

# WE'RE BACK!



**Hawkesbury Fest  
is back!**  
for more information  
**See page 3**

**HAWKESBURY  
FEST**  
CELEBRATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK

# A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Welcome to your 2023 Community Report. You may have received this report with a rates notice or be reading it online at [www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)

Included with the rates notice is a personal letter from me.

I understand that there is frustration in the community about the state of our roads since the floods, but our road crews are working hard to deliver these road repairs as quickly as possible.

Please continue to be patient, drive to the conditions and be courteous when you are on the road. I drive on these roads every day, as do the majority of our staff who also live locally. It may not always look like it from out on the roads, but behind the scenes a huge amount of work is continuously undertaken by our passionate and committed teams in designing repairs, sourcing contractors and securing materials to fix our severely damaged roads.

With the completion of Greens Road and Upper Colo Bridge, the next big flood project we will tackle is the restoration of the 1830s heritage-listed Thomas James Bridge at Lower Macdonald. This is a complicated project and there has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes with engineers, heritage experts and the NSW Government. We are confident that we will have good news on a commencement date very soon.

We also continue to advocate strongly for better support from the Federal and State Governments, including the provision of better flood evacuation routes and a speedy resolution to the damage to the flood mitigation network in Cornwallis. Council will continue to hold the NSW Government to account on its commitment to timing and for the rapid approval of funding so we can get on with the job of repairing the damaged drain and reinstating the protection of Cornwallis and Richmond Lowlands.

It is exciting to know that we can now access the materials, extra staff and contractors that we need to speed up our road repair works. Close to \$35 million of repairs have been carried out over the past 12 months, including the \$15 million rebuild of Greens Road at Lower Portland and the \$3 million replacement of the wooden Upper Colo Bridge with a resilient concrete crossing. This is from a \$240 million repair program that involves nearly a quarter of our roads – all funded through Federal and State Government recovery programs. See our latest update on our roadworks program and our 2023-2024 roads budget on pages 6-7.



I was delighted to meet Dr Michelle Ryan and Brittany Vermeulen from Western Sydney University when we launched the River Snap project at Howe Park, Windsor. The project will help to monitor river health. See details on page 3.

Local Government Week will be held from 31 July to 6 August and as part of this, we will celebrate with the community at Hawkesbury Fest on Sunday, 6 August, see page 3. Hawkesbury Library Service will also host Library Information Week, see page 12.

I am proud of what Hawkesbury City Council does for our community and I encourage you to come along to the Library Information Week and our annual Hawkesbury Fest and find out more about what we do, our facilities, the services we provide and our many partnerships that make the Hawkesbury a stronger community.

Mayor of Hawkesbury  
Councillor Sarah McMahon 

SUNDAY, 6 AUGUST FROM 10AM TO 3PM AT GOVERNOR PHILLIP PARK, WINDSOR

Come along to Hawkesbury Fest! It is a free event hosted by Council to connect our community and celebrate what Council does in our community.

It will be held on Sunday, 6 August from 10am to 3pm at Governor Phillip Park, Windsor as part of Local Government Week 2023.

Bring your family and friends to the Hawkesbury riverside to see the exciting demonstration by ruffTRACK sponsored by Bush's Proteins – a division of AJ Bush and Sons; Kombi Keg Northwest; Café Cornerstone and Lily Home Collective.

Enjoy free amusement rides, 15+ community group stalls, 20+ market stalls, free kids' activities, and free face painting, 12 food and beverages trucks/stalls, live music and a local emergency services display. There will also be 12 Council information stalls, a bike N blend activity, a Revolve ReCYCLING bike repair workshop and free plants from Hawkesbury Bushcare and Community Nursery.



# Get involved in River Snap!

Council has joined with Western Sydney University and the Hawkesbury Nepean Waterkeeper Alliance to encourage our community to help monitor the health of the Hawkesbury-Nepean River through the River Snap project.

The first River Snap stand has been installed at Howe Park, Windsor. To get involved, all you need to do is snap a photo of the river from a River Snap stand using your smartphone and upload it. The images will allow changes to the river and banks to be tracked over time to provide a better understanding of its overall health.

