

Bayside NEWS Council

APRIL 2022

Mayor's Message



This month Council is proud to support our local RSL Sub Branches to commemorate ANZAC Day and honour the service and sacrifice of our original ANZACs and those who paid the ultimate price for the freedom we enjoy today.

We also remember and pay tribute to the men and women who continue to serve and defend our values and freedoms in wars and peacekeeping operations around the world.

This year the ANZAC flags flying across Bayside feature the images of six local heroes as a tribute to all our heroes.

I urge all residents, their family and friends to join their local RSL veterans and attend one of the local services. It is important we keep the legacy alive and continue to educate the younger generation.

I am pleased that Council is now working on an exciting events program for the rest of the year to help reinvigorate our community following COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns.

The Streets Alive festival will give the community an opportunity to discover that our foreshore is not just a summer wonderland, but it is also a great place to visit and spend time during winter.

Our new Committee Meetings in the Botany Town Hall are open to the public and residents can register to speak at them. You can find the agendas and minutes on Council's website.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your patience during the recent wet weather where our LGA received over 470mm of rain. This made it difficult to get our natural open space areas and sports fields mowed and detailed. It also caused delays for many of our usual services like waste collection.

Dr Christina Curry
Mayor



Council will welcome the winter season in style with a two-day festival on Bay Street, Brighton Le Sands on the second weekend in May.

"Bay Street will be closed to traffic and transformed into a vibrant community hub with ice-skating, an open-air cinema and live entertainment," Mayor Curry said.

"Council will engage artists to create lasting murals in local laneways and temporary art works on the street and footpath turning Bay Street into a burst of colour, light and sound."

Mayor Dr Christina Curry said the money would be invested in drawing people back to local businesses and showcasing what Bayside has to offer.

"It will give the community an opportunity to discover that our foreshore is not just a summer wonderland, but it is also a great place to visit and spend time during the winter months.

The State Government, through the Department of Planning and Environment, has given each of the 13 Local Government Areas listed as 'areas of concern' during COVID-19 and subjected to harsher lockdowns, a grant of \$500,000 to close a high street and open it up for community events, outdoor dining and activities.

Stories Behind the Patriotic Flag

The restored Bexley Patriotic Flag now hanging in the Rockdale Town Hall vestibule was transferred to Bayside Council by the St George Historical Society in 2020.

The flag was created in 1915 when fifty-nine people bid to have their names embroidered on an Australian flag to raise funds for World War I.

This flag has a red background, the colour of flags flown by merchant ships registered in Australia.

Up until the *Flags Act 1953*, these flags were sometimes flown on land.

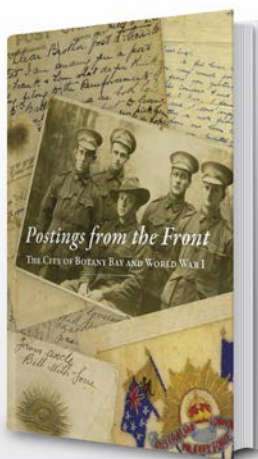
This historic flag has been restored and framed for future generations to appreciate.



ANZAC Day GIVE AWAY

As part of the Bayside ANZAC Day commemorations, Council is giving away copies of *Postings from the Front*, which details the lives and experiences of the men and women from Botany and Mascot who served during World War I.

To reserve your free copy email community_history_team@bayside.nsw.gov.au by Friday 4 May 2022. Please include your name, email address, a phone number and library where you would like to collect your free copy.



Alfred & George Benham



Alfred Henry Benham Service No. 2249

Material related to the WWI service of Botany brothers Alfred and George Benham was donated to Bayside Library in June 2021.

Alfred Benham died of wounds on 15 August 1915, age 20. Among the belongings returned to his mother was a 1912 The 'Wellcome' Photographic Exposure Record and Diary.

This annual pocketbook was intended for photographers and it included examples of photographs as well as allocating space for the keeping of records of photographs taken by the owner.

The book is inscribed 'Mrs J. Benham, Tenterden St., Botany' on the inside cover.



George Benham Service No. 465

On page 196 is written: 'George wounded 23.8.18 at 5 a.m. Badge number 181978 [?] 45876 received 16 April 1919'. Also returned to Mrs Benham was a copy of Alfred Benham's will.

