

More outdoor community events will revitalise Inner West

Council will invest in new outdoor COVID-safe community events in a bid to provide more support to the arts and culture sector and foster community connections.

In particular, Council will seek to build on the success of the St.Anmore music festival, expanding the popular live music event to five festivals across the entire local government area.

Council voted unanimously to:

 Commence immediate planning with St.Anmore Festival of Music organisers on a November 2022 event. St.Anmore Festival is held in memory Richard Gill AO, a renowned Sydney musical identity. In 2019, the free Festival included over 60 live acts showcasing local music over 10 stages around Stanmore village

- Investigate and fund the expansion of St.Anmore across all five wards of the local government area (LGA) during this term of Council
- Support and budget for a series of COVID-safe outdoor film screenings, to be held in local parks across the LGA on a rotating basis
- Support and budget for an Inner West Film Festival to be established in partnership with local cinemas, theatres, and filmmakers, to take place in summer 2022-23

Park and playground upgrades

Council has opened newly refurbished playgrounds at Algie Park, Gladstone Park (pictured) and Pioneers Memorial Park.

Haberfield's Algie Park has a new multi-play unit, grass soft fall and nature play area, Balmain's Gladstone Park has a new multiplay unit, swings, soft fall and nature play area and Leichhardt's Pioneers Memorial Park works included replacing the slide and soft fall, installing Bucket Towers multi-play unit and nature play area and refurbishment of swings and sand pit.

Next up, Yeo Park in Ashfield. Council recently consulted with the community on the \$275,000 upgrade. The project is slated for completion in mid-2023.

The upgrades are part of the \$18.3m investment in parks and sporting grounds in 2021/22, the largest and most comprehensive funding commitment to community sport and recreation in the history of Inner West.





Council wins at the Master Builders Awards

Three of Council's major infrastructure projects have won prestigious NSW Master Builders Excellence in Construction Awards.

Haberfield Centre and Library, Dawn Fraser Baths and Ashfield Aquatic Centre were all recognised for Excellence in Construction.

The awards publicly recognise high quality workmanship, innovation and quality and are the benchmark for excellence in building in Australia.

More at mbansw.asn.au/excellence-awards

No grant funding for Inner West

The NSW Government added insult to injury last month when it announced Inner West Council was ineligible to apply for any of the \$5 billion in grants funded by the sale of WestConnex.

"We want a fairer deal for the Inner West," said Mayor Darcy Byrne. "We missed out on Stronger Communities funds and now we're missing out on WestInvest grants."

The news came after the NSW Auditor-General said the \$252 million Stronger Communities Fund lacked integrity and applied no merit-based assessment in awarding 96 per cent of funds to Coalition-held electorates.

"Inner West was more negatively affected by WestConnex construction than any other area of Sydney. We desperately need financial assistance for infrastructure, but Premier Perrottet is for some reason denying us that."



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Arts and Music Crisis Summit

Council will convene an Inner West Arts and Music Crisis Summit.

"After two years of the pandemic and economic hardship, the Inner West arts and music sectors are in a state of crisis and decline," said Inner West Mayor Darcy Byrne.

"Live events were curtailed, arts-based businesses have been unable to plan ahead or commit to future investment, and audiences and patrons have stayed away from cultural activity.

"The neglect of the sector by state and federal governments has compounded these blows," he said.

Council will convene the summit with Sydney Fringe and the Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance, with the objective of mobilising local artists, creative businesses and supporters of the arts, to resuscitate the sector. The summit is to be held at Marrickville Town Hall.

AFLW at Henson Park

The Inner West is working with the Sydney Swans to make Henson Park the home ground of the Swans Women's team when they enter the AFLW next year.

Council has supported the Swans' application for entry and has been working for the past few years to make Henson Park not only the home of the Newtown Jets but also a hub for women's AFL.

Further improvements to Henson Park are now needed, including female friendly change rooms and lighting and broadcast facilities to allow the ground to be used by the Jets and the Swans into the future. Council is seeking grant funding to carry out the upgrades.



