



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Available online today!
hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Our Hawkesbury community has been hit once again by major flooding, this time far worse than March 2021. Our extensive recovery works are continuing on roads, bridges, parks, flood mitigation infrastructure and community buildings. We have a long recovery ahead of us but we are on the journey to recovery together.

I truly commend the mammoth effort put in by the NSW State Emergency Service (SES) and all the NSW and local emergency services crews, community volunteers, charity and food service agencies who have helped us during our flood response and recovery. Thank you.

It's been heart-warming to see friends helping friends, neighbours helping neighbours, and the strong connection we all have with each other in the Hawkesbury. The Hawkesbury Flood Recovery Centres have done a great job helping our flood affected community and thousands of people have come along for face-to-face support.

I am delighted to let you know that we are planning a special Thank You Parade for our emergency services volunteers and staff for helping us through bushfires, floods, storms, the pandemic, disasters and emergencies. See the back page for details. If you need help, we are here for you, so please call us on **4560 4444** or visit **www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au** for the current recovery assistance available.

Help includes clean-up services, grants and financial help, insurance and legal support, business support, mental health and well-being support. Our Community Hubs are also there for you to access. For more information see pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter.

To find out about all available disaster assistance, please contact the Disaster Customer Care Service at Service NSW on **13 77 88** or online via Service NSW **www.service.nsw.gov.au**

Mayor of Hawkesbury
Councillor Patrick Conolly

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WASTE SERVICES SURVEY 2022

Council has received an excellent community response to its Waste Services Survey with 1,980 survey responses from online and hard copy submissions. Most residents were very satisfied or satisfied with Council's Waste Services. Council wants to provide waste services that meet the community's needs and expectations, whilst ensuring the waste services are reliable, affordable, and sustainable. Many rural residents indicated they have a need for a garden organics bin. The feedback received from the survey will inform the development of the Draft Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy and Council's future waste services. See the full report online at **www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au**

RURAL GARDEN ORGANICS BIN

- Most rural residents said they have a need for a garden organics bin

SATISFACTION LEVELS

- Most residents said they were very satisfied or satisfied with the household bin collection service

CLEAN UP SERVICE

- Many residents want to see changes to the clean-up service including additional clean ups
- 40% of residents support the current model where additional clean ups or mattress collections can be booked for a fee

TOP 3 FOOD ORGANICS GARDEN ORGANICS (FOGO) BENEFITS

- Reduces landfill
- Better for the environment
- Makes compost for farmers

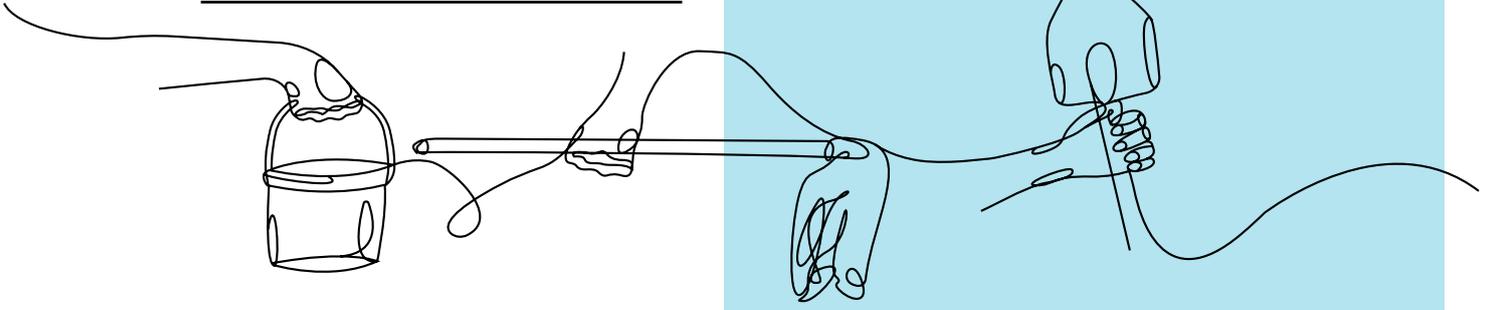
GENERAL WASTE

- Residents told us they want to keep a weekly general waste service but at no additional cost

BEST SUSTAINABILITY VS LOWEST COST

- 60% of residents want a balance between lowest cost and best sustainability outcomes
- 26% simply want the lowest cost waste services
- 14% want the best sustainability outcomes

CONNECTING THROUGH ADVERSITY



HAWKESBURY FLOOD RECOVERY

We've all been through many challenges in the Hawkesbury over the past 18 months; bushfires, flood, COVID pandemic, and now a major flood, and it's widely recognised that early treatment for the distress and trauma associated with such disasters can make significant differences to mental health.

Recovery from disasters takes time, but mental health support will help with the long-term recovery of our impacted communities.

For mental health support 24 hours/7 days, you can call Lifeline on **13 11 44**, Beyond Blue on **1300 224 636** or the NSW Mental Health Line on **1800 011 511**.

