



LET'S CONNECT

CAMDEN'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
WINTER 2016

Birriwa Outdoor Youth Space is NOW OPEN!

The official opening took place on Saturday 21 May with crowds enjoying all that this community recreational facility has to offer.

In 2014 the community told Council there was a need for teenage activity space and Council made this a high priority project.

The Birriwa Outdoor Youth Space at Mount Annan offers:

- Outdoor table tennis area
- Two fenced multi-purpose sports courts

- A diverse range of adventure style equipment including 30m cable ride, 3m slide, sky surf, board rider, air rider and large climbing rope structure
- BBQ's, shelters, bins and seating
- Amenities
- Passive recreation space and sunken garden
- New trees and landscaping
- Sealed car park

For more information visit the Major Projects tab on Council's Website.

Project Value: \$1.6 million

Highlights

Birriwa Outdoor Youth Space

Oran Park Library and Community Centre

Nott Oval Amenities Building

Golf NSW Regional Qualifiers

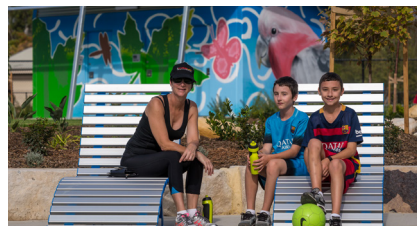
Paws in the Park

Camden Cemetery Upgrade

NAIDOC Week



Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak, Deputy Mayor Cr Peter Sidgreaves and Cr Therese Fedeli at the Birriwa Outdoor Youth Space opening



Contact Us



02 4654 7777



camden.nsw.gov.au



mail@camden.nsw.gov.au



[facebook.com/camdecouncil](https://www.facebook.com/camdecouncil)



Free mobile app available from the App Store and Google Play

New Library and Community Centre Planned for Oran Park

Plans are underway for an exciting new Library and Community Resource Centre in Oran Park.

The contemporary Library and Community Centre will meet the needs of a growing community well into the future and offer modern services to residents.

Set within the Civic Plaza in Oran Park, which includes Council's Administration Building and soon to be built Leisure Centre, the new state-of-the-art building will offer modern services to residents and will incorporate:

- state-of-the-art digital technology, whilst still retaining all the benefits of a traditional library
- technology learning centre

- common areas equipped with computers
- individual work spaces
- laptop and printing facilities
- lounge areas and café
- meeting rooms and four activity rooms
- separate children and youth areas
- outdoor learning space

The Library and Community Centre was designed by the award-winning Brewster Hjorth Architects and is expected to be completed in 2017.

For more information visit the Major Projects page on Council's website.



Artist Impression of the Oran Park Library and Community Centre

New Amenities to Meet Future Needs at Nott Oval, Narellan

A new amenities building at Nott Oval is currently under construction with works due for completion next month.

The old amenities buildings were run down and built in the mid 1970's.

The new amenities building will feature:

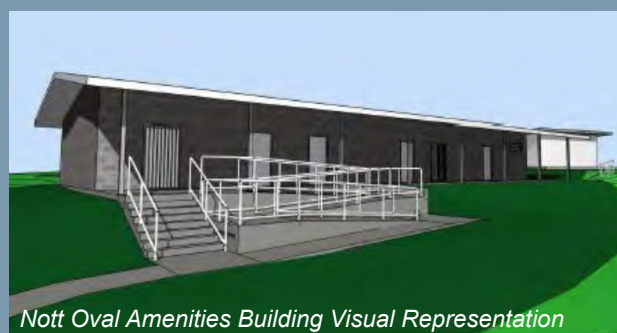
- shower and change rooms
- referees' room
- store rooms
- fully accessible ramp to amenities
- public male and female toilets
- unisex disabled toilet

The new amenities building will provide modern, spacious and accessible facilities as well as extra improvements to the grounds.

Narellan Rangers Soccer Club have over 1,000 members and are one of the largest clubs in our area.

Council worked closely with the Club to ensure the new amenities building will fit their growing needs.

Project value: \$650,000



Nott Oval Amenities Building Visual Representation

Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak, Deputy Mayor Cr Peter Sidgreaves, Cr Therese Fedeli, Member for Camden Chris Patterson MP with Mount Annan residents on site.



Big Win for Mount Annan Residents

Council had a massive win in the Land and Environment Court in March with Council's decision to oppose a multi-dwelling development in Main Street, Mount Annan being upheld.

