

PENRITH CITY COMMUNITY NEWS

The official newsletter of Penrith City Council
December 2019 edition



A COOL CHANGE IS COMING TO PENRITH'S AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS

Make a splash and enjoy hours of family fun at Cables Wake Park.

Free water sports, activities and entertainment for all ages!

Parking on site and free shuttle buses from Batt St Jamison Park, near netball courts.

Conditions of entry to Cables Wake Park include: No smoking. No alcohol. No glass. No pets. No take-away food/drink. No skateboards, scooters, rollerblades or bikes. No aggressive behaviour. Children must be supervised at all times.

Plus, if you're keen for a swim dive into Ripples Penrith and St Marys with free entry on Australia Day!

1 hour **wakeboarding** sessions (over 10yrs)*

1 hour **Aqua Park** sessions (over 6yrs)*

Waterslides, jumping castle, **splash pad** (under 6yrs)

Water stunt shows, DJ & **Food vendors**

*pre-registration required for free activities.

PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

the western
weekender

88
VINTAGE


Australia Day

Learn more and register
for water activities at:
penrith.city/ausday

Penrith Civic Centre
601 High Street, Penrith

**Queen Street Customer
Service Centre**
207-209 Queen Street, St Marys

Fax: 4732 7958
Email: council@penrith.city
www.penrith.city

 /penrithcitycouncil
 /penrithcitycouncil



PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

Ph: 4732 7777

/penrith.city.council
/penrithcouncil

SOUTH WARD



Jim Aitken OAM
0418 288 488



Brian Cartwright
0448 084 568



Mark Davies
0416 085 597



Dep Mayor
Karen McKeown OAM
0401 995 945



Kath Presdee
0417 396 841

EAST WARD



Bernard Bratusa
0420 581 225



Todd Carney
0417 762 219



Robin Cook
0428 056 619



Greg Davies
0419 177 259



Tricia Hitchen
0417 365 313

NORTH WARD



Marcus Cornish
0481 033 419



Kevin Cramer OAM
0401 995 825



Aaron Duke
0404 085 981



Mayor
Ross Fowler OAM
0419 738 484



John Thain
0411 427 812

You can stay up to date with Council news and events by following Council on Twitter and liking Council's page on Facebook.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Summer has officially arrived on the back of record November temperatures, and Council remains steadfast in our commitment to Cooling our City and helping our residents 'beat the heat'.

Along with planting more trees, erecting shade sails and including water play features in local parks, we're also bringing together thought leaders on the challenge of urban heat at a Cooling the City Masterclass in February, to showcase and explore our initiatives in continuing to create a more liveable city.

When the heat is extreme this summer, I encourage you to seek refuge in one of Penrith's library branches or our local shopping centres. Older and younger residents are the most vulnerable to extreme heat, so please check on elderly family and neighbours and make sure your children remain well hydrated.

To help our residents stay cool on Australia Day, we'll be holding our 2020 community celebration at Cables Wake Park. You will be invited to book a free 50 minute session on the Cable Lake or Aqua Park ahead of the day and, once your session is over, you and the family can relax and picnic around the lake while enjoying more free water activities and entertainment.

As part of the Australia Day fun, you can also take advantage of free entry to Ripples at Penrith and St Marys on January 26. A community BBQ will be on offer, with all



proceeds going to a local charity.

I am proud to share that Ripples recently won the 2019 National AUSTSWIM Recognised Swim Centre of the Year award. The award caps an outstanding year for the popular facility which also received awards from Swim Australia (Best Swim School Marketing, Promotions and Customer Service) and the Australian Swim Schools Association (ASSA Community Service Award).

I wish everyone a cool, safe and happy festive season. I hope to see you at our Australia Day celebrations and our other community events throughout this summer holiday period.

Cr Ross Fowler OAM
Penrith City Mayor

HAVE YOUR SAY

Council consults extensively with the community on a range of projects and work in development.

