



The Hawkesbury community has become culturally richer thanks to an exceptionally generous donation from Councillor (Dr) Rex Stubbs OAM of a substantial part of his personal art collection.

Councillor Stubbs has an abiding love of art, history and culture. Support for the development of the Hawkesbury Regional Gallery and the Hawkesbury Regional Museum are just one of his many great achievements for this community.

His vision for the improvement of the cultural life of the Hawkesbury and the creation of a cultural hub in Windsor has well and truly come to fruition.

Councillor Stubbs is a long term supporter of local artists and his collection of 121 works features some of the most prominent artists in our community and as such is a significant donation to the Hawkesbury. Works by local artists such as Brian Jones, John Shields, William Wells, Greg Hansell, Diedre Morrison, Bernice Lavender and Yvonne West are included in the collection.

Generous Gift to our community



New look website

When you next click on Hawkesbury City Council's website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au, you'll notice there have been some exciting new changes. Whether you're looking for Council-specific information or something more general about the

community, the website is packed with helpful information.

The website has been developed with usability and accessibility principles as a main driver of design and also includes a well-developed search facility simply called 'Find it' featuring an A-Z services listing.

The website includes a dynamic events calendar from the home page as well

as online forms for event requests and job application submissions. Weather information will be included and users will also be able to subscribe to the e-newsletter, which allows people to subscribe to news on specific areas: Art & Culture, Business/Economy, Community Consultation, Environment, General, News/Media Releases and Sustainability.

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Macquarie 2010 events

With this newsletter you have also been sent a program of events for the community's celebration of the 200th anniversary of the swearing in of Lachlan Macquarie as Governor of New South Wales on 1 January 1810. Governor Macquarie had a profound influence on the development and landscape of the City of Hawkesbury, which included the naming of the townships of Windsor, Richmond, Pitt Town, Wilberforce as well as Castlereagh on 6 December 1810.

This program will be continually updated throughout the year and can be found on Council's website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

Council is proud to host a number of events and activities which are featured in the Calendar. From January - April there is:

- the opening of the Macquarie's Five Towns Exhibition at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum
- The Governor: Lachlan Macquarie 1810-1821 State Library touring display in the Hawkesbury Central Library in Windsor
- Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony to be held at the Windsor Function Centre at 9am with the Awards Ceremony at the Richmond Club at 11:30am
- Community celebration for the official opening of Kurrajong Community Centre 28 February from 10am
- A Rose Pruning Demonstration on Wednesday, 17 February 10:30am at the Deerubbin Centre, Windsor
- Official Event to Launch Flower Day on Wednesday, 14 April at 2pm at the Deerubbin Centre, Windsor

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Outstanding contributions to sport recognised

The Hawkesbury's elite sportspeople have been officially recognised for their talent and involvement in sport at the 2009 Hawkesbury Sports Awards held recently.

Jointly coordinated by the Hawkesbury Sports Council and Hawkesbury City Council, the civic program recognises outstanding contributions and an outstanding level of commitment to sport in our area.

Four Sports Certificates for 10 years service and one for 20 years service were presented by the President of Hawkesbury Sports Council, Mr David Bertenshaw. Belinda and George Plummer were recognised for commitment to Kurrajong Bilpin Little Athletics with Bradley Clay and Roslyn Kean for commitment to Woodlands Pony Club in the 10 year service category. Pip Tonkin received recognition in the 20 year service category for involvement with the Woodlands Park Pony Club.

The Mayor of Hawkesbury, Councillor Bart Bassett awarded four Sports Medals, which seek to recognise individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to, or represented the Hawkesbury in, sport of any kind at a district or higher level for a minimum 10 continuous years.



Above: George Plummer, Councillor Christine Paine, Belinda Plummer, Brad Clay, Pip Tonkin, Roslyn Kean, Sancha Butler, Deputy Mayor - Councillor Kevin Conolly, Marilyn Pearson, Councillor Jill Reardon, Greg Douglas, David Bertenshaw and Mayor - Councillor Bart Bassett.

