

RANDWICK SCENE

All that Shimmers

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behind the Heffron
Centre artworks**

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a sense of community

Draft 2024 Budget

On exhibition now

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- halls for hire
- waste service
- on-call clean ups
- parking
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- precinct meetings
- parks and beaches
- rates
- trees
- roads

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Cover image:
Artists Carmen Glynn-Braun and Dennis Golding at Heffron Centre.
Photo: Joshua Morris.



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From the Mayor *Dylan Parker*

There is plenty to be excited about in this issue of SCENE magazine – I hope you take the time to have a cuppa and flick through the pages.

Firstly, there's the draft Operational Plan and Budget on page 8 – this article will give you an overview of what is outlined in the 2023-24 budget. There are some exciting projects on the horizon. I hope you have a good read and head to Your Say Randwick to comment.

We're very excited about the Heffron Centre opening to the public. This centre for sporting excellence is something the community has been crying out for – there's indoor basketball courts, futsal courts, a gymnastics centre and much more. Plus, it's the new home to the South Sydney Rabbitohs. I hope you can join us for the official Opening Day on Saturday 1 July – it'll be your chance to check it out and see what's on offer. Read page 10 to learn all about the stunning artwork that adorns the building and the meaning behind it.

Did you know that Council runs a community grants program called the Community Investment Program? This fund provides financial assistance for ideas, initiatives and services that are creative, inclusive, impactful or create a sense of community. Read page 14 to find out more about the program, how to apply and who has been successful in the past.

Finally, check out page 18 to learn all about waste and garbage! I was blown away to read the figures – a huge shout-out to all of our residents who prioritise recycling. Thank you for your efforts - they're making a difference.

Happy reading!

**Dylan Parker
Mayor of Randwick**



KOOJAY Be Kind Be Proud

CORRO BOREE

**Friday 26 May
Coogee Beach
11am**

FIND OUT MORE

**NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2023
BE A VOICE FOR GENERATIONS**

FREE EVENT

Celebrate Australia's oldest, continuous living culture on earth. Witness First Nations culture and history unfold in traditional and contemporary dance performances.

Join us in taking the next steps in our nation's reconciliation journey.



Randwick City Council
a sense of community

news in brief

Sign up to eNews for your weekly fix of Randwick Council news, projects, events and more.

randwick.nsw.gov.au/enews



Lit up for a cause

Randwick Town Hall could be joining the likes of the Sydney Opera House and Sydney Town Hall with a proposal to illuminate the building with vibrant LED coloured lights for special days and occasions. Council often receives requests to acknowledge charity and community organisations by lighting the Town Hall in colours specific to their cause. Council will produce new guidelines for considering future requests and consider allocating funding for lighting in future budgets.



McKeon Street Plaza to be permanent

After a six-month trial and extensive community consultation the McKean Street Plaza in Maroubra will be made permanent. The initial trial received grant funding from the NSW Government's Streets as Shared Spaces program. Council will look at an adjusted layout focusing on permanent infrastructure, updated signage, new planting, bike racks and improved accessibility and floor treatments.

Keep on moving

Randwick Council is currently working through community feedback on plans to activate Anzac Parade. Under the proposal, new walking and cycling connections would be built along the corridor from La Perouse to Kingsford to make it easier for people to choose healthier, safer and more convenient transport options. The proposal is guided by Council's Integrated Transport Strategy, and is part of long-term plans that aim to create an additional 30km of safe cycle routes by 2032.



Funding boost for children's cancer treatment

A program offering precision medicine to Australian children with the highest risk cancers has received \$67 million to expand its reach.

Led in partnership by Children's Cancer Institute and the Kids Cancer Centre at Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick, ZERO offers sophisticated genomic analysis for children enrolled in the program. It means scientists can look for any genetic alterations that may be driving the cancer's growth and then recommend specific drugs to clinicians to target those alterations.

To date, ZERO has offered precision medicine to Australian children with high-risk cancers facing less than 30 percent survival rate. However, the \$67 million funding boost from the Minderoo Foundation in partnership with the Australian Government will mean the program can be offered to all children diagnosed with cancer, irrespective of their cancer risk.

Randwick Council officially acknowledged the work of ZERO at a Council meeting in March following a minute moved by Mayor Dylan Parker.

Matraville masterplan underway

Matraville is set to become a whole lot easier for people to meet, dine and walk, with Council endorsing a 20-year masterplan for the Town Centre. Based on feedback from the community in 2021, the plan aims to create a distinctive town centre with gathering spaces and welcoming gateways, more outdoor dining and opportunities for community events. Key features of the plan include:

- Widened footpaths, reduced speed limit and provision for a future cycle way along Bunnerong Road (subject to support from the NSW Government)
- New and revitalised outdoor spaces for people to meet
- More pedestrian crossings
- Opportunities for Indigenous and local art installations
- New street furniture, lighting, landscaping and paving
- Increased tree planting and canopy coverage

Short term improvements, such as new paving and lighting, will commence in the next 12 months.



Get your fix of world's best flix

Randwick Council is proud to sponsor the Sydney Film Festival, which will be screened right here at Randwick's iconic Ritz Cinema. Immerse yourself in emotion and experience big feels with extraordinary cinema, red carpets, talks and parties. From 7 to 18 June. Visit sff.org.au for more details and ticket information.



Stair upgrade for Little Bay beachgoers

Weekday access to Little Bay Beach will be restricted this winter to upgrade the wooden stairs. The upgrade will widen the timber staircase with new Blackbutt timber treads using existing footings. Work started on 1 May and will continue for up to three months, taking place Monday to Friday 7am to 4pm. Access to the beach will be open on weekends and public holidays.

news in brief



Poster child for recycling efforts

Randwick City is continuing to make headway in the war on waste. Plastic corrugated posters can now be recycled as part of a new trial. Drop off any plastic 'corrugated' signs or posters at Randwick Recycling Centre - just be sure to remove any metal or plastic eyelets, cords or cable ties.

Randwick City Council recently started re-collecting soft plastics at the Recycling Centre and in the first month alone, collected more than 1.9 tonnes of soft plastic for recycling. Well done Randwick City!

Sparkling play for kids of all ages

A new playground offering fun for younger and older children alike will commence construction in May this year at Fitzpatrick Park in Kensington. "After consulting with regular users of the park in late 2021, we are building a playground that has equipment that caters to the interests and abilities of older children and that also creates more play opportunities for younger children and toddlers," Randwick Mayor Dylan Parker said.

Ravine House - Winner Best House (Rolf Ockert. Architect.)



