

# Community Newsletter

2020 *Spring* edition



**FRESH  
NEW LOOK!**  
Have you seen our  
newly renovated Visitor  
Information Centre?



# FOR THE FUTURE

## THE LIVEABILITY PROJECT

As part of Council's Town Centre Liveability Project for Windsor, Richmond and South Windsor, a Draft Master Plan has been created to bring these town centres to life.

Thank you to all those businesses and members of the community who gave us feedback on the plans over the last year. We heard from:

- Over 150 businesses on our business street walks
- Representatives from Council's Town Centre Working Group, the Project Control Group, Hawkesbury Chamber of Commerce, local businesses, clubs and education providers
- Locals at pop up stalls in South Windsor, Richmond and Windsor
- Facebook followers on Council's Facebook page (100+ comments)
- Survey responders (337 responses) and those who called and emailed

Different projects have been developed for each of the three towns. Detailed designs will now be prepared for projects in each town centre:

### WINDSOR PROJECTS

- **George Street** – a boulevard of trees, seating, lighting, places for outdoor dining, street art and cleaning
- **Mall (north and south)** – tree planting, seating, lighting and cleaning
- **Thompson Square** – an upgrade of the outdoor dining area and cleaning

The water wheel and gas lights will be retained and the southern end of the Mall will not be reopened.

### SOUTH WINDSOR PROJECTS

- **George Street** – a boulevard of trees linking McLeod Park to the Station with new seating 'parklets' where people can sit
- **Bereewan Park** – tree planting, creation of a network of paths, investigation of a community garden


### RICHMOND PROJECTS

- **Windsor Street** – a boulevard of trees, lighting and new seating 'parklets' where people can sit
- **Richmond Park** – activation of the oval with new seating, paths to connect the oval and town

The Western Parkland City Liveability Program is a key commitment of the Western Sydney City Deal. The City Deals Liveability Program was established to enable each of the eight member Council's to implement a project to provide infrastructure improvements that will improve the built and natural environments and enable economic and social prosperity.

The total value of the Liveability Program is \$18.75 million per Council comprising \$15 million from the Commonwealth and State Government and a further matching \$3.75 million from Hawkesbury City Council.

### STAY CONNECTED

 Follow us on social media @hawkesburycitycouncil

Project Updates Here [yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au](http://yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au)



# A message from the **Mayor of Hawkesbury**



I would like to congratulate Councillor Mary Lyons-Buckett on her re-election as Deputy Mayor. I would also like to acknowledge the work of the former Mayor – Councillor Barry Calvert, over his past two years as Mayor.

Working with the community is important to me and I hope to be able to connect with as many of you as possible during the next 12 months in my role as the Mayor. In the last month, I have been trying to do that as much as I can in our current COVID-19 environment.

I'm Patrick Conolly, the Mayor of Hawkesbury. I was elected to the position by my fellow Councillors on 22 September 2020. I've only been the Mayor for a month and there has been a lot to learn but I have enjoyed the new challenges.

I was at Memorial Park, Kurrajong for the park pop up with my four children in the school holidays. It was a great opportunity for me to meet people from the Hawkesbury community and discover a newly upgraded playspace.

## **WE ARE BUILDING HAWKESBURY'S *FUTURE***



**Completed**



### **Road Upgrade Program**

**Location:** Stannix Park Road, Ebenezer

**Description:** Sealing of the gravel section of Stannix Park Road

**Completed:** August 2020

**Project Manager:** Hawkesbury City Council



**Completed**



### **New Footpath**

**Location:** Castlereagh Road, Richmond

**Description:** Construction of new footpath between Hereford Street and Southee Road

**Completed:** September 2020

**Project Manager:** Hawkesbury City Council

A list of our projects are provided online. To view current projects visit [hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/bhf](http://hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/bhf)

# Our Snapshot Community Engagement

Good communication and engagement is important to us, especially during COVID-19 when the opportunity to get out and about and speak to the community is limited. We have adapted by engaging online with you in a range of ways in the last 3 months.

We have used:



**391**

Social Media  
Posts on Facebook



**2.3k**

Online Engagement  
Visitors had their say online on Council projects



**80**

Online PR - Storytelling  
Articles sent to the newspaper



**3**

Online Events  
Hawkesbury Fest  
Citizenship Ceremony  
Waste 2 Art



**2k**

Online Forms



## We created an Emergency Preparedness Week online campaign 31 August to 6 September

- 32 Facebook posts in 7 days about Emergency Preparedness
- 2 events held
- 8 videos shared

## What was our community most interested in?

- 1 Hawkesbury - Nepean Floods Bath Tub Effect - Check out the video here [bit.ly/SESbathtubeffect](http://bit.ly/SESbathtubeffect)
- 2 Peppercorn Services GET READY 1:1 sessions
- 3 Thanking our Hawkesbury Rural Fire Service

Find out more here  
[yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/epweek](http://yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/epweek)

## Colbee Park - Master Plan



We asked you about the Colbee Park, McGraths Hill Master Plan.



**4**

Week engagement period



**29**

Ideas suggested by the community



**152**

Surveys completed



Community groups consulted

## STAY CONNECTED ONLINE

Follow us on social media

@hawkesburycitycouncil

@hawkesburyevents

@hawkesburyvisitorinformationcentre

@hawkesburygallery

@HawkesburyLibrary

@HawkesburyRegionalMuseum



[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

# Become a NET ZERO Hero

Council is developing a Net Zero Emissions and Water Efficiency Strategy.

Our Environmental Sustainability Committee and Waste Management Advisory Committee are both actively involved in the preparation of the Strategy.