LET'S PLAN PENRITH'S FUTURE TOGETHER

From January next year onwards, Council will be reaching out to local residents, businesses and service providers to develop a collective vision for Penrith's future. This vision will inform our ten-year Community Strategic Plan. The Plan will set out our community's priorities and guide the roadmap for how we will get there.

By 2030, we will have a new airport and new rail networks, while our population will have grown to an estimated 245,000. So that Council can continue building a City which supports and enhances community life, we need to understand your expectations, challenges and aspirations. Your input will help to ensure that Council's programs, projects and activities over the coming years are crafted to respond to our community's needs.

TELL US

Register at yoursaypenrith.com.au to join the conversation

For more information, visit:

- yoursaypenrith.com.au/influence
- Any Penrith City Library branch
- Penrith or St Marys office



BIG BOOST FOR OUTDOOR SPORTS & PLAY

Penrith City Council is planning for massive investment, which will see existing sports and recreational facilities overhauled as well as new ones built. As our City grows in size and numbers, it's important for our recreation spaces to keep up with increasing demand. Quality of life is what sets Penrith apart; it's a major reason why our community love living here. Getting outdoors with our families, enjoying sports and recreational activities, are essential ingredients for community wellbeing.

In the next five years, Council will invest \$125m. Our plan sets an aspiration that over the next 15 years Council will:

Renovate and upgrade

- 75 play spaces
- 29 sports amenities
- 13 sports fields
- 21 sports field flood light systems
- 18 tennis netball and multipurpose courts
- three dog parks

Plan and deliver

- 28 play spaces
- 14 sportsgrounds
- 10 indoor multipurpose courts
- 12 outdoor fitness spaces
- five water play facilities
- nine sports amenities buildings
- four dog parks

Community consultation on the Penrith Sports and Recreation Strategy will commence early next year. Visit penrith.city/SARS to find out more.

“Quality of life is what sets Penrith apart; it's a major reason why our community love living here.”



SHADE FOR ALL PENRITH PARKS

- Penrith City Council will invest over \$3.4 million in the provision of shade, both natural and artificial, at 83 playgrounds across our local area.
- The new policy means all new parks being built will have shade considered as part of their design.
- Whether it comes from natural elements like trees or from built features like shade sails, shade enables us to be get active and enjoy the outdoors all year round.



COOLING THE CITY

Penrith is recognised as the hottest location in the Sydney metropolitan area, so our residents know first-hand about the challenges of keeping cool in summer.

Last summer, we experienced 15 days above 36 degrees and unfortunately, it seems its only getting hotter. On January 7 2018, Penrith recorded its highest temperature ever of 47.3 degrees, attracting international attention for being the hottest place in the world!

“We know all about heat in Penrith, but instead of just enduring it, Council is taking action and implementing a range of projects this summer to tackle our urban heat dilemma through innovation to ensure we maintain our city's liveability,” said Penrith Mayor Ross Fowler OAM.

“These projects include holding a Cooling the City Masterclass for industry, running a free practical night-time Community Forum for local residents and rolling out a program across summer using heat sensors to capture local heat data (in collaboration with Western Sydney University),” he said.

According to General Manager, Warwick Winn, Penrith's buildings, developments and open spaces must contribute to Cooling the City to ensure it remains a destination of

choice, where people want to live, play and invest.

“We need smart strategies to help combat the impacts of urban heat for Penrith residents. The solution is not simple or fast and is best achieved through collaboration between industry, government and the community,” said Mr Winn.

“That's why in February we are bringing together key stakeholders and professionals responsible for planning and building our city in a Masterclass event. We will explore initiatives to create cooler urban spaces, present the business case for greener development and explore innovative heat reduction strategies,” he said.

Residents are also warmly invited to attend Council's special night-time information forum to be held at Penrith Library on 18 February 2020 at 6.30pm.

