

LET'S CONNECT

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF CAMDEN, CR ASHLEIGH CAGNEY



It is an honour to have recently been re-elected your Mayor. Since I was first elected as Mayor in May 2023, I have thoroughly enjoyed listening to you and advocating for better outcomes for all of our community. It's not a position I take lightly and I am incredibly grateful to be leading Camden once again.

One of my first privileges after being re-elected was to officially open the Oran Park Leisure Centre – a facility which I'm very proud of. Our residents deserve access to state-of-the-art recreational facilities, and now, with this centre, we have a place that caters to everyone – from future Olympians to families seeking a fun day out.

The Oran Park Leisure Centre is more than just a building; it's a space where our community can come together, where children can take their first swim, where athletes can train, and where we can all work towards healthier lifestyles. This \$67 million project is the largest ever delivered by Camden Council, and we are proud to see it become a reality, thanks to the strong partnership with Greenfields Development Company.

Our community spirit was on full display during the opening celebration, where hundreds of residents gathered to witness the historic moment. I hope you all get a chance to visit soon and see for yourselves what this wonderful facility has to offer.

As we look ahead, Camden is bustling with exciting projects and events. From the continued upgrades to the Camden Civic Centre to our upcoming Australia Day event, there is always something happening across our growing region. I encourage you to take full advantage of all that Camden has to offer, whether you're attending a local event, exploring our parks, or diving into the pool at the new leisure centre.

Together, we are building a vibrant, inclusive, and connected community that we can all be proud of.

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

Mayor of Camden



A HOME FOR FUTURE OLYMPIANS, A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

No longer will the next Ariarne Titmus or Cameron McEvoy born in Southwest Sydney be forced to travel far to mould their dreams of glory – with the Oran Park Leisure Centre now open to the public.

What is now Southwest Sydney's premier leisure and aquatic centre houses an indoor 50m pool, a leisure pool and learn-to-swim pool, an indoor multipurpose sports hall with four basketball courts and a state-of-the-art gym. It also holds a spa, sauna and steam room, café, crèche and ample undercover parking.

The centre is also fully inclusive – from wheelchair accessible pool hoists to Changing Places accredited facilities, there isn't a single part of the building that can't be reached by anyone, regardless of their physical abilities.

ORAN PARK LEISURE CENTRE



The \$67 million project, delivered in partnership with Greenfields Development Company, is the largest project ever delivered by Camden Council.

The leisure centre, located at 74 Central Avenue, Oran Park, was designed by Warren and Mahoney Architects, built by ADCO Constructions, and is managed by BlueFit.

The community celebrated the historic opening with an event on 20 October, which featured guest appearances by local Olympic gold medallist swimmer Sarah Ryan, triple Olympic gold medallist swimmer Bronte Campbell and Wheelchair Rugby League star Brad Grove.

Inside the centre, those who secured free tickets had the chance to have a first dive into the pool. Outside the centre, event attendees enjoyed live entertainment, activities, food and drink and much more.

Memberships and learn to swim are now available at Oran Park Leisure Centre. For more information, scan the QR code.



YOUR CAMDEN COUNCILLORS



Cr Ashleigh Cagney
Central Ward | Mayor

What is your connection to the Camden area?

I moved to Camden many years ago after meeting my now husband John, a Camden local. We are now living in Currans Hill and raising our four beautiful children.

What do you love most about Camden?

The people without doubt! It's easy to fall in love with Camden with all its natural beauty and history; but I believe it's the wonderful people of Camden who, with their community spirit, resilience and generosity make this place the greatest on earth.

Why did you decide to become a Councillor?

As a law graduate and perpetual community volunteer, I learnt that if I became a Councillor I would be able to continue advocacy work while still giving back to my community – two things that give me utter joy. It is an absolute privilege to represent your community at the most grassroots level of government and the importance of my role within our community is never lost on me.

What are you most passionate about in your role as Councillor?

I'm most passionate about working alongside my Councillor colleagues to ensure decisions of Council will be in the best interest of our community and that our legacy will leave a positive impact for generations to come.



Cr Therese Fedeli
Central Ward | Deputy Mayor

What is your connection to the Camden area?

I have lived in the Camden LGA for 30 years and raised my family in Camden. I've operated a family business here, supported many of the local charities and my husband Frank has coached at local soccer clubs for over 15 years.

What do you love most about Camden?

I love how caring and friendly the people are in Camden. I witnessed through the Camden floods how the whole community pulled together and helped each other. Camden has many beautiful parks for families to attend. I often drive past parks on the weekend and it is great to see so many families out at these parks. Camden is a very caring community.

Why did you decide to become a Councillor?

I ran for Council again as I care about the community, I am a great listener and I want to see things getting done for the community. Camden is one of the fastest growing LGAs and I want to be part of this growth to make sure the Camden community has a great place to live and raise their families.

What are you most passionate about in your role as Councillor?

I love helping and listening to people's concerns and getting them resolved. As Camden grows, we are becoming more inclusive with our multicultural groups and I love this as we can all learn from each other and work together for the Camden LGA.



Cr Peter McLean
Central Ward | Councillor

What is your connection to the Camden area?

I grew up in Bringelly, attended both Primary and High School in Camden and have lived in Camden or around Camden almost my whole life. I now have a family of my own and have the opportunity to connect my three daughters to the local area. I also have the responsibility to help connect new residents who are moving into this area to better understand and connect with our community.

