

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
EDITION ONE 2020

LET'S CONNECT

**BOUNCE TOWN
15 APRIL
SEE PAGE 11**

**NATURE
PHOTOGRAPHY
COMPETITION
CHECK OUT THE
WINNERS
SEE PAGE 8**



Free mobile app available from
the App Store and Google Play

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the first edition of Let's Connect for 2020.

We celebrated all things 'Australiana' at Camden Council's annual Australia Day Street Party. It always warms my heart to see residents make a commitment to our great country but seeing 50 residents take that step on such a special day is fantastic.

A special thank you to our 2019 Citizen of the Year, Steve Cooper, and Young Citizen of the Year, Joanna Kolevris, for their service and congratulations to the 2020 Citizen of the Year, Brett Atkins, and Young Citizen of the Year, Rebecca Halcomb. We also had the pleasure of welcoming life-long volunteer, Josephine Peter, as our Australia Day Ambassador.

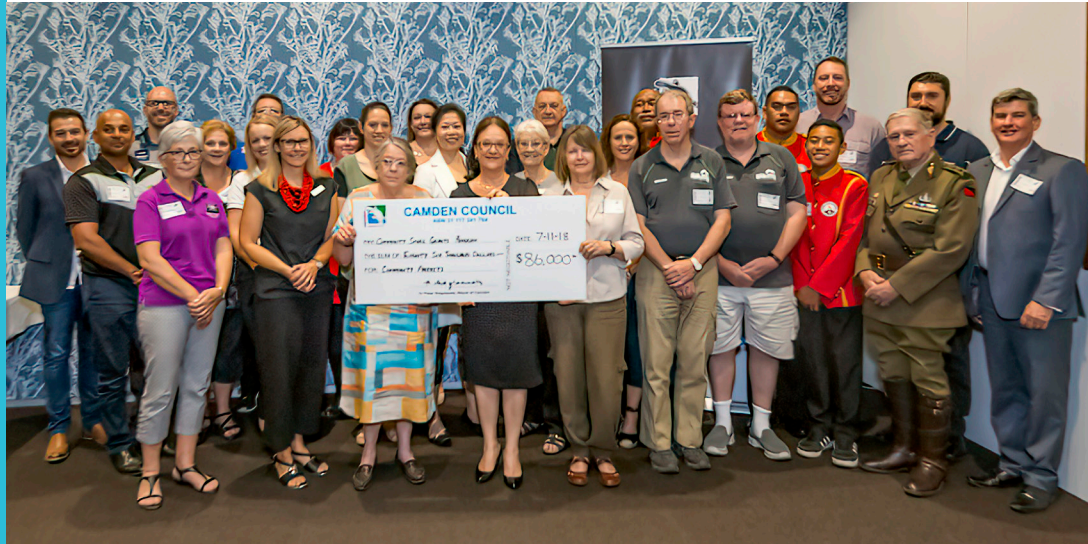
This year we were particularly proud to celebrate the remarkable Australian spirit and support communities near and far affected by the recent bushfire tragedies. We had NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) front and centre at the event, with their trucks leading the street parade and a number of fundraisers for them.

We'll soon be celebrating Youth Week, which runs Wednesday 1 to Thursday 9 April. We have a number of local events and activities organised, including Youth Fit Squad, Bring Your Own Beat and long-standing favourite Camden Shorts.

I am looking forward to representing you as the Mayor of Camden for another year and delivering even more exciting initiatives and projects this year.

Theresa Fedeli

Mayor of Camden



FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Forty-seven local groups have received more than \$130,000 in funding, thanks to three components of our Community Financial Assistance Program.

The first component is the Cultural Performance Subsidy Program. Twelve local groups will receive more than \$13,000 in funding to help them access Camden Civic Centre to showcase performances and provide quality affordable entertainment to the community.

The second component is the Community Sponsorship Program, which aims to provide encouragement and support to community organisations by supplementing funds raised for their events and activities. Council approved 12 applications, requesting both in-kind and monetary support, to a total value of \$46,160.

The third and final component is the Community Small Grants Program, which aims to help build community capacity and engagement and, in turn, create an enriched and connected community. Twenty-three applications were supported for part and full funding, to the value of \$85,299.