This demonstration of the high level of sustained commitment to sport within our community was bestowed on Marilyn Pearson with 27 years of dedication to Kurrajong Bilpin Little Athletics, Sancha Butler - over 10 years of dedication to the Woodlands Park Pony Club and Greg Douglas and Carla Horwood for sporting excellence and commitment to the Hawkesbury Triathlon Club.

These awards recognise not only those that have achieved a high status within their sport but also those that have been dedicated, at the higher levels, to the management of their sport, such as administrators, coaches, referees and umpires.

Later meeting time for Council

As from its first meeting in November, all Council Meetings at Hawkesbury City Council will now commence at 6.30pm rather than 5pm. The change applies to both ordinary and extraordinary meetings of Council.

This change was part of a number of amendments to Council's Code of Meeting Practice which were adopted at its Ordinary Meeting held on 29 September 2009 after being publicly exhibited for comment.

Other changes to the Code of Meeting Practice include that there will be no formal recess after the commencement of Council Meetings and amendments to bring the Code into line with statutory changes or the like, for example recording of planning decisions or conflicts of interest.

Some changes have also been made to the Public Participation provisions within the Code:

Register to speak at Council Meetings Online

Members of the public can now register to speak at Council meetings online via Council's website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au. *It's easy as 1,2,3,4.*

1. From the Council's Home Page click on SAY IT
2. Click Address a Council Meeting
3. Fill in the webform
4. Press SUBMIT.

A message will then pop up on screen confirming the details that have been submitted. The page then provides a print option. Where the applicant has entered an email address, a copy will be sent to that email address.

Councillors and the public cannot speak on responses to Questions with Notice; the applicant/owner will be allocated to speak as one of the three proponent positions available, if they desire on their development application before Council; and, where there are more than 20 speakers at any one meeting, a speaker will be limited to speak on one item only.

As previously, persons intending to speak must indicate their intention to speak prior to 3pm on the day of the meeting and are required to lodge an application form. For more information, please contact Fausto Sut, Manager Corporate Services and Governance on 02 4560 4426.



Garden Competition winners revealed

Farrar garden Jacaranda Rd Kurrajong

Gardens turned red in Sydney's memorable dust storm in September but local gardeners still had a reason to smile with the announcement of the winners of the Hawkesbury City Council Garden Competition.

The winners of the annual prestigious competition were revealed, at a ceremony held at the Richmond Club, to a large crowd of gardening fans, family and friends.

First prize winners:

Front	Marianne & Denis Farrar	Kurrajong
Front Seniors	Phyllis & John McCarter	Windsor Downs
Front New	Michael & Donna Brooks	Grose Vale
Back	John & Mary Carroll	Windsor Downs
Back Seniors	Phyllis & John McCarter	Windsor Downs
Colour	Ray & Barbara Szuprytowski	Bligh Park
Colour Seniors	Kent Wade	South Windsor
Acreage	Anne Halloway	Windsor Downs
Acreage Seniors	Barry & Merle Lester	Kurrajong Heights
Formal	Robert & Margaret Tunks	Clarendon
New	Jennifer Quigley	Clarendon
Environmental	Paul & Lesley Hulbert	Kurrajong Heights
Environmental - Non residential	Guide Dog Centre	Glossodia
Non Residential	St John of God Hospital	Nth Richmond
Educational	Bilpin Public School	Bilpin
Kids	Angus & James Kennedy-Swane	Bowen Mtn

For full details of category winners see Council's website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you to the sponsors:

- Neutrog Australia Pty. Ltd.
- Seasol International Pty. Limited
- Alex Fraser - Keep it Simple
- Better Grow
- Bunnings Warehouse
- Captain Cook Cruises
- Garden Ware
- Hargraves Nursery
- Mount Tomah Botanic Garden
- Mr. Fothergill's Seeds Pty. Limited
- The Richmond Club Limited
- Valpak (Aust). Pty. Ltd.
- Wisemans Books
- Woolworths Richmond
- Yates Australia
- Westpac, Windsor Branch



Kids 1st prize: Angus & James Kennedy-Swane

Community Strategic Plan

The Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan, which provides a vision of what the community would like the Hawkesbury to look like in 20 years from now, has now been formally adopted by Council after extensive community consultation. This included initial forums and workshops with the community, Councillors and Council staff to prepare a draft document and a 12 week exhibition period to allow public comment and submissions.

