Newcastle voice
COMMUNITY REFERENCE PANEL

Want to be more involved in shaping Newcastle's future?

Over 2,500 residents and businesses from across Newcastle have their say on a wide range of issues from beach patrols, cycling to the budget and yearly works plan.

As a member of Newcastle Voice you will be invited to participate in consultations and engage with Council through some, or all, of the following:

community workshops • face to face meetings • quick polls surveys
surveys • Facebook • members Portal • monthly newsletter

JOIN TODAY!

Register at:
www.mynewcastlevoice.com
or call 4974 2238

The City of

LIKE OUR PAGE

Stay up to date and like our Facebook page today!
www.facebook.com/newcastlevoice

LIBRARY

THE ROSIE EFFECT

Graeme Simsion's *The Rosie Project* is an ***international publishing phenomenon***, with more than a million copies sold in over forty countries. Simsion returns with the *highly anticipated sequel*, ***The Rosie Effect***, the charming and hilarious romantic comedy of the year.

AUTHOR VISIT
Come and visit Graeme on Thursday 16 October 2014 at 12 noon.
Newcastle Region Library, Lovett Gallery, Laman Street, Newcastle.
Bookings Essential. Phone 4974 5300 or email: library@ncc.nsw.gov.au

Note: The Lovett gallery is closed on Sundays and public holidays.

LAST DAYS: WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

Wildlife Photographer of the Year features showcases **100 striking photographs** of wildlife and nature from around the world.

Hannes Lochner, Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2013

Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition on display **until Saturday 9 August 2014** at the Lovett Gallery, Newcastle Region Library, Laman Street.

WINTER 2014

Council News

Community Newsletter from The City of Newcastle

The City of Newcastle

CityServe is calling for volunteers to fill a full diary of service projects aimed at transforming Newcastle during the month of October. Most projects will target public facilities on parklands, with volunteer teams cleaning and repairing shade shelters, pavilions, grandstands, toilet blocks and storage sheds at parks, reserves and ovals.

CityServe is focused on bringing together people, churches, businesses and organisations throughout our community to serve our community. Individuals over 18 years of age can register to volunteer their time and skills at **www.cityserve.com.au/newcastle**.

AFC ASIAN CUP Australia 2015

UNITE FOR THE ASIAN CUP

NEWCASTLE STADIUM

JAPAN VS PALESTINE	MON 12 JAN
OMAN VS KUWAIT	SAT 17 JAN
SEMI FINAL	TUE 27 JAN
3RD/4TH PLAYOFF	FRI 30 JAN

Newcastle is gearing up to host four international football games as part of AFC Asian Cup Australia 2015. Local schools are encouraged to get involved and learn more about Asia through football by registering for the free Asian Cup 2015 Educational Resource.

Go to www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au and search for Asian Cup to learn more. Don't forget to grab your tickets too!

AFCASIANCUP.COM

MUSEUM

NEWCASTLE MUSEUM

Waste as Art goes 2D!

Artists! Students! Anyone!

We want you to enter Waste as Art

Create award winning 2D artworks out of waste destined for the landfill.

Entries are due at Newcastle Museum on Saturday 9 August 2014.

You'll be in the running to win cash prizes ranging from **$150 to $2500**

Judging will take place on Sunday 10 August and the top 25 artworks will go on display at Newcastle Museum.

More info at: **www.newcastlemuseum.com.au**

CITY NEWS

The 2014/15 Delivery Program, Operational Plan, Fees and Charges are the key documents that guide the services we provide and projects we will complete throughout the year. They set out the fees we charge and the income we expect to receive.

What the 2014/2015 budget shows is a significant turnaround in the city's finances. Council started 2013/14 with a projected $29.9 million deficit. The budget forecast at end of March quarter projected a $19.9 million deficit. This is due to a range of cost reduction initiatives including an organisational restructure. The 2014/15 deficit is projected to improve even further to $11.9 million.

Excellent progress has been made but more work needs to be done and we can't do this alone. Forward estimates within the Delivery plan include a special rate variation of 3.2% above the rate cap. This is necessary to ensure Council can maintain existing public infrastructure (valued at $1.6 billion) and invest in additional facilities to support the growing Newcastle community. Initial consultation commenced on the matters with the exhibition of the Delivery Plan and associated public meetings. Further consultation focussed specifically on the proposed SVR will occur prior to the submission of an application to put it in place.

This conversation will be getting underway soon and I encourage you to get involved.

Ken Gouldthorp,
General Manager

CIVIC THEATRE

Civic Theatre Season 2014 sponsored by Crosbie Wealth Management

Hi-Vis Signs presents **Mozart's The Magic Flute**

A new production from Opera Australia's OzOpera. Prepare to be enchanted when this new, fully staged production comes to the Civic Theatre, complete with fabulous 1930's costumes, a chamber orchestra and a vibrant cast of opera singers.

Hi-Vis Signs presents Mozart's The Magic Flute
7.30pm, Tuesday 26 August 2014

Newcastle Now presents **Sydney Comedy Festival Showcase**

An awesome line-up of the hottest international and local comedians from Sydney's biggest annual comedy festival.

