



Community Report



2011



Mayor's message



With the current Council about to enter the final year of its four year term, it is an appropriate time to take stock of our achievements and see where we are heading in the future. The Council has achieved many proactive steps to improving both the Hawkesbury and the organisation which governs it.

The major task of adopting the Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan outlining the views for the future of the area by our residents was a landmark achievement. Council is continuing its implementation of the new strategic planning regime aligning its operational activities to the priorities of its residents.

Major documents that have been adopted this financial year include the Residential Land Strategy, which will primarily assist in accommodating additional and appropriate dwellings and the Generic Parks Plans of Management which have categorised our 215 parks and reserves giving further direction as to how these public areas can be used and improved. The Local Environmental Plan 2011 has been adopted by Council and is in the process of being finalised by the Department of Planning and the Minister and soon the Draft Hawkesbury Development Control Plan will be reported to Council and will be exhibited for public comment. Work continues on the Flood Risk

Management Study and Plan. These are all very significant plans which will serve to direct the future of the Hawkesbury.

Community representatives on Council Committees continue to provide valuable input to our planning processes and with the establishment or redefinition of several Council committees in the areas of Crime Prevention, Disability and Mobility Plan Implementation this will be even more pronounced. A new committee assisting in the design of extensions to the Seniors Centre at Richmond will also provide much needed advice from the users of the facility.

Asset management, maintenance and improvement have always been a major focus of expenditure by Council. We have also been extremely fortunate in securing many grants and funding commitments towards roads and community buildings and to assist in the areas of bush regeneration, heritage preservation, cultural and community services.

I am pleased that many of the projects, events and services Council has been involved with this year are featured for your review in this report. Enjoy!

Bart Bassett
MAYOR OF HAWKESBURY

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Partnering in our community



Council is fortunate to have many strategic alliances and community partnerships with organisations who provide essential services to the Hawkesbury.

Sport

Hawkesbury Sports Council

Council provided the Hawkesbury Sports Council with \$967,887 during 2010/2011 with many great projects accomplished with this funding:

- Backnet fencing at Colbee Soccer grounds, Vineyard.
- Soil bins at Bensons Softball and Colbee Baseball grounds, Vineyard.
- Portable canteen at Bensons Sporting Complex 6 / 7, Richmond Lowlands.
- Upgrade to Bensons 7 playing surface, Richmond Lowlands.
- Installation of a larger water storage tank at Turnbull Oval, North Richmond.

Also using this funding Hawkesbury Sports Council, in conjunction with funding from the NSW State Government, accomplished the following projects:

- Provision of electricity, water and a septic pumping station at Colbee BMX Track, Vineyard.
- Installation of a pop up irrigation system on Tamplin Field, Hobartville; Woodlands Ovals, Wilberforce; Colbee Soccer / Cricket, Vineyard.
- Upgrade to the carpark at Woodlands Ovals, Wilberforce.

With other partners these projects were achieved:

- Upgrade to the power at Bensons Lane, Cricket / AFL, Soccer, Baseball and Softball Complexes, Richmond Lowlands, with funding from the Australian Government.
- Roof for the grandstand at Bensons Soccer,

Richmond Lowlands, works completed by Hawkesbury City Soccer Club.

- Resurfacing of 7 courts at Mileham Street Netball Complex, South Windsor, jointly with Hawkesbury City Netball Association.
- Installation of a pop up irrigation system on Bensons 3 / 4, Richmond Lowlands, contributions from NSW/ACT AFL in conjunction with The Joss Group.
- Provision of a shade shelter to Bensons Baseball, Richmond Lowlands works completed by Hawkesbury Baseball Club.
- Provision of an amenities building at Colbee BMX Track, Vineyard, contributions from S94A funds and work carried out by Hawkesbury Hornets BMX Club.

Recreation

YMCA

An extensive facelift has begun on the Hawkesbury Oasis Aquatic Centre and Indoor Stadium both managed by YMCA. Council has funded \$54,051 worth of works so far with more funding to be provided next year.