We built this city: best architects awarded

A jaw-dropping home perched on the cliffs of South Coogee won best house at the Randwick Architecture and Urban Design Awards 2023. Ravine House (Rolf Ockert. Architect.) claimed first prize for Best House, with commendation awarded to the Japanese and Scandinavian inspired Rosewood House (Madeleine Blanchfield Architects). Winners in other categories included:

- **Best Alteration or Renovation:**
Zig Zag House - Stukel Architecture and Coogee Courtyard - SAHA
- **Best Apartment:** M - Montefiore / Jackson Teece
- **Best Urban Project:** 58 Carr Street - McGregor Westlake Architecture
- **Best Conservation Project:** Iririki House - Madeleine Blanchfield Architects
- **Best Sustainable Design:** Maroubra Residences - Sharon Campbell Architects
- **UNSW Student Design Awards:** SAPARK - Zihan (Eleanor) Tang
- **People's Choice Award:** Ravine House - Rolf Ockert. Architect

Check out the full 2023 Winners' gallery by searching 'Architecture and Urban Design Awards' on randwick.nsw.gov.au

Matildas live site

Randwick City will have the opportunity to cheer on the Matildas together as they compete in the 2023 Football World Cup in July and August. Councillors voted to install a live-site at Heffron Park so the community could gather together and enjoy the competition. Seven games, including the grand final, will be telecast as free, ticketed events on an outdoor screen. Council will engage local football clubs and food trucks for the event. Go the Matildas!



NOX Festival postponed

Night festival enthusiasts will have to wait a little longer for the return of NOX, which unfortunately will not be going ahead this year. The festival is a partnership between Council and UNSW, and is designed to highlight the works of art by design students with a 1.5km loop of sculpture works in Randwick Environment Park, all powered by renewable energy sources.

While the biennial event was due to take place in 2023, a lack of students undertaking the course has meant this year's event won't proceed. Instead, Council will redirect the funds allocated to the festival into other public art initiatives, which could include artwork to recognise Aboriginal heritage, a partnership with Sydney Biennale and reusing the pylon footings from the former Coogee Pier. NOX will hopefully make a comeback in 2025.

SYDNEY
FILM
FESTIVAL

SEE IT ALL

7-18
JUNE
2023

Affire

Bob Wine:
The People's President

Rachel's Farm

L'immensità

Red, White & Brass

Subject

SEE IT ALL AT RITZ CINEMAS

NSW
GOVERNMENT

SYDNEY
CITY OF FILM

CITY OF SYDNEY

Australian Government

Screen
Australia

Randwick City
Council
a sense of community

A look ahead for 2023-24

Our draft Operational Plan and Budget spells out exactly how we spend your rates from year-to-year. With so many differing priorities across our great City, this important document helps prioritise projects and clearly sets objectives for each area of Council. Here's what's on the cards for 2023-24...

In planning

The following projects will have funds allocated towards them from from the 2023-24 budget. Council will continue planning for the project so construction can begin in the future. Planning may include community consultation, research and feasibility, design and architecture, or tender processes.

- Maroubra Surf Life Saving Club building replacement
- Coogee Beach amenities, bus shelter and kiosk/cafe
- Snape Park amenities, including indoor cricket facilities and carparking
- Latham Park amenities upgrade
- Randwick Literary Institute upgrade
- Newmarket stables for possible fit-out as a cultural hub
- Heffron Park central amenities including irrigation

To begin construction

The following projects will begin construction in the 2023-24 financial year.

Heffron Netball Courts shade structure

A shade structure will be built over some of the netball courts at Heffron Park providing an all-weather playing surface.

Clovelly & Carrington Rd Pocket Park

Using the existing median strip and the slip lane, a new public space for the community will be created.

BMX Pump Park

A new BMX pump bike track will begin construction in Randwick City, following the completion of the design phase and community consultation.

Under construction now

The following projects are currently under construction and will be finished in the 2023-24 financial year.

Matraville Youth and Cultural Hall

This new hall will have a forecourt, accessible bathrooms, kitchen, bicycle racks as well as landscaping and miscellaneous civil works.

Waratah Plaza, Randwick

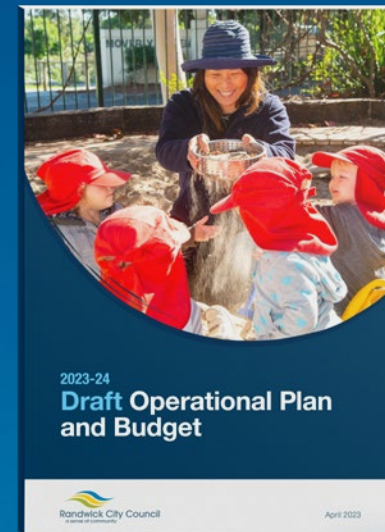
Waratah Avenue is set to become a new urban plaza in the heart of Randwick Junction by closing the avenue to vehicles between Belmore Road and Arthur Lane.

Des Renford Splash Park

A new splash park for kids is under construction at DRLC. It will have a beach theme design and promote fun, safe, water play for young children.

Arthur Byrne Amenities and Surf Club Facilities

Located at the south end of Maroubra Beach this project will provide the grassed BBQ and picnic area with much-needed amenities, including outdoor showers, as well as provide facilities for South Maroubra Surf Life Saving Club.



There is a lot more detail in our Budget and Operational Plan – scan the QR code if you'd like to read it,



Gyms and kids

Fitness buffs and kids will not be forgotten in this year's budget with the following playgrounds and gyms in the plans:

Playground upgrades - This year, we'll be upgrading four playgrounds including Grant Reserve (Coogee), Wills Reserve (Kensington), Woomera Reserve (Little Bay) and Dr Walters Park (Chifley).

New outdoor gyms - We'll be adding two new outdoor gyms to our portfolio this year – one in Purcell Park, Matraville and one in Woomera Reserve, Little Bay.



Getting around

Keeping our footpaths and roads in top-notch condition is our priority. Beginning in August 2023, we'll be building or renewing approximately 3km of footpaths across the City. Plus, we'll be resurfacing 4.6km of road.

Events & culture update

In addition to Council's popular major events, we'll develop a program of events and activities that recognise, value and celebrate our First Nations history and preserve and tell the stories of the cultural heritage of our City.

We'll be looking at ways to enhance our City by implementing our public art plan, which will result in a number of new public art installations throughout Randwick City.

Additionally, we'll look into developing a laneway revitalisation plan, which will consider how laneways in our City can be activated to provide opportunity for cultural expression.