Newcastle Now presents Sydney Comedy Festival Showcase
8pm, Friday 5 September 2014

Leah Jay presents **Circus Oz**

Two hours of marvellous mayhem and acrobatic mastery for audiences of all ages. Circus Oz is a rock-n-roll, animal free circus that delivers breathtaking stunts, irreverent humour and cracking live music.

Leah Jay presents Circus Oz
7.30pm, Friday 12 September 2014
2pm & 7.30pm, Saturday 13 September 2014

(02) 4929 1977 | www.civictheatrenewcastle.com.au
Book tickets to four shows & qualify as a season subscriber, with discounts of up to 25%, two for one pre-show drinks and much more!

ART GALLERY

Elioth GRUNER THE TEXTURE OF LIGHT

26 July – 26 October 2014

A Canberra Museum and Gallery and Newcastle Art Gallery partnership exhibition

Elioth Gruner (1882 – 1939) was an outstanding painter of the Australian landscape and was awarded the Wynne Prize for landscape painting seven times. The exhibition will include more than 50 paintings, from the artist's impressionist beachscapes and farmland views of the 1910s to the subtle and distinctive modernist landscapes of his maturity in the 1920s and 1930s, and includes five of the seven works by Gruner that won the Wynne Prize.

General admission: $8 Members/concession: $5. Children under 12 and pre-booked education groups are free.

Image: Elioth Gruner *Spring morning* (detail) 1917 oil on cardboard. Gift of Dr Roland Pope 1945 Newcastle Art Gallery collection

ALSO ON DISPLAY
Entry is free to these exhibitions

NEWCASTLE ART GALLERY | ACT CANBERRA MUSEUM & GALLERY | Charles Darwin University

23 AUGUST - 15 NOVEMBER 2014
LEGACY: A tribute to Marea Gazzard & Gwyn Hanssen Pigott
ABSURDIA: Noel McKenna - A focus | **ONE FROM NONE:** The minimal aesthetic in art

MAKE YOUR PLACE

MIGHTY MAYFIELD

APPLY NOW!

Make Your Place Grant
Applications open

Do you have a great idea on how to enliven your area?

The Make Your Place community grants can help you create a more vibrant, activated public space.

Grants of up to $2000 (incl. GST) are available.

Next round closes Monday 18 August 2014.

For more information call 4974 2857 or visit **www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au** and search for ***placemaking***

CITY WORKS

- The shared pathways at Rowland Park **The Junction**, Nesca Park **Cooks Hill**, Hobart Road **New Lambton** and Turton Road **Waratah** are now complete. These wider pathways improve connectivity in the area and allow cyclists and pedestrians to travel safely.
- Reconstruction of Regent Street **New Lambton**, from Victoria Street to Portland Place is complete, as is the rehabilitation of Stevenson Place from Telford Street to Parnell Place **Newcastle East**.
- The roundabout, raised threshold and pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Royal and Victoria Streets **New Lambton** is complete.
- Construction of traffic calming devices in King, Wolfe and Newcomen Streets **Newcastle** continues.
- Upcoming work includes drainage work at Curzon Road **New Lambton** and Bar Beach Avenue **Bar Beach**; roadworks on Bridges Road from Lambton Road to St James Road in **New Lambton**; and construction of a shared pathway parallel to Wilkinson Avenue in **Birmingham Gardens**, which will connect to **Wallsend** cycleway.

COMBATING GRAFFITI VANDALISM WITH ART

Our Graffiti Team completed three more exciting mural projects recently as part of a program to discourage graffiti and make public spaces more enjoyable and attractive.

Local artist Trevor Dickinson of Newcastle Productions completed a new aquarium-themed mural in the Merewether Beach Pedestrian Tunnel; Teralba artist Rebecca Murray of Becsmart Murals painted a park-themed mural on the Kotara Park amenities building; and airbrush artist Mel Carrall completed a kick wall mural at Wallsend Park.

All three sites were subject to regular graffiti vandalism and will benefit from the vibrant and interesting murals created by these talented artists.

SORT AND SAVE AT SUMMERHILL

A new fees and charges structure is in place at Summerhill Waste Management Centre.

The new pricing structure encourages customers to separate recyclable and reusable materials, by offering a lower price per tonne for sorted materials than mixed waste loads.

Minimise your costs by separating materials such as concrete, wood, green waste and household recyclables before taking them to Summerhill.

Unit pricing has also been introduced for mattresses, fridges, tyres, lead acid batteries and gas bottles, which are difficult and costly to process. Scrap metal (excluding fridges) and household quantities of e-waste are free of charge.

Property owners are reminded that they can request self-haul vouchers through Council's free Bulk Waste service to drop off up to two cubic metres of household waste at Summerhill twice a year. The self-haul option includes items not accepted via the kerbside collection, such as tyres, green waste, fridges, freezers, building waste, glass and mirrors. **Visit newcastle.nsw.gov.au/services or phone 4974 6066 to make a booking.**

A list of the new fees and charges are available in the new Waste Services Guide recently distributed to households.

