

LET'S CONNECT

CAMDEN'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN 2016

Big Day Out for Pooches

Get ready for some four-legged fun at the loveable Paws in the Park event on Sunday 15 May.

Treat your pooch to a fun day out at the Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park between 9am and 1pm.

Whether you want to show off your cute canine in a competition, pose with your pooch at the photo booth or enjoy the entertainment on offer, there will be plenty for you and your furry friend to enjoy.

You can also pick up some great tips on pet ownership and scoop up a free Royal Canin showbag!

If getting fit with your pet is on your list, join the 3km or 5km walk and take in the amazing views from one of Camden's most unique and beautiful attractions.

Event highlights:

- Jack Russell races
- Doggy high-jump
- Competition fun
- 3km and 5km walk
- Photo booth
- Children's activities
- Information stalls
- Food stalls



CAMDEN COUNCIL & ROYAL CANIN
PAWS in the PARK

Highlights

New Outdoor Youth Space
Takes Shape

Camden Council is
Fit for the Future

Mount Annan
Leisure Centre Upgrade

Council Improving
Customer Service

Check Out Our Off Leash Areas


Contact Us

 02 4654 7777

 camden.nsw.gov.au

 mail@camden.nsw.gov.au

 [facebook.com/
camdecouncil](https://facebook.com/camdecouncil)

 Free mobile app available from
the App Store and Google Play

New Outdoor Youth Space Takes Shape

An exciting new outdoor youth space in Mount Annan is taking shape and is set to open soon.

Project Value: \$1.67 million

The 2014 Camden Recreation Demand Study identified a need for outdoor youth spaces with adventure style equipment.

Council has made this a priority and started work on the Birriwa Outdoor Youth Space in Mount Annan in January 2016.

The new space will offer young people, and the wider community, a fantastic range of active and passive recreation opportunities.

Project Highlights:

- Adventure style equipment for older children including a large climbing rope structure, 30m cable ride, 3m slide, sky surf, basket swings, board rider, air rider and rodeo board
- BBQs, shelters, bins and seating

- Passive recreation space and a sunken garden
- Outdoor table tennis area
- New trees and landscaping
- Two fenced multi-purpose courts
- Sealed car park and amenities facility

The community will be invited to attend an event in the coming months to celebrate the opening of the new community facility.



Birriwa Reserve Outdoor Youth Space Masterplan



Another Great Camden Council Project!

Camden Council is Fit for the Future

Camden Council was one of only nine of 38 Sydney metropolitan councils assessed as 'Fit for the Future'.

In a recent report released by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) Camden Council was assessed as 'Fit for the Future'.

What this means:

- ✓ We are doing business the right way in a sustainable and financially responsible manner
- ✓ Council satisfies a range of criteria including scale and capacity, financial sustainability, infrastructure, service management and efficiency
- ✓ Camden Council was recommended as a stand alone Council and will not be amalgamating with another council.



Macaria, John Street Camden

Council Buildings to Bring New Services

A number of Council buildings are another step closer to being occupied once Council relocates its head office to Oran Park, following an Expression of Interest process in 2015.

Council received 26 submissions and has entered into lease negotiations for:

- Council Administration Building in Narellan - a large medical centre and small pharmacy
- Council Parks and Gardens Depot in Narellan - a sales office for colourbond sheds
- Council Administration Building in Camden - a multi-disciplinary medical centre and associated services
- Macaria in Camden - Council officers will further investigate the preferred use of this building for an Art Gallery proposal
- Former SES Building in Camden for Macarthur Disability Services

This will mean additional services for residents, further tourism opportunities and more people accessing the Camden Town Centre.

Council expects that lease negotiations will be finalised by mid 2016.

Community Heroes Honoured



Mayor of Camden, Cr Lara Symkowiak with 2015 Citizen of the Year, Ted Gillroy and his wife, Yvonne Gillroy

In December 2015, Mayor of Camden Cr Lara Symkowiak hosted a Civic Reception to honour the tireless work of volunteers within our community.

Hundreds of locals were recognised for their valuable contributions across a range of areas including health, sport, community service organisations, youth services, education and the environment.

Camden Council thanks our volunteers for the great work they do for our community.

Mount Annan Leisure Centre Upgrade

Work to expand and upgrade the popular Mount Annan Leisure Centre will commence in the coming months.

