

RANDWICK

SCENE

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Randwick City Council Customer Service Centre

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Hours: 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday

Phone: 1300 722 542

Email: council@randwick.nsw.gov.au

Web: randwick.nsw.gov.au

Community Nursery: 9093 6250

Lionel Bowen Library, Maroubra: 9093 6400

Malabar Community Library: 9093 6120

Margaret Martin Library, Randwick: 9093 6100

Des Renford Leisure Centre: 9093 6300

Your Say Randwick: yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au

Randwick eNews: randwick.nsw.gov.au/enews

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Randwick City Council services

Phone the Call Centre on **1300 722 542** for enquiries about:

- animals
- building and planning
- community info
- council events
- council meetings
- development applications
- footpaths
- garbage services
- graffiti removal
- green waste
- halls for hire
- illegal dumping
- on-call clean ups
- open space hire
- parking
- precinct meetings
- parks and beaches
- rates
- roads
- trees
- waste service

Randwick SCENE Magazine is written and produced by Randwick Council's Communications Team. Words by Joshua Hay, Sarah Bassett, Joseph Earp and Tom Waller. Design by Gemma Elliott, Gavin Tso and Carlen Peddie.



Acknowledgement of Country

Randwick Council pays respect to the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Bidjigal and Gadigal people, and we acknowledge the living and continuing cultures of the Traditional Custodians of this Country. We recognise that the Traditional Custodians have occupied and cared for this Country over countless generations, and we celebrate their ongoing contributions to the life of the area.

Randwick Council proudly prints this magazine on PEFC Certified Australian-made Offset paper, which ensures that all virgin pulp is derived from well-managed forests and controlled sources. It contains elemental chlorine-free bleached pulp and is manufactured by an ISO 14001 certified mill, which ensures best environmental management systems.



Globally recognised by PEFC, the world's largest sustainable forest management scheme.

Distributed to 61,518 properties in Randwick City.

Cover image: Barry Had (right) with son at The Fish Market at Maroubra Junction. Photo by Mark Bond.



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From the Mayor **Dylan Parker**

In this edition, you can read all about *The Mullet Run*, the documentary co-produced by Randwick City Council, Story About Feeling and the La Perouse Aboriginal community. Detailing the long history of traditional mullet fishing practices and their welcome return, it's an emotional and deeply informative watch. Read all about it on page 10.

As part of our commitment to supporting and boosting local businesses, Council is supporting local cafes and restaurants with more alfresco dining. Dive into a rundown of the project and get some great spring dining recommendations to boot. That's on page 12.

There's a common misconception that sustainable options are more expensive than the norm, but that isn't true for Randwick City residents. In our article on page 14, we explore practical ways you can save money while supporting the planet including rebates, free council services and subscriptions, and more.

Construction has begun on a series of key intersections along Maroubra Road, all part of a much needed improvement to the Maroubra Road Corridor. For more information on the works, head to page 9.

Milli Weaver is a true local hero. Named 2026's NSW Young Woman of the Year and Coogee Woman of the Year the year before that, the

Randwick resident is the founder of the Australian Endometriosis Foundation and has long battled for better awareness of the illness. We chatted to Milli about her extraordinary work. Read all about it on page 20.

We also profile some of the businesses that make Maroubra Junction a hustling and bustling home of great food, vintage clothing and seafood. Check them out on page 18.

Finally, this will be my last edition of SCENE for the time being. Council will be holding mayoral elections and by agreement I will not be recontesting. I will continue as a Councillor and wish the incoming Mayor all the best.

See you around!



Dylan Parker
Mayor of Randwick



LET'S CHAT

Have a chat with your
local Councillors
at locations across
Randwick City.

Sat 17 and Sun 18 Oct
10am – 12pm



Visit our website to
find a location near
you and learn more.

news in brief

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

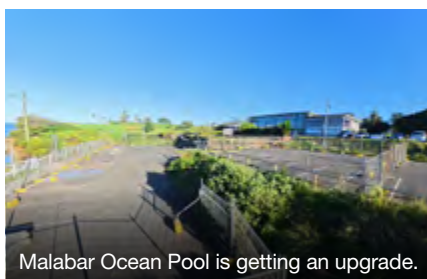
randwick.nsw.gov.au/enews

Construction to begin on multi-purpose court at Baker Park



The court will service lovers of multiple sports.

Construction on a new multi-purpose court at Baker Park will commence in late 2026, with work expected to be complete by the end of the year. New features of the multi-purpose court include basketball hoops, netball hoops, pickleball line markings, a rebound wall, and bench seating. The court was shaped by consultation with the local community in 2025 including feedback from locals and a design workshop with young people to find out what they would like to see in the new space. A changing mural wall will enliven the court, adding colour and character to the new facility.

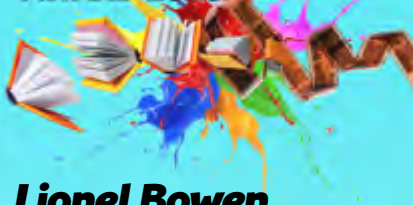


Malabar Ocean Pool is getting an upgrade.

Construction begins on Malabar Ocean Pool amenities building

Construction is underway on a new amenities building at Malabar Ocean Pool: a highly desired facility for pool users. The building will feature toilets, change cubicles, a regraded car park section, and new landscaping. It has been designed to service users of the popular pool and coastal walkway. "These new facilities are much needed," Mayor Dylan Parker said when construction started. "The nearest public toilets are 700 metres away at Malabar Beach, which simply isn't good enough for people using the pool: particularly older people and those recovering from injuries who make use of the pool's rare stair-free access."

LIONEL BOWEN YOUNG CREATIVES AWARD 2026

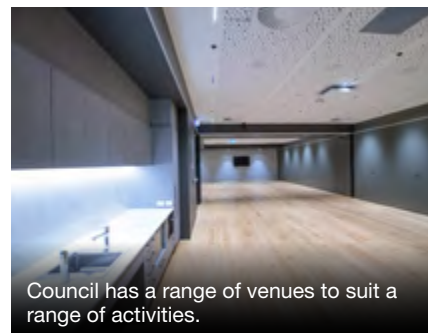


Lionel Bowen Awards closing soon

Entries for the Lionel Bowen Young Creatives Award are set to close on August 31. This award has been expanded from writing to recognise a range of creative endeavours across multiple disciplines. Submissions are being sought in the fields of creative writing, visual arts and audio-visual (e.g. film and animation). The theme for this year's submissions is "24 Hours", with participants encouraged to be as imaginative as possible in their responses. Prizes will be awarded across two age groups (12-15 and 16-18). The winner in each category and age group will receive \$500; second place will receive \$250; and third place \$100. Head to the Randwick City Council website for more details.

Fairer fees for Council venues for hire

Council has introduced a new, streamlined fee structure for community halls and venues, making hire charges clearer and more equitable. The updated model includes tiered pricing and incentives for off-peak use, helping maximise access and encourage broader community participation. A 12-month off-peak fee trial between 12pm and 3pm will be put in place for venues (excluding Level A venues) to further encourage community use. Council halls and community centres can be searched and booked online. Visit the Randwick Council Spaces For Hire page to find out more.



