

Have your say on a Net Zero Emissions Pathway

Published on 19 November 2020



City of Ryde Mayor Clr Jerome Laxale and Clr Edwina Clifton at West Ryde Community Centre

The City of Ryde is seeking input from the community on how a Net Zero Emissions Pathway will be created for reducing both Council's operations and community carbon emissions into the future.

The Net Zero Emissions Pathway is being developed by the City of Ryde to further its commitment to reduce emissions, minimise climate change impacts and plan for a sustainable future.

Net Zero Emissions means any emissions from greenhouse gases generated are balanced by the removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. In practice this means reducing emissions as much as possible, then offsetting the remainder we cannot, through activities such as tree planting, soil management and carbon capture and storage.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, encouraged everyone in the community to take part in the community consultation currently underway until mid-December, by completing a short online survey.

“Since this current Council was elected in 2017 we have made giant strides in reducing emissions and tackling climate change. Since the catastrophic 2020 bushfires, we have been even more determined to play our part in tackling climate change.

“It is now essential that we hear from our community about the best way to achieve our goal for a sustainable future

“How should Council achieve Net Zero emissions? Should we act faster than the State’s 2050 target? Your feedback to these questions and more will help shape Council’s direction for the Net Zero Emissions Pathway as well as further sustainability measures into the future.”

[Click here](#) for more information on the community consultation and to complete the online survey. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete and will be available until Wednesday 9 December 2020.

The Net Zero Emissions Pathway development by Council is in accordance with the NSW Government’s goal for Net Zero emissions by 2050, the Greater Sydney Commission’s North District Plan, City of Ryde’s Local Strategic Planning Statement and Council’s climate emergency declaration.

Winners of the 2020 Northern Districts Local Business Awards announced

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The 2020 Northern Districts Local Business Awards

The winners of the 2020 Northern Districts Local Business Awards have been announced during a gala presentation dinner at The Epping Club.

The Northern Districts Local Business Awards, of which the City of Ryde is a major sponsor, recognise and reward local business for all that they do for the local community and beyond.

De'Nelle Salon in Gladesville was awarded the prestigious Business of the Year award while also taking home the Beauty Services gong.

Michael Cavallaro, who co-owns the award winning Cav and Co Cafe in Gladesville, was named the Business Person of the Year.

Meanwhile, Goodstart Early Learning in West Ryde won the Inclusion Award, which is offered by the City of Ryde, Hunter's Hill Council and Lane Cove Council to celebrate local businesses that embrace inclusion in their work practices.

Award Winners

Automotive Services: Basha Autohaus

Bakery/Cake Shop: Koi Dessert Kitchen - Top Ryde

Beauty Services: De'Nelle Salon

Butcher: The Meat Boutique

Cafe: The Missing Piece Cafe - Macquarie Shopping Centre

Early Childhood Centre: Goodstart Early Learning West Ryde

Education Service: Able Education Australia College

Fast Food/Takeaway: Poseidon's Catch

Fitness Services: North Ryde Fitness + Aquatic

Florist: The Village Florist Hunters Hill

Fruit & Vegetable Shop: Panetta Mercato - Macquarie Shopping Centre

Hairdresser: Elysian Hair Beauty Spa

Health Improvement Services: West Ryde Physiotherapy

Hotel/Bottle Shop/Bar: Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club

Jewellery Store: Linda & Co Designer Jewellers - Macquarie Shopping Centre

Most Inclusive Employer: Plus Fitness Gladesville

New Business: AJH Sports Denistone

Performing Arts: Lane Cove Dance Academy

Pet Care: The Pawfessionals

Pharmacy: Max Value Pharmacy North Ryde

Professional Services: Prime Partners Group

Real Estate Agency: Agency 1 Realestate

Restaurant: Little Red Robin Restaurant & Wine Bar

Service & Trade: Pest Protocols

Sole Operator: Issy & H Creative

Specialised Business: Stryder Incorporated

Specialised Retail Business: Independent Living Specialists - Lane Cove

Business Person of the Year: Cav and Co, Michael Cavallaro

Youth Award: The Edge Dance Centre, Hope Martin-Edgar

Business of the Year: De'Nelle Salon

Inclusion Award

Winner: Goodstart Early Learning West Ryde

Highly Commendable: Lane Cove Advantage Pharmacy

Highly Commendable: NiBu Cafe

More information on the Northern Districts Local Business Awards is [available here](#).