Sustainability

With the goal of increasing our City's green canopy, we'll be planting 5,000 new and native indigenous plants, including 1,000 new trees. These new plantings will improve connectivity to bushland areas, as well as provide habitat, shade and heat reduction benefits.

We'll be creating 40 new bicycle parking spots to make bike riding around our City easier and we'll be building five new publicly accessible EV parking stations. At the northern end of Maroubra Beach, we'll be installing a new Gross Pollutant Trap, which will capture debris and litter preventing it from flowing into the ocean.

How it affects you

Council's total rates revenue is proposed to increase by 3.7%. This is inline with the rate peg as determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW.

The domestic waste management charge is proposed to rise by \$25.50 per annum, which is a 4% increase on last year.

Shimmering treasure

Layers of storytelling and local Aboriginal customs are embodied in the artworks that take pride of place at the newly completed Heffron Centre. Artists Carmen Glynn-Braun and Dennis Golding shed light on the connections to Country woven into their work.

Like shimmering treasures to be discovered, the golden-hued artworks in the form of painted motifs, decals and sculptured bronze, wrap around the Heffron Centre's exterior and float through to the interior, ready to catch the light of the sun and the eye of visitors.

Although differing in medium, the artworks carry the joint title *Shimmer* and through various glimmering depictions, celebrate local wildlife such as stingrays, barrow hawks as well as the annual winter mullet run that has sustained Aboriginal people in Kamay Botany Bay for generations.

"We titled all the works *Shimmer* because they're all interconnected in how they reflect light, like the sun off the water," Carmen said.

"It's not just about reflection in a literal sense, but also about reflection of the past and listening, and especially listening to elders."

The placement of the golden artworks on the exterior of the building was intentional. "The sun interacts with it twice a day, as it would on top of the water with the mullet flowing through the water below," explained Carmen.

Telling a story

The lines and flow of the artwork carry your eye through layers of history, connecting the contemporary surrounds to visions of the past. What is striking about the works is the way a topographical lens has been employed in the storytelling.

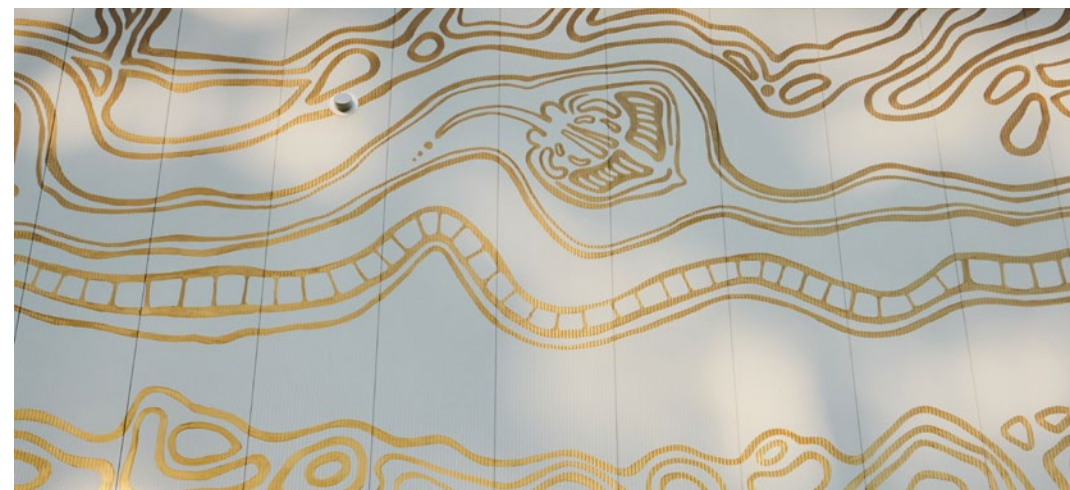
"Throughout the artworks we've looked at the coastline to be a very important part of the storytelling," shared Dennis. "You know, really looking at the Country from a top view of where Aboriginal people have travelled across these different areas of the coastline."

As an important part of their artistic practice, when creating new pieces, the pair explained they always make efforts to consult with local elders from the place where their artwork will be installed or exhibited. For this project, Carmen and Dennis engaged with local knowledge holder Uncle Steve Russell, taking advice on which direction their artworks should take.

Through consultation with Uncle Steve Russell, they began to turn their attention to local Aboriginal iconography. As a next step, the pair conducted research and visited local museums, which is where their interest in illustrating objects from Country as elements of cultural practice began to grow.

"Looking at how Aboriginal people have used parts of Country like stones, rocks or anything that they pick up from Country as a tool for fishing or a tool for making, we really wanted to highlight the tools as this kind of process of knowing," explained Dennis.

"We wanted to show how Aboriginal people know their country and have this cultural knowledge and a connection to this landscape. We were able to tell those stories through these objects and illustrating them, like we're looking at Country from a top view, creates this flow."



Layers of meaning

The notion of flow is powerful in *Shimmer* as it speaks to the movement of passing time, the continuation of cultural practice and the concept of layered meaning.

As the artists explained, they wanted to do more than just depict the stones, plants and shells in their original form.

"By understanding the shape of these objects and considering how they might look like other objects such as marine life, and the fish that fly through the coastline and float through Botany Bay, that's another layer of connecting history, cultural practice and contemporary experience of what Aboriginal people do today along the coast," said Dennis.

The great scale of the installation, stretching along walls and windows, paired with the way the sun dances along each flowing line and rounded edge, brings an element of awe to *Shimmer*, almost as if the artworks are alive.

This wonderful physical aspect of the work aligns with its conceptual underpinnings, specifically, a deep respect for Aboriginal culture and an enduring connection to Country.

"We really want visitors to understand local histories, the cultural practices and contemporary experiences of Aboriginal people on this Country,"