Council has a range of venues to suit a range of activities.

Council welcomes funding boost for shark-spotting drones

In great news for our community, NSW Surf Life Saving are rolling out increased shark drone surveillance across our beaches to improve visibility and safety, following a major NSW Government funding

commitment. Prior to the tragic shark incident in June, drones had not been allowed to fly at many beaches, including Coogee, due to potential interference with flight paths. As a result of the funding injection, drones

are now regularly flown to monitor for sharks at Clovelly, Maroubra, Coogee, Malabar and Little Bay.

Download the Shark Smart App to receive real time alerts.



Emergency dashboard launches

Council has launched the Randwick Emergency Dashboard, a one-stop resource designed to advise on local hazards, warnings and essential services. The Emergency Dashboard alerts users on extreme weather events from heatwaves to storms and beach closures. It also has a range of reporting data, including air and water quality. Drivers can use it to be notified of roadworks, breakdowns, crashes and road repairs. Major emergency news updates will be communicated through the Dashboard, and it will include extreme heat advice and storm preparedness information. Visit emergencydashboard.randwick.nsw.gov.au.



A magnet was sent out to every Randwick City resident.



Resilient Randwick plan sets decade of climate action

Randwick City Council has adopted the Resilient Randwick Strategy 2026–2036, a clear roadmap to help our community, environment and city prepare for change, respond to challenges and thrive into the future. The strategy outlines practical actions to address flooding, bushfire

risk, extreme heat and social challenges. It also recognises the importance of Aboriginal connection to Country, knowledge, and place-based solutions. Council refined the plan following public exhibition, adding stronger references to supply chain vulnerabilities and social cohesion. Council will now embed the actions into operational planning, ensuring departments deliver coordinated outcomes over the decade.

Randwick Emergency Dashboard

Be prepared. Stay informed.

Stay up to date with local warnings, emergency information, power and water outages, traffic disruptions and other important updates.

Access trusted information to help you prepare, respond and recover when conditions change.



Scan and bookmark it now, before you need it.



Resilient Randwick

The Emergency Dashboard is part of Resilient Randwick, Council's 10-year strategy to help our community prepare for change, respond to challenges and thrive into the future.



HAVE YOUR SAY

Check out our current or upcoming consultations:

- La Perouse Museum Strategic Plan
- Long Term Financial Plan 2026-36

And our recently completed consultations:

- Walking and cycling improvements
- Dog off-leash proposal for Lower Latham Park, South Coogee

yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au

Working group to progress Coastal Walkway extension

Randwick Council's long-held vision of a continuous Coastal Walkway linking Clovelly and La Perouse has taken another step forward, with Council establishing a working group to guide the project. Council endorsed a preferred route through Randwick Golf Course, St Michael's Golf Club and The Coast Golf Club to connect Malabar and Little Bay, along with a location for a new whale-watching platform. In the coming months, Council expects to demolish a property in Cuzco Street, South Coogee opening a pathway between Cuzco Street, Seaside Parade and Lurline Bay. Council is also carrying out hydraulic testing at the Lurline Bay rock platforms to assess wave and storm conditions and help design a safe, reliable walkway connection between South Coogee and Maroubra. Both projects are expected to cost more than \$10 million, and Council is working on a funding strategy to deliver the projects within the next five years.



Surfing Hall of Fame inductees

Beach Breaks 2026 was held on Sunday 19 July: the beloved local community event honours the proud and colourful surfing history of Maroubra Beach. With food, entertainment, kids' activities and more, this year Beach Breaks also inducted three new legends into the Surfing Hall of Fame: Paul Moffatt, a Randwick Council Beach Lifeguard Supervisor, and a Surfmasters Titles winner; Michelle Donoghoe, a trailblazer of the sport who has won titles around the world; and Malcolm Allen, a 1996 Summer Olympics freestyle competitor.



Paul Moffatt, Michelle Donoghoe, Joel Maybury on behalf of Malcolm Allen, Mayor Dylan Parker and Larry the Lifeguard.

FOGO

FOR BUSINESS

Randwick Council supports local businesses navigating new FOGO mandates

Council is offering free support to local businesses to help them understand and implement the NSW government's new FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) mandates for businesses. This comes after the state government brought in new rules for the separation of food waste and collection of FOGO waste for businesses from 1 July. The project is funded by the NSW Environment Protection Authority to enable councils to support local businesses adapt to the new requirements.

The free program is designed to help local cafes and restaurants adapt to the new FOGO rules.

It is available until November 2027. The program has three steps facilitated by Randwick Council.

1) Initial waste assessment:

Council will take a look at the business' bins and identify where food waste is coming from.

2) Action plan: Council will create a practical action plan tailored to the business, and will provide support to help implement sustainable actions.

3) Review: Council will return to check progress, conduct a follow-up waste assessment and provide further support.

Head to our website for more information.



Mayor Dylan Parker and Randwick Netball President Jenny Morrissey with netballers opening the new facility.

New facilities open for Randwick netballers

Thousands of netball players across Sydney's eastern suburbs will benefit from a new amenities building at Heffron Park, officially opened by Randwick City Council and the NSW Government. The modern, accessible facility supports Randwick Netball's almost 5,000 members and the more than 10,000 visitors who flock to the courts each Saturday. Co-funded through the NSW Government's Level Playing Field Program, the project delivers upgraded amenities for players, officials and spectators. Mayor Dylan Parker said the new building will provide a safe, welcoming environment for women and girls and help support the continued growth of netball in the local community.

Council celebrates UNSW as Australia's top university

Council has congratulated UNSW Sydney on being named Australia's top university, recognising the achievement as a win for both the institution and the wider Randwick community. As a global leader in education, research and innovation, UNSW plays a key role in shaping the future through breakthroughs in health, science, technology and sustainability. The university is also a cornerstone of the Randwick Health and Innovation Precinct, helping attract investment, creating jobs and strengthening the local economy.



YOUR TOWN HALL, REIMAGINED

AUG 2026 TO FEB 2027

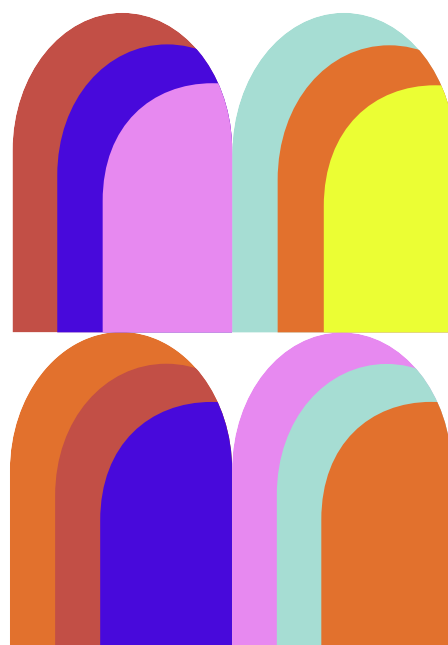
Town Hall Takeover

Our award-winning program returns to Randwick Town Hall for another dynamic season of creativity.

