

WINTER 2024

LIVE. WORK. PLAY.

**Your guide
to what's on
in your City**

**Get involved in
competitions**



**Recognising
our volunteers**



**City of Ryde's
new Mayor**



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

 **City of Ryde**

Mayor's message

A MESSAGE FOR THE CITY OF RYDE

It is an honour and a privilege to be serving as your new Mayor, having been elected unopposed at the 19 March 2024 Council Meeting.

There is a lot of work to be done between now and the Local Government elections on 14 September, when the residents of this great City will be able to vote for a popularly elected Mayor.

It is my intention to focus on the big issues impacting City of Ryde, as I have done since first being elected as a Councillor in 2017.

They include:

- **Ryde Central:** I am going to explain to the community exactly why we have ended up with a 'hole in the ground' at 1 Devlin Street and what can be done moving forward so that Ryde finally gets the Civic Centre it deserves.
- **TG Millner Field:** Despite the mixed messages coming out of Macquarie Street regarding State Government support of our plan to compulsorily

acquire this magnificent 6.5ha site and keep it safe from developers, I assure all residents the fight to preserve this vital open space goes on.

- **Macquarie Park employment:** This Council wants to collaborate with the State Government on its radical housing plans, including the proposed re-zoning of the Macquarie Park Innovation District, which we are determined to maintain as an economic and employment powerhouse.

Over the last couple of month's I held regular Mayor's Public Forums where I met with the community to talk about these issues and anything else that concerned or interested you. Thank you for participating.

Sincerely,

Clr Trenton Brown – Mayor
Customer Service Centre
- 9952 8222
mayor@ryde.nsw.gov.au



News

Young talent shines in band comp

Deaf Perception, a group whose members are all ex-students from Ryde Secondary College, was declared the winner of City of Ryde's 2024 Battle of the Bands competition which was held at Lachlan's Line Auditorium on 17 April.

Deaf Perception's members – Maddie McDermott, Marko Pejovski, Jeremy Tedjasukmana, and Kylar Chan – won a free professional recording session (mixed and mastered) with Katcha Music Studio valued at \$2,000.

There were also plenty of cheers for the runners-up, who shared in \$750 worth of gift vouchers to Mall Music Macquarie Centre.

The folk and jazz influenced Rosemary, which features members Charlie Donnellan, Dylan Webster, Shenuka Astbury, and Joey Graves, was second and the three-piece Freak, made up of Ben Rogers, Max Elwin, and Ethan Rogers finished third.

Meanwhile, Two Extra Ribs – an all-girl band featuring Zoe Panzera, Sienna Braithwaite, Charlotte Austin, Emma Darcy, and Jean Cusack played their first proper gig – was recognised for drawing the biggest crowd of the night. Read more at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/BOTB

Keeping our streets clear

The City of Ryde is encouraging community members to park their cars, caravans, boats, trailers and other vehicles on their own property. It is not an offence for these types of vehicles to be parked on the road outside or close by the owner's residence if they are registered and less than 7.5 metres long. But if your vehicle is longer than 7.5 metres or weighs more than 4.5 tonnes GVM (gross vehicle mass), the vehicle is classified as a heavy and long vehicle and different rules apply. Owners of heavy and long vehicles are not permitted to stop on a road in a built-up area for longer than one hour without permission.

Since 1 November 2022, the *Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021 (NSW)* and the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Regulation 2022 have been helping to protect public spaces – including streets – from abandoned and unattended items. Owners have a responsibility to take care of their belongings in public spaces, and strict penalties apply for neglecting this responsibility.

The Office of Local Government (OLG) has created resources to help people understand these laws. For more details on parking rules in NSW, a link can be found on our website at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ParkedVehicles



Meadowbank works update

The first stage of major infrastructure works along Constitution Road, Meadowbank, has been completed.

The new footpath connection along the southern side of Constitution Road between Bowden Street and See Street and new pedestrian crossing, connecting pedestrians back to the northern side of Constitution Road at the See Street intersection and through to Meadowbank Station, were reopened to the public at the end of May.

