

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER  
EDITION FOUR 2020

# LET'S CONNECT

COMMUNITY  
AND BUSINESS  
SUPPORT  
PAGE 2-3

NARELLAN SPORTS  
HUB STAGE TWO  
PAGE 5



Free mobile app available from  
the App Store and Google Play



# MAYOR'S MESSAGE



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the fourth edition of Let's Connect for 2020. As we near the end of the year, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Camden community for their support through what has been a year we will never forget.

From starting the year with devastating fires and floods and then living through the COVID-19 pandemic, what has made me proud is seeing the Camden community come together for each other and working hard to remain united as one.

Council has also had to alter its operations due to the pandemic and I thank the community for adapting wonderfully to the new world we currently live in. In particular, I am proud to have been involved with putting together Council's \$16.8 million COVID-19 Support Package for our community.

I would also like to thank my fellow Councillors for the honour of leading them as Mayor of Camden until September 2021. I am excited to be working with them during such an important time, as we continue to experience remarkable growth. I am focused more than ever on continuing our work to provide the best services, infrastructure and facilities to support the wellbeing of our entire community.

As we move into 2021, I look forward to working with the community on continuing to make the Camden area the best in south west Sydney.

*Theresa Fedeli*

Mayor of Camden



## STAGE THREE

**Council is working hard on finalising the third and final stage of its Community Support Package.** The projects and initiatives that form part of this stage are focused on providing longer term recovery support for the Camden community to help boost our economy, improve infrastructure and facilities, help residents and visitors socialise and so much more.

It will include:

- An accelerated Capital Works program;
- COVID Safe events and activations;
- Community grants and financial assistance;
- Efforts to increase local employment; and
- Overall maintenance and city presentation improvement.

**To access the details, which will be available shortly, visit [camdencovidsupport.com.au](http://camdencovidsupport.com.au)**

## MARKETPLACE CREATED TO SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

**Local businesses can now list services and products with Council for direct support during and after the current economic climate created by COVID-19.**

The new initiative, VendorPanel Marketplace, encourages suppliers to register their details so quotes can be sought from them for goods and services required by Council. The initiative, which was part of the second stage of Council's Community Support Package, was created after a recent revision to Council's purchasing and procurement policy.

Registering is free for suppliers and once registered, business profiles will be visible to Camden Council buyers and to others searching the marketplace for suppliers in the area.

**For more information and to register your business, visit [bit.ly/vendorpanelmarketplace](http://bit.ly/vendorpanelmarketplace)**



# COVID SUPPORT

## GRANT TO FAST TRACK PROJECTS AND SUPPORT BUSINESS

**Council will fast track a number of road and community infrastructure projects, after accepting more than \$870,000 in Federal Government grant funding in August.**

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program, aims to assist a community-led recovery from COVID-19 by supporting local jobs, firms, and procurement.

The grant funding, which will be allocated as part of Council's COVID-19 Support Package Stage Three with projects to be announced in the coming months, must be completed by 30 June 2021.



## COUNCIL REGISTERED AS COVID SAFE BUSINESS

**Council has shown its commitment to the health and safety of the community and its staff by officially being registered as a COVID Safe business. COVID Safe is an NSW Government program established to support businesses to keep the community safe from COVID-19.**

Council's following facilities are now registered COVID Safe businesses:

- Oran Park Administration Building;
- Camden Civic Centre;
- Camden, Narellan and Oran Park Libraries;
- Alan Baker Art Gallery;
- Mount Annan Leisure Centre; and
- Camden Visitor Information Centre.



Mayor of Camden, Cr Theresa Fedeli, said it was important for Council to lead the way as residents return to their normal lives.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Local small businesses and community groups have benefited from almost \$420,000 in funding, as part of Council's COVID-19 Business and Community Support grants.

**Information on Council's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, visit [camdencovidsupport.com.au](http://camdencovidsupport.com.au)**



## FREE FLOOR STICKERS

Council is offering free social distancing floor stickers to all local businesses in the Camden area, to ensure the community is staying safe.

