



# YOUR ANNUAL **COMMUNITY** REPORT 2014-2015



# MY ENVIRONMENT



## FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to your Annual Community Report for 2014/2015 reflecting on some of Council's achievements from the year.

A particular highlight of mine was the official opening by the Prime Minister, Tony Abbott of the Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre in November last year. Council built the centre, borrowing only \$2 million of the \$24 million construction costs. Over 350,000 visitors have enjoyed the centre during the year.

I am also proud of the strong financial position of Council. Our key financial indicators have substantially improved and figures show that we are one of the most efficient Councils in Sydney.

Another highlight has been the start of plans to transform Hornsby Quarry into a recreation space for the public to enjoy. Council has teamed up with the State and Federal Government to fund a project that will partly fill the quarry with clean, excavated material from the Northconnex tunnel.

In March we announced the replacement of the Hornsby Station footbridge, following funding commitment from the State Government. Construction will commence during 2015 and the new bridge will open early next year.

In my role as Mayor, I attend many events and meet many people throughout our beautiful Hornsby Shire and I am extremely proud of the achievements of Hornsby Shire Council. I will continue to strive towards delivering high-quality services in the most cost-effective way possible.

**Steve Russell**

Mayor of Hornsby Shire Council



*Native Plant Giveaway*

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Catchment biofilters** (stormwater quality improvement devices) constructed at Patricia Place, Cherrybrook; Pennant Hills Park; and Abuklea Road, Epping.
- **Stormwater harvesting system** installed at James Henty Oval, Dural.
- **Gross pollution trap** installed at North Street, Mount Colah.
- **Stormwater harvesting feasibility study** completed examining the viability and potential water quality benefits of stormwater harvesting at 10 of Council's sportsfields.
- **Bridge renewals within bushland reserve** at Ray Park, Carlingford; Hull Road, Beecroft and Lakes of Cherrybrook.
- **Bushland track upgrades**, including stone steps, boardwalks and directional signage undertaken at the Blue Gum Walk, Hornsby; Reddy Park, Hornsby and Callicoma Track, Cherrybrook.
- **Solar panels** installed at Hornsby and Epping libraries and within the Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre expected to save Council almost \$35,500 per year.
- **Biobanking agreement** created for Upper Pyes Creek and New Farm Road bushland. Biodiversity credits sold to NorthWest Rail Link and Epping to Thornleigh Third Track for over \$2.5m which will fund restoration of the bushland in these reserves in perpetuity. In addition, biodiversity credits worth over \$1.2m for Dog Pound Creek, Westleigh transferred to the Office of Environment and Heritage, which will fund restoration of bushland in these reserves in perpetuity.
- **Seagrass education campaign** with signage, stickers and promotional material displayed in marinas and fishing stores within Brooklyn and surrounds.



*Bushcare Volunteers*



*Re-magine sculpture. Bubble Fountain Zero by Pamela Lee Brenner.*

- **Clean-up of the Hawkesbury** at Spectacle Island, Sandbrook Inlet and areas in the Berowra catchment through Council partnership with local schools and community groups.
- **Bushcare Major Day Out** held 6 September at Bambara Corridor, Carlingford.
- **Bushcare/Community Nursery Volunteers** numbered 554, with 3,979 volunteer hours worked.
- **Free guided bushwalks:** 330 people attended during 2015.
- **60 volunteers planted over 750 trees and plants** in Epping's Somerville Park enhancing the bushland corridor along Terry's Creek, augmenting the blue gum high forest that is native to the area and critically endangered.
- **Two Local Land Services Grants and one Estuary Vegetation Grant** currently being implemented for vegetation and riparian restoration at Terry's Creek, Byles Creek, Bar Island and Brooklyn Park.
- **Community nursery propagated over 30,000 plants** year to date, with over 28,000 plants being despatched to the community.
- **Winner of the 2014 NSW Coastal Management Innovation Award** for 'Hawkesbury Watch' website which displays daily swimming conditions, estuarine health grades and real time data via five monitoring buoys on Council's website and a free app.
- **Winner of the 'Hey Tosser! Litter Reduction Award'** in NSW Environment Protection Authority, Clean Beaches Connecting our Coast Awards 2014 part of the Clean4Shore program (funded by Council).
- **Winner of the 'Environmental Protection Award'** at the 2014 Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Clean Beaches Awards in partnership with Greater Sydney Local Land Services' Floating Landcare program.

