

OUR COMMUNITY

A Year in Review

JULY 2019



Mayor's Message

Hawkesbury City Council is working hard to listen to our community to put into action new initiatives to improve our way of life and to make the Hawkesbury a safe and beautiful place in which to live and do business.



From September 2019 through to now, as the Mayor of Hawkesbury, I have seen many wonderful projects get underway to improve our Hawkesbury, especially when it comes to sustainability initiatives.

Council recently launched the Hawkesbury City Solar Program which will install an additional 700kW of solar capability. This will generate electricity for 12 Council sites and provide excellent cost savings to the community. 700kW of solar represents 2269 individual panels which, placed end to end, would stretch for four kilometres. This use of solar is equivalent to removing 135 cars from our roads for one year with the total greenhouse savings of 635 tonnes of emissions per year.

By the time our Hawkesbury preschoolers have grown up, this project will have saved Council \$4 million in energy bills and prevented 17,400 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions from going into the atmosphere.

Council is rolling out the Solar Program in conjunction with Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils, also known as WSROC. Our solar project highlights the crucial role local government can play in driving initiatives. This is an important step towards a more sustainable future and there will be further projects to come.

Council has also opened the very popular Community Recycling Centre at the Hawkesbury City Waste Management Facility at 1 The Driftway, South Windsor.

You can now recycle problem waste before they contaminate our environment by dropping them off at the centre. This recycling facility complements the Hawkesbury's existing recycling services, while also keeping problem waste out of landfill, helping to reduce illegal dumping and increase recycling.

The Community Recycling Centre is open 7 days from 8am to 4pm, except public holidays. For more information on what can be dropped off, visit: www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

With sustainability and health in mind, Council took the initiative to install two drinking water stations at the Deerubbin Centre, Windsor – outside in the garden and inside near the Library. Additional drinking water stations have since been installed at Windsor in Howe Park and Windsor Mall as well as in Richmond at Ham Common and Richmond Park, thanks to a collaborative project funded by Hawkesbury City Council and Sydney Water.

Community consultations will soon be held in the Hawkesbury, so I encourage you to participate as it's important to have your say about the future. For dates and locations, and regular project updates, please go to www.facebook.com/hawkesburycitycouncil and Council's website www.hawkesburycitycouncil.nsw.gov.au

Barry Calvert
MAYOR OF HAWKESBURY

Future Leaders

100 student leaders and their teachers from local primary and high schools recently visited Council. They came along to the Council Chambers and had a tour of the Mayor's office as part of getting to know Council.

The Mayor and Council staff explained how local government works, where it fits in the scheme of Government generally, and how the three spheres of government relate to each other and 'who does what'. They also talked about local issues and how the State Government builds bridges over the river. The students were also provided with an insight into the workings of Council as well as discussion about the many inclusive events which Council hosts or sponsors that often appeal to young people in the Hawkesbury, such as the annual Youthfest at Richmond Park.

The student leaders enjoyed the chance to think about what it was like to be a Councillor, while other students had a go at being the General Manager or Council Directors in a mock Council Meeting. The students spoke about topics that interested them as the youth of the Hawkesbury and they saw what it could be like to have Councillors vote on an issue. The students enjoyed learning about Council leadership as part of their interest in politics and local community issues.



Stay up-to-date with COUNCIL'S LATEST

You can now choose to receive your rates notice quarterly, community newsletters and other materials by email

You can also register to receive invitations to Council Events and Council Community Consultation sessions.

Visit www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au to register



Contact us:

- Hawkesbury City Council**
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- council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

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

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© Front cover image, Janelle Keys 2019 - Pughs Lagoon, Richmond;
Page 3 image, Janelle Keys 2019 - Richmond Park.

Baling for Our Backyard

Local farmers have received another boost to their feeding supplies through a discounted baling program run by Hawkesbury City Council. Silage rolls are being sold at cost by Council as part of a drought assistance effort running since November 2018.

Council is supporting local farmers by selling the lucerne silage rolls for only \$48 each, which are produced at its McGraths Hill Waste Management Facility using recycled water.

