

LET'S CONNECT

SEE WHAT MAJOR
PROJECTS HAVE
BEEN COMPLETED
NEAR YOU
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WANT TO KNOW
WHAT EVENTS
ARE COMING UP
IN THE
NEW YEAR?
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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF
CAMDEN, CR ASHLEIGH CAGNEY



And just like that, we're almost ready to say goodbye to 2023!

This year has passed by in a flash, with so many exciting events, projects and initiatives to look back on and be proud of.

In the first half of this year, it was incredible to welcome residents and visitors back to our much-loved Camden War Memorial Pool, after the completion of repair and remedial works following flood-related damage the year before. We also officially opened Fergusons Land Cricket Facility and celebrated the completion of the Kirkham Park BMX Facility, two incredible shining jewels in Camden's sporting crown.

We celebrated a favourite events of mine, Paws in the Park, and had a paw-some time doing so! The second half of the year has been just as busy. From restoring walkways and bridges to completing the work at Mount Annan Leisure Centre, we've continuously improved facilities and infrastructure for residents, workers and visitors.

In this edition, you'll find exciting details on the major projects that have recently been delivered across the Camden area and you'll read about our recent Christmas celebrations, which have been incredible – and have really set the tone of celebrations of the festive season to come!

On behalf of my fellow Councillors and the staff here at Camden Council, I would like to wish you a beautiful Christmas period and a very happy and safe start to the new year. We'll see you in 2024!

Mayor of Camden



As we continue to soak up the summer sun, we're taking a look back at how much fun we've had over the summer so far right across Camden.

Council's water play spaces, Dawson-Damer Water Play Space and Curry Reserve Water Play Space, opened their figurative doors to the public in September and have been well-loved ever since. The water will continue to flow every day from 10am right through until 7pm, until April 2024.

Dawson-Damer Water Play Space in Oran Park is the Macarthur region's largest water play space. It has a number of water and non-water activities, including water spinners, a ninja warrior course, swings, trampolines, basketball facilities, picnic areas and much more. Being an award-winning and inclusive facility, this space also has wet play wheelchairs available for hire and adult change facilities.

Curry Reserve Water Play Space in Elderslie boasts a large splash pad with 36 play features for all inclusive, accessible fun for children of all ages. This water play space is also an award-winning facility, with accessible activities, wet play wheelchairs and a fully accessible and accredited public toilet and adult change facility.

Scan the QR code to find your nearest play space.



FUN OVER SUMMER



Summer also means we've activated our festive mode, as we get ready to celebrate Christmas later this month.

The Christmas celebrations kicked off with our Camden Christmas Festival event, which took place on Saturday 25 November, 4-9pm, at Argyle Street in Camden. The event was a huge success as we lit the Camden community Christmas Tree; enjoyed market stalls, live music and performances; had kids playing with various activities; and enjoyed a visit from Santa himself!

Oran Park Christmas Concert, which took place on Friday 1 December, 5-9pm at the Oran Park Civic Precinct, continued the festive fun. Thousands of people came along to see the lighting of the Oran Park Christmas Tree as well as festive season entertainment, markets and another visit from Saint Nick.



WORK ACROSS CAMDEN



NEW PLAN FOR LEPPINGTON

Together with Liverpool City Council, Camden Council has prepared a new Land Use Plan for Leppington Town Centre, to help kickstart growth and development.

The draft Plan supports the intent for Leppington Town Centre to become a new strategic centre within the Western Parkland City and supports the development of Leppington Town Centre as a high-density, mixed-use community.

Leppington Town Centre will complement the role of the Aerotropolis and will grow into a regionally significant transit-oriented centre providing the major civic, cultural, recreational, retail and business service functions for the area.

For more information, and to have your say, scan the QR code.



NEW SHARED PATH TO ENJOY

Pedestrians and cyclists in Camden's South Ward have new shared paths to enjoy, with another on its way in coming months.

Werombi Road in Grasmere and Sheathers Lane in Cawdor now have a new 2.5-metre-wide concrete path each, connecting them to the existing path on Cawdor Road in Camden.

