



Peter Trist, volunteer at Newcastle Region Library

VOLUNTEERS

Did you know Newcastle City Council is one of the Hunter's largest employers of volunteers?

Our volunteer workforce includes everyone from guides at Newcastle Museum and Newcastle Art Gallery to wildlife carers at Blackbutt Reserve and crews working on our natural assets.

Libraries and the Civic Playhouse are among the other venues where volunteers play a key role. They are also crucial to the many committees and advisory panels operating across the city.

We're committed to providing industry-leading volunteer induction and training and we provide flexible hours and rosters to ensure people who put their hand up to help their community are happy in their position and perform to the best of their ability.

Visit newcastle.nsw.gov.au/community for more information.



REMEMBERING OUR HISTORY

Newcastle will commemorate two significant anniversaries this year on Thursday 8 June.

Fort Scratchley Commemorative event

On this date 75 years ago, Fort Scratchley's six-inch guns fired two salvos at a marauding Japanese submarine that surfaced off Newcastle and started firing on the city. The 1942 skirmish made Fort Scratchley the only Australian coastal fortification to fire on an enemy naval vessel during World War II. Join us at the Fort the evening of 8 June for a commemorative outdoor event featuring a concert and re-enactment of the WWII engagement. For details go to newcastle.nsw.gov.au.

2007 Newcastle storms and floods

This day marks the 10th anniversary of the June 2007 Newcastle storm and flood. Many Novocastrians will recall how these weather events forced the Pasha Bulker aground on Nobbys Beach and brought our community together through stories of rescue, recovery, caring and friendship. **Newcastle Museum** is hosting an exhibition until 11 June remembering the storms and flooding of June 2007 and their impact on our community and region. Come along to see historical photos and video footage, and hear stories of courage and resilience.



FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY (FESL)

From 1 July 2017, the NSW Government is introducing a new system to fund NSW fire and emergency services. Previously, only insured property owners contributed directly to the fire and emergency services, via their insurance premiums. Under the Fire and Emergency Services Levy (FESL) Act 2017, all property owners will be required to contribute.

You will be notified in July of your required contribution to the NSW Government FESL as part of your council rates notice, or a separate notice for non-rateable properties. Like council rates, you may pay the FESL annually or quarterly. For further information about FESL, call the FESL hotline on 1300 787 872 or visit fesl.nsw.gov.au.

WHAT'S ON

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Art, culture, family fun - it's all here in Newcastle. For more information visit www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au



9 June - 11 June

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL ROADSHOW

Civic Theatre

Stand-up comedy extravaganza. Buckle up Newcastle! The Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow is back on the bus, hitting the road to home deliver the freshest and funniest from Australia's largest comedy festival.



10 June - 20 August

THE PHANTOM SHOW

Newcastle Art Gallery

'Ghost who walks never can die' - an art exhibition celebrating pop art inspired by the long running Phantom comic book series - was first shown in 1977. The Gallery's 40th anniversary of exhibition returns to Newcastle as THE PHANTOM SHOW.



20 May - 23 July

ABSTRACTION: CELEBRATING AUSTRALIAN WOMEN ABSTRACT ARTISTS

Newcastle Art Gallery

Showcasing works of art from the National Gallery of Australia and revealing the remarkable contribution Australian women artists have made to abstract art.



2 July - 6 July

EASTERN UNIVERSITY GAMES

Various locations

This event is for university and TAFE students from New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory and is the largest of four regional university games events to be held on the same week in July. The Eastern University Games are hosted by the University of Newcastle and Newcastle University Sport in partnership with Newcastle City Council.



1 July - 17 July

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Various locations

Looking for family fun and kids activities in the July School Holidays? You'll find a full range of events, workshops and exhibitions to keep everyone busy and happy at Newcastle Art Gallery, Newcastle Museum, Newcastle Region Libraries and Blackbutt Reserve.



BLACKBUTT RESERVE

Feeding times

- 10.30am: Wombat feast
- 10.45am: Bird brunch
- 1.30pm: Nocturnal nourish
- 2pm: Koala dining



25 July - 26 July

MR STINK

Civic Theatre

A touching, twisted and hilarious, and very smelly tale. David Walliams' award-winning book comes to life on stage for children 6-12... and their parents!