The proposed 3 storey development consisting of 9 precincts, 17 buildings, 246 dwellings, 445 car parking spaces and site works was considered by the Land and Environment Court in hearings between 21 and 23 December 2015.

In the judgement handed down on 1 March 2016, the Court agreed with Council's argument that:

'the proposed development was not compatible with the height, bulk and scale of the existing character of the locality and that the development lacked variety. The development raised genuine concerns for Council and the community and was a gross over-development of the site.'

Thank you to the residents for their support and tireless efforts in attending community meetings, making submissions and providing evidence to the court.

Council in a Strong Financial Position

Due to responsible financial management, Camden Council was able to allocate \$2.55 million in surplus to priority community projects.

Below is the list of works which will be delivered this financial year.

- **\$150,000** - maintenance to the historic Macaria Building on John Street, Camden
- **\$80,000** - replacement of timber flooring at Catherine Fields Community Hall
- **\$194,000** - refurbishment and upgrade of existing facilities to match and complement new construction at Mount Annan Leisure Centre
- **\$150,000** - new toilet facility at Camden Town Farm
- **\$20,000** - tables and shelters at Cuthill Reserve (Camden Cricket Club)
- **\$12,000** - replace gutters and downpipes at Kirkham Park Rugby Clubhouse
- **\$180,000** - kitchen upgrade, painting, tiling at Camden Civic Centre
- **\$220,000** - new toilet facility at Camden Cemetery
- **\$115,000** - renovation of existing main arena at the Bicentennial Equestrian Park in Camden
- **\$429,000** - renewal of cycleway circuit surrounding Harrington Park Lake
- **\$85,000** - additional parking at Birriwa Reserve Cricket, O'Dea Road, Mount Annan
- **\$150,000** - exercise stations at Harrington Park Lake
- **\$100,000** - new playground at Pat Kontista Reserve, Leppington
- **\$250,000** - widening travel lanes and additional parking and footpath at Coghill Street, Narellan
- **\$25,000** - Public Art installations on community facilities by high school students
- **\$60,000** - for two additional community events
- **\$25,000** - installation of cricket pitch at Lower Kirkham
- **\$55,000** - 17 additional car spaces at Fairfax Reserve, Harrington Park
- **\$70,000** - upgrade 11 Sporting Parks and Reserve sites to a more efficient automated lighting system
- **\$150,000** - increase the number of light poles at Belgenny Reserve to improve lighting levels (6 new poles)
- **\$30,000** - install more efficient lights on existing poles at Onslow Oval to improve lighting levels.

Camden Cemetery Upgrade

Work has commenced on the planned upgrade of Camden Cemetery at Cawdor.

The works will be staged and will include:

- the installation of new columbarium walls
- Memorial Rose Garden
- improved internal roads and car parking
- improved landscaping and pathways
- site entrance upgrades
- upgrades to amenities

Camden Cemetery's beautification plans have long been anticipated by the local community, especially those who visit the cemetery on a regular basis. We are aware that the works throughout the cemetery may cause some inconvenience to some visitors, and will attempt to keep the impact to a minimum across the cemetery during the period of improvements.

We will also ensure that the works will be carried out respectfully.

For more information contact Council on 4654 7777.

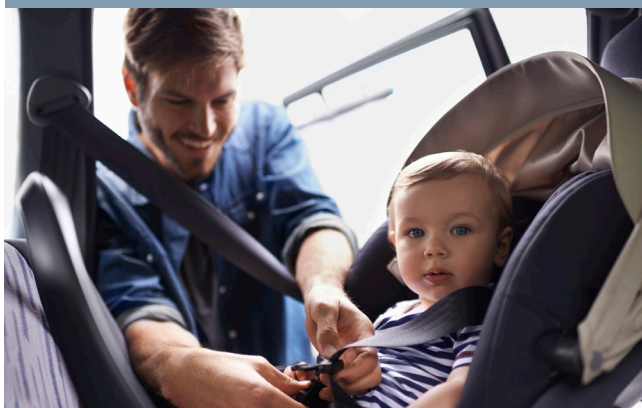


Choose Right, Buckle Right - Free Child Restraint Fitting and Checkings Day

Council is offering a free occupant restraint fitting and checking day on Thursday 1 September from 9am to 1.30pm.

This is a great opportunity to ensure your child car restraints and booster seats are fitted correctly with all checks undertaken by an RMS Authorised Restraint Fitter.

Bookings are essential. Phone Council's Community and Road Safety Officer on 4645 5046.