The vital upgrade had been delayed due to engineering challenges, difficulty sourcing a specialist contractor who could undertake the work and prolonged wet weather.

Preparations are underway for future works which will form the second and final stage. For more information visit myryde.info/ConstitutionRoad



Puggles Training at the RALC

Following a resolution of Council at the 28 November 2023 Council meeting, Council funded six Learn to Swim staff members at the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (RALC) to complete the Puggles Swim training module.

Puggles Swim is Australia's first nationally endorsed learn to swim program that supports the communication needs of deaf and hard-of-hearing children. The training teaches Auslan signs and deaf awareness. The aim of the course is to provide tools and skills to overlay current learn to swim classes with deaf friendly tactics, allowing swim teachers and swim schools to include deaf or hard of hearing children in swim classes, thereby removing barriers to their participation.

Training has completed and staff now have the skills to confidently include deaf and hard-of-hearing children in their mainstream Learn to Swim classes.

Other children in mainstream classes have also benefited as pools can be a difficult environment for many people to speak and hear.

Artist in Residence Program – Expression of Interest



The Artist-in-Residence (AiR) program focuses on the development of artists by providing recipients with a spacious studio environment to pursue and extend their art practice.

The studio space is at Westward Cottage, 8 Turner Street Ryde. Rooi Ping Lim has been our resident sketcher over the past year with her outstanding work exhibited throughout the community.

“It added a meaningful dimension to my work and the culture and rich history of Ryde was inspiring. It allowed me to grow as an artist but also to contribute to the cultural fabric of the community,” Rooi said.

We are seeking new Expressions of Interest for the 2024/2025 program. To find out more information and to apply, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/AIR

In our library



Calling for local artists

Are you a local artist looking to display your works? The City of Ryde Libraries offers a creative opportunity for artists to display their works at Ryde, Eastwood, West Ryde and North Ryde Libraries.

Our display galleries are suited to 3D objects, such as ceramics, glass, jewellery, dolls/miniatures, papercraft, needlecraft, textiles, sculptures, 3D prints, metal and wood. Our digital display is suitable for photography, digital artwork and multimedia presentations. Applications are now open. Apply now at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/LibraryExhibitions

Volunteering at libraries

Contribute to your local community by volunteering with the City of Ryde Libraries. Volunteering is a rewarding way to connect with the community, especially if you have skills and experience in the following roles:

- English class tutors
- Justices of the Peace (JPs)
- Kids activities assistant
- Musical mornings assistant
- Local history photograph digitisation.

To learn more and to apply, visit:

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/LibraryVolunteer

Competitions in our City



Youth Creative Competition

The City of Ryde 2024 Youth Creative Competition is back! The competition is held across three age groups 12-15 year olds, 16-19 year olds and 20-24 year olds with a total prize pool of \$6,000.

Applicants are asked to respond to the theme 'Health and Wellbeing' across the two categories - Art (painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, digital artwork, collage, or short film) or Writing (short story, fan fiction, poetry, review or piece of prose).

There will be something for every young creative to express their creativity and share it with the community. For more information and to enter, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/CreativeComp

Spring Garden Competition

Entries are now open for the Spring Garden Competition. Local green thumbs are invited to get in on the gardening action by entering one of the ten categories. This year there is a new 'Artistic Garden' category. We want you to show us what you've been growing, nurturing and tending to in your backyards, balconies and businesses.

This year, kids can get involved once again and try their hand at the fun seed growing competition – this year's seed is the Sunflower seed.

To see the full list of garden categories or to register for the children's seed growing competition, please visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/GardenComp for more details.

Volunteer Recognition Awards



Q & A with 2024 Individual Volunteer of the Year Award winner, Simon McNamara

Congratulations Simon on becoming the 2024 Individual Volunteer of the Year Award winner. How does it feel?

It's a privilege to have won the award and I really wasn't expecting it at all. It was Dr Peter Kim, an Eastwood based doctor who nominated me.