Project Value: \$13.65 million
Expected Completion: April 2017

Mount Annan Leisure Centre is set to receive an exciting upgrade to enhance the health, fitness and creche facilities to meet the needs of a growing community.

The upgrade will include:

- Expansion of the fitness facilities to include new cardio and weights equipment
- Group, spin and multi-purpose fitness rooms
- A new two-court indoor sports hall
- New changeroom and locker facilities

- Upgrade of service desk, entry foyer and staff facilities
- Expansion of creche facilities
- 130 new car parking spaces

Works will be staged to limit impacts on members and to ensure that health and fitness facilities remain available for use.



Visualisation of Mount Annan Leisure Centre Upgrade

High Impact Planting Project Completed

A project to enhance key roundabout and corner locations across the LGA was completed on schedule.

Council has finished upgrading specific key locations across the Camden LGA with high impact plantings and embellishments.

Varied plant species, colours and textures have been used to add to the visual appeal of our streetscapes.

Long-term plantings combined with flowering annuals have been used to achieve seasonal bursts of colour to complement established plantings.



Roundabout at Richardson Road and Elyard Street, Narellan.

Council Improving Customer Service

Council has made improving customer service a high priority, so that doing business with Council is quicker and easier for residents.

To ensure enquiries are resolved faster in the first contact, Council has implemented a:

- Customer Service Strategy and Charter
- New telephone system
- Customer Contact Centre

We will continue to make improvements to our technology, staff training and processes to ensure that we provide the best service for our residents.



Funding Injection for Local Roads

Council has received \$8.4 million in Federal funding towards local roads projects in the second round of the Australian Government funded Local Roads Package for Western Sydney.

The funding is part of the \$3.6 billion Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan.

This investment in our roads will help to improve local transport connections and efficiency of local roads, ease congestion and cut down travel times for residents.

Funding has been approved for the following projects:

- Camden Valley Way/Argyle St, Macarthur Road Intersection, \$5.6 million for construction of traffic signals (\$1.3 million of this is funded by Council)
- Camden Valley Way/Argyle St, Grahams Hill and Richardson Roads Intersection \$4 million for detailed designs and traffic light improvements
- \$120,000 for detailed designs for upgrading the existing roundabout at the access point to the new Narellan Sports Hub.

Council thanks Russell Matheson MP, Federal Member for Macarthur and Chris Patterson MP, State Member for Camden for their assistance with securing this funding.



Mayor of Camden, Cr Lara Symkowiak with Federal Member for Macarthur Russell Matheson and Deputy Mayor, Cr Peter Sidgreaves at the corner of Camden Valley Way and Macarthur Road.

Freedom of Entry for Cadets

Camden Airport based 303 Squadron Australian Air Force Cadets exercised their Freedom of Entry to Camden on Sunday 6 December 2015.

Hundreds of people turned out to witness the historic occasion as the 303 Squadron exercised their Freedom of Entry at a special ceremony and parade.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Lara Symkowiak was joined by Chief of Defence Force, Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin AC for the occasion.

This age-old military tradition dates back to the 11th century. Today, it represents a mark of honour and is one of the highest accolades that can be placed on a group or individual by a town or city.

Former 303 Squadron member, Flight Lieutenant Lewis Hill piloted a C-130J Hercules for two fly-pasts in support of the parade.

Visit Council's Facebook page to view footage of the fly-past.



Check Out Our Off Leash Areas

Taking your dog for a walk is the perfect way to stay fit and have fun, and with a range of parks on your doorstep, there are plenty of places to go.

Walking your dog will not only encourage you and your pet to get fit, it is also an effective way to socialise your hound and help reduce barking problems.

Camden Council offers around 460 parks and reserves. Whether you want to take your dog for a run in an off leash area or for a leisurely stroll in the park, you'll find the perfect spot.

Dogs must always be under the control of their owners whilst in a public place and remember to pick up after your dog.