- **Return to Glory rebranded to Re-magine**, the waste transformed to art exhibition with expanded categories including an outdoor sculpture artwork for Hornsby Park.
- **Fagan Park featured on ABC's Gardening Australia** on 12 July 2014.
- **E-waste collection service** introduced as trial in November 2013 to be continued for another three years.
- **Education program** for unit blocks near Westfield side of Hornsby to reduce illegal dumping and increase recycling.
- **The sustainability program 'Dirt Girl World'** has seen participation from half of the early childhood centres within Hornsby Shire. A Waste and Energy audit has also been offered to the centres as part of the program.
- **Over 20 community workshops** held on various 'waste' issues including composting, recycling and eco gardening.
- **Mini community pocket garden** launched at Willow Park, Hornsby.
- **The Eco Garden at Fagan Park** continues to flourish with volunteers maintaining and learning new skills. A new shelter over the Cob Oven has been installed as well as a larger sand pit.
- **Recycling** of household batteries, printer ink, light globes, mobile phones continues with record collections in NSW for mobile phones and toner cartridges by Hornsby residents.
- **Over 100 tonnes of illegally dumped material** collected at a cost of over \$70,000 to Council. 67 tonnes of the dumped materials was green waste/woodchip.

# MY COMMUNITY



*Library Knit In*

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Hornsby Shire Libraries** welcomed nearly 1 million visitors and over 300,000 visits to the library webpages.
- **Annual Library Knit In** was hosted at Hornsby Library with over 300 people attending and 655 blankets donated to Wrap with Love with 1,582 squares.
- **'The Emperor's New Clothes' pantomime** was written and performed by library staff to over 545 children across 5 sessions.
- **The Summer Reading Program 'Get Ready for an Adventure'** had 589 children take part over the summer holidays.
- **Cultural activities** in the library included an author talk program featuring Peter Fitzsimons, Amanda Ortlepp and Dr Al Mudreis with over 1,000 attendees.
- **The Library's Friday Features program** hosted authors and seminars on topics such as organ donation, HSC talk for parents, medieval history and quilting.
- **Rapid Reads collection** launched. It is a quick return collection that offers extra copies of high demand and bestseller fiction books, and is designed to keep popular titles more accessible for everyone.
- **Library JPs, Family History, Tax Help and Home Library volunteers** served over 15,000 community members.
- **Sydney Writers Festival** events with authors Maxine McKew and Sammy Shah had over 350 people attend.
- **The Library** participated in the Healthy Living Festival hosting seminars on topics such as native bees, memory loss, bone density and energy efficiency workshops.
- **Law Week 2015** was celebrated with sell out sessions on law topics such as wills and power of attorney and strata law.
- **A new Library Management System** was selected through a tender process and is currently being implemented by Library staff.
- **Library's e-resources** continue to increase in popularity with around 100,000 loans.
- **Hornsby Library** hosted two popular World War 1 displays. To commemorate the start of the war in August a display with memorabilia including a soldier's uniform was on show. Commemorating the 100 years of ANZAC day a display included an honor roll for the Shire and community members knitted poppies which people placed next to one of the fallen soldiers.
- **Carers Support Group Art Exhibition** featuring artwork created by carers in the Northern Sydney Local Health District held at Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre.
- **NAIDOC week** celebrated with a special event at Hornsby Library.
- **Review of childcare services** commenced to benchmark against the market and determine whether retention of these services is in the best interest of ratepayers.
- **Number 5 pop-up** in Coronation Street, Hornsby, came to a successful end with a permanent tenant moving in.
- **Pool Party** held to officially open Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre on 22 November 2014.
- **Community BBQ trailer** was hired 51 times during the year to support local community groups for fund raising activities.
- **AFL Family Fun Day** organised in partnership with the NSW Police, AFL NSW/ACT, Hornsby/Berowra Eagles and Mission Australia, held for the multicultural community at James Park, with 250 people attending.



*Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre - Pool Party*



*Australia Day in Hornsby Park*



*Westside Vibe street event*

- **Festival of the Arts**, featuring a wide range of arts including drama, music, visual arts, literature and architecture and comprising over 190 events with over 3,200 people participating.
- **Hornsby Art Prize Exhibition**, delivered as part of the Festival of the Arts, with 512 entries from artists across the country, held at the Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre.
- **Happiness Cycle**, a one-day bicycle skills workshop initiative from The Coca-Cola Company and charity Bicycle Network, held at Thornleigh Brickpit Sports Stadium. 288 teenagers attended, the second highest participation of the 26 Happiness Cycle days around the nation.
- **Christmas Spectacular**, in partnership with Community Church Hornsby, held at Rofe Park, Hornsby Heights.
- **Thank you morning tea** and presentation by the Mayor held in December for local community centre volunteers.
- **Local man Bill Bradley**, active on Council's Access and Social Justice Consultative Group, nominated for Lesley Hall Lifetime Achievement National Disability Award. Mr Bradley announced as winner in December.
- **Australia Day celebrations** held in Hornsby Park including an Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony welcoming 37 new citizens.
- **Annual Healthy Living Festival** commenced in March, with 245 events held and 43 organisations participating, incorporating Youth Week and Seniors Week.
- **Seniors Week** in Hornsby Mall was celebrated with 7 information stalls, entertainment and markets to celebrate Senior's Week.
- **Seniors Week Movie** at Events Cinema, Hornsby 380 seniors were entertained by Hornsby Girls High School 52 piece string orchestra, morning tea and a movie.

