

WINTER 2024



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



HAWKESBURY FEST

CELEBRATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK

SUNDAY 4 AUGUST

10AM-3PM

GOVERNOR PHILLIP PARK

Available online today!
hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



As you can see from our front page, Hawkesbury Fest is the next exciting event Council has planned for you – our biggest, brightest, most exciting Hawkesbury Fest yet. We hope to see you there – find out more on page 3.

While you are at Hawkesbury Fest, make sure you check out the Street Speak artworks on display. Street Speak is an urban art project for local young people to creatively express themselves. My congratulations to the five winning entrants who will each receive a \$5000 grant. See more details on page 8.

The NSW Electoral Commission will conduct the next Local Government Election on Saturday, 14 September 2024. For details, see [elections.nsw.gov.au/elections/local-government-elections/2024-nsw-local-government-elections](https://nsw.gov.au/elections/local-government-elections/2024-nsw-local-government-elections)


Being Mayor of the Hawkesbury is an absolute privilege and I am proud of what we have achieved together so far. The last few years have been challenging for us all, but something we all know is that by working together – both with and for the community – we can progress our community's future and meet any challenges head on. We still have plenty of issues to tackle, and plenty of exciting projects to look forward to.

Our future is looking bright! We have adopted a record \$245.9 million budget with our Operational Plan 2024/2025 which will drive a once-in-a-generation program of repairs and improvements to the Hawkesbury's infrastructure, programs, and services.

Highlights include \$107.6 million for improving local roads and drainage, \$39.8 million for upgrading public spaces, parks, sports and recreation facilities, and \$45.6 million for community services, arts and culture, and events.

A significant portion of this year's budget includes funding provided by State and Federal flood recovery programs, the State Government's Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants program, and the Western Parkland City Liveability Program which is part of the Western Sydney City Deal. These multi-year projects will benefit families and residents of all ages for generations to come. We are working closely with the Hawkesbury community to ensure you have your say about these new facilities, so that they meet the diverse needs of our residents. See the Operational Plan 2024/2025 at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/your-council/about-council/integrated-planning-and-reporting

I encourage you to regularly visit yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au to express your views, follow us on Facebook and sign up to our new fortnightly Hawkesbury Buzz eNewsletter at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/link/buzz for community updates.

Mayor of Hawkesbury
Councillor Sarah McMahon 



YOUR FORTNIGHTLY COUNCIL E-NEWSLETTER

Want the latest Council news delivered straight to your inbox? Hawkesbury Buzz is your free fortnightly e-newsletter with all the latest on Council's projects, services, events and more!



Sign up today at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/link/buzz or scan the QR code

SUNDAY, 4 AUGUST | 10AM-3PM

GOVERNOR PHILLIP PARK

Get ready for our biggest, brightest, most exciting Hawkesbury Fest yet!

Hawkesbury Fest is a celebration of what makes our city great, and is the perfect opportunity to learn about the important work Council, our community partners and your local emergency services are doing in our community. There will also be plenty of food trucks, market stalls, kids activities and face painting, and lots of space to sit and enjoy the picturesque Hawkesbury River.

Farmer Dave is back again in 2024, with his exciting Temptation Alley and Mini Dog Races. Hawkesbury Fest is a dog friendly event, so bring your pooch (on a lead of course) and join in the fun!

Don't miss the:

- **20 market stalls**
- **20 community partner stalls**
- **17 food trucks and tents**
- **11 Council information stalls**
- **Free face painting**
- **Kids activities**
- **Emergency Services display**
- **Farmer Dave's Temptation Alley and Mini Dog Races (sign up your pooch today at events@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)**
- **On stage and roving entertainment**
- **Rock climbing wall**

And much, much more!

Council thanks our stage sponsors Big Event Picnic Tables and our small business sponsors Rob's Backyard Pizza, Sage Pig Collection, Total Hearing, Tortatoes Twisted Potatoes, and BullAnt Termites and Pest Control.

