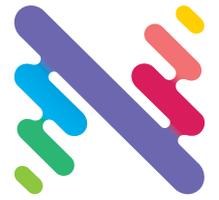


EDITION 2 2023

City News



City of
Newcastle



Everyday benefits in your Budget

Save the date for packed New Annual program

What's on in your events city

Cr Elizabeth Adamczyk, Deputy Lord Mayor Declan Clausen, Lord Mayor Nuatali Nelmes and Cr Deahna Richardson check out the site for the Maryland fenced off-leash dog park with Moby, Toby and Ginger.



Message from the Lord Mayor

We're delivering almost 270 projects across the city during the next 12 months as part of our largest annual investment in public infrastructure.

A record of more than \$137 million has been earmarked for capital works, with investments in community infrastructure, facilities and services that will help renew and reinvigorate Newcastle as we continue to build an inclusive, liveable and sustainable city for our community.

This includes \$41 million for the delivery of key city-shaping initiatives, such as the expansion of the Newcastle Art Gallery; the continued remediation of the former landfill at Astra Street in Shortland; and the construction of a food and garden organics facility and a materials recovery facility to increase our capabilities for the recycling and reuse of waste products.

Improving public infrastructure is also a priority, with \$6.9 million towards our continued revitalisation of our local town centres, including the Hunter Street Mall, New Lambton and Georgetown, \$7.5 million to improve inland pools and ocean baths, \$4.9 million on stormwater upgrades to address localised flooding and \$3.6 million to improve the safety and connectivity of our cycleways across the city, including Parkway Avenue roundabout bypasses.

I would like to thank our dedicated staff, the elected Councillors and everyone in the community who have supported and contributed to this ambitious vision for Newcastle.

Nuatali Nelmes
Lord Mayor of Newcastle

Everyday benefits from



We're making it easier for residents to navigate our city on foot with ongoing investment in new footpaths.

Million-dollar investment on right path ✓

We maintain nearly 1,000 kilometres of footpaths across Newcastle, with an annual program that renews and extends this network each year.

In the past 12 months we delivered more than 3,500 metres of new footpaths and shared pathways and will continue this work throughout 2023/24, investing almost \$1.2 million to improve pedestrian safety, enhance accessibility and create key links within local neighbourhoods.

Projects are planned across Newcastle including the completion of footpaths at McCaffrey Drive, Elmore Vale and Lexington Parade, Adamstown Heights, as well as a new footpath at Minni Road, Fletcher and a shared path at Frederick Street, Merewether.



Road resurfacing works being carried out on Beaumont Street in Hamilton.

Improving road safety and quality for drivers ✓

We're boosting our investment in essential community infrastructure, with more than \$24.5 million to maintain and enhance the quality and safety of our city's roads and bridges.

This includes an investment of more than \$7.2 million into road rehabilitation projects this year, as well as \$7.5 million for road resurfacing, which sees crews replace the top layers of the road with new asphalt and linemarking.

Almost \$7.8 million will be spent on vehicle and pedestrian bridges including the replacement of the Boscawen Street Bridge to reduce the risk of flooding in the Wallsend CBD, while around \$2 million will be used for the renewal and maintenance of bus stops, street lighting, public art, traffic calming devices, guardrails and fences.

your city's Budget ✓

New amenities are being constructed as part of the second stage of works at Wallsend Active Hub.



More playgrounds on the way ✓

Families across Newcastle will be jumping for joy with almost \$8 million being spent on playground projects to deliver improved recreational opportunities across Newcastle.

This year we're investing almost half a million dollars into our annual playground replacement program, which has recently delivered upgraded play equipment in Beresfield, Fletcher, Birmingham Gardens, Mayfield, and Waratah.

We're also working on shade and accessibility improvement projects across the city, including new toilets and amenities will be constructed at the popular Wallsend Active Hub.

Work will begin on the new playspace at our much-loved Gregson Park in Hamilton, while construction of the city's largest playground will also get underway on the new inclusive playspace and waterpark at Foreshore Park.

Planting for the future ✓

Across our city, we look after more than 113,000 street and park trees, which play an important role in beautifying our urban streetscapes, keeping our city cool, absorbing and storing carbon, providing food and shelter for wildlife, capturing stormwater, and keeping our air and water clean.

During the past four years, we've invested \$6.3 million in street and park tree replacement and growing our urban forest.