Prepare to boot-scoot across the floorboards, witness new works in development, hear from best-selling authors, or hunt for your next handcrafted home treasure.

From orchestral performances and music workshops to creative markets and artist-led experiences, every takeover offers a fresh reason to return.

Join us as artists, makers and performers transform one of Randwick's most iconic civic spaces into a place of imagination, connection and discovery.





Boost to tree planting program

Council's tree planting program will be increased from 1,000 to 1,751 trees a year to help grow the city's tree canopy, support biodiversity, reduce the urban heat island effect and make local streets and parks greener and more attractive. More money and a dedicated tree planting team are also being considered to support the initiative. Following a detailed review, Council has also adopted a new tree canopy target of 19% by 2060. The review found that private land ownership limits Council's ability to directly increase canopy coverage across the city. Council's current tree canopy coverage is approximately 16.1%.



A patron of The Spot Festival soaks up the tunes.

Coogee and The Spot to become Special Entertainment Precincts

Council has taken a major step to support a safe, vibrant night-time economy by backing the implementation of trial Special Entertainment Precincts (SEPs) initially at Coogee and The Spot followed by a subsequent trial in Kingsford. SEPs are designated areas that support vibrant nightlife while balancing the needs of businesses and nearby residents. Council can set maximum permitted trading hours without the need for individual business to seek approvals. Community consultation on the proposals found general support. Council will now prepare a planning proposal to amend the Randwick Local Environmental Plan to permit the SEPs and also seek funding from Create NSW to commence the trial.



Recycling centre now open weekends

The Randwick Recycling Centre in Matraville is now open Saturday and Sundays as part of a six-month trial. The expanded hours is a response to requests from residents for weekend access to make it easier to drop off recyclables. As part of the trial, the Centre will introduce a mid-week closure on Wednesdays to allow for servicing, maintenance and material collection. It's never been a better time to recycle, so pop down and see the team to find out what you can recycle.

Key Maroubra Road intersections to be upgraded

Construction has commenced on upgrading key intersections along Maroubra Road as part of the broader Maroubra Road Corridor improvements. The first stage will focus on the Cooper Street and Mons Avenue intersection, and then Flower Street intersection. The work will involve new roundabouts and raised pedestrian crossings, making the intersections safer for motorists, bike riders and pedestrians. In addition to Cooper Street and Mons Avenue, and Flower Street intersections, upgrades will be completed at Anzac Parade, Hannan Street, Bunnerong Road, Malabar Road, Royal and Hinkler Streets, Garden Street, and Walsh Avenue and Bruce Bennetts Place intersections. Works will be carried out over several years on these remaining intersections as funding becomes available.

Council holds waste education workshop for Randwick residents

In June, Council's Waste & Circular Economy team delivered a waste education workshop for social housing residents in partnership with Homes NSW Tenant Participation. It covered key sustainability topics, including recycling, FOGO, how processing facilities operate, contamination, waste avoidance, illegal dumping and the risks posed by embedded batteries when placed in kerbside bins. As part of Council's ongoing commitment to sustainability, the team also discussed a range of free services and programs, including the Randwick Recycling Centre at Perry Street, and free Council clean-up services.



\$1.50 swims at DRLC

Concession card holders can now go for a swim at Des Renford Leisure Centre for just \$1.50! The budget-friendly initiative has slashed entry fees by more than 70 per cent making accessing the pool and staying healthy cheaper than ever. Concession card holders can also access gym memberships for just \$16.80 a week, down 20 per cent. Existing concession direct-debit memberships were automatically adjusted to the lower rate from 1 July, so eligible members save without lifting a finger. The cuts are part of Randwick City Council's commitment to keeping facilities accessible and affordable as cost-of-living pressures bite.

New social cohesion plan strengthens community connection

Council has adopted its Social Cohesion and Multicultural Plan 2026–2031, setting a clear direction to build connection, trust and belonging across Randwick. The plan supports cultural diversity, inclusion and community harmony through targeted programs and partnerships. The plan guides the way in which Council works alongside the community, local organisations and partners to create the conditions for people to feel welcome, included and connected.



New street cleaning team planned

A new manual street-cleaning team will target known hotspot locations in Randwick City: they will manually sweep street gutters and footpaths. The decision follows a service review undertaken by Council which identified strong reactive street cleaning performance but declining customer satisfaction with proactive cleaning and sweeping. The new team will use technology and heat mapping to prioritise locations responding to historic customer trends and seasonal issues. Council will now develop a detailed scoping and business case to confirm resourcing and whether additional budget is required.

CULTURE VIBES

GLOBAL BEATS AND EATS

SAT 17 OCTOBER
3 – 10pm
Kensington Park



Randwick City Council
a sense of community

Scan to find out more.



Caught in the net

How community reclaimed a cultural tradition

A powerful new documentary tells the story of the La Perouse Aboriginal community's fight to reclaim the mullet run, a cultural fishing tradition that was lost for almost 40 years before making a remarkable return.

On a chilly winter night, the community gathered around fire pits on the front lawn of the La Perouse Museum for the inaugural edition of Sea Place On Country, a multi-day festival dedicated to First Nations peoples' connection to the sea. But although the weather was cold, the mood was buoyant and the faces joyful, as families, locals and out-of-towners alike gathered for a cornerstone of the festival's programming: the premiere of a brand-new documentary, *The Mullet Run*.



**"We lived by the sea.
That was our source of food.
Our shelter."**

Bruce Ella

Produced by Randwick City Council in partnership with the La Perouse Aboriginal community, *The Mullet Run* is an intimate look at the fishing season of the film's title: a multi-week long period where massive numbers of mullet travel north up along the coast and head into Kamay. For the local Aboriginal Community in La Perouse, it's a hugely important time on the calendar – one tied to many generations of traditional fishing practices. Families gather as one to cast out their nets, and share a feed of fresh fish with the local community. Nothing goes to waste.

Directed by Sean O'Reilly through Story About Feeling, the film captures that deep sense of community spirit that is an essential part of fishing in La Perouse. On the night that the

documentary premiered, that same communal connection was impossible to ignore. Before the screening began, children ran and played on the lawn, while members of the La Perouse Aboriginal Community Cultural Fishing Group – the subject of the documentary – warmly greeted one another.

The loss of the mullet run

But as the documentary began playing, an at-times more mournful, contemplative mood settled over the space. The story of the mullet run has not been without its struggles. About 25 years ago, net fishing was banned and fishing licenses were denied throughout the bay. Though the move was



designed to protect fish stocks in the local area, it had the knock-on effect of stopping the La Pa community from taking part in the cultural practice that has bonded them together for thousands of years.