Drives for Learners in Macarthur - Log Book Run

Learner drivers and their supervisors are invited to participate in a free Log Book Run on Sunday 11 September.

The Log Book Run is a great opportunity for learner drivers to gain on road driving experience and will contribute to their Learner Driver Log Book hours.

Come along and experience a range of road types with a group of others in the same learning phase of driving.

Bookings are essential. Phone Council's Community and Road Safety Officer on 4645 5046 or email mail@camden.nsw.gov.au.



Narellan Sports Hub Works Started

The new state of the art sporting and recreational facility, Narellan Sports Hub, is a step closer to being realised with the first stage of works being undertaken for this much-anticipated project.

The Narellan Sports Hub, located adjacent to the existing facilities in Narellan Park, will ultimately offer the community a 44 court netball complex, athletics facility, sports grounds and car parking that can be used by a variety of sporting codes.

This centrally located facility will have the potential to attract major sporting events, bring more visitors to our region and support local businesses and showcase the amazing attractions in our area.

The first stage of this project, due for completion late 2016, will include 30 netball courts, an amenities building, entrance works, access road and 400 car parking spaces.

Stage 1 was recently increased by \$2.1 million with \$1 million coming from savings from the construction of the new administration building at Oran Park.

Project Value: Stage 1, \$9.86 million.

Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak, Cr Greg Copeland and Cr Therese Fedeli with Andrew Hreszczuk (President) and Cooper Judge from Camden Athletics and Karen Williams (President) and Shae Elguindy from Camden District Netball Association on site.



New Council Administration Building Opening in Oran Park

Council is moving into its new administration building in Oran Park to continue to delivery quality services to our rapidly growing community. To celebrate we will be holding a **Community Open Day** on **Sunday 7 August from 12pm - 2pm**. Residents and friends can take a tour of this new state of the art facility, enjoy a free barbecue and much more.

Council's contact information will not change with the move to Oran Park and there will still be a Customer Relations presence in Camden and Narellan Libraries. Contact details will continue to be:
Phone: 4654 7777
Email: mail@camden.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.camden.nsw.gov.au
Facebook: www.facebook/camdecouncil



The Macarthur Nature Photography Competition

Calling all nature-loving shutterbugs! Dust off your camera lens, get outdoors and get snapping. It's that time of year again – the Macarthur Nature Photography Competition is back.

The Macarthur Councils are once again hosting the highly anticipated Macarthur Nature Photography Competition and we're after your most striking, engaging and enticing photographs of the region's flora, fauna and natural scenery.

Photographers of any age with a camera and a keen eye for the natural world are invited to enter for a chance to win a great prize. The Competition will be officially launched at Riverfest in Campbelltown in late August 2016.

For more information on entering the competition phone 4654 7777, email mail@camden.nsw.gov.au or visit Council's website.



Celebrating NAIDOC Week in Camden

On Tuesday 5 July, Camden Council and the community celebrated NAIDOC Week in Camden.

NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The community attended the flag raising ceremony at 10.30am followed by bush tucker morning tea and Aboriginal performances.

The 2016 theme was Songlines - The Living Narrative of our Nation – and highlighted the importance of Songlines to the existence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak, State Member for Camden Chris Patterson MP, performers and event participants at NAIDOC Day.

Paws 'n' Tales at Narellan Library

A new program for children who struggle with reading or are reluctant readers has commenced at Narellan Library – with dogs lending a paw to help.

Studies show that children who regularly practice reading aloud improve their fluency, vocabulary and expression. Unfortunately children who are struggling with their reading are sometimes reluctant and worry about being judged by others.

Studies have found that reading to a dog – our four legged friends - gives a fun and judgement free audience, increases confidence, self-esteem and reading skills.

Paws 'n' Tales is proudly presented by PAWS Pet Therapy and is based on the successful R.E.A.D. (Reading Education Assistance Dogs) program.

For more information or to express interest in participating, please email the Children's Librarian cheryl.dodson@camden.nsw.gov.au. Don't forget to include your child's name, age, concerns you have about their reading and your contact details.



Local HSC High Achievers Honoured

High achievers from across the Camden Local Government area were honoured at a civic reception to recognise outstanding students who received a Band 5 or 6 in one or more subjects in the 2015 Higher School Certificate.

More than 200 high achieving students attended the reception from the following schools and were recognised for their achievement in their studies:

- Camden High School
- Elderslie High School
- Elizabeth Macarthur High School
- Macarthur Anglican Senior School

- Magdalene Catholic High School
- Mount Annan Christian College
- Mount Annan High School

The Mayor of Camden congratulated all the students on their fantastic results and wished them well for the future and their further studies. Principals and other staff from each school in attendance on the night were also acknowledged for their contribution to these students success.