A report was placed before Council in October 2009 to consider comments received through submissions and where considered appropriate alterations have been made to the document.

The Plan is now in the process of being printed and will be available to the public in hard copy as well as online at Council's website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au from January 2010.

Bush volunteers receive Christmas Awards

Hawkesbury Bushcare Landcare volunteers have been applauded by Hawkesbury City Council and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority for their tireless efforts to regenerate many environmental areas of the Hawkesbury.

The 12th annual Bushcare Landcare Christmas Awards were held aboard the Paddlewheeler on the Hawkesbury River at Windsor in early December. More than 80 people attended with every Hawkesbury Bushcare Landcare volunteer invited in order to be congratulated for their efforts over the past year.



L to R. Christine Price, Kirsty Reynolds, Harry (little boy) Reynolds, Paul Reynolds, Jenny Linklater, Mayor of Hawkesbury Councillor Bart Bassett and Council Community Bushcare Officer Martin Gauci.

The awards presented to recognise the efforts of outstanding volunteers and groups included:

- New Kids on the Block**
Hawkesbury Remnants Landcare Group
- Rookies of the Year**
Yellomundee Aboriginal Bushcare Group
- Rookies of the Year**
Merroo Crown Reserve Bushcare Group
- Rookies of the Year**
Charles Kemp Reserve Bushcare Group
- The Green Thumb**
Merv Sharkie
- 10 Years Long Service Award**
Molly Brown
- 10 Years Long Service Award**
Steve Munro
- 10 Years Long Service Award**
Phil Knobbs
- Environmental Group of the Year**
Colo Valley Landcare Group
- Environmental Volunteer of the Year**
Elizabeth Chellingworth

Everyone is welcome to visit their local Bushcare or Landcare Group and help out. To become involved, contact Martin Gauci, Council's Community Bushcare Officer on 02 4560 4525 or Alex Muir, Regional Landcare Facilitator on 02 4587 0050.

Grants Projects update

The Hawkesbury community will continue to benefit from many grants received recently, the latest being Round Two of the Australian Government's Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program.

Council has been advised that it has been allocated an additional \$360,000 under this program and has submitted projects including:

- *Hawkesbury Oasis Gymnasium Extension* – \$117,200
- *Wilberforce Pre-school Kindergarten Improvements* – \$105,000
- *Howe Park Windsor – Plan of Management Implementation* – \$97,800
- *Ham Common Fitness Trail* – \$40,000

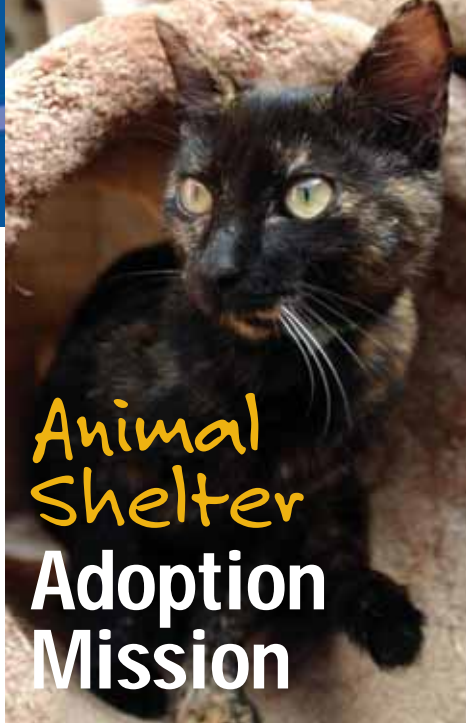
Most projects under the first round of the project have been completed. The Kurrajong Community Centre, which was part funded under this program, is set to open with a major community celebration on Sunday, 28 February 2010.

