



Over **162,000 people** live in Hornsby Shire, and **26,000 people** volunteer each year

There are **46 suburbs** in Hornsby Shire

Hornsby Shire Council's libraries receive **1.2 million visits per year**

Hornsby Shire Council manages **186 parks, 135 playgrounds, 55 playing fields and 78 tennis courts**

The largest population age group is the **35-49 years group**

Pretty Handsome Burra
by Carol-Ann McLean
2010 Photography Competition

- **WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE**

The recently renovated federation homestead on Edgeworth David Avenue has now been converted to a vibrant and active arts hub which offers community art studios, art classes, a printmaking studio and a gallery space

- **HOMELESS PERSON COUNT**

Shire's first ever with 75 volunteers in February

- **SENIORS WEEK FESTIVAL**

85 diverse events in April, including river cruises, table tennis, ten pin bowling, and men's cooking workshops, recycling events, gemstone cutting demonstrations, sun safety sessions, aqua aerobics and yoga

- **ECO GARDEN**

Enjoyed by visitors and volunteers; activities included working bees, and visits by school, community, correctional, unemployment and disabled groups at Fagan Park all year round

- **BUILDING FOR OUR COMMUNITY**

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal has approved Hornsby Shire Council's application for a modest rate increase to fund the replacement of the Hornsby Aquatic Centre, expand the Brickpit Stadium, construct additional footpaths, improve amenities at local ovals and parks, improve stormwater drainage, build cycleways and upgrade our foreshores. The expanded works program will begin in the second half of 2011

Highlights

- **OXFORD STREET EPPING**

\$3.5 million facelift officially opened in October

- **ROCK THE BLOCK YOUTH BAND COMPETITION**

14 local bands competed in front of 700 people in the heats and finals in April, May and June

- **EPPING COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Recent upgrades have improved the look and function of the old school of arts building on Oxford Street in Epping, including a new ramp entry, accessible toilets, new flooring and paint

- **'OUR BUSHLAND SHIRE' - A SNAPSHOT OF THE HORNSBY SHIRE IN 2010**

An easy-to-read report about the quality of life and wellbeing of residents of Hornsby Shire is now available

- **BEROWRA WATERS ROAD**

Improved stability, road safety and drainage resulting from works from April to June

Human habitat

Hawkesbury Sunrise - Brooklyn by Francis Keogh
2010 Photography Competition

Provide effective community infrastructure and services

CAPITAL WORKS HIGHLIGHTS 2010/11

WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE HERITAGE RESTORATION \$356K

(Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program [RLCIP] \$36K)

UPGRADE COMMUNITY BUILDINGS \$550K

BEROWRA WATERS ROAD RETAINING WALL \$420K

(Roads and Traffic Authority \$175K)

RECONSTRUCTION WARRINA STREET, BEROWRA HEIGHTS \$469K

PARSLEY BAY SEA WALL REPAIRS \$420K

(Waste and Sustainability Improvements Payments [WaSIP] \$360K, Greenspace \$60K)

OXFORD STREET, EPPING STREETScape UPGRADE \$1.03M

(R2R - Roads to Recovery \$300K, RLCIP \$67K, S94 - Section 94 \$53K)

National Award – highly commended
WATER CONSERVATION
Keep Australia Beautiful Awards

NSW State Award
MOST SUSTAINABLE COUNCIL
Keep Australia Beautiful Awards

National Bronze Award
50:50 VISION - COUNCILS FOR GENDER EQUITY
Australian Local Government Women's Association Inc

National Award
RESOURCE RECOVERY AND WASTE
Keep Australia Beautiful Awards

NSW Excellence Award for OHS Initiatives
BEYOND RISK Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia

Finalist
BEST LOCAL YOUTH WEEK PROGRAM 2010
Local Government Week Awards

Highly commended award for Urban Planning Achievement
HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL'S HOUSING STRATEGY
The Planning Institute of Australia

Childcare Champion
GREENWAY PARK EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTRE, CHERRYBROOK - Children's Services Central

Highly commended - Excellence in Communication
HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL'S HOUSING STRATEGY
RH Dougherty Award. Local Government and Shires Association of NSW