The initiative aimed to help farmers get cheaper fodder for their starving livestock. The price of \$48 per silage roll represents a significant subsidy from Council in recognition of the adverse circumstances that many of our primary producers are currently facing.

Council subsidised the cost of the silage up to \$30,000 and Council also donated all funds raised from any additional financial contributions to Buy a Bale.

With the drought still affecting vast areas of Australia, the support from Hawkesbury City Council has been vital to making a real difference.

Mr Wayne Thomson, General Manager at Rural Aid congratulated and thanked Council for its contribution and support for local farmers in the Hawkesbury region. Council also encouraged local farmers to sign up to Buy a Bale themselves so they would be eligible to receive support whether it was hands-on, financial or emotional.



Light Up Windsor



Preparations are already underway for the 2019 Light Up Windsor Street Fair, a major community Christmas event proudly sponsored by Hawkesbury City Council which will be held from 4pm to 9pm on Saturday, 23 November stretching from George Street, Windsor and through Windsor Mall.

The Light up Windsor Street Fair is a long established initiative of Windsor Business Group Incorporated. In 2018, Windsor Business Group held the event in partnership with Hawkesbury City Council for first time. In addition to this collaboration, Light Up Windsor is also made possible through a small but dedicated group of volunteers who put many hours into creating a Christmas spectacular for all to enjoy.

A record 5000 people came along to the 2018 Light Up Windsor Street Fair to enjoy free entertainment which included jugglers and entertainers dressed as giant candy canes, a visit from Santa and his elves, free Santa photos, businesses and cafes open late, market stalls and performances.

There was a great boost to the local economy and plenty of visitors also enjoyed the Hawkesbury Regional Museum displays and the pop up library.

The Windsor Business Christmas Decoration competition will also run again with places for 1st, 2nd and 3rd, so it's time for Windsor businesses to start planning Christmas displays in Windsor for the chance to win! Potential event sponsors are also encouraged to get on board by emailing their sponsorship proposals to events@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Visitor Information Centre

Next time you are heading past the RAAF base at Richmond why not drop into the Visitor Information Centre. It's not just for visitors travelling to our area – many locals are passionate about all the amazing Hawkesbury attractions, bushwalks, river activities, markets and heritage trails on our doorstep. And if you're stuck for something to do on the weekend – see www.discoverthehawkesbury.com.au for the Hawkesbury's most comprehensive What's On.

Discover the
HAWKESBURY



WE ARE BUILDING HAWKESBURY'S *future*

Snapshot of our 2018/19 Completed Works

This is part of an ongoing program of spending on projects that our community identified across the Hawkesbury as a priority. We are continuing to focus on the delivery of key infrastructure – roads, drainage, buildings, playgrounds and parks.

Go to We are Building Hawkesbury's Future for regular updates and a full list of completed projects at <https://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/news/building-hawkesburys-future>

These projects are only just the beginning, with many more to come.

TENNIS COURT UPGRADE



COMPLETED

COLO HEIGHTS

ROAD UPGRADE



COMPLETED

TERRACE ROAD
FREEMANS REACH

PARK UPGRADE



COMPLETED

MCPAHON PARK, KURRAJONG

ROAD UPGRADE



COMPLETED

COLONIAL DRIVE
BLIGH PARK

SOLAR PROGRAM



Hawkesbury City Council is installing solar panels like this across the Hawkesbury a part of the launch of our Solar Program. From May 2019, we will be installing 700kW in total solar power to generate electricity for 12 council sites and provide cost savings for the community.