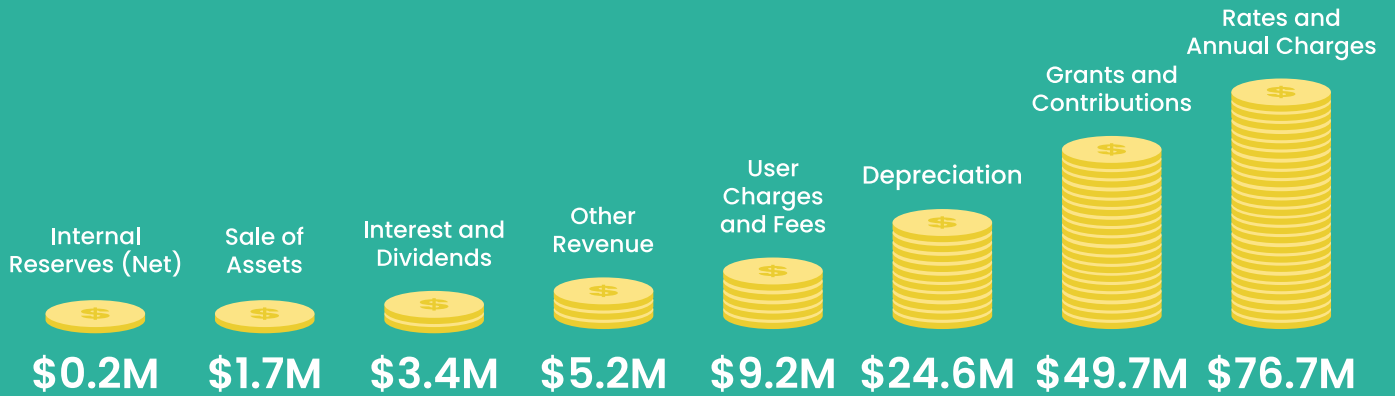
The project is funded through the University's strategic initiative fund and is coordinated by the School of Science and Sustainability Education and Partnerships.

More River Snap stands are planned to be rolled out across strategic points along the river in the coming months. For more information on the project, see [www.westernsydney.edu.au/harwest/harwest/riversnap](http://www.westernsydney.edu.au/harwest/harwest/riversnap)