Efforts to stop overfishing should, for the most part, be lauded. But in the case of the actions taken at the Bay, there was no consultation with the local Aboriginal community; no attempt to understand how their community fished or the fish they targeted. Mullet is a migratory species that in winter months schools up in massive numbers. Despite being high in Omega-3 and delicious if eaten fresh, it has a poor reputation as a table fish, does not keep well and is not desired by fish markets. The result was a paternalistic act of cultural deconstruction – all of a sudden, a perfectly sustainable, centuries old method of fishing was banned.

The loss of the mullet run didn't just limit an opportunity for community togetherness. Without the bounties of fresh fish or the good exercise of mullet fishing, it had significant health impacts too. In *The Mullet Run*, community members talk openly about such devastation, often with a visible sense of grief.

"If we lose this practice, we lose our stories," says Robert Cooley.

"It destroyed their families; it destroyed them," Bruce Ella says in the documentary. "It actually destroyed our community because there's our source of fish. We lived by the sea. That was our source of food. Our shelter."

A return to community

But after decades without the mullet run, salvation emerged in an unexpected form. In 2016, a handful of La Pa locals who were determined to get the run back on the community's calendar cast a second look over the initial ban. Combing through the fine print, they discovered that cultural fishing was in fact allowed – and always had been. Those who handed the ban down to the local La Pa community had simply neglected to tell them about it.

So, after many years without it, the local La Pa community was once again free to gather together, cast out their nets, and fish mullet. And just as *The Mullet Run* captures the melancholy of the ban, so does it capture the joy of it being overturned. "We were only teenagers when it got stopped," says Barry Cooley at one point in the documentary. "It was just one of those things where you thought it was finished forever."

Ultimately, the film takes a profoundly sensitive approach to struggle against adversity, and as its final minutes played

out on the La Perouse headland to its premiere audience, there was a visible sense of something emotional being released after many years of loss.

Getting to witness such a profound sense of uplift has not just been restricted to those who were there at the La Perouse Headland that day either. *The Mullet Run* is available to watch on Randwick Council's Youtube channel and is also available on ABC iview. As Assen Timbery says in the documentary, it doesn't matter who you are – your background, your age, anything. When it comes to how special the mullet run is, "you can just feel it."

Watch it online:



Spring on the Streets: **Council backs alfresco dining**

***On a spring day,
what's better
than going for an
alfresco lunch with
friends, bathing in
the sunshine while
you eat and sip?***

Outdoor dining adds something essential to any meal, letting you soak up both the weather and the hustle and bustle that makes Randwick City the exciting place to live that it is.

But alfresco dining is more than just a delight for diners. It's also real boost to business owners, as well as a way of making our streets livelier and more inviting.

That's why Council is helping businesses expand their dining options onto the footpath via a successful alfresco program that empowers local cafes and restaurants – without disrupting pedestrian traffic.

Sharing our streets

The alfresco program began a few short years ago. Very quickly, it was adopted by a range of businesses,



including the Coastal Brasserie café in Malabar, Dolce Fiori in Randwick, and Spaghetteria on the corner of Clovelly and St Marks roads. Now businesses of all types, across the whole of Randwick City, have taken up the program, including Maybe Frank at the Spot, Bohaus at Coogee and Tuga x Village at Clovelly

The benefits of the program have been immediate and significant. Alfresco dining makes local businesses much more visible, drawing new customers and foot traffic, with passing pedestrians getting the opportunity to check on the food. It also allows bigger groups, meaning businesses that might be space-poor can seat more customers than they would usually.

Then there's the impact on the broader community. The streets of Randwick City belong to all of us, and injecting more life and vibrancy into them is a way of making them feel truly communal.



“By working with businesses to turn footpaths and roads into vibrant gathering places, we are creating more opportunities for community members to connect, relax and enjoy our City,” Mayor Dylan Parker said when the project was first launched.

Eligibility and management

The program has been carefully designed to give more options for businesses without restricting the flow of foot traffic or generally disrupting our streets. To that end, when a business applies for the program, Council first ensures that they already have an occupation of footway agreement in place, and that the proposed road space is eligible and safe for dining.

Businesses can only place furniture in spaces that Council has pre-approved. While a group of

neighbouring businesses can submit a joint application, Council assesses each proposal for its impact on the surrounding area, particularly any loss of parking. Council approves each on-road activation for up to 12 months, with the option to renew.

Once approval has been granted, the alfresco transformation happens quickly and fluidly. Spaghetteria director Stefano Sepe said that within a day, council had dropped off the bollards that marked the outskirts of the alfresco area. “I’ve been getting a lot of good feedback from people who live around the area,” Sepe said at the time. “It has given us greater visibility.”

The wider initiative

The alfresco program is part of a range of initiatives developed by Council to assist with the local economy and boost foot traffic. There’s the beloved



“We are creating more opportunities for community members to connect, relax and enjoy our City”

Mayor Dylan Parker



street parties in The Spot and Coogee, Spot On and Coogee Nights. These events open the roadway to people, music, games, and a chill zone.

This year, there was even a Coogee Winter Nights event, in which the streets hosted DJs, film screenings, and themed face paint rovers.

Together, such initiatives encourage us to buy locally, transform our streets, and makes Randwick City the envy of the surrounding suburbs. After all, our city is made by the businesses, people and events within it. Without them, it’s just an assemblage of roads and buildings.

So, if you’re a business owner interested in expanding your dining space, complete the Expression of Interest form available on our website, or contact Council’s Vibrancy and Place Team on **9093 6000** or via **council@randwick.nsw.gov.au**.

Saving money **sustainably**

Eco living isn't just good for the planet; it's great for your budget too.

It's a common misconception that making lifestyle choices that are better for our environment costs more. In fact, Randwick City residents can access a host of rebates, services and perks that can help save money, while working to protect the planet.

We've rounded up the top 10 ways you can save money with eco living in Randwick City:

Save big with sustainability rebates

Randwick City homeowners, businesses and schools can access up to a whopping \$5,000 in rebates to help with a range of eco living initiatives. Rebates are offered for households, businesses and apartment blocks for sustainable swaps including:

- electric vehicle chargers
- induction cooktops
- rooftop solar
- batteries
- rainwater tanks
- pool pumps
- insulation
- hot water systems
- energy assessments



Workshops and activities at the Saturday Circle

The Randwick Sustainability Hub hosts this monthly get-together on the second Saturday of each month. There's a variety of activities including clothes swaps, toy swaps, bike maintenance workshops, a textiles mending group, phone photography in nature, Lego building, birding, growing food for wildlife, outdoor story time for kids. Head to the Council website to book your spot.



Recycling centre now open weekends

Declutter and responsibly dispose of a wide range of items for free at the Randwick Recycling Centre. Following community feedback, the centre is now trialling opening on weekends until the end of the year.

Trial Operating Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri:
7am – 4pm

Wed and public holidays:
Closed

Sat and Sun:
7am – 2pm

Randwick Recycling Centre
72 Perry Street, Matraville

Residents are encouraged to take advantage of the extended hours and help give their unwanted items a second life.