We'll continue this important work in 2023/24 with another \$1.6 million for projects to green our city, including understorey planting, supporting your street verge garden requests and street and park tree planting.



Year 4 students from St Therese's Primary School, New Lambton pulled on their gardening gloves for a City of Newcastle outdoor classroom program at Lambton Park.



City of Newcastle's Natural Areas team celebrate completing another stage of the Ironbark Creek rehabilitation program.

Bushland and creeks ✓

On-ground habitat restoration and community engagement programs are essential in helping care for our city's natural ecosystems, including 80 kilometres of creeks, and 512 hectares of bushland.

In the next 12 months we're investing \$13.5 million into a number of environmental sustainability initiatives including the next stage of our award-winning Ironbark Creek catchment rehabilitation program.

Designed to ensure Ironbark Creek and the surrounding floodplain behave in more predictable ways during major flood and rain events, the project has delivered more than 3,000m of rehabilitated creek lines in the catchment during the past 12 years. Revegetation activities have seen hundreds of thousands of native shrubs and grasses transform the floodplain and previously weedy, eroding creek banks.



Works update

Completed

Drainage improvements at Anderton Street, Islington

Pedestrian improvements and embankment stabilisation Bull Street, Mayfield

Playground replacement at Avon Street Reserve, Beresfield

Playground replacement at Loch Ness Drive Park, Fletcher

Drainage upgrades at Smith Street, Merewether

Underway

Multipurpose sports and community hub at Myer Park, Adamstown

Structural upgrades to Fernley Dawes Grandstand at Athletics Track, Newcastle West

Playground replacement at Beresfield Swimming Centre

Upgrade to grandstand at Lambton Swimming Centre

New grandstand for Darling Street Oval

Coming Up

Shade shelter and seating at Harold Myers Park, Birmingham Gardens

Road resurfacing at Bull and Parry Streets, Cooks Hill

Drainage reinstatement at Civic Lane, Newcastle

Connecting pathway and bollards at Dixon Park, Merewether

COVER STORY

Tails wagging over new dog park ✓

Pictured: Cr Elizabeth Adamczyk, Cr Deahanna Richardson and Deputy Lord Mayor Declan Clausen check out the site for the Maryland fenced off-leash dog park with Moby, Ginger and Toby.

With more than 63,000 dogs registered in our city, we know our community is passionate about their canine companions.

That's why we provide a variety of off-leash options throughout

Newcastle, such as the popular fully fenced dog park at Acacia Avenue Reserve in North Lambton and the upgraded area in Islington Park.

The first stage of our latest off-leash fenced dog park has recently been completed at Maryland Drive Reserve, providing a large, fenced area for dogs of all sizes, as well as a shelter with tables, informal sandstone seating, dog bubbler and landscaping.

The remaining stages of the project will feature an additional off-leash area to separate large and small dogs, as well as a formalised car park with accessible parking, additional seating and landscaping.



An artist's impression of the new grandstand being constructed at Darling Street Oval.

Grand plans to benefit spectators and sports clubs ✓

We manage 147 sportsgrounds and 250 recreational parks across Newcastle, providing plenty of opportunities for locals to enjoy healthy, active lifestyles.

A range of works are planned during the next 12 months to ensure these facilities continue to meet the needs of our community, including field renovation at Smith Park, Hamilton North as well as upgrades to drainage, irrigation and floodlighting at various sportsgrounds.

Following on from the completion of upgrades at Myer Park, Adamstown and Lugar Park, Kotara, other major projects this year include the construction of a new grandstand at Darling Street Oval and the redevelopment of the historic grandstand at Passmore Oval Wickham, which are already underway, with both projects delivering improved disability access and amenities, female-friendly changerooms and new community areas.

Diving into pool upgrades ✓

Work is continuing on construction of a new grandstand at Lambton Swimming Centre.

We're making the most of the off-season to maintain and upgrade our city's five inland swimming centres.

Swimmers will appreciate the work that is underway on installing new solar panels and heat pumps at Wallsend and Mayfield pools, which will help regulate pool water temperatures, while spectators will be able to enjoy more shaded seating options at the Lambton, Stockton, Wallsend and Mayfield facilities.

An upgraded playground will enhance the experience for families visiting Beresfield Swimming Centre, while work is also continuing on the new concrete grandstand at Lambton Swimming Centre which, when complete, will seat up to 800 spectators while also catering for the needs of sporting clubs and improved accessibility.



