

SUMMER 2024

LIVE. WORK. PLAY.

Your guide
to what's
on in your
City

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To view the magazine online visit
www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/LiveWorkPlay

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Libraries

Ryde Library

Address: 1 Pope Street, Ryde

Phone: 9952 8352

Eastwood Library

Address: Cnr Hillview Road and West Parade, Eastwood

Phone: 9952 8375

Gladesville Library

Address: 6 Pittwater Road, Gladesville

Phone: 9952 8378

North Ryde Library

Address: 201 Coxs Road, North Ryde

Phone: 9952 8377

West Ryde Library

Address: 2 Graf Avenue, West Ryde

Phone: 9952 8376

Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre

Address: 504 Victoria Road, Ryde

Enter carpark from Karen Moras Drive, Ryde

(between Margaret and Weaver Streets)

Phone: 8878 5111

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City of Ryde acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Wallumedegal Clan of the Darug nation. Council also pays respect to Elders both past, present and emerging and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Lifestyle and opportunity at your doorstep

Your Councillors

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Mayor's message

A MESSAGE FOR THE CITY OF RYDE

After another busy and action-packed year, it's time to enjoy those long, relaxing days of summer – and this issue of Live.Work.Play is the perfect guide to what's happening in the City of Ryde while you take advantage of the holiday season.

The two big events to look forward to are, of course, Australia Day and Lunar New Year. Both are firm favourites on the Council calendar, with lots of great family fun on offer.

There's nothing that signifies Australia Day better than the irresistible aroma of snags on the barbie and we have you covered with Ryde's Backyard BBQ being held on Friday 26 January at Meadowbank Park. This promises to be a wonderful afternoon and evening for the whole community with delicious food, great activities for the kids, and a spectacular fireworks finale.

The Lunar New Year festival is being celebrated on Saturday 17 February at Eastwood Oval with a special afternoon and evening of activities, including performances, amusement rides, stalls, food trucks and more fireworks. It marks the beginning of the Year of the Dragon and it's not to be missed.

Our annual Citizen of the Year Awards are being held in January, giving us a chance to celebrate some of the community's unsung heroes. Nominations for this year's awards closed on 26 November 2023, and I can't wait to congratulate the 2024 winners.

This issue is also full of helpful advice including a guide to recycling solar lights and getting apartments Electric Vehicle ready, on how to keep cool during those spells of hot weather and on making sure you're prepared for thunderstorm season.

Finally, I'd like to wish our wonderful, diverse, and inclusive City of Ryde community my best wishes for 2024, may it be healthy, prosperous, and full of fun!

Sincerely,

Sarkis Yedelian

**Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM
Mayor**

Customer Service Centre
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mayor@ryde.nsw.gov.au



Our Seed Library has sprouted!

Our Seed Library, based at Eastwood Library, is a free seed sharing program sustained through the goodwill and donations from local community members and groups. We encourage members who borrow from our seed library to also donate seeds to keep the seed sharing cycle going!

Saving seeds is easy and if done correctly will ensure that seeds can be preserved for a long time. Visit our website to view our seed saving guide as well as our seasonal planting guide.

The Seed Library supports seed diversity and open pollinated varieties suited to the local environment. It aligns with City of Ryde's commitment to the circular economy, supporting sustainability, and promoting health and wellness.

Head to Eastwood library or visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/seedlibrary for more information.



City of Ryde Mayor – Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM with community members at the Seed Library

Grant provides vital North Ryde Library upgrades



North Ryde Library celebrated its exciting new look in style on Saturday 18 November with the official unveiling of the new shelving and layout flexibility made possible by a \$100,000 NSW Public Library Infrastructure Grant from The State Library.

Minister for the Arts the Hon John Graham MP our Mayor Sarkis Yedelian OAM and Member for Ryde and Ryde Councillor Jordan Lane MP joined our great library staff headed by Libraries and Customer Service Manager Kathleen Allen and Executive Manager City Life Marnie Mitchell, Cllr Trenton Brown, Cllr Penny Pedersen, Cllr Justin Li and City of Ryde CEO Wayne Rylands, for a cake-cutting ceremony followed by entertainment, headed by the ARIA Award-nominated group, including The Vegetable Plot, stories and songs, a weavers and spinners demonstration, facepainting and kids' craft.