- **Westside Vibe event** held in Dural Lane, Hornsby was a successful evening enjoyed by 5,000 people featuring live entertainment, food and market stalls, street performers and more. All part of reinvigorating the west side of Hornsby.
- **Over 300 people attended the Mount Colah Mingle Neighbour Day**, part of Healthy Living Festival, aimed to inspire isolated older people to become involved in community groups.
- **The Willow Park Garden Party** held in February saw over 400 people attend to promote community gardening in high density and multicultural community.
- **Street Party at Orara Park, Hornsby** 300 people participated in a local event getting to know their neighbours and enjoyed a BBQ, face painting, balloon making, and family fun games.
- **Children's Voices for Reconciliation Muddi Mittigar** (Darug for Young Friends) was held at Hornsby Mall. Featuring 350 local school students performing song, dance and other visual presentations, it was also the launch of the Guringai Festival and included markets, short films and photos celebrating indigenous culture.
- **Volunteer expo**: 20 information stalls in Hornsby Mall. 38 local organisations and three council departments attended to give the community information on organisations and volunteering opportunities.
- **World Environment Day** held in Hornsby Mall in June was enjoyed by around 2,000 people, featuring live entertainment, free face painting, yoga, market stalls and more.
- **Council's Community and Cultural Development Manager, Ms Lisa Cahill**, winner of the 2014 Local Government Aboriginal Network Award for Non Aboriginal staff.

# MY LIFESTYLE



Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre



Cherrybrook Skate Park

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Footpath Improvements** at Dent Street, Epping; Francis Greenway Drive, Cherrybrook; Ethel Street, Hornsby; Morshead Avenue, Carlingford and Clarke Road, Hornsby.
- **Local Road Improvements** at Berowra Waters Road, Berowra Heights; Goodwyn Avenue, Berowra; Turner Road, Berowra Heights; Willarong Road, Mount Colah; York Street, Beecroft; Stevens Road, Glenorie; Campbell Lane, Glenorie and Quarry Road, Dural.
- **Cycleway at Broadoak Place, Castle Hill** - shared cycleway/footpath.
- **Park and Playground upgrades** at Fagan Park, Galston, Gardens of Many Nations; Campbell Park, West Pennant Hills; Berowra Oval, Foxglove Oval, Mount Colah and Charles Curtis Park, Normanhurst; Brooklyn Oval; Lyne Road Reserve, Cheltenham; the Skate park at Greenway Park, Cherrybrook and James Park, Hornsby – an artistic sculpture celebrating Aboriginal culture and installation of a bee-friendly garden by council's Bushcare team, with help from students of St Edmunds School.
- **Sporting facility upgrades** at Montview Oval, Hornsby Heights; Greenway Park No. 2 Oval, Cherrybrook; Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara; Foxglove Oval, Mount Colah; Pennant Hills Park; James Henty Park, Dural; and Pennant Hills High School Sportsground – Council contributed \$50,000 towards installation of an irrigation tank and resurfacing of the sportsground, which is used extensively by the broader community.



James Park, Hornsby



*Hornsby Station Footbridge (Artists impression)*

- **Dog off leash improvements** at Ruddock Park, Westleigh.
- **Drainage Improvements** at Fisher Avenue and Hillcrest Road, Pennant Hills and Brooklyn Road, Brooklyn.
- **Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre** was completed and open for business in August 2014.
- **Galston Aquatic and Leisure Centre** had a dehumidifier installed and new Learn to Swim pool underway.
- **Wombat crossing** at Beecroft Public School, Copeland Road, Beecroft.
- **Traffic signals** at Edgeworth David Avenue and Balmoral Street, and median at Parks Avenue, Waitara.
- **Joint campaign** between Hornsby Shire Council traffic rangers and NSW Police Force to target dangerous drivers around school zones to keep children safe.
- **Building improvements** at Greenway Park Child Care Centre, Cherrybrook; Dangar Island Community Centre; Wisemans Ferry Community Centre; Pennant Hills Library; Storey Park, Asquith and Brooklyn Oval.
- **Active Living Hornsby Strategy (ALHS)** - consultation to plan for the future of open space and recreational needs in the Hornsby Shire. Strategy exhibited and awaiting adoption by Council.
- **Hornsby Station Footbridge** – new footbridge linking the Railway Station and Hornsby Mall, including improvements to Florence Street Mall, construction to commence in 2015. Jointly funded by State Government and Hornsby Shire Council.