**For more information, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au/covid-19-support/local](http://camden.nsw.gov.au/covid-19-support/local)**

**WANT MORE INFO? Visit [www.camdencovidsupport.com.au](http://www.camdencovidsupport.com.au)**



# MAJOR PROJECTS



*Manna Gum Reserve, Narellan Vale.*

## PLAYGROUNDS RECEIVE UPGRADES

Equipment in five playgrounds across the Camden area have been replaced with brand new structures, as part of Council's \$300,000 Infrastructure Renewal Program for 2019-20. They include:

- Manna Gum Reserve, Narellan Vale;
- Little Reserve, Camden;
- Eastlewood Reserve, Narellan;
- Solander Reserve, Mount Annan; and
- Harrington Park Lake Reserve, Harrington Park.

## RABY ROAD UPGRADE DESIGN

Camden Council, in partnership with Campbelltown City Council and Transport NSW, has a funding agreement with the NSW Government to prepare designs for the future upgrade of Raby Road. The concept design proposes the road be upgraded to a four-lane divided sub-arterial road, between Emerald Hills Boulevard and Thunderbolt Drive, with new intersections at Gledswood Hills Drive and Thunderbolt Drive.

The project is currently at concept design phase and is nearing completion.

More detailed information about this project is available on Council's website, where you will also be able to access a project-specific webpage to have your say and register your interest in attending an online community forum.

## WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on any of the projects here, or to find out what projects are being delivered in your suburb, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au/major-developments](http://camden.nsw.gov.au/major-developments)

## LEPPINGTON STATION TEMPORARY CAR PARK COMPLETE

Council is proud to have delivered a temporary car park at Leppington Train Station, on behalf of Transport for NSW, with approximately 250 spaces.

The temporary car park, located opposite the station on Rickard Road, will help commuters find parking easily, with a number of spaces in the current car park unavailable during the construction of the NSW Government's 1,000 space multi-storey car park.



*Mayor of Camden, Cr Theresa Fedeli, at the Leppington Train Station temporary car park.*



# MAJOR PROJECTS

## NARELLAN SPORTS HUB STAGE TWO

**Camden is on track to become a sporting mecca, with Stage Two construction works starting at Narellan Sports Hub.**

Funding has been received from the Western Sydney Parkland City Liveability Program, at \$11.3 million, and the Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund, at \$5 million, for the design and construction of the Narellan Sports Hub Stage Two works in 2019.

Stage Two works will include 14 additional netball courts with floodlighting; a synthetic athletics track; and additional international size rugby league; and so much more!

The works will further enhance Narellan Sports Hub after Council delivered the \$11 million Stage One in October 2017, which included 30 high quality netball courts, expansive amenities building and car park.



*Member for Camden, Peter Sidgreaves MP; Mayor of Camden, Cr Theresa Fedeli; and Member for Hume Angus Taylor MP at the official sod turning on 25 September 2020.*

## STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

**Works to improve accessibility and regional connectivity across Elderslie, Currans Hill and Spring Farm have commenced.**

The construction of new footpaths and streetscape improvements will be carried out at the below five project sites, costing more than \$700,000:

- Downes Reserve shared path, Currans Hill;
- Throsby Reserve footpath, Currans Hill;
- Springs Road footpath and streetscape, Spring Farm;
- Lodges Road footpath and streetscape, Elderslie; and
- Liz Kernohan Drive (Link Road) footpath and streetscape, Elderslie.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Local roads have received \$3.79 million worth of upgrades as part of Council's 2019-20 Road Improvement program. The annual program focusses on maintaining the Camden area's road network including resealing, traffic adjustments, path reconstructions, bus stops and much more.

## FLOATING WETLANDS INSTALLED AT HARRINGTON PARK LAKE

**Harrington Park Lake's water quality is set to improve after floating wetlands were installed at the upstream wetlands recently.**

Council secured \$20,000 in funding from the Australian Government's Communities Environment Program to install a floating wetland, which consists of a suspended raft planted with wetland seedlings. The plants and their roots assist with removal of blue-green algal blooms including nutrients and help settle sediments in the water.

## HARRINGTON FOREST RESTORATION BEGINS

**Works to restore Harrington Forest's Cumberland Plain Woodland began recently, including weed treatment to help regenerate native vegetation in the area.**

Council successfully secured funding of \$20,000 from the Australian Government's Communities Environment Program 2019-20 this year, with works aiming to enhance and protect the only ecological community of its kind in western Sydney.

