

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER  
EDITION FOUR 2022

# LET'S CONNECT

RELIVE SOME  
AMAZING  
EVENTS  
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TAKE A LOOK AT  
OUR TALENTED  
LOCALS  
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*Evie Simpson, Macarthur Nature Photography Competition*



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the App and Google Play Stores

# MAYOR'S MESSAGE



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the final edition of Let's Connect for 2022.

In a year full of ups and downs, I'm hardly able to believe we'll be ringing in 2023 in just a few short weeks! As I look back on the year that's been, I am prouder than ever of this community's resilience and strength; the amazing new facilities that have opened; the fun events we have enjoyed; and so much more.

I recently launched a series of posts on my Facebook page, From the Mayor, which I've been publishing weekly. It's a great opportunity for me to chat about an upcoming initiative or event, or something that's close to my heart, with all of you. If you're not already following me there, I encourage you to do so.

While it was a shame to have to cancel Picnic in the Park and TASTE Camden due to the wet weather, it was great to see families enjoy Kids Fun Day and the other smaller events that made up the schedule. You'll find some incredible pictures in this edition.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. I can't wait to see what we can accomplish together in 2023!

*Therese Fedeli*  
Mayor of Camden



Terry and Robin Watson (Senior Citizen Garden)



Beryl Rofe (Veggie Garden/Plot)



Manooka Valley (School/Class Plot)



Rachel Fulwood  
(Small Residential and Best Floral Display)



Syed Rahman  
(Large Residential and Grand Champion)

## BLOOMS AND ART

**Council celebrated art, creativity and passion of all kinds over the past few months, with some truly talented locals crowned supreme in their fields.**

The first was Council's Garden Competition, which saw front and back yards from across the Camden area looking more beautiful than ever.

A big congratulations to this year's winners:

- Terry and Robin Watson (Senior Citizen Garden);
- Rachel Fulwood (Small Residential and Best Floral Display);
- Syed Rahman (Large Residential and Grand Champion);
- Beryl Rofe (Veggie Garden/Plot);
- Manooka Valley (School/Class Plot);
- Catherine Curtis and Ian Ronald (Most Sustainable Garden); and
- Wivenhoe Village (Commercial Garden).

# BLOOMS AND ART



Top left - Muhammad Khan (the 5-6-year-old category)  
 Bottom left - Zoe Reeves (10-12-year-old category)  
 Centre - Xavier Ransom (7-9-year-old category)

Right - Neil Bhardwaj (Waste to Art overall winner)  
 Not pictured - Amina Khan and Bella de Rooy (creative writing overall winners)

The second was the Threatened Species Art and Writing Competition, hosted in conjunction with Campbelltown City and Wollondilly Shire Councils. This competition saw more than 500 children from the Macarthur region learn about a threatened plant or animal and represent it in an artwork or creative writing piece.

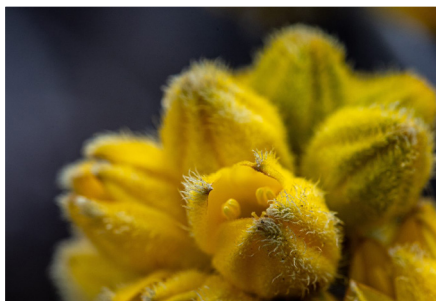
Well done to the following winners:

- Muhammad Khan (the 5-6-year-old category);
- Xavier Ransom (7-9-year-old category);
- Zoe Reeves (10-12-year-old category);
- Neil Bhardwaj (Waste to Art overall winner);
- Amina Khan and Bella de Rooy (creative writing overall winners); and
- Harrington Park Primary School (winning primary school).

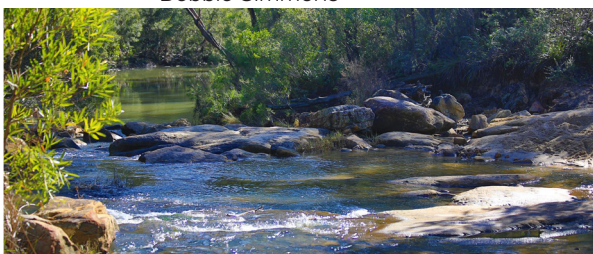
The third was the Macarthur Nature Photography Competition, also held in conjunction with Campbelltown City and Wollondilly Shire Councils. Hundreds of residents entered their most striking, engaging and enticing images of local plants, wildlife and natural environment taken from within the Macarthur area.