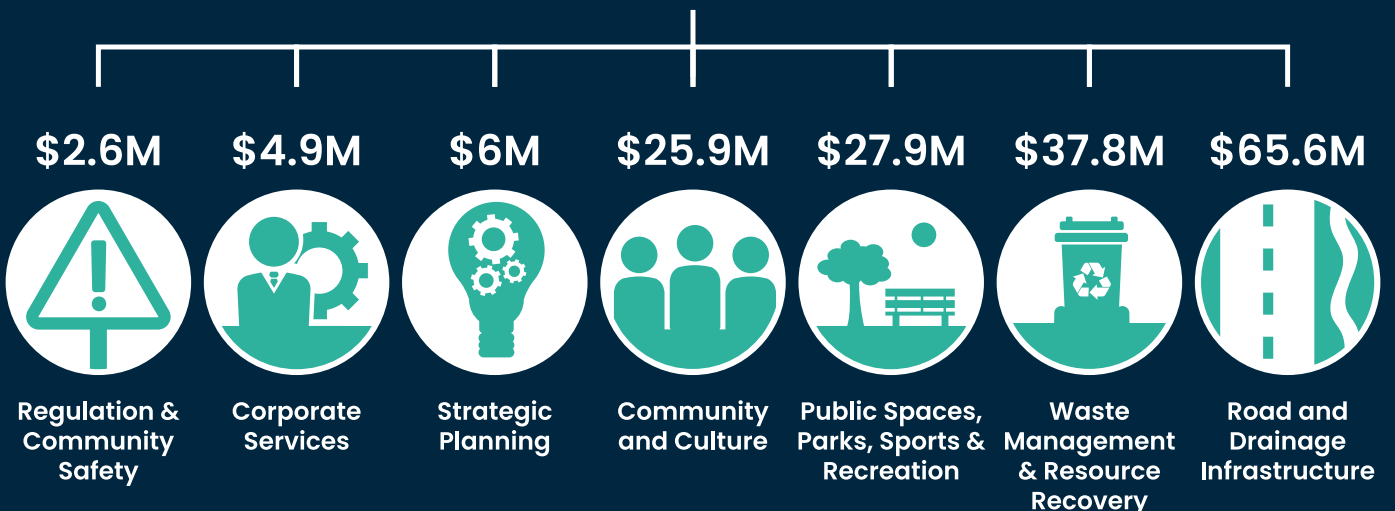


# OPERATIONAL PLAN

## Where does the money come from?



TOTAL RECEIVED: \$170.7M



TOTAL SPENT: \$170.7M

# 2023 – 2024

## BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Hawkesbury Rural Fire Service District Control Centre | \$4,000,000 |
| North Richmond Community Precinct                     | \$1,053,103 |
| Accessibility Program                                 | \$185,000   |
| Childcare Centre Renewal                              | \$120,000   |
| Split Airconditioning Replacement Program             | \$180,000   |

## PUBLIC DOMAIN, OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Fernadell Park Masterplan Implementation | \$2,200,000 |
| Freemans Reach Reserve Playground        | \$125,000   |
| Windsor Town Centre Revitalisation       | \$9,455,850 |
| Parks Renewal Program                    | \$1,000,000 |
| Wayfinding and Signage Program           | \$500,000   |

## SEALING OF GRAVEL ROADS

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Greens Road, Lower Portland  | \$2,250,000 |
| Packer Road, Blaxlands Ridge | \$1,900,000 |

## STORMWATER DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Airstrip Road, Pitt Town Drainage          | \$25,000    |
| Reactive Kerb, Gutter and Drainage Renewal | \$100,000   |
| Avondale Road, Pitt Town Drainage          | \$25,000    |
| Reedy Road, Cattai Drainage                | \$30,000    |
| Coromandel Road, Ebenezer Drainage         | \$25,000    |
| Stormwater Drainage Network – Vineyard     | \$8,292,053 |
| Tizzana Road, Sackville Drainage           | \$1,500,000 |
| Price Lane, Agnes Banks, Drainage          | \$800,000   |

## ROAD REHABILITATION & UPGRADES

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Argyle Street, South Windsor        | \$450,000   |
| Blackman Crescent, South Windsor    | \$245,000   |
| Boundary Road, Oakville             | \$600,000   |
| Bowen Mountain Road, Grose Vale     | \$350,000   |
| Comleroy Road, East Kurrajong       | \$450,000   |
| East Kurrajong Road, East Kurrajong | \$250,000   |
| George Street, Windsor              | \$520,000   |
| Grose Vale Road, North Richmond     | \$367,500   |
| Grose Wold Road, Grose Wold         | \$650,000   |
| Kurmond Road, Kurmond               | \$255,000   |
| Oakville Road, Oakville             | \$365,000   |
| Scheyville Road, Maraylya           | \$280,000   |
| Spinks Road, Glossodia              | \$462,500   |
| Vineyard Road Infrastructure        | \$3,105,051 |
| Walker Street, South Windsor        | \$700,000   |
| White Place, South Windsor          | \$190,000   |
| Wire Lane, Freemans Reach           | \$400,000   |

## OTHER

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Road Surface Renewals                     | \$4,500,000 |
| Extension of Cycleways                    | \$300,000   |
| Bathurst Street, Pitt Town Footpath       | \$100,000   |
| Footpath Renewal Program                  | \$200,000   |
| Lower Portland Ferry Refurbishment        | \$500,000   |
| Kurmond Shop Carpark Renewal              | \$200,000   |
| Contribution to Hawkesbury Sports Council | \$1,200,000 |
| Contribution to Emergency Services        | \$3,000,000 |
| Library Resources                         | \$300,000   |
| Hosting and Sponsorship of Events         | \$800,000   |
| Nutrient Offset Framework                 | \$2,500,000 |

## OPERATIONAL PLAN NOW ADOPTED

Council's 2023/2024 Operational Plan has now been adopted.

The Operational Plan is Council's annual statement to the community about our budget, our priorities for the coming financial year, and what projects will be built.

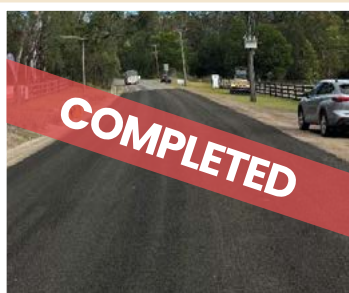
Council makes the draft of the plan available to the community to read and comment on in the months leading up to the new financial year before it is adopted at the June meeting of Council.