Calling for applications to Chair RDA Sydney Committee

Published on 16 November 2020

Applications are now open for the position of Chair for Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committee Sydney.

From 2021, RDA Chairs will lead their committees under a refreshed charter that focuses their role on driving investment and local procurement opportunities and through this, creating jobs and economic growth for our regions.

The role of RDA Sydney will be to focus on working with Regional NSW RDAs to identify and connect regions with economic development opportunities coming out of our capital cities.

For more information, including the role description and how to apply [click here](#)

You can also contact the RDA team via phone on 1800 505 938 (Mon–Fri 9am–5pm AEST) or email at rdaapplications@infrastructure.gov.au.

Applications close 23 November 2020.

City of Ryde Council meeting summary - October 2020

Published on 16 November 2020

Council held its latest Ordinary meeting on 27 October 2020. The following is a summary of the outcomes from the meeting:

Council extends rate rebate, commits to more COVID-19 support

The City of Ryde has proposed to [extend the one-off \\$400 council rate rebate](#) for approved JobSeeker and JobKeeper applicants to March next year as part of Council's ongoing support for those within the community impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The extension means JobSeeker and JobKeeper applicants will now have until 31 March 2021 to apply for the rate rebate. The one-off \$400 rate 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.

Council will also develop new small business initiatives with the input of each local Chamber of Commerce. These new initiatives will complement programs Council has already launched such as the Shop Local: Love Your Community campaign which is encouraging residents to shop locally through various promotions and offers.

Draft Youth Infrastructure Plan

The draft Youth Infrastructure Plan will be placed on public exhibition by the City of Ryde. The draft plan assesses the need for additional youth recreation spaces and facilities, and the most appropriate locations for such facilities.

If no objections are received during the public exhibition period, the Youth Infrastructure Plan will be adopted.

Community Grants Program review

A review of the City of Ryde's Community Grants Program found there was an increasing demand for the program by local organisations and community groups.

Based on the review, a new Community Grants Policy was endorsed by Council which includes seven grant categories and three donations categories. There will be two large grant rounds and one small grant round each year.

The level of funding under the program will remain unchanged at \$410,000.

Local organisations benefit from latest round of Community Grants

More than \$234,000 was allocated to 38 community organisations as part of round two of the 2020 City of Ryde Community Grants program.

City of Ryde to investigate subscribing to Park 'n Pay program

Steps will be taken by the City of Ryde to formally subscribe to the NSW Government's Park 'n Pay program.

Park 'n Pay is a smartphone app developed to integrate parking payments from a mobile device and is viewed as a more convenient and hygienic alternative to using a physical parking meter.

2019/20 Draft Financial Statements

The City of Ryde's 2019/20 Draft Financial Statements have been placed on [public exhibition](#). Community feedback received during this period will be tabled at the Ordinary Council meeting on 24 November 2020.

Chauvel Street Christmas lights display

The City of Ryde will investigate installing COVID-safe measures in Chauvel Street, North Ryde, as part of this year's Christmas lights display.

Chauvel Street is recognised as one of the best streets in Sydney for viewing Christmas lights. Residents who live in Chauvel Street have already resolved to not install displays that require people to touch or stop and watch for an extended period of time.

Council to call for more to be done for victims of domestic violence

With domestic and family violence on the rise since the COVID-19 pandemic began, Council noted that there is insufficient funding for services in the City of Ryde that help victims after they have left emergency housing.

In response, City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, will call on the Federal and State governments to improve all women's safety during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond by ensuring they have access to domestic violence support services.

