



Hawkesbury City Council

community 2011 newsletter Autumn

Wilberforce Pre-School Kindergarten Extension Opening



Wilberforce Pre-School Kindergarten's new extension was officially opened on Tuesday, 15 February 2011 with the Mayor, Councillor Bart Bassett and Senator Doug Cameron, representing the Australian Government, unveiling a plaque to commemorate the occasion.

Children who attend the Pre-School joined in the official proceedings helping Councillor Bassett and Senator Cameron to cut the official opening ribbon.

Councillor Bassett caught the children's attention presenting them with a gift from Council of a large selection of assorted balls to add to their play equipment, whilst Senator Cameron enjoyed sharing a joke with the children.

The children continued to celebrate watching a magician make a rabbit and a dove magically appear from thin air and concluded the celebrations by enjoying the celebratory cake at morning tea time.

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Bowen Mountain Community Celebrates

Bowen Mountain community members enjoyed Devonshire tea, whilst talented local musicians performed in an afternoon and evening filled with fun at the official opening of the Bowen Mountain Park Hall extension on Saturday, 29 January 2011. Young children joined in a treasure hunt, and enjoyed having their faces painted and playing on the jumping castle.

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

Two plaques were unveiled during the evening including a plaque to commemorate the opening and also a plaque recognising those community members and organisations who contributed funds to the extension. A community painting, which includes work by talented local artists was also unveiled by sponsors Hawkesbury Newspapers and will be hung in the hall for the Bowen Mountain community to enjoy.



Volunteers Recognised



The Bushcare Landcare Christmas Awards was a fantastic evening held at the Australiana Pioneer Village, Wilberforce in December. Over 100 people attended, made up predominantly of Bushcare and Landcare volunteers.

Councillor Jill Reardon, Alex Muir, representing the Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Authority and Martin Gauci, Council's Bushcare Officer presented awards to acknowledge the achievements of volunteers throughout 2010.

Winners on the night included:

- *The Quiet Achievers Award* – Sunnyvale Bushies Bushcare Group
- *Encouragement Under Fire Award* – Woodbury Reserve Bushcare Group
- *Rookies of the Year Award* – Hawkesbury Young Landcare Group
- *Mr. Consistency for active services to Bushland Regeneration* – Ian McEwan
- *Mrs. Consistency for active services to Bushland Regeneration* – Jenny Chapple
- *The Green Thumb* – Brenda, Garth and Boris Smith
- *10 Years Long-Service Award* – Friends of the Colo Inc.
- *Environmental Group of the Year* – The Willow Warriors
- *Environmental Volunteer of the Year* – Peter Mobbs

Thank you to all the Bushcare and Landcare Volunteers, for the work you have put into the bushland reserves throughout the Hawkesbury.



Construction commenced on Water Project

The first on ground construction works for the recycled water distribution network that will take recycled water to reserves, schools and sporting fields in the Hawkesbury commenced in late February. Contractors Murphy McCarthy & Associates officially broke new ground and were keen to get the project moving.

Council will receive up to \$9,138,500 from the Australian Government for the \$9.8 million South Windsor Water Recycling Scheme. This is the largest grant ever received by Council. The scheme is one of seven projects in the Hawkesbury-Nepean River Recovery Program, funded through

the Australian Government's Water for the Future – Water Smart Australia Program.

It is expected that the construction of the 10.54 kilometres of recycled water distribution pipe work to the various Council reserves, schools and sporting fields will be finished in late July 2011.

The next step in the process will be the construction of the storage tanks, additional treatment process including chlorine dosing facility, and pumping station to be located at the South Windsor Sewerage Treatment Plant in Fairey Road, South Windsor and the irrigation system for Council reserves.

New Online "Sustainable Living Guide"

Council has launched its new online 'Sustainable Living Guide' to help residents live more sustainably.

The Sustainable Living Guide encourages community engagement by providing tools and consistent information that encourages behavioural change towards environmental issues. The guide is an effective and dynamic resource that will help reduce

greenhouse gas emissions in the homes of Hawkesbury residents and raise awareness of actions people can take to reduce their impact on the local environment.

So, logon to Council's website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au and following the links to the online 'Sustainable Living Guide' and start making a difference in your life to help the environment.

Hawkesbury Momentos

Ever wanted a Hawkesbury area badge to wear proudly or to give to friends and relatives to promote the area? Well, now you can get one!

Council has just released two badges that were commissioned for the Governor Macquarie Bicentenary that started in 2010. They display the 'Governor Macquarie Rose' and the 'Elizabeth Macquarie Iris'.