Certificate of Merit
INCLUDING AND INVOLVING YOUNG PEOPLE IN PUBLIC SPACES IN HORNSBY Australian Crime Prevention Awards

Nomination **BRINK DVD, PART OF THE HORNSBY COMMUNITY DRUG ACTION TEAM** Prime Minister's National Drug and Alcohol Awards for Most Innovative Youth Drug and Alcohol Program

Awards

Grants received by Council

ROUND 2, FY 2009/10/11 TOTAL \$360K

Hornsby - Library Operable Wall \$32K	█
Hornsby - Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre \$36K	█
Brooklyn - Community Centre \$20K	█
Galston - Community Centre \$5K	█
Epping - Community Centre \$8K	█
Wisemans Ferry - Community Centre \$11K	█
Galston - Aquatic Centre \$18K	█
Cherrybrook - Greenway Park \$121K	█
Hornsby Library - Esther Waite Meeting Room \$11K	█
Epping - Creative Centre \$31K	█
Epping - Oxford Street streetscape \$67K	█

REGIONAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (RLCIP)

Council received a Federal Government grant under the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP), Rounds 2 and 3 (stimulus funding):

ROUND 3, FY 2010/11/12 TOTAL \$285K

McKell Park, Brooklyn Tidal Pool upgrade, \$120K	█
Mike Kenny Oval Cherrybrook amenities upgrade, \$45K	█
Epping Community Centre air conditioning, \$120K	█

Governance

Lady Beetle by Nikki Menner
2010 Photography Competition



Guide towards a sustainable future

PRESERVING COUNCIL'S HISTORY

A significant project was undertaken by Council's Records Section in conjunction with Council's Local Studies Historian to electronically scan all Council's original Minute Books. These scanned images, including some that were hand-written at the time, are now available online and cover the period from Hornsby's first Council meeting in 1906 up to 1998.

COMMUNITY SURVEY

Undertaken with community views sought at various events including the Bushland Shire Festival, author talks at Hornsby Library and at Bunnings Thornleigh.

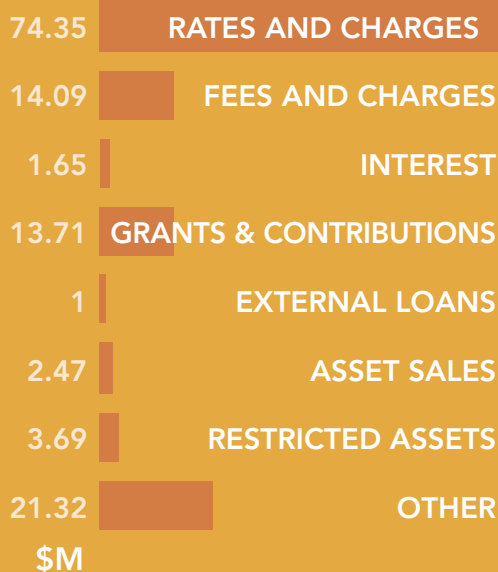
QUALITY OF LIFE AND WELLBEING OF THE HORNSBY SHIRE IN 2010

Captured in "Our Bushland Shire - a snapshot of the Hornsby Shire in 2010".

EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

Undertaken to gather community feedback regarding rating options to fund improvements to local infrastructure, including three community meetings hosted by the General Manager and visits to local shopping centres throughout the Shire.

WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM TOTAL \$132.28 MILLION *



Financial statement

Year ended 30 June 2011* (estimated) Based on March Quarter 2010/2011 Budget

RATES AND CHARGES This includes all ordinary rates, the Catchments Remediation Rate, Hornsby Quarry loan rate and garbage charges.

FEES AND CHARGES This includes fees from Development Applications and revenue earned from aquatic centres, nurseries and preschools, commercial waste services, park and oval hire and property rentals.

INTEREST Investment income received from Council's investment portfolio, overdue rates and annual charges interest.

GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS This 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.