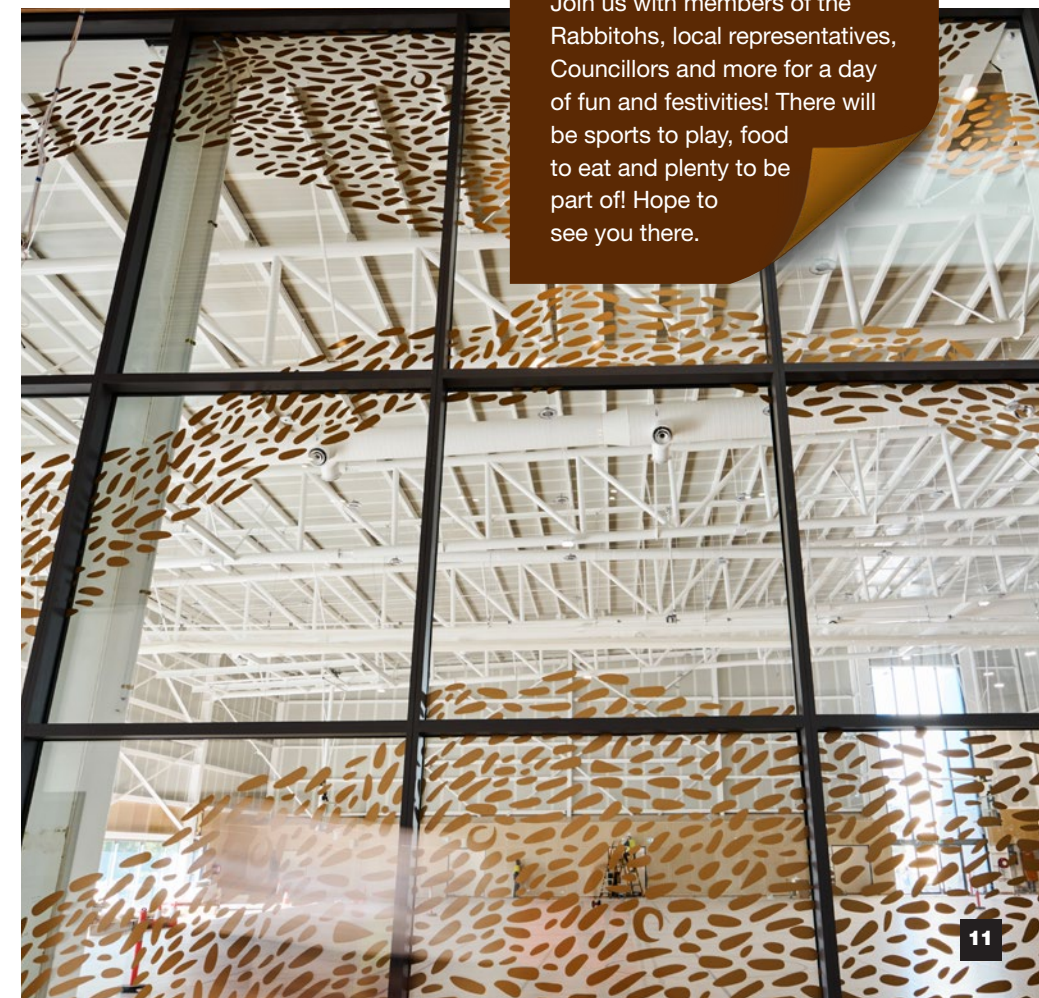
When asked about the intended message of *Shimmer*, the pair emphasised the importance of acknowledging Aboriginal people and how they've cared for Country.

"We really want visitors to understand local histories, the cultural practices and contemporary experiences of Aboriginal people on this Country," shared Dennis.

Whether you visit the new Heffron Centre as the sun moves through the sky, or as it sets, your eye will be drawn to *Shimmer*, mesmerised by the stories of Country that wrap the building as they wrap the land on which it stands.

You're invited!

Come along to the grand-opening day of the Heffron Centre on **Saturday 1 July**. Join us with members of the Rabbitohs, local representatives, Councillors and more for a day of fun and festivities! There will be sports to play, food to eat and plenty to be part of! Hope to see you there.



The history of Heffron Park

From wetlands to farmlands to migration and sports centres - Heffron Park is a smorgasbord of local history, writes Randwick Council's Local Studies Librarian, Georgina Keep.



View of Bunnerong Labour Depot and Refuge, 1909. (Courtesy: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW)

The land at Heffron Park is part of a complex natural ecosystem we know as 'The Botany Wetlands'. This ecosystem stretches from Gamay (Botany) Bay all the way north to Centennial Park. It's integral to our environmental heritage and tells the story of our City's landscape.

For thousands of years cultivating food and shelter on these wetlands quickly became a bountiful way of life for the Gadigal and Bidjigal peoples. Covered in Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub, the area provided freshwater, food and materials.

In contrast, in early post-European settlement, this landscape was dominated by heavy industry such as wool mills and tanneries, polluting the wetlands with industrial waste. These same wetlands were also used as Sydney's third water supply after the Tank Stream and Busby's Bore were exhausted.

In the late nineteenth century, further environmental degradation occurred when part of the wetlands at Maroubra was drained to become the site of The Bunnerong Labour Depot and Refuge - an initiative of the NSW state government.

The *Labour Depot and Refuge* served the dual purpose of providing temporary shelter and employment for men at the height of the 1890s economic depression. It aimed to rescue men from unemployment, rough sleeping, alcohol abuse, starvation, and other harms facing the wider Sydney population at the time, while also training young boys, teaching skills that would lead to employment opportunities. Produce was sold to recoup operating costs and help feed the struggling Sydney population.

Referred to by everyone as 'Bunnerong Farm', by the end of WWI these Crown Lands, incorporating the farm, had served their agricultural purpose. Subdivision for private housing received the green light.

Yet, the sandy terrain failed to sell. Eventually, the state Town Planning Advisory Board were advised by the Master Builders that the land wasn't ideal for building, and it was recommended to be made into sports fields, which is how Bunnerong Park came into existence.

The earliest official references to Bunnerong Park as a sporting field occurs in the NSW Government

Gazette, on 4 December 1936, when it was assigned as 'Public Recreation and Playing Field'. This name remained until the park was re-dedicated in late 1955 in honour of local Member for both Botany and Maroubra and later Premier of NSW, Robert (Bob) Heffron.

Early sporting groups made good use of the largest dedicated sporting space in our city, yet during World War II, Heffron Park was commandeered for naval stores and roads were erected. Some of these dome shaped steel huts (called Nissan huts) were still in existence until recently.

Shortly after World War Two, the Commonwealth government, desperate to house the influx of post war migrants, established the Bunnerong Migrant Hostel in the old naval stores at Bunnerong Park. The facilities and living conditions were considered 'one of the worst in Australia'. Meant for storage not accommodation, the huts were not properly insulated - hot in summer and cold in winter. The migrants were forced to eat in a dormitory-style mess hall, which they argued prevented privacy and any ability to have a normal family life.

The situation came to a head in July 1953 when a group of migrants broke ranks and refused to pay for food. Still paying rent, the group refused to pay for the army style catering. They enlisted the support of local politicians at all levels.

Randwick Council was supportive of the migrants. Aldermen Harry Jensen and Lionel Bowen were especially strong advocates, highlighting the plight of the migrants at Bunnerong.