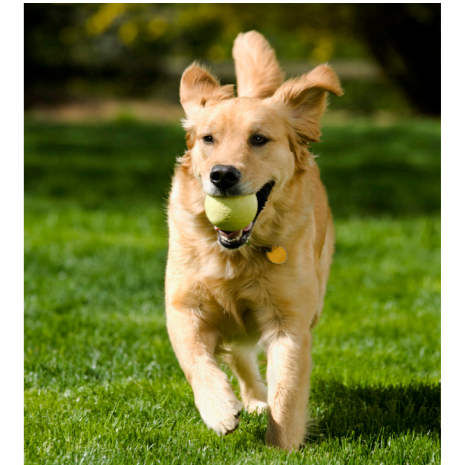
Off leash areas can be found at:

- River Road Reserve, Elderslie
- Bicentennial Equestrian Park, Before 10am and after 5pm (excluding horse event periods)
- Rosevale Reserve, Narellan
- Clifton Park, Cobbitty

Dogs aren't allowed on or off leash:

- Within 10m of a children's play area or food preparation or consumption area
- In recreation areas where dogs are prohibited
- On school grounds or child care centres
- In shopping areas where dogs are prohibited
- In wildlife protection areas

Visit our website to find out more. Select the Residents menu on our homepage, then select the Animals menu, then select Leash Free Parks.



Discover the Wonders of the Night Sky

Camden residents are amongst the first in Australia to have access to a library telescope loan program.

Council has joined forces with Macarthur Astronomical Society to provide a fantastic opportunity for residents to experience the wonders of the night sky through the lens of a telescope.

Each telescope includes a kit with accessories, lenses, charts and an instructional DVD and can be borrowed for free for a month at a time.

Visit www.library.camden.nsw.gov.au/telescope-collection to find out more.



Council's App to Get Even Better

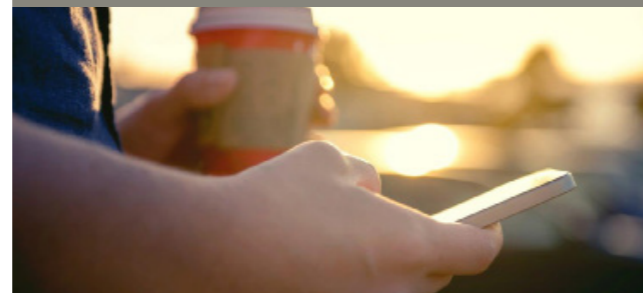
Council's free smartphone app is about to get even better with two new features to help make putting out your rubbish a breeze.

The new features, coming soon, will include:

- An alert to advise you that your bins need to go out for collection the next day
- Ability to book a kerbside cleanup directly through the app

Council's app can be downloaded for free through Google Play and the App Store.

Connecting with us has never been easier.



Welcome Pack for New Residents

Did you know that Council has a welcome pack for new residents moving into the area to help make the transition as smooth as possible?

We want to make the move to Camden as easy and enjoyable as possible for new residents, so we have a Welcome Pack to assist with accessing information on services and facilities in our community.

The pack can be downloaded at www.camden.nsw.gov.au by selecting the Residents menu on the homepage, then Resident Information, then New Residents Welcome Pack.

To receive a pack in the mail, contact Council's Community Engagement Team on 4645 5132.

Council warmly welcomes new residents to Camden!



Suggest a Street Tree

Residents are invited to participate in Council's Tree Planting program by requesting a street tree or suggesting additional locations for tree plantings. Find out more at www.camden.nsw.gov.au

Australia Day Winners Announced

Local heroes were honoured in the recent prestigious Camden Australia Day Awards.

Camden residents marked Australia Day by attending celebrations including the Camden Australia Day Civic Awards and Citizenship Ceremony.

46 residents from 12 countries became official citizens at the Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony, where the prestigious Civic Award winners for 2016 were also announced.

The 2016 Camden Australia Day Civic Award recipients were hailed for their relentless community spirit, generosity, leadership and enrichment to others through community service, sport, projects, events and activities.

2015 Citizen of the Year, Ted Gillroy, was acknowledged for his contribution as Citizen of the Year and his dedication to our community.

Our 2016 Citizen of the Year, Keith Maddock, was recognised for his tireless commitment to a range of community organisations and the endless hours he has volunteered for the betterment of the community.

Keith is the current President of the Lions Club of Camden and has been an active member for many years. He is also on a number of community committees including the Camden Seniors, Camden Festival, Community Safety Precinct and Friends of Belgenny to name a few.

