

LET'S CONNECT

MAJOR
PROJECTS
UPDATE
PAGE 4-5

PHOTO
COMPETITION
WINNERS
ANNOUNCED
PAGE 9

Camden LGA resident Candice Hall's beautiful picture was awarded second place in the Native Flora - Open category of last year's Macarthur Nature Photography Competition



Free mobile app available from
the App and Google Play Stores

MEET YOUR NEW COUNCIL



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the first edition of Let's Connect for 2022.

Last year was a challenging year for many of us. If someone had told me 2021 would be an even harder year to navigate than 2020, I wouldn't have believed them – and yet, that's exactly what we faced!

From June, NSW went into its longest lockdown. As a community and, indeed, as a state, we endured some tough times during this period. I was incredibly proud to see residents come out in force to answer the call to get vaccinated so we could begin to get back to some semblance of normality, making Camden one of the first local government areas in the country to achieve a 95 per cent fully vaccinated status.

It was warming to see the turbulence we experienced didn't dampen our Camden spirits. Our businesses stood strong in their resolve to reach brighter days, our residents helped each other through tough times with smiles on their faces and Council worked hard to support the community.

I'd like to thank my fellow Councillors for their support, which saw me re-elected as Mayor of Camden earlier this year. I am more focused than ever on continuing our work to provide the best services, infrastructure and facilities to support the wellbeing of our entire community.

I'm looking forward to a bright 2022, where Camden continues to go from strength to strength. I'm proud of how far we've come, and I can't wait to see where we'll go.

Therese Fedeli

Mayor of Camden

2

CENTRAL WARD



Cr Ashleigh Cagney



**Mayor
Cr Therese Fedeli**



Cr Peter McLean

SOUTH WARD



Cr Eva Campbell



**Deputy Mayor
Cr Paul Farrow**



Cr Russell Zammit

NORTH WARD



Cr Cindy Cagney



Cr Usha Dommaraju



Cr Lara Symkowiak

Want more information? Visit camden.nsw.gov.au/council/councillors

YOUR VOICE CAMDEN



your
voice
camden

COUNCIL WANTS TO HEAR YOUR VOICE, CAMDEN

There's now a new way for you to help shape the future of the Camden area - and it's never been easier!

Council's new online tool, Your Voice Camden, is one method Council is using to connect with our community, providing a direct link to Council's decision-making processes.

It's an easy and convenient way to contribute your ideas, feelings and opinions about key projects, proposals and services. The features include:

- 24/7 access to ensure convenience of participation for more community members;
- Privacy is protected and the discussion forums are moderated externally, independent of Council;
- Ability to search matters by topic and suburb;

- Online engagement activities such as surveys, polls, submission forms, interactive maps, forums and storytelling; and
- The option to receive email alerts on topics of interest.

By signing up for a free account, residents will be able to keep up-to-date with what's happening in the area and quickly participate in future consultations.

Information gathered from comments, ideas, feedback and submissions made during consultation and exhibition periods helps inform the decisions Council makes.

For more information and to register, go to yourvoice.camden.nsw.gov.au

MAJOR PROJECTS



OFF TO A SWIMMING START

The first sod was turned at the new Oran Park Leisure Centre site in March, signalling the official start of construction!

Mayor of Camden, Therese Fedeli, was joined by Councillors Usha Dommaraju and Cindy Cagney, as well as Tony and Mark Perich from Greenfields Development Company (GDC), to mark the commencement of the early works (pictured above).

The \$63.3 million project, to be delivered in partnership with GDC, will be a multipurpose community facility including:

- A 50-metre indoor swimming pool;
- Leisure and learn-to-swim pool;
- Spa and sauna;
- Indoor basketball courts;
- Gymnasium;
- Café;
- Creche; and
- Car parking.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Therese Fedeli, said the project was an exciting addition to the Oran Park Civic Precinct which already includes Council's Administration Building and the Oran Park Library.

"The Centre will be a fantastic community facility offering a place for social gathering featuring aquatic, indoor sports, and health and fitness areas," Cr Fedeli said.

"Excitingly, it will include the local government area's first 50-metre indoor swimming pool. The best thing is it's not only in the centre of Oran Park Town, but in the heart of the Camden area as a whole.

"Council is committed to delivering state of the art sporting facilities to the residents of the Camden area. This new Leisure Centre will add to a growing list of premium facilities including Narellan Sports Hub, Fergusons Land Cricket Facility, Nott Oval football field and the Kirkham BMX Facility.

"Not only is it great to have these facilities right here in our own backyard for our residents to enjoy, but it also gives us the opportunity to host state, national and international level competitions which also benefits our local small businesses.

