

# LET'S CONNECT

SEE WHAT MAJOR  
PROJECTS ARE  
UNDERWAY NEAR  
YOU

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CHECK OUT  
WHAT'S ON  
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TASTE Camden is set to delight tastebuds once again, as part of Camden Festival in September.



Free mobile app available from  
the App and Google Play Stores

# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF  
CAMDEN, CR ASHLEIGH CAGNEY



Hello readers and welcome to the second edition of Let's Connect 2024!

Reflecting on Camden's achievements is something I find myself doing often, and these past few months have been no exception. The growth and initiatives that have flourished in our Local Government Area are incredible, in fact, I'm in awe of what our community can achieve together.

This past season was busy with community projects and events, including the annual Commemoration of ANZAC Day, the Careers Expo and Camden Art Prize, which were just some key events on the seasonal agenda. We also welcomed some fresh programs: Camden's first Volunteers Expo and the opening of the new exhibition at the Alan Baker Art Gallery – *Camden Art Collections*.

Alongside all this community activity, Council is continuing to invest in the local infrastructure around us, as both the Civic Centre redevelopment and Oran Park Leisure Centre construction are progressing on track. Notably, our community celebrated the opening of the Nepean River Walk – a massive achievement and jewel of Camden, where the beauty of nature and art combine.

With all this prosperity just on our doorstep, I am so proud to not only be the Mayor of Camden but also a resident and member of our strong, collaborative community.

I encourage you to read on and learn about the achievements, both past and to come, and I look forward to helping our community achieve our vision for Camden's bright future!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AC'.

Mayor of Camden



## ORAN PARK LEISURE CENTRE

**Located at 74 Central Avenue, Oran Park, the Oran Park Leisure Centre is set to become a major asset to the precinct.**

With a project budget of \$63.3M and co-funding from Greenfields Development Company and Council, the facility will encompass aquatic, indoor sports and health and fitness areas, catering to the diverse interests and age groups of the Camden LGA.

Serving as a multipurpose community hub, it will foster social connections and cohesion, bridging the existing Library and Camden Council Administration Building.

With works on track, the project is set to open later this year.

# SPECTACULAR EVENTS



## ANZAC DAY

On Thursday 25 April, thousands of residents paid tribute to the honourable ANZAC servicemen and women through Camden RSL Sub-branch's Dawn Service, ANZAC march, and commemorative service.

ANZAC Day is the Australian and New Zealand National Day of Remembrance, in Anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli during World War 1.

Camden Council recognises the profound sacrifice thousands of brave Australian citizens made, and was so appreciative to see so many standing in remembrance at this year's service.



## CAREERS EXPO

**The opportunities felt endless at Camden's third Careers Expo!**

Qantas, TAFE NSW and The University of Notre Dame Australia were just some of the incredible exhibitors which inspired and educated the young and career-seeking individuals, who attended the expo in May.

Held in partnership with Training Services NSW, the event was able to provide valuable career education and guidance to school leavers, path-changers and those seeking to upskill in their current careers.

The program facilitated in building career confidence, exploration, and networking, helping to assist attendees to pave the way to their future.



## VOLUNTEER EXPO

**Camden's first-ever Volunteer Expo, as anticipated, was an enormous success!**

The event, held in May at Julia Reserve Youth and Community Centre, provided a platform for local organisations to showcase their mission and impact, and furthermore, connect with like-minded residents.

Attendees were enthusiastic to learn of local opportunities within the Camden LGA and were keen to discover new opportunities to give back to their local community. Council would like to thank all those involved, and those who attended, for creating such a successful launch of this new initiative!

The program was proudly supported by AGL.

# WORK ACROSS CAMDEN



## LINKING CAMDEN TO THE NEPEAN

**Winding paths through beautiful landscapes adorned with unique art – it's not just a dream, but a reality: the Nepean River Walk is officially open!**

Celebrating in style, Council invited the Camden LGA to join in the unveiling of the highly anticipated walking track with live music, guided walking tours, and of course, tasty food vendors to get attendees energised for the first task of the 4km trail!