ROAD UPGRADE



SPINKS ROAD
GLOSSODIA

COMPLETED

TENNIS COURT



COMPLETED

PITT TOWN

CYCLEWAY EXTENSION



COMPLETED

BERGER ROAD, SOUTH WINDSOR

PARK UPGRADE



COMPLETED

GOVERNOR PHILLIP
PARK, WINDSOR

DRAINAGE UPGRADE



COMPLETED

WHEELBARROW RIDGE ROAD
COLO HEIGHTS

**ROAD
UPGRADE**



COMPLETED

OLD STOCK ROUTE ROAD, OAKVILLE

**ROAD
UPGRADE**



COMPLETED

CORNWALLIS ROAD
CORNWALLIS

**ROAD
UPGRADE**



COMPLETED

MCGRATH ROAD, MCGRATHS HILL

**SKATE PARK
UPGRADE**



COMPLETED

SKATE PARK, CLARENDON

**ROAD
UPGRADE**



COMPLETED

TENNYSON ROAD, TENNYSON

**PARKS & ROAD
UPGRADE**



COMPLETED

ST ALBANS

**ROAD
UPGRADE**



COMPLETED

MOUNTAIN LAGOON
ROAD, BILPIN

FOOTPATH UPGRADE



COMPLETED

LENNOX STREET, RICHMOND

**ROAD
UPGRADE**



COMPLETED

TEVIOTT STREET, RICHMOND

Australia Day Awards

Nominate for the 2020 Hawkesbury Australia Day Awards

Now is your chance to nominate outstanding local people for the 2020 Hawkesbury Australia Day Awards as well as go into a draw to win one of five \$100 Coles/Myer gift cards as their nominator.

Community members can nominate in one or more of these categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Local Hero Award
- Volunteer of the Year
- Sportsperson of the Year
- Junior Sportsperson of the Year
- All Abilities Sportsperson of the Year
- Community Arts Award
- Cultural Heritage Award
- Environmental Award
- Community Organisation of the Year
- Commemorative Plaque.

The Committee is responsible for assessing all nominations received, with judging to take place in early December. The winners will be announced on Friday, 25 January 2020 at a special awards presentation at the Hawkesbury Regional Gallery. Visit www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au for more information or to nominate someone - all nominations need to

be completed online by 5pm Friday, 1 November 2020. Unsuccessful nominations may also be resubmitted in subsequent years. All nominees must be residents of the Hawkesbury or non-residents who have significantly contributed to the Hawkesbury community.

The Hawkesbury will also welcome new citizens at a special Citizenship Ceremony at 5:30pm on Friday, 25 January 2020 at the Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor. Following the Citizenship Ceremony, the Australia Day Awards Ceremony will commence at Hawkesbury Regional Gallery at 7:30pm on Friday, 25 January 2020.

Visit Council's homepage www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au and Hawkesbury Events Facebook for event updates.



Hawkesbury City Solar Program

Council has launched the Hawkesbury City Solar Program in conjunction with Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (WSROC) which will install 700kW in total solar power to generate electricity for 12 Council sites and provide cost savings for the community.

Installations are ongoing, with many new solar systems already installed at various sites which include the Deerubbin Centre in Windsor, the Waste Management Facility at McGraths Hill, Wastewater Treatment Plants in South Windsor, Council's Depot in Wilberforce, Oasis Fitness and Aquatic Centre in South Windsor, South Windsor Family Centre and Windsor Function Centre.

Councillor Barry Calvert launched the project both as the Mayor of Hawkesbury and as President of WSROC. Council is continuing to explore more options to address energy sustainability and affordability, including:

- ongoing energy efficiency upgrades across council-owned facilities
- developing an energy affordability program for low-income households, and
- boosting renewable energy investment.

Council is also working with WSROC on the Light Years Ahead Energy Efficiency Initiative. The project is coordinated by WSROC to help Western Sydney

councils invest in energy saving and renewable technologies such as solar panels, LED street lighting, insulation and energy saving appliances. The Green Globe Award-winning program has already upgraded 20,000 Western Sydney street lights, with projected savings of over \$29.4 million in energy bills and 140,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions over the life of the lights.

As part of the project, Hawkesbury City Council has already replaced over 550 mercury vapour lights in various suburbs with LEDs – which is over 15% of the total lights in the Hawkesbury Local Government Area. It is the biggest street lighting replacement project NSW has ever seen and will have a great effect on reducing energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions.



Church Street Reserve inclusive playspace

Council has opened a new inclusive playspace at Church Street Reserve, South Windsor using a \$500,000 grant through the State Government's Accelerated Open Space and Parklands Program.

