Parramatta goes Wilde for Australian-first landmark

Parramatta celebrates the opening of Australia’s first bridge fountain on Barry Wilde Bridge at a special event in July.

The iconic new fountain will create a landmark attraction for Western Sydney and is part of Council’s river foreshore activation program.

The innovative fountain is the first of its kind in Australia and incorporates water, light and colour to form an exciting visual and sensory experience. Animated lighting around the bridge also gives the area further personality and colour, capturing the imagination of a wide audience.

The Bridge Fountain is located on the eastern side of the Barry Wilde Bridge and at night will complement the Elizabeth Street Footbridge, or Oar Bridge, which is known for its brilliant displays at night.

The bridge fountain will improve water quality in the river and provide a better environment for native fish.

There are two levels of water treatment for the fountain water – a filtration unit to remove particles and an ultraviolet light source to kill any bacteria in the water.

The Barry Wilde Bridge Fountain will complement other landscaping and public art along the river foreshore.
Lord Mayor’s Message

Welcome to the Winter edition of Parra Pulse.

Much has been made of Parramatta’s commercial and economic growth over the past 12 months – and rightly so.

As Sydney’s ‘central city’ and one of the biggest CBDs in the country, Parramatta has an important role to play in providing employment, housing and leisure options for the fastest growing region in Australia.

Parramatta is much more than just a commercial centre. It is a place with a pulse, a vibrant place for not just workers, but families, visitors and tourists.

Creating a liveable city is an important focus for Council, and is why we’re committed to the delivery of events which celebrate all the great things about our city including our heritage, our natural environment and our people.

The launch of the Barry Wilde Bridge Fountain recently was just one example, while events like Winterlight and initiatives like our Laneways Strategy do a great job activating small spaces.

I’d also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our resident Paralympian, Kristy Pond, who will be representing the country at this year’s Paralympic Games in London, which starts on 29 August.

Kristy, at just 15 years old, is the youngest female athlete in the Australian team and will be competing in the wheelchair track racing T34 100m and 200m events. On behalf of the Parramatta community, I congratulate Kristy on making the team and wish her the best of luck at the games.

Count reveals reduction in homelessness

More than 100 volunteers braved the cold to take part in Council’s annual homeless street count on the night of Tuesday 8 May.

The count revealed 317 homeless residents – 33 rough sleepers and 284 in emergency and crisis accommodation. These results compared favourably to those from last year, when 354 homeless residents were counted, including 70 rough sleepers.

The reduction in the number of rough sleepers is good news but should be considered with caution as this year’s count was conducted during a much cooler season, resulting in more rough sleepers seeking accommodation in warmer locations.

In addition, the recent provision of extra accommodation and support services has enabled more people to be housed in longer term instead of temporary accommodation.

The data collected helps Council and homeless support services measure progress and better address reducing homelessness in Parramatta.

Have your say and win a signed Eels jersey

Join Council’s Community Voice group and you’ll be in the running to win a Parramatta Eels jersey signed by the current team.

Community Voice is a group of almost 1,000 people who are helping to shape the future of Parramatta City by completing surveys.

Signing up to Community Voice is free and members can take part in as many or as few projects as they wish. Members are invited to special events and go into regular draws to win great prizes.

For your chance to win a signed Parramatta Eels jersey, sign up to Community Voice before 5pm, Friday 27 July. Visit www.parracity.nsw.gov.au/communityvoice

The winner will be announced on Monday 30 July. For more information contact Council on 9806 5084.

JOIN THE EELS!

There is no better time to become a member and support the mighty Pirtek Parramatta Eels. The Pirtek Parramatta Eels offer a fantastic variety of ticketed and non-ticketed membership with a range of benefits. Join before 30 August and mention this story to go in the draw to win an Eels gift pack worth over $100. To join please contact 8843 0300.