*Fagan Park*

# MY COUNCIL



Hornsby Quarry



Hawkesbury Sunrise - Brooklyn ©Francis Keogh

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Local government reform:** Council considered a report dealing with the State Government's Fit for the Future (FFTF) package in June 2015. As no neighbouring council has indicated a willingness to partner with Hornsby to have an independent merger business case prepared, Council has completed and submitted to IPART (as the Government's Expert Panel) a 'Council Improvement Proposal' for assessment. Although Hornsby will be found by IPART to be 'not fit' under FFTF's scale and capacity requirements, the Proposal shows that Council has been a role model through the reform process and will meet all the financial sustainability, infrastructure and services and efficiency requirements of FFTF by 2018/19.
- **Hornsby Quarry Loan Rate** which commenced in 2005/06 for the repayment of the loan taken out to fund the compulsory acquisition of the Hornsby Quarry, has been removed from Council's rating structure for the 2015/16 financial year. The loan has now been fully repaid.
- **Council's internal computer system** was upgraded to a Nutanix Virtual Computing Platform saving more than \$100,000 per annum in information technology costs and giving each computer a much longer lifespan.
- **Council's Long Term Financial Plan** was updated and the results reviewed by NSW T-Corp which assessed Council as having a sound financial sustainability rating.
- **Development Assessments** to the value of \$560 million were determined over previous 12 months.
- **Council's Swimming Pool Inspection Program** commenced with letters sent to 10,030 registered swimming pool owners.
- **Community consultation** showed support for Council joining the NSW Food Authority 'Scores on Doors' program.
- **Heritage Review Stage 5 Planning Proposal** has been finalised and is in force.
- **Rural Lands Planning Issues Survey** to identify attitudes to planning controls and community's vision for rural lands run during July 2014, with a 22.8% response rate.
- **New Masterplan for Brooklyn** commenced with community consultation including an online survey of all ratepayers and business owners in Brooklyn and the Lower Hawkesbury River Settlements.
- **Hornsby Development Control Plan 2013** amended in relation to the Epping Town Centre commercial core and character statements for three Heritage Conservation Areas.
- **Amendments to the Hornsby Local Environmental Plan 2013 and the Hornsby Development Control Plan** provide additional guidelines for the development of the Hornsby West Side. The aim is to increase residential and employment opportunities, revitalise and preserve the heritage character of the area and reinforce the role and status of Hornsby Town Centre as a major centre.
- **Exhibition of Design Excellence Planning Proposal** which will apply to development at, or over, 10 storeys in height and proposes to insert a design excellence clause into the Hornsby Local Environmental Plan 2013.
- **Commencement of the Electronic Housing Code** for Hornsby to enable 24/7 on-line enquiry and lodgement of Complying Development Certificates.
- **Council's Facebook page** became the tenth most popular council in Australia on Facebook with more than 11,000 followers.
- **Council's monthly newsletter database** has increased to over 20,000 subscribers. With an open rate of approximately 46% which compares well to the industry standard of around 30%.
- **Winner of the WorkCover NSW SafeWork Award** in October 2014 for Best WH&S Management System (Public Sector).



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## Where the money came from

	\$m
Rates and charges <sup>1</sup>	94.90
Fees and charges <sup>2</sup>	18.60
Interest <sup>3</sup>	2.32
Grants and contributions <sup>4</sup>	43.98
Asset sales <sup>5</sup>	2.88
Other <sup>6</sup>	6.50
<b>Total<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>169.16</b>

1. Rates and Charges includes all ordinary rates, the Catchments Remediation Rate, Hornsby Quarry loan rate and garbage charges.
2. Fees and Charges includes fees from Development Applications and revenue earned from aquatic centres, nurseries and preschools, commercial waste services, park and oval hire and property rentals.
3. Interest Investment income received from Council's investment portfolio, overdue rates and annual charges interest.
4. Grants and Contributions includes development contributions, the Federal Government's Financial Assistance Grant and numerous smaller amounts from governments for services including preschools, bushfire mitigation, children's services, various community services, libraries, roads, various environmental grants and pensioner rate subsidy.
5. Asset Sales proceeds from the sale of property, plant or equipment.
6. Other this includes many revenue sources such as fines, recycling income, private vehicle use fees and income from road closures.
7. Estimates provided are based on the March Qtr Budget Review 2014/15.

## Where the money was spent

	\$m
Employee costs <sup>1</sup>	49.56
Capital expenditure <sup>2</sup>	24.00
Debt servicing expenditure <sup>3</sup>	5.54
Materials and contracts <sup>4</sup>	40.69
Restricted assets <sup>5</sup>	34.62
Other <sup>6</sup>	14.68
<b>Total<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>169.09</b>

1. Employee expense includes salaries and wages, leave entitlements, travel expenses, superannuation, workers compensation insurance, fringe benefits tax and training.
2. Capital expenditure includes infrastructure work such as drainage and property, plant and equipment.
3. Debt servicing expenditure principal and interest repayments required from external loan borrowing.
4. Materials and contracts includes all costs, other than employee costs, associated with the maintenance of parks, roads, buildings, nurseries and preschools, aquatic centres, drainage and the cost of waste services. Also included are environmental protection and plant operating expenditure.
5. Restricted assets funds set aside for specific expenditure purposes in future years.
6. Other these reflect Council's diverse operations and include such items as rentals, interest charges, consultants, contributions to Fire Brigade Services, street lighting, office equipment, legals, insurance, advertising, telephones and cash collection charges.
7. Estimates provided are based on the March Qtr Budget Review 2014/15.