Floods Psychological Therapy Services are also available to people who have been impacted by the recent flooding in our region. Up to 10 free sessions per calendar year are available for individuals, couples or families significantly affected by the 2022 floods. No Centrelink or Health Care Card is needed and no Mental Health Care plan is needed. For more information contact Nepean Blue Mountains Primary Health Network on **4708 8100** or go to www.nbmphn.com.au and click on 'Floods Psychological Therapy Services'.

For help with legal problems including insurance claims and disputes, financial hardship, tenancy and Centrelink, visit the Disaster Response Legal Service at disasterhelp.legalaid.nsw.gov.au or call **1800 801 529** from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

Western Sydney Community Legal Centre offers free information, referrals and legal advice on insurance claims, disaster related legal issues and many other general legal problems. You can make a legal enquiry on the centre's website at www.wsclc.org.au

Register for Council Flood Recovery updates at www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/fih2021

Additional flood related information can be found at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au



FLOOD WASTE REMOVAL

Council has been working with a range of agencies to coordinate our recovery. These agencies include NSW Police Force, Council, NSW State Emergency Services, NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS), Hawkesbury RFS, Fire and Rescue NSW and Public Works Authority.

Flood waste has been collected from primary residences and small businesses. This included hard or bulky waste (non-putrescible), mattresses, whitegoods, and e-waste, green waste and household chemicals.

For guidance on managing storm and flood waste, please visit epa.nsw.gov.au/news/news/2022/nsw-storm-and-flood-updates-2022

Hawkesbury Community Hubs

The Hawkesbury Community Hubs are back in operation as part of Hawkesbury City Council's community recovery program and they are offering craft and chat, playgroup, health and wellbeing, bounce back exercise classes and more. Come and find out what the Community Hubs can offer you and tell us what you would like from your local Hub!

LOCATIONS

BILPIN HUB

2596 Bells Line of Road,
Bilpin

WILBERFORCE HUB

531 Wilberforce Road,
Wilberforce

COLO HEIGHTS HUB

2996 Putty Road,
Colo Heights

ST ALBANS HUB

Upper Macdonald Road,
St Albans

To find out more about the Community Hubs and all Hub activities, see the program calendar on the Community Hubs page www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/hch or call **4560 4444** and ask for the Community Hubs team.

BOUNCE BACK EXERCISES

Free exercise classes for
all ages and abilities!

- Bowen Mountain Hall, 103 Lieutenant Bowen Rd **weekly** on Mondays with Bree at **9:30am**
- Wilberforce School of Arts, 531 Wilberforce Road Wilberforce **weekly** on Wednesdays with Bree at **9:30am**
- St Albans School of Arts Hall, Upper MacDonald Road St Albans **weekly** on Fridays with Rachael at **9:30am**
- Online classes will continue to be streamed Monday, Wednesday, Friday at **9:30am**. Join via the link on the Community Hubs page www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/hch

ART WITH HEART AND CRAFT AND CHAT

Art with Heart and Craft and Chat are two of the free, friendly groups meeting at the Hawkesbury Community Hubs for art and craft activities. Tuition is being facilitated by The Hawkesbury Remakery fortnightly at Bilpin, Wilberforce and Colo Heights and weekly at St Albans. On alternate weeks at Bilpin, Wilberforce and Colo Heights, join us for our relaxed Craft and Chat group.

Go to www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/hch to see the program. There's basketry, jewellery making, print making and a range of other great skills to learn.

- **Tuesdays** at Bilpin **1pm to 2:30pm**
- **Wednesdays** at Wilberforce **1pm to 2:30pm**
- **Thursdays** at Colo Heights **1pm to 2:30pm**
- **Fridays** at St Albans from **10:30am to midday**



- New playgroup at Wilberforce Hub on Wednesdays. Come along and make some new friends and have some fun with your children or grandchildren
- Hawkesbury Community Outreach Services Playgroup at Bilpin Hub Tuesdays from **10am** to **midday**
- Family Fun Playgroup Wilberforce Hub | Every Wednesday **10:30am** to **12:30pm**
- HCOS Playgroup Colo Heights Hubs | Fortnightly Thursdays **10:30am** to **12:30pm**

To find out more and to take part in other Hub activities such as craft and chat, playgroup, health and wellbeing, bounce back exercise classes and more, see the program calendar on the Community Hubs page www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/hch or hawkesburycommunityhubs.eventcalendarapp.com or call **4560 4444** and ask for the Community Hubs team.

Community Hubs is a Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund project funded through the joint Commonwealth/State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

PLAYGROUPS

GIVIT

Donate your time



GIVIT

You can donate your time and skills to help people affected by the March 2022 flood through one central location using GIVIT, which is run in partnership with the NSW Government.

Donate your time at www.givit.org.au/donate-time

Please provide as much detail as possible. Your offer to volunteer will be visible to all registered organisations that require support. All support organisations and charities are vetted by GIVIT as genuinely working with people who need help.