HAWKESBURY FEST

CELEBRATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK

Free
Community
Festival

Prepare your tastebuds for the most delicious weekend on the Hawkesbury calendar!

Savour the Flavour Hawkesbury is back on Saturday, 12 October 2024 at Richmond Park.

Sample and enjoy the locally-grown produce, discover your new favourite dish, learn culinary tips from our master chefs, devour the competition at our apple pie eating contest, and so much more!

Learn more at www.savourtheflavour.com.au

Savour
THE
FLAVOUR
HAWKESBURY

GET READY

TO GET PUMPED



In just a few short weeks, we will be officially opening the new BMX pump track and mountain bike trails at Woodbury Reserve, Glossodia.

The official opening will take place in August. Access to the tracks may be periodically limited due to ongoing works in Woodbury Reserve over the next 12 months.

Final design for the improvements across the rest of the reserve is now underway as part of the Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants program. The improvements will see the creation of a new playground, skate park, new multi-purpose courts, new amenities building, off leash dog park, shared walking paths, shelters, and barbecues. The carparking and youth space near the amenities building will also receive an upgrade.

An opportunity to view the final draft designs and have your say will be coming later this year. Follow the project at www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/woodbury-reserve-redevelopment

Woodbury Reserve is funded by the NSW Government's Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program and the Federal Government's Priority Community Infrastructure Program. The pump track and mountain bike trail are funded by the NSW Government through Open Spaces Program: Places to Play Grant.

HAVE YOUR SAY

The Hawkesbury's much loved Oasis Aquatic and Fitness Centre will receive upgrades to expand upon the current centre and provide better amenities for patrons.

The improvements include:

- Children's splash park
- New shallow-depth program pool for learn to swim and seniors programs, including accessibility ramp and hydrotherapy
- Extended group fitness room
- Additional school-age amenities for use during school events
- New covered deck to connect changerooms to the outdoor café
- Touchpads at the end of the main pool
- Extended child-minding areas
- Additional carparking to cater for large events
- Outdoor gym

We want to hear from you about how you use the centre, and about your preferred inclusions from the above list.

Go to www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au by Thursday, 8 August 2024 and have your say!

Proudly funded by the NSW Government through the Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants program.

**HAWKESBURY OASIS
UPGRADE**

The revitalisation of George Street, Windsor has commenced, with work initially focused between Windsor train station and Hawkesbury Valley Way.

The project will replace the old pavers and asphalt paths along George Street with fresh pavers, plant established trees to increase shade and improve scenery throughout and improve the safety and visibility of pedestrian crossings. This will create a shady and beautiful tree lined boulevard along one of our busiest business and shopping areas, reducing temperatures and making George Street an even more enjoyable space to visit.

The trees will be planted on verges, where possible, as well as along the edge of the roadway. The roadway tree locations have been carefully selected to greatly minimise the impact on parking spaces. Roadway trees will be planted using 'strata vault' technology – a planting structure that prevents tree roots from growing up to lift paving. The trees – brush box, crepe myrtle and weeping lilly pilly – were selected by tree specialists to be the right species for this location.

Each stage of the project will be completed in sections via day and night works to minimise the impact on residents and businesses where possible, with Stage 1 of the project between the train station and Fitzgerald Street due for completion early 2025 (weather permitting).

Additional stages will include Windsor Mall and George Street up to Thompson Square. Those stages are still in planning and details on those stages will be released later this year.

For full details, visit the project page at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/for-residents/current-projects-near-you/liveability

The Windsor Town Centre Revitalisation Project is funded under the Western Parkland City Liveability which is part of the Western Sydney City Deal. The Western Sydney City Deal is a partnership between the NSW and Australian Governments and the eight councils of the Western Parkland City.



DID YOU KNOW

Trees in urban areas can reduce temperatures in the immediate area by up to 8°C, improve air quality, reduce summer power bills by 12-15% through reduced air conditioner use, and provide habitat for local fauna.