Save on your water bill with WaterFix®

WaterFix® Residential is an initiative of Sydney Water to provide free or subsidised replacements of inefficient taps, showerheads, toilets, aerators and leak repairs in homes and in strata schemes. Search “WaterFix” online or call **1800 354 107** for more information.



Join or start a local community garden

There are several active community gardens across the LGA. Supplement your household's fresh fruit and veggies by joining a group. Search online to find one near you. There's also information on Council's website on how to start a community garden if you don't have one operating close by.

Plant out your nature strip

Randwick City Council's innovative Street Garden Policy provides a framework for residents to create, install and maintain an authorised nature strip garden or planter box on the nature strip in front of their property. Learn more about the policy on our website and take advantage of your extra planting space today.

Save on Indigenous plants at the Council Community Nursery

Randwick Community Nursery is one of Sydney's leading nurseries for Indigenous plants. The team propagates and sells locally sourced plants, as well as native species suited to the soils and climate of the Eastern Suburbs, all at affordable prices. The Nursery is open on the first Saturday of the month, beginning on Saturday 5 September, from 9am – 3pm.



Access your free ReSmart subscription

ReSmart is a home pick-up service that collects a variety of items including e-waste, wearable clothing, soft plastics, batteries, light globes, polystyrene and more. Residents can access the free council-supported plan, which includes a recurring Power Pickup plan (up to two bags collected) through the ReSmart app or website.



Save big on home composters

Turn your food scraps into black gold for your garden. Randwick residents are eligible for a compost bin or worm farm at up to 70% off plus free delivery. Head to compostrevolution.com.au, take the quiz and grab a composter from as low as \$26.

Attend the Eco Living Festival on 1 November

If you're looking for more ways to save money sustainably while helping our environment, come along to the Eco Living Festival. There will be workshops, entertainment, freebies and much more to help you kick start or support your eco living journey.



The Eco Living Festival is one of the highlights of the sustainability calendar.

Keeping cats safe at home

A purr-fect solution – why keeping cats indoors is one of the best things you can do.

Keeping cats indoors can add years to their lives, reduce their risk of injury and disease and help protect native wildlife. Discover why indoor living is better for your cat and for local wildlife.

While the warm spring weather might seem like the perfect time to let pet cats out to roam, research shows outside is one of the most dangerous places for cats to be.



The RSPCA estimates two in three cat owners have lost a cat to a roaming-related accident, with a third of these involving cars.

The charity suggests exclusively indoor cats live 10 years longer on average than cats who are allowed to roam.

According to the Biodiversity Council of Australia, pet cats are responsible for over half a billion mammal, bird and reptile deaths in Australia each year, making them one of the most prominent threats to wildlife in our local ecosystems.

Top dangers to roaming pet cats

Keeping cats indoors protects them from a range of hazards that could injure or kill them. These are some of the most prominent risks.

Cars and other vehicles

Traffic collisions are one of the top dangers posed to pet cats who are allowed outside and one of the highest causes of premature death. "I picked up a dead cat two weeks ago in Kingsford that was hit by a car," says WIRES volunteer and cat rescuer Suzanna Cowling.



These tragic deaths are completely avoidable if cats are kept inside."

Becoming trapped

Roaming cats can easily become stuck at high locations or other areas that are difficult to navigate. "I recently had a call for a kitten that was eight months old," says Ms Cowling. "Because it wasn't contained, it was stuck in a tree for two days crying before it could be saved. Rescue services were unable to respond."

Stray cats and foxes

"It's good to keep your cat indoors, especially at nighttime, when they're more prone to getting into

"It's good to keep your cat indoors, especially at nighttime."





Maroubra locals Rayne and Kye with their indoor cats Stella and Loki (and Kora the dog).

territorial fights with other cats, and even foxes,” says Jodie Ince, a vet nurse from Greencross Vets Coogee - Maroubra. “A lot of people don’t realise there are foxes around, and they can get into serious fights with cats.”

Diseases and infections

Injuries sustained in fights with stray cats or other animals may not immediately cause death, but can lead to serious issues for pet cats. Ms Cowling recalled a recent death of a pet cat she witnessed, caused by a bite from a stray cat. She highlighted the toxicity of cat saliva and the frequency of diseases found in stray cat populations as major threats to roaming pet cats.

“Prolific predators” of local wildlife

The Invasive Species Council suggests each roaming pet cat kills an average of 110 native animals per year. Meanwhile, the constant threat of predators means vulnerable animals spend more time evading predators instead of feeding, resting or breeding. This is why bells and other hunting-prevention devices are not considered totally effective in protecting wildlife from roaming pet cats.

“We love cats,” Ms Ince says. “I love my cats. But they are prolific

predators. And they will catch birds and play with them, for fun. They’re not necessarily wanting to eat them.”

“Lizard, birds, small mammals are getting essentially murdered by cats. And it’s for fun. Even cats that are well-fed at home, they have this prey instinct that they cannot help.”



During her time volunteering for WIRES, Ms Cowling said the Randwick Wildlife Centre frequently rehabilitates injured wildlife that are the suspected victims of cat attacks.

“Ringtail possums that have come off their mother’s back after they’ve just left the pouch. They’re quite vulnerable and not good at climbing.

“At that age, they can’t really hold on very well. If they’re low down or if they fall, then they’re very vulnerable and a cat will get them, bite them and cause a really serious infection from cat saliva, which can be deadly to possums and all wildlife – and even humans.”

Tips for transitioning cats to indoor living

Moving an outdoor cat indoors can take time and patience, but it is one of the best ways to protect them from traffic, disease, injuries and other dangers. The key is to make your home an enriching place for them to be.

1. Keep them entertained: Provide plenty of mental and physical stimulation through interactive toys, such as feather wands, string toys and other chase-style games that mimic natural hunting behaviour.

2. Schedule daily play sessions: Aim for at least 30 minutes of active play each day, particularly in the evening. This can help burn off energy and reduce night-time meowing or scratching at doors.

3. Make mealtimes engaging: Instead of serving all food in a bowl, use treat puzzles, food-dispensing toys or hide small treats around the house to encourage natural foraging and hunting instincts.

4. Create a cat-friendly environment: Offer comfortable resting spots, scratching posts, climbing opportunities and access to sunny windows where your cat can safely watch the outside world.

5. Reduce stress: Products such as feline pheromone diffusers may help some cats feel calmer during the adjustment period.

6. Talk to your vet: If your cat is struggling with the change, your veterinarian can recommend strategies or supplements to help ease the transition.

Most cats adjust well over time. With patience, routine and plenty of enrichment, they can lead happy, healthy lives indoors while staying safe and helping protect local wildlife.



Op shops, fish markets and everything in-between

In our latest series of town centre profiles, we explore Maroubra Junction and discover a treasure trove of vintage fashion, the freshest seafood and daily baked brownies, all served with a distinctly local touch.

For decades now, Maroubra Junction has been one of the hustling and bustling hubs of Randwick City: a vibrant spot where wandering shoppers can pick up anything from a new outfit to delicious fare for their next dinner party.