During this dispute in 1953, then Commonwealth Minister for Immigration and later PM, Harold Holt, stood in the Federal Parliament and blamed Communist infiltrators for the unrest at Bunnerong Hostel. Regardless, there was considerable community support for the British ex-servicemen all of whom had exemplary service records.

Bunnerong Farm Crown Lands 1st Subdivision, Saturday 6 February 1926. This poster shows land for sale with the map in the bottom right hand corner locating the land in reference to the well-known Bunnerong Farm. (Randwick City Library)



Group of migrant children in their 'Sunday Best' for Marilyn's birthday party at Bunnerong Migrant Hostel 1951-1953 (Marilyn Wilson Collection: Randwick City Library)



Gordon James Choake holding his baby daughter Marilyn Wilson at Bunnerong Migrant Hostel 1951-1953. Gordon went on to work at Bunnerong Power Plant. (Marilyn Wilson Collection: Randwick City Library)

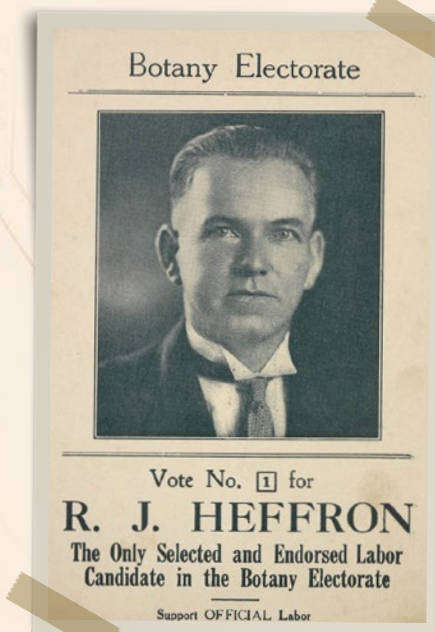
The discontent with the conditions and social limitations at Bunnerong Hostel was real. Eventually the British Housing Co-operative was formed by the migrants, who purchased 10 acres of scrub-covered housing commission land at Malabar. A total of 47 families built and financed their own homes under this cooperative, each family helping the other with construction and labour.

At the time, Bunnerong Parkland was still designated for recreational use by locals who had been waiting patiently for the return of the open space since war's end. Alderman Jensen declared the agency in charge of the migrant hostels had no right to occupy the land. The park eventually came back to local use at the end of 1955 and was now named 'Heffron Park'.

Plans to build an Olympic standard pool in the 1950s were inspired by Australia's golden age of swimming at post-war Olympic games. This was the impetus behind the construction of the pool facilities in Heffron Park, ultimately evolving into the Des Renford Leisure Centre of today.

Des Renford was a renowned marathon swimmer who crossed the English Channel 19 times. The former Heffron Park Pool was renamed in his honour on 1 March 2000, shortly after his death. His name is synonymous with the aquatic centre, which locals commonly refer to as Des Renford.

Athletics, gymnastics, netball, cycling, swimming, soccer, cricket and tennis all have a long-standing association with Heffron Park, which has become Randwick City's sporting mecca. Now, the history of sport at Heffron Park is about to be taken to the next level with the opening of the new Heffron Centre, a centre for sporting excellence and new home to the South Sydney Rabbitohs.



Election pamphlet of Robert James Heffron, as the Australian Labor Party candidate for the seat of Botany at the 1927 NSW state election. (T. D. Mutch - papers, 1907-1957, held by State Library of NSW)

Backing our community

Community is at the heart of Randwick City and at the forefront of Council's Community Investment Program. With close to half a million dollars being awarded each year, here's a closer look at what this program is all about and how you can get involved.

From street art to fundraisers to exhibitions and events, our Community Investment Program is aimed at empowering local groups and individuals by providing financial assistance that supports local initiatives, ideas and services - all with the goal of building a sense of community.

How does it work?

The program consists of a range of streams that focus on different needs in our community. Streams include:

- **Community Partnerships** – open to incorporated, not-for-profit social service organisations only. Funding is available for one- two- or three-year projects for a maximum grant of \$20,000 per year. Applications open at varying times throughout the year.
- **Community Sustainable** – provides support to houses, units, businesses and schools in Randwick City who are implementing environmental initiatives. Applications open all year round.

- **Community Connect** – aims to support and develop a sense of community through events and activities that enrich the lives of our residents, cultivate engagement, and create a sense of belonging. Up to \$10,000 in support or in-kind support (such as waiving of fees) available. Three rounds of applications open each year.
- **Community Creative** – supports the growth of creativity by funding a range of projects and activities that provide opportunities to connect communities and showcase creative arts and culture within the City. Up to \$10,000 in financial and in-kind support available. Three rounds of applications open each year.

What are the guidelines?

The Community Connect stream aims to award financial aid to individuals, or non-profit organisations to help them development and execute projects that support social cohesion and belonging.

To be eligible, recipients must coordinate a non-profit initiative based in Randwick City or that directly benefits the Randwick community.

Ultimately, the program aims to fund ideas and projects that are inclusive, needs-based and conducive to building a strong sense of community.

The grants award up to \$10,000 (\$3,000 for sole traders) to recipients, as well as the waiving of Council venue fees, to help fund the projects.

Community INVESTMENT PROGRAM



The Community Creative stream offers funding for artistic projects and activities that foster creative growth and expression to Randwick residents. Organisations as well as individual artists are eligible to apply for this grant. The grant funds various artistic endeavours, such as producing and exhibiting new work to the community, as well as funding research and development for new creative forms. It also aims to fund projects and programs that involve creating opportunities for community members to participate in artistic and cultural activities or workshops.

How do I apply?

Have you got a creative idea you'd like to explore? Or an idea that will bring the community together? We'd love to hear from you.

Round two of our Community Connect and Community Creative grants are now open, with applications closing on June 11. Round three will open on 18 September, closing 15 October. Applications are made online through the SmartyGrants website. If you need help applying, contact Council. For further information, see our website:



Grant recipients

We've had so many wonderful applicants who are all putting community and creativity at the heart of what they do! Here's some past grant recipients.



THIS IS WHO I AM

Jeremy Goldstein was able to bring his theatre project, THIS IS WHO I AM, to life with the help of a Community Creative grant. This theatre project features a series of autobiographic monologues from local members from the Burger Centre, a senior's support centre. The project fosters a positive perception of Randwick's ageing community by bringing untold stories to light.



Supported Playgroup

A Community Connect grant funded the local Supported Playgroup initiative, coordinated by South-Eastern Community Connect. This group provides a safe space and opportunity for both parents and children to socialise as they engage in a range of activities and a shared morning tea.



WEAVE Kool Kids drama!

