



City of Ryde

YOUR CITY

Autumn - 2020



City of Ryde

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

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AUTUMN WALKING TRAILS

As the weather begins to cool down, there is no better time to get out and explore the great walking trails our City has to offer.

5 benefits of walking in nature

- Reduces stress
- Helps your brain function
- Boosts endorphins
- Increases energy levels
- Improves immunity.



Field of Mars

Pittwater Road, East Ryde

Doyle Loop:

1.2km return, 45min.

Grade: Medium

Walk through the eastern end of the reserve on the Doyle Loop past caves, gullies and interesting rock outcrops. The vegetation along most of the track is Sydney sandstone gully forest with its banksias, angophoras and diverse shrub understorey.

Kunzea Track:

5.2km, estimated 1hr 10min.

Grade: Easy

Kunzea Walk starts at Ryde Park and continues to the Field of Mars Wildlife Refuge where it links with the Great North Walk (Sydney to Newcastle).

Warada Loop:

1.9km return, 60min.

Grade: Easy

Enjoy a shady walk along the coolness of Strangers Creek surrounded by Sydney sandstone gully forest. Strangers Creek has numerous water holes and rainforest species including magnificent tree ferns, coachwood and lillypilly trees. Be sure to listen out for frogs!

Sand Track:

1.9km one-way, 45min.

Grade: Easy

Explore the middle of the Reserve. See areas of turpentine ironbark marginal forest on shale soil as well as Sydney sandstone ridgetop woodland on sandstone soil. See magnificent angophora trees and wildflowers most of the year. Walk along Cressy Road past the cemetery to complete the loop.

Boardwalk Loop:

0.6km return, 15min. Grade: Easy

Starting at the bridge this wheelchair accessible boardwalk follows along Buffalo Creek. Looping back towards the Education Centre, follow the pathway to return to the bridge. Look out for the long necked turtle, water dragons, ducks and eels.



Brush Farm Park

Lawson St, Eastwood

Brush Farm Park is surrounded by bushland which has tracks throughout for easy exploration. Don't miss the opportunity for a visit to the peaceful rainforest gully and turpentine trees.

Brush Farm Loop Path:

930m, 20 minutes return

Grade: Moderate

Starting at the carpark, wander beneath the canopy of beautiful turpentine trees down into the rainforest gully. Loop back to the starting point along the eastern gully or venture west to the Bowling Club Path or south onto the Lambert Park Path.

Lambert Park Path:

380m, 6 minutes one-way

Grade: Easy

Continuing south from the Brush Farm Loop Path, you will notice a change in the vegetation as you walk through a valley that was filled in the 1980s for slope stabilisation. Exit at the southern end near the Guide Hall or head up the steps to John Street.

Bowling Club Path:

350m, 6 minutes one-way

Grade: Moderate

From the carpark descend into the gully along the loop path and follow the signs to exit at the Bowling Club.

Marsden Road Shortcut:

220m, 3 minutes one-way

Grade: Easy

From the carpark take a shortcut to the Bowling Club along the Marsden Road edge.



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR YOUTH

City of Ryde has a large population of young people. Council supports its youth through programs, initiatives and events.

RYDE 2019 YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

At the City of Ryde's special Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony, we were pleased to award Cosmin Luca the Ryde Young Citizen of the Year. We had a chat with Cosmin to find out about his passions and vision for young people in our City.

What are your main interests and passions?

To be perfectly honest with you, my interests change so frequently, that even I can't keep up with them. Maybe it's because I'm young, but one month I'm interested in video games, and the next I get into live music! It's always changing, and I'm always out there trying new things. I think the one thing that I've always been captivated by is politics, and generally trying to keep track of where the world is going.

Are there any issues or causes you are particularly interested in?

I'm particularly interested in facilitating the development of young people. While the public speaking program is still in development, I've been working on providing public speaking and confidence training to stage 3, 4, and 5 students. Besides that, climate change is probably the single most important issue which we should all care about.

What kind of work do you do in the community?