Don’t forget to watch the Pirtek Parramatta Eels take on the Sydney Roosters at Parramatta Stadium August 10-13. Purchase a general admission family ticket for the special price of only $40.
Parramatta speeds ahead in NBN rollout

Parramatta will be one of the latest cities to benefit from the rollout of the National Broadband Network (NBN).

In Parramatta, work on the network will start in 2014, and upon completion, will serve homes, businesses, schools and hospitals. The entire NBN project is expected to take about a decade to complete.

The NBN is a vital national infrastructure project that will deliver better communications and connectivity for the entire community. The incredibly fast network will deliver internet speeds of up to 100 megabits a second, which equates to 100 million characters a second.

For more information about the NBN, visit nbnco.com.au.
Library gets digital

Parramatta City Library has taken a leap into the digital age with the launch of a number of e-resources as part of the Your Digital Library initiative.

The launch includes 100 new eBook readers thanks to a $40,000 grant from the NSW State Library. The electronic readers will be available for loan for library members.

Your Digital Library offers a number of exciting new services including:

- New ‘Bookmyne’ app – search and reserve items from smartphones
- eBook service – electronic books you can download and read
- eAudio book service – audio books which can be downloaded to an MP3 player or smartphone
- Freegal Music – legal, downloadable music from the Sony catalogue
- New catalogue – a more innovative, descriptive and interactive online catalogue which provides alerts and searching in community languages

For more information contact Parramatta Library on 9806 5159 or visit parracity.nsw.gov.au/library

Meals delivered straight from the heart

Local residents are being encouraged to take advantage of the local Meals on Wheels service, which delivers nutritionally balanced, fresh and culturally diverse meals to residents unable to prepare their own meals.

Meals on Wheels food services deliver meals to people that are elderly, frail or people with a disability or recuperating from illness or surgery for either short term or long term periods.

The service can also provide a variety of culturally diverse meals to meet a person’s cultural or dietary needs, or preferences.

Parramatta Meals on Wheels provides in excess of 45,000 meals to more than 170 people each year and has 80 volunteers who deliver these meals direct to the customer’s home.

Fresh or frozen meals are delivered Monday to Friday by friendly and reliable volunteers from diverse backgrounds. The cost per meal is $6.50, which includes a main, dessert and juice.

If you are in need of this service or know someone who might, please phone Parramatta Meals on Wheels on 9635 5293 or email mealsonwheels@parracity.nsw.gov.au
Parramatta bids for new A-League team

The Council has put its case forward to Football Federation of Australia (FFA), proposing that Parramatta should be the home of the new Western Sydney A-league side, the Western Sydney Wanderers FC.

Council has established a consortium to advocate for Parramatta and offered a support package, which includes rent-free office and retail space for 12 months and support to engage potential sponsors.

With a strong footballing history, which includes being home to the oldest football association in the country, and access to a strong junior playing base, Parramatta is well placed to help shape the future of the sport in Australia.

Parramatta Stadium, which will stage the Wanderers’ first home game, has a proven capability when it comes to hosting both international and domestic footballing fixtures. The area’s existing infrastructure, combined with an array of ‘after-5’ entertainment, dining and social options, make Parramatta a logical choice for the team’s permanent base.

Inmates to maintain graveyard

Parramatta City Council welcomes the new arrangement between the St John’s Cemetery Trust and Corrective Services to maintain the historic graveyard.

St John’s Cemetery is the oldest European burial ground in Australia with many of the area’s early landholders buried at the site.

These include D’Arcy Wentworth of Wentworthville, John Harris of Harris Park, the Blaxland family, Mary Kelly of Kellyville and Mary Pymble of Pymble.

ParraSync takes out top award

Parramatta’s own innovative smart card – ParraSync – has fought off heavyweight competition from the Commonwealth Bank and Google to win a major award at the Smart Card Awards Asia in Singapore.

ParraSync won the award for Best Near-Field Communication Collaboration Initiative.