Works undertaken at the Hawkesbury Oasis Aquatic Centre include replacement of lane ropes and reels, installation of a hydrant block plan, refurbishment of the sauna, replacement of spa filters and purchasing of a new pool blanket. The Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium has undergone work to its roof.

The Hawkesbury Oasis Aquatic Centre Gymnasium was also extended by approximately 234sqm in 2010. The extension included an increased floor area to the gymnasium and an extension to the crèche, with two new toilets and office space being provided within the existing gymnasium area. Funding was provided through Council, Section 94 development contributions, the Regional and Local Infrastructure Program provided by the Australian Government, NSW Department of Community Services Area Assistance Scheme 2009 and the NSW Community Building Partnership Program.

Youth participation

A primary focus by Council on youth participation has resulted from the outcomes of the 2009 Hawkesbury Youth Summit.

Council has now employed a part-time Youth Participation Officer who will establish and maintain partnerships with young people, youth services and other service providers in the Hawkesbury. The role aims to provide young people with the ability to exchange ideas, endeavouring to provide positive outcomes for youth in the Hawkesbury.

Environment

Hawkesbury River County Council

Council provided funding of \$128,000 to Hawkesbury River County Council for the services of preventing the spread and reducing the incidence of noxious weeds, as well as minimising the impact of those weeds on the environment.

Major projects achieved in conjunction with their services to Blacktown, Penrith, and the Hills Shire Councils:

- Releasing weevils into 11 dam sites throughout the local government area, to biologically control the Salvinia.
- Harvesting over 2000 cubic metres of Egeria, Water Hyacinth, Alligator Weed and Salvinia from Windsor Bridge to Corderens Corner.
- Attending Hawkesbury Show to provide advice to over 300 landowners regarding weed problems.

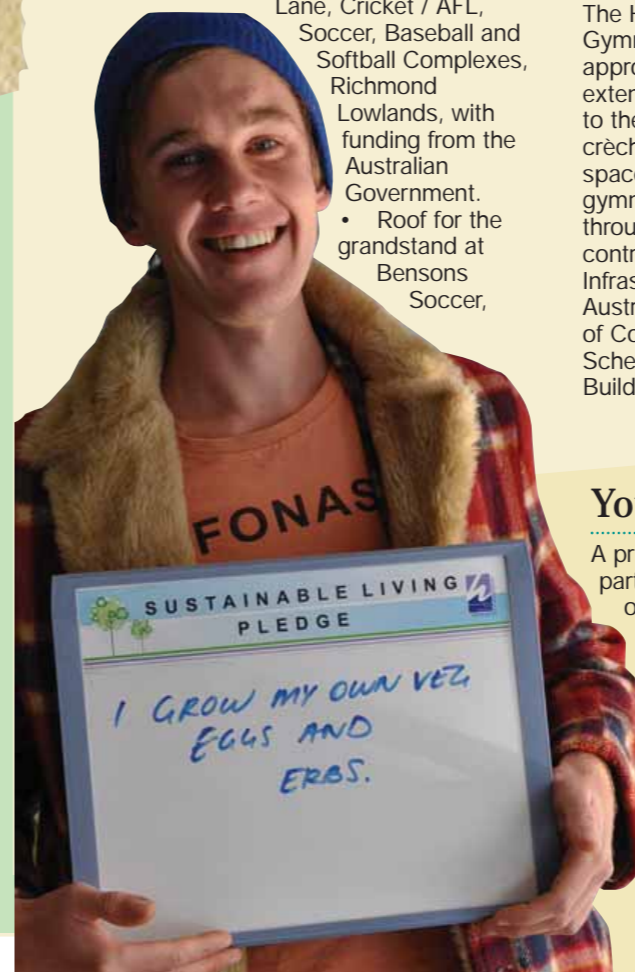
Community

Peppercorn Services Inc

Peppercorn Services Inc. operates many of Council's community services on its behalf. This community board managed organisation offers a range of services to families and individuals including youth, aged, disability, family, transport and children's services, to respond to the diverse needs of residents in the Hawkesbury. It provides the community with the means to participate in community life through the provision of transport and social support programs.