Council will also identify low cost, short-term accommodation options for pets owned by victims escaping domestic violence, noting that the wellbeing of pets can be a deterrent for people leaving dangerous relationships.

Revised Tree Review Process adopted

Council adopted a revised Tree Review Process, which aims to simplify the process and provide a clear methodology for reviewing tree determinations.

In addition, Council will trial a subsidised private tree assistance scheme for one year which will provide subsidies for tree works on private property belonging to approved pensioners.

The subsidised private tree assistance scheme is currently on [public exhibition](#) until 7 December 2020.

New library fee for Hunters Hill residents

A new 'Out of Area Membership' fee for Hunters Hill residents to join the Ryde Library Service has been adopted by Council following a period of public exhibition.

The \$120 fee was adopted after Hunter's Hill Council did not renew the Joint Use Agreement with the City of Ryde, leading to the subsequent loss of the annual library subsidy contribution which was scheduled to be \$771,000 for 2020/21.

Reducing the number of disposable nappies going into landfill

A report will be brought back to Council detailing how to reduce the number of disposable nappies going into landfill. About 5.6 million disposable nappies are used each day, equating to more than 2 billion being sent to landfill each year.

Jo'Anne Duke to be recognised

The laneway between Coxs Road and Marilyn Street in North Ryde will be renamed as 'Jo Duke's Lane' in recognition of resident Jo'Anne Duke who was killed in a motor vehicle collision in 2019.

A plaque will also be erected at North Ryde Park in Ms Duke's honour.

Next meeting

The next Ordinary Council meeting took place on Tuesday 24 November 2020.

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

Clr Penny Pedersen appointed NSROC Vice President

Published on 16 November 2020



City of Ryde Councillor, Penny Pedersen, has been appointed Vice President of the Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) for 2021.

NSROC is comprised of the City of Ryde and seven other councils in the northern part of Sydney. The organisation's key aims are to work cooperatively for the benefit of the region and to advocate on agreed regional positions and priorities.

Clr Pedersen was appointed to the role of NSROC Vice President at the organisation's Annual General Meeting.

Clr Pedersen said she was looking forward to serving in the new role.

"I am honoured to be appointed to such a senior role and helping ensure NSROC continues its good work in advocating for northern Sydney and working with member councils to deliver for the wonderful people that call this region home," Clr Pedersen said.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, congratulated Clr Pedersen on her new appointment.

"Since Penny was elected to Council in 2017 she has been a passionate representative for her community particularly with issues concerning the environment, status of women in the community and social inclusion, while fiercely opposing overdevelopment in our region.

"It is this passion for the community and the region that will make Penny such a tremendous asset for NSROC in the role of Vice President."

2020 Spring Garden competition winners revealed

Published on 16 November 2020

The winners of the 2020 Spring Garden Competition – one of the longest running annual events staged by the City of Ryde – have been announced in a special online ceremony on Saturday afternoon.

This year's competition proved to be extremely popular with more than 160 entries received from a wide variety of age groups and garden sizes.

The winners for each category of the Spring Garden Competition were:

- **Best Large Garden:** Anne Johnson
- **Best Small/Courtyard Garden:** Angelina Chee
- **Best Edible Garden:** Alexander Djerdjev
- **Best Native and Habitat-Friendly Garden:** The Habitat
- **Best Bushcare Site:** Sugarloaf Point Bushcare Group
- **Best Non-Residential Garden:** Squireville Complex
- **Best Local Schools Garden:** Our Lady Queen of Peace
- **Best Plant in Children's Seed Growing Category (3-7 years):** Aari Joen
- **Best Plant in Children's Seed Growing Category (8-12 years):** Raphael Loui Verdy
- **Best Decorated Pot in Children's Seed Growing Category (3-7 years):** Alexandra Size
- **Best Decorated Pot in Children's Seed Growing Category (8-12 years):** Jacob Zou

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, announced the winners during today's ceremony which was conducted online due to coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions.