This Australian-first initiative will integrate access to many areas of city-living into one card or smart-phone application. It will revolutionise the way users work, live and play in Parramatta.

Card holders and mobile users will be able to access Council-owned car parks, use it as a security tag to access work buildings, borrow from local libraries, purchase items from businesses, access loyalty programs and more.

The initiative was developed by a technology consortium comprising Parramatta City Council, STMicroelectronics and Globas, and is supported by the NSW Government’s Collaborative Solutions – Mobile Concierge initiative.

ParraSync is currently in a trial phase and will be available for distribution later this year. For more information visit parrasync.com.au
Eight reserves declared
Wildlife Protection Areas

To protect unique native animal species at risk of extinction, Parramatta City Council has declared eight local bushland reserves as Wildlife Protection Areas (WPA).

From 1 October 2012, cats that are found in a WPA will put owners at risk of an on-the-spot fine of $110, with owners of dogs observed off-leash liable for a $220 on-the-spot fine.

Local bushland reserves that have been declared as WPAs are:

• Duck River Bushland Reserve (South Granville)
• Edna Hunt Sanctuary (Eastwood, Epping)
• Cox Park & Galaringi Reserve (Carlingford, Dundas Valley)
• Lake Parramatta Reserve (North Parramatta)
• Quarry Branch Creek (Northmead, Winston Hills)
• Upper Toongabbie Creek (Constitution Hill, Northmead, Winston Hills)
• Vineyard Creek Reserve (Dundas, Oatlands, Telopea)
• Campbell Hill Pioneer Reserve & Waddangalli Woodland (Guildford)

To report incidents of cats and dogs that are off-leash in a Wildlife Protection Areas, contact Council on 9806 5050. For more information about responsible pet ownership or Wildlife Protection Areas, visit parracity.nsw.gov.au > LIVE > Pet Ownership.

Keep fires in the fireplace and out of your bin this winter

Parramatta City Council and Cleanaway are reminding local residents to dispose of waste correctly.

Fires occurring in waste collection trucks have become increasingly common in recent years. These fires are dangerous to vehicle drivers and the community.

Unfortunately, truck fires also waste the efforts of households recycling correctly as tonnes of recyclable materials are sent to landfill after being extinguished.

Potentially flammable items should not go into the household collection system including gas bottles, fire extinguishers, corrosive chemicals and car or large batteries.

Ash and coal from fireplaces should, wherever possible, not be placed in a household bin. Instead, they can be better used in the garden to help with composting.

Residents who are unsure about what can go in their bin should visit parracity.nsw.gov.au > LIVE > Waste and Recycling section. Alternatively, contact Council on 9806 5544 to speak directly to an officer from our waste department.
Activating Parramatta one laneway at a time

Council’s strategy to activate Parramatta’s laneways has gained momentum with a number of smaller boutique-style cafes, shops, eateries and events flourishing across the city centre.

Council has commenced work on Darcy Lane and is currently coordinating plans for the introduction of a sustainable community garden, new seating and other urban design features that will activate this small space in the centre of Parramatta’s CBD.

Parramatta City Council adopted its Laneways Strategy in March 2011, aimed at reviewing the City’s laneways and small spaces and identifying how these can be connected as part of one integrated network.

Red Cow Lane was one of the first to be revitalised and named, attracting the interest of retailers looking to maximise the innovative new space and even hosting an event with one of the world’s leading city strategists, Gil Penalosa.

Red Cow lane is one of more than 50 laneways in Parramatta, which is home to NSW’s largest lane network outside of the Sydney CBD.

For more information or to view Council’s strategy visit parracity.nsw.gov.au/work

Social enterprise boosts local African community

New social enterprise, the African Village Market, launched in June after more than a year’s successful trial in providing social connectivity, business income and English language skills to African women.

The African Village Market brings together socially isolated African women from the Congo, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Sudan and Rwanda to create and sell traditional products, learn about the Australian business environment and share information about the community services they may be accessing.