The State Government grant, which was awarded in March 2023, was invested into replacing the ageing bookshelves with new fit for purpose shelving, including shelving on castors. The funds also allowed for the installation of new lighter weight tables with wheels.

The new shelving and furniture allow a greater flexibility and smarter use of the library space by being able to change the layout to accommodate the many different events and activities hosted throughout the year.

"This grant has provided the City of Ryde community with a refreshed and flexible library space that will greatly enhance the user experience of those who visit," said Cllr Yedelian in his speech thanking the State Government.

"Libraries are vitally important to our community and provide a wide array of services that fulfil our recreational, leisure and education needs."

"This new upgrade will support the book clubs, knitting groups, and Robotic clubs who regularly use this wonderful facility, which promotes life learning for the whole community."

City of Ryde CEO Wayne Rylands said Council was committed to creating spaces that encouraged active lifestyles and social interactions.

"Our five libraries are welcoming and accessible spaces, providing an extensive range of programs and events for the community, including children's and youth services, literacy programs, home library services, community information, services to the multicultural community, local studies, and family history," he said.

"They support social inclusion, help to bridge the digital divide, encourage lifelong learning and act as meeting places for a range of activities for our wider community, supporting residents at different stages of their lives.

"Capital project works such as this update to North Ryde Library ensure we continue to have a vibrant and liveable City by providing well targeted services that strengthen our community life, our connectedness, and our wellbeing."

Another big success for the City of Ryde Libraries was winning the Excellence in Multicultural Services Award from NSW Public Libraries Association (NSWPLA) for its Job Ready Program.

The Job Ready project demonstrated effectiveness in aiding Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) individuals by increasing their access to resources, enhancing their language and digital literacy, improving their job search skills, fostering community engagement, building confidence, and creating networking opportunities for career development.

Visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/libraries to keep up-to-date with what's on at Ryde Libraries.

Sustainable living

Recycling solar lights



Solar lights are an environmentally friendly alternative to illuminate your garden at night. But what do you do with them once you don't want them anymore or they stop working?

If they are still working well, sell online or donate your solar lights to a friend.

If they are no longer working, solar lights can be recycled through e-waste recycling. E-waste cannot be recycled through household bins and should be taken to a Community Recycling Centre.

For details visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/crc or for other community recycling centres please visit the EPA website – www.epa.nsw.gov.au

When not disposed of properly, e-waste can pose significant risks to human health and the environment. E-waste – particularly batteries – can contain harmful substances such as lead, mercury, and other toxic components. Batteries can also cause fires or explosions when they are compacted in waste trucks.

Batteries are generally safe to use and handle if they are not damaged and aren't leaking.

For more information on how to correctly dispose of and recycle a range of items refer to Council's A-Z Guide to Waste and Recycling – www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/azguide

\$10m grant to power EVs In strata



Are you one of the 1.2 million NSW residents that live in a strata residence? Electric vehicles (EVs) are becoming increasingly popular as an alternative to petrol-powered vehicles however charging infrastructure, particularly for those living in older apartments, is often a barrier to purchase.

The NSW Government has recognised the challenges facing residents in strata residences and is charging ahead with \$10 million in grants to help more than 100 strata buildings across NSW install EV charging infrastructure in a common area.

With more than 90 percent of EV owners charging their vehicle at home, registering your interest in a grant is a great way for strata apartments to financially contribute towards this important upgrade.

The grant program is open to strata buildings across metropolitan and regional New South Wales and will co-fund up to 80 percent of the cost of each building upgrade, to a maximum of \$80,000. It will also support the purchase and installation of up to four shared-use chargers in visitor parking spots.

The grants process has two stages. The first includes a preliminary building assessment to determine the best approach to making it EV ready. Successful applicants will then be invited to apply for stage two, which will co-fund the infrastructure upgrade.

Applications can be made through the online Grant Management System, SmartyGrants.