Check out some of our amazing winners and highly commended below:

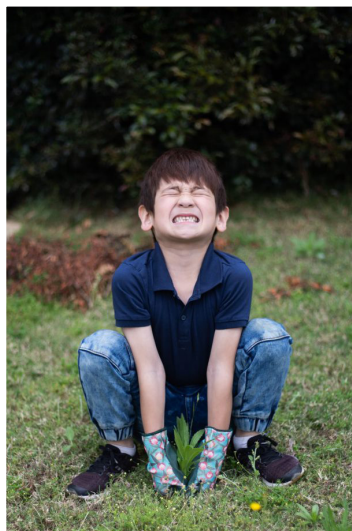
- Debbie Simmons (Open category - Australian Plants);
- Linda Ransom (Open category - People Helping the Environment);
- James Small (High School category - Water in the Landscape);
- Evie Simpson (Primary School category - Australian Plants), whose photo you can see on the front cover of this edition; and
- Tobias Ransom (Primary School category - Australian Plants).



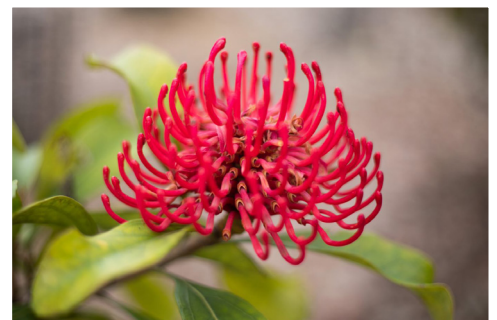
Debbie Simmons



James Small



Linda Ransom



Tobias Ransom

# WORK ACROSS CAMDEN



*Improvements at Pomaderris Reserve*

## NEW AND IMPROVED PLAYGROUNDS

**A number of playgrounds across the Camden area have received facelifts recently.**

There are 23 more playgrounds with new shade sails, installed as part of the Shade Sail Program. The infrastructure was partially funded from the NSW Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, as well as Council funds.

Among the newly shaded sites are the popular:

- Harrington Park Reserve, Harrington Park;
- Manna Gum Reserve, Mount Annan;
- Caulfield Reserve, Currans Hill;
- Bagnall Street Park, Gregory Hills;
- Ancona Avenue Park, Spring Farm;
- Merino Reserve, Elderslie;
- Pindari Reserve, Camden;
- Price Park, Emerald Hills;
- Volunteers Park, Oran Park;
- Olive Hill Park, Arcadian Hills;
- Grand Prix Park, Oran Park; and
- Thomas Donovan Park, Gregory Hills.

Three additional playgrounds received improvements, again thanks to the second round of the NSW Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Pomaderris Reserve (pictured above) has a new seating area, shade structure and picnic furniture, as well as a freshly refurbished basketball court. Parkside and Glenlee Reserve playgrounds were replaced with new and improved equipment, new shade structures, trees, bubbler, fencing and new furniture. The basketball court at Glenlee Reserve was also upgraded.



*Shade sails at Volunteers Park, Oran Park*

## IT'S #THELARKINPLACETOBE

**There have been a number of temporary improvement works to Larkin Place in Camden.**

The project was funded as part of the NSW Government's Streets as Shared Spaces program, which aims to provide more and better public spaces that improve walkability and connection, enable day and night activity and increase pedestrian access.

Larkin Place is now, temporarily a multi-use space, with the work including the transition of Larkin Place into a shared space; adjustments to parking provisions at the school to include two disability parking spaces and kerb extensions; and so much more.

Council has also started to roll out the Larkin Place Activation Pilot, an exciting line-up of events and activities to activate the temporary new space and demonstrate how it can be used.

**For more information, and to be part of the planned events and activations, visit [yourvoice.camden.nsw.gov.au/larkin-place-be](http://yourvoice.camden.nsw.gov.au/larkin-place-be)**

# WORK ACROSS CAMDEN



## FUNDING SECURED FOR SHARED PATH IN CAWDOR

**Council accepted more than \$1.19 million in funding from Transport for NSW Get NSW Active Program.**

The NSW Government program offers councils across the state funding for pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

The funding will assist Camden Council in constructing a shared path along Cawdor Road, Cawdor between Sheathers Lane and Camden High School.