The forum, titled Homes and Heat: Innovative Design, Building and Retrofit Solutions, will feature Josh Byrne from ABC's Gardening Australia, local Blue Mountains sustainable architect Mark Davis, and local resident Nevin Sweeney, President of Permaculture Sydney West.

“We will outline tips and strategies to help make homes cooler without incurring crippling energy bills for

Penrith residents. This event is a 'must attend' for anyone who wants to increase their knowledge about the effects of heat on housing and find out what they can do about it,” explained Mr Winn.

For more information visit: penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/waste-environment/cooling-the-city

WHAT:
Free Penrith City Council Community Forum - Homes and Heat: Innovative Design, Building and Retrofit Solutions

WHEN:
18 February, 2020, 6.30pm

WHERE:
Penrith Library

KEY FACTS

- Council is teaming up with Western Sydney University to provide new Penrith heat information from 120 sensors across the LGA
- Heat readings from varied urban areas will provide accurate information to show how urban design affects heat
- Information from the sensors will guide future planning strategies by highlighting city 'hot spots' and provide evidence for Council to push for improved urban design

cooling
the
city

MASTERCLASS

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL



PETS NEED FUN HOLIDAYS TOO



If you're planning to go away for a holiday over the Christmas and New Year break, make sure that you've made a plan for your pet too. If you can't take them with you, the next best idea is to check your pet into a reputable boarding facility or hire a pet minding service that comes to your home to look after them.

If you take your pet out for a drive this summer, always be mindful of the temperature and never leave your pet in a hot car. Dogs can die in as little as six minutes, even on days you wouldn't consider to be terribly hot. Things like window tinting, parking in the shade and leaving windows wound down do not reliably reduce

the temperature, so the best idea is to not leave your pet in the car at all.

Looking for a cool Christmas gift this year? An impulsive last minute purchase of a pet for you or someone else is never a good idea. Please make sure you gift responsibly, and if you choose to purchase a pet for your friend or family member, make sure that they're able to afford the costs and responsibility of looking after them. Pets are for life.

If you do happen to lose or find a pet over these holidays, please contact Hawkesbury Animal Shelter on 02 4560 4644.

Penrith Library's Research Services team have once again unearthed treasures from the archives to put together the 2020 Penrith History Calendar.

The calendar captures key moments in Penrith's rich sporting history, revisiting beloved locations and celebrating the accomplishments of our sportsmen and sportswomen. Both international and national sports have been recognised and remembered in the calendar.

Highlights of the calendar include Australia's oldest triathlon, which was first held at the Nepean River 1982.

The calendar can also help you

relive the glory of the Sydney 2000 Olympics. You may remember that on 13 October 2000, the Paralympics torch relay passed through Penrith.

The Library's photographic collection and the Research Services team play an important role in preserving our history. Our Research Room makes it even easier to get your hands on with history through our local and specialist collections.

Calendars are available at the Library and the Nepean Family History Society for \$10. You can contact our Research Services staff on 4732 777 for more information.

LIBRARY LOCAL HISTORY CALENDAR

\$10



PENRITH

LIBRARY

penrith.city



LOOKING FOR AFFORDABLE, QUALITY CHILDCARE CLOSE TO HOME?

DID YOU KNOW COUNCIL OWNS AND OPERATES 45 CHILDCARE SERVICES?

We are currently enrolling for 2020.

Our specialised services include:

- Long Day Care
- Out of School Hours Care
- Preschool
- Vacation Care
- Care for children with additional needs

Our Centres reinvest all profits into educational and learning resources, plus we offer:

- No charge for public holidays
- No security deposit or bond charges
- All-inclusive fees - nappies, food and bedding are supplied
- Two-weeks exit notice

CHILDREN'S SERVICES
PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

Find out more about our services and secure your child's place now. 4732 7844

penrith.city/childcare

2020 STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



Do you know an adventurous young person who might be inspired by three weeks in Japan?