Council provided approximately \$85,000 to support the operation of Peppercorn Services Inc. They have achieved several projects this year including:

- Peppercorn Gardening and Lawn Mowing Program, which provides gardening and lawn mowing services to frail aged people, younger people with disabilities, and their carers within the Hawkesbury, Blue Mountains and Penrith local government areas.
- Man Made Meals, which is run in conjunction with Council's Community Nursery at Mulgrave and features an onsite edible garden, kitchen facilities and an outdoor wood-fired oven. The program targets older men and men from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- Hawkesbury Pregnancy, Children and Family Expo, was held on Sunday, 3 April 2011 at the South Windsor Family Centre. Over 200 families attended seeking expert advice, parenting tips and to learn about local services.



Partnering with other levels of Government

Funding contributions or joint funded projects

The condition of Hawkesbury assets and the focus of the provision of funding, where priorities are identified, is of primary importance to Council. The community can be grateful of the funding provided, not only by Council but also by the Australian and NSW governments for a range of different projects. Every extra dollar spent means better facilities for our local community.



Recycled water to reserves

Good progress has been made on the Recycled Water Treatment and Distribution System.

Construction of more than ten kilometres of recycled water distribution pipework to various Council reserves, school sporting fields and some local industries was finished mid year with construction now moving ahead on the storage tanks, an additional treatment process including a chlorine dosing facility and a pumping station. Benefits of the project include the reduction in nitrogen and phosphorous being discharged into South Creek and thus the Hawkesbury River. The availability of a continuous source of water to irrigate playing fields will also increase the safety for users because of improved playing surfaces.

Council is contributing up to \$700,000 towards the \$9.8 million Australian Government funded Recycled Water Treatment and Distribution System to be located at the South Windsor Sewage Treatment Plant. This project is primarily funded by the Australian Government under the Water for the Future initiative through the Water Smart Australia program. It is one of seven that form the Australian Government funded Hawkesbury-Nepean River Recovery Program which aims to improve river health by increasing the water available for the river and reducing nutrient loads.

Regional Community Infrastructure

Ten projects costing a total of \$353,000 including: upgrades to Streeton Lookout, the Visitor Information Centre access, Community Nursery, Howe Park and St Albans Park, as well as Richmond Park irrigation, a new bus shelter adjacent to the Hawkesbury Hospital and connections to sewer for Glossodia Neighbourhood Precinct, Fire Shed and Woodbury Reserve were provided through the Australian Government's Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program. A celebratory event will be held in August 2011 to acknowledge the contribution towards these fantastic improvements.

New Pump Station 'V' supports the future

Construction on the Pump Station at South Windsor was completed in June 2011. The sewer infrastructure project has seen the construction of a new pump station and rising and carrier mains to provide necessary capacity improvements in the South Windsor area. The new pump station will redirect the sewerage of 311 existing dwellings and have capacity to support a further 568 dwellings in the future.

The project was funded by the New South Wales Government under the Local Infrastructure Fund. Council was allocated an interest free loan of \$4 million to complete this project which will be repaid over a period of 10 years.

Construction of sewer complete

Construction work on the Sydney Water Priority Sewerage Scheme, which provides a large number of residents in Freemans Reach, Glossodia, Wilberforce and Agnes Banks with the opportunity to connect to the sewer has now been completed.

As at early June 2011, 71% of residents in the Freemans Reach, Glossodia and Wilberforce scheme have connected and in Agnes Banks 88.5% have connected. Sydney Water has encouraged all residents to connect within 12 months of the sewer becoming available in their area. The decision to connect within this period is a financially wise one because after the 12 month period has passed, residents may incur extra costs.

Correct decommissioning/recommissioning of redundant septic tanks for those properties already connected to the program is mandatory. For information on decommissioning contact Council on 4560 4561 or refer to Council's website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

For information on the sewerage scheme, contact Sydney Water on 1800 558 552.

4.

Towards a sustainable future

Getting tough on illegal dumping

Council's investigations into illegal dumping activities in the Hawkesbury alerted the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water of activities of a Colyton transport company across a number of Sydney Council areas. The work of Council officers sparked a departmental investigation and prosecution that eventually resulted in the company being ordered to pay more than \$133,000 for four separate incidents of illegal dumping on sites across Western Sydney.