Last year, I was the Vice Captain at Ryde Secondary College, and it was an honour to work with my fellow prefects to bring mental health and youth poverty awareness to the forefront of discourse at our school. I've also been on the

Cosmin Luca



Ryde Youth Council for the past two years, and I'm very proud of the initiatives the team has put out over those years.

Why do you think mentoring is important and how have you been involved in mentoring young people?

I connect strongly with the idea that it takes a village to raise a child. Mentoring doesn't just make sure the next generation of young people are motivated and driven to change the world for the better, but it also gives them the confidence and skills needed to do so.

What has been the reaction to you winning Young Citizen of the Year? Would you recommend other people nominate next year?

My parents, of course, are very proud of me, even though I tell them they shouldn't be! I think everyone should go out into the community and do what they can to make it better, and I think that ultimately, every young person who has done something for their community deserves recognition. That's why I urge anyone reading this to think about the young people in their lives who work for good in Ryde, and I urge them to keep them in mind when nominations come around for Young Citizen of the Year 2021.

To any community volunteers reading this, you rock, and you have my upmost respect.

To find out more about Ryde Citizen of the Year, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/citizen

PREPARING OUR FUTURE CHANGE MAKERS

Figuring out the next step after studies can be daunting for young people. Council is giving young people in Ryde a leg up through Future Change Makers Ryde, a new initiative that preps them with skills and knowledge.

With a focus on entrepreneurship, the program offers opportunities to develop employability skills and useful resources that will guide them on their career path. We highly recommend jumping onto our website and taking the free Change Maker Quiz to find out what type of change maker they are.

Don't miss our free online workshop series, which is designed to help young people develop practical work and life skills and give them greater confidence in managing relationships, building connections and expressing themselves. The next workshop series starts on 28 April and participants can choose to attend some or all of the workshops.

Find out more by visiting www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/changemakers

For more information, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/youth



CREATIVE RESOURCES AND ONLINE EVENTS

If you're a local creative type, there's lots on to support you to flourish. From resources and events and our annual SWAP competition. It's a great time to be an artist in the City of Ryde.



RESOURCES FOR ARTISTS

If you're an artist who is close to completing or have completed works, it's natural to want to exhibit them for everyone to enjoy. One major hurdle is figuring out how to get them exhibited.

Begin your preliminary research on the Council website, which provides an overview on how to organise an art exhibition. It also includes tips on how to strengthen your exhibition proposal for when you're ready to reach out to exhibition spaces.

While you're on our website, be sure to browse through our directory of art organisations. From grants and development workshops through to promotional channels and networking opportunities, these organisations offer a broad range of resources that will help you develop your professional career as an artist.

Find out more by visiting www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/artistresources

For more information, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/arts

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS FOR CREATIVES

Are you a local creative who is looking to develop professional skills in other areas? Our free Professional Skills for Creatives online workshop series will give you a step up in your career.

The next workshop will help creatives learn how to network with each other in a safe and friendly environment where you can brush off any awkward moments with a laugh.

Newcomers to social media for professional use will find our practical and easy-to-follow workshop very useful. It covers all the basics of how to use social media as part of a wider marketing strategy.

Register online and stay tuned for more workshops at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/workshopsforcreatives



EASTWOOD THREADS VIDEO WORKSHOP

City of Ryde is proud to announce Eastwood Threads – an opportunity to make your mark on the distinctive Eastwood town centre! Be inspired by our video workshop and make artwork from the comfort of your own home that will be used on flags to decorate our town centre.

Local artists Chris and Andrew Yee have prepared an instructional video to help you create designs to reflect the stories and places that make Eastwood unique. The video is available in English, Mandarin and Korean. You can submit artwork until 11 May 2020. Submissions will then be combined by Chris and Andrew to make collaborative artworks, which will be printed and displayed as flags around Eastwood Town Centre later this year.

Eastwood Threads is presented in partnership with CASS.

For more information and updates, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/eastwoodthreads




Sustainable Waste 2 Art Prize

SWAP RETURNS FOR ITS TENTH YEAR

The City of Ryde's Sustainable Waste to Art Prize (SWAP) is back for its 10th year.