Scan the QR code to apply



Scan the QR code for more information about the program

Keeping cool

Beat the heat this summer



Putney Splash Park, Putney Park

Are you feeling the summer heat? Exposure to heatwaves and long periods of extreme heat can cause serious illness and even death for vulnerable members of our community.

Here are some practical tips and tricks to help you beat the heat during the warmer months.

- 1** Keep yourself and your family hydrated by drinking plenty of water and put your cravings aside by avoiding alcohol and drinks with excessive sugar. Stay vigilant for signs of heat-related illness including dehydration, heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heat stroke and worsening of existing medical conditions.
- 2** Wear lightweight, loose clothing and use cooling products like wet towels or fans to stay comfortable.
- 3** If you cannot cool your house, consider going to an air-conditioned public space such as a café, shopping centre, cinema, an indoor public pool like the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, or a City of Ryde Libraries branch.
- 4** Avoid using heat-producing appliances, such as ovens, hair dryers, irons and clothes dryers during the hottest hours. Opt for microwave cooking, and in the cooler parts of the day use an outdoor BBQ and hang your clothes on the line to dry.

For further tips on how to survive the sun and heat, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/sunsafer

Tips to keep your home cool

- 1** Blocking direct sunlight from entering your home can significantly reduce your indoor temperatures. Use heavy 'block out' curtains or blinds and close them during the hottest parts of the day. Consider installing sunshades, awnings, or outdoor blinds on western and northern facing windows.
- 2** Use natural ventilation during cooler hours by opening windows and doors. Ceiling fans help circulate air while portable fans can strategically create air movement in your living spaces. Don't forget that it's important to have cross-ventilation to allow hot air to escape while bringing in fresh, cool air.
- 3** If you have an air-conditioner, use it efficiently by setting it to a comfortable but not overly cool temperature such as 24-26°C. Programmable thermostats will help you to schedule cooling when needed.
- 4** Inspect your doors and windows for any gaps or cracks and seal them with weatherstripping or caulking to prevent warm air from entering your home.
- 5** Replace incandescent or halogen light bulbs with energy-efficient LED lights. Did you know LEDs generate less heat, making your home more comfortable and saving on energy bills.
- 6** Invest in quality insulation for your home. Adequate insulation in the attic and walls helps regulate indoor temperatures, keeping your home cooler during hot spells.

If you would like more free advice on reducing your home's running costs and at the same time improve its comfort, sign up for a home energy assessment at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/hwsa

Be prepared for emergencies

- 1 Prepare your property – including making sure gutters are clear and trees are maintained
- 2 Check that your home and contents insurance has adequate cover and is up-to-date
- 3 Understand your risks
- 4 Know your safer places and evacuation routes
- 5 Make sure everyone in your household is familiar with the plan
- 6 Know where to get reliable, up-to-date information in an emergency.

Thunderstorm safety



We're well into the October-March thunderstorm season, when we need to be especially alert for extreme weather. There is often not much warning on the day.

There are some steps you can take now to help keep your household and property safe in the event of a weather emergency.

- Before or during a storm, see the Bureau of Meteorology website for warnings. For emergency help during a storm call the NSW State Emergency Service (SES) on 132 500. After a storm, see the SES website for advice specific to your local area and contact them if help is needed
- For more information and access to resources visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/beprepared
- Create an emergency plan on the **Get Prepared app** or by using **RediPlan**