The works, expected to be completed by February 2021, include:

- Removal of woody weeds throughout the five-hectare project site; and
- Citizen science activities with the Bushcare group to install 10 nest boxes for native birds and mammals within the restored site.



# OUR COMMUNITY



Mayor of Camden, Cr Theresa Fedeli, with Macarthur FC head coach, Ante Milicic.

## CAMDEN UNITES WITH MACARTHUR FC



Local footballers will have a chance to get closer to their A-League heroes, after Council committed more than \$20,000 in sponsorship to Macarthur FC.

The A-League's newest club representing the greater Macarthur region will have a direct connection to Camden residents through:

- School holiday activities, including four school holiday clinics for local juniors in the Camden area;
- Macarthur FC players to assist in promotion of Council programs;
- New resident engagement;
- Macarthur FC to be invited to participate in Council events;
- Promotion of Macarthur FC through Camden area including banners; and
- Council to provide up to 20 hours to field and amenities usage for training purposes to Macarthur FC.

## LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLAN

Council is developing a Library Strategic Plan, which will help guide the future of its libraries. In September, we welcomed feedback from visitors through pop-up sessions and consultation stations to find out what you would like to see.

Thank you to everyone for your feedback, and we look forward to keeping you updated on the plan.

## FUN FACT

You can access thousands of eBooks and eAudiobooks through our Library Services' CloudLibrary app. Details: [library.camden.nsw.gov.au](http://library.camden.nsw.gov.au)



## ADOPT A PET

If you're looking for a new pet to join your family, we encourage you to check out those available at our animal care facility (behind Rossmore Veterinary Hospital).

For more information, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au/pets/adopt-a-pet](http://camden.nsw.gov.au/pets/adopt-a-pet)



# OUR COMMUNITY



## POPULAR CAMDEN TOWN FARM WALKWAY TURNS ONE

**Camden's Miss Llewella Davies Pioneer Walkway has become a popular walking track, particularly through COVID-19, with hundreds of visitors on a weekly basis.**

Celebrating its first birthday recently, the walkway, located at Camden Town Farm, covers riparian zones, pastoral, grazing and cropping paddocks, offers fantastic views of St Johns Church, the Chinese Washing Wells, the Nepean River and Macquarie House.

Camden Town Farm was bequeathed to Council by Miss Llewella Davies, who wanted the property to be left to the community for their benefit and enjoyment and I believe she would be glad to see its current use.

The walkway remains open. Residents are reminded dogs are not permitted on the walkway and to ensure they maintain physical distancing during the walk.

**For more information on the best walking and cycling tracks across Camden, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au](http://camden.nsw.gov.au) and search 'walking and cycling'.**

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN

Our libraries, pools and leisure facilities have a range of activities on offer to keep children occupied these school holidays.

**For more information, visit [camdenkids.com.au](http://camdenkids.com.au)**

## NEW KIDS E-RESOURCE TO TEACH KIDS NEW LANGUAGE

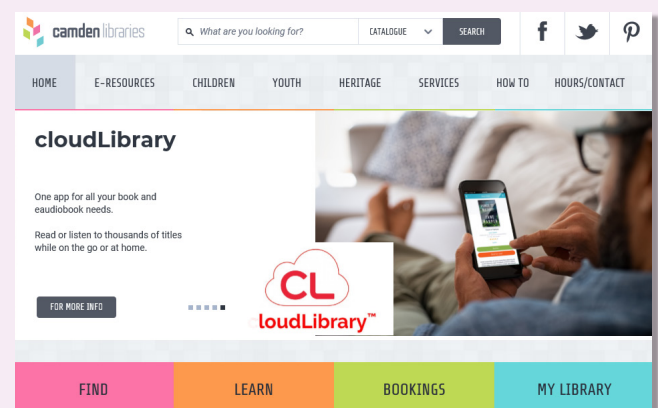
**Local children can now learn a second language with ease, with Camden Libraries increasing access to their online eResources.**

Languages other than English (LOTE) Online for Kids is a new children's eResource, including digital books in over 20 languages with English translations, available for children aged up to 12 years.