Congratulations to the 2016 winners in the following categories:

Citizen of the Year
Keith Maddock

Young Citizen of the Year
Kirilly White

Sportsperson of the Year
Dual winners - Mark Szalajko and Janine Mladin

Young Sportsperson of the Year
Gabrielle Plain

Community Event of the Year
Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

Camden Family Day Care Offers Quality Care

Camden Family Day Care:

- Offers quality care for children in a home environment
- Was rated as 'Exceeding the National Quality Standards'
- Has more than 50 qualified Educators who provide education and care services to small groups of children in a home environment across the LGA
- Is currently recruiting Educators in new release areas

For more information contact Camden Family Day Care on 4645 5190 or email fdc@camden.nsw.gov.au



Youth Week Set to Shine

Young people aged 12 to 25 can get set to celebrate National Youth Week in Camden with an award-winning program between 8 and 17 April.

Camden's Youth Week was recognised last year as the 'Best Local Youth Week Program' for the second year running; and 2016 is shaping up to be another great success.

Youth Week in Camden is all about sharing ideas, celebrating with others, learning new skills, raising issues and concerns, and of course, having fun!

For a full program of events visit the Youth Week page on Camden Council's website or phone 4645 5021.



Left: Mayor, Cr Lara Symkowiak with 2016 Citizen of the Year Keith Maddock and Australia Day Ambassador Melissa Eustace
Right: Cr Lara Symkowiak with 2016 Young Citizen of the Year Kirilly White and Melissa Eustace

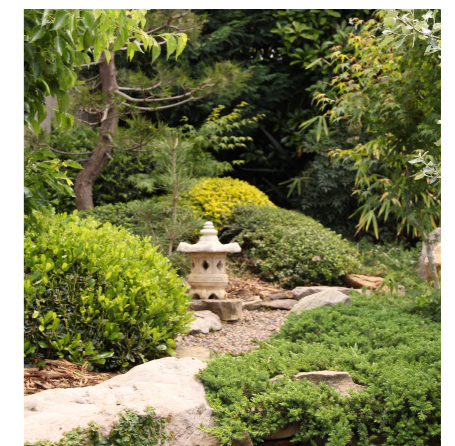
Budding Gardeners Recognised

Camden's avid gardeners were recently rewarded for all their hard work through Council's Garden Competition.

Prizes were awarded across ten categories, with Hans Versteeg from Mount Annan taking out the title of Grand Champion with his Japanese style garden.

2015 Competition Winners:

- **Grand Champion**
Hans Versteeg
Mount Annan
- **Senior Citizen Garden**
Jean Fazekas
Grasmere
- **Best Front Garden**
Justin De Francesco
Narellan Vale
- **Best Back Garden**
Hans Versteeg
Mount Annan
- **Best Vegetable Garden**
Naomi and Michael Guyer
Cobbitty
- **Best School Garden**
Narellan Vale Public School
Narellan
- **Best Professional Garden**
Carrington Centennial Care
Grasmere
- **Most Creative Garden**
Hans Versteeg
Mount Annan
- **Best New Garden**
Robert and Kristy Ryan
Mount Annan
- **Best Floral Display**
Bob Watson
Spring Farm



Driveway Approval Process Now Easier

Changes and improvements made to the driveway approval process include:

- New user-friendly application forms which are easy to find
- Driveway inspection bookings can now be made directly via our website or app
- A refined approval process with same day approval for standard residential driveways and utility connection permits
- Revised controls relating to driveways which are more flexible and suitable for a wider range of development types

Celebrate Play at Camden Play Day

Have a ball with the family at Camden Play Day.

This event celebrates the ordinary everyday play that kids just love.

From games, face-painting and cooking, to craft, story time and workshops, this event will entertain the kids for hours.

Head down to Kirkham Park in Elderslie on Sunday 22 May between 11am and 2pm for some great family fun.



New Clubhouse for Narellan Jets

Narellan Jets Junior Rugby League Football Club's new clubhouse is now complete and ready for the community to enjoy.

The new clubhouse was delivered on schedule and will provide much-needed meeting space and additional shelter through a covered veranda area.

The project was funded through \$200,000 from the Federal Government's Community Development Grants Program and an allocation of \$47,000 from Council's Capital Works Program.