There is an additional shared path to come on Cawdor Road to complete the \$5.14 million project, due to be finished in mid-2025.

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.



WORK ACROSS CAMDEN



UP, UP AND AWAY

The Australian Government is seeking feedback on the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport.

The EIS includes assessments of the noise, social and environmental impacts of the preliminary flight paths and the Australian Government's proposed actions to address any areas of concern. This includes the proposed policy for noise treatments to existing properties most impacted by aircraft noise and considerations for any potential acquisition of property.

Although this engagement is not being run by Council, we encourage residents to provide a submission to the Australian Government on the draft EIS. The Australian Government will consider your feedback when finalising the flight path design.

To find out more, and to have your say, scan the QR code before the public consultation period ends on Wednesday 31 January 2024.



DID YOU KNOW?

We have a document to assist property owners and developers within heritage and conservation areas to choose the most appropriate materials and colours for works in the Camden area. Scan the QR below to access the Camden Material and Colour Guide.



CONNECTING CAMDEN TO THE NEPEAN RIVER

Have you noticed the changes down at Camden Town Farm?

The exciting Nepean River Connect project has now been partially completed. The project, which was funded through the NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program, included:

- An additional and improved recreational pathway through Camden Town Farm and Ferguson's Lane Cricket facility; and
- New vantage points.

Still to come for this project are seating areas, art installations, fitness equipment and landscaping, which are due to be completed by mid-2024.

WANT MORE INFO?

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



OUR COMMUNITY



Terry and Robyn Watson



Rachel Fulwood



Robert Herrmann



Beryl Rofe



Great Beginnings Gregory Hills



Catherine Curtis



Natasha Webster



Artwork by Alexis,
Camden White Gums



Artwork by Sophie,
Nestle Bottle Brush



Artwork by Dotti, Barking Owl



Artwork by Lily, Rupp's Boronia



Artwork by Xavier, Cumberland Plain Land Snail

GARDEN COMPETITION

It's been a celebration of beautiful things of all kinds over the past few months, with some truly talented residents receiving some well-deserved recognition in their creative fields.

Council's beloved *Garden Competition* returned this year, with locals transforming their front and backyards into award-winning displays of greenery and blooms.

A big congratulations to this year's winners:

- Terry and Robyn Watson (Senior Citizen Garden);
- Rachel Fulwood (Small Residential);
- Robert Herrmann (Large Residential);
- Beryl Rofe (Best Floral Display and Veggie Garden/Plot);
- Great Beginnings Gregory Hills (School/Class Plot);
- Catherine Curtis (Most Sustainable Garden); and
- Natasha Webster (Commercial Garden).

THREATENED SPECIES ART AND WRITING COMPETITION

We also hosted the *Threatened Species Art and Writing Competition*, in conjunction with Campbelltown City and Wollondilly Shire Councils. This competition saw hundreds of children from the Macarthur region learn about a threatened plant or animal and represent it in an artwork or creative writing piece.

Well done to the following winners:

- Emaan (5-6-year-old category);
- Xavier (7-9-year-old category);
- Rui (10-12-year-old category);
- Neil (Waste to Art overall winner);
- Oliver (Creative Writing overall winner); and
- Harrington Park Primary School (Primary School winner).

OUR COMMUNITY



Image by Andrew Evans

MACARTHUR NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

And to round things out was the *Macarthur Nature Photography Competition*, also held in conjunction with Campbelltown City and Wollondilly Shire Councils. Hundreds of residents entered their most striking, engaging and enticing images of local native plants, wildlife and the natural environment taken from across the beautiful Macarthur area.

Have a look at some of the amazing winners above and right.

In the Caring for Country category, the winners were:

- Daniel Chalker (Open category);
- Hayden Wilson (High School category); and
- Quinn (Primary School category).

In the Threatened Species category, the winners were:

- Andrew Evans (Open category);
- Summer Tuckey (High School category); and
- Isaac (Primary School category).