UPGRADING PACKER ROAD

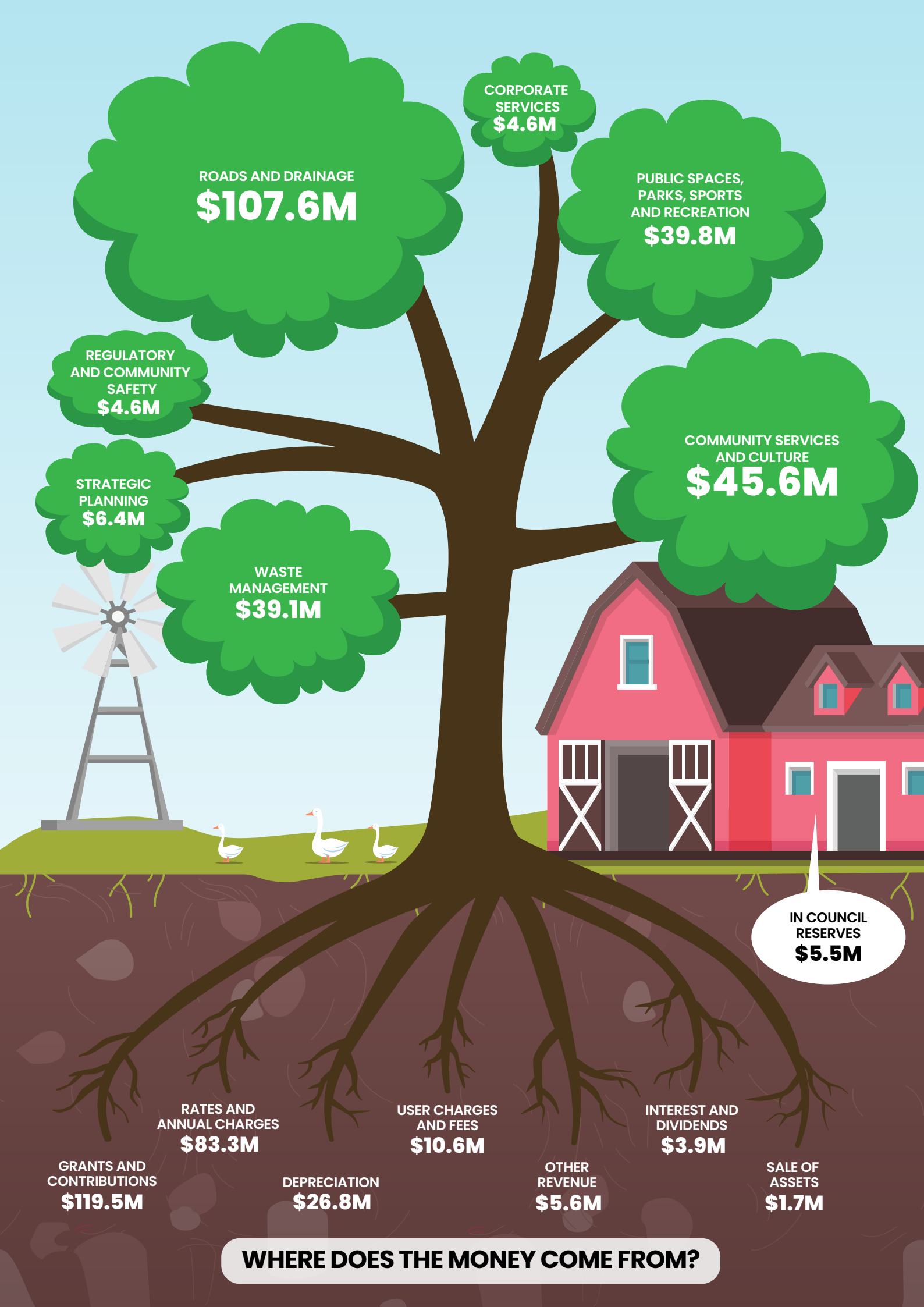
Council is upgrading Packer Road at Blaxlands Ridge between Putty Road and West Portland Road.