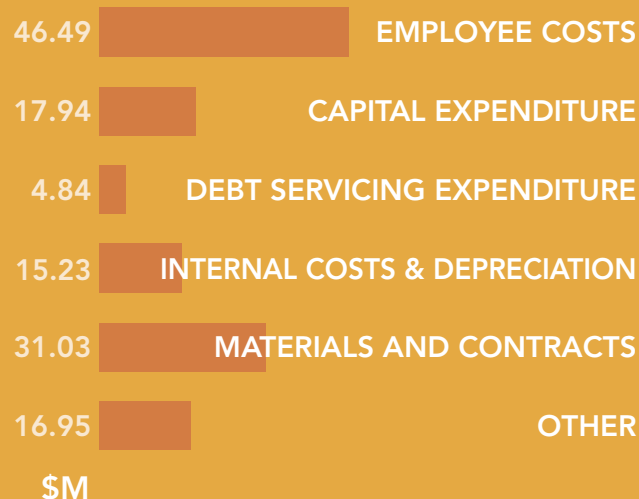
EXTERNAL LOANS The amount of funds borrowed from a financial institution.

ASSET SALES Proceeds from the sale of property, plant or equipment.

RESTRICTED ASSETS Funds set aside in prior years for specific expenditure purposes in future years.

OTHER This includes many revenue sources such as fines, recycling income, private vehicle use fees and income from road closures. Depreciation Contra has been included in this category.

WHERE THE MONEY WAS SPENT TOTAL \$132.48 MILLION *



EMPLOYEE EXPENSE This includes salaries and wages, leave entitlements, travel expenses, superannuation, workers compensation insurance, fringe benefits tax and training.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE This includes infrastructure work such as drainage and property, plant and equipment.

DEBT SERVICING EXPENDITURE Principal and interest repayments required from external loan borrowing.

INTERNAL COSTS AND DEPRECIATION Internal costs are initially recorded as various operating costs and subsequently recharged elsewhere as operating or capital expenditure in order to determine the full cost.

MATERIALS AND CONTRACTS This 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.

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.

Ecology

Protect and enhance our natural environment

WATER CATCHMENTS

- Epping Stormwater Reuse Project completed facilitating the use of collected stormwater to irrigate ovals
- Oyster industry granted Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service export approval, following Council's estuary management program efforts
- New boating maps displaying boating safety and seagrass areas prepared and distributed to recreational fishers and boat users
- Bioretention system (stormwater garden) at Mount Kuring-gai completed, improving the health of Cowan Creek
- Foreshore revegetation work at Brooklyn Park, McKell Park, Kangaroo Point, Singleton Road, Seymours Park, Sams Creek, Bar Island and Crosslands completed

SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH

- Solar systems installed on the Council Administration Building and Hornsby Library
- Heating, ventilation and air conditioning predictive maintenance trial with CSIRO at Hornsby, Berowra, Galston, Pennant Hills and Epping Libraries commenced
- Energy Meter Trial commenced providing three energy meters for loan to residents from Council's libraries
- Decrease in water pollution in Larool Creek, Thornleigh, following local industry education campaign

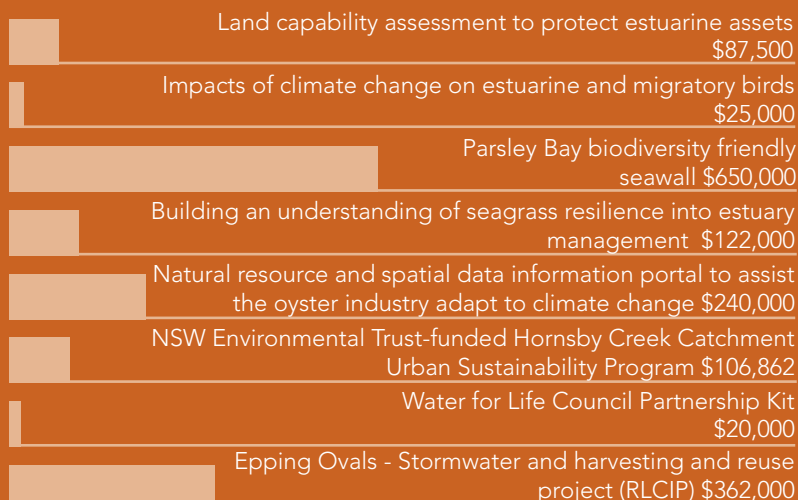
BUSHLAND AND BIODIVERSITY

- National Tree Day - 45 people attended wildlife corridor planting at Vimiera Park, Epping
- 5,370 free native plants, propagated at Council's Community Nursery, given out to residents from 1,210 properties
- Nine new permanent bushfire control lines installed as part of 'Building Bushfire Resilient Communities Grant'
- Maintenance works undertaken on Pioneer Track Beecroft (100m), Terrys Creek Epping (48m) and Hornsby Heritage Steps (100m)
- Actively managing the recent outbreak of myrtle rust (a pathogen which is responsible for killing native plant species)
- Commenced development of a track design for the Old Mans Valley mountain bike track