WINTER 2017

The City of Newcastle

Council News

Community newsletter from Newcastle City Council



INSIDE

Record works program
\$90m in upgrades across the city

More fun at Blackbutt Reserve
Adventure playground on the way



MESSAGE FROM THE LORD MAYOR

COUNCIL NEWS

This publication is brought to you by Newcastle City Council's Communication and Engagement Unit

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STAY UP TO DATE

Sign up to e-news at newcastle.nsw.gov.au

Newcastle is transitioning from a great regional city to an emerging global city.

Our 2030 vision is to create a smart, liveable and sustainable city where people choose to live, work and play.

Over the past two-and-a half years, Council has delivered significant results for Newcastle. We have turned around the city's finances while doubling our infrastructure spend and addressing our infrastructure backlog.

Later this month we expect to adopt the final Delivery Program and budget of the current council term. This document outlines what we are doing to achieve our 2030 vision.

The 2017/18 budget includes another ambitious works program of over \$90 million in asset renewal and priority projects, including city centre and coastal revitalisation, cycle ways and upgrades to Blackbutt Reserve. With a range of positive social programs, we are shaping a bright, new future.

We have also prioritised upgrades in the city's western suburbs, taking significant flood mitigation steps in Wallsend. Road, traffic and public domain improvements are also planned for Wallsend, Beresfield, Stockton and across other suburbs.

Newcastle is now being acknowledged nationally and internationally for the foundations we are laying to become a smart city.

Our Smart City initiatives, including the Hunter Innovation Project, are fostering opportunities for our city's future, and we are promoting investment, jobs and tourism through big events.

With our program of works and our ongoing investment in the city, the year ahead is sure to be a promising one.

Nuatali Nelmes
Lord Mayor of Newcastle



WHAT WOULD YOUR "FUTURE SELF" WANT NEWCASTLE TO BE?

Newcastle City Council is seeking your ideas as we start to update our Community Strategic Plan, outlining the vision for our city to 2030.

We are seeking input from the community about what matters most to them in terms of services, infrastructure and other Council responsibilities and functions.

From next month, Council will start community engagement with people of all ages and backgrounds to ensure everyone has a chance to contribute.

Online and face to face engagement activities will make it easy for you to get involved, either as someone who lives or works in Newcastle, or visits the city for recreation.

Help make Newcastle the best it can be, while considering Council's need to be realistic and balance its budget.

For more information about the Community Strategic Plan and how to have your say, go to our website newcastle.nsw.gov.au.

#whatsnextnewcastle

Council works program in full swing



NEWCASTLE 500 CIVIL WORKS

An \$8.8 million accelerated civil works program was endorsed earlier this month for the city's east end.

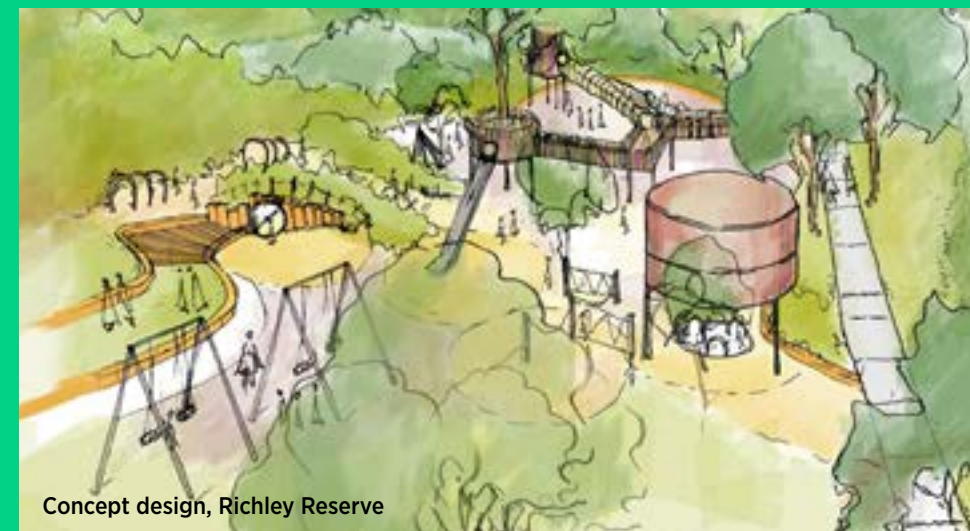
Supercars Australia is upgrading the Newcastle 500 track route to international motor racing standards, and Council is taking this opportunity to complete a number of infrastructure improvements already planned and budgeted for, many of which are overdue.