## What's in our wallet?

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \$69 \text{ Rates} \\
 + \\
 \$13 \text{ Grants} \\
 + \\
 \$12 \text{ Fees \& charges} \\
 + \\
 \$6 \text{ Other}^1 \\
 = \\
 \$100
 \end{array}$$

## Yearly shopping list for Hornsby Shire Council

**\$22** Waste management and property cleansing

**\$21** Improvements to local facilities

**\$13** Library, Community Services and Culture

**\$11** Parks and recreation

**\$10** Maintaining roads, footpaths and drains

**\$8** Planning and Development

**\$6** Bushland, trees, waterways, environmental sustainability

**\$6** Governance

**\$3** Contribution to State emergency management agenciesmanagement agencies

Based on budget estimates per \$100 with funding adjustments for the 2014/15 financial year.

1 Other = inter alia - Parking fines, Rental income, Interest, Asset Sales

# WHAT'S ON

# MY LIBRARY



## LESS MESS DE-CLUTTER WORKSHOP

TUESDAY 4 AUGUST, 6.30PM-8.30PM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY

Do you have cupboards that are bulging, a garage that's overflowing or general clutter and mess you'd like to tame?

Join Susanne Thiebe from Less Mess for a workshop to help you conquer clutter.

\$5.00 ▲



## RETIREMENT VILLAGES SEMINAR PRESENTED BY LAWYER CECILIA CASTLE

FRIDAY 7 AUGUST, 10.30AM-12PM, HORNSBY LIBRARY

This seminar will explore topics including: the legal implications of transitioning from your own home to a retirement village, understanding different models of ownership in retirement villages and the lifestyle choices offered by retirement villages.

Free. See website for full details ▲

## MEET THE AUTHOR: CAROL BAXTER

**AUTHOR OF BLACK WIDOW**  
THURSDAY 20 AUGUST, 6.30PM-  
8.30PM, HORNSBY LIBRARY

The true story of Australia's first female serial killer.

\$5.00 ▲



## BONE DENSITY SEMINAR ARTHRITIS AND OSTEOPOROSIS NSW

FRIDAY 28 AUGUST, 10.30AM-11.30AM,  
EPPING LIBRARY/ LEISURE AND  
LEARNING CENTRE

Free ▲



## TERMITES: GOOD ANTS, BAD ANTS? INFORMATION SESSION

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST, 2PM-4PM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY

Free ▲



## PARKINSON'S SEMINAR

**WITH JUDY RECHER**

FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER, 10.30AM-11.30AM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY

Diagnosed in 2005, Judy presents her own personal viewpoint of some of the challenges that she and others with Parkinson's face on a daily basis for World Parkinson's Awareness Week.

Free ▲



## MEET THE AUTHOR: KATE FORSYTH

**AUTHOR OF THE BEAST'S GARDEN**  
WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER, 6.30PM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY

Kate's doctorate in fairy-tale retellings is elevated to a whole new level with The Beast's Garden; with Nazi Germany being the backdrop.

\$5.00 including light refreshments ▲



## UNDERSTANDING RETIREMENT INCOME CENTRELINK FINANCIAL TALK

FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, 10.30AM-11.30AM, HORNSBY LIBRARY

This seminar will focus on account based pensions and annuities with information on: how income streams work, fund choices and investment options, income tax and Social Security assessment.

Free ▲

## REDUCING YOUR MORTGAGE CENTRELINK FINANCIAL TALK

MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER, 6.30PM-8PM,  
EPPING LIBRARY/ LEISURE AND  
LEARNING CENTRE

This talk will cover: repaying the mortgage, repayment strategies, mortgage types and structures, using a mortgage broker and saving for the future.

Free ▲



▲ Ticketed event. Book online at [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library](http://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library) or phone 9847 6614.



## PARENTS OF HSC STUDENTS TALK

**SARAH CARMAN FROM SPONGE EDUCATION**  
WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER, 6.30PM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY



With high school students under more pressure than ever to achieve academically, parents are often at a loss when it comes to supporting their kids.

This seminar will give practical tips on how to help.

Free ▲

## MEET THE AUTHOR: BRIAN BOETTCHER

**THE BATTLE FOR MILNE BAY**  
FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER, 10.30AM-11.30AM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY

Code breakers warn of the attack on Milne Bay resulting in the first time ever Japan was defeated in a land battle.