Donate money or items at www.givit.org.au/storms-and-flooding

Donations for the Flooding fund on GIVIT can be directed to the Hawkesbury specifically by selecting **DONATE FUNDS** and typing Hawkesbury in the Comments section when making a donation OR by selecting **DONATE FUNDS** and selecting to directly FUND items requested in the Hawkesbury area.

GIVIT encourages all NSW charities, services and community groups wishing to support people impacted by the flood emergency to register with GIVIT free of charge, so that people can access your services.



REVISED PLANS FOR FERNADELL PARK

Pitt Town residents are encouraged to have their say on revised plans for the transformation of Fernadell Park.

These revised plans were created following a first round of community consultation in mid-2021. Feedback from the first exhibition was very positive and Council has listened carefully to community suggestions. Due to the importance of this project to the community, and the significance of the changes, Council has decided to reexhibit the plans for further feedback.

These changes include a revised layout for the training field and multi-use courts, relocation of the play space, a significant increase in off-street parking and the piping of the northern drainage channel.

The community can view the revised Masterplan and have their say at www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/fernadell until Thursday, 26 May 2022.

A public hearing to discuss the changes will be held at the Pitt Town Sports Club on Monday, 16 May 2022 from 7pm. Book at www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/fernadell



Our City's future plans



Four of Council's most important community plans – the Draft 2022/2023 Operational Plan, the Draft 2022–2026 Delivery Program, the Draft Long Term Financial Plan and the Draft Community Strategic Plan are currently on exhibition to the public. These plans set a vision for infrastructure and service delivery in the Hawkesbury.



TOWN CENTRE **UPGRADES**

Work is due to begin on upgrading the Richmond and South Windsor town centres in early May.

The Windsor town centre upgrade is awaiting Heritage NSW approvals and is expected to commence mid-2022.

Council has invited tenders for the construction phase of the South Windsor and Richmond town centres. Once this process is completed, Council will provide the community with commencement dates for construction.

The final designs for the Richmond, South Windsor and Windsor town centre projects are now available and can be viewed at www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/lptc

This project is supported by the Western Parkland City Liveability Program and funded by Federal, State and Local governments via the Western Sydney City Deal.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Council is asking for your feedback on these important plans.

The Operational Plan outlines projects and key activities for the financial year, including the budget for the year and additional information about finances, fees and charges. This Operational Plan represents the first year of Council's commitment to implementing its Delivery Program for 2022-2026. The 2022-2026 Delivery Program outlines how Council will deliver on the community's priorities as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan.

The Community Strategic Plan sets out the 10 year vision for the Hawkesbury and was developed following an extensive community engagement process. This Plan has received an update to ensure it remains relevant to the Hawkesbury's ever evolving needs.

The long term Financial Plan is a 10 year plan that informs decision making. It also demonstrates how the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan and commitments of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan will be resourced and funded.

Council encourages you to view and provide feedback on these four draft plans at www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au during April and May 2022.

WHAT'S ON!

Hawkesbury *Thank you* Parade and Festival

Sunday, 29 May | Parade Start 11am – Festival Start 12:30pm | Governor Phillip Park

We would like to invite the community to come along and say *Thank You* to all of our Emergency Services and Community Groups that assisted the Hawkesbury during the fires of 2019/2020, the floods in 2020, 2021 and 2022 and also the pandemic that has affected so many people over the last three years.



We are back!
Hawkesbury fest

Governor Phillip Park, Windsor

📍 @hawkesburyevents | events@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

HAWKESBURY SHOW 2022 **CONNECTING THE HAWKESBURY**

Come and see us at our Council tent
at the Show!

Friday, 6 May, Saturday, 7 May and
Sunday, 8 May (Mother's Day)

40 Racecourse Road, Clarendon

LIVING SUSTAINABLY WORKSHOPS

Upcoming Energy Efficiency Workshop – June 2022

Learn how to keep your home warm in winter and still save money in this free face-to-face workshop.

Registration details will be available closer to the date at hawklivingsustainably.eventbrite.com

For further information contact Council's Sustainability Officer on council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

GRANT WORKSHOPS – for venues and times contact Tracey Greenaway on 4560 4444 or 0428 212 948

Deep Dive into Specific Grants

Monday, 11 April, 6:30PM – 8PM,

The Retreat at Wisemans

OR

Tuesday, 12 April, 10AM – 12:30PM,

Hawkesbury Leisure and
Learning Centre, Richmond

Managing Your Project &

Acquittals - Webinar

Wednesday, 20 April – PM

OR

Thursday, 21 April – AM

Times To Be Advised

No Grant? No Worries!

Getting Your Project Shovel-Ready

Monday, 9 May – AM – in person

Venue and time To Be Advised

OR

Tuesday, 10 May – PM – in person

Venue and time To Be Advised

All events are subject to change, please confirm details before attendance.

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Website: www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

 Follow us on social media
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