SWAP is the City of Ryde's unique art competition in which artists who live, work and study in the local community are asked to produce works that are made from repurposed waste material and have a sustainable theme.

The aim of SWAP is to highlight how much waste is thrown away into landfill and also to educate residents about how they can become more environmentally sustainable.

There will be cash prizes awarded to the winning entries across a range of categories. The City of Ryde will also stage a number of free workshops in July to provide artists with tips and ideas on how to turn waste into a magnificent work of art.

Entries for this year's competition will open on Monday 27 April, with finalists to have their entries displayed at the two week public exhibition at See Street Gallery, Meadowbank, starting on Thursday 17 September.

SWAP 2020 - Key dates

- Monday 27 April:**
SWAP entries open
 - Wednesday 8 July to Saturday 18 July:**
Free SWAP workshops take place
 - Monday 17 August 2020:**
SWAP entries close
 - Wednesday 16 September 2020:**
SWAP exhibition opens and winners announced
 - Thursday 1 October 2020:**
SWAP exhibition ends
- For more information and updates, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/SWAP



RESILIENT RYDE

City of Ryde is committed to making our City more sustainable and resilient. Check out our tips and resources below.

BE STORM SAFE

Severe thunderstorms are the most common type of storm in New South Wales, causing more damage than any other event.

They can last from 10 minutes to several hours, with strong winds, heavy rain and hail causing flash flooding, power outages and damage to property. Be prepared for storms by following the simple steps below.

Prepare your home

- Clear guttering and downpipes of leaves, trim trees and remove overhanging branches so that they are well clear of your home. You may need approval from Council before pruning or removing your tree. Penalties apply for unauthorised tree work
- Check and secure tiles or roofing sheets
- Protect skylights with strong wire mesh, and fit windows and glass doors with shutters or external metal insect screens
- Clear your yard of loose materials and rubbish that may blow about and be dangerous
- Prepare an emergency kit of:
 - Portable radio, torch, spare batteries
 - First aid kit and manual and strong plastic bags
- List your emergency phone numbers
- Check your home insurance is up to date and adequate
- If you own a boat, check that it is securely moored or protected on land
- Download the free Red Cross Get Prepared app to help prepare you for an emergency – find out more at www.redcross.org.au/prepare

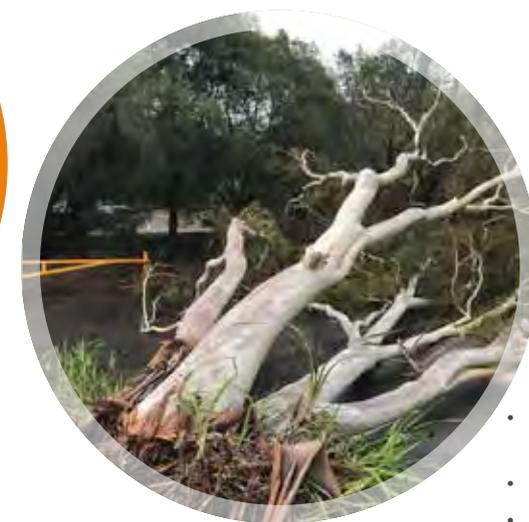


Photo: NSW SES Ryde Unit

When a severe storm threatens

- Listen to your local radio station for warnings
- Go online via your smart phone or PC to www.bom.gov.au/nsw/warnings for warnings
- Shelter and secure pets and animals
- Put garden furniture, toys, etc inside. Fill empty garbage bins with water to hold them down
- Park vehicles under solid shelter or cover with firmly tied tarpaulins/blankets
- Secure all external doors and windows and draw curtains
- Put valuables, medications and spare warm clothing in plastic bags with your emergency kit and keep it handy
- Disconnect all electrical items, external TV/radio aerials and computer modems

When the storm strikes

- Stay inside and shelter well clear of windows, doors and skylights
- Listen to your portable radio for updates
- If outdoors, seek solid enclosed shelter (not a tree or metal structure)
- If driving, pull over and wait - if possible in a spot clear of trees, powerlines and streams
- Don't use a fixed telephone during a thunderstorm due to lightning danger