Residents can report illegal dumping by contacting Council on 4560 4444 or if more convenient, report it by email to council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

To enable an investigation and prosecution, details such as vehicle registration number, vehicle description, date, time and location should be provided so fines can be enforced.

Get your gardens ready

Council ran its annual Hawkesbury Garden Competition in September 2010 with entries from all over the community. St John of God Hospital won the category for Grand Champion Garden in 2010.

So trim those hedges, plant some bloomers and start getting your garden ready for the 2011 Hawkesbury Garden Competition.

CleanOut your household chemicals

Have you ever wondered what to do with those unwanted, out-of-date or disused household chemicals kept in your kitchen, bathroom, laundry, garage or garden shed?

On Sunday, 21 August 2011 take the chance to clean out your household's chemical – and potentially hazardous – clutter. Hawkesbury City Waste Management Facility will accept Household Chemicals from 9am to 3.30pm.

For more information on what can and can't be disposed of and location and times of chemical CleanOut days visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au.



Online Sustainability Guide

Council's Online Sustainable Living Guide has gone live and will help residents in the Hawkesbury to live more sustainably.

The community now has access to an effective and dynamic resource that will help residents to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their own home and raise awareness of actions people can take to reduce their impact on the local environment.

Hawkesbury community members made their pledges to live more sustainably at Council's Hawkesbury Show Display, which themed around living sustainably in the Hawkesbury and promoted the Online Sustainable Living Guide. Pledges are now on display on the website.

Logon to Council's website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au and follow the links on the Environmental Services tab to the Online Sustainable Living Guide and start making a difference in your life to help the environment.



National Tree Day
Yarramundi Reserve gained a greener vista following a mass planting of trees and shrubs on National Tree Day held in August 2010. 104 volunteers gathered to plant 711 plants. This mass planting was the first event scheduled to promote Local Government Week 2010 in the Hawkesbury. Keep an eye out for the venue and timing for the 2011 National Tree Day to be held in August.

5.

Household Kerbside Collection

From 1 July 2011, all Hawkesbury City Council residents with a domestic waste collection service provided by Council will be able to book one Kerbside Bulk Waste Household Cleanup service a year. The charge is combined with the general garbage and recycling charges on Council rate notices and renamed the Domestic Waste Management Charge.

This service is restricted to 1.5 cubic metres or one trailer load of waste materials. It can include household rubbish too large for the garbage bin, furniture and appliances including whitegoods, timber not exceeding 1.5m in length, and garden clippings tied in bundles.

Recycle COOKING OIL for free!

A free cooking oil recycling service is now available at the Hawkesbury City Waste Management Facility for residents and businesses from the Hawkesbury.

Hawkesbury will be the first Council in NSW to offer a cooking oil recycling service. By using this service residents can take responsibility for the disposal of wastes and will be encouraging a positive impact on the environment.

For ease in recycling, it is recommended you designate a container no greater than 20 litres, label it and add to it every time there is leftover cooking oil, deliver to the Waste Management Facility and recycle for free.

For further information, contact Council's Waste Education Officer on 4560 4566.

Additional services throughout the year are also available at a charge of \$77.24 plus GST.

Mattress collection is now also available at a cost of \$24.41 plus GST in urban areas and \$28.79 plus GST in rural areas. These additional services will be paid directly to the contractor by the customer via credit card at the time of booking the service.

Bookings are essential, call Council's contractor on 1300 889 527 to make a booking within 21 days of calling.

For further information see Council's website, www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au or call Council on 4560 4565.

Reducing the impact of graffiti

Graffiti is a form of vandalism and costs the broader community including the Hawkesbury millions of dollars each year. Council resolved to support and fund the Rotary Club of Windsor's Graffiti Removal Project, providing \$10,000 to allow for the purchase of equipment and materials. The project aims to keep Windsor, South Windsor, Bligh Park and McGraths Hill graffiti free.

To report graffiti in your area please visit www.vandaltrak.com.au and follow the instructions on how to log the location for future cleaning.

