



RANDWICK CITY COUNCIL

# Sister Cities

*Connect globally... Thrive locally*



The preparation of the Randwick City Council Sister Cities information booklet was resolved by Council on 27 July 2010 in response to a Notice of Motion from North Ward Councillor, Cr Kiel Smith.

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN RANDWICK CITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND HANGZHOU CITY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

At the invitation of Hangzhou Municipality, Murray Matson, Mayor of Randwick, City of the Commonwealth of Australia paid the official visit to Hangzhou in October 2010. After cordial discussions on exchanges and cooperation of various realms, the following agreement has been reached:

I. It is agreed that exchange programs of various forms will further the growth of both cities.

II. Both cities will encourage contact between their respective business communities with a view to developing mutually beneficial opportunities promoting economic development.

III. As both Randwick and Hangzhou share a reputation for tourism, education and environment protection, special attention will be paid to exchanging expertise and knowledge concerning all aspects of tourism, education and environment protection, etc.

IV. Both sides believe there is much in common between the two cities, and from this day forth pledge to unite with each other as sister cities in future appropriate time.

V. The Municipal Government of Hangzhou designates its Foreign Affairs Office and Randwick City designates its City Planning Department to be responsible for daily liaison in a bid to sustain lasting friendship and cooperation between our two cities.

VI. Done in duplicate in the Chinese and English languages, this memorandum is signed in Hangzhou on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Murray Matson  
Mayor of Randwick  
Commonwealth of Australia

Shao Zhanwei  
Acting Mayor of Hangzhou  
People's Republic of China

Official Sister City Memorandum of Understanding between Randwick City and Hangzhou, China, signed in October 2010 by former Randwick Mayor, Councillor Murray Matson

# Sister Cities

## *Connect globally . . . thrive locally*

The goal of Sister City relationships is to help develop enduring networks of communication between the cities of the world in order to cut across boundaries and reduce the likelihood of polarisation and conflict among nations.

A Sister City Relationship is an agreement between two cities or councils, whereby each city or council agrees to promote mutual understanding, friendship and professional conduct for the benefit of both communities and the promotion of local government.

In order to achieve the stated goals, the cities or councils agree to work toward achieving the following outcomes:

- to facilitate cultural understanding between people from all backgrounds, within both areas and their respective communities
- to promote knowledge and understanding and extend the level of contact through all sectors of the community
- to bring together like-minded interest groups in each area
- to facilitate an exchange of youth at both primary and secondary school levels
- to exchange organisational staff to enrich council training and the development processes.
- to provide a forum for sister-city experiences to be shared for the benefit and improvement of both cities or councils and their communities
- to promote a councillor exchange program to assist the political process in local government
- to develop a relationship between the various sectors of each council to improve work processes
- to facilitate a better understanding of the challenges faced by each council and the actions taken to meet those challenges
- to provide a forum for the exchange of economic, trade, business, sustainability and technical information

## Randwick City Council's Sister Cities

Randwick City Council currently has six active Sister City relationships and each Sister City relationship has developed in a unique and different way. Randwick has three historical Sister City relationships: and three operational Sister City relationships

Randwick, England

Albi, France

Castellorizo, Greece

Hangzhou, China

Temora, Australia

Narrabri, Australia

The purpose of each of these relationships is to work co-operatively for the good governance of both communities by the sharing of knowledge and resources and by fostering dialogue between local sporting, education, business and cultural groups and organisations.



Councillor Anthony Andrews, representing Randwick City Council, at the Hangzhou International Sister Cities Mayor's Conference 2012. Councillor Andrews is with the Mavoral Representative from The Republic of Suriname

Randwick City Council joint activities that have been undertaken within Sister City relationships include the following:

- information and cultural sharing
- overseas Sister Cities Schools' Cultural Exchange Program
- sustainability Schools' Exchange Program
- photographic competitions so that the photos can be exchanged and displayed in the respective council areas to gain an insight into each others environments
- participation in Sister Cities anniversary celebrations
- Surf Safe Program and Randwick Beach Lifeguards visitations
- participation with NSW Sister Cities in the LGMA Management Challenge
- work experience placement at Randwick Council and assistance with temporary staff for skill sharing
- donation of SES vehicle to Temora



Former Randwick City Mayor (2010), John Procopiadis, signing the Sister City Friendship Alliance in September 2010 with former Narrabri Shire Mayor, Councillor Robyn Faber



## Randwick Village - Gloucestershire, England

**Historical Sister City relationship established in 2009**

**Population: 400**

**Area: 1.4 km<sup>2</sup>**

Randwick Village is a small picturesque town on the northern slopes of the Frome valley in Gloucestershire, England. Randwick Village dates back to medieval times and was formerly a centre of the cottage weaving industry prior to the Industrial Revolution (1760-1820).