The area has changed a lot over the years – some older Maroubra locals will be able to remember the construction of Pacific Square, now one of the key attractions of the Junction.

But even as it has changed, one thing has stayed the same: the quality and diversity of the businesses on the strip.

These days, the Junction has become something of a mecca for second-hand shoppers.

Within a five minute walk, there's a U-Turn, a Vinnies, an Anglicare and Hunt 4 Hope.

Each offers their own distinct selection of clothes, homewares and books, and many who come to the Junction will



The Fish Market boasts a diverse array of the freshest seafood.

stroll into each, on the hunt for that ultimate op shop find.

And of course, while they're walking, they'll pop into some local businesses for a feed, too.

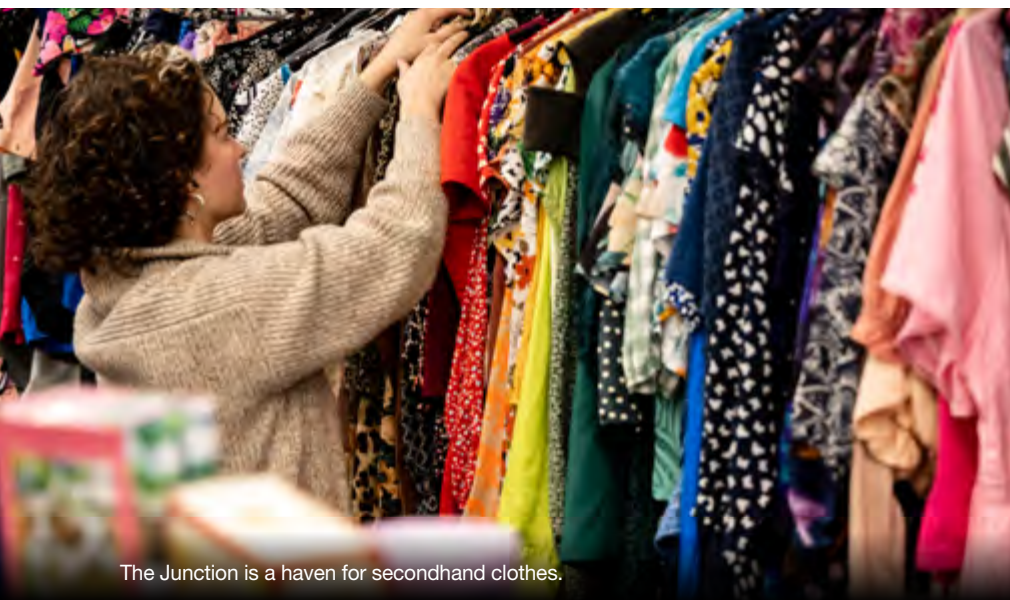
The food of the Junction

A key spot to eat and caffeinate in the junction is Ek'sentrik Café. Located right on the strip, the Café is well known for handing out free homemade brownie with every coffee purchase: Ek'sentrik's hardworking staff will make an entire batch of the brownies every day.

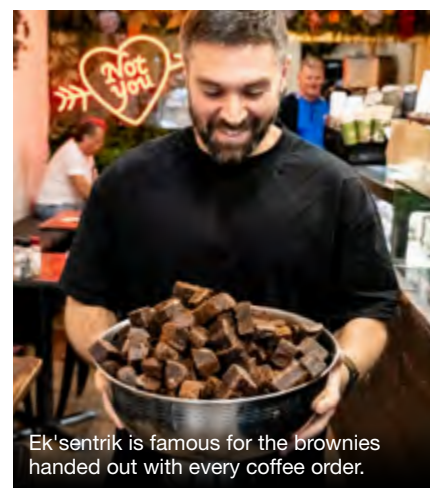
A lot of customers will grab a coffee from Ek'sentrik to go, but there are also those who prefer to sit in and watch the world go by. The menu boasts an array of Greek-inspired cuisine, with extremely generous portion sizes: the breakfast plate is a crowd favourite, and at \$22.90, a great option for budget conscious diners.

Those who want to pick up some food to cook at home will often stop in at The Fish Market. Nestled inside Pacific Square, the business has been a legendary spot for over four decades, sporting everything from live pippies to an array of shellfish, octopus, and fish of every shape and colour. "We've been in the area since 1982," says Barry Had, the Fish Market's owner. "That's when my dad bought it. And we've been here ever since."

The Fish Market is a true family run business. Barry's son works there, as do his brothers. But even the staff who aren't related to Barry by blood end up



The Junction is a haven for secondhand clothes.



Ek'sentrik is famous for the brownies handed out with every coffee order.

Global Tackle

Shop 304/116-132, Maroubra Road

Ek'sentrik Cafe

765A Anzac Parade

The Fish Market

Pacific Square Shopping Centre,
5/737 Anzac Parade

Vinnies Maroubra

785 Anzac Parade

Hunt 4 Hope

775 Anzac Parade

Anglicare

773 Anzac Parade

Do you have a small business in Randwick City? Express your interest to join our Shop Local Buy Local campaign for the chance to have your business featured in SCENE magazine. Find out more: randwick.nsw.gov.au/shoplocalbuylocal

"I still get very involved with the community," Wahyu explains. "It's important."

Being a small business, we treat everyone like a family.

"A lot of our customers are quite spread out now, but they'll still always pop in and say g'day. Just the other day, a customer who lives in Cairns now popped in out of nowhere."

That specialist care and service is what every locally owned business offers in the area. It's the human touch, with staff who go the distance every day, that makes Maroubra Junction a prime spot to shop – no matter what you're after.

Wahyu notes that his store is the last independent fishing equipment shop in the eastern suburbs. Alongside an extraordinarily wide variety of fishing rods, lines, and lures, Global Tackle also offers line detangling and restringing – and, perhaps most importantly of all, Wahyu's lifetime of fishing knowledge.

"I used to work at the tackle shop at Charing Cross," Wahyu says. "That's where I first started my career, pretty much as soon as I finished school." Wahyu prides himself on his local knowledge – his customer base comes from "all over", and he'll often serve businesspeople flying through Sydney on a quick trip, who will stop in his store "almost as soon as they're off the plane."

He's seen a lot change over his years working in fishing supplies – for instance, he notes that these days, a lot more people are buying lures, rather than bait. "It's the convenience," he explains. "People don't have to lug ice around with a lure."

Wahyu is also a passionate educator when it comes to fishing safety. Whenever a customer comes in, he'll ask them where they're planning to fish, and will warn them of any inclement conditions and to wear a lifejacket when rock fishing. He'll even use Council's beach webcams, available for live stream on the website, to visually show them if the surf is particularly bad. Recently, he helped translate a series of rock fishing warnings into Indonesian, and he will regularly assist with workshops designed to keep fishers safe.

becoming "family", he explains. "We train all of our staff carefully," he says. "We look after them." The quality of The Fish Market's produce attracts a steady flow of customers all year around, although Christmas is by far the busiest time. "We have a lot of local customers, but we have customers who come from everywhere," Barry says. "We have the freshest selection of fish, at a reasonable price, so we sell freshness and quality. Our customers want to buy quality, and they won't mind paying a little extra for it."