You can read the adopted plan on Council's website by going to Your Council and selecting Corporate Publications.

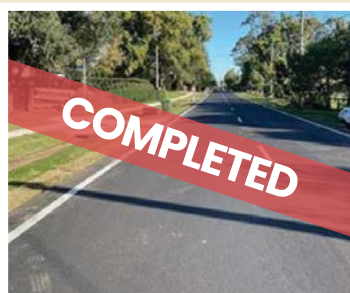


# UPCOMING ROAD PROJECTS

Council staff and contractors are working hard to restore, and, where possible, improve local roads following three years of floods and wet weather. This includes flood repairs under state and federal recovery programs and Council's budgeted annual works program. On this page are the 36 projects that have been designed and are ready to roll out over the coming months, subject to materials and contractor availability.



Completed sections of Sackville Road, Ebenezer



New asphalt and footpath at Bathurst Street, Pitt Town



Upgraded intersection on George and Brabyn Street, Windsor



Road rehabilitation at Cupitts Lane, Cornwallis

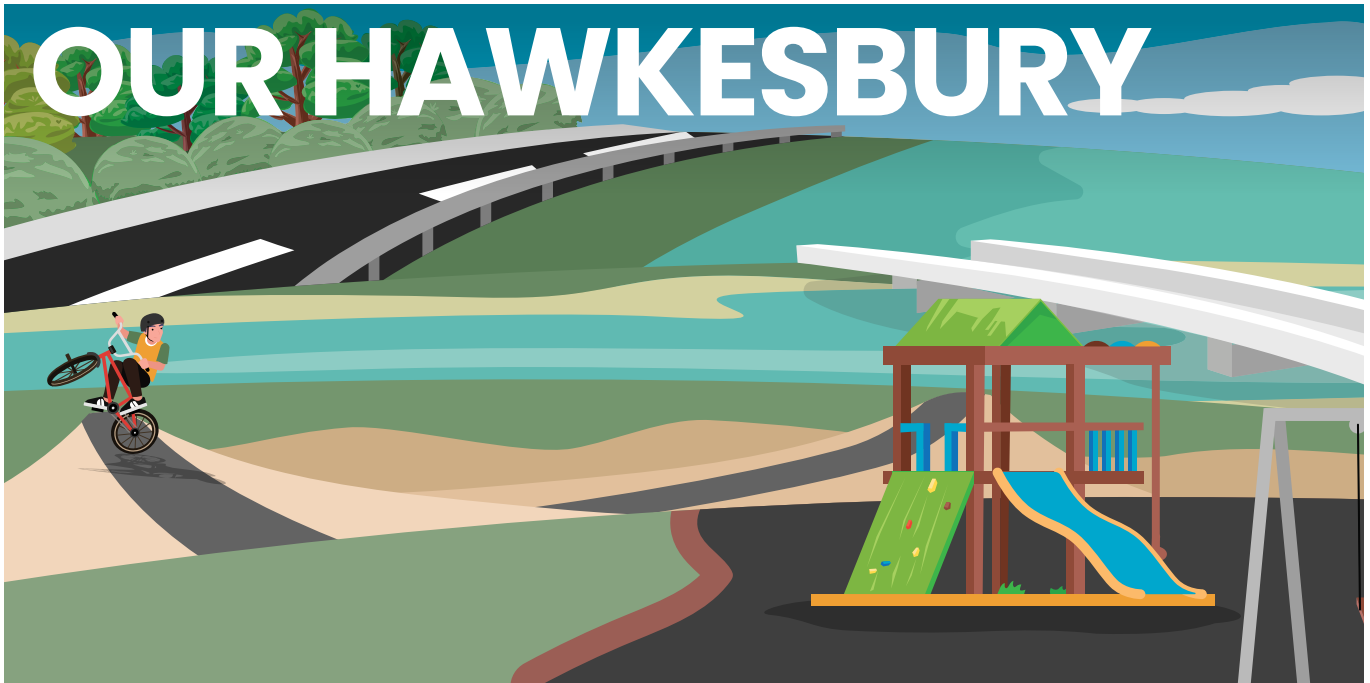
- 1 Scheyville Road, Maraylya from Neich Road to Pitt Town Dural Road intersection
- 2 Walker Street, South Windsor from Ham Street to Argyle Street
- 3 Wire Lane, Freemans Reach from Kurmond Road to Terrace Road
- 4 Boundary Road, Oakville/Maraylya from Pitt Town Dural Road and Dunns Road
- 5 Argyle Street, South Windsor from Mileham Street to Sovereign Place
- 6 Blackman Crescent, South Windsor from Ham Street to Fairey Road (2 sections)
- 7 East Kurrajong Road, East Kurrajong from Coorang Road to Putty Road
- 8 White Place, South Windsor from Blackman Crescent to the end of the road
- 9 Grose Vale Road, North Richmond from Pecks Road to Highland Entrance
- 10 Comleroy Road, East Kurrajong from East Kurrajong Road to Browns Road
- 11 Bowen Mountain Road, Bowen Mountain from Westbury Road to Serpentine Lane
- 12 Spinks Road, Glossodia from Rose Street to Golden Valley Drive
- 13 Kurmond Road, Kurmond from Crooked Lane to Property 1170
- 14 Oakville Road, Oakville from Saunders Road to Oakville Public School
- 15 March Street, Richmond from East Market Street to Bourke Street
- 16 Pecks Road, North Richmond from Campbell Street to Grose Vale Road
- 17 Riverview Street, North Richmond from Pitt Lane to Grose Vale Road
- 18 Berger Road, South Windsor from Ham Street to Woods Road
- 19 Dowling Place, South Windsor from Walker Street to the end of the road
- 20 George Street, Windsor from Tebbutt Street to Hawkesbury Valley Way
- 21 Valder Avenue, Hobartville from Cornwell Avenue to Holborrow Avenue
- 22 Lindsay Place, Glossodia
- 23 Grose Wold Road, Grose Wold from Grose Vale Road and Avoca Road
- 24 Charles Street, North Richmond from Monti Place to Property 7
- 25 Brabyn Street, Windsor at Mileham Street
- 26 Hibberts Lane, Freemans Reach from Property 90-178
- 27 Onus Lane, Richmond
- 28 Pitt Town Ferry Road, Wilberforce
- 29 Saunders Road, Oakville (multiple sections)
- 30 Blaxlands Ridge Road, Blaxlands Ridge from Titas Road to Weatherboard Ridge
- 31 Comleroy Road, Kurrajong from Arcadian Road to East Kurrajong Road
- 32 East Kurrajong Road, East Kurrajong from Comleroy Road to Putty Road
- 33 Bull Ridge Road, East Kurrajong from Property 463 to Royerdale Road
- 34 St Albans Road (multiple sections)
- 35 Cornwallis Road, Cornwallis (multiple sections)
- 36 Cornwells Lane, Cornwallis (multiple sections)