The opening event marked a significant milestone for Camden Council's efforts to enhance public spaces along the Nepean River. Following the successful \$5.1 million grant application, the project aimed to extend recreational pathways, install viewing platforms, and create a public art trail, among other improvements.

The opening ceremony featured traditional rituals, speeches, and the unveiling of the official plaque by Mayor Ashleigh Cagney.

Thank you to all those who attended the official opening at the Ferguson Land Cricket Facility to celebrate this exciting new public space of Camden.

The project was funded through the NSW Government Public Spaces Legacy Program.

For more information scan the QR code.



# WORK ACROSS CAMDEN



## JOHN STREET UPGRADE AND ACTIVATION PROJECT

**Council is currently investigating how we can enhance John Street to make it a vibrant, creative, community hub.**

In 2017, people and businesses shared their aspirations for the Camden Town Centre as part of the development of the Camden Town Centre Urban Design Framework. At this time, John Street was identified as a future creative and community hub for Camden, and improvements to support this vision were identified as a priority project for our community.

Now, thanks to significant funding by the NSW Government's Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program, we are in a position to actively plan for this project, which will see investment in the John Street Precinct between Broughton and Exeter Streets.

Throughout June, we carried out further consultation with the community by popping into a number of places, including John Street, Camden Produce Market and Camden Library. There'll be more opportunities for you to engage with us and share your thoughts soon.

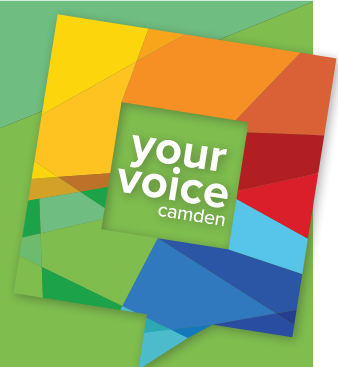
For further information on the project, visit [yourvoice.camden.nsw.gov.au/john-street](http://yourvoice.camden.nsw.gov.au/john-street).

## HAVE AN OPINION?

There's no better way for Council to provide for the Camden community than knowing exactly what our residents think and want.

How can you make sure we're seeing and hearing your thoughts and opinions? Through our online consultation platform, Your Voice Camden, of course! It offers locals regular opportunities to be involved in the development of strategies, comment on exhibitions and complete surveys.

If you'd like to help shape the future of your neighbourhood and those around you, scan the QR code and be sure to register for the items and areas that are applicable to you.



## WANT MORE INFO?

Scan the QR code to find more information on these projects and others.



# OUR COMMUNITY



## CRAIG BLACK – CUSTOMER STORY

Recently, when a local mum shared a sweet moment of friendship between her daughter and one of our hardworking Waste Truck Drivers, she warmed many hearts of the Camden community.

Craig, who stops each Friday to chat with the little girl, surprised her with a toy truck. In the photograph posted to one of Camden’s social media groups, the girl, who is “garbage truck obsessed” as stated by her mother, cradles her new favourite toy alongside Craig.

Council would like to thank not only our dedicated team, but the community members that shine light on the brilliant work of those who bring warmth and kindness to the Camden LGA.



## COUNCIL ELECTION

The next local government elections are scheduled to take place on Saturday 14 September 2024.

The NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC), in consultation with Camden Council, will administer the Camden Council election for 2024.

Council is composed of nine Councillors across three Wards (North, Central and South Ward). Electors in a Ward elect the Councillors for that Ward.

For further information on voting options, ward boundaries and key dates for 2024 Local Government Elections, scan the QR code.