The Australian War Memorial has a photograph with the caption:

Studio portrait of 2249 Acting Corporal Alfred Henry Benham, 13th Battalion. A clerk of Botany NSW, he enlisted on 14 May 1915 and sailed with the 6th Reinforcements aboard HMAT Wandilla on 14 June 1915. He died of wounds, aged 20, on 15 August 1915 in Egypt and is buried at Chatby War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt. He is believed to be the first soldier from Botany to be killed in action during the First World War.



Bayside Donates to Flood Relief

Council will donate \$5000 to the NSW Flood Appeal on behalf of the Bayside community and will also offer a free collection of flood damaged items for Bayside's flood-affected residents.

"In April 2021 Council resolved to donate funds in response to a flood crisis that was described at the time as a once in 50-year flood event and not even 12 months later here we are again watching in shock and grief as yet another unprecedented rain event tragically upends the lives of thousands of people across NSW," Mayor Dr Christina Curry said.

"On behalf of Council I'd like to acknowledge the hard work of our first responders and volunteers who give their all, including risking their own lives to help others in times of emergency.

"We thank them for their tireless work, and for providing the support needed for those whose lives have been impacted by disaster.

"I am proud of our Council and our community. We have shown that we are always ready to support those in need during emergency or crisis.

Council will donate \$5,000 through the GIVIT program, which is an online donation platform that manages financial donations to ensure that 100% of the donated monies are directed according to donors' directions. This includes purchase of essential items, supplies or services by people directly impacted.



SERVICES

PRE-ANZAC DAY MARCH SUNDAY 24 APRIL 2022

Mascot RSL Sub-Branch and Bayside Council

2:15pm: March from Mascot Library to Memorial Park.
2:40pm: Wreath Laying Service, Cenotaph Ceremony, Mascot Memorial Park, Coward Street, Mascot.
Contact: 1300 581 299.

ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICES MONDAY 25 APRIL 2022

Botany RSL Sub-Branch and Bayside Council

6am: Memorial and Wreath Laying Service, Cenotaph Ceremony at Booralee Park, corner Bay and Daniel Streets, Botany. Contact: 1300 581 299.

Arncliffe RSL Sub-Branch

6am: Memorial and Wreath Laying Service, Cenotaph Arncliffe Park, 71B Wollongong Road, Arncliffe.
Contact: 9567 3966.

Bexley RSL Sub-Branch

6am: Memorial and Wreath Laying Service at the RSL Club, 24 Stoney Creek Road, Bexley.
Contact: 9502 1966.

Brighton Le Sands RSL Sub-Branch

6am: Memorial and Wreath Laying Service at the Memorial next to the RSL Club, 251 Bay Street, Brighton Le Sands. Contact: 9567 5157.

Earlwood / Bardwell Park / Marrickville RSL Sub-Branch

6am: Dawn and Wreath Laying Service at the RSL, 18 Hartill-Law Avenue, Bardwell Park.
Contact: 9335 9999.

Kingsgrove RSL Sub-Branch

6:30am: Assemble at the corner between Shaw Street and Kingsgrove Road.
7am: March to Kingsgrove RSL Club/Memorial Park.
7:15am: Service Commences. Contact: 9336 1500.

Ramsgate Rockdale RSL Sub-Branch

6:30am: Assemble at the Sans Souci Literary Institute corner Campbell Street and Ramsgate Road, Ramsgate.
7am: March to the Ramsgate RSL Club for Memorial and Wreath Laying Service at 7:30am.
Contact: 9504 8000.

Call your local RSL Sub-Branch for more information.

Did You Know?

The Bayside LGA has received over 470mm of rain as a result of the current weather patterns, making it virtually impossible to get our natural open space areas mowed and detailed ready for the winter sporting season.

Grounds that take a few hours to mow under normal growing conditions are taking double that time to mow, and some are so wet we can't mow them at all without causing damage to the surface of the fields.

Please be patient (with staff and the weather) and as soon as the sporting fields dry out enough, we'll be out there getting them ready as quick as we can and ready for play.

Trees for Mum

Join Mayor Dr Christina Curry and Bayside Councillors to plant a native tree in honour of the mother you would like to recognise and help us increase the local tree canopy.