Henson Park is an official home for AFLW. An AFLW match between GWS Giants and St Kilda was played there on Saturday 19 February. Find out more at womens.afl/venues/henson-park.

Newtown boarding house fire tragedy – we must do more to protect people

On behalf of the Inner West, I want to pay respect to the three local residents who died in the recent tragic fire at the boarding house in Newtown and their loved ones.

We also need to thank all the staff at Newtown Neighbourhood Centre for their tireless work in supporting the survivors of the fire. The Inner West will do everything possible to assist NNC to secure ongoing support for the people who have been made homeless.

This tragedy has shone a light on the urgent need to improve the care, safety and living conditions for some of our most vulnerable citizens living in these boarding houses as well as to demand more safe, secure public housing.

This is particularly vital for the Inner West as we have more than 3,000 residents in over 300 boarding houses, which makes up approximately 30 per cent of all boarding houses in NSW.

In the aftermath of this horrific tragedy, we must commit to doing more to care for and protect vulnerable and disadvantaged people in our own community.



Vary Byrne

Mayor, Darcy Byrne Inner West Council

Celebrating our extraordinary citizens

Council will celebrate the extraordinary contributions people make in our community at the annual Citizens of the Year and Amy Large volunteer awards at a ceremony in Ashfield on Friday 20 May. Everyone's invited. librarian, archivist, published author, educator and speaker Chrys Meader.

Read more about Chrys, 2021 co-Senior Citizens of the Year Pei Qun Guo and Teresa Savage and Young Citizen of the Year Katrina Ikonomou at innerwest. nsw.gov.au/COTY



2021 Inner West Citizen of the Year is historian,



Council commemorates trail blazing activists

To mark the 2022 Sydney Mardi Gras, Council unveiled a plaque recognising the contribution of trail blazing activists Peter "Bon" Bonsall-Boone and his partner Peter de Waal who founded the Campaign Against Moral Persecution (CAMP Inc), one of the first gay and lesbian rights organisations in Australia. Pictured left to right are Inner West Councillors Clr Smith, Clr Howard, Mayor Byrne, Clr Drury, Deputy Mayor D'Arienzo, Peter de Waal, Clr Lockie, Clr Shetty and Clr Atkins.

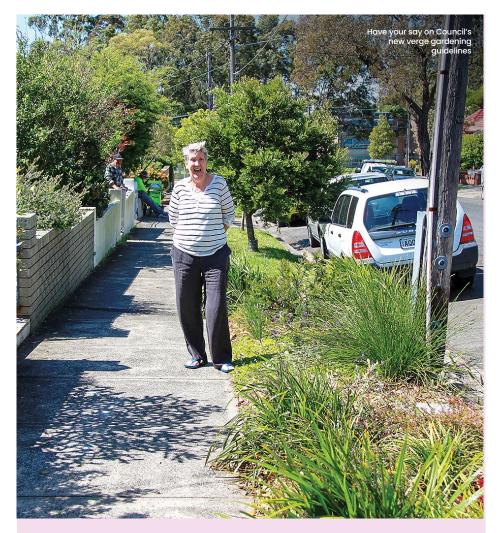
Read more at innerwest.nsw.gov.au/MardiGras2022



Look Out Before You Step Out

Council's Look Out Before You Step Out campaign supports the State Government's vision of 'Towards Zero' deaths and serious injuries on NSW roads.

The road safety messaging can be seen in high visibility locations where pedestrians are taking more risk: in Ashfield, Balmain, Dulwich Hill, Enmore, Leichhardt, Haberfield, Marrickville, Newtown, Petersham, Rozelle and Sydenham.



Help shape the Inner West

Council is developing new plans that will guide all Council's activities for the new term.

These include the Community Strategic Plan, operational plans and budgets, and asset management.

View the plans and have your say online at yoursay.innerwest.nsw. gov.au or at Council libraries in Balmain, Marrickville and Haberfield, or Council Service Centres in Ashfield, Leichardt and Petersham.