We developed an Achieving Net Zero online campaign from the 1 to 31 August to seek community feedback and to share their ideas on achieving net zero emissions. The campaign involved:



**4** Videos and online event



**10** Facebook posts reaching 23,000 people

Council is with the community 100% on this journey towards net zero emissions. It will take commitment from everyone – government, businesses, residents and visitors, together we can achieve great things.

By setting up an online engagement page for the Achieving Net Zero campaign we obtained the following outcomes:



**124** Online surveys



**39** Ideas submitted



**450** Visitors to the site

## Our Council's Net Zero Hero achievements to date



**12** Council Facilities have solar systems installed.



**90%** Council's electricity is powered by renewable energy



saving **800** tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent CO<sub>2</sub>e per year



Changing street lights to LED lighting saves more than

**3,260 tonnes**

CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions over the next 20 years

## HAVE YOUR SAY

Your Hawkesbury Your Say is one of the ways Hawkesbury City Council involves the community in its decision making process. This online community engagement hub is a place for you to get involved, find out information and have your say about important issues and projects in the Hawkesbury.

.....it's Your Hawkesbury - have Your Say

To have your say visit [yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au](http://yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au)



## NSW Planning Portal

From 18 May 2020 we have been accepting development application lodgements through the NSW Planning Portal [www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au](http://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au) The online platform allows homeowners and businesses to lodge applications from their home or office.

Neighbours can also see in real-time what development is proposed in their areas. This is an additional facility for our community to lodge and submit applications, as well as continuing to receive applications in person, via post and email.



## HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY NURSERY NOW OPEN

We are excited to welcome everyone back to the Hawkesbury Community Nursery with the following opening hours under COVIDSAFE guidelines:

- ▶ Wednesday from 9am to 1pm
- ▶ 1st Saturday of the month from 9am to midday (excluding December and January)
- ▶ or by appointment

For more information [www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/link/hawkesbury-community-nursery](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/link/hawkesbury-community-nursery)

## Newly Renovated Oasis Aquatic & Leisure Centre



### Opening Hours

Monday to Friday – 5:30am to 9pm  
Saturday and Sunday – 8am to 6pm  
Public Holidays – 10am to 4pm

For more information on Council swimming pools  
[www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/services/places-and-facilities/swimming-pools](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/services/places-and-facilities/swimming-pools)

The recent renovations carried out by Hawkesbury City Council, include:

- ▶ installation of new planking to the 25 metre indoor lap pool
- ▶ replacement of steel beams in the roof
- ▶ new pebblecrete for the indoor pool lagoon wall
- ▶ new water features in the indoor pool
- ▶ refurbishment of children's waterslide;
- ▶ reception area refurbishment.

## REUNITING & REHOMING PETS

Animal shelters and rescue organisations across the country are reporting unprecedented surges in pet fostering and adoption, as families and individuals suddenly have more time on their hands and people seek companionship amid the COVID-19 pandemic. In line with this, Council's Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter has also been rehoming more pets than ever this year. The animal shelter staff do their utmost to ensure that as many lost pets as possible are reunited with their owners or found suitable new homes, thanks to our positive partnerships with a number of rescue organisations and weekly Facebook posts.



Local farmer Mark and his dog Snoop. Snoop is an ex-animal shelter dog, he was rehomed to Farmer Mark.

Pet owners can do their bit by ensuring that their pets are microchipped and that their cat or dog wears a tag on a collar with current contact details. In NSW, all cats and dogs, must be microchipped by 12 weeks of age or before being sold or given away, whichever happens first.



### New Pet Registration Rules

As of July 2020 the State Government has introduced annual permits for owners of non-desexed cats, restricted dog breeds and dogs declared to be dangerous. Owners can pay for annual permits using the online NSW Pet Registry. [www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au](http://www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au)



## A better visitor experience

Have you seen the new renovations at our Hawkesbury Visitor Information Centre?

The Centre has had an \$89,000 upgrade funded by Council to provide a new and improved visitor experience with increased retail space to promote the Hawkesbury region.

Council has been actively supporting local tourism businesses with the Business Bounce Back Mentoring Program which was launched in April.

Your local support will also make a difference, so come along to the Hawkesbury Visitor Information Centre and find out about all the great local tourism businesses you can visit and also the great local products you can buy.

Discover the Hawkesbury today!  
[www.discoverthehawkesbury.com.au](http://www.discoverthehawkesbury.com.au)



# Nominate a mate for the 2021 Hawkesbury Australia Day Awards

The Hawkesbury Australia Day Awards acknowledge outstanding citizens of the Hawkesbury. Several of the awards categories recognise long term commitment and significant one-off contributions to the Hawkesbury.

Nominate a mate online via the Council website [www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au) Search '2021 Hawkesbury Australia Day Awards' Closes Friday 29 October, 2020.



Mal Bobrige 2020 Hawkesbury Citizen of the Year  
Karen Hodges - Hawkesbury RFS Superintendent

# SNAKE BITE kit

We know Hawkesbury locals enjoy the outdoors so it makes sense to have a snake bite kit in the home or in the car - just to be on the safe side.

It is used in the wilderness first aid courses throughout Australia, it includes:

- ▶ a heavyweight snake bite bandage
- ▶ a heavyweight compression bandage
- ▶ snake bit first aid instructions
- ▶ emergency action card

With every purchase you will receive a local snake ID card.

Available from the Hawkesbury Visitor Information Centre  
Open 7 days a week.  
9am to 4pm  
Ph. 4560 4620  
328 Hawkesbury Valley Way (opposite the RAAF base)  
Richmond



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