WEAVE Kool Kids after-school program was able to be expanded thanks to a Community Creative Grant, which meant a new 8-week drama program has been added. Led by the experienced professionals from Milk Crate Theatre, the program will help participants develop original stories and showcase them to their family and friends.



La Perouse Aboriginal Community Fun Day

La Perouse United Junior Rugby League Football Club received funds from the Community Connect grant to aid in organising a La Perouse Aboriginal Community Fun Day. This all-inclusive fun day celebrates the connectedness of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community members in Randwick city.



Run Swim Coogee

A Community Connect grant and the waiving of fees helps support events such as Run Swim Coogee, hosted by Coogee Surf Life Saving Club. This event gives the community an opportunity to compete and enjoy our wonderful coastline in a safe and positive environment.



COVID heroes celebrated!

Local artist Sandra Cipriotti used a Creative Community grant to create street banners that celebrated our COVID heroes. The banners featured brightly coloured original artworks painted by the artist, which and were funded by our Community Creative grants.



McIver's Ladies Baths Celebrated

Recipients of a Community Creative grant, The Randwick and Coogee Ladies Swimming Association, has directed their funds to create a record of the generations of women and their families who have volunteered at McIver's Ladies Baths in Coogee for over a century. Due to be exhibited at Bowen Library in August 2023, it will showcase a historic collection of private and public records and artefacts that chronicle the remarkable people who have helped create, maintain and defend McIver's Ladies Baths as a safe place for women and children to swim.



First hand story telling

The team at First-Hand Solutions use grant funding to help run their BlakMarkets at Bare Island. They'll also be working with Aboriginal elder, artist and scholar Peter McKenzie to create their exhibition, 'Catch N Cook'. Funds will be directed towards compiling historical research and interviews with members of the community, in order to tell the culturally significant story of fishing and the Aboriginal community of La Perouse.

For more information on all of our investment streams and how to apply, check our website or scan here:



If you're interested in learning more about our Community Partnerships or Community Sustainable streams, please scan these codes to learn more:

Community Partnerships



Community Sustainable



Talking sport, talking memories

Speaking with local sporting stars Jasmin Allende and Alan Daly about Talking Sport on show at the La Perouse Museum, it's clear the exhibition is more than just a hall of fame, it's a celebration of the far-reaching impact of sport in community life.

An exhibition that brings the pages of history to life is now on show at the La Perouse Museum, featuring memories from the La Perouse Aboriginal community.

Talking Sport is a community-led exhibition, curated by members of the La Perouse Aboriginal community including community elder Aunty Marion Russell and Alan Daly. The exhibition is filled with sporting memorabilia such as jerseys, blazers, trophies, bats and balls, as well as photographs, videos and stories from the past.

As the exhibition evolved, the overall picture changed from a classic hall of fame and transcended into something much more meaningful.

"It became clear through working with community leaders that this exhibition is more about memory. It's very much about how sport and community are integrated," explained Roxanne Fea, Head of the La Perouse Museum.

As memories were shared, gems of sporting history came to the surface, such as stories from Aunty Marjorie Dixon, Aunty Lorraine Lester, Aunty Marilyn Russell and Carrine Liddell of lesser-known sports from days gone by such as cricko and vigoro, both versions of cricket.

"We went on this partnership journey with the community and all these amazing stories came out, particularly from some of the women. There are some incredible women in the show, some who paved the way for girls in sport today and some younger people who are mentors in the community, like Jasmin Allende," shared Roxanne.

"As all the stories came out, and as they keep coming out as people visit the exhibition, we're seeing that it's the little things that make the difference."

Sitting in the space of the exhibition hall with Jasmin, with memories of sport, community spirit and local history filling the walls, it's hard not feel in awe of the deeply rooted significance of sport in the La Perouse Aboriginal community.

Jasmin is a young leader in her community, an ex-Rabbitohs player and a local sporting hero. Visibly moved by the stories in the room, she shared her gratitude for Aboriginal women in sport who have opened the sporting world up to young women like herself.

Jasmin Allende holding her La Perouse Panthers Aboriginal Knockout jersey.



"Some of the women in the exhibition have really paved the way for women's sport and have been big advocates of us playing and big supporters," shared Jasmin.

In the past, women were met with red tape and if they were ever allowed to play, they often had to pay to play professionally, which is the story Jasmin was familiar with as she was growing up. As a result, Jasmin never in her wildest dreams thought playing professional rugby was an option for her.

"These women, they've kept going and the fact that they kept going meant that I got the chance to represent my country and not have to pay to play," shared Jasmin.

Very humbly noting her own role in women's representation in sport, Jasmin said, "Hopefully the girls after me will get to do it as a full-time job. I think it's great now that there are girls who are little who know they can play women's sport. This all started from somewhere, but it definitely all started from these women playing sports."

Speaking from somewhere close to her heart, Jasmin spoke about her favourite aspect of playing professionally. "Getting to feel like I represent my mob, my people, because I always say it - if one of us makes it, we all make it with them. It feels like we all made it because they're representing us."

Alan Daly, Talking Sport Community Lead and Director of the La Perouse Panthers Sporting Aboriginal Corporation, shared a similar admiration for the Aboriginal men and women who dedicated their lives to sport and opened the door for the next generation.

Reflecting on the process of hearing everyone's memories, Alan shared, "I was really intrigued to listen to all the old background stories, especially from

the women. When I was a bit younger, I remember a lot of the girls playing for New South Wales in vigoro, but I didn't know much about where it came from, you know, seeing with Aunty Marj and having a chat to her, gave me a little bit of a perspective on how influential these older women were in regard to influencing the next generation of athletes."

"It's the people that turn up, on the weekdays or weekends and spend time to ensure that the rest of the community gets to access, to thrive in the sport. It's the grassroots level that really inspired a lot of the top athletes in the community," said Alan.

There's no doubt that sport brings people together, but in La Perouse, it's clear that local sporting memories are inexorably intertwined with a strong sense of community spirit.

The exhibition is on show until 19 October 2023. The museum opening hours are Wednesday and Friday, 10am-2pm and weekends, 10am-4pm.

Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders should be aware that this exhibition Talking Sport contains images or references to names of deceased persons in written histories, recordings, artworks, descriptions and in photographs.



Alan Daly with a photograph of his grandfather, boxing champion Uncle Les Davison.



Vigoro bat and sporting trophies, and a Rosellas Vigoro Team hat.



Signed ball from the 1991 Koori Knockout Final (rear) / Rugby ball painted by Jordan Ardler (front).