What do you love most about Camden?

The people, the community and our unique landscape which highlights our emerging history, recent history but also our ancient history which we need to better celebrate, understand and appreciate. We truly are unique with our open space, river, history, culture and geographic location so let's celebrate it and protect it.

Why did you decide to become a Councillor?

When I graduated from University, I worked in local government and since then I have worked for and alongside many councils which has given me a strong understanding of local government in Australia. I love the area and feel a deep sense of connection so I believe with my skills and knowledge, real world experience and connection that I can make a meaningful difference.

What are you most passionate about in your role as Councillor?

It's all about making Camden the best Council in Australia but equally the best Council for the people. I am extremely passionate about accountability and putting the community at the heart of all policies and plans. I want to see more trees, more public transport, our heritage better protected and everyone in our community benefiting equally as our region grows.



Cr Vince Ferreri
North Ward | Councillor

What is your connection to the Camden area?

I moved to the Camden area at age 17 and have lived, worked and played in the area ever since. I couldn't think of a better place to raise my three children.

What do you love most about Camden?

Camden has everything. It has state-of-the-art new facilities any world city would be proud of in Oran Park, while still maintaining a country charm in the heart of Camden's Argyle Street.

Why did you decide to become a Councillor?

I wanted to set an example for kids to follow. To show them that with hard work you can really make a difference to people's lives in the community for the better.

What are you most passionate about in your role as Councillor?

I want to be a voice for the everyday common people in the community who are really struggling with cost of living issues.

YOUR CAMDEN COUNCILLORS



Cr Eliza Rahman
North Ward | Councillor

What is your connection to the Camden area?

I'm strongly connected to the Camden community, regularly attending local events, meetings, and working with local organisations. Living and working here gives me a deep understanding of our community's values. I'm committed to creating a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable place for all residents.

What do you love most about Camden?

Camden's natural beauty, with its stunning landscapes and parks, stands out. The strong community spirit and rich historical heritage add to its charm. The thriving local economy and cultural diversity make it an exciting and inclusive place to live.

Why did you decide to become a Councillor?

I became a Councillor to engage with the community and play a role in shaping Camden's future growth. I'm passionate about environmental sustainability, supporting our youth, and ensuring local government remains transparent and accountable. Building stronger community connections and improving services for residents is a key focus of mine.

What are you most passionate about in your role as Councillor?

I'm passionate about community engagement and ensuring Camden's growth is sustainable. Prioritising infrastructure, youth programs, health, and economic development are key areas I focus on. Embracing and promoting cultural diversity and inclusion is also a priority in my role.



Cr Dr Abha Suri
North Ward | Councillor

What is your connection to the Camden area?

I have been a resident of the Camden area for over a decade and presently live in Oran Park. I am deeply invested in the community's safety, growth and inclusivity. As a newly elected Councillor, I am committed to serving and enhancing the well-being of our diverse community.

What do you love most about Camden?

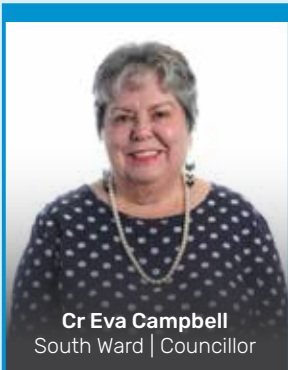
I love the strong sense of community in Camden and the way it embraces both its rich heritage and future growth. The natural beauty of the area, combined with the warmth and the resilience of its people, makes it a truly special place to call home.

Why did you decide to become a Councillor?

I decided to become a Councillor to advocate for community safety, inclusivity and sustainable growth in Camden. Having lived here in the Camden area, I want to give back to the community by ensuring that the local voices are heard and positive change is achieved for all residents.

What are you most passionate about in your role as Councillor?

As a Councillor, I am most passionate about sustainable growth of the area and ensuring that all members have access to the facilities they most need. I am committed to promoting policies that enhance sustainability, inclusivity and opportunities for everyone in Camden.



Cr Eva Campbell
South Ward | Councillor

What is your connection to the Camden area?

This is the place I've chosen as my home. My connection began through family who came here in 1946, then marrying Robert Campbell - his forebears date back to the early 19th century - working locally before establishing 'Looking Class Fashions' as our family business, and raising our family here.

What do you love most about Camden?

The Nepean and our natural landscape is beautiful, Camden's heritage is without parallel in the nation's history and my fellow residents, well most of them, genuinely care about this place we call home. So long as we remain a cohesive community, respect and support each other and focus on gratitude and kindness, what's not to love about Camden?

Why did you decide to become a Councillor?

Some local residents suggested I consider standing for Council. As Commonwealth scholarships had supported my education, I wanted to give something back in return for opportunities. I also thought I had plenty of spare time to be a Councillor if I happened to be elected. That was an error of judgement; I had to make the time. I have never regretted the decision.

What are you most passionate about in your role as Councillor?

I really enjoy meeting different people, hearing their stories and working to solve problems to achieve the best possible outcomes. However, my passion is research and discussion, which contributes plans and to the policies which will best serve residents now and into the future of our local government area.



Cr Damien Quinnell
South Ward | Councillor

What is your connection to the Camden area?

We moved to Camden 17 years ago to raise our three children. Now they have nearly all left school. Where does the time go!

What do you love most about Camden?

Its wonderfully generous people mixed with a beautiful rural environment.

Why did you decide to become a Councillor?