Greenfields Development Company General Manager, Mick Owens, said it was another exciting facility coming to life in the Oran Park town centre.

"We are very grateful for the working collaboration with Camden Council in delivering this Leisure Centre."

This project is co-funded by Council and Greenfields Development Company and is expected to be completed late 2024, weather permitting.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on these projects, and others happening around the Camden area, visit camden.nsw.gov.au/major-developments

MAJOR PROJECTS

Cr Fedeli at Catherine Field Park



MORE SHADE SAILS ROLLED OUT

Since the end of last year, Council has installed shade sails at 22 playgrounds across the Camden area as part of Council's COVID-19 Community Support Package.

The playgrounds, which cater for a range of ages, will keep the equipment at a comfortable and safe temperature to play on.

This project was funded by Council and the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.



Pindari Reserve, Camden South

NEW PARK COMPLETED IN CATHERINE FIELD

Children and families are invited to enjoy another local park and playground, with the completion of a new play space in Catherine Field.

Located on Sainsbury Road, the new space includes a playground, seating, kickabout space and shelter.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Therese Fedeli, said the park would be perfect for the growing community in Catherine Field.

"I look forward to seeing the locals using this new space to play around, relax and, most importantly, make some beautiful memories."

Council partnered with Greenfields Development Company to deliver the new park under the Oran Park South Planning Agreement.

NEW CHANGE ROOMS FOR ONSLOW OVAL

We'll soon start constructing a new change room facility at Onslow Oval.

The new change rooms will suit a range of sports and will fit into the current heritage environment.

The project is expected to be complete in early 2023.

OUR COMMUNITY



Recovery efforts in Camden after the flooding event in March.

CAMDEN REBUILDS

It was with heavy hearts that Council watched the rain and flooding impact residents and businesses across the Camden area in March and again in April.

Council leapt into action to support our community. Staff worked around the clock to manage road and bridge closures, clear debris, make emergency road repairs and keep the public informed of what was happening across the area.

We hosted a flood relief information pop-up in Camden, working alongside various agencies to help residents find support. The agencies available included Service NSW; NSW Department of Communities and Justice; NSW Department of Primary Industries; Centrelink; Resilience NSW; and so many more.

Council also offered extra waste collections to those affected.

We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to the SES, RFS, Police and Resilience NSW for their support and assistance in caring for our community and area. The difficulty of the situation was made a little easier knowing these agencies were working alongside us.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Therese Fedeli, took some time in late March to visit some of the businesses impacted by the floods and hear their stories and plans for the future.

“My heart broke seeing the damage caused, but I was so amazed at everyone’s resilience and commitment to returning to normal.”

Council is now in the recovery phase. We continue to assess the damage and work to have it rectified as soon as possible.

We will continue to ensure we are #CamdenStrong

MORE IMPORTANT MESSAGES ADDED TO WASTE TRUCKS

Council installed four new domestic violence messages on our waste trucks in February.

We worked with the Camden-Wollondilly Domestic Violence Committee to make it happen. We’re proud to stand with the Committee in helping prevent domestic violence.

For more information on the Committee, visit camden.nsw.gov.au/community/support and for more related help and resources, visit camden.nsw.gov.au/covid-19-support



Mayor of Camden, Cr Therese Fedeli, with Deputy Mayor, Cr Paul Farrow, and Tanya Whitehouse OAM.

OUR COMMUNITY



PAINT THE TOWN READ

Paint the Town ReAD is an early literacy initiative that encourages everyone to read, talk, sing and rhyme with children from birth so that they are ready for reading and writing by the time they start school.



Join us for our Babies into Books and Storytime sessions at our libraries every week and help your child get to know sounds, words and language as well as develop literacy skills.

For more information and session times, visit library.camden.nsw.gov.au for session times.



Mayor of Camden, Cr Therese Fedeli, with the Camden Paint the Town ReAD mascot, Binyang the Bookasaurus



EYES ON THE ROAD

In a joint initiative between Camden and Campbelltown Councils as well as the NSW Police Force – Macarthur Highway Patrol, a monthly road safety campaign was launched a few months ago.

Published the second Monday of the month on Camden and Campbelltown Council's Facebook pages and websites, Eyes on the Road highlights local, timely and relevant road safety issues.

Camden Council has a long and proud working history with Macarthur Highway Patrol and Camden Police Area Command addressing community and road safety issues and facilitating a number of community programs including Logbook Runs for Learners, Drive to Stay Alive and graffiti education.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING



COUNCIL'S TREE PROGRAM



Thousands of trees will make the Camden area greener and leafier with Council set to plant almost 1,500 street and park trees over the next 12 months.