Bushfire safety



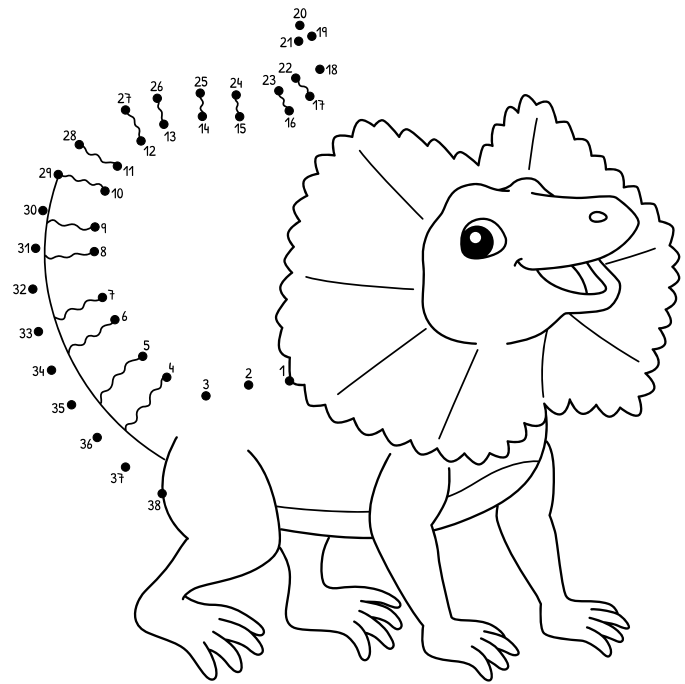
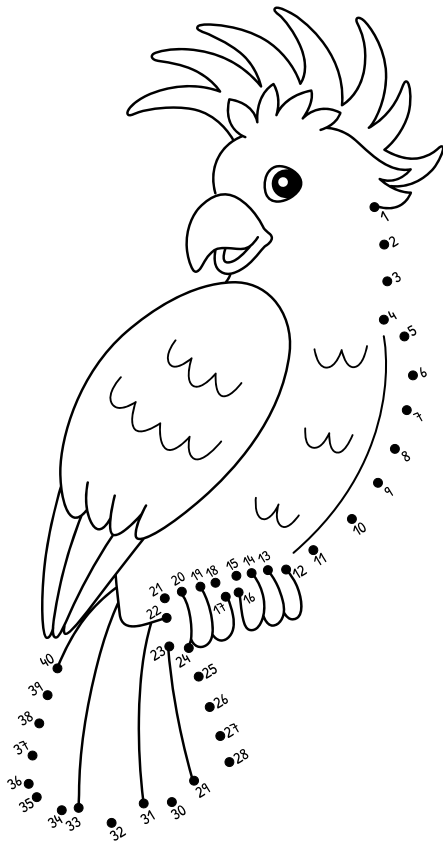
Natural and open spaces are among the things we love about our City, but living near them does come with bushfire risk. It's time to make sure your household and property are prepared for what's predicted to be a dangerously hot and dry summer.

As we head into another summer, there are some simple steps you can take to help prepare to stay safe in a bushfire emergency.

- Create a bushfire survival plan – see the **NSW My Fire Plan** website
- Have the **Rural Fire Service Fires Near Me** app or website ready, as your source of reliable, up-to-date information in a fire emergency.
- Find out more about preparing for bushfire risk, and about what Council is doing to protect and prepare the community at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/communitysafety