And in the Australian Native Plants, Animals and Pollinators category, the winners were:

- Noah Syed (Open category);
- Cooper Tamayo (High School category); and
- Anthony (Primary School category).

The photo you saw on the front of this edition was taken by Asnika of Oran Park, which was crowned the winner of the People's Choice category. It captures Corellas in flight over Harrington Park Lake.

Scan the QR code to see even more beautiful entries.



Image by Isaac Harris

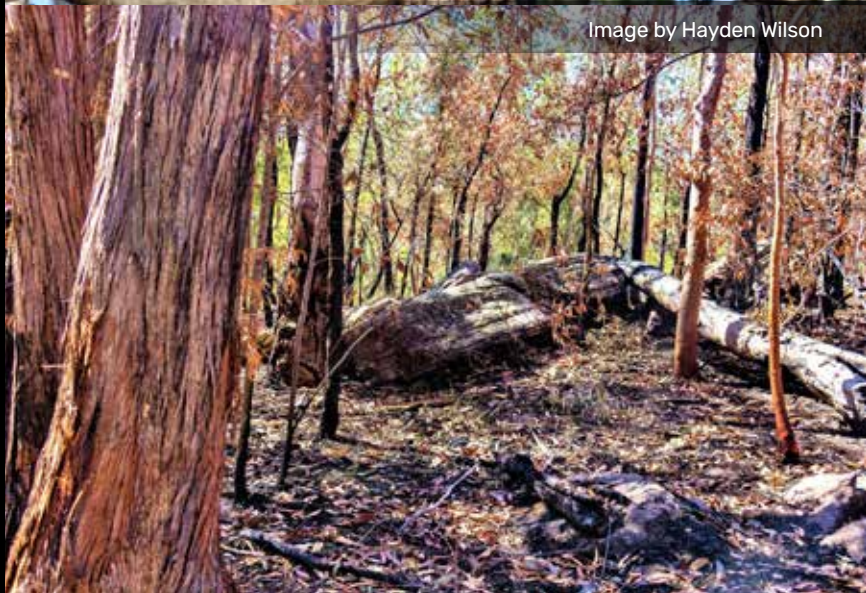


Image by Hayden Wilson

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

Scan the QR code to stay in the know!



SUSTAINABLE LIVING



SOLAR ENERGY DASHBOARD

Did you know we have more than 475 kilowatts of solar panels installed on community centres across the Camden area?

All these panels work hard in generating solar energy and we have a handy tool online that allows you to see the historical and live data on that energy.

You can explore how much energy has been produced by the renewable solar panels at all key Council facilities, including all three libraries; Catherine Park Community Centre; Julia Reserve Community Centre; and Mount Annan Leisure Centre, and how this is reducing operational Greenhouse Gas Emissions.



SPRING FARM FISH HABITAT

To support the desire to fish on the Nepean River, Council has installed fish habitat structures and erosion control measures to help increase the population and passage of Australian Bass.

The works used salvaged material, which included 80 tonnes of rock, more than 40 hardwood timber logs and involved planting around 2,600 native plants, to help restore the endangered ecological community River-Flat Eucalyptus Forest.

This project was assisted by NSW Department of Primary Industries Fisheries' Recreational Fishing Trust's Habitat Action Grant Program, which is financed from funds generated through collection of the recreation fishing licence fee in NSW.



ONE PERSON'S TRASH...

Council was proud to support the Garage Sale Trail, Australia's festival of pre-loved stuff, once again.

The Camden area boasted a record number of garage sales, with Council also proudly hosting the Macarthur region event in association with the Macarthur Councils and the Macarthur Strategic Waste Alliance on Saturday 18 November at Narellan Sports Hub.

Thousands of kilograms of items were sold and reused, with residents bagging bargains and cashing in.

We look forward to seeing what records we can break next year!

HOOK, LINE AND MEASURE

Feel like delving into some fishy business? Look no further than Council's citizen science project, Hook, Line and Measure.

The project records and displays information about fish caught by recreational fishers within Camden's waterways. It aims to increase our understanding of fish species, size and distribution in the Nepean River and its tributaries and the health of our aquatic ecosystems.