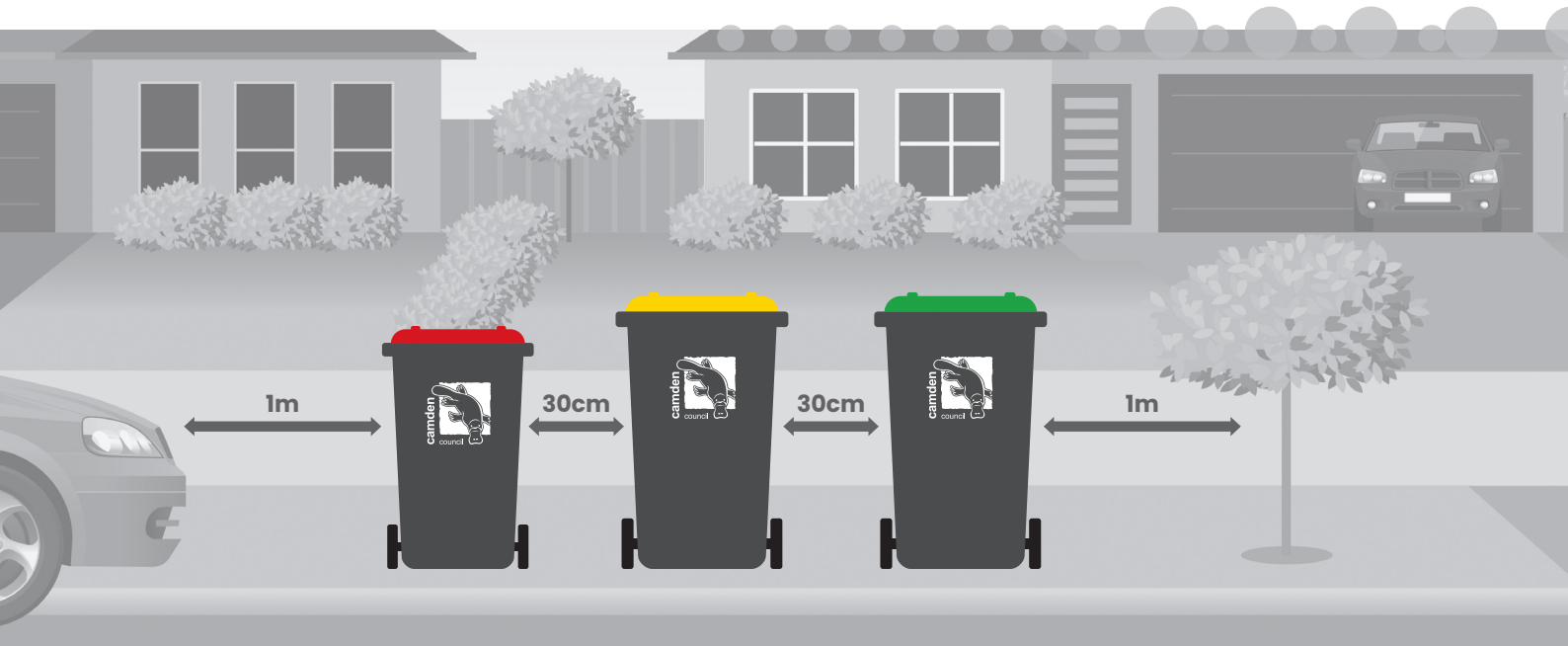


## DID YOU KNOW?

We have a selection of four-legged friends ready to find their paw-ever home. Scan to find your fur baby today.



# OUR COMMUNITY



## HELP GET YOUR BIN EMPTIED ON BIN DAY

**Remember on bin day to leave enough space to allow for safe rubbish collection.**

Place your bin on the kerbside at least 1m away from any cars, trees, poles, fences and other structures. Bins too close to obstructions may not be emptied as it can lead to damage to property and vehicles.

All rubbish must be inside the bin-bags and items placed beside them will not be collected. Also, ensure your bin lid is closed to prevent animals getting in and spreading your rubbish.

Important reminder: Never dispose of hazardous items such as batteries, gas bottles, or motor oils in your bins as it may lead to truck fires and serious damage!

For the safety of our community, drivers and residents, we urge everyone to give batteries a safe goodbye. Take these items to your nearest Community Recycling Centre for FREE disposal.

For further information on safe waste disposal, visit: [www.camden.nsw.gov.au/waste/](http://www.camden.nsw.gov.au/waste/)

## DID YOU KNOW?

Our three libraries hold regular events and activities for residents to enjoy. Scan if you'd like to find something to get involved in, such as the popular Parent and Bub Yoga.



