage items



**8**

Heritage conservation areas



**4**

Archaeological sites

# WHY GREG KEEPS POWERING ON

## 2023 Individual Volunteer of the Year Winner Q&A

Our Individual Volunteer of the Year for 2023, Greg Power, is a highly skilled, trained and experienced Team Leader at the NSW SES Ryde Unit. It's a 24/7 role, responding to calls for assistance from residents impacted by flood and storm emergencies.

Greg turns 72 this year. He and his wife Linda have been married for 48 years and have both been SES volunteers for 11 years. We caught up with Greg to find out a bit more about the man behind the award.

### **What keeps you busy when you're not working with the SES?**

In one word, family! There are quite a lot of us. My wife Linda and I have four children and nine grandkids ranging from 5 to 27 years old.

We also volunteer, as we have for the past 38 years, with Catholic Engaged Encounter, helping couples prepare for marriage. We're the Sydney coordinators. We've presented to and worked with over 1,000 couples at weekend workshops over the years.

### **You've been retired for a while now, what field did you work in before?**

The first half of my career was in tax accounting, the second in sales. Sales is all about relating to people and finding common ground with them, which I love. I do sometimes wonder if I should have been a tradie instead, I was always mechanically minded.

### **What inspired you to join the SES as a volunteer?**

It's something I had thought about doing for a long time. I wanted to contribute to the community, and I was always good with my hands, fixing things and so on. But with family and work, there wasn't time. Six months after I retired, I did it. My wife joined at the same time.

### **What do you enjoy about being a SES volunteer?**

I really love the work. It's fun. I love the mental and physical challenges of the more complex jobs, as well as the teamwork and the appreciation from people that we help.

The SES has such a positive image in the community, there's a lot of recognition and respect. I remember we were driving back from Lismore after helping in the flood response a few years ago. We stopped for lunch

at Coffs Harbour, and other customers in the queue insisted that we go ahead of them because of our uniforms.

The SES is so dedicated to safety and "eternal training". We need to be ready for anything at any time. We train every Monday night, and keep our first aid and other accreditations updated.

The equipment and training are the same for every crew across the state, so we can effectively slide into any team and operate effectively.

When you are facing a challenging situation, you need to be able to rely 100% on the people and the equipment you have with you, and that's what the SES is all about.

Our teams are very diverse, we represent a lot of the groups in our community. We've got volunteers ranging in age from teenagers to 70s, like me.

### **What can people do to be as prepared as possible for floods and storms?**

The SES, like City of Ryde Council and other agencies, is committed to building community resilience, and you can really see that it's working.

I'd say never underestimate the importance of regular maintenance. Cleaning your gutters is really important – we see so many houses with a collapsed roof, rising damp or mould issues that this could have helped prevent.

Look around your property and think about what might cause trouble in a high wind. Are there rotten trees or branches? Trampolines or toys that could be picked up and cause damage or injury?

### **What would you say to people who are thinking about volunteering?**

There are a huge variety of roles in an organisation like the SES. You don't have to get on a roof with a chainsaw – we also need people with IT skills, people who are good organisers, communicators and so on.

The SES doesn't turn anyone away, if you offer to help, they will find a role for you. It is important to have realistic expectations and patience though – it takes time and training to gain the skills, confidence and experience needed for some of the work we do.



# 2023 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARD WINNERS

City of Ryde is proud to congratulate all the winners of our 2023 Volunteer Recognition Awards, announced during a ceremony at Marsfield's stunning Curzon Hall on 11 May.

Here are our winners:

## Individual Volunteer of the Year: Greg Power



Greg has been a member of NSW State Emergency Service for 11 years and during that time he has assisted not only members of his own community, but people in peril all throughout the state and beyond.

## Young Volunteer of the Year: Royce Zeng



From looking after the wellbeing and development of actuarial students in one of Macquarie University's most notoriously difficult courses, to consulting for non-profit organisations, charity fundraising, and even fighting bushfires, Royce is a true community champion.

## Group Volunteer of the Year: CCA NSW Community Learning Tutors



The 60 volunteer tutors at CCA's Community Learning Centre are not only skilled educators but they provide an invaluable service to our community in helping to form lasting connections and friendships.