Saturday 7 May

Botany Golf Course 9:00am – 10:00am
Meet at SJB car park off Fremlin Street Botany

John Curtin Memorial Reserve 10:45am – 11:45am
Meet at John Curtin car park on High Street Mascot

Silver Jubilee Park 12:30pm – 1:30pm
Meet at Silver Jubilee Alsace Avenue Bardwell Valley

Tindale Reserve 2:15pm – 3:15pm
Meet at Tindale Reserve Mill Street Carlton

Scott Park 4:00pm – 5:00pm
Meet at Napoleon Street opposite Blucher Street Sans Souci



Please wear suitable clothing, shoes and a hat.

To take part you must register by Friday 22 April 2022 at:
www.bayside.nsw.gov.au/tree4mum



Peta-Joy Williams, Durrur Yarruwala (Always Strong), Winner of the 2020 First Nations Art Competition

Reconciliation Action Plan

Bayside Council's first Reconciliation Action Plan, an important document produced in collaboration with Reconciliation Australia, has been signed off by Council.

"Our diversity is our greatest strength, however we must always first, and foremost acknowledge our history began with our First Nations people. Thank you to everyone who contributed," Bayside Mayor Dr Christina Curry said.

Council is now working with NGNY to design the final version of the Reconciliation Action Plan.

Ron Rathbone Local History Competition

The Ron Rathbone Local History Competition will be held again in 2022. Entries can be submitted between 26 April and 19 July 2022.

More information visit Council's website at: www.bayside.nsw.gov.au/community/arts-and-culture/ron-rathbone-local-history-competition

NO Matraville Incinerator

Bayside and Randwick Councils have branded their garbage trucks to send a clear message – No incinerator in Matraville.

The proposed Matraville incinerator will have negative impacts on residents in our community, so we're working together with the Mayor of Randwick Dylan Parker, the Member for Kingsford Smith the Hon. Matt Thistlewaite MP, and the Member for Maroubra Michael Daley MP.

Show your objection by signing the petition at:
<https://nomoreincinerators.wordpress.com/object-2>



COUNCIL'S PROJECTS



100% Renewable Energy

Bayside Council is part of a consortium of 25 councils that has agreed to receive energy from three NSW solar farms in one of the largest renewable energy deals for local government.

“This is part of Bayside Council’s ongoing investment in renewable energy. We all want to see a greener, environmentally friendly, and sustainable Council,” Mayor Dr Christina Curry said.

Greening Bayside

Bayside Council has secured \$350k under the State Government’s 5 Million Trees initiative that will be used to plant 1113 new trees in Bayside.

“This is wonderful news. All these new trees will be supplied by the Bayside Garden Centre and help improve our tree canopy and increase the diversity of our urban forest,” Mayor Dr Christina Curry said.

Council has selected over 20 parks to ensure the trees are distributed evenly throughout the LGA by the end of October. The Bayside Garden Centre will supply the plants that will range in size from 1m to 2m.



Botany Pool Upgrade

Council will begin work on stage one of the Botany Aquatic Centre upgrade after the pool closes for winter in April.

Stage one will see the return of the water slides to the pool, as well as a family friendly water play park sponsored by Sydney Airport.

Work is expected to start after this swimming season this year.



Wolli Creek Park

A vacant site in the heart of Wolli Creek will be transformed into a recreational park for local families following Bayside Council’s successful deal with the NSW Government to purchase the land for \$3.9m.

The new park would be a welcome, and much needed addition, to the Wolli Creek landscape.

“It’s a big win for residents and we are very excited to explore the full potential of what can be included within this space with them,” Mayor Dr Christina Curry said.



Bayside Recognises its History

Bayside Council has endorsed a plan to allow residents to nominate historic sites that will be formally recognised with appropriate plaques and signage.

“This initiative will allow residents to nominate a number of sites annually that recognise our history, heritage, and culture,” Bayside Mayor Dr Christina Curry said.

“Bayside has a rich history of people and events that have shaped the area we call home.

“This history should be celebrated and acknowledged through appropriate plaques and interpretive signs at places of historical significance. Without these reminders of the past the history of our beautiful Bayside will be forgotten.”

Council will collaborate with the Botany Historical Trust and the St George Historical Society to assess the nominations and determine which sites will be acknowledged each year.