They include renewal of Watt St and other roads and footpaths in the area, replacement of drains and widening of a footpath bottleneck connecting Bathers Way with the Newcastle foreshore.

Work is being completed in stages across four zones: ① Wharf Rd ② Watt St ③ Scott and Zaara St/ Parnell Pl/Nobbys Rd ④ Camp Shortland/Shortland Esplanade.

The Newcastle 500 is expected to attract more than 150,000 spectators over the 24-26 November event weekend and will generate more than \$57 million in tourism revenue for the city over five years.

Further information is available at newcastle.nsw.gov.au/supercars.



Concept design, Richley Reserve

ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

RICHLLEY RESERVE BLACKBUTT

Construction is under way on a district level adventure playground and associated works at Richley Reserve.

The new nature-based playground will include a ropes course, swings, imaginative play spaces and an adventure tower complete with bridges, slide and fire poles.

It has been designed to provide a range of fun experiences for children of all abilities and will be complemented by shade shelters,

BBQ areas and green space.

The first stage of work includes construction of a new main entrance path, to be known as Farrell's Way. This track will provide an accessible pathway to the new playground and recreation area and is due for completion in August.

Installation of the playground equipment will then begin. The playground is expected to open to the public by the end of 2017.

SPOTLIGHT ON STOCKTON



We've built a 140m rock seawall at **Stockton Beach**. We're now upgrading the car park, southern access way and associated drainage.

The **North Stockton Boat Ramp** upgrade is under way. We're upgrading the existing trailer parking, building a new amenities building, landscaping the area and rehabilitating the Hunter River foreshore.

We've recently widened the road shoulder on the western side of **Fullerton Street**, from Clyde Street to Meredith Street, to improve safety for road users.

Our **laneway rehabilitation** program continues, with drainage works completed in three local laneways. A stormwater rehabilitation program of works will be delivered in Stockton over the next three years.

We're working on a concept design for a new district level playground and street skate park at **Griffith Park** in Stockton. The concept will go on public exhibition shortly.

The **Stockton Local Centre Public Domain Plan** has been finalised and Council has approved its Traffic Plan. Detailed design is underway and stage 1 construction is planned for 2017/18.



CIVIL WORKS UPDATE

Completed

Drainage rehabilitation in Boronia Avenue, **Adamstown Heights**.

Under way

Open channel construction in Lloyd Street Reserve, **Merewether**, to complete drainage rehabilitation within the reserve.

Intersection improvement works on Patrick Street at Watkins Street and Frederick Street, **Merewether**.

Road improvements at John T Bell Drive, **Maryland**, Parker Street and Bourke Street, **Carrington**, Glebe Road, **The Junction** and Minmi Road, **Wallsend**.

Drainage improvements at Power Street, **Islington** and McInnes Street, **Minmi**.

Construction of new footpath and kerb ramps on the northern side of Station Street, **Wickham**.

Upcoming

Drainage and road reconstruction in Frederick Street, **Merewether**, and Swan Street, **Cooks Hill**.

Creekline rehabilitation in **Kotara Park**.

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COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Council elections for the Newcastle local government area will be held on Saturday 9 September 2017.

Everyone over the age of 18 is required to vote for a Lord Mayor, and for Councillors in their ward. To check your enrolment details or obtain an enrolment form, visit elections.nsw.gov.au, phone **1300 135 736** or visit any Australia Post office.



#ILOVEBATHERSWAY

Bathers Way, Bar Beach