The construction of the shared path along Cawdor Road, Cawdor will be co-funded by Council.

## LEPPINGTON OVAL PRECINCT MASTERPLAN FUTURE SET

**Council's Leppington Oval Precinct Masterplan was endorsed in August, cementing the vision for the site to help the needs of the wider Leppington community.**

Also known as Pat Kontista Reserve, the Masterplan incorporates extended facilities including:

- Three full sized playing fields;
- Three tennis courts;
- Multipurpose sports court;
- Fitness stations;
- Nature play and play spaces;
- Shared pathways and boardwalks;
- Community centre;
- Open lawn areas; and
- Opportunities to interact with Scalabrini Creek.

**For more information, visit [bit.ly/leppington-oval-precinct-masterplan-future-set](https://bit.ly/leppington-oval-precinct-masterplan-future-set)**



**WANT MORE INFO?**

For more information on these projects, and others happening around the Camden area, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au/major-developments](https://camden.nsw.gov.au/major-developments)

# OUR COMMUNITY



## WANT TO HAVE YOUR SAY?

Council continues to encourage residents to sign up to Your Voice Camden, where you can easily and conveniently convey ideas, feelings and opinions about key projects, proposals and services.

You'll be able to have your say on a large range of items on public exhibition, including new strategies, the latest development applications and even being able to provide feedback on our services.

Signing up and having your say on topics and matters that are important to you will allow you to help shape the future of the Camden area.

To sign up, go to [yourvoice.camden.nsw.gov.au](http://yourvoice.camden.nsw.gov.au)

## GET PREPARED FOR ANY EMERGENCY

**Floods, fires, and a pandemic – unfortunately we're all too familiar with emergencies.**

Be prepared with the Get Prepared app and have your emergency plan at your fingertips. The app helps you:

- Locate local emergency services contacts;
- Create a list of key contacts;
- Identify a safe meeting place; and
- Create checklists of what to pack all on the app.

Download the free app at [bit.ly/GetPreparedCamden](http://bit.ly/GetPreparedCamden)

## DID YOU KNOW?

There are still some sessions as part of Alan Baker Art Gallery's Public Program to come! To find an upcoming session, visit [trybooking.com/eventlist/alanbakerartgallery](http://trybooking.com/eventlist/alanbakerartgallery)



# OUR COMMUNITY



## OUR GROWING COMMUNITY

**Council held its biggest Citizenship Ceremony in history on Tuesday 29 November 2022.**

It was a pleasure to welcome and acknowledge the 231 valued members of our growing community, to pledge their commitment to Australia and officially become Australian citizens.

**It's been a pleasure to hold our Citizenship Ceremonies in person again since having to move online due to COVID-19 restrictions in early 2020.**

### DID YOU KNOW?

We provide services and support and facilitate a number of programs and events for the local community. If you'd like to find out what's on offer for you, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au/community/support/](https://camden.nsw.gov.au/community/support/)



*Mayor of Camden, Cr Therese Fedeli*



# SUSTAINABLE LIVING



*Street tree planting at Kingsdale Avenue, Catherine Field*

## LOVE YOUR TREE WITH US

**Did you know Camden is now home to more than 1,000 new street trees? And another 800 trees will be planted over the next few months.**

They were installed thanks to a Greening Our City grant and matched by Council funding, with planting locations right across the Camden area.

The real challenge is looking after these trees to ensure they thrive – and that’s where Council’s Love Your Tree program comes in. The program calls on the community to adopt any street or public tree, whether it’s just been planted or has been there for thirty years, and help look after it.

The first 300 residents who adopt their tree will receive a care package, which includes a watering bucket, gloves, a native shrub to plant in your own garden and more.

**For more information, and to sign up to the Love Your Tree program, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees/](http://camden.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees/)**



*Street tree planting at Richardson Road, Spring Farm*

## NEPEAN RIVER TO BE PARTIALLY RESTORED

**Council was pleased to accept funding to help partially restore the Nepean River in parts of Camden.**

Council accepted \$40,000 from The Department of Primary Industries’ “Habitat Action Grant Program”. Council will use this funding to install fish habitat structures and erosion control in the Nepean River at Spring Farm to promote an increase in population and passage of Australian Bass.