The works include earth excavation, pavement stabilisation and reconstruction, stormwater drainage culvert reconstruction, safety barrier guard rail installation, retaining wall construction and spray seal.

Some trees will be required to be removed for the project. Council will replant two trees for every tree lost with locally native species, and nurture these trees until they are established.

Works will take approximately nine months to complete, weather permitting. The project is funded by the Australian Government and Hawkesbury City Council.





WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

“ Council’s budgeted expenditure of \$245.9 million is the largest in our history ”

ROAD REHABILITATION AND UPGRADES

Road Rehabilitation Program	\$4,683,271
Road Resealing Program	\$1,200,000
Detailed Design of Commercial, Bocks and Chapman Roads, Vineyard	\$1,810,000
Gorricks Run, Upper Macdonald	\$602,702
Thomas James Bridge, Wiseman’s Ferry	\$5,918,768
St Albans Road, St Albans and Central Macdonald	\$6,561,750
Cornwallis Road, Cornwallis	\$442,043
Wheelbarrow Ridge Road, Colo Heights	\$405,514
Stannix Park Road, Wilberforce	\$1,013,473
Tizzana Road, Ebenezer	\$461,700
Walmsley Road, Lower Macdonald	\$554,843
Yarramundi Lane, Richmond	\$677,250
Webbs Creek Road, Webbs Creek	\$754,095

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

North Richmond Community Precinct Upgrade	\$2,900,000
New Fire Control Centre	\$4,200,000
Bowman Cottage Structural Remediation	\$120,000

PATHWAYS AND CYCLEWAYS

Kurmond - Kurrajong Cycleway	\$4,000,000
Cycleway over Rickaby’s Creek	\$2,000,000
Footpath Renewal Program	\$200,000

PUBLIC DOMAIN, OPEN SPACES AND RECREATION

Liveability Program	\$3,121,724
Deerubbin Park New Amenities	\$1,230,136
Woodbury Reserve	\$5,700,000
Fernadell Park	\$6,500,000
Hawkesbury Oasis Aquatic and Fitness Centre Improvements	\$3,000,000
Richmond Swimming Pool Upgrade	\$1,500,000
Tamplin Field Redevelopment	\$5,000,000
Wayfinding and Signage Program	\$2,000,000
Turnbull Oval Redevelopment	\$4,000,000
Macquarie Park Improvements	\$780,000
Open Space Renewal Program	\$223,500
Vineyard Floodlight Renewal Program	\$720,000
Bligh Park Playground	\$100,000
South Windsor Inclusive Playground	\$100,000

SEALING OF GRAVEL ROADS

Greens Road, Lower Portland	\$2,153,158
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OTHER WORKS

Contribution to Emergency Services	\$3,000,000
Nutrient Offset Works	\$600,000
Library Resources	\$278,342
Vineyard Stormwater Drainage Network	\$2,000,000
Hosting and Sponsorship of Events	\$1,000,000



2024-2025 OPERATIONAL PLAN

HOW WE ARE BUILDING YOUR HAWKESBURY

Read the full plan at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au, select 'Your Council' then 'Corporate Publications'.



Colo High School



Bligh Park Community Centre



Merana Aboriginal Community Association



Kuyper Christian School



RuffTRACK

HAWKESBURY CITY COUNCIL STREET SPEAK AN URBAN ART PROJECT 2024

The response to Council's Street Speak public art competition was overwhelming, with 3100 votes cast to choose five winning entries from 24 excellent submissions.

Five grants of \$5000 each have been awarded to Colo High School, Merana Aboriginal Community Association, Bligh Park Community Services, RuffTRACK and Kuyper Christian School.

The winning artists will be invited to work with one of our three professional mural artists on a prominent project in Hawkesbury.