Improving infrastructure

Parks and recreation in the Hawkesbury

Outdoor activities are an important part of the Hawkesbury and the Council spends money to ensure these recreational areas are maintained for the benefit of the community. The development and maintenance of parks and related facilities provides the opportunity for the community to have an active lifestyle outdoors, protect and preserve our environment for the future and ensures the safety of our Hawkesbury residents. Some major development and maintenance projects completed in 2010/2011 in Hawkesbury parks include:

- Richmond Park Upgrade, total of \$400,000 jointly funded by Council, Department of Local Government, Heritage Council of NSW and the NSW Department of Planning.
- Fencing of Charles Kemp Recreational Reserve, Ebenezer, \$18,000.
- Installation of gates at Bowen Mountain Fire Trail, \$9,000.
- Implementation of Plan of Management for Howe Park, Windsor, \$17,157.

Outdoor fitness in the Hawkesbury

Test your fitness at the community fitness trail along Ham Common at Hawkesbury Valley Way, Clarendon. The trail consists of eight stations of specially designed equipment distributed along the pathway at the Richmond end of the park and was designed to promote physical fitness training and better health. The \$40,000 project was funded through the Australian Government's Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program Round 2.

Community hall extended for benefit of community

The new extension of the Bowen Mountain Park Hall was officially opened in January 2011 in conjunction with the original hall's 21st Birthday Celebrations. The extension resulted in the hall being almost doubled in size and the inside revitalised with a fresh coat of paint and new flooring. The extension of the park hall will benefit local community groups who utilise its facilities, providing a larger area for the groups to take advantage of.

Funding for the extension was provided by Hawkesbury City Council, the NSW Government through the Community Building Partnership Program, North Richmond Bendigo Community Bank® Branch, the Bowen Mountain Association Inc. and the community through the "Buy a Brick" Scheme.

Working together with the community

Community Sponsorship Grants

Council provides sponsorship to support activities or events which will benefit the residents of the Hawkesbury. Throughout 2010/2011 Council provided a total of \$62,691 in assistance to 40 organisations within the Hawkesbury.

Minor assistance was provided to: Hawkesbury Community Outreach Services Inc, Hawkesbury Oldies Cricket Side, Older Mans Network Inc (OMNI), The Thomas & Jane Rose Family Society, Macdonald Valley Public School, Bede Polding College, Wisemans Ferry Seniors Golfing Group, Hawkesbury District National Servicemen's Association, Wisemans Ferry Sunshine Club, Kurradjong Pony Club, TRI Community Exchange Inc,

Maraylya Public School, Ebenezer Rural Fire Brigade, WIRES – Hawkesbury Branch, Holly Malpass, James Hill, Ashleigh Hill, Robert J Shepherd, Caitlen Oehm, Rachele Griffin and Kaitlyn Griffin for sporting, cultural and community projects and activities.

Major assistance was provided to:

- Grose Vale Community Centre – refurbishment of hall floor, \$3,000.
- Kurradjong Community Forum – shade area in Memorial Park, \$3,000.
- Hawkesbury Riding Club Inc – equestrian training and workshops, \$2,000.
- Hawkesbury Nepean Valley Pipe Band Inc – purchase of drums, \$2,000.
- Hawkesbury Combined Probus Club Inc – equipment purchase, \$1,684.
- Windsor Bowling Club – bowls carnival, \$1,500.
- Macquarie 2010 Schools Sub-committee – awards presentation night, \$1,200.

Continued event sponsorship was provided to: Hawkesbury Community Hub, Greater Western Sydney Jazz Bands, Henry Doubleday Research Association, Kurradjong Anglican Church, St Albans Folk Festival, NSW Cancer Council, Rotary Club of Richmond, Kurradjong Scarecrow Festival, Colo Family Picnic Day, Windsor Business Group and Ferry Artists Gallery. Hawkesbury City Eisteddfod Society received \$19,000 to run the Hawkesbury City Eisteddfod for the Hawkesbury community.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities or to apply for funding for 2011/2012, please contact Council's Community Facilities and Grants Officer on 4560 4576.