Much of the Market’s success can be attributed to its Founder and Director, Rosemary Kariuki-Fyfe, Parramatta’s 2012 Citizen of the Year. Rosemary is the driving force behind the Market and a community leader among African women in NSW as well as a Multicultural Community Liaison Officer with the Holroyd Local Area Command, NSW Police Force.

The market currently operates out of two temporary shops in Greenway Plaza, Parramatta, and has recently received $5000 in funding by Parramatta City Council’s Social Enterprise Grants program to help grow the business.
Live Green. Be Green.

Take a walk on the wild side of Parramatta

The first Spotlight Walk held by Council after some years took place at Lake Parramatta Reserve during the April school holidays. The family-friendly event involved a two-hour spotlight bushwalk under a starlit night sky.

Participants were not disappointed on the night, with the sighting of three Tawny Frogmouths, one Southern Boobook Owl and a Ringtail Possum.

Based on the positive feedback, Council held a second night walk in early June 2012, and is considering similar events for the future. Keep an eye out for future events on Council’s online events calendar at parracity.nsw.gov.au

Keeping electronic waste out of landfill

Ten tonnes of electronic waste (e-waste) was collected at a recent e-waste drop off event in Parramatta. e-waste includes computer monitors, televisions, stereos, electric tools, mobile phones, DVD players, and kitchen appliances.

Some facts about e-waste:

- 75% of the 3 million computers bought in Australia every year will end up in landfill.
- In 2007/8, 16.8 million computers reached their end of life. Of this, only 9% will be recycled.
- Most e-waste contains metals such as copper, aluminium, gold, silver and tin, all of which are recyclable.

For residents that missed out on the event, there is good news! The Federal Government is planning to establish a permanent e-waste solution locally within the next 6 to 12 months.

For more information visit parracity.nsw.gov.au > LIVE > Waste and Recycling or phone 9806 5544.

Council moves to prevent further environmental destruction

Council has called on NSW energy providers to update their Vegetation Management Plans and stop the unnecessary destruction of urban plant life.

Lord Mayor of Parramatta, Cr Lorraine Wearne, said that Endeavour Energy’s tree pruning contractor, Asplundh, had irresponsibly vandalised a number of trees throughout the area.

Despite meeting with Endeavour Energy, which acknowledged the errors, no action was taken to penalise or sanction Asplundh.

"I’m very disappointed with the response from Endeavour Energy and Council will be writing to the State Government, including the Ministers for the Environment, Heritage, and Resources and Energy, asking for action to be taken," Cr Wearne said.

Council will also encourage other Sydney councils to lobby Endeavour Energy and other energy providers to change their Vegetation Management Plans and will also write to its local and federal representatives to seek their support.

"Council is hosting a National Tree Day event at Baronbali Street Reserve in Dundas on Sunday 29 July 2012. This is your chance to join your local community and make a difference by taking part in this fantastic conservation project."

The event will run from 10am to 1pm, and will include a special appearance by ‘Feature Creatures’ and a free BBQ lunch. For more information and to RSVP for this event phone 9806 5722 or visit treeday.planetark.org/site/50836
Death 3
Exhibition

Death 3 is the final in a series of three exhibitions curated by Fiona Davies at the Parramatta Artists Studios. Fiona imagined death for the first time in her life during the 11 months her father was hospitalised prior to his death in 2001.

The exhibition will feature video work, installations, drawings and printmaking.

Artists: Marian Abboud, Roohi Ahmed, David Capra, Fiona Davies, Spring Hurlbut (Canada), Abdullah M.I. Syed.

Curator: Fiona Davies

Exhibition dates:
12 – 4pm Mon to Fri, 9 July – 7 September
12 – 4pm Sat to Sun, 8 – 9 September

Parramatta Artists Studios, 45 Hunter Street, Parramatta. For further information call 9687 6090.