Students aged 15-19, who are living or studying in the Penrith area, are invited to join Penrith Council's Student Ambassador Program with the City of Fujieda.

Students selected for the program will have the chance to experience a home stay in Japan, and to host a Japanese student in their home here. While visiting Japan, students will attend school with their host brother or sister and visit some amazing cultural and

historic attractions. Japan is renowned for its futurism, advanced technology, fashion and design, as well for beautiful temples and forests. No matter what a young person is interested in, Japanese culture has elements which will excite and inspire them.

The approximate cost for the program is \$2,500, and applications open February 2020.

For more information visit penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/council/international-partnerships/student-exchange-program

PENRITH 2026: A CITY OF PARKS



Penrith is on track to becoming greater Sydney's most liveable city. Council is committed to cooling our City and to developing new urban green spaces for people to enjoy. To this end, a number of landmark projects are underway; these projects will improve our wellbeing and enhance the way we interact with open spaces.

CITY PARK

The Penrith CBD will soon have urban green space where workers, shoppers and locals can eat lunch, meet friends and enjoy outdoor performances.

By now you've probably heard about City Park, Council's new green heart being created on the corner of Henry and Station Streets.

The people of Penrith have been voicing their vision for this park since 2006, and Council is realising it with a \$12 million investment.

Communities with large central green spaces have been found to have a greater sense of community cohesion and social connectedness. Penrith is joining the ranks of the world's great cities by developing our own City Park. Community engagement to design the new City Park will kick off in the New Year, so register at yoursaypenrith.com to get involved.

REGATTA PARK

The Nepean River is arguably our greatest natural asset here in Penrith. An upgrade to Regatta Park was identified as part of the Our River Masterplan developed in 2013. This \$24m project is now set for delivery thanks to \$15m joint NSW & Australian Government funding as part of the Western Sydney City Deal and \$9m from Council.

The new park will feature event and festival areas, picnic spaces, river terraces, a regional playground for children and a potential future dining precinct with expansive views of the picturesque Nepean River.

Community consultation on the design for Regatta Park will be held early next year, so make sure you're registered at Your Say Penrith to receive updates.



SOPER PLACE

The design adds an extra 600 parking spaces to Soper Place, bringing the total to 820 spots. But the new development goes far beyond parking; the design includes open green spaces, restaurants, a rooftop bar and even a basketball court. Think of it as a place with two characters – the tower will have commercial space, parking and a rooftop venue with stunning views, while the low rise section will have space for play, performance, markets and music.

With a five star environmental rating, Soper Place shows what can happen when a Council embraces innovation and creativity. The winning design by architects Durbach Bloak Jagers came out on top in a competitive selection process.



SUNDAY ART WORKSHOP

Explore and experiment with colour, line, composition and perspective in a beautiful garden setting. Join artist Anthony Cahill for drawing and painting workshops inspired by the Gallery's Heritage Garden.

Anthony Cahill is an artist whose practice moves easily between mediums. Anthony will guide participants through each art-making journey, using drawing and painting while building on inspirations including the Gallery's fabulous garden and the participant's personal experiences.

"It is amazing how Anthony can inspire and inform both beginners and experienced participants, it makes for a really interesting class" – workshop participant, Geoff

Bookings are essential. You can reserve your spot, and find more information about the workshops including a downloadable list of materials at:

www.penrithregionalgallery.com.au

Sunday Art Workshops for Adults
Led by artist Anthony Cahill
at Penrith Regional Gallery
1 December and 15 December
10am – 4pm



OUR AWARD-WINNING SWIMMING SPOT

Penrith's own Ripples Leisure Centre has won national accolades, taking home Swim Centre of the Year at the AUSTSWIM World Conference. This achievement marks the 12th award Ripples has won over the last four years, which include local, state and national awards, plus two instructor awards.

The community of Penrith clearly know how lucky we are to have a world class leisure centre on our doorstep. We visit Ripples in droves – over 1,900 people attend swim lessons each week, a figure which can increase to 2,500 during peak times.