Major infrastructure projects

COMPLETED

- Reconstruction of Thorley Street, South Windsor, Flood Evacuation Route, \$2.1m Australian Government funding.
- Upper Colo Road Bridge, Upper Colo over Wheeny Creek, \$810,000 Australian Government Roads To Recovery funding.
- Installation of new guardrails at Morrilla Road, East Kurradjong; Upper Colo Road, Upper Colo; Gorricks Lane, Freemans Reach and West Portland Road, Sackville, \$150,000 Council funding.
- Concrete dish drain adjacent to Windsor Road, Mulgrave, \$245,000 Council funding.
- Rehabilitation of failed road section in Terrace Road, North Richmond; Old Bells Line of Road, Kurradjong; Kurmond Road, North Richmond and King Road, Wilberforce, \$275,000 Council funding.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- Reseal Program, various locations throughout the Hawkesbury, \$1.5m Council funding.
- Reconstruction of Scheyville Road, Oakville and Mildson Road, Oakville \$1,325,815 Australian Government Roads To Recovery and Repair Program funding.
- Concrete cycleway at Ham Common, Richmond near Tennis Court, \$100,000 Council funding/ NSW RTA funding.

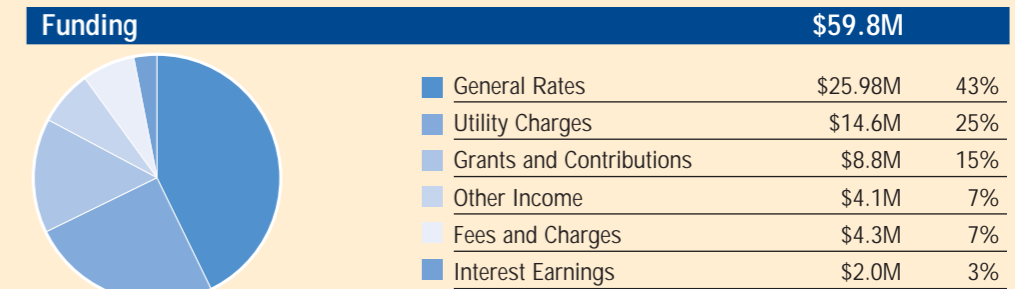
Infrastructure Renewal Program

In addition to Council's Capital Works Program numerous projects were completed through the Infrastructure Renewal Program. Some projects completed under this program in 2010/2011 include:

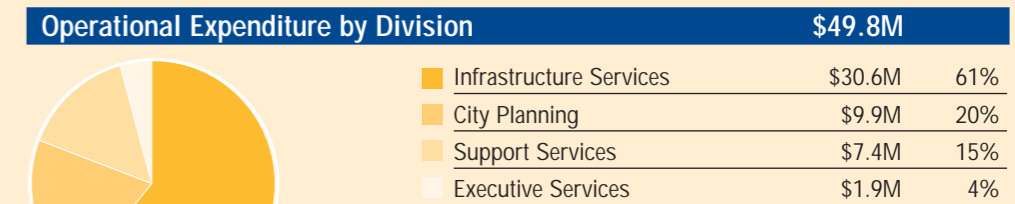
- Road rehabilitation, various locations throughout the Hawkesbury, \$395,500.
- Reconstruction of failing foot paving, various locations throughout the Hawkesbury, \$96,900.
- Upgrade to Windsor Mall, Windsor, \$17,000.
- Road upgrades, Richmond Lawn Cemetery, Richmond, \$43,337.
- Implementation of Plan of Management at Richmond Park, Richmond, \$60,602.