We're also encouraging residents to 'Love Your Tree' and adopt their street tree. The first 300 residents who adopt new or existing street tree will receive a care package to use to help ensure their tree thrives. The care package includes:

- A Love Your Tree bucket;
- Gloves;
- Native plants for your garden;
- Information on how to Love Your Tree; and
- A certificate to recognise your commitment.

DID YOU KNOW?

Since RecycleSmart started in Camden in April 2021, over 8.5 TONNES of waste has been diverted from landfill!

PORTABLE WATER UNITS FOR HIRE

Are you planning a community or sporting event? We have portable water units available to hire for FREE!

They're quick and easy to set up.

For more information, visit bit.ly/portable-water-stations



Cr Fedeli with her RecycleSmart bag.

BE SMART AND RECYCLESMAART

Wondering how to recycle those tricky items laying around the house?

Council has partnered with RecycleSmart giving you an Uber-style recycling service. All you have to do is bag up your items, book a collection and leave the bags on your doorstep on collection day.

RecycleSmart collects almost 100 different items including soft plastics, e-waste, clothes and other household recyclable waste.

For more information, visit recyclesmart.com

ARTS AND CULTURE



*Winner Landscapes of Macarthur - High School
Amath Alugolla*

PICTURE PERFECT

Last year's Macarthur Nature Photography Competition, hosted by Camden, Campbelltown and Wollondilly Councils, saw a record breaking 1,532 photos entered by 460 entrants, with 180 of those entrants calling Camden home!

On the front cover of this edition, you'll see Camden LGA resident Candice Hall's beautiful picture, which took second place in the Native Flora - Open category. Here are a few more from our talented locals.



*Second Place Native Fauna - Primary School
Harrison Redman*



*Highly Commended Waterways - Open
Edwin Lim*



*Highly Commended Waterways - High School
Ariana Redding*



*Highly Commended Native Flora - High School
Georgia Stone*



*Highly Commended Waterways - High School
Ariana Redding*



*Highly Commended Native Fauna - Open
Debbie Simmonds*

EVENTS



Mayor of Camden, Cr Therese Fedeli, with 2022 Young Citizen of the Year, Alana Bailey and Citizen of the Year, Brooke Murray

AUSSIE, AUSSIE, AUSSIE!

A big congratulations to Brooke Murray and Alana Bailey for being crowned 2022 Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year, respectively.

There were three additional awards given out on Australia Day, including:

- Community Group of the Year Award – a joint win between Big Yellow Umbrella and The Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living;
- Arts and Cultural Award – Bob Guerney; and
- Sports Achievement Award – Monique Pirrone.

It was fantastic to see so many residents enjoy the online activities organised to celebrate Australia Day digitally this year. From whip cracking tutorials to competitions, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

DID YOU KNOW?

Council celebrated Youth Week from Monday 4 until Thursday 14 April, giving our local young people an opportunity to share ideas, have their voices heard, showcase their talents, celebrate their contributions and, above all, have fun.

CAMDEN LOVE

We celebrated Valentine's Day in style this year, with the first Argyle Street installation for 2022!

We have lots more planned for this space throughout the year, so keep your eyes peeled for some beautiful displays to come.



WHAT'S COMING UP IN THE EVENTS SPACE?

We're looking forward to running exciting events in 2022, with a combination of traditional and online events coming up.

To see what we have organised, visit camden.nsw.gov.au/whats-on

Civic events



Picnic in the Park



Winterfest



TASTE Camden



HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH COUNCIL

If you have a matter you wish to raise with us, please:

- Call our Customer Service Centre on 4654 7777;
- Email us at mail@camden.nsw.gov.au;
- Lodge it online at camden.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/report;
- Download the **OurCamden** app; or
- Visit our Customer Service Centre at 70 Central Avenue, Oran Park.