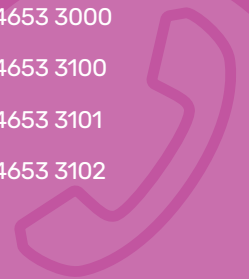
## WANT TO GET IN TOUCH?

Don't forget our number has changed – you can reach us by dialling **13CAMDEN** (that's **13 226336**).

Council changed its main line phone number last year to improve serviceability by making it more memorable for anyone looking to get in touch.

Six Camden Council facilities have also received new numbers, including:

- Civic Centre 4653 3333
- Alan Baker Art Gallery 4653 3111
- Family Day Care 4653 3000
- Camden Library 4653 3100
- Narellan Library 4653 3101
- Oran Park Library 4653 3102



**13CAMDEN (13 226336)**

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW THE LATEST NEWS FROM ACROSS CAMDEN?

Scan the QR code to stay in the know!



# SUSTAINABLE LIVING



2023 winner in the 10-12-year-old category, Rui.

## THREATENED SPECIES ART AND WRITING COMPETITION

**Do you know any passionate kiddos or teens that adore all things nature? For Biodiversity Month in September, Camden Council will be hosting its annual Threatened Species Art and Writing Competition!**

Entries are now open for kids aged five to 18, and are applicable to residents of Camden, Campbelltown and Wollondilly Local Government Areas. Participants are encouraged to express their talent through a variety of mediums, such as drawings, photography, sculpture, and writing.

Biodiversity Month allows us to learn more about the threatened species found in the Macarthur region, and how we can further share this education with the community.

To learn more about the competition or Council's Sustainability initiatives, visit [www.camden.nsw.gov.au/environment/environmental-programs](http://www.camden.nsw.gov.au/environment/environmental-programs)

## OPEN BURNING

**Open burning or backyard burning is strictly prohibited in the Camden Local Government Area, including all rural areas, and is regulated throughout NSW by the Protection of the Environment (Clean Air) Regulation 2021.**

This regulation aims to minimise air pollution associated with burning, such as smoke from burning wood, rubbish and vegetation, which can cause major repercussions.

Certain exemptions apply, such as hazard reduction works where a Hazard Reduction Certificate has been issued by the NSW Rural Fire Service. Exemptions may also be granted for certain agricultural operations and cooking fires.

For further information, please contact the Council's Environment and Health Team at 13 CAMDEN or via email at [mail@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@camden.nsw.gov.au).



## GUNDUNGURRA RESERVE MANAGEMENT

**The implementation of a 20-year Management Plan for Gundungurra Reserve North and South has recently begun as part of the delivery of a BioBanking Agreement for the bushland reserves.**

This plan aims to enhance and protect the endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland, as well as the threatened plant and animal species within the bushland ecosystem.

Works will soon commence, including fencing, signage installation and weed and pest control efforts. Additional planting is planned for the sites in the coming years. For further information, contact [sustainability@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sustainability@camden.nsw.gov.au) or call 13 CAMDEN (13 226336).

## FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**Council is calling upon our local community members to nominate themselves to join the Council's Flood Risk Management Advisory Committee!**

The Committee, which aims to assist Council in reviewing, developing, and implementing floodplain risk management plans for the local Camden Government Area, is seeking six individuals to make a difference.

Council encourages those with varied ideas, experiences, local knowledge of different forms of flooding, ranging from minor to extreme, to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI).

To submit your EOI, or to learn of the representative requirements, contact Maria Pinto, Team Leader Floodplain Management, at 13 CAMDEN.



# ARTS AND CULTURE



## NUGGET BEAMES ARTWORK

Through the NSW Government's Western Sydney Graffiti Management Grant, the amenities block at Nugget Beames has been given a complete makeover to minimise incidents of graffiti and enhance community confidence and perception of safety in the surrounding area.

Local Indigenous artist, Melissa Barton, worked with students from Elizabeth Macarthur High School to develop a site-specific mural, responding to input from the students in a series of workshops.

Next time you're at Nugget Beames Reserve, pay a visit to the now complete mural – a proud example of the artistic skill and potential of Camden LGA.