Project Value: \$247,000

Camden Art Prize

The 41st Camden Art Prize will be held at Camden Civic Centre between 7 and 13 May.

This annual event promotes visual arts with a focus on Australian works. This year there are new categories on offer including photography and sculpture.

More information is available by visiting sites.google.com/site/camdenartprize

Entries close 15 April.

We're Good at Getting Sorted

- 97% of everything Council collects in the yellow bin is recycled, meaning we only have a 3% contamination rate. Well done Camden!
- Camden Council collected a total of 34,500 tonnes of waste last year and prevented 71% of it going to land fill. That's a whopping 24 thousand tonnes!

Did you know?

Camden Council is one of the few councils that run an in-house waste service and with the rapid growth in the area, is adding around 44 new house services per week.



Young Science Scholars Recognised

Council recently honoured local students for their outstanding achievements in the area of science, with a Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute School Science Award.

Students were recognised for their dedication, passion and commitment to the field of science.

This recognition program encourages students to consider science as a rewarding and interesting career choice.

The following students received awards:

Camden High School
Claire Villanueva
David Barnott-Clement

Elderslie High School
Mai O'Regan
Christopher Mazurkiewicz
Brittany Stocker

Elizabeth Macarthur High School
Supakanit Rerkdee

Macarthur Anglican School
Austen Perich
Justina Hanna (absent)

Magdalene Catholic High School
Warrick Suters
Sophie Cornett

Mount Annan Christian College
Blake Johnson

Mount Annan High School
Damian Hall
Olivia Bridges
Goras Ali

St Benedict's Catholic College
Astrid Turner

Also in attendance are Khoi Nguyen, Tim Petrushev and Hayley Mitrevski from Ambarvale High School.



Cr Greg Copeland (far left) with 2015 Citizen of the Year, Ted Gillroy and Dr David Humphries (far right, blue shirt) of the Victor Chang Institute and 2015 Award Recipients

Council Gifts Vehicles to SES

Council recently resolved to gift a number of Council funded emergency management vehicles to the State Emergency Services (SES).

- Three operational vehicles and a trailer were donated by Council to the SES

- Through the State Government funded Strategic Disaster Readiness package, the NSW SES is able to acquire and fund a vehicle fleet and equipment

- This funding aims to assist in standardising and centralising the NSW SES Operational Vehicle Fleet

This is a great win for the community and will assist the SES in carrying out the important work they do in our community.

South West Rail Link to Run Underground

In November 2015, the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Andrew Constance MP and Member for Camden, Chris Patterson MP announced that any future extension of the South West Rail Link would be run underground at Oran Park, Harrington Park and Harrington Grove.

The announcement is consistent with Council's submission to the State Government which stated 'The route through Oran Park, Harrington Park and Harrington Grove, Narellan and Spring Farm can only be supported if this is delivered through an underground solution, in view of the residential and environmental impacts of an above ground line.'

The outcome will minimise impacts on existing homes and those currently under construction.



See What's On in Camden

Looking for something to do in the Camden area?

Visit the Events Section on Council's website to see a full list of events, activities and workshops, many of which are free.

Don't miss just a few events happening in the Camden area:

- Camden Show - 11 and 12 March
- Seniors Week Concert - 6 April
- Youth Week - 8 - 17 April
- National Trust Heritage Festival - 16 April - 29 May
- Anzac Day Services in Camden - 25 April

Take a look today at www.camden.nsw.gov.au/events



Councillors

South Ward



Councillor
Debby Dewbery
0438 454 955
debby.dewbery@bigpond.com.au



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



Councillor
Greg Copeland
0413 235 235
cr.copeland@camden.nsw.gov.au

Central Ward



Councillor
Greg Warren
gregowarren@gmail.com



Councillor
Therese Fedeli
0419 423 525
gja@ispdr.net.au



Councillor
Penny Fischer
0411 110 675
penfisch@hotmail.com

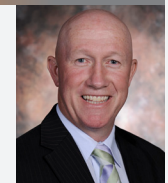
North Ward



Mayor
Lara Symkowiak
0413 485 142
larasym@gmail.com



Deputy Mayor
Peter Sidgreaves
0427 648 033
psidgreaves@gmail.com



Councillor
David Bligh
0428 243 070
cr.bligh@camden.nsw.gov.au