After the storm passes

- Beware of fallen powerlines, damaged buildings and trees and flooded watercourses
- Listen to your radio for updates
- Check for damaged windows, walls or roof

- If you don't need help, check on and help your neighbours
- Don't go sight-seeing
- Book in a free chipping and mulching service to get rid of branches – find out more at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/chipping or call Council on 9952 8222
- Visit our Resilient Ryde pages for tips and advice on being more resilient – find out more at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/resilientryde

Key contacts in emergencies

- Call **000** during life-threatening emergencies
- Call the State Emergency Service SES on **132 500**
- To report issues to Council, including stormwater flooding, call us on **9952 8222** (24/7) or log non-urgent requests online at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/reportit
- Visit the Live Traffic website for traffic updates at www.livetraffic.com.au
- In case of power failure, fallen powerlines, electrical problems - call Ausgrid on **13 13 88** (24 hours) or visit their website at www.ausgrid.com.au/poweroutages
- For leaking/damaged water and sewer mains, contact Sydney Water on **1300 143 734** or log online at www.sydneywater.com.au
- To find out about public transport disruptions, visit the Transport for NSW website at www.transportnsw.info
- In case of gas or water supply interruption or emergencies - call your local supplier
- To arrange permanent repairs to your home, call your insurance company for a claim form

For more information, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/BeStormSafe



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR OUR COMMUNITY

The City of Ryde extends its sympathies to everyone immediately impacted by the new strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19.

SERVICE UPDATES

Some Council services and facilities have been temporarily suspended or closed following advice by the state and federal governments.

This includes:

TEMPORARILY CLOSED

- All City of Ryde library branches (online library still operating)
- Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre
- Customer Service Centre (still open for online and telephone enquiries on 9952 8222)
- Playgrounds
- Meadowbank Skate Park
- Ryde Scooter Park
- Outdoor fitness equipment
- Halls and venues.

For a full list of service impacts, please visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/serviceupdates

EVENT STATUS UPDATE

City of Ryde has cancelled or postponed several upcoming events as a precautionary measure for community safety.

Some events are being presented in digital formats, including live-streamed music acts, webinars, online storytimes and more.

Find out more at

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/eventstatus

INFORMATION AND ADVICE

COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus. Symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue and shortness of breath.

If you are sick and think you might have COVID-19, check your symptoms using healthdirect's COVID-19 Symptom Checker at www.healthdirect.gov.au/symptom-checker

Due to a large number of community acquired COVID-19 transmissions, NSW Health has increased testing in Ryde and Macquarie Park. Anyone in these areas who have COVID-19 symptoms are encouraged to undergo testing.

It is important to obtain information and advice from reputable sources. These include:

- Australian Department of Health – www.health.gov.au
- NSW Health – www.health.nsw.gov.au

Find out more at

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/covid19info

RESOURCES AND INFORMATION IN YOUR LANGUAGE

There is a range of information and resources in community languages.

- NSW Health in-language resources – includes posters, information sheets and videos in multiple languages - www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/covid-19-resources.aspx
- SBS Coronavirus Explained In Your Language – includes explanatory videos on coronavirus in 16 languages - www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/coronavirus-explained-in-your-language
- Ethnolink – offers translated resources from health authorities in Australia and internationally - www.ethnolink.com.au/covid-19-coronavirus-translated-resources

Find out more at

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/covid19inlanguage

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Do you need support or wish to volunteer during this difficult time? The following community organisations are providing community-based services to help people in need.

Sydney Community Services
9427 6425

North Ryde Community Aid
(Also accepting non-perishable food items and toiletry supplies.)
9888 3380

Christian Community Aid
9858 3222

Meal on Wheels
8219 4200

Stryder – Community Transport
9816 5000

Find out more at

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/covid19support

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

In these challenging times, particularly when you're required to be social distancing, can affect your mental health. If you need support or you're feeling lonely and need someone to talk to, below is a list of useful resources.