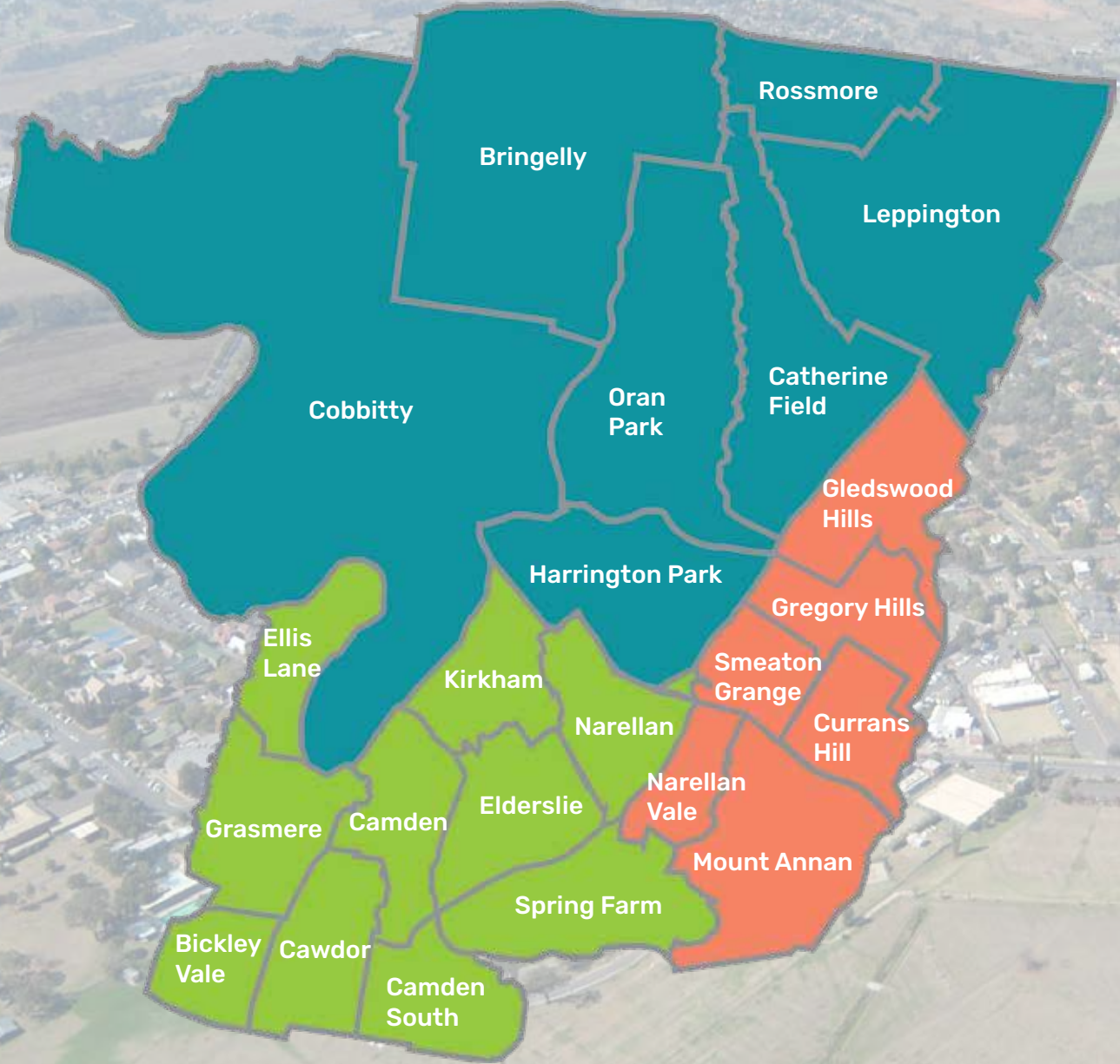
CHILD RESTRAINT FITTING AND CHECKING DAY

The next much-loved Child Restraint Fitting and Checking Day is scheduled for June 2022. Bookings can only be made online via the booking link. Keep an eye on our Facebook page to see when bookings open.

Bookings are essential for these incredibly popular events and are open to Camden local government area residents only.



CAMDEN COUNCIL



COUNCILLORS

CENTRAL WARD



Mayor
Therese Fedeli
0419 180 183
cr.fedeli@camden.nsw.gov.au



Councillor
Peter McLean
0409 032 948
cr.mclean@camden.nsw.gov.au



Councillor
Ashleigh Cagney
0427 406 434
cr.acagney@camden.nsw.gov.au

SOUTH WARD



Councillor
Eva Campbell
0419 638 733
cr.campbell@camden.nsw.gov.au



Deputy Mayor
Councillor Paul Farrow
0419 754 192
cr.farrow@camden.nsw.gov.au



Councillor
Russell Zammit
0408 970 263
cr.zammit@camden.nsw.gov.au

NORTH WARD



Councillor
Cindy Cagney
0428 680 840
cr.ccagney@camden.nsw.gov.au



Councillor
Usha Dommaraju
0421 636 012
cr.dommaraju@camden.nsw.gov.au



Councillor
Lara Symkowiak
0413 485 142
cr.symkowiak@camden.nsw.gov.au