COASTAL REVITALISATION PROJECT UPDATE

Public domain improvements at **Merewether Beach** are complete with the plaza area fully open to the public. Key work completed includes bleacher seating in front of the Surf House and a new entry/gathering area, a new beach surveillance tower, repainting of the surf club, a pedestrian pathway from Scenic Drive to Henderson Parade, as well as new furniture, lighting and landscaping.

The **Bathers Way** shared pathway is now complete from the Merewether Ocean Baths to Dixon Park. John Parade now includes a dedicated cycleway and new pedestrian crossings.

Work is progressing well on **Merewether Baths** and the **Dixon Park** to **Bar Beach** section of the Bathers Way. Detailed design is underway.

Work on the **Bathers Way** between **Nobbys Beach** and **Newcastle Beach** will commence in early August.

CYCLEWAYS

One of our strategic priorities for Newcastle 2030 is to create a connected city that encourages walking, cycling and public transport as preferred forms of travel.

This year we will invest more than $2million delivering shared paths and cycleways. Major projects are planned for Brickworks Park, Wallsend; Alder Park, New Lambton; Minmi Road, Maryland; and Scenic Drive, Merewether Heights.

During September and October, the spotlight will be on cycling with NSW Bike Week, National Ride2Work Day and Bikefest all on the schedule. We will also be updating the community about how the implementation of the Newcastle Cycling Strategy and Action Plan is progressing and inviting you to have your say through a community consultation survey on Council's website and Newcastle Voice.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The annual **Heart Foundation Big Heart Doorknock Appeal** will be happening across the city in September 2014. More than 35,000 volunteer collectors will be knocking on doors to collect vital funds for the Heart Foundation's lifesaving research and health programs.
- We manage an **asset portfolio** of $1.6 billion including 423km of stormwater pipes, 264 bridges, 810km of roads, 913km of footpaths, 1339km of kerb and gutter, 115 playgrounds, 589 gardens beds, 64 toilet blocks and one tunnel.
- **Newcastle Art Gallery** has one of Australia's most significant art collections comprised of 6,148 works of art. These include paintings such as Brett Whiteley's *Summer at Carcoar* and William Dobell's *Portrait of a Strapper*, contemporary Australian art, photography, works on paper, Australian and Japanese ceramics and sculpture. It also has the largest collection of Sodeisha Japanese ceramics in the southern hemisphere.
- **Newcastle Museum** has 10,124 items in the accessioned collection plus another 8,687 interesting, awesome and informative items from oral histories to loan objects to education props that help bring the museum to life.
- **Newcastle Libraries** have 369,300 items including books, CDs, DVDs and magazines. There are also 46,438 in the local studies collection which help tell the story of Newcastle's history.

BLACKBUTT RESERVE

A major program of upgrades is underway at Blackbutt Reserve, one of the priority projects for The City of Newcastle. Improvements to existing facilities as well as new infrastructure will provide increased recreational opportunities.

The upgrade to existing facilities at Carnley Avenue is scheduled for completion in September 2014, weather permitting. The project includes a new, larger amenities building to better cater for visitors and construction of a new wildlife arena, providing an opportunity to get up close with Blackbutt's animals.

Council will work to ensure the conservation of Blackbutt's unique environment. Access to construction sites will be restricted to ensure visitor safety, however the reserve will remain open for the duration of the work. Some disruption for visitors may occur and Council apologises for any inconvenience.

CITY REVITALISATION

We are working closely with UrbanGrowth NSW and Transport NSW to progress the truncation of the rail line, the development of the Wickham interchange and the construction of the inner city light rail.

Now we have more information about how these projects are going to work, we will be able to progress public domain improvements. A public domain plan technical manual is also being finalised to guide public domain on streetscape works in the city centre.

The facade improvement scheme is continuing to help transform buildings in the city centre with more than 50 successful application so far. The decluttering project for Hunter Street Mall is now complete. We have been working with our city revitalisation partners to deliver projects like Hit the Bricks, Parking Day and improvement works on Bellevue Street.

There will be opportunities to have your say on these major projects, keep an eye on the Newcastle Voice facebook page for upcoming engagement opportunities.

NEWCASTLE CITY HALL OPEN FOR BUSINESS SINCE 1929

GRAND VENUES of NEWCASTLE

The prestigious Newcastle City Hall offers seven function and conference rooms, from the intimate Waratah Room to the grand scale of the 820 seat Concert Hall, conveniently located in the civic and cultural precinct and close to public transport, accommodation, the CBD, Honeysuckle and parking.

Restoration of the historic City Hall Clock Tower is underway and will be completed in approximately 12 months. To preserve City Hall's visual appeal for events, a full-size image of the clock tower will be printed on the scaffold wrap-around, which will give the site a unique look.

The historical beauty that attracts event organisers to this venue for their functions will be preserved for years to come.

For more information or to book your grand event, call 4974 2996 or visit www.newcastlecityhall.com.au.