The badges are available from the Hawkesbury Regional Museum and



Hawkesbury Visitor Centre at an affordable \$5.90 each. They are a great memento of the Macquarie 2010 celebrations for collectors of historical memorabilia. A great gift for both locals and the wider community, the badges are a local product of the Hawkesbury and would be an excellent gift for travellers.



Spotlight on Roads Maintenance

In Council's most recent community survey, residents placed road maintenance as their highest priority. Having regard to this, when conducting its December 2010 Quarterly Review of the budget, Council made a decision to allocate an additional \$275,000 to the already substantial budget for the Road Maintenance Program in the Hawkesbury.

A surplus of \$95,438 from the Quarterly Review along with \$179,562 of additional funds from Council's Contingency Reserve will be utilised to address the community's priority for improved road maintenance.

The Supplementary Road Rehabilitation Program will allow for the rehabilitation of four important roads within the Hawkesbury:

- Terrace Road, North Richmond, south of Redbank Creek
- Old Bells Line of Road, Kurrajong, east of McMahon Park Road
- Kurmond Road, North Richmond
- Failed half width road section approaching Wilberforce Road on King Road, Wilberforce.



Wilberforce Commemorative Plaque Unveiling

On Sunday, 9 January 2011, members of the St John's Anglican Church congregation joined the Mayor, Councillor Bart Bassett to celebrate 200 years since the original surveying and marking out of the Wilberforce township and the final Macquarie 2010 commemorative plaque unveiling.

The Mayor unveiled a plaque to commemorate the historic occasion. Its unveiling concludes a year of celebration and commemoration for Governor

Macquarie, a man whose hard work, determination and dedication made a significant contribution to the Hawkesbury.

Plaques have now been erected in each of the four Macquarie towns within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area, in Pitt Town, Richmond, Wilberforce and Windsor. It is hoped that these plaques will allow future generations to continue to be inspired by Governor Macquarie's outstanding achievements.

Food Safety Improvements

Council's Environmental Health Officers have been applying an educative approach to their food inspection role, developing good relationships with food shop owners throughout the Hawkesbury to help encourage their compliance with legislative requirements. This educative approach is paying off with food shops within the Hawkesbury returning higher satisfactory levels of food compliance across the board recently, than in the past.

Council's innovative approach to improve their food compliance levels has been recognised with the Council's Environmental Health Coordinator, Emmanuel Isbester being selected to represent the Western Sydney Regional Food Surveillance Network on the NSW Food Authority's State Wide Liaison Group.

Chemical Security Awareness

A campaign has been launched by the Australian Government to raise awareness of the national security risk posed by everyday chemicals. It is a sad fact that in the wrong hands these chemicals could pose a serious threat to the security of our local community and also Australia.

It is important that our residents are particularly aware of the serious threat that everyday chemicals used for agricultural and domestic purposes can pose to the safety of all.

Please ensure that you are responsible and alert at all times with regard to the use and storage of chemicals and be alert to any suspicious behaviour by others.

Due to the threat that chemicals can pose to the safety of both the local and wider community it is important that residents remain vigilant. 'If you suspect it, report it' to the National Security Hotline on

1800 123 400.

For more information on detecting suspicious behaviour and what you can do to help keep Australia safe please visit www.chemicalsecurity.gov.au.

HAWKESBURY CENTRAL LIBRARY

Third Thursday Book Club

A great response from local booklovers heralded the inaugural meeting of the Third Thursday Book Club at Hawkesbury Central Library late last year. Six meetings have been enjoyed by the 15 participants who have joined so far.

The Book Club alternates between everyone reading the same book and participants choosing a title within a genre or author selection, providing variety and choice for members and expanding their reading horizons. Discussions at each meeting have proved

to be both lively and noisy with much passionate debate taking place.

The 'Hawkesbury Readers' blog has been set up to allow those members who have been unable to attend any particular meeting, to catch up with the current discussion and find out what's next on the reading list. The Blog can be accessed from the Library's website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/services/hawkesbury-city-council-library and is a joint effort by Library staff and enthusiastic volunteers to encourage participation and comment.

WHAT'S HAPPENING...

• Hawkesbury Regional Museum

Would you like to learn more about the world's most favourite fungi? Visit the Hawkesbury Regional Museum exhibition, *Mighty Mushrooms*, for an afternoon of fascinating facts and mushroom history. The exhibition began on Friday, 18 March 2011 and will run for a year. The Museum is located at 8 Baker Street, Windsor. For more information please contact 4560 4655.