Over the past 30 years, you have had many volunteer roles with the NSW State Emergency Service (SES) such as Duty Incident Controller, Flood Boat Assessor and currently Rescue Officer. Which position has been the most memorable and why?

Probably the recent floods as Rescue Officer as the Hawkesbury went under and going out to provide supplies to the community. I felt as though we made a difference.

After winning 11 different SES awards, which has been the most important and why?

Probably the NSW State Emergency Service Commissioner's Commendation for Service in 2016 as I wasn't expecting it. Other important awards were the National SES Medal for 15 years, SES Long Service Award First Clasp for 20 years and the National Medal First Clasp for 25 years.

Given you are on call 24/7 as a plumber and with the SES, is it hard juggling both roles?

Yes, it's hard juggling both roles some days, especially if the weather turns bad. I have to drop the tools for SES work and it can be challenging sometimes.

As you also assist NSW Police, Fire Rescue NSW, Rural Fire service and other emergency teams, which job has been the toughest?

Assisting NSW Police in searches are the toughest, as you don't know if it's going to be a good outcome or not. Sometimes that can be challenging.

Where have the searches been?

In the Ryde LGA, Gosford on the Central Coast and Sydney's Northern Beaches. The searches are in bushland areas and if the missing person is elderly, we search the urban streets.

You train a lot of up-and-coming SES volunteers. What advice can you provide for a volunteer wanting to follow in your footsteps?

Do your best - if you don't know how to do something, don't be ashamed and just ask. We're all here to learn and we don't judge each other.

Do you enjoy presenting to the Scouts and Cubs?

Yes, I do. Most of the Scouts and Cubs that I visit are from our surrounding area. I find the kids take a lot out of it and there are plenty of questions. Scouts now have an SES badge, so some of them try to work towards this badge.

You have volunteered for the Granny Smith Festival for 29 years. Which one has been the most memorable and why?

They have all been good! I'm planning on volunteering with the Granny Smith Festival for the 30th year this year.

What do you do in your downtime?

I don't have much downtime, but I like to go fishing and cycling.

Where in the Ryde LGA did you grow up and go to school?

I grew up in Eastwood. I went to St Kevin's Catholic Primary School in Eastwood and Holy Cross College, Ryde.

Volunteer Recognition Awards



Volunteer Group of the Year Winner | Presbyterian Aged Care Social Support Group Volunteers

Over 20 years, a dozen volunteers has dedicated about 18 hours a week each organising social and cultural groups. To prevent seniors from becoming isolated and lonely, volunteers organise morning teas, lunches, social outings, digital seminars, craft sessions and exercise classes.

The digital classes provide the group with confidence online including educating them about scams and how to use the most popular apps for seniors. The volunteers assist seniors who have mobility and technical issues. They also serve food and clean up afterward. The volunteers have a genuine interest in the well-being of seniors, as they get to know them on a personal level and are there to listen. The support group reunites seniors who have lost contact over many years, and enables seniors to make new friends and enjoy cultural traditions. Some of the volunteers have English as a second language and help despite having their own health issues.

Young Volunteer of the Year Winner | Nune Hovivian

Nune often volunteers up to seven hours each week to the 1st Denistone East (Ararat) Scout Group, which ranges from four to 19-year-old Armenians in the community. The co-ed group is part of Homenetmen, which is a pan-Armenian diaspora devoted to sport and scouts. Homenetmen has 111 chapters in 25 countries and all of the participants in the Denistone East Group speak Armenian.

New children who join the group often struggle with self-confidence and creating friendships. Nune has provided a great environment for scout-aged children to find and establish friendships and give them a sense of belonging.

Events in our City



**KEEP THE FIRE
BURNING!
BLAK, LOUD
AND PROUD**
7-14 JULY 2024

NAIDOC Week celebration

National NAIDOC Week celebrations are being held across Australia this year from 7 - 14 July 2024 to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth.

You can support and get to know your local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities through a range of activities and events.

The theme of NAIDOC Week 2024 is 'Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud and Proud'.