"I would like to congratulate all of the award winners, as well as the runners-up and highly commended recipients, while also thanking those who took the time to enter this year's Spring Garden competition," Clr Laxale said.

"For more than 30 years, the Spring Garden Competition has been an event that involves the whole community.

"One bright spot in this challenging year is that it allowed many in the community to tend to their garden while staying at home during the COVID-19 pandemic, and that is reflected in the high standard of entries received this year."

The City of Ryde would like to thank Eden Gardens for its sponsorship of this year's Spring Garden Competition and for its continued support of the event.

Creative Spotlight | John Klein

Published on 11 November 2020



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

My name is John Klein and I am a contemporary Australian artist. I have been engaged in creative pursuits for my entire career. My love for the visual arts has seen me drawn to the mediums of film, photography and painting.

I enjoy collecting various objects which often become the subject matter for my unique still life paintings. I am an avid gardener and this is reflected throughout my floral subjects.



*Nancye Hayes with artist John Klein
and portrait Me, Myself and I*

While sometimes appearing decorative in nature, my work has a deeper commentary on significant craftsmanship and tradition. I seek to document and highlight a discussion about both quality design in our everyday utilitarian items, along with the restorative force of the bloom – a life force in nature.



I also enjoy painting portraits.

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

I have been collecting vases and other objet d'art (art objects) for the last 30 years. I am most interested in the designs from the arts and crafts, art nouveau and art deco periods, and these appear regularly in my paintings. Some of the vases I own and others I covet. My interest in gardening, along with art making, was encouraged by my father, who was also an artist and trained under the legendary Rayner Hoff at East Sydney Technical College (now the National Art School) in the 1930s.

Edna on her 86th birthday

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

Well actually there have been two moments which are inter-related.

The first time I was first hung in the Mosman Art Prize it was pretty exciting. It was a portrait of my mother Edna on her 86th birthday and the judge was Lucy Culliton. It was lovely for my mother to enjoy this success with me. When legendary Australian artist Charles Blackman visited the exhibition, he wanted to vote for my painting in the People's Choice Awards, however, he was not able to do this as the voting had closed. His publicist relayed the story to me and sent me a lovely photo of Charles giving 'Edna' the thumbs up.



Charles Blackman

In 2016 I was thrilled to have the opportunity to paint Charles for the Archibald prize. I remember clearly the day that I went to his house in Woollahra to show him the completed painting for the first time. I had the painting covered with a black cloth and as Charles was wheeled towards the painting his carer told me to brace myself for the worst. I then slide the cloth off in a rather theatrical fashion to reveal the work. He sat and stared at the work for what seemed like an eternity and then turned to me and said: "10 out of 10". I couldn't believe my ears. I can't tell you how thrilled I was that he liked the picture. He made my day!

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

I love being in my studio totally immersed in my art making and get a real buzz when someone falls in love with a painting and buys it. It makes me so happy that my art can bring happiness to others.

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

Everything that you do is in the public domain and you are constantly leaving yourself open to criticism.

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

Work hard, experiment and have a passion for what you do.

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

I love the work of Sue Macleod Beere. More information about Sue can be found at www.suemacleodbeere.com/about

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

Website: www.johnklein.com.au

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

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

Bluethumb: bluethumb.com.au/john-klein



Roads and Maritime Services' Expired Marine Flares Collection Program

Published on 06 November 2020

Roads and Maritime Services' expired marine flare collection program commences on 20 November 2020 and runs to 18 April 2021.

Find a collection point near you to safely dispose of your expired flares.

Most flares have a use-by date of three years and they must be replaced before this time. Flares contain explosive matter which makes safe and legal disposal difficult. This collection program provides the boating community with an opportunity to safely dispose of their out of date fares.

The closest collection point to the City of Ryde is the Ermington Boat Ramp, Ermington, with collections taking place on the following dates:

- Monday, 30 November 2020, 10:30-12:00
- Sunday, 17 January 2021, 10:30-12:00
- Sunday, 18 April 2021, 10:30-12:00

For more information on the schedule and other collection locations across NSW visit the [RMS website](#) or call 13 12 36.