To find out more, and to get involved, scan the QR code.



ARTS AND CULTURE

ALAN'S ART DECO

Have you been to Alan Baker Art Gallery to see its newest exhibition yet?

The incredible showcase, entitled Alan's Art Deco, is a celebration of Art Deco manifested through the work of 20th Century artist Alan D. Baker. As the Australian economy was recovering and prospering, Baker developed a successful commercial art career with Tooth & Co, producing a series of iconic advertising posters.

This exhibition frames Baker's commercial art in the context of its era, including Baker's advertising oil paintings, scratchboard works, items from the 1930s to help set the scene, and historical photographs that showcase Sydney's Art Deco movement in the 1920s to the 1950s.



WE'RE COLLABORATING CREATIVELY

Council delivered its fourth successful Creative Collab session on Thursday 12 October as part of the 2023 Small Business Month program.

Guest speaker, Peter Day, workshopped with local established and emerging artists on finding their ideal price point, sharing his 45 years' worth of experience in arts practice with attendees.

For updates on the next Creative Collab session, or other arts and cultural news, register to our Creative Directory by scanning the QR code.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are a series of self-directed lesson plans available on our website to help you get creative and learn a range of technical drawing skills. Scan the QR code and scroll down until you reach the "online drawing workshops" section.



LOOKING FOR YOUR CIVIC CENTRE FIX?

We have an exciting line-up of interactive and laugh-out-loud shows coming up in the new year – all at Camden Civic Centre!

The 10 Sopranos
Sing The Very Best of
ABBA - Mamma Mia
Friday 19 January 2024, 8pm



Heroes From Heaven
Tribute Show
Friday 9 February 2024, 8pm



The Great Elvis
Spectacular
Sunday 25 February 2024,
5pm



Kath and Kim Drag
Bingo
Saturday 16 March 2024,
8pm



For more events coming up, flick through to page 11.

EVENTS AND BUSINESS



TOURING OUR LOCAL AIRPORT

Council was proud to, once again, offer local businesses an opportunity to tour the Western Sydney International Airport last month.

The tour took businesses to various areas, including the terminal and runways, all while providing valuable insights into the opportunities for businesses. A networking component was included to allow businesses to meet and connect with each other.



CELEBRATING OUR SMALL BUSINESSES

Council celebrated all things small business throughout October, as part of Small Business Month.

From cyber security to Halloween themed networking, the extensive program of events offered local businesses and staff an opportunity to connect with their business community and potential customers, nurture existing relationships and learn and acquire new skills and ideas.

DOING BUSINESS WITH COUNCIL

Would you like to do business with Camden Council but find the procurement process a little hard to navigate?

We don't blame you - between an RFQ, LGP, RFT and EOI...WTH?!

We've created new, easy-to-digest content which explains the process in detail and gives you a proper introduction to VendorPanel Marketplace - our one stop shop for connecting with businesses.

Scan the QR code to learn more.



WHAT'S ON

WHAT'S COMING UP IN CAMDEN?



Australia Day 2024

Friday 26 January, 10am
Argyle Street, Camden

Celebrate what it means to be Australian with Camden Council.



Cultural Fusion

Saturday 20 January and
24 February 2024, 5-8pm
Camden Civic Centre

Immerse yourself in a multi-faceted cultural extravaganza that combines live performances, inspiring art, bustling markets and soul-stirring music.



International Women's Day Gala 2024

Thursday 7 March

An evening to celebrate women's achievements, raise awareness of issues of women's equality and promote the message that we all have a role to play in accelerating the gender parity journey.

Stay tuned for more details and ticket information!



Live It Up, Live It Green

Saturday 16 March, 10am-2pm
Julia Reserve Youth Precinct

Learn to incorporate simple sustainable living choices and actions into your everyday life.



Camden Careers Expo

Tuesday 14 May
Julia Reserve Youth Precinct

An event connecting job seekers with a range of industries offering tangible career pathways, study and training opportunities.