With an emphasis on building water confidence, correct stroke technique and survival skills, the Ripples Swim School is an excellent choice for your child. Instructors are accredited

(AUSTSWIM/Swim Australia/ASCTA) and screened according to legislative requirements. Ripples has achieved the 5 Star Safety Rating as undertaken by the Royal Life Saving Society.

So what's on this summer at Ripples Penrith and St Marys? School Holiday Intensive Swim Lessons take place in January at Penrith. The intensive program accelerates swim skills significantly in a short amount of time. For new students, it provides a much needed kick start to learning the fundamentals, while existing students can perfect the skills they've already been learning.

Visit us at ripplesnsw.com.au for more information on all our fantastic programs.



**HAVE YOU MOVED
OR CHANGED YOUR
PHONE NUMBER?**

YOUR PET'S MICROCHIP DETAILS NEED TO BE UPDATED, TOO

This can be done at:

- » Council offices
- » petregistry.nsw.gov.au

85% of animals impounded by Penrith City Council's Animal Services have a microchip with outdated owner information. Update your microchip details and bring your pet home.

**ANIMAL
SERVICES**
PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

Update your details if you change one of the following:

- Address, including state
- Telephone numbers
- Ownership change

Please contact Penrith City Council's Animal Services on 4732 7777 for further information.

penrith.city

POOL SAFETY IS A HOT HOLIDAY TOPIC



As we get into the swing of summer, vigilance about pool safety becomes even more important. As Penrith Mayor Ross Fowler OAM reminded residents recently, "If you think you don't need to fence off an inflatable pool or a swim spa, you're wrong."

In fact, portable and inflatable pools have the same risk of drowning as our permanent backyard pools. Which means it's critical to ensure they are properly fenced, with a self-closing and self-latching gate.

Many people probably don't realise when they buy an inflatable pool that it's illegal to have it in the backyard unfenced. This applies to any pool holding 30cms of water or more.

On average each year in NSW, 13 children drown and another 84 suffer serious near-drowning incidents. This summer, let's ensure not a single child in Penrith is put at risk.

For more information on safety requirements visit penrith.city/pools or call Council on 4732 7897

UPGRADES IN OUR COMMUNITY

NEW FOOTPATH

A total of 1.3 km length of new footpath has been recently constructed in Parkside Ave, Werrington Downs; Russell St, Emu Plains; Cook Pde, St Clair and Wilson St, St Marys.



NEW TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES

Speed humps have been constructed in Hewitt St, Cambridge Park, Brooker St, Colyton and Camellia Ave, Glenmore Park to slow down traffic and to improve safety.



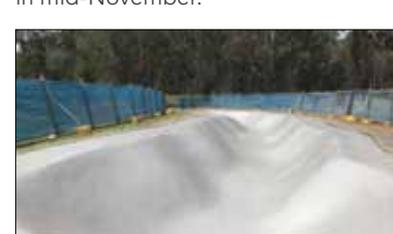
ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

A total of 3.3 km of resurfacing has been carried out, including key roads in Londonderry, Castlereagh, St Clair, Emu Heights, Emu Plains, Jamisontown and Colyton.



HERBERT ST, SKATE FACILITY REFURBISHMENT

Refurbishment work on the snake run skate facility in Cambridge Park has been completed and opened for use in mid-November.



LIGHTING UPGRADES

Penrith City Council undertakes a rolling program of sports ground floodlighting upgrades. Bringing the sports field lights up to contemporary standard allows local teams to train and play competition games safely at night.

Over the last 12 months, we have installed 111 light banks across six locations, including Surveyors Creek Softball Facility, Kingsway Playing Fields, Peppertree Oval, Andromeda Oval, Myrtle Road Playing Fields and Potter Field.

Council has invested \$840,000 in these upgrades, with grant contributions from both the NSW and Australian government.