## COMPLETED ROAD PROJECTS

These are just some of the road repair projects that have been recently completed in the Hawkesbury. As access to repair materials and contractors improves, the speed of repairs will increase significantly.

- Landslips on Upper Colo Road
- Bowen Mountain Road, Bowen Mountain - Landslip
- King Road, Lower Portland - Road rehabilitation
- Inalls Lane, Richmond - Road rehabilitation
- Percival Street, Richmond - Road rehabilitation
- Cupitts Lane, Cornwallis - Road rehabilitation
- Sections of Old Pitt Town Road
- Old Stock Route Road, Vineyard - Sealed road repair
- Greenway Crescent, Windsor - Sealed road repair
- Pitt Town Bottoms Road, Pitt Town Bottoms - Sealed road repair
- Redfern Place, Pitt Town - Sealed road repair
- Section of Grono Farm Road, Wilberforce - Sealed road repair
- West Portland Road, Sackville - Sealed road repair
- Laws Farm Road, Cumberland Reach - Sealed road repair

# OUR HAWKESBURY



## GREENS ROAD

**TOTAL COST: \$15 MILLION**

Greens Road at Lower Portland has reopened to traffic following a 12 month repair program that has included stabilising and restoring the embankment under the road (up to eight metres deep in some places), reinforcing the adjoining rock face, implementing drainage and replacing the road surface. More than 715 metres of road across two sites were repaired following the flood of March 2021, with further damage caused during the March and July 2022 floods. The works required Council and contractors to overcome a number of significant engineering challenges, and Council thanks residents for their patience while design and rectification works were completed.