To ensure Camden remains a wonderful place to live, while building social and environmental resilience for the challenges ahead.

What are you most passionate about in your role as Councillor?

Assisting the young adults of Camden to find their place in our community and present to them the opportunities that were given to me.



Cr Rose Sicari
South Ward | Councillor

What is your connection to the Camden area?

I have a big family, lots of great friends and a wonderful local church that I am connected to.

What do you love most about Camden?

The thing that I love most about this area is the relationships that I have built with the people in the community over the years.

Why did you decide to become a Councillor?

I always invoked with the community through either church or work or children's school and cared for people and wanted to do more on a greater level.

What are you most passionate about in your role as Councillor?

The thing I'm most passionate about is communicating with the locals and listening to them so that I can give support where I can.

SPECTACULAR EVENTS



KIDS FUN DAY

Hundreds of kids and their families were treated to an oink-tastic Peppa Pig live show at the annual Kids Fun Day event on Wednesday 11 September.

Peppa Pig and her family performed a cheerful show, played games and danced to songs together with the cheery crowd. Kids' imaginations soared as Peppa Pig encouraged everyone to jump into their very own imaginary muddy puddles.

Families were also treated to free face painting and a free barbecue. There was also a sensory play space, engaging kids with a soft play area and variety of sensory activities and toys.



TASTE CAMDEN

Camden's much-loved tasty event, Taste Camden, saw thousands of people gather at Camden Town Farm, where they were treated to a spectacular line-up of live music performances, a huge variety of food, craft beers, wine and a live celebrity chef cooking demonstration, on Sunday 22 September.

The delicious event featured some of the best food stalls and trucks from Camden, Macarthur and throughout Sydney and offered an assortment of multicultural food from Greek souvlaki, barbeque meats, Italian woodfired pizza, French baguettes, Balkan pita and burek, Asian dumplings and a noodle bar, as well as Spanish paella and Turkish gozleme.

Celebrity chef, Steph De Sousa, whipped up a Thai beef salad, parmesan crusted chicken with German potato salad and for lovers of dessert, a 'berry-misu', a fruity take on the Italian classic tiramisu.

The main stage entertained audiences with live music performances by The Honey Sippers; Joe Moore; Frankie and Charles; Carly Mosney; Taste of Soul; Jack Willis and Georgie Lyons.

Produce Lane saw revellers explore a mixture of stalls selling fashion accessories, artisan meats, gourmet nuts, freshly baked bread and other take home treats.

SPECTACULAR EVENTS



UNLOCK CAMDEN

Locals and visitors explored Camden's intriguing history and learned about the area's rich historical past at the annual Unlock Camden event in the Camden Town Centre on Saturday 28 September.

A variety of activities and displays were held at a number of Camden's iconic historic locations including the Alan Baker Art Gallery, Camden Library and Camden Town Farm.

Visitors were invited to journey back in time and unlock Camden's unique and fascinating history, from guided heritage walking tours; live music; museum and family history displays; vintage car displays; art demonstrations; market stalls; vintage garden games and more.

Unlock Camden is proudly supported by the NSW Government.



CAMDEN CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Camden Christmas Festival held on Saturday 23 November saw thousands gather to celebrate the most wonderful time of the year in the heart of Camden Town Centre.

The merry event transformed Argyle Street in Camden into a Christmas wonderland and included the lighting of the community Christmas tree, live music, market stalls, amusements and a very special visit from Santa.

The annual event also announced the Mayor's Christmas Card Competition winner on the night.



PAWS' BIRTHDAY

Council's pet safety awareness program PAWS, launched in 2014, celebrated its tenth year in operation.

The initiative provides important information and education to residents about responsible pet ownership. In celebration of the ten-year milestone, PAWS and his best friend PIP travelled around the Camden LGA for a roaming birthday party – visiting and meeting families and their furry friends at dog-friendly parks around Camden.

To learn more about the PAWS initiative, visit www.camden.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-pets



ORAN PARK CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Families were treated to a free Christmas concert in Oran Park on Sunday 1 December at the Civic Precinct on Central Avenue.

The event featured the lighting of the Oran Park Christmas tree as well as Christmas entertainment, markets and activities and a special visit from Santa.

WORK ACROSS CAMDEN



An artist's impression of the upgraded Camden Civic Centre.

CAMDEN CIVIC CENTRE UPGRADE

Work is continuing on the \$9.9 million upgrade of the Camden Civic Centre. Set to re-open in mid-2025, the upgrade will include:

- An increase to the centre's capacity;
- Improvements to acoustics, storage, back of house spaces and stormwater;
- The creation of outdoor areas suitable for multi-purpose use;
- Greater connectivity from John Street to the Centre; and
- An increase to affordable multipurpose art making and community spaces.

The transformative redevelopment will position the Civic Centre as a cultural and creative HUB, supporting a wide range of community groups including emerging artists, local creatives, touring artists and performers. The remodel is proudly supported by the NSW Government's Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program.

WANT MORE INFO?

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



JACK NASH RESERVE

Camden Council has successfully delivered exciting upgrades to the recreational facilities at Jack Nash Reserve in Currans Hill.

The renovated courts now cater to a wide range of users, with new basketball and tennis court refurbishments, dedicated pickleball courts, and an innovative interactive sports wall. The transformed space is designed to provide inclusive recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities, from young players to seniors.