• Hawkesbury Library Service

A series of free HSC lectures will be held during 2011. All students studying HSC English are invited to attend. The lectures are held at the Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street, Windsor. Check online at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au for the latest lecture date, time and topic.

• Hawkesbury Regional Gallery

Don't miss out on seeing the artwork of internationally renowned artist, printmaker, painter, sculptor and graphic artist, G W Bot at the *G.W. Bot the long paddock: A 30-year survey* exhibition currently on at the Gallery, Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street, Windsor. The exhibition will be running until Sunday 15 May 2011. For more information please contact 4560 4441.

The search is on...

The search is on to find someone who is doing something amazing in the Hawkesbury. Nominate them for a Citizen of the Season or Young Citizen of the Season Award and acknowledge their outstanding efforts and dedication to the Hawkesbury Community. Nomination forms can be found at Richmond Branch Library, Hawkesbury Central Library and also on Council's website.

Contact Us



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If you would like to make comment on this newsletter please contact (02) 4560 4430.



Australia Day Honours

Six exceptional individuals and three very deserving community groups where honoured with Australia Day Awards at a special ceremony held on Australia Day, Wednesday, 26 January 2011 at Richmond Club.

The 2011 Australia Day Award winners are:

- **Citizen of the Year – Joan Opbroek**
Joan is a committed member of the Wiseman's Ferry Community Health Centre Committee, St Albans Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade and is passionate about supporting the arts and history in the Hawkesbury. Joan initiated a local "Wrap with Love" group and has been involved with animal rescue, raising and release.
- **Young Citizen of the Year – Kelsie Wakeham**
School Captain of Windsor High School in 2010, Kelsie is a committed member of Hawkesbury Youth and Hawkesbury Church Academy. She took on the role as project coordinator for Hawkesbury City Council's Youth Summit in 2009, volunteers at child development play groups and attends overseas missions with her youth group.
- **Sports Person of the Year – Jacob Woodhouse**
Jacob is a very determined athlete who strives to excel in all sports and has represented the Hawkesbury at district, state and national level and played on the Australian Schools Boys Rugby Team. Jacob is now in the Waratahs Junior Academy Squad and continues to be an active participant of the Hawkesbury and wider community.
- **Community Arts Award – Margaret Ginnings**
Margaret has proven her dedication to Community Arts in the Hawkesbury being a member of the Friends of the Hawkesbury Art Community and Regional Gallery Inc since the mid 1990s and played an active role in lobbying for the Hawkesbury to have a separate Museum and Gallery. She is currently working to photograph and catalogue over 1000 pieces of art.

- **Cultural Heritage Award – Ted Brill**
Ted's personal commitment to the preservation and restoration of the Ebenezer Church demonstrates his desire for recognition of the Hawkesbury's historic landmarks. He is responsible for the Ebenezer-Pitt Town Uniting Church newsletter and was a driving force in the restoration of the Church, organising, preparing and leading the effort.
- **Commemorative Plaque – Douglas Gordon Bowd**
Doug had a strong desire to help the Hawkesbury and wider community which saw him elected to Windsor Council in 1962. He was also elected as the Director of the Hawkesbury Benevolent Society and Hospital – Windsor, was the founder and member of the Hawkesbury Historical Society and was President of the Windsor Bowling Club. He also published numerous books on the history of the Hawkesbury.
Douglas Gordon Bowd passed away on 4 April 1993 and is buried at Wilberforce cemetery.
- **Community Organisation of the Year – McMahon Park Management Association**
The McMahon Park Management Association is passionate about making McMahon Park in Kurrajong a community hub for sporting and recreational activities. They continually work to ensure the Park and the Centre make a significant contribution to the civic and community life of Hawkesbury residents.
- **Special Achievement Joint Award – Hawkesbury Girl Guides**
2010 was the year of the Girl Guide and Girl Guides Australia celebrated their 100th Birthday.
To mark this momentous occasion, Hawkesbury Girl Guides celebrated by renewing their promises along with Girl Guides all around the country and the world on the 10th hour of the 10th month in 2010.
- **Special Achievement Joint Award – Hawkesbury Macquarie 2010 Committee**
Council's Hawkesbury Macquarie 2010 Committee worked tirelessly with Council and Council staff to support the 77 events and activities that were held to celebrate the Macquarie 2010 Bicentenary by the community throughout the Hawkesbury.

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