Financial Estimates 2011-2012

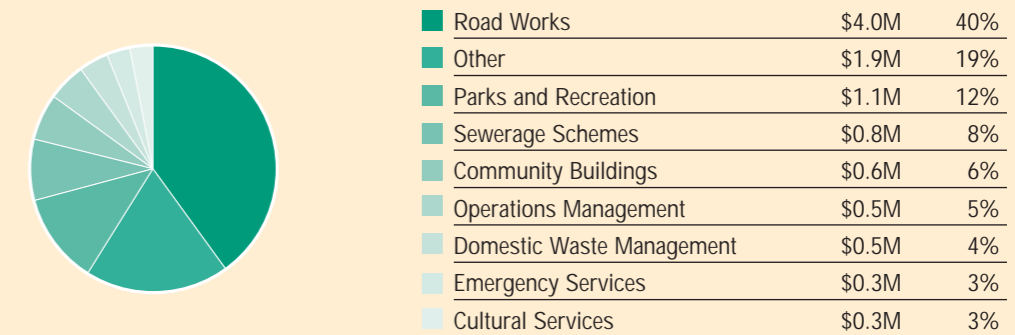
Where do the funds come from?



How does the community benefit?



Capital Expenditure (including infrastructure renewal program) \$10M



FACTS and FIGURES

Operational Expenditure	\$ 49.8M
General Rates	\$ 25.98M
Utility Charges	\$ 14.6M
Capital Expenditure	\$ 8.6M
Grants and Contributions	\$ 8.8M
Other Income	\$ 8.4M
Interest Income	\$ 2.0M
Infrastructure Renewal Program	\$ 1.4M

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

Pitt Street – K and G Reconstruction	\$ 260,000
Road Rehabilitation – Hermitage Road	\$ 270,000
Sewer Pipe Relining	\$ 490,000
Amenities Building – Yarramundi Reserve	\$ 120,000
Roads to Recovery Program	\$ 711,200
Plan of Management – Howe Park	\$ 200,000
Cycleways	\$ 100,000

Enhancing our cultural character

Regional Gallery

The Hawkesbury Regional Gallery has achieved another milestone. Its 41st exhibition will feature the work of ceramic artist Geoff Crispin from 8 July – 21 August 2011. Geoff's work reflects his preoccupation with exploring and developing local raw materials wherever possible, trying to bring out and enhance their inherent qualities.

As well as exhibitions, the Gallery hosts a variety of public programs including talks, workshops and film screenings. One of the most interesting programs is Performance in the Gallery, a regular drama workshop for people with mild to moderate disabilities. Bookings are now being taken for Term 3.

Later this year the Gallery will be showing the very popular ArtExpress, featuring exemplary artworks created by students for the Higher School Certificate.

Residents wishing to become more involved in the life of the Gallery are invited to become gallery members. Members enjoy a variety of social events and outings, such as the coach trip to Canberra in January to visit the National Portrait Gallery and the Australian War Memorial.

Regional Museum

Hawkesbury Regional Museum goes from strength to strength, with nearly 2000 visitors attending every month. In March a new exhibition, Mighty Mushrooms, was launched with much anticipation. This exhibition celebrates 50 years of the Hawkesbury-based Australian Mushroom Growers Association.

The opportunity to have a professionally curated temporary exhibition is open to all community groups in the Hawkesbury. If your community group has a story to tell, contact the Regional Museum Curator on 4560 4654.

There are two new exhibitions in the works – exquisite hand-made fashion by The Misses Stewart, opening 23 July, and Flood! – how living on a floodplain has shaped communities on the Hawkesbury-Nepean.

The Museum took out first prize for 'Excellence in Heritage and Culture' in the Greater Sydney Tourism Awards announced on Wednesday, 4 August 2010. The Museum is up for its fourth award in the running for Best Cultural and Heritage Attraction this year.

Richmond Library undergoes a makeover

Richmond Branch Library was temporarily closed for two weeks in the beginning of 2011 for re-carpeting and replacement of old library shelves. Refurbishments of the library were the first in 30 years and were funded by Council and the State Library NSW.

Linda Portelli and Lucille Ryan were the lucky winners of the borrower draw, held when the library was reopened. Both winners were very impressed by the improvements. Richmond Branch Library includes lending and reference collections as well six internet computers and free wireless. Membership to the Hawkesbury Library Service is free.



Family History Fair

The 2010 Family History Fair held on Saturday, 7 August 2010 was the most successful the Hawkesbury has seen yet. Over 1500 family history enthusiasts descended on the Hawkesbury Central Library where they discovered more about their family history. The Fair was coordinated by the Hawkesbury City Library Service in conjunction with the Hawkesbury Family History Group.