Pic: L to R: Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak, Elizabeth Macarthur High School Principal Kylie Hedger, Camden 2016 Australian Citizen of the Year, Keith Maddock, Elizabeth Macarthur High Schools HSC High Achievers and State Member for Camden, Chris Patterson MP.



Multiculturalism Celebrated in Camden

Camden Council celebrated both Multicultural March and Harmony Day by lighting up the Camden and Narellan Libraries in orange light, the official colour of Harmony Day.

Multicultural March and Harmony Day encourages and celebrates the social inclusion of people from all backgrounds, their contributions to our community and cultural diversity.



Camden Library



Cr Therese Fedeli at Harmony Day Storytime

DID YOU KNOW?

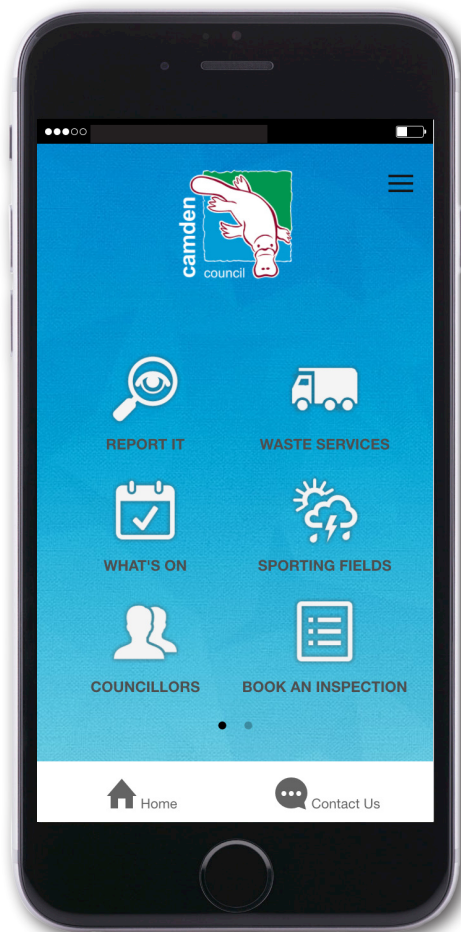
No matter how you wish to do business with us we've got you covered.

You can come and visit us or phone our friendly customer service team, use Council's website or if you are always on the go, Council's app will help keep you connected.

Some of the many things you can do electronically are:

- Book an inspection
- Check bin pick up days for each suburb
- Pay your rates
- Report an issue
- Make a waste enquiry
- Submit a form
- Find information on local events
- Check/Find Development Applications
- Have your Say
- Check the wet weather status of sporting fields

Visit our website www.camden.nsw.gov.au, download the Camden Council app from App Store or Google Play, email us at mail@camden.nsw.gov.au or give us a call on 4654 7777.



Tree-mendous National Tree Day

Camden Council is inviting you to a tree-mendous day out at Rotary Cowpasture Reserve.

On Sunday 31 July, National Tree Day will be held in the Nepean River Habitat Corridor to plant native trees at one of Council's bushland restoration sites.

Tree planting will commence at 9am, continuing until 1pm with volunteers invited to enjoy a sausage sizzle. Please remember to bring a hat, gloves, sturdy shoes and suitable outdoor clothing. Public car parking is available and the site is accessible via the Camden Cycleway.

To RSVP to National Tree Day please email bushcare@camden.nsw.gov.au or call Council's Natural Resource Officer on 4654 7777.



Get Your Gardens Ready

It's time to start pruning, planting and weeding. Camden Council is encouraging all gardeners in the Camden Local Government Area to get their gardens ready for the annual Garden Competition. There is a category for every garden, no matter how big or small. Entry is free and there are cash prizes to be won.

To register your interest or to have an entry form sent to you, please contact Council on 4654 7777. Entry forms will also be available from August on Council's website, at Council's Customer Service Centre or Camden and Narellan Libraries.



So Much Food Going to Waste

Did you know that each NSW household throws away more than \$1,000 worth of food each year?

To help local families learn how to reduce food waste and save money, Camden and Campbelltown Councils will host a number of Cooking Clinics under the Macarthur Food Project with funding from the NSW Government's Love Food Hate Waste program.

Visit Council's website for details about upcoming Cooking Clinics.