KEEPING OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS STRONG

With its warmer weather and longer days, the festive season is the perfect time to get to know your neighbours and connect with your local community. Here are some easy tips for you to try out:

- Say hi! Smile, wave, or give a greeting the next time you see your neighbours.
- Help out while they're away. If your neighbour will be going on holidays, offer to keep an eye on their property, collect their mail, or put out their bins.
- Send around festive cards or treats. Don't forget to include a nice message!

- Exchange phone numbers. Let your neighbours know they can call on you in an emergency and keep each other updated on local news.
- Invite the neighbours over. Host a meal or drinks for your street, especially for those who might be feeling lonely this time of year.

For more information, including advice on how to make your street a safer, friendlier place to be, check out penrith.city/goodneighbour

LOOKING FOR VACATION CARE FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS?



WE OFFER LONG DAY, SCHOOL HOLIDAY CARE FOR ALL CHILDREN FROM KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 6.

Places are filling fast, enrol now to secure your spot!

Our Vacation Care services include:

- Six convenient locations across Penrith City
- Flexible attendance, book every day or individual days to suit your needs
- Innovative and fun activities such as 9D cinema, circus water activities, monster skate park, movie days and recreational games at Don Bosco
- Experienced and qualified educators, passionate about learning and recreational programs
- Zero bond or security deposits, and no public holiday charges
- Families eligible for Child Care Subsidy will pay the gap fee only

CHILDREN'S SERVICES
PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

Find out more and secure your child's place now. 4732 7844

penrith.city/childcare



YOUR COUNCIL

Everyone is welcome at Council meetings, which are held at the Civic Centre. Ordinary meetings of Council and Policy Review Committee meetings are held on Monday nights, usually every three weeks. For meeting times and dates visit our website: penrithcity.nsw.gov.au

PENRITH CIVIC CENTRE
601 High Street, Penrith

QUEEN STREET CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE
207-209 Queen Street, St Marys

-  4732 7777
-  4732 7958
-  council@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au
-  penrithcity.nsw.gov.au
-  [/penrith.city.council](https://www.facebook.com/penrith.city.council)
-  [/penrithcouncil](https://twitter.com/penrithcouncil)

Interpreting assistance is available at Council or by phone.

WE CAN HELP WITH:

- Abandoned vehicles
- Advertising signs
- Air pollution monitoring
- Approvals
- Asbestos
- Building applications or inspections
- Bus shelters
- Bushfire control
- Cemeteries
- Certificates (149, 149D, 317A & 603)
- Children's Services
- Citizenship ceremonies
- Civic functions / community events
- Clean-up bookings
- Compost bins
- Council carparks
- Council meetings
- Crossover inspections
- Development control applications
- Disability services
- Dog catcher / registration / dead dogs & cats on roads
- Drainage
- Environmental health
- Environmental planning
- Food handling
- Footpaths
- Garbage and waste
- Graffiti control
- Hall bookings
- Home Library services
- Library services
- Local elections
- Local history
- Neighbourhood Centres
- Noise complaints
- Park bookings
- Parking control
- Planning approvals
- Policy matters
- Public buildings
- Publications
- Rates
- Recycling
- Report illegal dumping
- Road construction & maintenance
- Senior Citizen centres
- Septic tanks
- Street numbers and street signs
- Street cleaning
- New street lighting
- Street numbers
- Sub-division
- Swimming pool fences
- Tourism
- Tree planting or removal
- Youth services
- Zoning

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

HAVE YOUR SAY

Register online at yoursaypenrith.com.au to keep up to date with Council's plans and projects, and opportunities to help us shape the future of Penrith.

PENSIONERS

If you are a pension card holder, you may be eligible for a pensioner concession on your rates. Please call us on 4732 7676 to discuss.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS ARE BEING HELD ON SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2020



Update your details and register online for reminders

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

Visit Service NSW: service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/register-nsw-electoral-reminders