Grants received by Council

WATER CATCHMENTS GRANTS

TOTAL \$1,613,362



BUSHLAND AND BIODIVERSITY GRANTS TOTAL \$980,328

The funds were spent on 35 projects, including:

- Fire trail works improvement
- Bar Island saltmarsh and woodland restoration
- Restoration of Wisemans Ferry Cemetery
- Estuarine and migratory bird climate change surveys
- One Tree Reach Wetland, Laughtondale, Acid Sulphate soil study
- Bar Island Jetty reconstruction
- Regeneration of roadside endangered vegetation in rural areas
- Upper Pyes Creek Walking Track, Cherrybrook

Economy

Encourage a resilient local economy and sustainable resource use

DEVELOPMENT AND TOWN PLANNING SERVICES

In February 2011, the Department of Planning released its annual Local Development Performance Monitoring Report (2009/10). The report provides an overview of local and regional development determined by councils, private certifiers and Joint Regional Planning Panels, and indications of the performance of the planning system.

Councils are grouped into one of eleven council types or groups based on population, size, location and development. Grouping councils according to similar socioeconomic characteristics allows comparison between councils' results and the performance of like councils. Hornsby is in 'Group 7' together with: Blue Mountains, Campbelltown, Gosford, Liverpool, Penrith, The Hills and Wyong Councils.

The following table sets out Council's performance against 'Group 7' councils in 2009/10 and against Council's result in 2008/09.

KANGAROO POINT

In December, an amendment to the *Hornsby Shire Local Environmental Plan 1994* was gazetted permitting construction of a commuter berthing facility at Kangaroo Point, Brooklyn.

Council, in partnership with the Roads and Traffic Authority, prepared a study to determine the feasibility of a path to link the communities in Brooklyn with a shared path between Kangaroo Point and Parsley Bay. Community input was sought up to early June.

LOCAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING CRITERIA	Average Group 7 Councils 2009/10	Hornsby Shire Council 2009/10	Hornsby Shire Council 2008/09
No. Development Applications (DA) determined	1,256	1,304	1,502
Mean gross time to determine DAs	65	56	74
Number of equivalent full time staff per DA	16	14	15.5
Number of s82As (review of a DA) determined	4	9	40
Number of CDCs determined (Council & Principal Certifying Authority [PCAs])	254	311	115
% Complying Development Certificates (CDCs) to DAs	16%	19.3%	7.1%
Number of CDCs approved under Codes State Environment Planning Policies (SEPP)	132	294	not available
Number of Land and Environment Court Appeals	3	4	30

Grants received by Council

PARKS AND LANDSCAPE GRANTS TOTAL \$363,760

- \$60,000 Department of Sport and Recreation - Drainage installation for Foxglove Oval
- \$13,000 Department of Sport and Recreation - Fencing Ron Payne Park for dog off-leash area
- \$75,000 Department of Sport and Recreation - Erlestoke Park improvements
- \$12,000 Department of Sport and Recreation - Edward Bennett Oval improvements
- \$28,000 Department of Sport and Recreation - Rotary Park improvements
- \$55,000 AFL Commission Ltd - Greenway Oval lighting
- \$10,000 Westbrook AFC - Greenway Park amenities
- \$10,000 Pennant Hills AFC - Greenway Park amenities
- \$20,000 Greenway Giants and other Baseball Clubs - Greenway Park lighting
- \$50,000 Community Building Partnership Grant - Greenway Park lighting
- \$30,000 Community Building Partnership 2010 Grant - Erlestoke Park improvements
- \$760 Capital contribution for signage - Crosslands Reserve

\$125,000 grant towards the preparation of the Epping Town Centres Study
\$89,000 grant to assist in the progression of Council's Comprehensive Local Environmental Plan

HERITAGE STEPS GRANTS TOTAL \$195,000

Three grants were received to restore the Hornsby Heritage Steps from Hornsby Park bushland to Rosemead Road which links to the Great North Walk. The steps were originally built in the Great Depression.