Mental Health Line
1800 011 511

Lifeline
13 11 14

Kids Helpline
1800 551 800

Beyond Blue
1300 224 636

Suicide Call Back Service
1300 659 467

1800RESPECT
1800 737 732

If someone has attempted, or is at immediate risk of attempting to harm themselves or someone else, call Triple Zero (000) immediately.

Find out more at

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/mentalhealthsupport

WHAT TO DO TO KEEP BUSY WHEN SOCIALLY ISOLATING



News –

Keep up-to-date with the news and on social media, but take a break if you are starting to feel overwhelmed.



Explore the online library -

Ryde Library Service offers a large range of eBooks, eAudio, eMagazines and digital newspapers available free via our 24/7 Online Library as part of your Library membership. Just visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/onlineibrary



Listen –
to podcasts or music



Pets –

teach your dog/cat a new trick and take for regular walks.



Exercise – go for a bike ride, walk, yoga, dancing, fitness training, look for online classes.



Connect with others –
phone, chat, video chat



Cooking –
get creative in the kitchen, learn new recipes



Get crafty –
painting or drawing



Gardening –

weeding, trim branches, pot up seeds/seedlings



Cleaning –
clean the house, shed, garage, car



Learn –

learn something new and take an online course



Write –

letters, songs, stories, diary entries or poems



Birds –

bird watch/
bird count
in your backyard

Here are some more tips:

- **Books** – read books and learn about a new topic
- **Library events and programs** – Ryde Library Service will be offering online programs and events for both children and adults during this time please check website for details at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/library
- **Day-to-day** – maintain a daily routine
- **Games** – play board games, card games make up your own
- **Music** – listen to music or watch music video and concerts, pick up an instrument that you may have but haven't played in a while
- **Keep your mind active** – do puzzles or brain-teasers
- **Get creative** – and start that project that you haven't started
- **Photography** – organise your huge catalogue of photos and go and take more photos of things that interest you



NEWS IN BRIEF

A summary of what has occurred in the City of Ryde in recent months.



NEW FACILITIES OPENED AT MORRISON BAY PARK

Upgraded facilities at Morrison Bay Park in Putney were officially opened on 22 February, with a special three-on-three community basketball event held.

WNBL star player Brittany Smart was on hand for the official opening along with members of the Sydney Thunder cricket team and Inner West Bulls basketball team.

The extensive upgrades include a new two-thirds basketball court, additional cricket nets, outdoor fitness equipment, new pedestrian footpaths, new pedestrian lighting and new access ramps to and from the existing footbridge.

The upgrades were undertaken by the City of Ryde, with assistance from the State Government's Stronger Communities Fund.

Find out more at

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/morrisonbaypark

We look forward to the time when social distancing restrictions are removed so that the community can enjoy these great facilities.

For more news, visit

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/news

RYDE MOTION SEES LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ACCESS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LEAVE

More than 45,000 local government workers across NSW will have access to up to 10 days paid domestic leave, after a proposal by the City of Ryde was accepted.

Local Government NSW confirmed that the Local Government Award (State) Award 2017 had been varied to make all fulltime local government employees eligible for paid leave if impacted by family and/or domestic violence.

The move fulfils a motion put forward by the City of Ryde at the Local Government NSW annual conference in October 2019.

The City of Ryde has already implemented 10 days of paid domestic leave for its staff members following a Council resolution in February 2019.

WEST RYDE PLAZA NOW A PERMANENT SMOKE FREE ZONE

Smoking will be prohibited at West Plaza on a permanent basis, following the completion of a successful trial.

The Smoke Free trial held between 1 July 2019 and 1 January 2020 received positive feedback. Based on the positive response, the Smoke Free Zone at West Ryde will now be implemented permanently.

The City of Ryde will now consider expanding the Smoke Free Zones to other town centres and locations.

A Smoke Free trial is currently underway at a section of Rowe Street East in Eastwood until 31 August 2020.