We also announced our 10 community heroes. They are:

Elizabeth Moran  
John Manenti  
Lindsay Mar  
Margery East  
Pamela Wood

Rolf Schafer  
Samantha Profilio  
Sunja Yoon  
Werner Klarenaar  
Yeghia Gharibian

# WHAT'S ON IN YOUR CITY



## RYDE YOUTH CREATIVE COMPETITION



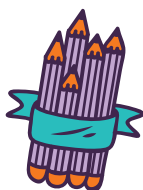
### Introducing the 2023 Youth Creative Competition.

Do you know a young person with a creative talent? Are their photography skills insta-worthy? Can they paint a picture worth a thousand words or perhaps write a thousand words to paint a picture?

The City of Ryde is proud to present its inaugural Youth Creative Competition; a competition designed to foster local talent among our young people and to provide an opportunity to further nurture their interest in a creative field – painting, drawing, sculpting, photography, digital stills, collage or writing.

Designed for 12 – 24 year olds who live, work, study or play in the City of Ryde, the competition will be held across three age groups and entries will be asked to respond to the theme, *Hope for the Future*.

If your young person was created to create, make poetry in motion, and be a Picasso baby then for art's sake, get them to enter! Entries will remain open until late October 2023.



Further information can be found on our website at [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/creativecomp](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/creativecomp)



## ARTSPACE: ART THERAPY GROUP



Spaces are still available in our Artspace art therapy groups for young people in July and August.

This series of free, evening sessions are run in partnership with headspace Chatswood. Held fortnightly at the Station Street meeting room at 1A Station Street, West Ryde these are a great opportunity to be introduced to the benefits of art, develop and express a love of art and creative thinking, and connect with other young people.

To find out more and book your spot, contact headspace Chatswood at 8021 3668, visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/artspace](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/artspace) or email [headspacechatswood@newhorizons.org.au](mailto:headspacechatswood@newhorizons.org.au).



# SPRING GARDEN COMPETITION



*Yvonne Brading, 2nd prize winner 2022 – Back Garden category*

## Entries now open

Whether its gum trees and plum trees, a pumpkin vine or a daisy chain, hedges and fountains, veggies and compost mountains, roses that ramble on and on, or a little potted garden...

For more than 30 years the Spring Garden Competition has been a regular calendar event in the City of Ryde and in 2023 we're pleased to bring it back to the community once more.

Local green thumbs, young and old, are invited to get in on the gardening action! In 2023, we're proud to be able to offer nine categories and we want you to show us what you've been growing, nurturing and tending to in your backyards, balconies and businesses.

This year, kids can get involved once again and try their hand at the uber fun seed growing competition – this year's seed is the sunflower and we're sure they're going to be a little ray of sunshine in your child's life.

Entries are now open.

To see the full list of garden categories or to register for the children's seed growing competition, please visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/gardencomp](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/gardencomp) or scan the QR code for more details.

This is an inclusive competition and we encourage people of all abilities to get involved no matter if you've been gardening for a month or a lifetime... Because you're never too old to play in the dirt!



*North Ryde Community Preschool, 1st prize winner 2022 – Local School Garden*



*Erica Goldfinch, 2nd prize winner 2022 – Edible Garden*



# WOMEN'S WORLD CUP AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND 2023™



## Live screenings in July

The FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023™ is coming in July and City of Ryde is excited to join in on the soccer madness and support the Matildas by live screening each of their group matches for free to the community.

Join your fellow soccer fans to cheer on goal-scoring legend Sam Kerr and her talented teammates as they take on Ireland (Thursday 20 July), Nigeria (Thursday 27 July), and Canada (Monday 31 July) in the group matches before they hopefully march into the knockout stage and beyond. For more information visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/FIFA](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/FIFA)

# GRANNY SMITH FESTIVAL



## Save the date

Eastwood will be bustling with colours, fun and excitement when the Granny Smith Festival returns on Saturday 21 October 2023. One of Sydney's largest street festivals, the Granny Smith Festival celebrates the life and legacy of Maria Ann Smith, aka Granny Smith, who 'accidentally' grew the first batch of little green apples that bear her name and are now grown all over the world.



This community favourite offers a full smorgasbord of fun activities ranging from carnival rides, live entertainment, and a cider bar through to a colourful community parade, market stalls and fireworks.



Don't forget to add the Granny Smith Festival to your calendar, otherwise you may need to wait another year.



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around Ryde.

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