Creative Spotlight | Linda Nicholls-Gidley

Published on 06 November 2020



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

I'm an actor, director, voiceover artist and a voice and accent coach. I spent most of my time pre-COVID coaching actors all over the world. My work takes me to film sets, theatres, recording studios and drama schools. Last year I worked on the national touring productions of Saturday Night Fever and Shrek as well as Sydney based projects such as 'Counting and Cracking' which premiered at the Sydney Festival and 'Once' for Darlinghurst Theatre Company. Currently I am running a series of workshops called Accent Olympics.



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

When I am teaching accents and dialects, I use a technique called Knight Thompson Speechwork (KTS). I am one of only two certified teachers of KTS in Australia and 50 worldwide. The technique focusses on recognising muscular processes and exploring speech as a physical action rather than mimicry of sounds. This process allows an actor to focus on creating a realistic



character that speaks in a certain way, rather than focusing on getting a sound change right. I love using colour when I'm coaching and I'll often use particular colours for particular vowel sounds, for example the colour red has an 'eh' sound in it, so I'll underline those 'eh' vowels in red, or I might underline 'ee' words in green. Colour is a great way to help identify sound changes.



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

A project that I'm really proud of is a production of 'Pramkicker' by Sadie Hasler that I directed, accent coached, co-produced and also recorded voice over for. We had an amazing team of female artists on the project and the production was received well by audiences and reviewers alike.

What creative project are you working on at the moment?

I'm working on a production of 'Molly Sweeney' for Clock and Spiel productions which will open in December at the Flight Path in Marrickville. I'm also working on the development of a verbatim theatre piece called 'Silenced', which deals with the way small statements can take away our belief that we have a voice. In early December I will be performing in a project with a group of artists in the USA who are putting together an online performance called 'Seasons of Struggle, Harvest Of Hope'.



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

Working on the international touring production of 'How to Train Your Dragon – Arena Spectacular' was a career highlight. Who doesn't want to go to work with larger than life dragons every day!

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

What's challenging at the moment is that we just don't know when the theatres will be able to reopen properly, and while we are all creating what we can, there is a theatre shaped hole in my life.



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

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

Website: www.vocovox.com.au

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

Accent Olympics: www.trybooking.com/BJGUF

Spotlight on our Trees Team

Published on 04 November 2020



We sat down with Shine Karlsson, Tree Management Technical Support Officer, to talk about her work in the Trees team at City of Ryde.

What is your professional background and how did you end up working for City of Ryde?

Before I started at City of Ryde two years ago I worked as an arborist out on the fields for a couple of years. I used to do both the climbing and working on the ground so I consider myself quite an all-round arborist that understands all parts of the job.

I ended up applying for a job with the City of Ryde Arborist Team as a Labourer. However, even before I got the job I heard that there was a position open as a Technical Support Officer for the Tree Management Team. Since I was studying my Diploma in Arboriculture at that time, working with the Tree Management Team would definitely be a position that I would learn a lot from.

What kind of work do you undertake in your job?

I deal with a lot of customer requests, assessing both street and park trees, and decide on the best maintenance solution for the trees.

I also work with the Tree Management Team with the Tree Planting Program. This includes ordering trees, doing quality controls, planning the right tree at the right location, checking constraints and so on. Administration is also a big part of the job.

What do you love most about your job?

I love that it is very versatile and that I can plan my day the way it works for me. I learn a lot and I really do appreciate the team that I work with. I think we all bounce off each other's ideas really well and respect each other's views.

What's your best memory so far working for City of Ryde?

It's more of an ongoing thing than a memory, because every time I see new trees planted that are doing really well, I feel extremely proud to be a part of the change that we provide for this Council and the environment. Trees offer us so many amenities and there is nothing better than feeling responsible for a greener city.

Do you have a favourite tree species? If so, why is it your favourite?