MONOPOLY SOLD OUT

All 2,000 copies of the Camden Monopoly sold out in less than a week raising \$120,000, divided between Lifeline Macarthur and the Camden Wollondilly Domestic Violence Committee.

The Camden Monopoly features 22 locations from across the Camden area, selected by the community through a survey conducted last year. They included:

- St John's Anglican Church;
- Birriwa Reserve Outdoor Youth Space;
- Belgenny Farm;
- Camden Town Farm; and
- Cobbitty Village.

There are currently no plans for a re-print. However, interested residents are invited to call us on 4654 7777 and add their name to a waitlist – if a game becomes available, or there is an opportunity to do a re-print, these residents will be contacted first.



OUR COMMUNITY



CELEBRATING THE AUSTRALIAN SPIRIT

As the bushfires sweep through communities near and far, we have seen volunteers, neighbours, friends, family and strangers right across the country leap to action. Our heroic firefighters have worked, and continue to work, incredibly hard to protect those people who need help.

That's why we were so proud to unveil our brand-new Waste Truck at our Australia Day event, with a dedication to NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) staff and volunteers. The images used were taken by local RFS volunteer, Brett Atkins, who was awarded Camden Citizen of the Year for 2020. Young Citizen of the Year was awarded to scout leader, Rebecca Halcomb.

We had thousands of people enjoy the rest of Council's Australia Day festivities. From the citizenship ceremony to the much-loved parade, the Australia Day Awards to the buzzing Street Party, everyone had a terrific time!



CORRECTLY FITTED CHILD SEATS SAVE LIVES

We run four free Child Restraint Fitting and Checking Day per year, where you can have the child car restraints, harnesses and booster seats checked for safety and correct fit.

The next event will be held on Thursday 19 March. Bookings are essential and open to Camden LGA residents only. To book, call Council on 4654 7777.

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.

FUN FACT

More than 160 local residents had child seats checked or fitted by Council in 2019.



MAJOR PROJECTS



NEW PLAYING FIELDS AT KIRKHAM PARK

It's time for our footy players to lace up their boots because the two new rugby league fields at Kirkham Park, Elderslie, are now complete.

We've constructed an international-size field and a modified league size field, for junior competition and training.

The project also included:

- Significant bulk earthworks;
- Floodlighting of both fields to 100 lux training-standard;
- Irrigation and field drainage; and
- Turfing, retaining walls, fencing and landscaping.

The playing fields are part of the \$3.1 million first stage of Council's Kirkham Park Masterplan, which also includes the first stage of a new BMX track.

The track will cater for Club, State and National BMX events.

It includes the construction of:

- A five-metre start hill;
- Access ramps;
- A main racetrack;
- Floodlighting;
- Timing and scoring system; and
- Landscaping.

\$3.5 MILLION FOR ROAD UPGRADES

We've accepted more than \$3.5 million in grant funding to upgrade and design road improvements throughout the Camden area.

The funding, granted under the Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan's Local Roads Package, will be used for:

- The Porrende Street upgrade, which involves demolition and reconstruction of the existing roundabout, modifications to the approach roads adjacent to Bunnings and Narellan Sports Hub entries and utility relocations. The works will be coordinated with the Narellan Sports Hub Stage Two works and the seasonal users of the existing facilities at the Sports Hub; and
- Remembrance Driveway/Old Hume Highway Corridor upgrade, which involves developing a route strategy and concept designs for the future upgrade of intersections in Remembrance Driveway in Camden South, primarily at Elizabeth Macarthur Avenue and Armour Avenue.



**FUN
FACT**

You can find out what projects are being delivered in your suburb, by visiting camden.nsw.gov.au/major-developments

MAJOR PROJECTS

NEW PARK COMING TO COBBITTY

A new park is making its way to the Arcadian Hills estate, between Olive Hill Drive and The Northern Road.

The site includes the original gravel access road to the historic Denbigh House and, as such, the park will pay homage to the heritage development in and around the Denbigh Estate.

The new park will include:

- A passive recreation space;
- New paths;
- New park furniture;
- Garden areas;
- Trees;
- New turf;
- Timber steppers; and
- The refurbishment of the original entry gates.

Construction is due to be complete in mid-2020, weather permitting.