Council also accepted \$114,000 from the NSW Government’s Environmental Trust Restoration and Rehabilitation Program. This funding will go towards preventative erosion measures to stabilise sections of the Nepean River along the Nepean River Cycleway and Rotary Cowpasture Reserve. The project will also restore the Critically Endangered Ecological Community, River-flat Eucalypt Forest, through woody weed control and revegetation with native species including the nationally threatened Camden White Gum.

## DID YOU KNOW?

We have tips and tricks on more living more sustainably on our website! Find out more at [camden.nsw.gov.au/environment/sustainable-living](http://camden.nsw.gov.au/environment/sustainable-living)



# ARTS AND CULTURE

## LOCAL TALENT ON DISPLAY

At the beginning of this Let's Connect edition, you read about some incredible entries from both the Threatened Species Art and Writing Competition and Macarthur Nature Photography Competition.

We thought they were so wonderful the whole community should be able to see them, that's why we featured the artworks as our most recent Camden Kerbside Exhibition.

The artworks were installed on guard rails, planter boxes and bus shelters along Argyle, Mitchell, Murray and Oxley Streets and in Larkin Place.



## BLOOMING BOUQUETS AT ART GALLERY

Alan Baker Art Gallery's beautiful exhibition, Baker's Bouquets, is still on display.

The exhibition presents a selection of artworks from the Alan Baker Collection, existing long-term loans from Gary Baker, loans from private collections, archival photographs and newspaper articles. Macaria's four gallery rooms present artworks in the themes of each season - summer, autumn, winter and spring.

For more information, visit [www.alanbakerartgallery.com.au](http://www.alanbakerartgallery.com.au)

## CREATIVES COLLABORATE

We had our second and third Creative Collab events in September and November, where emerging and established artists and creative professionals from the Macarthur region were able to connect, network and learn.

Council was honoured to have Jane Pollard and Tammy Close from Create NSW join us for the September event (pictured right) for some robust discussion on grant writing and informative tips and tricks.

These events will be back in 2023. For details on future events, visit [bit.ly/Creative-Collab](http://bit.ly/Creative-Collab)



# EVENTS

## A LOOK BACK ON THE PAST SIX MONTHS IN EVENTS



### Boots n' Beats

Council was thrilled to raise \$11,900 at Boots n' Beats, which was split evenly between three very special charity partners – Big Yellow Umbrella; Mother Hubbard's Cupboard; and Turning Point Camden.



### Camden Wedding Expo

More than 40 vendors spoke to hundreds of people who were in love and looking to celebrate their big day the right way.



### Camden Festival - Kids Fun Day

Is there anything better than kids meeting their favourite characters? It was so great to see so many happy and excited little faces at Kids Fun Day.



### Unlock Camden

This annual celebration of Camden's historic past was unlocked through stories, images and an exciting program of events in October. This event was proudly organised by Councils' Heritage Advisory Committee.

# WHAT'S ON



## SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT

**Great news – there's more of the popular local music event, Spotlight, coming up!**

The free event for residents aged between 12 and 24 years will be held at Julia Reserve, Oran Park, 7-10pm on:

- 16 December;
- 14 April 2023; and
- 30 June 2023.

The events aim to showcase locally produced original music, profile emerging artists, build friendships and connect young people, all while promoting local services that can assist to maintain mental health.

September's event was a huge hit and included performances by Splendid Fiasco, Vinyl 45 and The Blue Tongues.

**Although the event is free, registrations are essential! You can secure your place six weeks prior to your chosen event date at [trybooking.com/CCHNI](https://trybooking.com/CCHNI)**

## NOMINATE YOUR LOCAL HERO FOR AN AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD

**Now is your chance to help recognise the outstanding contribution a community member has made in the Camden area.**

Nominations for the 2023 Australia Day Awards are all about recognising the outstanding efforts of residents who dedicate themselves to making a positive difference in our community.

Applications will be open shortly for the following five categories:

- Camden Citizen of the Year;
- Young Citizen of the Year;
- Sports Achievement Award;
- Community Group Award; and
- Arts and Cultural Award.