The public can view the artworks at:

- Street Speak exhibition, Hawkesbury Central Library until 8 October 2024
- Hawkesbury Fest at Governor Phillip Park, 4 August 2024 from 10am-3pm
- Street Speak Project opening of Clarendon Skate Park Mural, 11 August 2024 from 12pm-3pm

The Street Speak Urban Art Project is supported by Hawkesbury City Council and funded under the NSW Government's Graffiti Management Grant (Western Sydney)



HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF VOLUNTEERING?



Volunteering is big in the Hawkesbury and more volunteers are always welcome! We have many volunteers attached to our Council services including Hawkesbury Regional Museum, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Hawkesbury Library Service, Bushcare, Hawkesbury Community Nursery and more! Thank you, all of you, who volunteer in so many ways.

Volunteering offers many social, cultural, health and wellbeing benefits.

See www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au to find opportunities to volunteer in various ways or contact Council's Community Planning and Partnerships on 4560 4444 or email council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

For Hawkesbury Bushcare Nursery, see www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/link/hawkesbury-bushcare-volunteer and for Hawkesbury Community Nursery, see www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/your-spaces/nursery or contact Council's Community Bushcare Officer on 4560 4444 or email council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

For Arts and Culture volunteering, contact Mariam Abboud on 4560 4444 or send an email to council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

It's time for a Household Chemical CleanOut

Hawkesbury City Council's free Chemical CleanOut will be held on **Sunday, 18 August 2024** from 9am to 3:30pm at Hawkesbury Showground, Racecourse Road, Clarendon, entry via Gate 1.

Eligible items include:



Garden chemicals



Pool chemicals



Household cleaners



Hobby chemicals



Fire extinguishers



Gas bottles



Paint



Poisons



Batteries



Fluoro lights



Motor oils, fluids & fuels



Smoke detectors

Only household quantities of chemicals are accepted (20L or 20kg). Paint is accepted up to 100 litres in 20 litre containers.

This is an NSW Environment Protection Authority Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded by the Waste Levy. For further information visit www.cleanout.com.au or call the NSW EPA on 131 555.



CONGRATULATIONS

TO THIS BUNCH OF ARTISTIC WINNERS!

Five local budding artists have scored fun Lego packs thanks to Council's Bin Bunch colouring-in competition!

The winners are Alirah, Louis, Isobel, James and Pearl (not pictured).

More than 100 entries were received for the competition in our April Community Newsletter and on our Facebook page.



AROUND THE HAWKESBURY

Council is delivering programs and infrastructure to make the Hawkesbury a great place to live. Here is a quick snapshot of Council's work.



450 people pledged to be river safe on the Hawkesbury River at the Hawkesbury Show



11 residents became Australian citizens at our May ceremony



Lower Portland Ferry overhaul was completed, ahead of its transfer to State Government management



More than 17,000 people visited our Council tent at the Hawkesbury Show



Our Customer Experience Team popped up at Bilpin, Colo Heights and Richmond



The amenities block at Turnbull Oval North Richmond was replaced following fire vandalism



The upgrade of Pitt Town Memorial Park was completed, with new playground, paths, and landscaping



Works continued on restoring local roads, including the historic Thomas James Bridge at Lower Macdonald



Shade sails were installed at South Windsor and Colonial Reserve playgrounds



Council preserved a heritage brick drain on The Terrace at Windsor during repairs to a stormwater pipe and culvert



NOMINATE A MATE

2025 Hawkesbury Australia Day Awards

As a volunteer groundsman at Wisemans Ferry Public School, Keith Acton was excited to sit among the outstanding Hawkesbury community residents who had also been nominated for the Australia Day Awards in 2024. It was a big surprise when he was standing next to Mayor Sarah McMahon, with the Hawkesbury Citizen of the Year Award in his hand.

Keith is an active member of the Hawkesbury community where he has lived since 2003. He joined the Wisemans Ferry Brigade of the Rural Fire Service (RFS) in 2007 and then Lower Macdonald RFS in 2015, where he is the President and Equipment Officer of that Brigade while retaining dual membership at both Brigades. Keith also helped the whole community when he volunteered through the 2019-2020 Black Summer Bushfires and the various Hawkesbury floods. He's known for helping his friends and neighbours at any time.