Camden Libraries also offer a range of other eResources for members, including eBooks; eAudio; eComics; eMagazines; eResearch; online tutoring; and online software training.

Camden Libraries also remain open to the public with a number of restrictions in place.

**For more information on Camden Libraries, go to [library.camden.nsw.gov.au](http://library.camden.nsw.gov.au)**





# SUSTAINABLE LIVING



## ALL-IN-ONE RECYCLING STATIONS DEVELOPED FOR CAMDEN

**Printer cartridges can now be recycled in a newly developed all-in-one recycling station available at three locations across the Camden area.**

The new stations, which allow the community to recycle printer cartridges, household batteries and mobile phones, can be found at the Camden Council Administration Building, Narellan Library and Camden Library.

Residents can also recycle their phones at participating 'Mobile Muster' drop off centres in the Camden area, while also recycling their printer cartridges at all Officeworks stores and participating Australia Post, Cartridge World, Harvey Norman, The Good Guys, JB Hi-Fi, Office National and Office Products Depot outlets.

A free E-Waste service is also available to residents and small businesses in the Camden local government area at the Spring Farm Resource Recovery Park located at 20 Barrow Road, Spring Farm.

**For more information on waste services in Camden, go to [camden.nsw.gov.au](http://camden.nsw.gov.au) and search 'Waste Services'.**

## HABITAT STAG TREES

**While it might look a little strange, this tree is a 'habitat tree'. You may have seen one of these while you have been out and about across the Camden area.**

Tree hollows can take over 100 years to form, which means they are becoming rarer in Camden. Where there is an opportunity to safely retain the trunk and branches of large trees that have been damaged, Council will try to do so as a way of retaining important habitat for local wildlife.

The branches are used as perches for birds, bats and small mammals, and the hollows are used by mammals and birds as nesting locations. You can see the scratch marks on the trunk from the possum that calls this tree home.

## COBBITTY HILLS LANDHOLDER GUIDE

**A landholder guide is available for people living in the Cobbitty Hills area that have important remnant native bushland on their land.**

The bushland that makes up the Cobbitty Hills biodiversity corridor supports a wide range of native animals and plants, including threatened and endangered species and communities.

The majority of this bushland is located on private land, so a guide has been developed to assist landholders who are interested in protecting and improving the native vegetation on their property with practical information, including ways to generate income through conservation.

**For a copy of the guide, call Council's Sustainability Team on 4654 7777 or visit [camden.nsw.gov.au](http://camden.nsw.gov.au)**

## EVERY TREE COUNTS

**Trees are a vital part of the ecosystem, not just in bushland and parks, but also in backyards, streets and urban areas, where they play a number of important roles.**

Trees provide shade to cool our streets and help to clean the air we breathe. Trees also make our streets more beautiful, softening the urban environment and providing privacy and a sense of place.