Free ▲

## RETIREMENT REALITY

**FINANCIAL TALK - ENGLISH/ MANDARIN**  
MONDAY 19 OCTOBER, 6.30PM-8PM,  
EPPING LIBRARY



Presented by Centerlink Financial Services. Topics covered: government policy, working out how much you need to retire on, investment options to prepare yourself, and when to retire.

Free ▲

## SPLASH & SAVE

**POOL & SPAS TALK**  
**SWIMMING POOLS AND SPAS ASSOCIATION**  
TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 6.30PM-8PM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY



Join us for a practical workshop to find out how to save money, energy and water on your swimming pool or spa whilst still enjoying a dip this summer.

Free ▲

## NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE

WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER, 6.30PM-8PM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY

Information session for the community. Free ▲

## KIMBRIKI AND ECO GARDEN TOUR

TUESDAY 11 AUGUST, 9AM-2.45PM  
WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER, 9AM-2.45PM



BUS LEAVES HORNSBY PARK BUS STOP AT 9.15AM SHARP

On the tour of the Kimbriki site you will see how your green waste is transformed into a usable garden product.

We will then stop at the Eco Garden and hear a short talk on eco gardening.

Free. Bookings essential ▲

## ECO GARDEN BASICS WORKSHOP

SUNDAY 16 AUGUST, 10AM-12.30PM  
ECO GARDEN GAZEBO, FAGAN PARK,  
ARCADIA ROAD, GALSTON



Are you interested in making your garden more environmentally friendly and productive? Topics covered include no-dig gardening, companion planting, crop rotation and lots more.

Free. ▲

## RECYCLING TOUR

WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST, 9AM-1PM,  
BUS LEAVES HORNSBY PARK BUS STOP AT 9.15AM SHARP

Ever wondered what happens to the mix of materials in your yellow bin? Come on a tour of the Materials Recycling Facility and find out how your paper is recycled from your plastic containers.

Free. ▲

## COMPOST AND WORM FARMING WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER, 9.30AM-11.30AM,  
WALLAROBBA GARDEN,  
EDGEWORTH DAVID AVENUE, HORNSBY



Composting is a fun and easy way to recycle your garden and kitchen waste. Compost improves your garden soil, saves space in your red or green bin and saves you money.

Free. ▲

## FAGAN PARK ECO GARDEN OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER, 10AM-2PM  
ECO GARDEN GAZEBO, FAGAN PARK, GALSTON



There will be garden tours, compost talks, kids treasure hunt, cob oven baking, native bee display, water sustainability displays, keeping backyard chickens, community garden group Permaculture North.

Free. ▲

▲ Bookings essential, spaces are limited, priority given to Hornsby Shire residents. Book online at [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/whatson](http://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/whatson) or call the waste hotline on 9847 4856



## FREE GUIDED BUSHWALKS

LLOYD TRIG

SUNDAY 2 AUGUST, 9AM-11.30AM

Follow the old convict road and once at Lloyd Trig you will be amazed at the 360 degree panoramic views.

FOUR LEGGED FRIEND WALK

SUNDAY 9 AUGUST, 9AM-10.30AM

Clip on your loyal four legged friends' leash and join in on this lovely walk along the Beecroft-Cheltenham Link Track.

JERUSALEM BAY

SUNDAY 23 AUGUST, 9AM-12PM

From the railway to the river, this challenging but rewarding walk will start at Cowan station and follows a section of the Great North Walk down to the picturesque Jerusalem Bay.

BROOKLYN DAM

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST, 9AM-12PM

After an initial steep climb up the ridge behind Brooklyn, this walk offers breathtaking views of the Hawkesbury River and Ku-Ring-Gai Chase National Park.

Free. Book online at [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushwalks](https://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushwalks)

## CHIPPING FOR MULCH

SUNDAY 16 AUGUST, 8AM-2.45PM,

THE OLD DOG POUND, WESTLEIGH

SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER, 8AM-2.45PM

JOHNSON ROAD GALSTON

SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER, 8AM-2.45PM,

BEAUMONT ROAD, MT KURING-GAI



Bring along your green waste for chipping and take home free mulch. For information about what material is accepted visit: [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/mulch](https://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/mulch).

Free.

## BUSHCARE MAJOR DAY OUT

SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER, 10AM-12PM

BUSHLAND NEAR MOUNT COLAH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Want to volunteer for a better environment? Getting involved in Major Day Out is easy and fun. You can bring a friend and share the enjoyment.

Free. ▲

## SUSTAINABLE HOUSE DAY BUS TOUR

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER, 8.45AM-5PM

Pick up from Hornsby Shire Council Chambers. Come along and find out how you can make your current home, new build or renovation more comfortable to live in without breaking the bank.