“Receiving Citizen of the Year was such an honour. It was just like the surprise I had when I found out I had been nominated. My family and friends and the RFS were proud too, so the Award goes beyond one person – it’s cheering on a whole community. But I couldn’t help the community alone – we do it together” Keith said.

“I think if you know someone who is helping the Hawkesbury, and making us the best community we can be by helping those in need, then please nominate them for a Hawkesbury Australia Day Award. I know how great it feels to be nominated and to see other people sharing that recognition – I never expected it but I’m all for it, and I hope you will nominate a mate today.”

Nominate today at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/link/nominateyourmate by 13 September 2024.

WHAT'S ON!

CHECK OUT THE LATEST WHAT'S ON GUIDE!

Find out all the activities available at our arts and culture facilities! Come and visit our library, gallery and museum and pick up a copy of the seasonal LMG What's On Guide or download the online edition at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library/whats-on



LIBRARY

4560 4460

Richmond Branch Library
29 West Market Street, Richmond

Hawkesbury Central Library
300 George Street, Windsor

MOVIES@YOUR LIBRARY **THE COLOUR PURPLE**

WEDNESDAY, 24 JULY | 10AM TO 12:30PM

This coming-of-age drama is based on the novel by Alice Walker. The 2023 movie is a musical retelling of the hardships of two sisters.

(M) for mature audiences.

Free - bookings essential via Eventbrite

hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com

Tea and coffee provided.



AUTHOR TALK – FAMILY THRILLERS

WEDNESDAY, 31 JULY AT 6PM

Crime writers B.M. Carroll and Petronella McGovern talk about their inspiration, the writing process, and their brand-new novels about family secrets and the things we don't know about those who are closest to us.

\$5 - bookings essential

hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com

Includes light refreshments.



GALLERY

4560 4441

Deerubbin Centre (top floor)
300 George Street, Windsor

NEW EXHIBITION: SYDNEY PRINTMAKERS **ORIGIN: THE PLACE WHERE SOMETHING BEGINS**

OPEN UNTIL 18 AUGUST 2024

Explore traditional printmaking practices using etching, woodblock and lithography as well as contemporary forms of printmaking and new digital technologies.

Details at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/gallery



WE ARE STUDIOS (WAS)

23 AUGUST UNTIL 20 OCTOBER 2024

Exhibition: (working title) We Are Studios: Elevate 2024

WAS is a disability-led, inclusive studio that empowers Western Sydney-based artists with disability to reach their creative potential by providing space to thrive socially, creatively, and professionally.

Elevate is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW. For more information call the Gallery or see www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/gallery



MUSEUM

4560 4655

Hawkesbury Regional Museum
8 Baker Street, Windsor



BANGADYI NAWI – MAKING A CANOE

EXHIBITION ON NOW

Have you seen the canoe? Connect with Dharug heritage with a visit to the Museum to learn about the community project between Hawkesbury Regional Museum, the Dharug community and Brewongle Environmental Education Centre. The IMAGinE Awards winning project provided a transformative experience for local Aboriginal high school students who created a nawi (bark canoe) during an intergenerational camp led by Uncle Dean Kelly, with Uncle David Payne and Dharug Educator, Erin Wilkins.

The canoe created now forms a permanent exhibition at the entrance to the Museum, shaping learning opportunities for the whole community. The exhibition is complete with a short video documenting the making of the canoe and the significance of the project, and a prominently displayed Acknowledgement of Country.

GROUP TOURS

Interested in a group tour at the Museum and historic Howe House? Group bookings can be tailored to your group's interests and needs. To make an enquiry about a Museum tour visit www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/museum/public-programs/museum-tours-group-bookings or call the Museum.



All events are subject to change, please confirm details before attendance.

Hawkesbury City Council

4560 4444

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