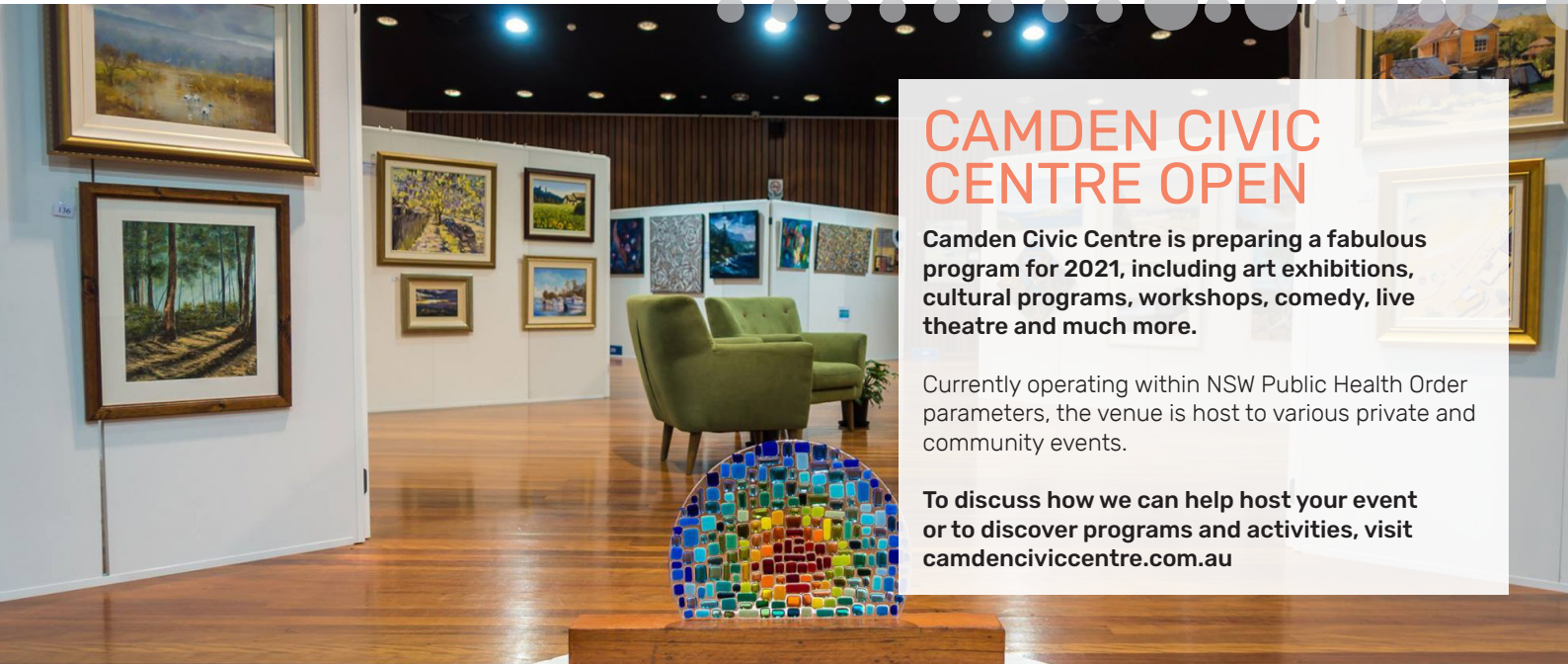
Because trees are such an important part of the growing urban environment and to create a sustainable, liveable and cool place. Camden Council aims to retain trees in the landscape wherever this is possible.

All tree removal, pruning and clearing of vegetation on private or public land within the Camden Local Government Area requires approval from Council.

**To find out more, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees](http://camden.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees).**



# ARTS AND CULTURE



## CAMDEN CIVIC CENTRE OPEN

Camden Civic Centre is preparing a fabulous program for 2021, including art exhibitions, cultural programs, workshops, comedy, live theatre and much more.

Currently operating within NSW Public Health Order parameters, the venue is host to various private and community events.

To discuss how we can help host your event or to discover programs and activities, visit [camdenciviccentre.com.au](http://camdenciviccentre.com.au)



## PORTRAITS OF CAMDEN EXHIBITION

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Alan Baker played an influential role in the establishment of the Camden Art Group, assisting to activate an arts movement in Camden.

The small group initially met at Camden Public School on Wednesday evenings, free for anyone to attend. It was at these meetings that Alan imparted his artistic knowledge and skills to fellow artists, demonstrating his techniques. The group of likeminded participants, who were very serious about their art, began sketching and painting each other, bringing in family and friends to pose.

The Portraits of Camden exhibition presents 40 delightful charcoal drawings executed by Alan Baker during the Camden Art Group sessions.

Portraits of Camden Exhibition remains open until March 2021.

For more information, or to view a virtual tour, visit Council's website and search 'Alan Baker Art Gallery'.

## PUBLIC WORKSHOP PROGRAM

In Term Four, students have been able to celebrate the return of the much-loved Public Workshop Program and Holiday Pop-Ups at the Alan Baker Art Gallery.

The program is unique as its framework is established around the appreciation of the works of Alan Baker, an acclaimed Australian artist. The workshops explore the artist's journey, the prolific manner in which he created, and the rich and vibrant landscape of the region featured in his work.

Sharing the skills and techniques consistent with those Baker employed as an artist, the program introduces the foundations of art to participants using the collection of works on exhibition as an incredible reference point.

Classes are run each week throughout the term. To receive the complete program, email [alanbakerartgallery@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alanbakerartgallery@camden.nsw.gov.au).



## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ART?