The project, completed in October 2024, also features fresh landscaping, enhancing the reserve's appeal as a vibrant community hub.

WORK ACROSS CAMDEN



HILDER RESERVE

Construction is continuing on Stage 1 of the Hilder Reserve Redevelopment, bringing enhanced sporting facilities and accessibility improvements to Elderslie. This first stage will feature one seniors' baseball diamond and two junior baseball diamonds, each equipped with fencing and dugouts to support our local teams and encourage sports participation.

In addition to the new diamonds, Hilder Reserve will see fresh landscaping and added plantings, creating a more welcoming and vibrant environment for all visitors. Improved accessibility pathways are also part of Stage 1, ensuring the reserve is easy to navigate and enjoyable for people of all abilities.

Backed by a \$3.6 million investment, these upgrades are expected to be completed by March 2025, weather permitting.

JOHN OXLEY RESERVE

Council is also enhancing the walking trail at John Oxley Reserve in Kirkham, bringing the community closer to nature with new recreational opportunities.

The project introduces a network of interconnected paths and stunning viewpoints, offering panoramic views across the Camden Valley and the Great Dividing Range. Funded by the NSW Government's Places to Roam program, the upgrades are part of the Camden Green and Blue Grid Vision to promote healthier lifestyles and stronger connections to the landscape. The revitalised trail is set to be completed by early 2025.

For more information, visit yourvoice.camden.nsw.gov.au/john-oxley-reserve

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.



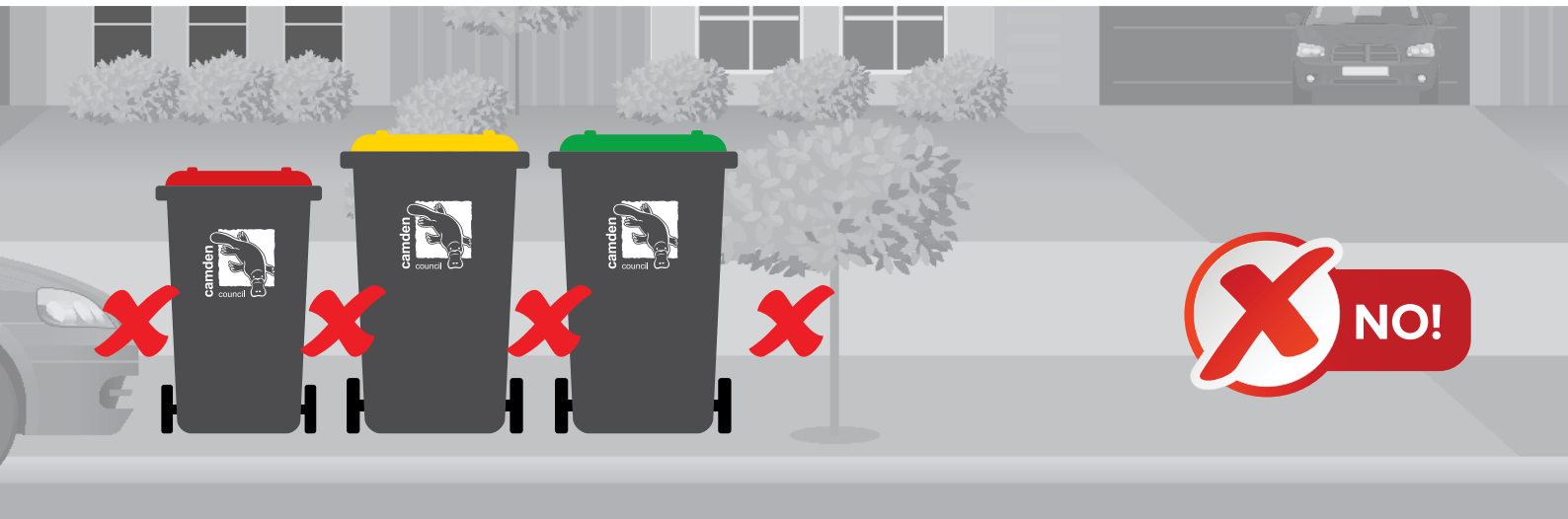
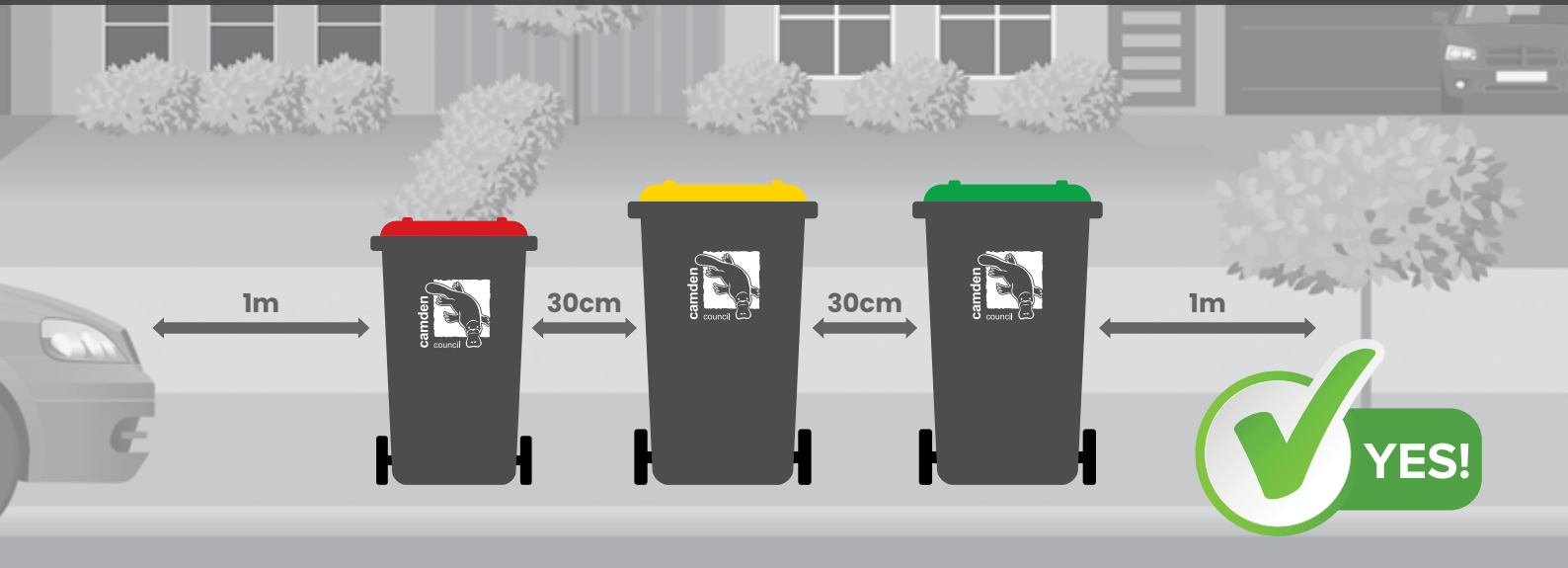
WASTE SMART – YOUR ULTIMATE