Shops of every sort and stripe

Though the Junction has its fair share of chain restaurants and shops, it's still a hub of smaller, locally owned businesses. Global Tackle, located just off the strip, towards Eastgardens, is one such example. It's been a staple of Maroubra Junction for three years, ever since its owner, Wahyu Kusumanjaya, moved in.

Wahyu from Global Tackle is a passionate educator for fishing safety.



Supporting young people with endometriosis

Randwick local Milli Weaver felt alone in her diagnosis and management of endometriosis, so she created the community she was craving.

Endometriosis is a common yet chronic condition that is often difficult to diagnose. While understanding and awareness of the disease has improved in recent years, sufferers of the disease often face life-altering symptoms. Milli Weaver founded the Australian Endometriosis Foundation to better support young people living with the disease.

What is endometriosis? (en-doe-me-tree-oh-sis)

Endometriosis is an inflammatory disease where tissue similar to the lining of the uterus (the endometrium) grows outside the uterus.

According to the Australian Endometriosis Foundation, the condition is believed to affect approximately 1 in 7 women in Australia and 190 million people worldwide. Despite being so common, it takes an average of 5-7 years to receive a diagnosis while often requiring visiting up to five different doctors.

The disease is characterised by chronic pain, fatigue, heavy menstrual bleeding and an increased risk of infertility. It can severely impact sufferers of the condition by affecting their quality of life, relationships and ability to work, care, socialise and more. There is currently no cure for endometriosis.

The difficulty of diagnosis

While a diagnosis is difficult for many people to obtain, it marks the start of a difficult journey of living with the condition, navigating the medical system and making tough decisions.

"I was 21," says Milli. "I had been diagnosed with endometriosis a few years prior, and the years of getting that diagnosis were years of pain and being told it was all in my head. So once I received the diagnosis, I really didn't believe myself. I had a word for the pain, but it still didn't describe the other symptoms that I was experiencing."

Creating a support network

Milli turned to social media to connect with people her age going through a similar experience and to share her own story.

"[I had] other young people reaching out to me saying, 'I've had the same experience. I've also been diagnosed with endometriosis, and I'm so alone, and I have no one else to talk to.'

"And we began chatting online and just sharing our experiences and supporting one another through the journeys that we were going on."



These conversations inspired Milli to organise in-person meet-ups, starting in her home and moving to public spaces as the numbers ballooned.

When she was approached by businesses who wanted to donate to her cause, she started the charity that she now manages – the Australian Endometriosis Foundation – juggled alongside her full-time career in law.

Milli's work has been recognised with prestigious prizes, including being awarded the 2025 Coogee Young Woman of the Year and 2026 NSW Young Woman of the Year.



Milli is a passionate educator and advocate.

In-person community events

Milli's foundation supports young people in the local area and beyond with events, activities and even deliveries of care packages to women recovering from endometriosis surgery at Prince of Wales Hospital.

She also runs coffee catch-ups, online programs and a book club. This includes the popular Freezer Friends event, which allows women with endometriosis to better understand their options when it comes to fertility preservation.

Milli encourages people with endometriosis to seek support: "We recognise the difficulties in getting that diagnosis, and we want to support you through it as best as we can. Just remember that it's not in your head."

***"You're not alone,
and you don't deserve
to be."***

For more information head to the Australian Endometriosis Foundation website, ausendofoundation.org.au.

SPOT ON

**ENTERTAINMENT +
STREET DINING +
MUSIC**

Thursdays

5.30 – 9pm

Sep 24

Oct 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

**The Spot
St Pauls Street
Randwick**

Proudly funded by



**Scan to find
out more.**

Endo in numbers:

1 in 7
Aussie women

190m
women
worldwide

**5-7
years**
to be
diagnosed

>\$7B
economic
cost
annually



FUN PAGE

Bin it right!



ALUMINIUM WRAPPERS



FOOD SCRAPS



PLASTIC BOTTLES



COFFEE CUPS



LEAVES



AEROSOL CANS



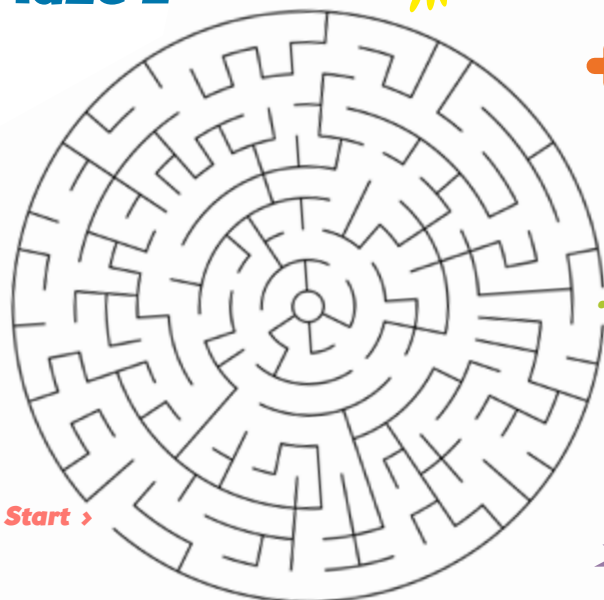
COMPOSTABLE TAKEAWAY CONTAINERS



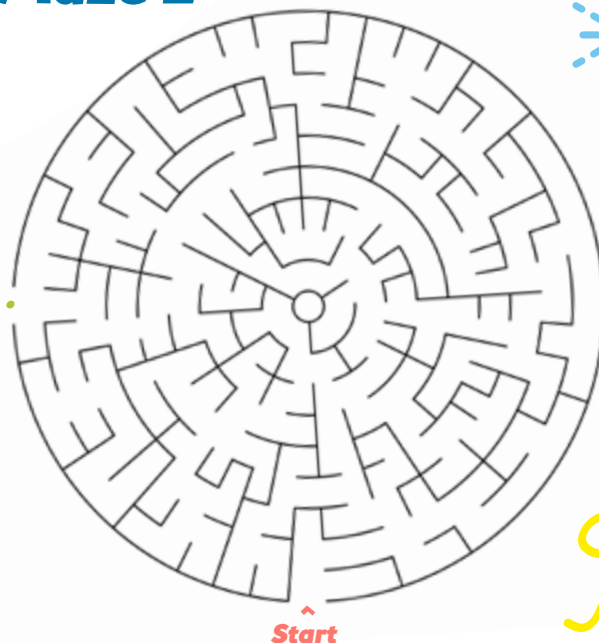
Sudoku

	1			2	5	8		
9			3	7		4		2
2	5				6	3		7
8			5	3	2			
		5	6		9	1		
	9		1			5		3
1						7	8	6
5					8	2		1
6		7	2	1	3	9		5

Maze 1

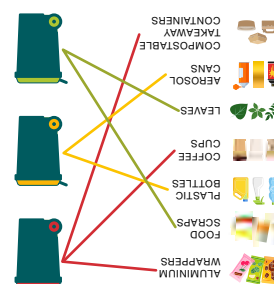


Maze 2



Solve and win!