Join the Camden Artist Register, by filling in your details here [bit.ly/CamdenArtistRegister](https://bit.ly/CamdenArtistRegister)



# EVENTS

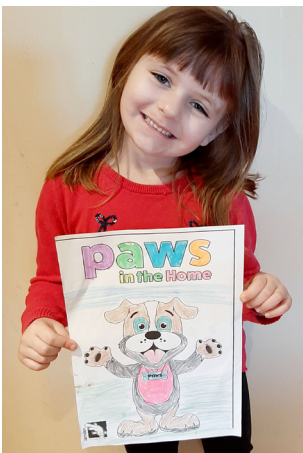


## EVENTS AND COVID-19

**This year has been like no other, with community events unable to be held due to COVID-19.**

For this reason, Council introduced a variety of virtual and online events, or 'E-events', including:

- Paws in the Home;
- #WhatsCamden;
- Anzac Day Poppy Campaign;
- Easter Hat Parade;
- Favourite Picnic Spot Competition;
- Flower Crown Making Workshop;
- 11 Fun Thing for Kids to do in Spring;
- Superhero Dress Up Competition;
- Clown Show;
- Learn to Dance Workshop;
- TASTE Camden Cook Off;
- TASTE Camden Kids Cooking Classes;
- Listen While You Wine and Dine; and
- TASTE Camden Celebrity Chef Video.



Following the Federal Government's advice to cease public gatherings in response to COVID-19, we have postponed our events until further notice.

We hope to recommence soon and will provide updates on our social media accounts and website as the situation changes.

**In the meantime, we are developing procedures to ensure that our events are COVID SAFE for attendees. We look forward to holding our events again for our Camden community to enjoy!**

## CHRISTMAS IN CAMDEN

As we near the end of another year and our annual Jacaranda Festival in November is unable to proceed, the Camden community are invited to join in the Christmas festivities in a different way. The Mayor of Camden will flick the switch, lighting the Camden community Christmas Tree and the event will be live-streamed on Council's Facebook page.

The festive season in Camden is fun and exciting, as we have a variety of Christmas music and festive displays to see. Take some time to experience this by dining in at one of the amazing cafés or restaurants and shopping in the unique boutique shops located throughout the town centre.

**For more information, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au/whats-on/](https://camden.nsw.gov.au/whats-on/) or find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/camdencouncil](https://facebook.com/camdencouncil)**



*Mayor of Camden, Cr Theresa Fedeli, at last year's Lighting of the Tree event.*



# WHAT'S ON



## CHILD RESTRAINT FITTING AND CHECKING DAY

Council runs four free Child Restraint Fitting and Checking Days per year, where you can have your child car restraints, harnesses and booster seats checked for safety and correct fit.

The next event is tentatively scheduled for Thursday 10 December 2020 (dependant on current restrictions).

Drivers with children, who are not safely fastened in the correct child car seat, may face a \$337 fine and loss of three demerit points.

**Bookings are essential and open to Camden local government area residents only. To book, call Council on 4654 7777 or email [roadsafety@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:roadsafety@camden.nsw.gov.au)**

## COVID SAFE EVENTS

Event organisers are responsible for ensuring their event is run in accordance with the COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines for public gatherings. All applicants will be required to submit a COVID-19 Safety Plan with their application and will be responsible for managing and monitoring compliance with any current COVID-19 restrictions.

**For more information, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au/what's-on](https://camden.nsw.gov.au/what's-on)**



## LEARNER DRIVER LOGBOOK RUN

**As a precautionary measure for the safety of our residents, A Learner Drive Logbook Run event is tentatively scheduled for Sunday 13 December 2020 (dependant on current restrictions).**

This event gives learner drivers the opportunity to gain on road experience and assists them to acquire their required logbook hours. The event is a partnership between Camden Council, Campbelltown City Council and NSW Police. Bookings are essential.