School holiday boredom busters

Aussie animals dot-to-dot



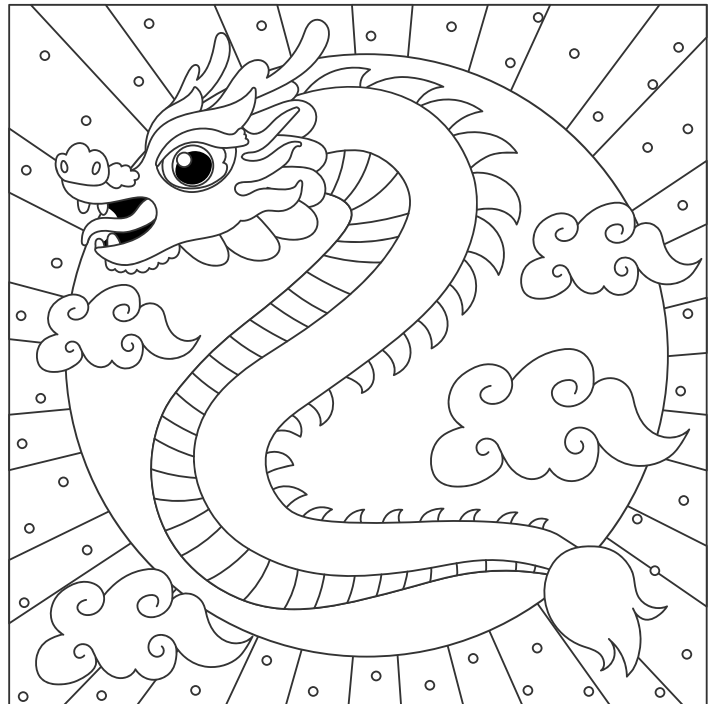
Lunar New Year find-a-word

Dragon colour in

B	R	H	A	G	O	I	E	R	K	S
F	E	S	T	I	V	A	L	F	A	O
I	D	P	O	S	Y	M	A	E	D	R
R	U	F	H	O	F	F	E	S	R	T
E	I	P	A	C	O	I	N	G	A	I
W	C	O	T	H	R	T	G	E	G	E
O	E	L	A	N	T	E	R	N	O	U
R	F	U	P	O	U	K	R	M	N	H
K	S	C	L	U	N	A	R	A	R	I
S	O	K	E	J	E	F	E	O	I	S

Can you find these words?

- LUNAR
- DRAGON
- FORTUNE
- LANTERN
- LUCK
- COIN
- FESTIVAL
- FIREWORKS



Upcoming events

Ryde's Backyard BBQ

4.00 – 9.00PM, FRIDAY 26 JANUARY, MEADOWBANK PARK

FRI
26
JAN



The City of Ryde Australia Day event for 2024, fondly referred to as “Ryde’s Backyard BBQ”, will be held on Friday 26 January 2024 from 4.00 – 9.00pm at Meadowbank Park, Constitution Road, Meadowbank.

The event will include activities for the whole family, roving entertainment including hoola hoopists, giant bouncing kangaroos, free craft activities, a stage with live entertainment, food trucks and the night will end with a firework spectacular. Kids will be able to enjoy the Meadowbank Regional Park Playground or can bring along their bikes and skateboards to try out the skate park.

For more information visit ryde.events/AusDay

Lunar New Year Festival

4.00 – 9.00PM, SATURDAY 17 FEBRUARY, EASTWOOD OVAL

SAT
17
FEB

We look forward to celebrating the Lunar New Year on Saturday 17 February 2024. This family friendly event is sure to excite all ages with special Lunar New Year performances, amusement rides and a variety of stalls and food trucks at Eastwood Oval between 4.00pm and 9.00pm. A spectacular display of fireworks will close out the night to celebrate the Year of the Dragon!

Visit ryde.events/Lunar for more information.



Save the date MARK THESE DATES IN YOUR CALENDAR

FRI
8
MAR



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

MAR



SENIORS FESTIVAL

SAT
23
MAR



WEST RYDE EASTER CELEBRATIONS

THU
25
APR



ANZAC DAY SERVICE

Visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/events for the latest information on upcoming events.

Awards in our City

You wouldn't SWAP these winners



Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM – Mayor with SWAP participants

City of Ryde's 2023 Sustainable Waste 2 Art Prize (SWAP) attracted another incredibly diverse range of entries that encapsulated the wonderful creative talent in our City.

The winners were announced at a ceremony in Meadowbank's See Street Gallery, and this year's judges faced a particularly difficult task due to the high quality of the artworks.

SWAP is an environmental art competition for people aged 10 and over who live, work, and play in the local government area. It raises awareness of environmental issues and encourages positive behaviour change using artworks and design objects from upcycled waste materials as mediums of communication.

It is an important part of the City of Ryde's commitment to promoting sustainable living, waste reduction, biodiversity of our natural habitats and resilience in our community.

Around 80 artworks and design objects were exhibited at See Street Gallery, Meadowbank TAFE during the first two weeks of September, and a virtual tour was available on Council's website.