## ALAN BAKER ART EXHIBITION

The Alan Baker Art Gallery's latest exhibition, Camden Art Collections showcases Camden's rich art history by opening the Camden Council Public Art and the Alan Baker Art Gallery collections for public viewing.

The Exhibition, located in historic Macaria, features a selection of oil, acrylic and watercolour paintings, graphite and pastel drawings, sculpture and collage spanning from the 1970s to late 1980s. Camden Art Collections provides insight into the immense skill and diversity of Camden's artists within an expansive time in the post-modernist Australian art landscape.

The gallery welcomed visitors to the opening of the exhibition in May with great success, where families left inspired after delving into the art history of the past. Visit Alan Baker Art Gallery to view Camden Art Collections, Thursday - Sunday, 11am - 4pm.

For more information on the Alan Baker Art Gallery, visit [www.alanbakerartgallery.com.au](http://www.alanbakerartgallery.com.au)



## CAMDEN ART PRIZE

The Camden Art Prize is an iconic annual exhibition and art sale of visual artists and this year's exhibition was no exception. Having just shown its 46th exhibition in May with than 250 entries, the exhibition is as celebrated as ever!

Held at Camden Civic Centre, art-lovers marvelled at the exceptional skill and diversity of the artworks.

The Camden Art Prize seeks to expand public perceptions of art, with 12 categories of entry, and are open to anyone in Australia.

For further information or to view this year's winners, visit [www.camdenartprize.au](http://www.camdenartprize.au).

# EXCITING EVENT RETURNS



## BOOTS N BEATS IS BACK IN 2025!

The beloved country music festival, which launched two years ago and drew crowds to Camden from far and wide, will return to Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park in 2025.

Boots n' Beats first made its mark in 2022, bringing the community together after a challenging period marked by the pandemic and local flooding. The inaugural event was a resounding success, attracting more than 15,000 attendees and raising \$11,900 for flood relief efforts. With headline acts like Adam Brand and Shannon Noll, the festival set the stage for an unforgettable celebration of music, food and community spirit.

Next year's festival promises to build on the success of its debut, transforming the Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park into a country music haven with incredible entertainment options and attractions for all ages.

Follow us on social media to be the first to find out about lineup announcements and ticket availability. You can also visit [bit.ly/bootsnbeats](http://bit.ly/bootsnbeats).



# WHAT'S ON

## WHAT'S COMING UP IN CAMDEN?



### Kids Fun Day

Wednesday 11 September  
Perich Park, Oran Park

Enjoy family friendly fun for pre-school aged children (five years of age and under). Kids will have the opportunity to sing, play and dance.

The free event will feature the following:

- Live performances;
- A special guest;
- Free entertainment and activities; and
- A free barbecue, as well as other food options and drinks available to purchase.

### TASTE Camden

Sunday 22 September  
Camden Town Farm

Camden Festival's most popular and most delicious event will include:

- Cooking demonstrations by a celebrity chef;
- Kids cooking demonstrations;
- Food, drink and product vendors;
- Licensed bar area;
- Live music performances
- Kids activities including face painting and garden games; and
- An inclusive space.

### Unlock Camden

Saturday 28 September  
Camden Town Centre

Camden's historic past will be unlocked through stories and images as we Unlock Camden. Enjoy a variety of exhibitions and activities including local community groups, vintage cars and garden games. Held in the heart of Camden Town at the Alan Baker Art Gallery, Camden Library and Camden Town Farm.

The program will feature:

- Guided heritage walking tours;
- Vintage cars;
- Art displays and workshops;
- Markets stalls;
- Garden games; and
- Unlock Camden - History Talk at Camden Library.