The first 10 people to respond with all four puzzles solved correctly will win your choice of a Randwick City Council toy garbage truck (collector's edition) or a Randwick City Council official bouncy ball. Snap a picture of your completed puzzles and email us at communications@randwick.nsw.gov.au.



Bin it Right!

What's on

September to
November 2026



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

SEPTEMBER



PERMABEE - GUIDED COMMUNITY GARDENING

Every Friday 9am – 12.30pm
Randwick Sustainability Hub

MAROUBRA BEACH MARKET

Sat 5 Sep, 8am – 2pm
Broadarrow Reserve

EAT DRINK PLAY FATHER'S DAY EVENT

Sun 6 Sep, 11am – 3pm
Kokoda Memorial Park



PLANT WITH US

Sun 6 Sep, 8.30 – 10am, 10.30am – 12pm
Heffron Park, Maroubra

RANDWICK CITY BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

Wed 9 Sep, 6.30pm
Australian Turf Club - Royal Randwick Racecourse



TOWN HALL TAKEOVER: RANDWICK'S READING TAKEOVER – CELEBRATION OF READING AUTHOR PANEL

Sat 12 Sep, 10am – 12pm
Randwick Town Hall

SATURDAY CIRCLE

Sat 12 Sep, 10am – 12pm
Randwick Sustainability Hub

SPOT ON

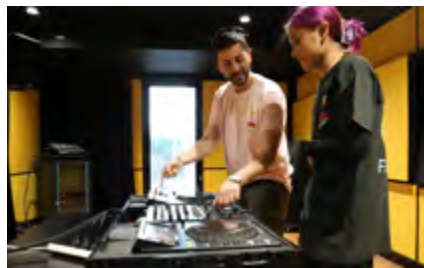
Every Thursday 5.30pm – 9pm from
Thurs 24 Sep to Thurs 29 Oct
St Pauls Street



TOWN HALL TAKEOVER: THE ART & OBJECT DESIGN MARKET

Sat 26 and Sun 27 Sep, 10am – 3pm
Randwick Town Hall

OCTOBER



TOWN HALL TAKEOVER: HEAPS DECENT TAKEOVER – YOUTH CREATIVE LAB

Mon 28 Sep to Fri 2 Oct,
10am – 2pm
Randwick Town Hall

PERMABEE – GUIDED COMMUNITY GARDENING

Every Friday, 9am – 12.30pm
Randwick Sustainability Hub

SATURDAY CIRCLE

Sat 10 Oct, 10am – 12pm
Randwick Sustainability Hub

MALABAR FAMILY DAY

Sun 11 Oct, 11am – 6pm
Cromwell Park, Malabar



BALI COMMEMORATION CEREMONY

Mon 12 Oct, 10am
Dolphin's Point, Coogee



CULTURE VIBES

Sat 17 Oct, 3 – 10pm
Kensington Oval



HEFFRON PARK MARKET

Sun 18 Oct, 8am – 2pm
Heffron Park Netball Courts

NOVEMBER

PERMABEE – GUIDED COMMUNITY GARDENING

Every Friday, 9am – 12.30pm
Randwick Sustainability Hub



ECO LIVING FESTIVAL

Sun 1 Nov, 10am – 3pm
Broadarrow Reserve, Maroubra

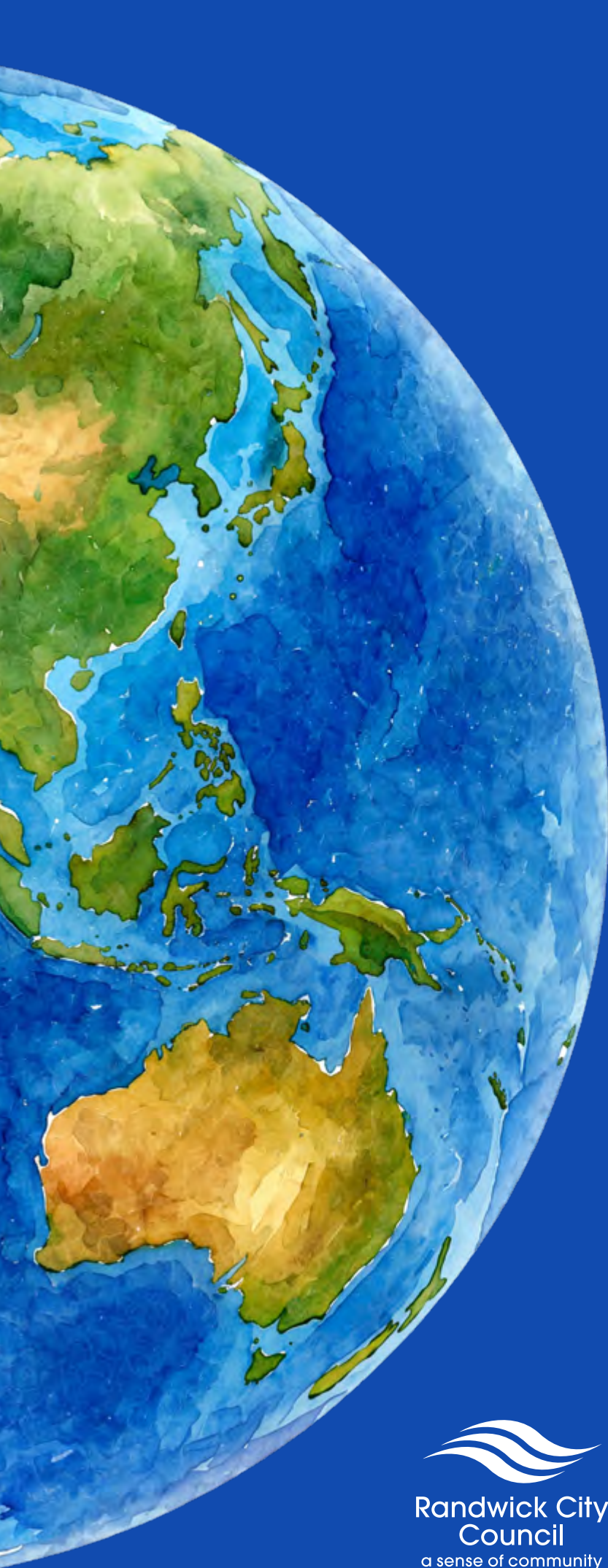
SATURDAY CIRCLE

Sat 14 Nov, 10am – 12pm
Randwick Sustainability Hub

STEP OUT SPEAK OUT

Fri 20 Nov, 7.30 – 9am
High Cross Park, Randwick





ECO SAVE MONEY LIV CUT WASTE ING LIVE BETTER

ECO LIVING
FESTIVAL
SUN 1 NOV
10AM – 3PM


Randwick City
Council
a sense of community

BROADARROW
RESERVE
MAROUBRA BEACH