Free. ▲

## FREE NATIVE PLANT GIVEAWAYS

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER, 1PM-3PM

PICNIC SHED AT GALSTON RECREATION RESERVE  
(NEXT TO AQUATIC CENTRE)

Open to ratepayers from: Arcadia, Berrilee, Canoelands, Dural, Fiddletown, Forest Glen, Galston, Glenorie, Laughtondale, Lower Hawkesbury, Maroota, Middle Dural, Singletons Mill and Wisemans Ferry.

SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER, 1PM-3PM

COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY NURSERY

Open to ratepayers from: Cherrybrook, Normanhurst, Thornleigh, Wahroonga, Waitara and Westleigh. There will be fun things to do for the kids and information stalls to visit.

Free.



## BACKYARD CHICKEN WORKSHOP

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER, 10AM-12PM,

HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS



Thinking about getting chooks? You'll love them! They give so much and don't ask for much in return. Learn how to keep them safe and happy, and get the most out of your friendly feathered friends at your place.

Free. ▲

## GARDENING AND COMPOSTING

FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER, 10.30AM-12PM EPPING LIBRARY,

EPPING LEISURE AND LEARNING CENTRE



Learn how to make your balcony or courtyard into a beautiful and useful garden of vegetables and herbs. Also learn how to turn your kitchen waste into valuable nutrients for your garden.

Free. ▲

## CATCHMENT TOUR

SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER, 9AM-12PM

VARIOUS LOCATIONS AROUND HORNSBY SHIRE



Enjoy a 3 hour bus and walking tour exploring local creeks, catchments and stormwater quality improvement devices.

Free but seating limited. ▲

## GOING SOLAR & SAVE \$\$\$

SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER, 10AM-12PM

HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS



Fed up with paying high electricity bills? Are you thinking about getting solar panels? Do you know what to ask for? Come along to this free workshop and find out how.

Free. ▲

▲ Bookings essential, spaces are limited, priority given to Hornsby Shire residents. Book online at [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/whatson](https://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/whatson)

## MY FAMILY



### APPRENTICESHIP EXPO

WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST, 4PM-7PM  
HORNSBY WAR MEMORIAL HALL, 2 HIGH STREET, HORNSBY

Come and discuss your career options with the experts! Meet training organisations and employers, pick up job application and interview tips and find a career that suits your interests.

Ages: 15 years and older. Free.

### CHILD SEAT SAFETY CHECKING DAY

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER, 9.30AM-3.15PM  
BRICKPIT SPORTS CENTRE, 1B DARTFORD ROAD, THORNLEIGH

Parents or carers can have their child seats, harnesses and booster seats checked for safety and correct fit by an authorised restraint fitter.

Bookings can be made from Monday 3 August.

Free. By appointment only. ▲

### PARENTS OF LEARNER DRIVERS

TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER, 6.30PM-8.30PM  
HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

A workshop that offers practical advice and information to parents, carers and supervising drivers on how to help Learner drivers become safer drivers.

Free. ▲

### SAFER SENIOR DRIVERS ROAD SAFETY PRESENTATION

THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER, 10AM-12PM  
HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

An educational presentation that provides up to date information on road rules, and driver awareness issues for older drivers.

Free. ▲

▲ Bookings essential - Spaces are limited.  
Contact: Road Safety Officer 9847 6856  
or [ltipping@hornsby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ltipping@hornsby.nsw.gov.au)

## MY LIFESTYLE



### DEANNE JAMES THE CREATIVE VOID

TUESDAY 21 JULY TO SATURDAY 8 AUGUST, 9AM-5PM  
WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

Mon to Fri 9am-5pm, Weekends 10am-4pm. Closed Public Holidays.  
Free.

### HORNSBY ART SOCIETY PORTRAIT AND HUMAN FORM

TUESDAY 11 AUGUST TO SATURDAY 29 AUGUST, 9AM-5PM  
WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

EXHIBITION  
SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY 9 OCTOBER,  
9AM-5PM

WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

Mon to Fri 9am-5pm, Weekends 10am-4pm. Closed Public Holidays.  
Free.

### SEYA HASHEMI EXHIBITION: VALLEY OF DREAMS

TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER TO SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER,  
9AM-5PM  
WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

Mon to Fri 9am-5pm, Weekends 10am-4pm. Closed Public Holidays.  
Free.

### COME TOGETHER EXHIBITION SUNSHINE & CATHOLIC CARE

TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER TO SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER, 9AM-5PM  
WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

Mon to Fri 9am-5pm, Weekends 10am-4pm. Closed Public Holidays.  
Free.



## HORNSBY BIKE FEST

### WHEELS AND REELS

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER,  
OLD MAN'S VALLEY MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK, HORNSBY  
Cross country, Cyclocross and free bike kids races. All welcome.

### HORNSBY PARK

Free open air movie and twilight expo.

Free. To book, visit [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bikefest](http://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bikefest)

## CARERS ART EXHIBITION

TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER TO SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER,  
10AM-4PM DAILY  
WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

Carers Week raises awareness of carers and celebrates the important role that carers play in our community. The impressive art works displayed have been created by carers in the Hornsby Shire.