Sacred Music Festival

From 9–18 September, Sydney will experience the sounds of some of the world’s most ancient traditions and new cross-cultural devotional sounds.

Parramatta will once again be a major focus of the Sacred Music Festival with events at the Riverside Theatres and Parramatta Artists Studios.

- Riverside Theatres
  Sacred film screenings, performances and an industry panel discussion. Highlights include a music performance of cross-cultural musicians led by Tenzin Choegyal, a Tibetan singer/songwriter.

- Parramatta Artists Studios
  Tibetan Monks will be in residence, working with local contemporary artists exploring and teaching sacred art.
  Lunchtime Sacred music performances from 3–7 September.

For more information visit sydneysacredmusicfestival.org

Parramala returns to Parramatta

Parramasala, the Australian Festival of South Asian Arts, returns to Parramatta from 8–11 November 2012!

Immerse yourself in the rich artistic traditions and cultures that originate in South Asia as top performers from around the world bring you music, dance, theatre, film and visual arts.

The festival will transform Church St Mall into a South Asian bazaar, featuring free performances, workshops and markets with traditional food, fashion and handicrafts, creating an authentic experience that can only be found at Parramatta.

Parramasala is presented by Parramasala Limited and is supported by Destination NSW and Parramatta City Council. For more information visit parramasala.com.
What’s On

Riverside Theatres

**Don Giovanni 10–11 August**
Opera Australia brings to life opera’s greatest Casanova in this exciting new production of Mozart’s classic masterpiece.

**School Holiday Fun**
Riverside will host a range of free school holiday activities to entertain and delight children of all ages. Events include:

- **This [Baby] Life 24–26 September**
  (For children 4–18 Months old)
  This ground-breaking and beautiful production explores the moment by moment fascination of being a baby.

- **Rolling Home 25–29 September**
  (For children 3–7 years old)
  A fun-filled musical adventure about what makes home the best place in the world.

- **Circus Oz 27–29 September**
  No simple balloon tricks here, this circus is jam packed with daredevilry and jaw-dropping antics performed by some of Australia’s best circus artists as you’ve never seen them before.

For further information and session times visit riversideparramatta.com.au

Library

**Lunch Hour Author Talk**
15 August 1pm–2pm
Sandy Brocking - Think Smart & Lose Weight
Parramatta Library
Cost: Free
Bookings essential

**Children’s Book Week 11am–12pm**
(Ages 12 and under)
Interactive story time
Cost: Free
Bookings essential

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Parramatta</td>
<td>14–16 August</td>
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<td>Guildford</td>
<td>20 August</td>
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<td>Constitution Hill</td>
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**Understanding Stomach Cancer in Cantonese by Dr Ken Loi**
24 August 10am–11:30am
Parramatta City Library
Cost: Free
Bookings not required.

For bookings or more information call 9806 5159.

Events Calendar

**Highlights**

- **Junior Pro-Am Golf 25 September**
  Woodville Golf Course, South Granville
  25th Annual Golf Tournament with amateurs, juniors and professionals

- **Eat St Sunday 7 October**
  Church Street Mall
  Cooking displays, chefs and music!

- **48 Hour Film Festival 7 October**
  Riverside Theatres
  Short film competition

For more events visit parracity.nsw.gov.au

Local Government Week

Local Government Week will be held from 13 to 19 August is an opportunity to celebrate the important work undertaken by councils across the country.

This year’s theme is *Local knowledge. Local services. Local community.*

Local councils manage community needs including:

- Collecting garbage
- Street cleaning
- Approving building works
- Libraries
- Sports facilities
- Parks and gardens
- Recycling services
- Child care centres
- Community events

Find out more about the important services provided by Council to improve the quality of life for its residents. Visit parracity.nsw.gov.au for more information.
Contact your Councillors

The Councillors’ Support Officer (phone 9806 5066) can put you in touch with the Councillors that represent your Ward. Alternatively you can contact them directly on the following numbers.