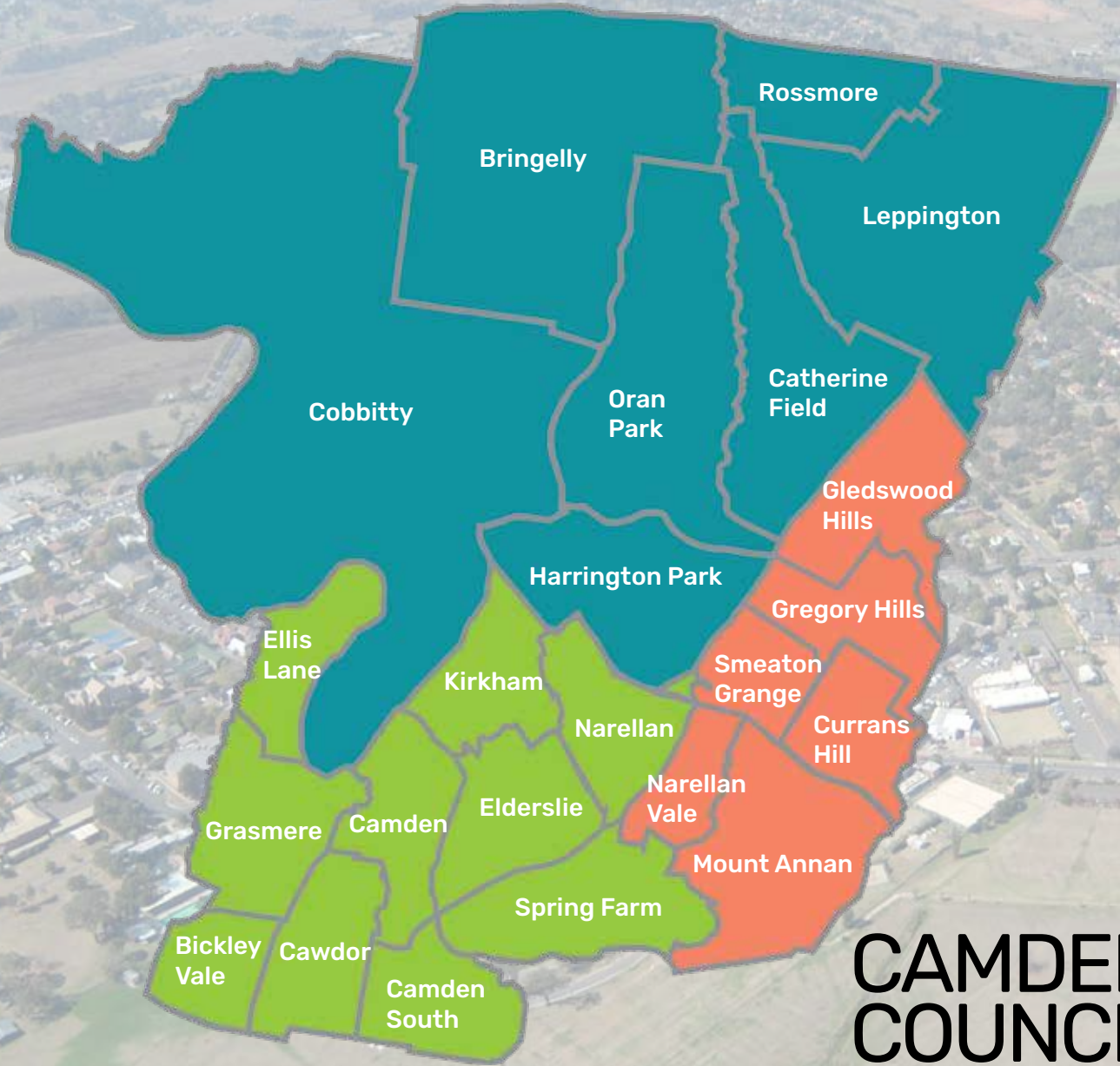


Scan the QR code for more information about these events and to see what else is happening near you!

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;
- 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**.



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