HELP US GET YOUR RUBBISH TAKEN AWAY

We've bin meaning to tell you... here's a tip to make sure you get your bin emptied every time!

Our trucks need space to empty your bins efficiently. We can't get to them when they are too close to a car, tree, pole or too close to each other.

Leave some space, and we'll do the rest!




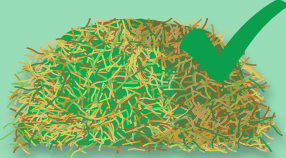





GUIDE TO SMARTER SORTING

BEAT CONTAMINATION AND BIN IT RIGHT!

 **YES!** these items **can** go in the recycling bin

Glass bottles and jars (including plastic and steel lids)	Cardboard and clean pizza boxes	Hard plastics eg. bottles, jars and containers
		
Paper, newspapers and magazines	Aluminium cans, foil, foil trays and steel cans	Non-foil lined cartons
		

 **YES!** these items **can** go in the garden organics bin

Grass or lawn clippings	Prunings and flowers	Plant clippings
		
Sticks and small branches (up to 1m length and 150mm thickness)	Dry and green leaves	Weeds
		

BATTERIES DON'T BELONG IN ANY BIN



Prevent truck fires, and keep our drivers and the community safe!

Drop your batteries off at a collection point near you:

Visit our Community Recycling Stations (for small items):

- Camden Council Administration Building
70 Central Avenue, Oran Park;
- Camden Library
40 John Street, Camden;
- Narellan Library
Cnr Queen and Elyard Streets, Narellan; or
- Community Recycling Centre
5 Millwood Avenue, Narellan - opening hours: Saturday and Sunday, 9am-2pm.

Can't get there? Book a FREE RecycleSmart collection and they will take the items from you and drop them off at a collection point. Scan the QR code for more information.



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

Scan the QR code to stay in the know!



HELPING THE COMMUNITY TO LEARN AND GROW

SMALL BUSINESS MONTH

Camden Council's 2024 Small Business Month wrapped up with great success, showcasing the essential role small businesses play in driving our local economy.

The program featured a range of events, including workshops, networking opportunities, and tours, providing valuable resources for business owners to grow, innovate, and connect.

Participants gained insights into business planning, creative wellbeing, financial planning, and even got a behind-the-scenes look at Western Sydney International Airport. The month concluded with the "Destination Camden" networking event, where professionals gathered to explore future opportunities.



HSC ENGLISH WORKSHOP

Year 12 students were treated to a free English skills seminar, facilitated by Larry Grumley, a senior marker for HSC English exams and author of numerous study guides including *Excel* and *Warrigal*.

To help students navigate the challenges of exam preparation, the seminar provided essential study skills and strategies to excel their English exams and aimed at both advanced and standard English courses. Students were provided with an in-depth understanding of exam content, marking criteria and common pitfalls – ensuring students were revising the most relevant material and focused on the key concepts that were likely to appear in the HSC exams. The seminar offered a wide range of benefits, from boosting academic skills to improving mental well-being, all of which are crucial for achieving success in final exams.



GARAGE SALE TRAIL

Garage Sale Trail 2024 concluded with a fantastic turnout across Camden, with locals eagerly decluttering, selling, and swapping their pre-loved items. Over two weekends in November, garage sales popped up all around town, helping sellers pocket extra cash while finding new homes for quality items.

Participants took advantage of Facebook support groups and promotional materials to help spread the word and boost their sales. A standout of the event was "Macarthur's Biggest Garage Sale" at Camden Council's main carpark, which gave residents who couldn't host at home a chance to join in on a bustling community market. Partnered with Macarthur Councils in collaboration with member Councils of The Parks, the event celebrated Camden's community spirit and commitment to sustainability, proving once again that one person's clutter is another's treasure!