Free.

## CARERS ART EXHIBITION OPENING MORNING TEA

TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER, 11AM-12.30PM  
WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE, HORNSBY

Hornsby Shire Council and Carer Support Service Northern Sydney are celebrating the valuable work of carers in our community with a morning tea to officially open the Carers Art Exhibition.

Free. To book, visit [trybooking.com/HOTO](http://trybooking.com/HOTO)

## SONJA PERKOVICH: INSPIRATIONS

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER TO SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER,  
9AM-5PM  
WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

Mon to Fri 9am-5pm. Weekends 10am-4pm. Closed Public Holidays.

Free.

## PROJECT RAGS TO RUNWAY WORKSHOPS - HORNSBY TAFE

GROUP 1: THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 12PM-3PM  
THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 12PM-3PM  
GROUP 2: THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 5.30PM-8.30PM  
THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 5.30PM-8.30PM

## RAGS TO RUNWAY PARADE

FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2015, HORNSBY MALL

Project Rags to Runway is designed to give children, young people and adults an opportunity to learn about fashion design and re-use concepts. Participants in the workshops will learn about concepts of design from experienced fashion designers and will be assisted to create their own outfit or items for the Project Rags to Runway Show.

Price: \$20 to attend the 2 workshops of 3 hours each. You need to start collecting old clothes, jewellery, materials and ideas to bring along to the workshop. Some second hand materials provided.

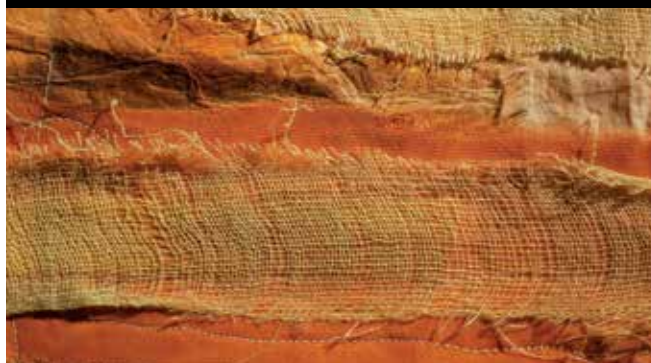
Bookings: [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/rtr](http://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/rtr)

# FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER TO SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER,  
VARIOUS LOCATIONS ACROSS THE HORNSBY SHIRE

Artists and community organisations from across the Shire will host a variety of exciting events from art exhibitions and musical performances, to theatre productions and workshops.

For details visit [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/fota](http://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/fota)





## KALEIDOSCOPE SCIENCE

### THE GREAT BIG SCIENCE SHOW

MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER, 10.30AM-11.30AM,  
BEROWRA LIBRARY  
MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER, 2.30PM-3.30PM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY  
FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER, 10.30AM-11.30AM,  
EPPING LIBRARY  
FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER, 2.30PM-3.30PM,  
PENNANT HILLS LIBRARY

A highly engaging workshop demonstrating foaming chemical reactions, explosions, liquid nitrogen, fireballs and lots of audience interaction.

Ages: 6-12 years. \$10.00 ▲

## HOLIDAY STORYTIME

### JOIN US FOR STORIES, SONGS, CRAFTS AND REFRESHMENTS

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER, 10AM-11AM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY  
FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER, 10.30AM-11.30AM,  
BEROWRA LIBRARY  
MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER, 10.30AM-11.30AM,  
EPPING LIBRARY

Payment at door.

Ages: 0+. \$2.00 per child for children 18 months and over.

## EVENING HOLIDAY STORYTIME

TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER, 6.30PM-7.30PM,  
PENNANT HILLS LIBRARY

Join us for stories, songs, craft & refreshments.

Payment at door.

Ages 0+. \$2.00 per child for children 18 months and over.

## MY SECRET HOME

THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER, 10.30AM-11.30AM,  
PENNANT HILLS LIBRARY  
THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER, 2.30PM-3.30PM,  
HORNSBY LIBRARY

My Secret Home takes the children on an interactive imaginative adventure far away through a land of ogres, talking jaguars, and mischievous rabbits.

Ages: 5-12 years. \$10.00 ▲

## ECHIDNA KIDS BUSHWALK

TUESDAY 11 AUGUST, 10.30AM-11.30AM  
MEETING POINT DISCLOSED UPON BOOKING

Come on this special bush discovery walk tailored for preschool kids at the Mambara Track, Pennant Hills. Children will engage with a guide to discover the secrets of our local bush..

Ages: 3-5 years accompanied by an adult. Free.

Book online at [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushwalks](https://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushwalks)

▲ Ticketed event. Book online at [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library](https://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library) or phone 9847 6614.





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