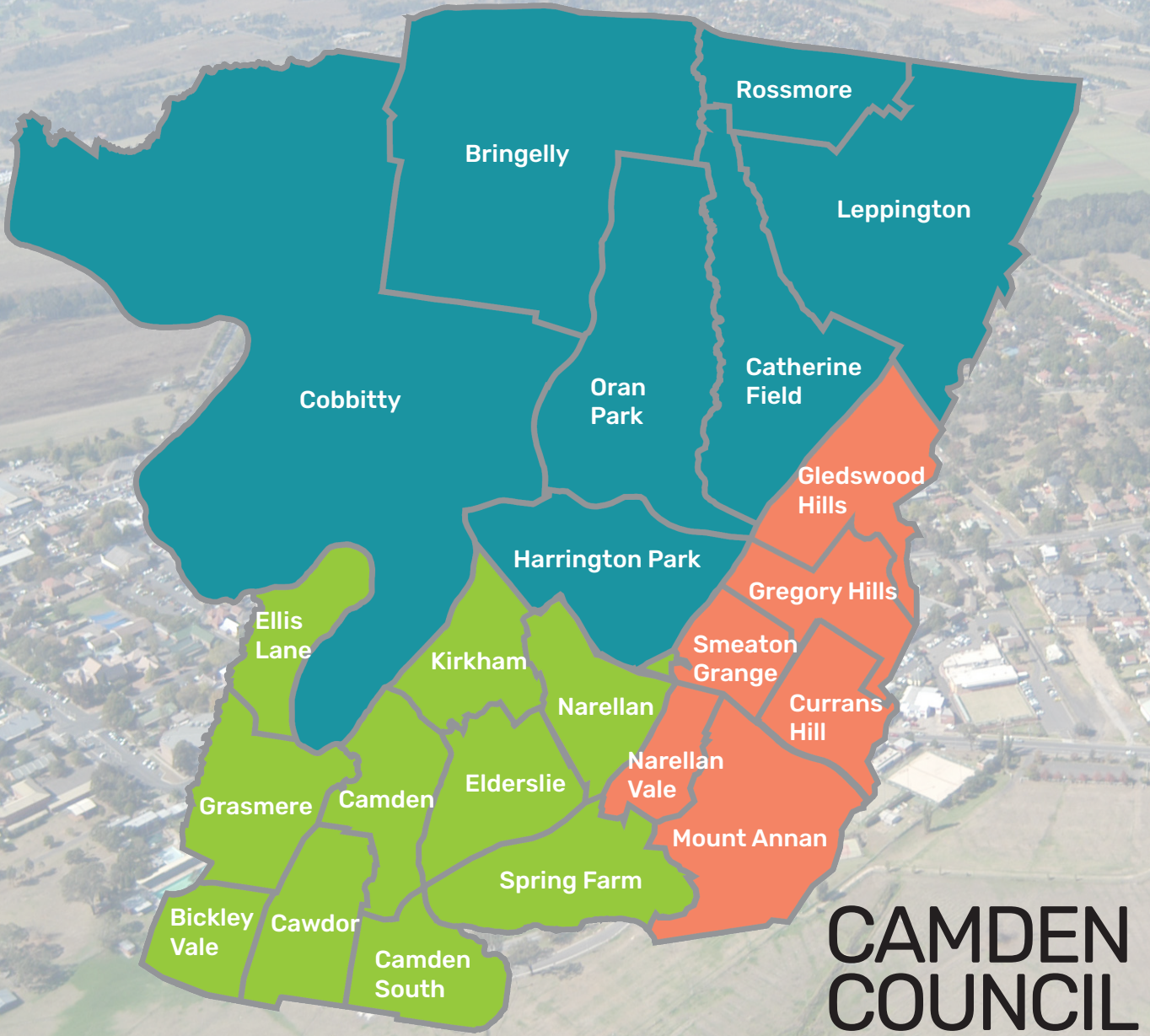


Scan the QR code for more information about these events and to see what else is happening near you!

# 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 **13 CAMDEN (13 226 336)**;
- Email us at [mail@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@camden.nsw.gov.au);
- Lodge it online at [camden.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/report](http://camden.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/report);
- Download the **OurCamden** app; or
- Visit our Customer Service Centre at **70 Central Avenue, Oran Park**.



## COUNCILLORS

### CENTRAL WARD



Mayor  
Ashleigh Cagney  
0427 406 434  
[cr.acagney@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cr.acagney@camden.nsw.gov.au)



Deputy Mayor  
Therese Fedeli  
0419 180 183  
[cr.fedeli@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cr.fedeli@camden.nsw.gov.au)



Councillor  
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### SOUTH WARD



Councillor  
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Councillor  
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