Historic 'deadhouse' restoration complete

The historic 'deadhouse' or mortuary at the rear of the old hospital building within the Deerubbin Centre Cultural precinct has been restored. Interpretative signage has been erected and a protective glass door has been constructed. Tours of the historic 'deadhouse' will be conducted throughout Local Government Week held during 1-7 August 2011.

The \$200,000 restoration was funded by the Australian Government's Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. This marks the close of restoration building works in the Cultural precinct.

Community awards & celebrations

Natalie Burton Memorial Award recipients



Chloe Liso, a former Bede Polding College Year 12 student and Ben (last name withheld), who was studying year 10 through Hawkesbury Skills, were the proud joint recipients of the 2010 Natalie Burton Memorial Award.

The annual Natalie Burton Memorial Award is proudly administered by Hawkesbury City Council on behalf of the Burton, Turner and Lawrance families.

Remembering Rex Stubbs – dedicated Councillor and Mayor



On Friday, 3 June 2011, Councillor Bart Bassett was joined by the Stubbs family, friends and members of the community to launch a Scholarship and Gardens in the name of former Councillor and Mayor of Hawkesbury, Dr Rex Stubbs OAM.

The event was held in the newly named Rex Stubbs Memorial Gardens located out the front of the Deerubbin Centre, Windsor. This location has seen Rex's vision of a cultural hub become a reality and provides the Hawkesbury community access to the Hawkesbury's cultural hub.

The Dr Rex Stubbs OAM Memorial Scholarship, to be run annually, aims to develop interest in the history of the Hawkesbury, to support people who wish to pursue this interest and to showcase local talent in the field of historical research or interpretation.

For further information see Council's website: www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

Macquarie 2010

Throughout 2010, four Commemorative plaques were unveiled in conjunction with the Hawkesbury Macquarie 2010 Celebrations. The plaques commemorated the naming of the five Macquarie towns, four of which are located in the Hawkesbury. Community events were held to coincide with the unveilings.

• Pitt Town



Staged to coincide with Pitt Town's Community Festival in October 2010 which included a weekend of celebrations with a Macquarie theme. The plaque unveiling formed part of a RAAF Freedom of Entry to the City event which celebrated the 85th birthday of RAAF Base Richmond and the 20th anniversary of the original Freedom parade.

• Richmond



In Richmond the plaque unveiling was held in conjunction with the opening of improvements to Richmond Park on Sunday, 7 November 2010. The event had a heritage theme and was very well received by the community.

• Windsor



One of the best attended Macquarie 2010 events was Proclamation Day held on Sunday, 5 December 2010, celebrating the day on which Macquarie proclaimed the five towns 200 years ago. The Windsor plaque, as well as some interpretive signage for the Governor Macquarie statue, was unveiled by the Governor of NSW, Marie Bashir AO CVO.

• Wilberforce

The Wilberforce commemorative plaque was unveiled on Sunday, 9 January 2011 in conjunction with celebrations organised by the local church to mark the approximate date that the town of Wilberforce was surveyed and laid out by Macquarie's surveyors.

A commemorative mosaic was also launched and is located at McQuade Park, Windsor. The mosaic depicts specific landmarks chosen to represent each of the five Macquarie named towns. It features the Elizabeth Macquarie silhouette and representations of the Governor Macquarie rose and the Elizabeth Macquarie Iris.

A Macquarie Trail brochure was printed to celebrate the bicentenary. A trail was formed commencing at the Hawkesbury Visitor Information Centre, Clarendon and winding its way through 31 locations and the four Macquarie towns in the Hawkesbury.

Animal Shelter Open Day

Hawkesbury residents and their pets joined in a reunion day as part of Local Government Week held in August 2010. Ex-shelter dogs and cats revisited the shelter and dog and cat owners of the Hawkesbury took advantage of the cheap micro-chipping available. Visitors checked out the Animal Shelter facilities and enjoyed a friendly BBQ with animal shelter staff.



The next Animal Shelter Day will be held on Saturday, 6 August 2011 in conjunction with Local Government Week.

Contact us:

Hawkesbury City Council
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