Rubbish talk

If there's one thing you rely on us for, it's getting rid of your waste. So, how much are we picking up? And what's being recycled? Here's a deep-dive into the world of waste and recycling at Randwick City Council.



Household waste

We empty between 11,000 – 12,000 bins every day, Monday to Friday. Each day, we pick up the following:

- FOGO – approximately 4,100 bins per day, which is around 58,000kg of organics composted.
- Recycling – approximately 3,125 bins per day, which sends 37,000kg to be recycled.
- Red bin – approximately 4,155 bins per day, which is 82,000kg going to landfill.



Randwick Recycling Centre

Our Randwick Recycling Centre accepts a variety of products for recycling - please consider it as the first place to drop off your unwanted items before tossing them in the red bin for landfill. In the first quarter of 2023, we've recycled:

- 5,797kg of electronic waste
- 6,118kg of wearable clothing
- 2,676kg polystyrene
- 18,846kg of paint
- 4 pallets of plastic coreflute posters



Dumped rubbish

So far this year, we've responded to almost 4,000 reports of illegally dumped rubbish – this includes old furniture, old bbqs, mattresses, garbage, etc. Each household in Randwick City is entitled to five free clean-up collections that you can book at any time throughout the year. In the first four months of this year, we've picked up 8,703 booked clean ups from outside people's homes. Want to book a clean up? Scan this code:



Public bins

We have about 550 public litter bins throughout Randwick City. In areas such as our shopping and business precincts these bins are emptied once or twice each day. Bins in our busiest areas – such as beaches and beachside parks are emptied several times a day. At the height of summer, we'll bring in extra bins to help with the volume, with sometimes up to 100 additional bins in Coogee alone. Plus, we'll keep garbage trucks stationed in Coogee and Maroubra to ensure the bins are emptied as regularly as possible.

We also have 40 public recycling bins at our busy beaches and town centres. In the warmer months, we're able to divert 2000kg of waste from landfill with these bins each week!



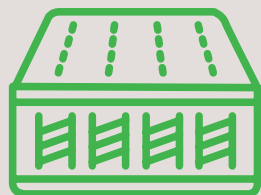
Plastics too!

When soft plastics recycling was paused at the end of 2022, we worked hard to find a solution for our community. Earlier this year, we partnered with Plasmar, who recycle plastics into practical products such as wheel stops, posts and bollards. We've recycled nearly three tonnes of soft plastics since starting this service and around 1,000kg of hard plastics!



Coffee cup recycling

Towards the end of 2022, we partnered with a specialist coffee cup recycler called Simply Cups. We placed unique coffee cup recycling containers at Coogee Beach and DRLC. So far, we've recycled 14,235 coffee cups and lids, which is about 1,600 cups per month!



Mattresses

Did you know we recycle mattresses? We pick up around 1,500 mattresses for recycling every single month. The mattresses are torn into parts and recycled separately. Or, if they're good condition, they are recovered and donated to charity organisations.

Where does it go?

	Yellow bin	FOGO	Recycling Centre	Red bin
Hard plastic toys			✓	✓
Clothing (still useful)			✓	
Clothing (can't be used again)				✓
Coffee cups				✓
Soft plastics wrappers or bags			✓	
Shellfish		✓		
Chicken bones		✓		
Pizza boxes	✓			
Polystyrene			✓	
Household batteries (AAA, AA, etc)			✓	
Pet poo				✓
Small electronics (toaster, kettle, etc)			✓	
USBs, old chargers, old phones			✓	
Baking Paper (including compostable paper)				✓
Cooking oil and fats		✓		
Hay or straw		✓		
Pet food		✓		
Cardboard boxes	✓		✓	

Putting our wildlife first

Our furry friends deserve all the help they can get - and so do the wonderful volunteers of WIRES East.



Rescued juvenile possums being 'buddied up' prior to release while in care with WIRES East branch.

The wildlife of Sydney's east can rejoice! A new shelter for WIRES East branch will be built in Munda Street Reserve, Randwick and will service injured and rescued wildlife from the entire Eastern Suburbs of Sydney.

The new shelter will replace the existing WIRES facility, which is currently located near the Randwick Community Centre. The facility will be environmentally friendly and will result in animal enclosures that are much easier to clean and maintain.

This much-needed upgrade will allow the WIRES East branch volunteers, the majority of whom live in Randwick City, to be able to better tend to the sick and injured wildlife that come through the shelter.

WIRES volunteers work 365 days a year, rescuing more than 3500 animals in Sydney's Eastern suburbs annually.

"We're looking forward to having a facility that is able to be cleaned more easily and is much safer for both our wildlife and our volunteers," said Kirsten Armstrong, a volunteer from WIRES East.

The WIRES East branch covers a diverse and a densely populated area with a range of environments, including ocean and harbour beaches, steep cliffs, small waterways, expansive parklands as well as trees within an urban environment.

This diversity allows for an abundance of wildlife in the area, including possums, bats, flying foxes, turtles, lizards and a variety of birds including fairy penguins, herons, cockatoos, kookaburras, lorikeets, pelicans and more.

"We are lucky to have so many unique animals in our own backyards. They are beautiful to simply watch and enjoy, but they mean so much more. They help keep our ecosystems functional, pollinate our plants, keep mosquitos at bay, and keep our bushland alive and healthy," said Kirsten.

Last year Kirsten rescued a brushtail possum whose head became stuck in a drainpipe. A member of public in Randwick had heard his cries but it was a few days before he could be located and rescued.

"Truba as he became known (it's Ukrainian for pipe or tube) was incredibly dehydrated and had terrible injuries to his face and mouth, so I wasn't sure if he'd make it," said Kirsten. He spent six weeks being hand fed baby food at Kirsten's home and being given pain medication, eye drops and cream for his skin.



Truba when he arrived in care.

Eventually Truba was able to transfer to the WIRES facility in Randwick, where he regained his muscle strength and got used to eating native foliage again.

"The whole WIRES East team were really excited when we were finally able to release Truba with his own possum box to a local park," said Kirsten.

"With so many threats to our wildlife - such as habitat loss due to urbanisation, road traffic and plastic pollution - it's important we do all we can to look after them," she said.

The new facility will help WIRES volunteers keep up their good work. The project will be made possible by a \$400,000 grant under the NSW Government's Metropolitan Greenspace program, which is being matched by Randwick Council, with a contribution from WIRES too.

Currently, design and documentation is taking place, with the plans expected to be put on public exhibition later this year and construction anticipated to begin in 2024.



After weeks of care, Truba ready for release.

Orphaned possum joey rescued and raised by WIRES East branch.