## UPPER COLO BRIDGE

**TOTAL COST: \$3 MILLION**

The new Upper Colo Bridge has opened to traffic. The original timber bridge built in 1936 was washed away in the March 2021 flood, with work commencing on the new concrete bridge in June 2022, before a pause on works during the July 2022 flood. The new bridge provides a single lane for vehicles plus space for pedestrians and cyclists to safely cross and will offer a crossing resilient to future flooding and bushfires for many decades to come. The heritage of the original bridge has been honoured with the inclusion of wooden kerbs on the new bridge. Bench seating and interpretive signage reflecting on indigenous history in the Colo region, European colonisation and the history of the timber bridge – all fashioned from the original bridge timbers – were also installed near the bridge.





## IVY AVENUE RESERVE PLAYGROUND

TOTAL COST: \$143,000

Council joined with McGraths Hill residents recently to celebrate the opening of the new playground at Ivy Avenue Reserve. Local residents were treated to free coffee, donuts and face painting.

The new playground includes swings plus net/hammock swing, climbing fort with slide and spiderweb climbing net, spinner and rocker. Landscaping including softfall and new walking paths was also included, and the perimeter fence was retained.

In 2023/2024, Council will replace the playgrounds at Pitt Town Memorial Park, Jack Gow Memorial Park in McGraths Hill, Freemans Reach Reserve Playground and Wilberforce Park. Stay tuned to Council's Facebook page and [www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au](http://www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au) for opportunities to have your say on these and other upcoming projects.



## PITT TOWN MEMORIAL PARK PLAYGROUND

TOTAL COST: \$150,000

Council will begin construction of a new playground at Pitt Town Memorial Park on Wellesley Street in August. The new playground will include a climbing fort with slides, swings with nest swing, climbing net spinner, play walls, teeter totter, audio play, benches and landscaping.



## FERNADELL PARK DRAINAGE

TOTAL COST: \$143,000

Drainage works will take place at Fernadell Park, Pitt Town in July. These works are an essential first step in the development of the park into a brand new community and recreation hub. Work is also taking place behind the scenes to finalise detailed designs for the rest of the park. The park and the community centre will be subject to two separate designs and the community will be given the opportunity to provide feedback. Stay tuned to Council's website and Facebook page for details.



## THOMAS JAMES BRIDGE AND SETTLERS ROAD

TOTAL COST: APPROX \$24 MILLION

Council has appointed a contractor to undertake the reconstruction of the convict-built circa 1830s Thomas James Bridge on Settlers Road at Lower Macdonald. Council is now working with the contractor to establish a timeline for the reconstruction process. Council has also committed to meeting with Macdonald Valley residents once a start date is confirmed and to work through issues such as access through the site during works. The heritage-listed bridge and the rock upslope were damaged during the 2021 and 2022 floods. The repair works will be complicated and include cataloguing, removing and cleaning of the sandstone retaining wall bricks, reconstructing the internal bridge structure to ensure that it is stable and resilient against future flooding, rebuilding the retaining wall with each brick returned to its original place to protect its heritage, and stabilising the upslope rock.

# It's time for a Household Chemical CleanOut

Hawkesbury City Council's free Chemical CleanOut will be held on **Sunday, 13 August 2023** from 9am to 3:30pm at Hawkesbury Showground, Racecourse Road, Clarendon, entry via Gate 1.

Eligible items include:



Only house quantities of chemicals are accepted (20L or 20kg). Paint is accepted up to 100 litres in 20 litre containers.

This is an NSW Environment Protection Authority Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded by the Waste Levy. For further information visit [www.cleanout.com.au](http://www.cleanout.com.au) or call the NSW EPA on 131 555.



## Hawkesbury Living Sustainably Workshop Series

Are you looking to build your knowledge and skills to live more sustainably? Council offers free face to face and online workshops for all residents living in the Hawkesbury Local Government Area to learn about a variety of sustainability topics.