We've also recently renewed five playgrounds across the Camden area, designed for young residents from four to 12 years. They include:

- Harrington Park Reserve, Swan Circuit, Harrington Park;
- Solander Reserve, Mount Annan;
- Manna Gum Reserve, Yate Place, Mount Annan;
- Little Reserve, Camden; and
- Eastlewood Reserve, Narellan.

To find parks and playgrounds near you, visit camden.nsw.gov.au/parks-and-recreation



CAMDEN'S NEW LSPS IS ONE STEP CLOSER

We're one step closer to finalising the area's new Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS). The draft LSPS has been sent to the Greater Sydney Commission for assurance.

Subject to this formal assurance, a further report will be presented to Councillors in the coming months, to adopt the final LSPS.

The LSPS is important because it sets the 20-year vision for land use in the local area, the special character and values that are to be preserved and how change will be managed into the future.



SPRING INTO NEW COMMUNITY FACILITY

Spring Farm residents now have a brand-new community facility to enjoy.

The \$3 million, 500 square metre multipurpose centre is located on Richardson Road, Spring Farm and it features:

- An activity hall;
- Meeting room;
- Foyer;
- Kitchen;
- Amenities; and
- A carpark with 26 spaces and associated landscaping.

Spring Farm is home to more than 5,000 residents and this new facility will provide these residents, as well as the entire Camden community, a beautiful space to enjoy.

1,000 EXTRA CAR SPACES AT LEPPINGTON STATION

Work on 1,000 additional commuter car parking spaces at Leppington Station is due to start in mid-2020 and finish mid-2021, thanks to the NSW Government's revised plans.

The 2016 census told us more than 26,000 residents, or 65.6 per cent of our area's resident workers, travel outside Camden to work. Almost 3,000 of these workers commute by train, so the extra spaces for these commuters are much needed.

For more information on Leppington Station, visit transportnsw.info



LIBRARIES



BOOK CLUB KITS

Would you like to run your own book club?

Our Libraries have a number of Book Club Kits available. A Book Club Kit contains 10 copies of a book, with a set of discussion questions to help your group get the conversation started.

You can hold your book group anywhere you like, and we will loan the kit to you for six weeks. There is no charge for the loan of these kits.

For more information, visit
library.camden.nsw.gov.au/book-club-kits

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**

ELECTRONIC BOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS

Access thousands of eBooks and eAudiobooks through our Library Services' CloudLibrary app.

For more information, visit library.camden.nsw.gov.au

HOME SCHOOLER'S DAY PROGRAM

The Home Schooler's Day program is great way for children, who may suffer from social anxiety or struggle to leave their homes, to make new friends in a safe and relaxed space.

The program is held every second Friday and is open to home-schooled children of any age, at Narellan and Oran Park Libraries. For more information, call your nearest library.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

The Artist of the Month program provides an excellent opportunity for established and emerging artists in the Camden community to display their works in the following gallery spaces at Camden, Oran Park and Narellan Libraries.

This program provides a means of increasing your profile in the community and selling your artwork. The opportunity to hold an exhibition launch is also available.

If you are interested in participating in the program, visit library.camden.nsw.gov.au/artist-of-the-month

CAMDEN'S CREATIVES TAKE THE LEAD

The Camden Youth Empowerment Project is returning this year, after \$50,000 in funding was successfully secured.

The project, entitled Camden's Creatives Take The Lead, will provide young people, aged between 12 and 25 years, the opportunity to develop key skills for employment through the management of four youth-led events throughout the Camden area.

A Project Leadership Team will be formed from existing young leaders from Camden Council's Youth Council and young people eager to have experience in event management. These events will allow full involvement in all facets of event management and delivery, helping local youth develop key skills needed to obtain employment. These include:

- Marketing;
- Stage management;
- Audio production;
- Live performance;
- Curation of art displays;
- Young people consultation; and
- Provision of information on health and education services available to young people.

To keep up-to-date with the initiative, visit camden.nsw.gov.au

FUN FACT

There are more than 85 playgrounds and 27 play groups in the Camden area.



YOUTH WEEK

NSW Youth Week, 1-9 April, is the largest celebration of young people across the state. A number of local events and activities have been organised by various youth and community service organisations in partnership with Council and the Camden Youth Council.