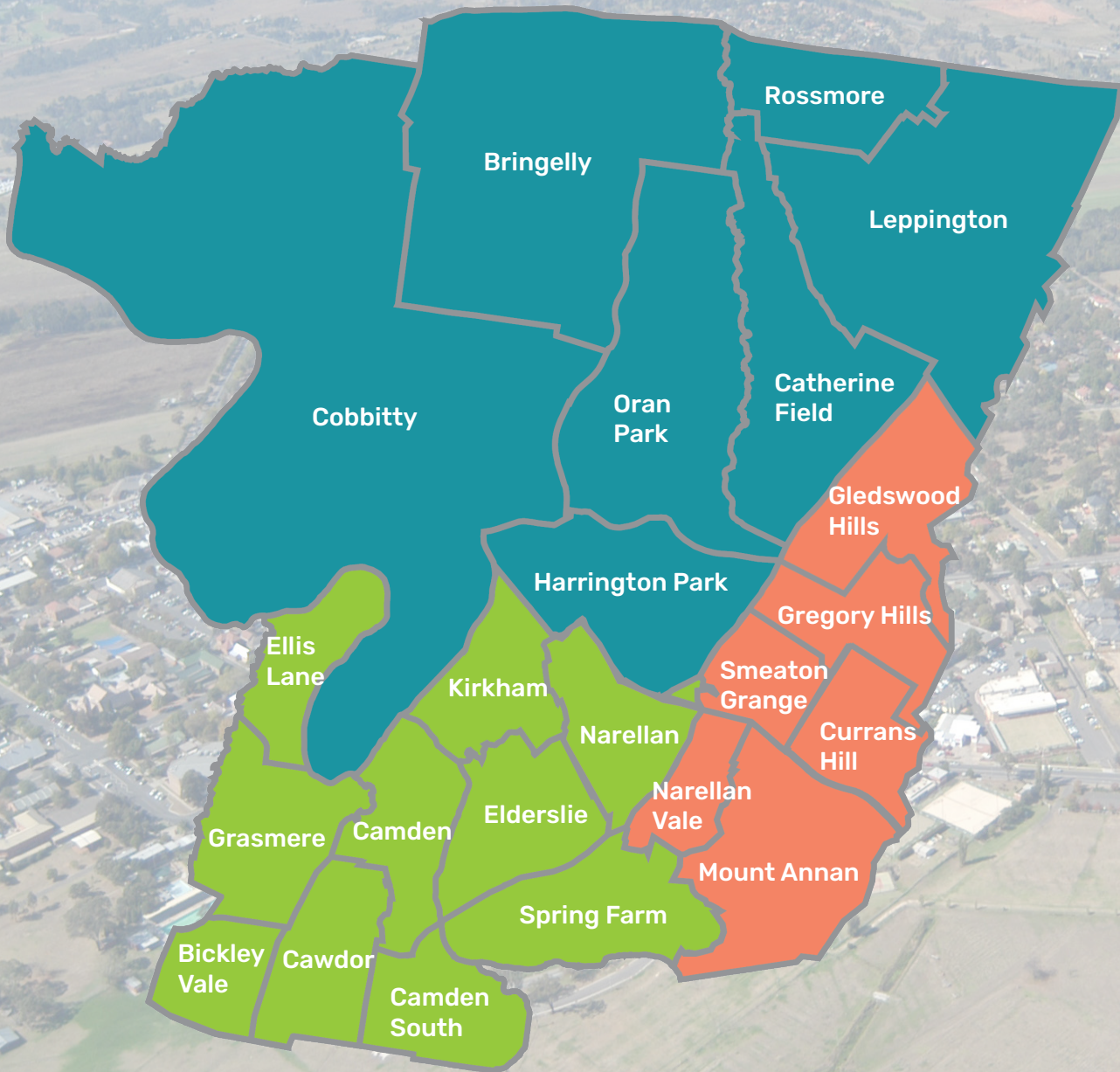
**For more information about the Australia Day event, including how you can nominate someone, visit [bit.ly/australiadaynominationform](https://bit.ly/australiadaynominationform)**

## HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH COUNCIL

If you have a matter you wish to raise with us, please:

- Call our Customer Service Centre on 4654 7777;
- Email us at [mail@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@camden.nsw.gov.au);
- Lodge it online at [camden.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/report](https://camden.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/report);
- Download the **OurCamden** app; or
- Visit or Customer Service Centre at 70 Central Avenue, Oran Park.

# CAMDEN COUNCIL



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