Funding has also been received under the final round of the Australian Government's Jobs Fund designed to maximise job and training opportunities in local communities including:

- *Yarramundi Reserve Restoration Project* – \$90,000
- *Conservation of the Historic Cemeteries of the Macquarie Towns (Wilberforce cemetery)* – \$183,000
- *Conservation and Interpretation of Old Hawkesbury Hospital Morgue* – \$200,000.

Citizen of the Season Award Program

Australia Day is just around the corner and so are the presentations of the Awards for Sportsperson of the Year, Cultural Heritage, Community Arts, Commemorate Plaque, Special Event and Community Organisation of the Year. Awards are also presented on Australia Day for Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year. This makes it a great time to remind people to consider nominating a Citizen. The Citizen Awards are now awarded quarterly with the newly instigated Citizen of the Season program. This program is supported by major partner The Richmond Club with the nomination form available on Council's website or by calling 02 4560 4430 to have it faxed or mailed.



The Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter takes in over 4,000 lost abandoned or unwanted pets each year.

During the past 18 months, Nicole Burford, a committed community member, has been working with Shelter staff to develop the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Adoption Awareness Mission.

The aim of the project is to support the adoption of healthy rehomeable family pets within our community, which will in turn assist in lowering the euthanasia rates at the Shelter. The mission also aims to improve the quality of life for impounded animals and promote adopting rescued pets as a responsible and ethical way of finding a new family pet.

Mrs Burford has proposed a number of projects, such as an adoption garden, where families can spend time meeting pets and getting to know them. She also proposed revamping the reception area of the Shelter and providing a number of improvements that will provide better living conditions for impounded animals.

Donations to the Mission can be made to the Hawkesbury City Council Companion Animal Shelter- Donation Account. Businesses or families that would like to donate particular items to the Shelter should contact the Shelter on 02 4560 4644.

Roadworks projects completed

Hermitage Road Bridge opened

The new concrete bridge on Hermitage Road has replaced an old, narrow timber structure which was approaching the end of its economic life and was exhibiting some defects which would have required major maintenance work in the not too distant future. The cost of the work was \$595,000 and is part of the construction and maintenance capital works program.

New roundabout for Gorricks Lane/Freemans Reach Road

The recently completed roundabout at the intersection of Freemans Reach Road and Gorricks Lane was funded through the Australian Government Blackspot Programme. This program provides funds on a priority basis to locations which are identified as high risk or have an accident history. The intersection has had a number of accidents and a fatality in recent years. The cost of the work is \$442,300 and includes the acquisition of adjacent property and all the associated roadworks.

Bells Line of Road/Old Bells Line of Road Traffic Lights

Funding of \$750,000 for this project was provided through the Auslink Strategic Regional Road Program by the Australian Government, with the assistance of the Local Member for Greenway, Louise Marcus MP, following two fatalities and a number of other accidents at the intersection. Three traffic management options were investigated and the traffic light option was chosen as the most effective option for the long term. The design and construction works were approved by the

RTA. The signals, which include flashing warning lights on both approaches, indicating when a red light is imminent were activated on Monday 9 November 2009.

Tennyson Road Rehabilitation

The recently completed rehabilitation work on Tennyson Road between East Kurrajong Road and the Howes Creek causeway is a continuation of the works previously carried out between Valley Way and the Howes Creek causeway. The project included minor widening and improvement of the road pavement which was exhibiting an extensive area of failed sections. Funding was provided from contributions made from extractive industries.

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www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

If you would like to make comment on this newsletter please contact
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