COUNCIL SEEKS HERITAGE PROTECTION FOR MACQUARIE ICE RINK

A planning proposal has been prepared by the City of Ryde to heritage list the Macquarie Ice Rink in an attempt to protect the iconic venue's future.

The move by Council comes after the NSW Government confirmed it would not list the ice rink on the State Heritage Register.

The City of Ryde's planning proposal seeks local heritage protection for the Macquarie Ice Rink under the Ryde Local Environmental Plan.

The planning proposal is supported by an independent report commissioned by Council that found Macquarie Ice Rink should be listed as a heritage item.

NEW MASTERPLAN FOR MEADOWBANK AND MEMORIAL PARKS

A masterplan for Meadowbank Park and Memorial Park has been adopted by the City of Ryde.

Key features of the masterplan include increasing the number of multi-purpose sports fields, a new multi-purpose synthetic field for all-weather use, lighting for all sports fields, a new regional playground adjacent to Meadowbank Skate Park as well as more trees and vegetation.

Meadowbank Park is the largest and most important regional sports park in the City of Ryde, providing the community with a range of organised sports throughout the year and recreation opportunities including the popular Meadowbank Skate Park.

The smaller Memorial Park, meanwhile, is adjacent to Meadowbank Park and is a popular open space overlooking Parramatta River with important historic features.



NEW IN-RIVER SEAWALL AT BENNELONG PARK

A new in-river seawall has been constructed at Putney's Bennelong Park as part of efforts to improve access to the Parramatta River.

The in-river seawall (also known as a groyne) will minimise erosion of the beach area at Bennelong Park as well as reduce exposure of underlying bedrock and protect existing mangroves.

In addition, the in-river sea wall will provide easier launching opportunities for sailing vessels including for members of the Concord and Ryde Sailing Club, which is based at Bennelong Park.

The in-river seawall was a joint project undertaken by the NSW Government, the City of Ryde and the Concord and Ryde Sailing Club.

PLANNING PROPOSAL FOR 112 TALAVERA ROAD APPROVED

The State Government has approved a planning proposal which will allow for a 63-storey residential building at 112 Talavera Road in Macquarie Park.

The planning proposal – submitted by Meriton – sought to increase the maximum building height and floor space ratio for 112 Talavera Road. It was approved by the State Government after its moratorium on existing planning proposals in the Ryde local government area was allowed to expire.

At a meeting in December 2018, Council recommended that the State Government refuse the planning proposal for a range of reasons, including that the proposal did not meet community expectations and that there was a lack of supporting infrastructure.

The decision by Council to recommend refusal came after the planning proposal was placed on public exhibition. More than 400 submissions were received during this period of community consultation, of which the vast majority were against the planning proposal.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS POSTPONED

The local government elections due to be held on Saturday 12 September this year will be postponed due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

The decision to postpone the elections was necessary to ensure the health and safety of voters, NSW Electoral Commission staff and candidates, according to the NSW Government.

The NSW Government now intends to hold the elections in September 2021.

City of Ryde councillors will continue to hold their civic offices until the rescheduled local government elections are held.

NEW CYCLIST AND PEDESTRIAN PATH TO LINK NORTH RYDE AND GLADESVILLE

Construction has begun on a new cyclist and pedestrian path that will provide an uninterrupted connection between North Ryde and Gladesville.

Once completed, the five-kilometre cyclist and pedestrian path will run along Pittwater Road, and stretch between Victoria Road and Epping Road. The funding for the \$10 million project will be partly funded by the City of Ryde and dependent on continued grant funding from Transport for NSW.

The initial works involve the construction of a one-kilometre section on Pittwater Road, between Rene Street and High Street in East Ryde. This section will provide safer cyclist and pedestrian access to the Field of Mars Reserve.

The planning and development of the new cyclist and pedestrian path has been done in consultation with the non-profit community-based Bike North User Group, environmental organisations and local residents.

LACHLAN'S LINE PLAQUE IN MEMORY OF CHRISTOPHER CASSANITI

The City of Ryde has installed a plaque in memory of Christopher Cassaniti, who tragically lost his life in a workplace accident at the Lachlan's Line development in North Ryde last year.