Highlights of the week include:

- Free Youth Fit Squad at Mount Annan Leisure Centre on Thursdays 2 and 9 April;
- Camden Shorts event at Camden Civic Centre on Friday 3 April;
- Free Skate Clinic at Kirkham Skate Park on Saturday 4 April;
- BYOB: Smash the Silence event at Camden Civic Centre on Sunday 5 April; and
- \$5 movie night at United Cinemas on Thursday 9 April.

More than 4,500 Camden young people aged 12-25 years participated in local youth week activities last year.

For more information about Youth Week in Camden, call Council's Youth Services on 4645 5021 or visit camden.nsw.gov.au and search "Youth Week".



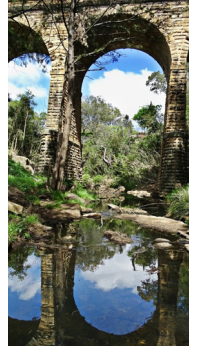
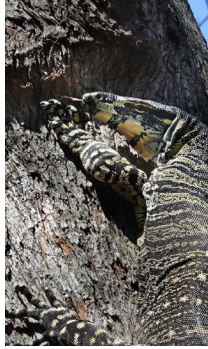
STUDENTS SHOWCASE STEM SOLUTIONS

Students from both Elderslie High School and Mater Dei High School have applied science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) principles, to create solutions to the challenges faced by the local community.

The showcase was hosted by Council, in partnership with Camden Region Economic Taskforce (CRET) and CSIRO's Generation STEM Community Partnerships Program.

The program is designed to encourage more students to take up STEM at school and STEM-related jobs.

ARTS AND CULTURE



PICTURE PERFECTION CELEBRATED

The winners of the 2019 Macarthur Nature Photography Competition have been announced. There were 24 winners and 23 highly commended entrants recognised across the seven categories at the annual award ceremony, held at Camden Civic Centre. The winners included:

FLORA

- Chloe McEwen – Primary first place winner;
- Paige Jenart – High School first place winner; and
- Glenn Smith – Open first place winner.

FAUNA

- Finn McEvoy-King – Primary first place winner;
- Isabelle Robertson – High School first place winner; and
- Owen Sinden – Open first place winner.

WATERWAYS

- Kaitlin Tattersall – Primary first place winner;
- Isabelle Robertson – High School first place winner; and
- Lyn Forbes – Open first place winner.

EXPERIENCE NATURE

- Hayden Wilson – Primary winner;
- Breanna Childs – High School winner; and
- Bron King – Open winner.

LANDSCAPES OF MACARTHUR

- Domonique Sidoruk – Primary winner;
- Jack Beeby – High School winner; and
- Ian Hollis – Open winner.

SCHOOLS

- Warragamba Public School – winning primary school; and
- John Therry Catholic High School – winning high school.



SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

Alan Baker Art Gallery offers a range of school holiday workshops, throughout the year, designed to encourage children to express themselves creatively through a variety of artistic mediums.

Workshops run for an hour and a half, cost \$12 per session and all art materials are provided.

The Alan Baker Art Gallery is located at Macaria, 37 John Street, Camden.

For more information, and to book, visit trybooking.com/BGWP

SUSTAINABILITY



CAMDEN NATIVE GARDEN GUIDE

Native vegetation is important for the health of our environment, and provides habitat for native animals, including threatened species.

Council has developed a Native Garden Guide to help residents improve the biodiversity of their own backyards, including helpful information on plant species that are well suited to the climate of Camden and that are available from local nurseries.

For more information, and to get a copy of the guide, call 4654 7777 or visit camden.nsw.gov.au and search Native Plant Guide.

WATER EFFICIENCY

Water restrictions are now in place to protect Sydney's drinking water supply. You can keep up-to-date with the latest restrictions by visiting sydneywater.com.au

It's important that we all play a part and look to conserve water wherever we can.

There are lots of ways that you can save water around your home and garden. Fixing leaks and installing water efficient devices in your home can make a big difference.

Sydney Water's free WaterFix service includes a visit to your home from a licensed plumber to check for leaks and opportunities to save water. To find out more or to book this service call 1800 807 47 or visit www.lovetwater.sydney

FUN FACT Kings Bush Reserve is home to more than 54 different bird species. For more information about Camden's biodiversity, visit camden.nsw.gov.au/environment/biodiversity

FLOATING WETLANDS FOR HARRINGTON PARK

Council has been successful in receiving grant funding from the Australian Government to install floating wetlands within Harrington Park Wetland under the Communities Environment Program.