Comments close Sunday 15 May.

Here's what else is happening in April/May:

How can we make it easier for you to cycle around the area? Share your ideas and you could win a \$150 cash card.

What can we do to encourage people to use electric vehicles? We'd appreciate your advice.

Balmain Library and ground floor meeting room is being refurbished to bring it up to contemporary standards. Join in the consultation.

Verge garden policy. Help us develop sensible rules for anyone who wants to create gardens on Inner West verges.

Have you recently had your say in a community consultation? Check back at yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au to find out how the project is going and what Council decided.

Have your say on new sustainable transport strategies, a library refurbishment, and more at yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au.





Reconciliation Week and Refugee Week

Council will celebrate National Reconciliation Week 27 May – 3 June and Refugee Week 19 June – 25 June. Check Council's website closer to the dates for the full list of activities innerwest.nsw.gov.au

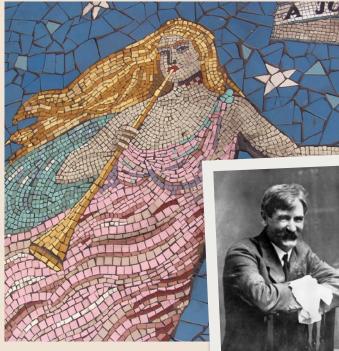


The Salons at Chrissie Cotter Gallery

Council's Chrissie Cotter Gallery will be transformed into a bohemianstyle salon in a group exhibition which opens 27 April, 6pm.

"Our bespoke program of free and ticketed events includes theatre performance, dance, synaesthesia sessions, storytelling, a book launch, with workshops in poetry and meditation, hand-cut collage and singing in harmony," said organiser and artist Angie Contini.

Find out more about this and other events at Council's free exhibition space at innerwest.nsw.gov.au/CCG



Above: Louise Lawson plaque. Right: Henry Lawson

Did You Know? Henry Lawson and the Inner West

One of Australia's best-known and most-loved writers, Henry Lawson, wrote some of his most famous poem, Faces in the Street, at Petersham Railway Station in 1888, when he was just 21.

He also lived for a time at the White Cockatoo Hotel, which was then the Lord Carrington.

Louisa Lawson, Henry's mother, an early feminist, writer and poet, also lived in the Inner West. A reserve in Roach Street Marrickville is named after her.

Louisa Lawson Reserve has a large, colourful plaque that reads "Louisa Lawson (1848–1920) Social Reformer, Writer, Feminist and Mother of Henry Lawson. These stones are all that remain from the walls of her home in Renwick Street, Marrickville."



Spot a pot? Report it!

Let us know if you Spot A Pot. We'll fix in within three working days. Go to bit.ly/SpotAPot



10 Years of Tempe Birdos

Council held a morning tea to celebrate the 10th anniversary of volunteer bird watching group, Tempe Birdos.

Tempe Birdos began monthly surveys at Tempe Lands wetlands in early 2012 and meet monthly for an early morning bird walk and survey.

The area was a shale quarry in the 1920s and a greyhound track in the 1940s, before becoming the 'Tempe Tip' - a landfill site until the mid-1970s.

In 2004, Council began remediation of the site. In 2016, Tempe Birdos reached a milestone when they recorded their 100th species – a Little Egret.

Recently, the total number of species recorded reached 120, showing how Tempe Lands has been transformed from a rubbish tip to a thriving biodiversity area.

Find out more and how to get involved at innerwest.nsw.gov.au/WildlifeMonitoring



The story of the Chang Family, seen here circa 1912, will feature in an author talk, South Flows the Pearl: Chinese Australian Voices by Mavis Gock Yen

Heritage Festival 2022 – Be Curious

Curiosity is the theme of this year's Heritage Festival, which runs Friday 1 April – Tuesday 31 May.