The plaque was installed in consultation with the Cassaniti family who chose the plaque's location opposite the construction site.

The family also chose the plaque's inscription which states: *"In memory of a life so beautifully lived that was taken too soon, a heart so deeply loved and a smile so greatly missed."*



APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR SMALL BUSINESS HARDSHIP FUND

Eligible businesses have until Thursday 30 April 2020 to apply for a support grant of up to \$2,000 made available under the Eastwood Small Business Hardship Fund.

The \$500,000 hardship fund has been established by Council to assist businesses who have experienced significant downturn as a result of misinformation and rumours being spread since the first case of coronavirus (COVID-19) was identified in Australia in January.

The hardship fund was established after the proposal was placed on public exhibition and endorsed by Council. More than 160 submissions were received during the public consultation, with the majority of respondents providing supportive sentiments to the proposal.

For more information about the hardship fund, including the eligibility criteria and the application form, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ESBHF

NEW PLANNING RULES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has announced new planning rules in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Under the new rules, construction sites will be able to operate on weekends and public holidays as a way of supporting the construction industry during the outbreak.

In addition, rules have been relaxed for food trucks and dark kitchens given their ability to offer additional food delivery options for people adhering to new social isolation measures.

As a result, food trucks will be able to operate on any land, at any time, providing they have the landowner's consent.

Dark kitchens – kitchens that cook solely for delivery rather than for eating-in – will also be able to operate in any existing commercial kitchen, provided they can abide by social distancing rules.



WORKS IN OUR CITY

Jan - Mar 2020



The City of Ryde delivers an ambitious program of works to meet the needs of our growing City.

BLAMEY PLAYGROUND, NORTH RYDE

Blamey Playground has undergone an upgrade. New play equipment has been installed including a combination playset, swing, moulded flowers and a drum. Landscaping work has also been undertaken with concrete paths and sandstone blocks built around the play area. Six new trees have also been planted and new turfed areas created.

EAST PARADE CAR PARK, EASTWOOD

The car park on East Parade has been extended from Fourth Avenue to Second Avenue. Works included the construction of new kerb and gutters, drainage and pavement, as well as asphalt resurfacing and line marking.

KELLS ROAD, RYDE

Kells Road, Ryde has been refurbished with improved road realignment works undertaken. Upgrades include: raised kerb and gutters on both sides, raised footpaths to match driveway alignments where required, replacement of stormwater pits, reconstructed kerb ramps and road resurfacing.

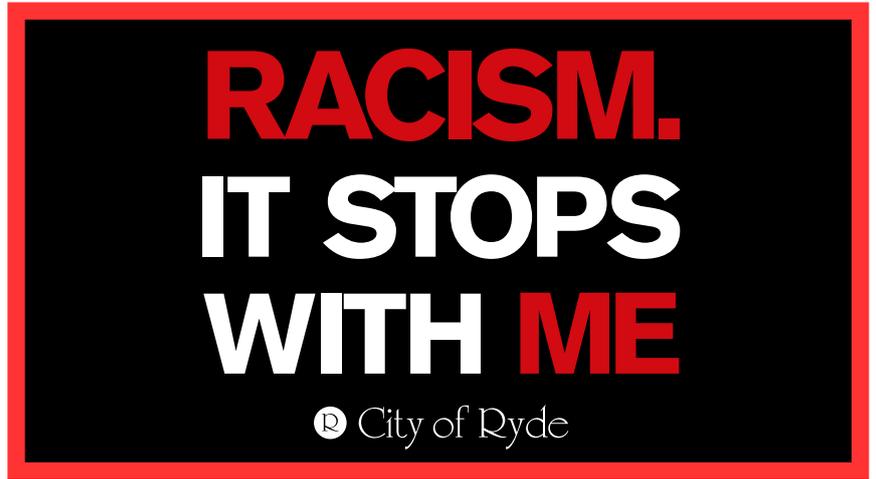


Program	Completed
Roads, Bridges and Carparks	24*
Building Upgrades	3*
Stormwater Works	7*
Parks, Playgrounds and Sportsfields	9*
Traffic & Transport, Footpaths and Cycleways	20
Town and Neighbourhood Centres	0

* Projects with overlapping scope may not be visible



KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE



City of Ryde is one of the most diverse communities in Australia. Sadly, racism is still happening in our community and that is not acceptable.