Harrington Park Lake is an important local waterway, however its location in a developed catchment means that it receives high nutrient and pollutant loads in stormwater runoff. The installed wetlands will help to improve water quality by biologically treating the water and removing pollutants, including sediment, nutrients and heavy metals while also providing aeration of the water.

For more information, call Council's Stormwater Project Officer on 4654 7777.



EVENTS

PAWS IN THE PARK

Get ready for some four-legged fun at the loveable Paws in the Park!

This year's event will be held on Sunday 3 May, 9am-1pm, at the Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park. It promises to have something for everyone, including:

More than 50 information stalls and displays:

- Demonstrations;
- Free vet checks;
- Tips and information on pet ownership;
- Children's activities;
- Photo booth fun; and
- A three-kilometre walk.

There will also be a number of competitions on the day, where we'll look to award the:

- Scruffiest dog;
- Cutest dog;
- Tallest dog;
- Best trick; and
- Best dressed.

For more information, visit camden.nsw.gov.au/whats-on



SENIORS FESTIVAL

Seniors across Camden are invited to celebrate the 2020 NSW Seniors Festival by getting involved in a range of music, health and wellbeing activities, including:

MACULAR DEGENERATION SEMINAR

When: Friday 13 March

Time: 10am

Where: Narellan Library

Cost: Free

Bookings: library.camden.nsw.gov.au/bookings or 4654 5039

SENIORS FESTIVAL CONCERT

When: Wednesday 18 March 2020

Time: 10am-2pm

Where: Camden Civic Centre

Cost: \$10

Bookings: 4645 5020

BUS TRIP TO GERRINGONG

When: Friday 20 March

Where: Gerringong and surrounding area.

Cost: \$10

Bookings: 4645 5020

DEMENTIA SPECIFIC CONCERT

When: Tuesday 26 March

Time: 11am-1.30pm

Where: Camden Civic Centre

Cost: \$5

Bookings: 4645 5009

COMMEMORATE ANZAC DAY IN CAMDEN

The Camden RSL Sub Branch will be conducting services to commemorate the 105th Anniversary of the Landing at Gallipoli. Residents are invited to attend services being held at a variety of locations including:

Thursday 23 April

- 10.30am - Camden Downs Retirement Village ANZAC Service.

Friday 24 April

- 10.30am - Carrington Centennial Care ANZAC Day Service.
- 2.30pm - Wivenhoe Retirement Village, 6 Hollyhock Avenue, Cobbitty.

Saturday 25 April

- 5.15am - Camden RSL Sub Branch Dawn Service, Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park Memorial Site, Cawdor Road, Camden.
- 10am - Main ANZAC Day March and Community Service, Argyle Street, Camden.

For more information, call Camden RSL Sub Branch President Ian Richard-Evan on 0419 925 294.

WHAT'S ON



BOUNCE TOWN RETURNS

Residents are invited to jump on down to our much-loved Bounce Town event, which will be bigger and better than ever.

This year, not only will there be a number of brand-new jumping castles, we'll also be celebrating the official opening of the exciting new space at Oran Park. It includes Camden's biggest Water Play Area, Camden's only Ninja Warrior course, multiple play areas and barbecue facilities.

Bounce Town, which is suitable for toddlers right through to teenagers, will be held on Wednesday 15 April, 10am-3pm, at this new space.