Symbiosis by Jeorgia Bowden

The winners and commendations were:

SCHOOLS PARTICIPATION AWARD

Primary School Winner: Putney Public School
High School Winner: Marist Sisters College Woolwich
High School Winner: St Ives High School
High School Winner: St Joseph's College

FUNCTIONAL AWARD

Winner: *Rice Sack Chic*, Eva Freeman
Runner Up: *Waste Down*, Xiang Chen

JUNIOR CATEGORY AWARD (10-13YRS)

Winner: *Symbiosis*, Jeorgia Bowden
Runner Up: *Our Footprint*, Henrietta Robinson
Highly Commended: *Magnetised*, Oliver Kolos
Highly Commended: *Hunting*, Yeonsoo Park
Highly Commended: *Fabric Flowers*, Tara Keshavarz

YOUTH CATEGORY PRIZE (14-17YRS)

Youth Winner: *Checkmate*, Kiki Margetis
Youth Runner Up: *Metal Betta*, Sienna Gordon
Youth Highly Commended: *Unexplored*, Amber Denham
Youth Highly Commended: *Peckish Duck*, Diya Maninathan
Youth Highly Commended: *Abuse*, Mina Ju

OPEN CATEGORY AWARD (18+YRS)

Open Winner: *Varieties of Sardines*, Jo Rijke
Open Category: *Gabriel*, Mary Boland
Open Highly Commended: *An elegant illusion*, Sam Tsang
Open Highly Commended: *Sneakers are cheaper than therapy*, Patrick Duffy

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

Junior Category: *Our Footprint*, Henrietta Robinson
Junior Category: *Recycled Reptiles*, Maiia Kurochkina and Katrin Pysarenko
Youth Category: *Metal Betta*, Sienna Gordon
Open Category: *Varieties of Sardines*, Jo Rijke



Checkmate, Kiki Margetis

Our spring gardens bloom

The winners of City of Ryde's 2023 Spring Garden competition were announced during a gala ceremony at Eden Gardens, Macquarie Park.

This annual event has been fuelling our gardeners' skills and creativity for more than 30 years and is one of the few council-run competitions of its kind still in existence.

Entries were open from 1 July to 31 August with judging by a skilled panel including Walter Salmon and Jenny Ring from the professional Garden Judges Association taking place in early September.

Over four judging days they were treated to a wonderful and diverse variety of gardens and sites and with over 64 entries this year, finding the winners was harder than ever.

The entries ranged from small courtyard balconies to large backyard sanctuaries, lush commercial oases and school gardens growing an abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables.

The Spring Garden Competition brings together people from all walks of life who share a common interest for gardening, being physically active outdoors, creating a sense of pride in their community and have a genuine desire to share their passion for gardening with others.



Angela Thomas – Champion garden



Andrew Heyes – Front garden, honorable mention



Erica Goldfinch – Best edible Garden, first place



Frances Reddacliff – Best native and Habitat first place



North Ryde Community Preschool – Preschool Garden, first place



West Ryde Public School – Best school garden, first place

This year's celebrated gardeners and categories were:

Front Garden: Robin Catalano

Back Garden: Rae Roy

Edible Garden: Erica Goldfinch

Nature and Habitat: Frances Reddacliff

Courtyard and Balcony: Sue Kennedy

Commercial Garden: Joel Perez – Living Choice

Preschool Garden: North Ryde Community Preschool

Schools Garden: West Ryde Public School

Community Garden: The Habitat

Bush Care Regeneration: Kittys Creek

Special Judges Awards: Katharine Lam, Vicky Buck, Jimmy Shaw, Lena Figuccio, Denis Chen, Tao Li, and Rui Zuo

Champion Gardens: Angela Thomas – Best Show Garden; Rae Roy - Best in Show

Have your say

Social Plan and Creativity Strategy

City of Ryde is reviewing and updating its five-year Social Plan and Creativity Strategy to help guide Council's work through to the year 2030.

To enable those who live, work, or play in the City of Ryde to have their say on the two important strategic documents, a range of community and stakeholder engagement activities will be held.

Council will be looking to capture valuable insights about the current and future social and cultural environment in the City of Ryde, and satisfaction levels with community services, facilities and activities to help inform its understanding of the community's specific needs that should be considered into the future.

Keep an eye out for upcoming announcements regarding engagement opportunities to have your say on what Council should focus on and pursue as priorities and opportunities over the next five years for social wellbeing, arts, culture and creativity development in the City of Ryde.



THE 2023 GRANNY SMITH FESTIVAL WAS ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO JOINED IN THE FUN!



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