Return of the Threatened Species Art Competition

Hey kids, the Swift Parrot, Cumberland Plain Land Snail and Spiked Rice Flower are only a handful of locally endangered species that need your help.

Children aged 5 to 12 years are encouraged to learn about endangered or vulnerable species by creating an artwork for the Macarthur Threatened Species Art Competition 2016. Entries are open from 19 - 24 August.

Use your imagination to paint, draw, etch, stamp, cut and stick to create your artworks - but A4 size only please!

Competition dates and details are available on Council's website – www.camden.nsw.gov.au





Is your chimney sending you smoke signals?

If your chimney's smoking, your heater might not be operating effectively.

Check your chimney for smoke and contact Camden Council for advice on better wood burning practices or visit www.epa.nsw.gov.au/woodsmoke



This Project has been assisted by the NSW Environment Protection Authority.

Hot Tips for the Coming Winter

Using your wood heater efficiently will not only keep your home warm but help reduce wood smoke that can be harmful to you, your family and your neighbours!

Here are some handy tips:

- Check the flue, chimney and baffle regularly for a build-up of soot or creosote (a tar-like oily deposit) which can build-up and cause chimney fires.
- Only use aged dry hardwood.
- Freshly cut or unseasoned wood needs to be aged for about 8 to 12 months.

Find out how much moisture your wood contains by borrowing a moisture meter from Camden or Narellan Library today.

For more information on reducing wood smoke pollution visit Council's website.

Handy Tools to Become a Tech Savvy Senior

Camden Council Library Services are implementing the Tech Savvy Seniors Program to train senior members of our community in digital technology.

Participants will be trained in small groups with qualified adult educators at Camden and Narellan Libraries.

Topics include:

- an introduction to computers
- Android and iPad devices
- internet and email
- cyber safety
- social media
- online shopping
- sharing images and photographs

For more information or to book your place, please contact Council's Community Learning Librarian on 4645 5058.





Mario Fenech from the NRL.



Paws in the Park was a Pawfect Day

Another successful Paws in the Park was held at the Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park.

Over 3,000 residents and their four legged friends enjoyed an exciting program of events including:

- 3km walk at 9am (arrive from 8.45am)
- demonstrations including obedience, rally-o, agility and the Australian Working Dog Rescue
- dog registrations and discounted microchipping
- free vet checks
- Sydney Psychos Flyball demonstration

Many pooches and their pals had their photo taken in the photobooth as a keepsake of the day.

A colouring competition for primary school children was held and the lucky winners on the day were;

- K - 3 Caitlin Murphy, Oran Park Public School
- 4 - 6 Lilly Siemon, Macarthur Anglican School

For the first time the NSW Siberian Sledding Express Races provided excitement and thrills for the crowds.

The day was a great success and we thank Royal Canin and all our generous sponsors for contributing to what is a huge event on the Camden calendar.

Thank you to Mario Fenech for again supporting our event. We were honoured to have him part of the event.





Council Partners with Golf NSW for Regional Qualifying Events

Camden Golf Club will host a regional qualifying event for the NSW Open Golf Championship thanks to Camden Council endorsing a three year partnership with Golf NSW.

Camden is one of eight regions in New South Wales selected to host this event demonstrating Council's commitment to strengthening and supporting the tourism industry through partnerships, programs and destination marketing.

Hosting these events over three years will not only bring increased visitors to our region but also showcase one of Camden's many great sporting assets and reaffirm Council's commitment to economic development and the support of local business.

The 2016 qualifying round in Camden, to be held on Thursday 29 and Friday 30 September, will provide a boost to tourism, showcase our wonderful golf course and attract some of the State's most elite golfers.

Councillors

South Ward



Councillor
Debby Dewbery
0438 454 955
debby.dewbery@bigpond.com.au



Councillor
Eva Campbell
0419 638 733
cr.campbell@camden.nsw.gov.au



Councillor
Greg Copeland
0413 235 235
cr.copeland@camden.nsw.gov.au

Central Ward



Councillor
Greg Warren
gregowarren@gmail.com



Councillor
Therese Fedeli
0419 423 525
gia@ispdr.net.au



Councillor
Penny Fischer
0411 110 675
penfisch@hotmail.com

North Ward



Mayor
Lara Symkowiak
0413 485 142
larasym@gmail.com



Deputy Mayor
Peter Sidgreaves
0427 648 033
psidgreaves@gmail.com



Councillor
David Bligh
0428 243 070
cr.bligh@camden.nsw.gov.au