**ARThUR PHILLIP WARD**

- Cr Julia Finn  
  Mob: 0414 190 202
- Cr Chiang Lim  
  Mob: 0427 277 299
- Cr Prabir Maitra  
  Mob: 0448 480 323

**WOODVILLE WARD**

- Cr Paul Garrard  
  Mob: 0414 504 504
- Cr Tony Issa, OAM  
  Mob: 0413 333 300
- Cr Glenn Elmore  
  Mob: 0408 605 451

**LACHLAN MACQUARIE WARD**

- Cr Pierre Esber  
  Mob: 0414 190 204
- Cr Lorraine Wearne  
  Lord Mayor Office: 9806 5067
- Cr Andrew Wilson  
  Deputy Lord Mayor  
  Mob: 0414 190 205

**ELIZABETH MACARTHUR WARD**

- Cr John Chedid  
  Mob: 0431 506 055
- Cr Michael McDermott  
  Mob: 0408 650 417
- Cr Mark Lack  
  Mob: 0418 207 366

**CAROLINE CHISHOLM WARD**

- Cr Paul Barber  
  Mob: 0414 980 605
- Cr Andrew Bide  
  Mob: 0458 784 540
- Cr Scott Lloyd  
  Mob: 0414 730 254

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Parramatta Heritage Centre

Twitter: @parracity  
@discoverparra  
@parralibrary

**Council Services**

**Swimming Pools**

- Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Pool  
  O’Connell Street, Parramatta  
  Tel: 9630 3669
- Granville Swimming Centre  
  Enid Avenue, Granville  
  Tel: 9637 1593

**Libraries**

- Parramatta City Library  
  Address: Civic Place, Parramatta  
  Tel: 9806 5159
- Dundas Valley Branch Library  
  Address: Sturt Street, Telopea  
  Tel: 9638 1146

**The Parramatta Heritage & Visitors Centre**

- Address: 346A Church Street, Parramatta  
  (opposite Riverside Theatres)  
  Tel: 8839 3300  
  Fax: 9683 5608

**Meals on Wheels**

Shop 3, 10 Hunter Street, Parramatta  
Tel: 9635 5293

**Councill’s Waste Hotline**

Tel: 9806 5544

**Parramatta City Council**

30 Darcy Street Parramatta NSW 2150  
PO Box 32, Parramatta NSW 2124

Telephone: (02) 9806 5050  
Facsimile: (02) 9806 5917

Email: council@parracity.nsw.gov.au  
Website: www.parracity.nsw.gov.au

**Lord Mayor’s Website Page**


Parra Pulse
Welcome to the July-September edition of Parramatta City Council’s community newsletter, *Parra Pulse*.

On the front page you can read about Australia’s first bridge fountain launched recently on Parramatta’s Barry Wilde Bridge. The new fountain has created a landmark attraction for Western Sydney.

You’ll also find important information about the upcoming local government election, and a special 8-page feature on the highlights and major projects completed during the 2008-12 Council term.

Read about Council’s Economic Development Forum, which was held at the Opera House on 16 May and attended by some of the country’s most influential leaders. The forum called for a re-think on the way Sydney will operate in the future, and placed greater importance on the role Western Sydney will have.

There are also a range of exciting events and activities coming up including the return of Parramasala and the Sacred Music Festival.

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Welcome to the July-September edition of *Parra Pulse*, Parramatta City Council’s community newsletter.

Service on 9806 5050, Monday to Friday, 8.30am on your behalf to contact Parramatta Customer Service (9806 5050), Monday to Friday, 8.30am on your behalf to contact Parramatta Customer Service (9806 5050).

Parramatta Barry Wilde Bridge

Barry Wilde Bridge was opened in December 2011 and has become a landmark attraction for Western Sydney. The fountain on the bridge consists of 9806 5050, Monday to Friday, 8.30am on your behalf to contact Parramatta Customer Service (9806 5050).

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