**For more information, or to book, call Council on 4654 7777 or email [roadsafety@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:roadsafety@camden.nsw.gov.au)**



## HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH COUNCIL

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

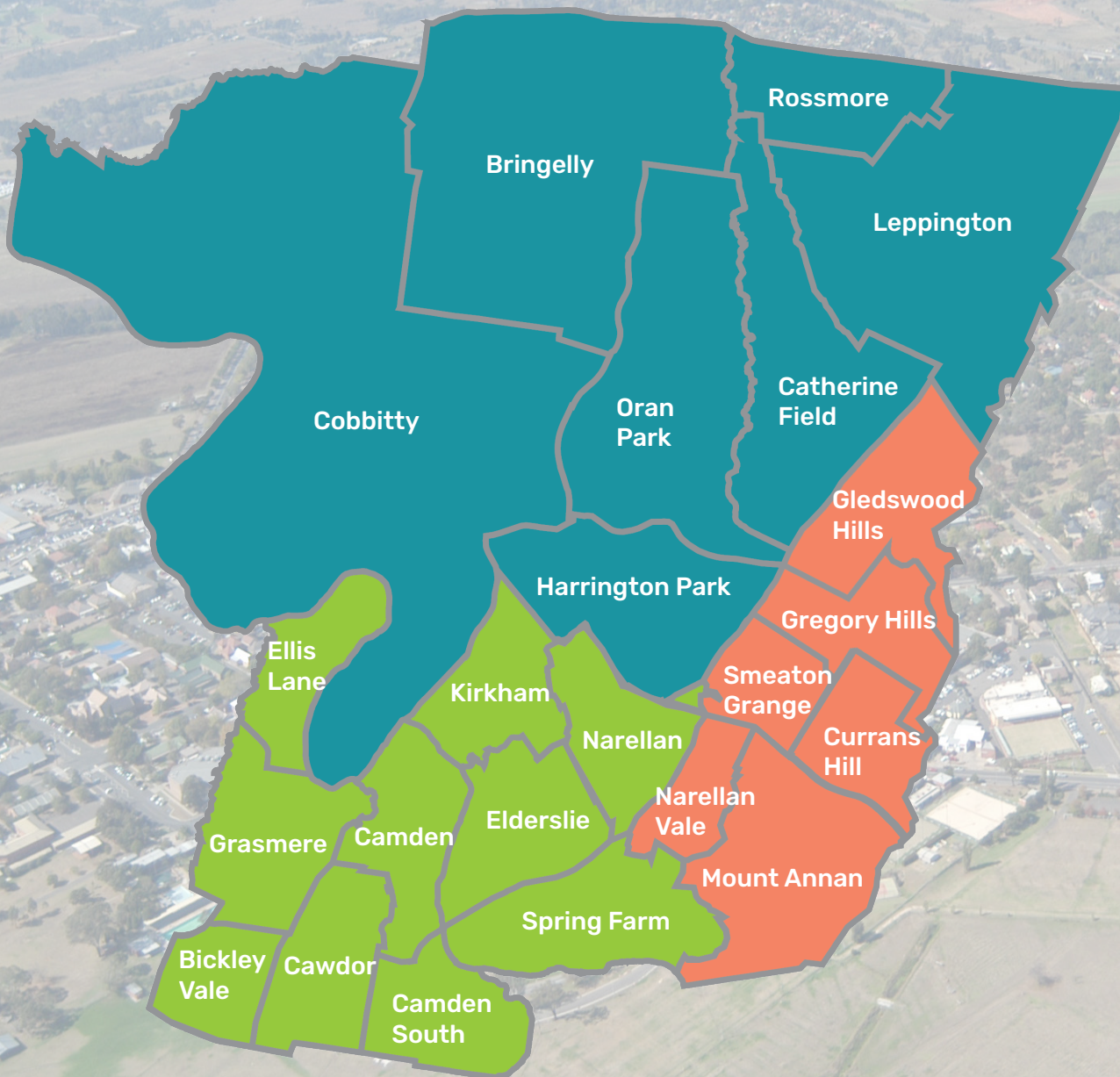
- Call our Customer Service Centre on 4645 7777;
- Email us at [mail@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@camden.nsw.gov.au);
- Lodge it online at [camden.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/report](https://camden.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/report); or
- Download the *OurCamden* app.



# CAMDEN COUNCIL

## CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL

For more information about Camden Council's services, visit Council's customer service desk at the administration building, Oran Park 8.30am - 5pm, Monday to Friday. You can also phone on 4654 7777 or visit [camden.nsw.gov.au](http://camden.nsw.gov.au)



## COUNCILLORS

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