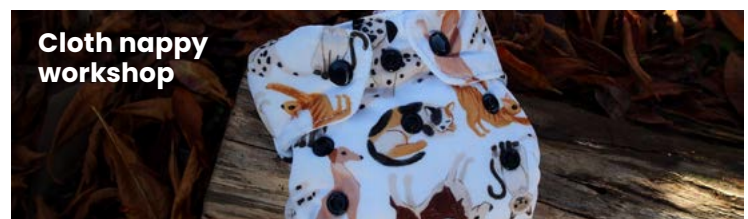
Upcoming workshops include:



**HAWKESBURY**  
living sustainably



**Composting workshop**



**Cloth nappy workshop**

Registration details will be available closer to the date at [hawklivingsustainably.eventbrite.com](http://hawklivingsustainably.eventbrite.com)  
For further information, contact Council's Sustainability Officer on [council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)

## JOIN THE LIBRARY IN JULY AND AUGUST TO WIN!

All new members for the months of July and August will receive an entry into the draw to win one of two Samsung tablets and a joining gift.

Lost your card or haven't been for a while? Library card replacement fees are waived in July and August. Just visit the Library during July and August to have your card replaced.

For full terms and conditions visit [www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library/whats-on/promotions](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library/whats-on/promotions)



JOINING IS FREE





# PUMP PUMP PUMP IT UP

Three new BMX pump tracks are planned to be built in popular parks in the Hawkesbury.

Residents are invited to have their say on the designs for pump tracks at Colonial Reserve in Bligh Park, and Peel Park in North Richmond.

The designs are available for viewing and comment on [www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au](http://www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au) until Sunday, 6 August 2023.

The designs for the pump track and riding trails at Woodbury Reserve in Glossodia were presented to the community in April, and work is due to commence shortly.

Stay tuned to Council's website and Facebook page for updates on the construction of the Woodbury Reserve pump track and trails.



## HAWKESBURY AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS nominate a mate who inspires you.

The Hawkesbury Australia Day Awards acknowledge outstanding citizens of the Hawkesbury - including long term commitment and significant one-off contributions to our community.

Council is inviting nominations for the following awards:

- 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

For more information, and to nominate, visit [www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/\\_resources/forms/australiadayawards2024](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/_resources/forms/australiadayawards2024)

Nominations close **24 September 2023.**

Winners will be announced at the Australia Day Awards ceremony on 26 January 2024.

# WHAT'S ON IN THE HAWKESBURY

Discover What's On in the Hawkesbury. Free events, exhibitions, festivals, local markets and more. See our What's On Guide at [www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/your-council/events/whats-on](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/your-council/events/whats-on)

**LIBRARY**  
4560 4444

Richmond Branch Library 29 West Market Street, Richmond  
Hawkesbury Central Library 300 George Street, Windsor

## WOMEN OF THE EARLY HAWKESBURY - HAWKESBURY FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

WEDNESDAY, 9 AUGUST 10AM TO 11:15AM  
Find out about unique women connected to the Hawkesbury with esteemed historian Jan Barkley Jack. FREE EVENT - VIA ZOOM



BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL [hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com](http://hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com)

**GALLERY**  
4560 4441

Deerubbin Centre (top floor)  
300 George Street, Windsor



## ARTEXPRESS - CELEBRATING FRESH CREATIVITY

UNTIL 13 AUGUST 2023  
Free exhibition of artworks by NSW visual arts students for the Higher School Certificate.

## ZINESCENE ART LAB

UNTIL 13 AUGUST 2023  
Suitable for all ages. Drop in during opening hours.  
Explore the world of storytelling and bookmaking in the ZINESCENE.

**MUSEUM**  
4560 4655

Hawkesbury Regional Museum  
8 Baker Street, Windsor

## STARRY NIGHT - ONLINE EXHIBITION AT [www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/museum](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/museum)

A stellar history of John Tebbutt and his work through objects and images, interviews and a virtual tour.



## FREE GARDEN PARTY

Celebrate Library and Information Week

Wednesday, 2 August 10am to 4pm, free drop in event

Activities | information stalls | sweet treats | book sale | giveaways  
Richmond Branch Library, 29 March Street, Richmond



### Contact Us

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All information current at time of publication.



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