For more information on events being held, please visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/NAIDOCWeek



Granny Smith Festival - Save the Date

Don't miss Sydney's largest street festival on Saturday 19 October at Eastwood. The Granny Smith Festival will feature amusement rides, market stalls, food trucks, cider tastings, fireworks, performances, a youth zone and other kids' activities.

Mark the date in your calendar and make sure you don't miss City of Ryde's biggest event. Find out more at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/GSF

Playing your part in the community



Scoop your dog poop!

Imagine going out for an afternoon walk and feeling the squish of dog poop under your foot.

You may not know but dog waste can do a lot of damage to the environment around us and other animals, including native wildlife.

Parasites and diseases

Dog waste can carry parasites and transmit diseases to other dogs such as kennel cough, parvo and tapeworm. These diseases can be life threatening to our furry friends and can cause prolonged health conditions. Removing the poop reduces these risks!

People of all ages can be put in danger too; hookworm and roundworms are a risk to humans that could lead to serious conditions that require surgery.

Pollution

If dog waste is left on nature strips or in parks, rainwater can wash it into stormwater drains which can travel into our waterways. Bacteria contamination from dog faeces in our waterways can make beaches and rivers unsafe for swimming.

Keep our neighbourhood clean

It's up to all of us to play a part in keeping the City of Ryde clean and to have pride in our neighbourhoods and parks. Doing the right thing for ourselves, our friends and family can help keep our community safe and beautiful.

It only takes a couple of minutes to keep our environment sanitary for everyone. These tips will make it easier to clean up after your dog:

- Double check that you have enough doggie bags before you leave the house; sometimes you'll need more than one
- Make sure to wash your hands after handling dog waste; stop the spread of diseases and parasites as much as possible
- Don't be shy; if you've run out of bags on a walk ask your fellow dog walkers for a spare. You could even make a friend!

Until our dogs learn how to pick up after themselves it's our responsibility to keep them safe and our neighbourhood clean!

Have Your Say on the future of our community!

Your feedback is important in shaping the future of the City of Ryde.

We invite our community to share their views and suggestions on a variety of plans, projects, and proposals that may affect your daily life. Community feedback plays an important role in decisions made by Council. So, if you live, work, or play in the City of Ryde, we want to hear from you!

Please visit our Have Your Say page at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/HaveyourSay or scan the QR code below to see which topics are open for feedback. Be sure to check the Have Your Say page often to view any new consultations.



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Customer Service Centre

Phone: 9952 8222

After hours assistance: 9952 8222

Email: cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Address: 1 Pope Street, Ryde
(within Top Ryde City shopping centre)

Postal address:

Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670

Report an issue online: www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/report

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

Social media:   /CityofRyde

Sign up to our eNewsletter:

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/CityNews

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 extends that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Lifestyle and opportunity at your doorstep

Your Councillors

CENTRAL WARD



Clr Shweta Deshpande

0481 282 875

ShwetaDe@ryde.nsw.gov.au



Clr Katie O'Reilly

0481 282 873

KatieOr@ryde.nsw.gov.au



Clr Bernard Purcell

0435 696 963

BernardP@ryde.nsw.gov.au



Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM

0412 048 330

SYedelian@ryde.nsw.gov.au

EAST WARD



Clr Jordan Lane

0466 135 359

JordanL@ryde.nsw.gov.au



Clr Sophie Lara-Watson

0481 282 880

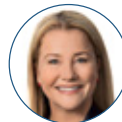
SophieLW@ryde.nsw.gov.au



Clr Roy Maggio

0418 299 347

RMaggio@ryde.nsw.gov.au



Clr Penny Pedersen

0435 697 314

PenelopeP@ryde.nsw.gov.au

WEST WARD



Clr Trenton Brown – Mayor

0435 652 272

TrentonB@ryde.nsw.gov.au



Clr Daniel Han – Deputy Mayor

0481 282 877

DanielHan@ryde.nsw.gov.au



Clr Justin Li

0412 614 174

JustinLi@ryde.nsw.gov.au



Clr Charles Song

0416 011 040

CharlesSong@ryde.nsw.gov.au