OUR EVENTS CITY

NEW ANNUAL

22 SEPT —
01 OCT 2023

Noise by Dancenorth Australia

City of Newcastle's New Annual festival returns this spring for 10 days of unforgettable art, culture, and creativity in the heart of Newcastle.

Our city will be made new with a program of immersive dance, circus, visual art, music, and theatre performances by local and nationally renowned artists, delivering a mix of free, low-cost and family-friendly events during the September school holidays.

Building on the success of last year's festival, which attracted almost 40,000 people to more than 140 performances and activities, the festival is set to once again surprise, inspire and delight.

The 2023 program offers something for everyone, with the return of a few familiar faces alongside fresh creations and experiences delivered across a range of exciting new venues.

NOISE **BY DANCENORTH AT MUSEUM PARK**

FREE

NOISE by Dancenorth Australia is a work of epic proportions featuring up to 100 local volunteer drummers who thump out a scintillating score.

WHAT WILL HAVE BEEN **BY CIRCA CONTEMPORARY CIRCUS** **AT THE CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL**

An exploration of pure physical beauty that will challenge your perception of what is possible within the human body.

ATONG ATEM **PRESENTED BY** **NEWCASTLE ART GALLERY**

FREE

Newcastle-raised Sudanese-born artist showcasing a collection of her vibrant photography, videos and artworks.

THIS LAND **PRESENTED BY** **UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE**

FREE

Unite with friends and family for This Land; a First Nations celebration of the sound, soul, and spirit of the many nations in this country.



GLOBAL GATHERING **AT MUSEUM PARK**

FREE

A vibrant celebration of diverse traditions, food, art forms, and cultural expressions unites people from various backgrounds and fosters cross-cultural understanding in an immersive and joyful atmosphere.

BLANC DE BLANC ENCORE **BY STRUT & FRET AT SPIEGELTENT** **CIVIC PARK**

An intoxicating Gatsby-esque ride astonishes and delights with its world-renowned brand of opulent, cheeky, edge-of-your-seat theatre.

To explore the program and plan your visit, check out the New Annual website newannual.com



FREE EXHIBITION

Koori Knockout Exhibition

6 July - 21 October 2023
Lovett Gallery

This travelling exhibition from the State Library of NSW celebrates the first 50 years of the Koori Knockout rugby league competition, which has grown from its early days with just seven men's teams to becoming a fixture in the First Nations calendar and the biggest rugby league knockout carnival anywhere in the world.



FREE EVENT

The Humble Lecture with Tracey Spicer

4 August 2023
Wallsend Library

Newcastle Libraries invite you to the annual Humble Lecture featuring Walkley Award-winning journalist, broadcaster and author Tracey Spicer. Drawing on her 30 years of media and charity work, Tracey will discuss the future of tech and AI through a feminist lens, which she also explores in her new book Man-Made. Bookings are essential.



TICKETED EVENT

Sydney Dance Company – Ascent

9 August 2023
Civic Theatre

See inspired contemporary dance by renowned choreographers Rafael Bonachela, Marina Mascarell and Antony Hamilton. Following a smash-hit Sydney premiere, Ascent is a triple bill full of electric movement and inventive installations featuring two new works and the return of the Helpmann Award-winning Forever & Ever.



FREE EXHIBITION

Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards

15 August to 29 October 2023
Newcastle Museum

The Comedy Wildlife Photography Award is an exhibition that will surely captivate and entertain the whole family with photographs that use humor as a unique and effective way to engage the public with the charm of the animal kingdom and promote wildlife conservation.



TICKETED EVENT

The Sunshine Club

31 August 2023
Civic Theatre

This musical play tells the story of Frank Doyle, an Aboriginal serviceman who returns from World War II to find that although the wider world may have changed, attitudes in Brisbane are just the same. Filled with a defiant energy and ambition for a better life, Frank starts The Sunshine Club, a place where black and white can meet and, most importantly, dance.



TICKETED OR FREE

School Holiday Activities

September School Holidays
Newcastle Museum and Newcastle Libraries branches

Plan to spring into fun next school holidays at the Library and Museum! The theme is energy, and whether you want to burn some off, generate some, or understand it better, we have something for you. Be sure to check our What's On page to see everything on offer during the spring break.

Find something new



whatson.newcastle.nsw.gov.au