ENVIRONMENT



Above photo by Brett Mezen



BIRDWATCHERS FLOCK TO CAMDEN

Bird lovers gathered recently at Camden Town Farm and Kings Bush Reserve for two exciting birdwatching sessions as part of the Aussie Bird Count. Hosted by birding experts Brett Mezen and Mark Fuller, participants had the chance to connect with nature, learn about local bird species, and contribute to an important citizen science initiative.

The first session, along the scenic Camden Bike Track, saw attendees treated to sightings of native birds such as kookaburras, rainbow lorikeets, and even a rare glimpse of a peregrine falcon. With binoculars in hand, participants enjoyed a tranquil evening walk while learning how to identify bird calls and behaviours.

The second session, at Camden Town Farm, was a morning well spent. Starting bright and early, participants were rewarded with sightings of local favourites like the eastern rosella and the superb fairywren.

Participants also contributed their observations to the Aussie Bird Count, helping to provide valuable data on the health and diversity of bird populations in the area. This initiative plays an essential role in monitoring environmental changes and protecting our local wildlife.

Both sessions were well attended, with many newcomers eager to learn about the natural environment surrounding Camden. For those who joined, thank you for your contributions to the Aussie Bird Count and for helping to foster a deeper appreciation of Camden's incredible natural areas!

PRESTIGIOUS WIN

At the Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Sustainable Cities Awards, Camden Council was awarded the Waterways and Marine Protection category for Council's Nepean River Restoration works.

Through bank stabilisation, fish habitat reinstatement and extensive revegetation efforts, Council has restored over 300 meters of riverbank, installed 10 hardwood river snag structures, removed 10,000m² of woody weeds and planted over 30,000 native plants including 75 critically endangered Camden White Gums.

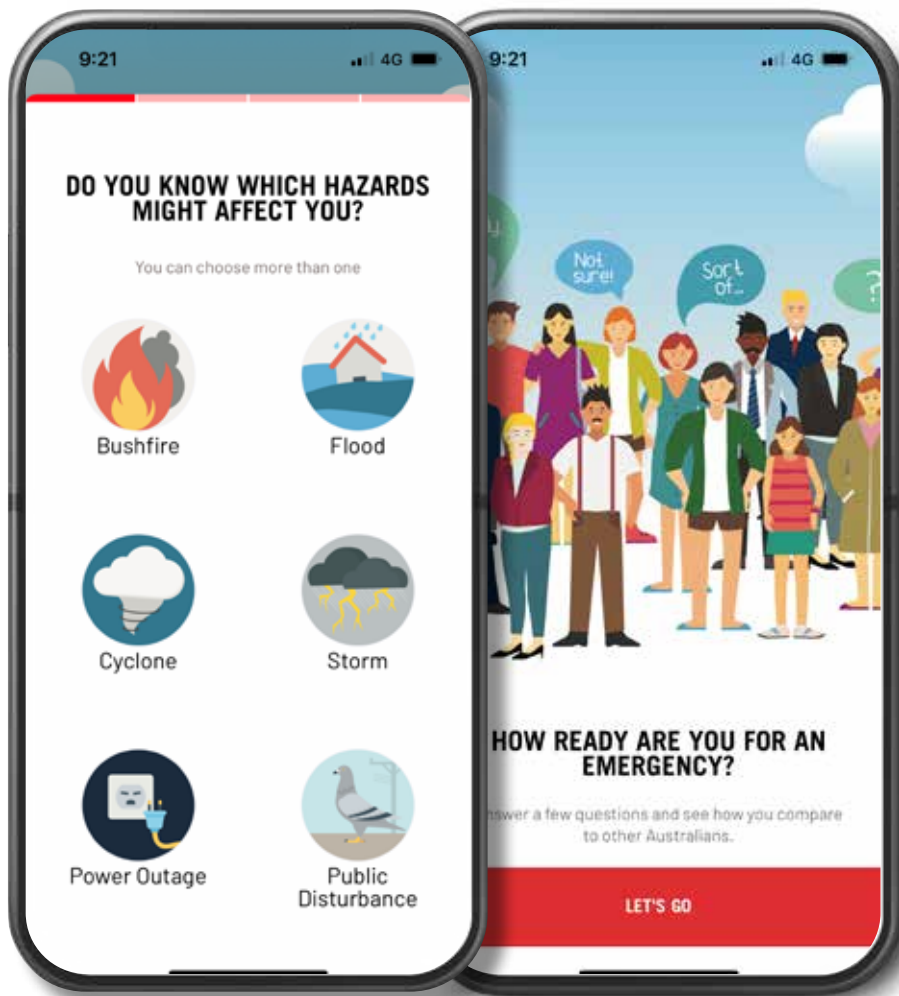
The projects demonstrate best practice river restoration, the effectiveness of innovative, natural techniques, and improvement in the condition of the Nepean River for the Camden community and wildlife to enjoy.

Flooding in April and June 2024 demonstrated the success of the restoration projects with all sites accumulating sediments, displaying around 90% revegetation survival and signalling the return of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife to these previously degraded areas.

These projects were completed with funding assisted by NSW DPI's "Habitat Action Grant", NSW Government's Environmental Trust and Sydney Water's Nutrient Offset Scheme.



COMMUNITY NOTICES



GET PREPARED FOR ANY EMERGENCY

Floods, fires, and a pandemic – unfortunately we're all too familiar with emergencies.