For more information, visit camden.nsw.gov.au/whats-on

MAR

CAMDEN SHOW

27-28 MARCH
Camden Showground, Argyle Street,
Camden
camdenshow.com

CAMDEN WELLNESS EXPO

14 MARCH
Camden Civic Centre, 9am-2pm
Ph. 4655 8681
camdenwellnessexpo.com.au



MAY

NATIONAL FAMILIES WEEK

14-21 MAY
Camden libraries
Ph. 4655 8681
library.camden.nsw.gov.au

PAWS IN THE PARK

3 MAY
Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park
9am-1pm
camden.nsw.gov.au/whats-on



APR

BOUNCETOWN

15 APRIL
Oran Park Water Play Space, 10am-3pm
camden.nsw.gov.au/whats-on

SKATEBOARD CLINIC

4 APRIL
Kirkham Skate Park, Hilder Street, Elderslie
10am-noon
camden.nsw.gov.au/whats-on



INFO

For details on these and other events, call 4654 7777 or visit

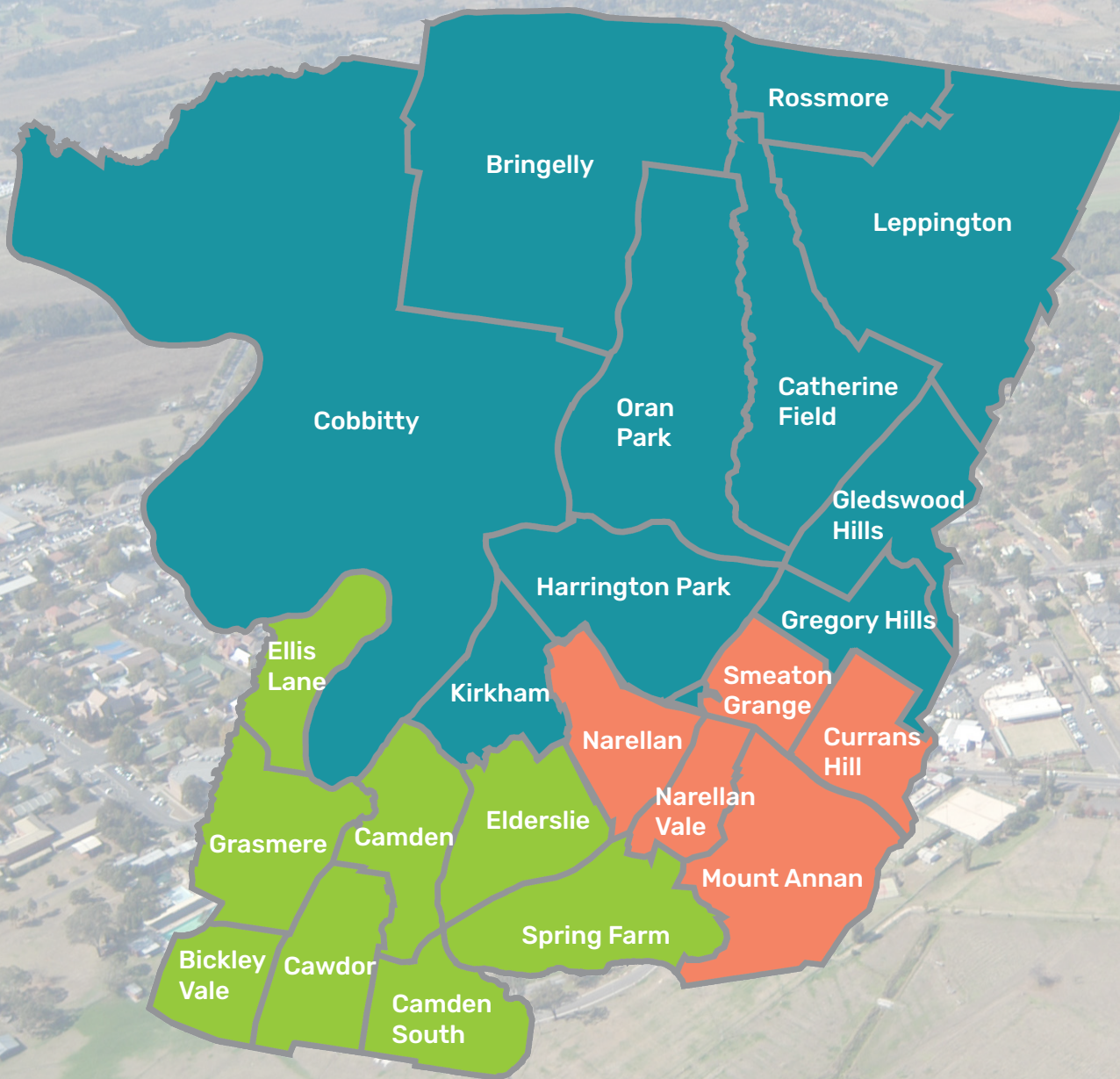
camden.nsw.gov.au/whats-on



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



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