Although only a small Parish Council of only 110 households, to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee in 2012 the residents of Randwick Village created a continuous length of bunting reaching almost 5 km and broke the world record!

Randwick City and Randwick Village, England, share the same name and a unique bond. In 1842 Simeon Pearce (1821-1886) migrated to Australia, and purchased land which he named Randwick after his Gloucestershire birthplace. Simeon Pearce helped form the Randwick Municipality and was the first Mayor, holding office from 1859 to 1868 and again in 1882. He is known as the 'Father of Randwick' and is buried in the cemetery of the historic St Jukes Anglican Church in Avoca Street, Randwick. Simeon Pearce was the driving force behind the building of St Jude's Church, which was modelled on the church in his home village of Randwick, Gloucestershire.

The sister city relationship with Randwick, England was signed in 2009 celebrating the 150 year anniversary of Randwick City. There are very few Sister City relationships that can be traced back to one of the City's inception and are established on strong historical ties.



Orange Row, Randwick Village, Gloucestershire, England



World Record 5km Continuous Handmade Celebration Bunting



Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee 2012



St Johns Parish Church, Randwick Village, Gloucestershire



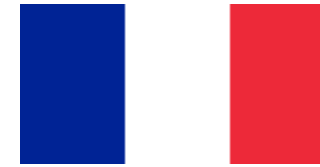
Louis XVI giving Lapérouse his instructions, 17 June 1785



Toulouse Lautrec Museum, Albi, France



Collégiale Saint-Salvi, Albi, France



## Albi - Midi-Pyrénées, France

**Historical Sister City relationship established in 1988**

**Population: 52,500**

**Area: 44.26 km<sup>2</sup>**

Albi is a medieval town located on the River Tam in southern France, and is the birthplace of Jean-François de Galaup, Comte de Lapérouse. Albi has conserved its rich architectural heritage which encapsulates the various brilliant periods of its history. Among many other famous buildings, Albi is the home to the Musée Toulouse-Lautrec, dedicated mainly to the work of the painter Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec who was also born near Albi. It opened in 1922 and is located in Palais de la Berbie, an imposing fortress completed at the end of the 13th century. The museum houses over 1,000 works by Toulouse-Lautrec, which is the largest collection in the world. The museum was funded by a donation by Toulouse-Lautrec's mother after his death in 1901.

Randwick City's connection with Albi dates to January 1788 when Lapérouse landed in Botany Bay, just west of Bare Island, on 24 January, 1788. This was only six days after the arrival of Governor Phillip and the First Fleet.

Lapérouse was on a scientific expedition on behalf of King Louis XVI of France, using the maps created by Captain Cook in 1770. The Lapérouse expedition stayed in Botany Bay for six weeks building a stockade, observatory and garden. In an enduring mystery his ship vanished on its return journey to France, believed to have been shipwrecked, and he was never heard from again.

Traces from of what is believed to be Lapérouse's two frigates, La Boussole and L'Astrolabe, have been found near Vanikoro in the Solomon Islands.

The suburb of La Perouse in Randwick City, close to the site in Botany Bay where Lapérouse landed in 1788, now carries his name.





Castellorizo, Greece



Village of Castellorizo, Greece



Brightly painted houses in Castellorizo



Castellorizan Flag



## Castellorizo - Mediterranean Sea, Greece

**Historical Sister City relationship established in 1995**

**Population: 600**

**Area: 11,987 km<sup>2</sup>**

Castellorizo or *Megisti* is a small Greek island and municipality in the south eastern Mediterranean, east of Rhodes and about two kilometres off the Turkish coast. The community relies on tourism and fishing to boost the island's economy.

The most striking feature of the island is the brightly painted houses, a tradition dating back to the Byzantine and Turkish time, when the colours of the house would display the status of the family.

The ancient town of Castellorizo has a beautiful harbour fringed by red roofed houses. The coastline is precipitous and accessible only on the east side of the island at the site of the village of Castellorizo. A red castle on the hill above the harbour, that was built in the early 1300s by Sosicles Nikagoras and occupied by the Knights of St John in 1306, still stands.

The Church of St Constantine and St Helene on Castellorizo has two Corinthian granite columns from the Temple of Apollo in Patara. Patara is an ancient Lycian city in Turkey that was captured by Alexander the Great in 333 BC. These columns were brought over from Turkey in 1835.