Mayor & Councillors **Out & About**



STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Council recently recognised 64 local students who displayed exceptional leadership qualities or excelled in their academic studies, chosen sport or the arts during 2021. The students were nominated by their school as part of Council's annual Student Excellence Awards. The Mayor and Councillors hosted two award ceremonies which were held in the Rockdale and Botany Town Halls.



MASCOT PUBLIC SCHOOL CENTENARY

Mayor Curry joined the Mascot Public School Centenary celebrations and presented the school with a Certificate of Recognition on Monday 21 March. Councillor Jo Jansyn, Member for Kingsford Smith the Hon. Matt Thistlethwaite MP and Member for Heffron Mr. Ron Hoenig MP also attended the celebrations.

GET INTO GOLF

Mayor Dr Christina Curry caught up with the women from Get Into Golf at their on course lesson at the Botany Golf Course. During the 14-week program participants are taught all aspects of the game including rules and etiquette. Many of the women go on to play socially at the Botany Golf Course.



BOTANY HISTORICAL TRUST AGM

Cr Jo Jansyn, Cr Jenny Muscat, Ron Hoenig MP (Member for Heffron); Anne Slattery (outgoing President) and Rob Hanna (incoming President) at the Botany Historical Trust Annual General Meeting on Monday 28 March at Mascot Library.



ARNCLIFFE YOUTH CENTRE

Mayor Dr Christina Curry and Councillor Jo Jansyn recently visited the Arncliffe Youth Centre to learn more about Charity Bounce. They also had a chance to try out the new court upgrade. Charity Bounce runs basketball programs at the Arncliffe Youth Centre and has rejuvenated the facilities into the first official Curry Brand basketball court outside of the US.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Council celebrated International Women's Day with an informative networking evening at the Ramsgate RSL Memorial Club on Friday 11 March. It was an opportunity to hear from exceptional women, including: the Hon. Linda Burney MP, Member for Barton; Mayor Dr Christina Curry; Sallianne Faulkner, President of Ramsgate RSL; Meredith Wallace, Council's General Manager; and Centre of Volunteering 2021 Young Volunteer of the Year Cooper Fenton.



ABILITY ARTS MARKET

Mayor Dr Christina Curry with stallholders at the Windgap Foundation's Ability Arts Market on Saturday 26 March. "This Ability Arts Market is the first of its kind in Sydney and celebrates the diversity in our community. I am amazed by the artistic talent that is represented here today," the Mayor said.

MOBILE OFFICE

Mayor Dr Christina Curry and Councillors held a successful series of mobile offices in Bexley, Botany, Mascot, Ramsgate, Rockdale, and Wollri Creek engaging with residents on Bayside's Community Strategic Plan and other issues. The Local Member for Kogarah and Opposition Leader, Chris Minns MP joined them in Bexley.



BAYSIDE GARDEN CENTRE

The Bayside Garden Centre made a healthy profit despite recent COVID-19 restrictions. "The Centre is one of our success stories. It is a wonderful partnership with the Intellectual Disability Foundation of St George that provides jobs for those with a disability," the Mayor said. Spiro Pissas, CEO of the Intellectual Disability Foundation of St George, presented Council with a cheque for \$35,306. The Intellectual Disability Foundation also received \$35,306.



NOEL SEIFFERT AWARD

Councillor Paul Sedrak visited the Ramsgate Senior Citizens Centre where he presented the Noel Seiffert Memorial Award to Beverley Kirby. This annual award is given to a member who has made a significant contribution to the Ramsgate Senior Citizens Centre and the issues affecting our senior residents.

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

COUNCILLORS WARD 1



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Chris Minns MP
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رمضان في باي سايد

RAMADAN
AT BAYSIDE

Saturday 30 April 2022
7pm - 11:30pm

Food markets in Walz Street
Rockdale

HAVE YOUR SAY 




Flood Zone

Following the recent weather events we need your help to identify new flood prone hotspots in Bayside.
<https://haveyoursay.bayside.nsw.gov.au>

Bayside Customer Service Centres

EASTGARDENS Westfield Eastgardens, 152 Bunnerong Road

ROCKDALE Rockdale Library, 444-446 Princes Highway

Open from Monday to Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm and Saturday 9am - 12pm.

Check Council's website at www.bayside.nsw.gov.au for latest updates.



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