Birch trees and oaks are my favourites. I'm from Sweden so for me those are trees that brings me memories from my childhood. Birch trees are one of the most common trees in Sweden and the bark and the foliage is just beautiful.

I grew up on the country side and we had so many large old oaks just around the corner and even in my backyard. To me there is nothing better than climbing a 500-year-old oak and as a child I did that all the time. It was not until I moved here that I realised how special that is.

What do you see as the main benefits of more trees in our City?

With a climate that is getting warmer planting more trees is one of the best solutions to reduce the heat island effect in our suburbs. Trees provide us shade, clean our air, reduce the pollution, produce oxygen and create habitat for our wildlife to say the least. Trees are even reducing violence. There is evidence that leafy neighbourhoods calm people down and have fewer incidences of violence than neighbourhoods with not many trees.

There are so many benefits that trees provide us that I could write an essay about it!

Do you have any tips for our residents who are looking to grow more trees on their property?

Dig a hole and check the soil type and pH. Different species of trees require different soil. Make sure you select a tree that will offer you with the benefits that you are after such as habit, size, flower and fruit. Make sure you do a thorough quality control of the tree before purchasing it. Trees should support themselves and roots should occupy the whole pot.

Find a location for the tree that will give it space to grow and thrive and make sure to study up on how to properly plant a tree. It is not always as simple as it seems and always make sure to remove the stake. Trees need to move in the wind to grow roots.

And lastly, hire a professional to formative prune your tree. Formative pruning the first few years after planting will provide the tree with a good healthy structure.

Interested in finding out more about trees in the City of Ryde? Access our free tree pruning guide, gets tips on tree species selection, request a free street tree for your street and more on our [Trees](#) page.

Ryde Public School goes solar

Published on 02 November 2020



City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, Clr Penny Pedersen and Ryde Public School Principal, Thanh Ta

Ryde Public School has become the first school to install a new solar power system as part of the City of Ryde's solar pilot program and partnership with Solar my School.

The City of Ryde partnered with Solar my School in 2019 as part of its efforts to assist more of the community to reduce carbon emissions and also encourage more local organisations to take up renewable energy resources.

Solar my School is a council-run initiative designed to help schools reduce energy bills and shrink their carbon footprint through installing solar power.

Eligible schools who signed up to the program through Council's Ryde Environmental Educators Network (REEN), received a free independent solar feasibility assessment and advice on how to finance the solar power systems.

Schools have some of the largest roof spaces and use electricity during the day when the solar power is being produced, giving them the maximum benefit of using free solar energy from the sun, so it makes perfect sense for them to switch to solar.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the new solar power system at Ryde Public School would help to avoid 43 tonnes of carbon emissions and slash up to 32 percent off the school's annual energy bill.

"I would like to congratulate Ryde Public School on becoming the first school in the City of Ryde to successfully install solar under the Council program," Clr Laxale said.

“Not only is the school benefiting from reduced emissions and reduced energy bills, but it is also demonstrating leadership within the community as we make the switch from fossil fuels to renewable energy.”

“The partnership between the City of Ryde and Solar my School is another example of our commitment to a cleaner, greener future. It also aligns with Council’s other key policy positions such as our adoption of a 100 percent renewable energy target by 2030, divestment of our Council investment portfolio away from fossil-fuel aligned institutions and our journey towards Net Zero by 2050.”

Ryde Public School Principal, Thanh Ta, said the use of solar panels at the school will be something we can all take pride in.

“Harnessing solar energy is our way of modelling appropriate action to positively influence the future. The panels are a tangible example of harnessing a renewable energy,” Mr Ta said.

“Having solar panels in a prominent position of the school, has generated authentic conversations and curiosity among our students. We celebrate our learning by acknowledging that our school contributes to sustainable energy sources.”

The solar power system was funded by external grants from the NSW Community Building Partnerships Grants, the philanthropic Purryburry Trust and a 50 percent contribution from the Department of Education’s Solar Co-Contribution Program.