Be prepared with the Get Prepared app and have your emergency plan at your fingertips. The app helps you:

- Locate local emergency services contacts;
- Create a list of key contacts;
- Identify a safe meeting place; and
- Create checklists of what to pack all on the app.

Download the free app at bit.ly/GetPreparedCamden or scan the QR code below.



ADOPT LOCAL

Looking for your new forever friend?



Come and visit Camden Council's Animal Care Facility located in Rossmore, or scan the QR code for more information and to see our available furry friends.



VOLUNTEERING



WHY BUSHCARE? DAVID EXPLAINS

We caught up with Bushcare volunteer, David Gosling. Here's what he had to say about why he chooses to volunteer.

What is the most rewarding part?

It's contributing to the environment and particularly your local environment. It's like a community service. And the gathering of the people and having morning tea, and just feeling like you're doing something rewarding and effective.

What is something people might not know about Bushcare volunteering?

I think there's a great emphasis on safety. Council supplies gloves and snake gaiters and things like that, so really we don't have to bring virtually anything ourselves.

When do you see yourself retiring from Bushcare volunteering?

I'm enjoying it and I'll be doing it for as long as I can I think.

Why would you encourage others to take it up?

I like the flexibility and you get to learn more about the reserves and the parklands and stuff that otherwise would never occur to you.

VOLUNTEER WITH COUNCIL

Volunteering offers a fantastic opportunity to connect with the community and apply your skills or passions for a greater purpose. Volunteering fosters personal growth, strengthens community connections, and provides individuals with the opportunity to make a positive impact while gaining valuable skills and experiences.

Council offers casual volunteering opportunities within our Libraries and Bushcare Program. These roles provide a great chance to collaborate and work alongside a team of dedicated volunteers.

We would love for you to express your interest in joining Council's Volunteering Program.

For more information, feel free to contact the Volunteer Programs Team at volunteers@camden.nsw.gov.au.



NEVER BEEN EASIER

Volunteering in the Camden area is now easier than ever with Council's new online volunteer management system, designed to streamline how volunteers and organisations connect with opportunities. Moving away from outdated paper-based processes, the new system offers an easy-to-use platform where current and future volunteers can find all the information they need in one place.

The system includes volunteer profiles, newsletters, and training resources, making it simpler to apply for roles and stay informed. With this new tool, Council aims to enhance communication between volunteers, organisations, and Council staff.

**INTERESTED IN
VOLUNTEERING
IN CAMDEN?**

Scan the QR code to find out more!



ARTS AND CULTURE

ART AFTER SCHOOL

The popular Art After School Workshops hosted by the Alan Baker Art Gallery returned for Term 4!

The program offered kids a creative space after school, where they were led through new activities weekly encouraging creative thinking and artistic skill building. The workshops are held at The Space in Narellan Library with expressions of Interest for the classes open for future enrolments. Scan the QR code to find out more.



CAMDEN HERITAGE KERBSIDE EXHIBITION

The Camden Kerbside Exhibitions are a program of curated street exhibitions where prints of artworks by local artists are displayed along the main streets of Camden.

For the Spring 2024 edition of the Kerbside Exhibition, local artists were invited to submit artworks which explored Camden's heritage. Local artists responded with a varied selection of fantastic pieces, displayed from September through to December. Interested in learning more or purchasing a work? You can check out the exhibition catalogue by scanning the QR code.



PROUD TO BELONG

In celebration of Public Education Week, schools from across Macarthur worked together to exhibit a collaborative exhibition of student works.

The theme of the exhibition 'Proud to Belong' resulted in a large volume of works to be displayed in the centre of Camden. Works were featured along the fences of Camden Public School, on the hitching post at the Alan Baker Art Gallery, the John and Argyle Streets Activation Corner, and in the Camden Library multipurpose room. Serving as a reminder of the amazing talent of our youth, the brilliant array of work made for a vibrant and exciting display.



ARTS AND CULTURE



ARTIST OF THE QUARTER

Council is proud to put the spotlight on Rizwana Ahmad as our Artist of the Quarter. Rizwana is a multi-disciplinary artist specialising in painting and sculpture. She primarily works with oil, watercolour, and pastel but is also experienced in charcoal, acrylics, and mixed media collage.

Rizwana migrated to Australia in the early 1970s and has been teaching, painting, and exhibiting for over 30 years. She completed a master's degree in Fine Arts from Punjab University (Lahore) in 1969. Based in Camden, Rizwana teaches from her home studio.

Her artistic achievements include winning the Camden Local Artist Prize and the People's Choice Award. Rizwana's work is exhibited internationally, with commissioned portraits and sculptures in private collections across Boston, New York, and London.

BAKER AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES

The *Baker's Contemporaries* exhibition officially opened in November enjoying a flow of visitors from near and far. Displayed within the Alan Baker Art Gallery, the exhibition welcomes the significant display of Baker's works alongside his Royal Art Society of NSW contemporaries.

The prestigious body of works features 29 acclaimed artists, all past and present members of the Royal Art Society (RAS). On exhibition are the works of many well know identities such

as Arthur Streeton, Brian Stratton, Arthur Murch, Margaret Preston, Sydney Long, William Dobel, JS Watkins, Norman Lindsay, alongside Baker, his son Gary, brother Normand and many other established RAS artists.