"We are lucky to have so many unique animals in our own backyards. They are beautiful to simply watch and enjoy, but they mean so much more. They help keep our ecosystems functional, pollinate our plants, keep mosquitos at bay, and keep our bushland alive and healthy."



Kirsten Armstrong, WIRES volunteer and Mayor Dylan Parker.



WIRES East Branch rescuers and carers (L to R): **Belinda Head** - WIRES East Treasurer; **Stephanie Carrick** - WIRES East Media officer; **Eliana Leopold** - WIRES East Chair; **Imogen Hourn** - WIRES East Purchase Officer; **Sonja Woodwell** - WIRES East 2IC Possums and Emergency Coordinator

New public space for Kingsford

A former road is now a public plaza for people to gather, eat and socialise helping to activate vibrant Kingsford.

Opening one month ahead of schedule, the \$1.5 million Meeks St Plaza has delivered on a plan to create an inviting space for people to gather, dine and work, host community events and encourage foot traffic to local businesses.

Randwick Council's Coordinator Projects Joe Santangelo said changes in recent years to how people live and work has made shared community spaces even more important.

"The hybrid work environment in particular has meant that folks might like to work outside from time to time. They're able to grab a coffee, sit down in one of these spaces and work productively."

Visitors to Meeks Street Plaza will notice new paving, lighting, trees and shrubs, a large grass lawn and a timber performance stage; providing opportunities to support local buskers and musicians, along with pop up events like markets and fetes.

During the eight months of construction, workers carefully moved

powerlines underground and installed new street banner poles. Sustainability was also a key consideration, with a new water permeable asphalt on the adjacent carpark draining to a retention tank sitting underneath the lawn.

Close to the university and hospital precincts, Meeks Street has a long-standing history as a meeting place for Kingsford locals and visitors alike. It was closed to traffic in August 2016 during the light rail works to create a temporary community space, before Council undertook significant community consultation in 2019 on plans for a permanent plaza. Its completion forms part of a broader placemaking strategy that will identify ways Council can work with the community and businesses to further revitalise the area.

"We're certainly looking at how we can activate different spaces - spaces not traditionally seen as areas for alfresco dining or for events - across the LGA. It's quite exciting that we can use lots of different areas in lots of different ways," said Richard Old,

Randwick Council's Economic Development Specialist.

Anyone who would like to share specific ideas on ways to activate Meeks Street Plaza should contact the Council at business@randwick.nsw.gov.au

GRAND OPENING

Join us for the official opening of Meeks Street Plaza on Saturday 17 June from 4pm until 8pm. There will be live music and entertainment, with official proceedings kicking off at 5pm. For further information, sign up to Randwick Council's e-news at randwick.nsw.gov.au and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

What's on



May to August 2023

MAY



Talking Sport

TALKING SPORT EXHIBITION

Friday 17 March – Sunday 29 October

Community Galleries
La Perouse Museum

EXHIBITION: TEA PARTY IN THE MAYORAL GARDEN

Tuesday 2 May – Sunday 30 July
Lionel Bowen Library

KOOJAY CORROBORREE

Friday 26 May
Coogee Beach

RECONCILIATION WEEK

Saturday 27 May – Saturday 3 June
Coogee Beach

FRAGILE BEAUTY, PAINTED LINOCUTS - RACHEL NEWLING AT THE BAYVIEW

Sunday 28 May – Sunday 3 September
La Perouse Museum

JUNE

NEXT CHAPTER ART GROUP

Thursday 1 June (first Thursday of every month until 7 December), 10:30am-12pm

Margaret Martin Library

ANIME CLUB (12-18 YEARS)

Thursday 1 June (first Thursday of every month until 7 December), 4-6pm

Lionel Bowen Library

PERMABEE

Friday 2 June (every Friday), 9am-12.30pm

Sustainable Classroom at
Randwick Sustainability Hub

FOOD FORESTRY

Friday 2 June (every Friday until 30 June), 1.30-4pm

Randwick Community Centre

SLOW FASHION AND TEXTILES GROUP

Tuesday 6 June (every Tuesday morning), 9:30am

Sustainable Classroom at
Randwick Sustainability Hub

AUTHOR TALK: JAN LATTA "DOING IT MY WAY"

Wednesday 14 June, 6:30-7:30pm
Margaret Martin Library

INTRODUCTION TO WEAVING WORKSHOP WITH MALIMA

Saturday 17 June, 1-2.30pm
La Perouse Museum



MINDFULNESS MEDITATION WORKSHOP

Thursday 22 June, 10.30am-1pm
Lionel Bowen Library

MAKING MOSAIC TILES

Wednesday 28 June, 10am-12pm
Lionel Bowen Library



TALKING TECH: WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY

Wednesday 28 June, 3.30-4.30pm
Lionel Bowen Library

UKULELE INTERMEDIATE STRUMMING CLUB

Friday 30 June (last Friday of every month until 22 December), 10.30-11.30am

Lionel Bowen Library

JULY

HEFFRON CENTRE OFFICIAL OPENING

Saturday 1 July
Heffron Park, Maroubra

GARDENING ON THE WILDSIDE

Friday 21 July (every Friday until 22 September), 1.30-4pm

Sustainable Classroom at
Randwick Sustainability Hub



BEACH BREAKS

Sunday 23 July
Maroubra Beach

SLOW FASHION AND TEXTILES GROUP

Tuesday 6 June (every Tuesday morning), 9.30am

Sustainable Classroom at
Randwick Sustainability Hub

GARDENING ON THE WILDSIDE

Friday 21 July (every Friday until 22 Sep), 1.30-4pm

Randwick Community Centre

AUGUST

SPARK IN THE PARK (FOR AGES 0-5 YEARS)

Wednesday 2 August, 10:30-11:30am

Randwick Community Centre

RECIPE CLUB IN THE LIBRARY

Thursday 10 August (every second Thursday of the month until 14 December), 1-3pm

Margaret Martin Library

For more information on events visit randwick.nsw.gov.au or call 1300 722 542

Heffron Centre

OFFICIAL OPENING CELEBRATION
Saturday 1 July
Free community celebration, activities and food trucks.

NOW OPEN!

REGISTER
TODAY!

Heffron Park's newest multipurpose sporting centre is now open to the community. Visit us today to experience all the Heffron Centre has to offer!



- ✓ Basketball, Netball, Futsal and more!
- ✓ BK's Gymnastics Centre
- ✓ The Dance Society programs
- ✓ South Sydney Rabbitohs Excellence Centre

**SCAN THE
QR CODE TO
LEARN MORE**

or to register for our
programs today!



Learn more about the Heffron Centre at: heffroncentre.com.au