COMMUNITY BUILDING
PARTNERSHIPS
CONTRIBUTION OF \$60,000

METRO
GREENSPACE
GRANT OF \$60,000

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
GRANT (RLCIP) OF
\$75,000

Society and Culture

Fagan Park
by Alan Torrens
2010 Photography
Competition

Enhance our social and community wellbeing

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2010

176 photographs from 57 photographers

BUSHLAND SHIRE FESTIVAL

At Fagan Park in Galston - over 10,000 visitors, 78 Stalls, mainstage entertainment and more

CHILDREN'S VOICES FOR RECONCILIATION

Approximately 200 people attended

AUTHOR TALK

280 parents and children were entertained by the comical author Andy Griffiths at Pennant Hills Library in April

KNIT-IN

Local knitters including library, school, disabled and migrant groups gathered at Hornsby Library to collect over 1,100 knitted wraps for charity in August

ART EXHIBITIONS

The exhibition space in Hornsby Library has been fully booked - with exhibits attracting positive feedback from library visitors

CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

At Waitara Oval - over 6,000 visitors, twilight markets, concert and fireworks

OVER 55s EXPO

Approximately 300 people attended

FAMILY EXPO

Approximately 150 people attended

LEISURE AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Each week - over 110 attendees

CUSTOMER SERVICE LANGUAGE CARDS

Interpreter information in 29 languages

VOLUNTEER JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

70 JPs served an average of 1,000 customers per month

TWITTER

Over 600 followers since June 2010

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONIES

More than 1,000 new citizens have been given Australian Citizenship at Council events this year, bringing the total number of citizenship recipients at Hornsby Shire Council events to over 30,000 since 2008

SYDNEY WRITERS' FESTIVAL

Over 140 people came to hear Mike Carlton at Hornsby Library's inaugural event in conjunction with the Sydney Writers' Festival

MOVIES UNDER THE STARS

Epping - approximately 800 in attendance
Berowra - approximately 300 in attendance
Asquith - approximately 600 in attendance
Westleigh - approximately 1,500 in attendance

E-NEWSLETTERS DEVELOPED FOR:

Council news and events - 1,850 subscribers
Hornsby Aquatic Centre - 170 subscribers
Arts and culture (ARTicle) - 270 subscribers
Community consultations - 770 subscribers

BOOK CLUBS

Library book club kits are being used by almost 20 book clubs in the community as well as by the library's 12 book clubs

Grants received by Council

COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANTS OVER \$50K

\$69,500 Treatment of Asset Protection Zones in 13 of Council's Bushland Reserves
Bushfire Mitigation

\$110,000 Aboriginal Community Facilitator Project
Department of Family and Community Services

\$164,600 Settlement Grants Program
Dep't of Immigration and Citizenship

\$65,000 'Be safe, Be Prepared' fraud and scam prevention campaign
Attorney General's Dep't

\$412,000 Home Modification and Maintenance Service
Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care



COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANTS UNDER \$50K

NSW GOVERNMENT	\$3,000 Youth Week
	\$30,000 Upper Pyles Creek Cherrybrook walking track
NSW DEP'T OF HEALTH	\$3,500 Community Drug Action Team
HAWKESBURY NEPEAN CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY	\$18,625 One Tree Reach Wetland bush regeneration
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS	\$8,298 Bar Island - woodland and coastal saltmarsh restoration
DEPT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$28,000 Healthy lifestyle activities
	\$13,000 Community Development Officer
	\$200 Worried about your memory morning tea
	\$5,000 Know Your Neighbour Campaign
DEPARTMENT OF AGEING, DISABILITY AND HOME CARE	\$26,000 Community Development Officer
	\$600 Seniors Week
	\$5,000 Active healthy lifestyles for over 55s
	\$15,000 Community Development Transport Plan
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$31,000 Home Maintenance gutter cleaning project
	\$3,000 'Forum Theatre' delivered to complement the Community Drug Action Team