What is racism?

Racism is discrimination based on the colour of someone's skin, their ethnic background or nationality. It comes in various guises from a casual remark or verbal abuse through to violence or intimidating behaviour. Even excluding people based on their ethnicity is a form of racism.

What has Council been doing to prevent racism?

Council does not tolerate racism. Through the Racism. It Stops with Me campaign, we have been actively promoting community awareness on racism, and how to identify and call out racism for a better and safer community.

We also want to better understand the experience of discrimination and racism among international students within our community. An investigation on this area was conducted in 2019 in partnership with Macquarie University. The research outcome is expected to be published later in 2020.

City of Ryde is also committed to supporting refugees settling in our community. In 2018, The City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, signed the Refugee Welcome Scroll, which was established by the Refugee Council of Australia and Rural Australians for Refugees. Refugees in Ryde can receive assistance through a number of programs designed to help them settle into their new Australian life.

We also celebrate the diversity of our local community by running Harmony Day, a festival that embraces the cultural richness within City of Ryde. This event is co-hosted with the Community Migrant Resource Centre.

Our Multicultural Advisory Committee also provides advice to Council to ensure that City of Ryde's Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) residents can actively participate in all aspects of community and civic life.

What can you do to help prevent racism?

You've probably heard or seen racist behaviour before but may not have known how to respond or even felt comfortable in saying something. Taking a stance against racism is a powerful sign of support to the target of racist behaviour and can make the perpetrator reconsider their actions. While you shouldn't put yourself at risk, there are actions you can take that do not involve confrontation.

- **Say something** if it feels safe to do so
- **Tell someone responsible** such as a bus driver or a security guard depending on the situation
- **Support the target of the abuse** by sitting or standing next to them and checking if they're okay
- **Call the police** if you believe that you or someone else may be in danger.





COMMUNITY MESSAGE



The coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak is having a serious impact on everyone in the City of Ryde community.

Not only has it required us to make sacrifices to stop the spread and protect our loved ones, but it has also had enormous economic ramifications.

In regards to residential rates, Council has fast-tracked the process for financial hardship applications.

If you are experiencing financial hardship during this time and require a bit more time to pay your rates please visit

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/hardship

and fill out an application form.

Someone will then be in touch.

Further, at our April meeting of Council we will be considering further measures to help residential ratepayers. For information on this as it breaks, please keep an eye out for announcements on Council's website.

Businesses have also been hit hard by social distancing and public health orders. To help, Council has introduced a range of financial assistance measures to provide support to those who need it most.

We have established the Eastwood Small Business Hardship Fund, which offers support grants of up to \$2,000 for eligible businesses that have experienced significant downturn since the first COVID-19 case was detected in Australia in January.

In addition, we are currently asking the community to have their say on a range

of additional financial measures to assist local businesses. Over the next six months, these include:

- Waiving outdoor dining fees payable by cafes and restaurants
- Waiving health inspection and compliance fees
- Waiving fire safety certification fees
- Waiving filming application fees
- Considering all applications for rent deferrals submitted by café and restaurant owners operating from a Council premise.

I can assure you that our work does not end there.

Council will continue to try and identify ways that it can support everyone in the community as we work our way through the COVID-19 outbreak and eventually get on the road to recovery.

It will not be easy, but together we will get through this.

Staying informed throughout the COVID-19 outbreak is essential, so I would encourage everyone to visit Council's COVID-19 hub for all the latest news, updates on the status of vital services and a range of resources available in a range of languages. The COVID-19 hub is available at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/covid19

Sincerely,

Clr Jerome Laxale - Mayor

Phone 9952 8222 or

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