The new playspace includes

- Accessible swings and flying fox for all ages
- Sand/water play – wheelchair accessible
- A meeting story place – including animal sculptures and plantings
- Climbing frame
- Accessible carousel
- Town Square – including veggie cart and shopfront for imaginative play.

The site has been chosen to showcase the 'Everyone Can Play' program guidelines and to demonstrate what can be achieved through better design. The guideline principles are to provide playspaces for all ages and all abilities for children and their carers.

Church Street Reserve inclusive playspace reflects the organisational arrangement of urban development imposed on a natural landscape.

It will have a structured layout such as straight roads and paths, formal shapes and plantings,



town squares for gathering, markets and public discussions, feature trees and formal gardens.

This new playspace will be like a new little town where children and their carers can play, with a variety of swings as well as a flying fox and water play – with a focus on everything being accessible.

Each of the spaces created will feature elements to encourage individual and group play, adventure and physical challenges. Existing elements and clever design will be used to create a safe space by placing seating and barrier plantings to form a natural fence rather than a formed structure.

Vibrant Towns for vibrant communities

Hawkesbury City Council is now in the planning phase to masterplan its town centres to help revitalise Windsor, Richmond and South Windsor town centres using funding from the Western Sydney City Deal Liveability Program.

Public domain plans for each town centre will provide well-designed, well-managed public places that deliver economic, social and environmental benefits to the community. The aim is to enhance the daily lives of community members and to improve options for their leisure time.

Council has now appointed a multidisciplinary design-led team with demonstrated experience in Landscape Architecture, Civil Engineering, Strategic Urban and Open Space Planning, Transport Planning, Public Art and Site Activation, Community Consultation and Facilitation, Economic Development, and Placemaking.

Council's Town Centres Master Plan Working Group is working to ensure that the town centres of Windsor, Richmond and South Windsor become vibrant hubs through the project.

A Placescore Survey has revealed that residents care deeply about local heritage, the preservation of significant buildings as well as improving the look of public spaces in town centres. The master planning process for the town centres is taking all community feedback into account.

The Hawkesbury's Vibrant Towns and Villages Project is a collaborative effort, led by Council, working with community and business to deliver common goals. It links a town centre program of public domain works and activation to deliver a new vision and an enduring local identity. More than just the physical transformation of the towns and villages, the project will blend public amenity and commercial opportunities to deliver places for people.



EVENTS IN THE Hawkesbury

2019 21 July Hawkesbury Fest
Governor Phillip Park
10am-3pm

2019 13 November Hawkesbury Business Meet and Greet

2019 23 November Light Up Windsor
George Street to Windsor Mall
4pm to 9pm

2020 26 January Australia Day on the Hawkesbury
Governor Phillip Park
5pm to 9:30pm

2020 15 February Hawkesbury Communities Pool Party
Richmond Pools
11am to 3pm

2020 16 May Hawkesbury is getting a **FOOD EVENT**

2019 20 JULY Hawkesbury Regional Museum Windsor Ghost Tour
7pm - 9pm | \$25 per person
Bookings Essential

2019 25 JULY Hawkesbury Central Library Plastic Free Living
10am-Midday

2019 26 to 6 SEPTEMBER Hawkesbury Regional Gallery What We Have To Say
JULY Exhibition Opening 26 JULY 6PM-8PM

Follow **Hawkesbury Events** on Facebook and Instagram to receive event updates.

For more information visit on What's on visit.
www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library
www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/gallery
www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/museum



Visitor Information Centre | Open 7 days

Heritage Trails • National Parks • Accommodation
Scenic Drives • Farm Adventures • River Activities
Events and Festivals • Maps

Ham Common (opposite Richmond RAAF Base)
Hawkesbury Valley Way, Richmond NSW
Ph: (02) 4560 4620

www.discoverthehawkesbury.com.au

Hawkesbury Your Say



Your Hawkesbury Your Say is one of the ways Hawkesbury City Council involves the community in its decision making processes.



www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au

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