Featured together for the first time ever, many of the artworks are loaned from private collections. Visitors have enjoyed the diversity of the exhibition, taking time to ponder the art and display of archival photographs and articles that celebrate Baker and his connection to the Royal Art Society. Find out more about the exhibition by scanning the QR code.



EVENTS ON THE HORIZON



AUSTRALIA DAY

Camden Council will mark Australia Day on Sunday 26 January 2025 with roving entertainment and the ever so popular Macarthur Lions Street Parade in Argyle Street, Camden.

Also taking place on Australia Day will be Camden's first Citizenship Ceremony for 2025, which will welcome more of our new Australians as they take their pledge to be true-blue Aussies.

The Australia Day Awards will also crown Camden's Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year, and hand out a Sports Achievement Award, Community Group Award and Arts and Cultural Award.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY GALA

Council will continue its proud tradition of supporting and celebrating local women at its fifth annual International Women's Day Gala in March 2025.

The event will feature a keynote speaker and panel speakers, and proceeds will be donated to a local charity. Scan the QR code for more information.



WHAT'S ON



Australia Day

Sunday 26 January 2025, 9-11am
Argyle Street, Camden

Enjoy pre-parade roving entertainment and the ever so popular Macarthur Lions Street Parade in Argyle Street, Camden.



International Women's Day Gala 2025

Thursday 6 March 2025
Gledswood Homestead and Winery

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 17 May 2025, 10am-2pm
Camden AH & I Hall

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

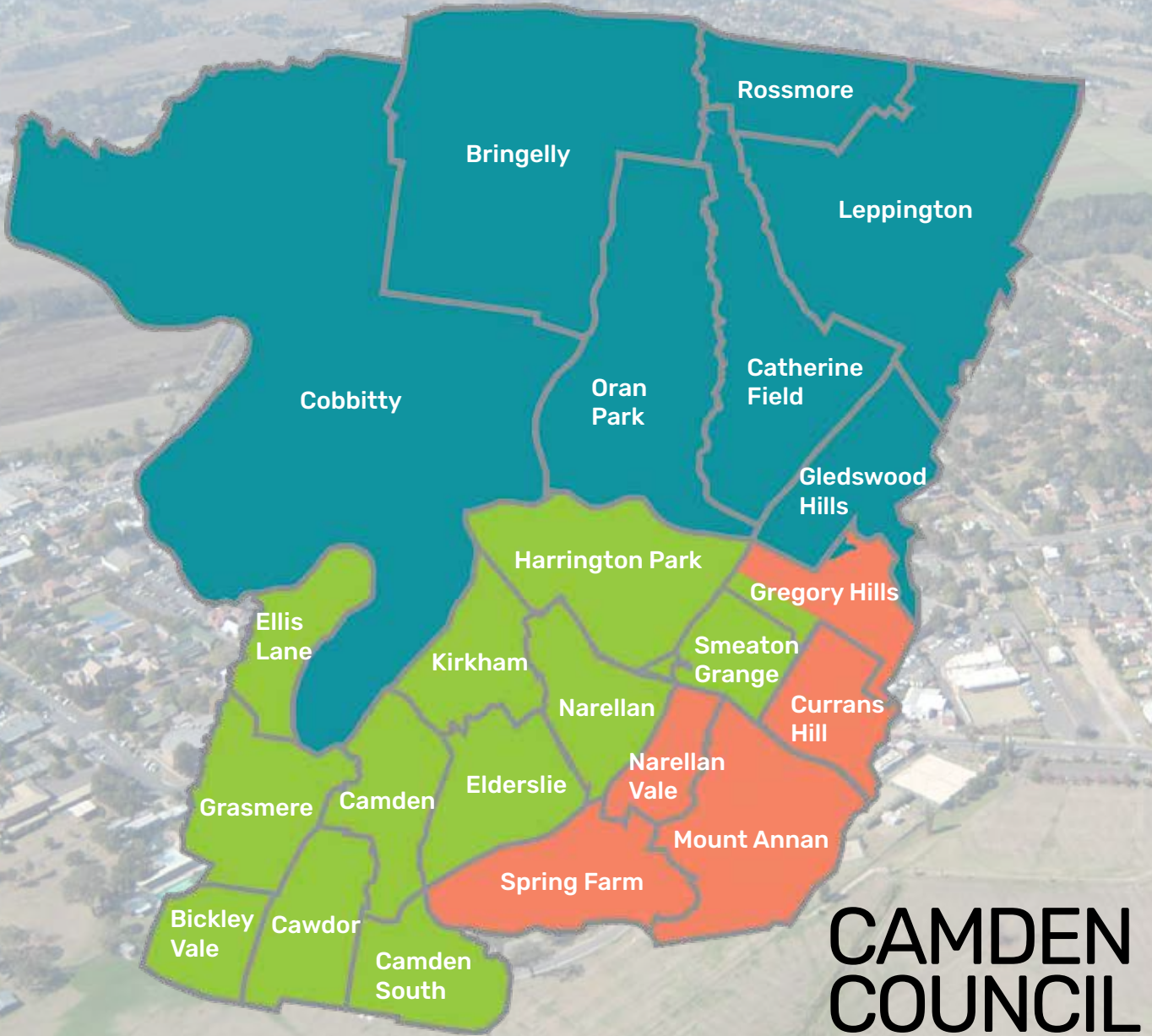


Scan the QR code for more information about these events and to see what else is happening near you!

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 22 63**
- 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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