In the early twentieth century the population of the island peaked at about 10,000 people and with a declining economy many residents chose to leave and settle in other countries. A number of families from Castellorizo migrated to Sydney and chose to settle in Randwick City. Many of these families and their descendants remain a part of the Randwick community to this day.



Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province, Eastern China.



Hangzhou depicted in a 1412 French Illumination



Leifeng Pagoda



Statue of Marco Polo, West Lake



## Hangzhou - Zhejiang Province, China,

**Operational Sister City relationship established in 2010**

**Population: 8,700,400**

**Area: 3,372 km<sup>2</sup>**

Hangzhou is the capital and largest city of Zhejiang Province in Eastern China. The city of Hangzhou dates back to before 589 AD and is listed as one of the Seven Ancient Capitals of China.

Hangzhou is renowned for its historic relics and natural beauty. The Venetian merchant Marco Polo supposedly visited Hangzhou in the late 13th century. His book refers to the city as "beyond dispute the finest and the noblest in the world."

Hangzhou is a leader in environmental initiatives and in 2006 Hangzhou hosted the International LivCom Conference at which Randwick Council was successful in winning two prestigious awards.

Randwick City has close ties with the Chinese city of Hangzhou. The two local government areas share knowledge and information, particularly about Randwick's award-winning sustainability practices. A formal delegation from Hangzhou visited Randwick in November 2007 to gain insight about our City and our programs.

In 2009, a formal delegation from China comprised of officials from the Environmental Protection Department of Hangzhou City spent a week in Randwick in celebration of the City's 150 year anniversary. The delegation was briefed on our activities and undertook an inspection of Council's facilities and attended presentations on Randwick Council's environmental practices and achievements.



Temora Town Centre



Temora's Mk VIII Spitfire



Statue of Paleface Adios at Paleface Park



Canola Field, Temora



## Temora - Riverina, NSW, Australia

**Operational Sister City relationship established in 2005**

**Population: 6,500**

**Area: 2,802 km<sup>2</sup>**

Temora Shire Council is situated north of Wagga Wagga in the south west Riverina area of NSW. Temora started as a pastoral station in 1847. Gold was discovered later in the area, and a small village was established. The Temora Post Office opened on 1 February 1874 and the railway came to Temora in 1897. In the early twentieth century, Temora was among a number of places in NSW settled by people of German origin.

The Temora area has a variety of agricultural and farming industries including wheat, canola and sheep. The Temora area is the second largest honey producer in Australia.

The town is also the location of the Temora Aviation Museum, which has a large range of aircraft, including Australia's only two flying Spitfires. The Supermarine Spitfire is a British single-seat fighter aircraft that was used by the Royal Air Force and many other Allied countries throughout the Second World War. Temora Aviation Museum started in late 1999 and as well as telling the history of aviation they restore aircraft to make them airworthy.

Randwick City has forged a close relationship with Temora sharing resources, staff and knowledge to mutually benefit both local government areas. Randwick's Lifeguards regularly teach Temora children about surf safety and Randwick has donated an SES vehicle.

Temora has been reported by The Sydney Morning Herald as being the friendliest town in NSW.



Pilliga Forrest, Narrabri



CSIRO Radio Telescopes, Narrabri



Narrabri Town Centre



## **Narrabri – North West Slopes, NSW, Australia**

**Operational Sister City relationship established in 2010**

**Population: 13,500**

**Area: 13,031 km<sup>2</sup>**

Narrabri Shire is a rural council area located in the North West Slopes area of NSW, halfway between Brisbane and Sydney. The area produces high quality cotton, wheat, sheep and cattle and is also known for mining and gas exploration.

The CSIRO Australia Radio Telescope facility is found just west of Narrabri. Five giant dishes scan the outer reaches of distant space, searching for the secrets of the universe.

Narrabri Lake was transformed by local volunteers from a swamp land into an environmental showpiece and recreational playground for swimmers, canoeists and picnickers. The lake is looped by a scenic 3km walking/cycle track and the islands, located at the southern end of the lake, are a haven for local and migrating birds.

Standing sentinel over the Narrabri Shire is Mt Kaputar National Park. From the 1511 metre summit there are 360-degree views encompassing one tenth of NSW. The park also features Sawn Rocks, a 40-metre high basalt formation resembling a series of giant organ pipes.

The sister city relationship between Randwick and Narrabri is based on mutual understanding, friendship and cooperation for the benefit of both communities and local government in general.

## **Randwick City Council**

30 Frances Street  
Randwick NSW 2031

### **Hours of operation:**

8:30am – 5pm, Monday to Friday  
Call centre: 1300 722 542  
[www.randwick.nsw.gov.au](http://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au)