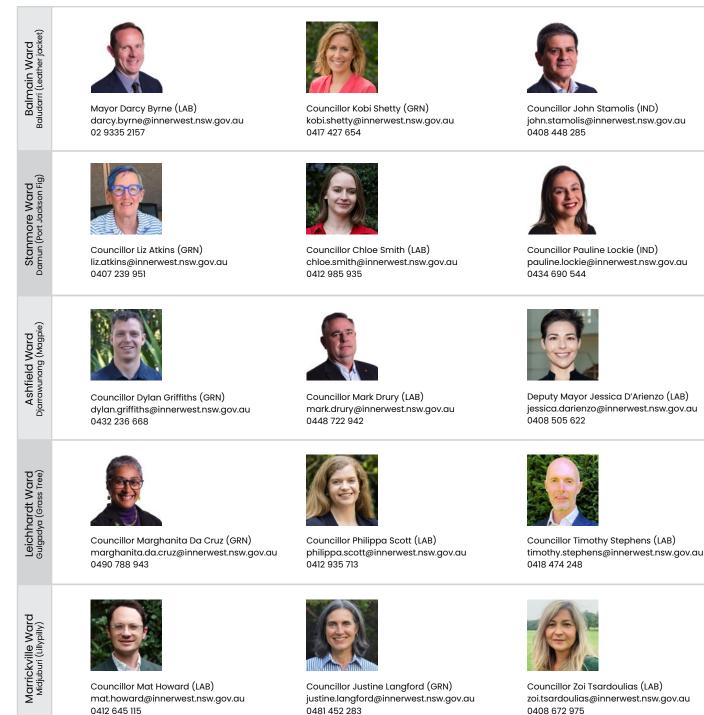
Council's Local History will spark your curiosity and show a side of the Inner West never seen before.

Expect Aboriginal-led tours, archaeological discoveries and personal stories from those that came to the Inner West from far flung lands to build the community we are today.

The full program launches early April and there are events online and in person. Go to innerwest.nsw.gov.au/HeritageFestival

Your Councillors

Find your ward - innerwest.nsw.gov.au/WardMap



Contact us

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Libraries 9392 5588 innerwest.nsw.gov.au/Libraries library@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Monday – Sunday: Ashfield, Balmain, Leichhardt and Marrickville

Monday – Saturday: Dulwich Hill, Stanmore, Haberfield and St Peters/ Sydenham Aquatics

innerwest.nsw.gov.au/Aquatics Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre Marrickville

Ashfield Aquatic Centre Dawn Fraser Baths, Balmain

Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre Petersham

Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Water Play Park

Illawarra Road, Marrickville South

Anzac Day

Council and Balmain-Rozelle RSL Commemorative Dawn Service, Balmain's Loyalty Square from 6am. Petersham RSL Dawn Service, Petersham RSL from 5.45am. Lest We Forget



Update on GreenWay

The Cooks to Cove GreenWay Master Plan was adopted by Council in August 2018 and sets out approximately \$57 million works.

Council recently resolved to proceed with the design and construction of the GreenWay central links. The central links extends from north of Parramatta Road to south of Old Canterbury Road and will include a shared path, lighting and landscaping within the Inner West Light Rail Corridor and adjacent land. Completion is set for mid 2025.

For all the latest on GreenWay construction and news go to innerwest.nsw.gov.au/GreenWay

Better customer service

Council is reviewing its customer service with a view to increasing responsiveness, reducing Development Application times and improving transparency.

"I know we have dedicated and proficient staff. But we can always do better. We want to make very clear our commitment to quality customer service," said Councillor Phillipa Scott.

A Customer Experience Plan including a Citizen Service Charter will also be developed.

Other initiatives include Your Say community engagement stalls in neighbourhoods on key issues impacting the community, citizen service points in every library, and a mobile citizen service van.





Free pet collars

Get a free personalised ID collar and tag for your pet.

To be eligible, pets must be microchipped, lifetime registered and live in Inner West Council area.

Find out more at innerwest.nsw.gov.au/Pets

What's On Inner West

Discover local events or submit a listing innerwest.nsw.gov.au/WhatsOn

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