


KEEP CONNECTED

CANTERBURY  BANKSTOWN

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Issue 6: Spring 2022

Dear Resident

Keeping connected and staying inspired!

That's the message I hope will come through in the latest edition of Keep Connected.

And, who can believe it has been more than two years since we launched our first issue – way back in the midst of a pandemic.

While we were all stuck at home, the very first edition of Keep Connected helped us stay informed and told us about what was happening in our community. For some, COVID lockdowns are a blur and seem like they were worlds away, but I know many, including our local businesses, are still picking up the pieces.

This edition is all about putting a spring back in your step as the warmer weather is just around the corner. I was thrilled to see events like our Bankstown Bites Food Festival attract

thousands of locals, a shot in the arm our local businesses very much needed.

You'll read about why Bankstown Bites is so special for celebrity chef Alvin Quah, and how our City has become one of the most important places in Australia, when it comes to food.

You'll also learn how we are building a better City, including a spectacular new playground that's officially opened in Lakemba and more that's to come!

But the fun isn't just limited to our people. We're also working hard to ensure the City is a happy place for our furry friends to enjoy, with our ten fantastic off leash dog parks.

And as the Mayor of this great City, I'm proud to see so many inspiring locals sharing their stories. You'll meet a talented 17-year-old swimming star who represented our City in the recent Commonwealth Games, a former TAP student who sang her heart out on The Voice Australia, and a little legend who is wise beyond his years.

So, sit back and relax with your favourite cuppa while you enjoy this edition. And as always, let's keep connected and stay inspired.

Sincerely



Clr Khal Asfour
MAYOR

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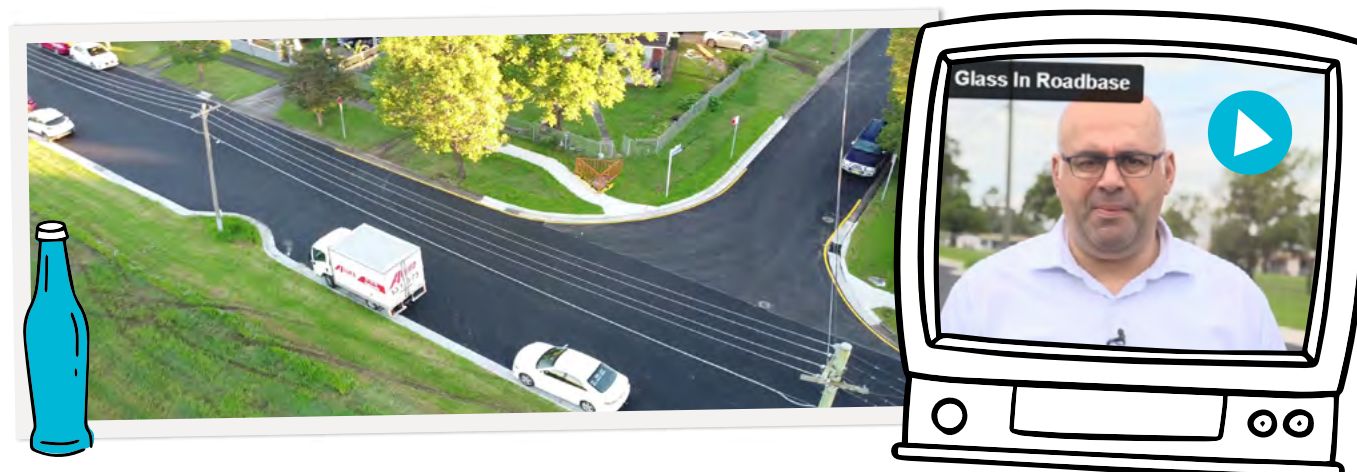
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Using recycled glass to build better roads

Have you ever wondered what happens to your glass after you put it in the recycling bin?

In an Australian-first trial, we're using recycled glass in the sub-base of roads. This exciting innovation is expected to make our roads stronger and more durable.

Each year, Council takes in around 8,000 tonnes of glass from collections; and small glass products can be easily recycled for road-construction. It's a cost-effective option, providing sustainable outcomes for our community.

Using recycled glass in the sub-base strengthens the road and will possibly result in fewer potholes. The glass will also make our roads safer and give them longer life.

Recycled glass has been used in sub-base and road surfacing at Marion Street and Erica Crescent, Georges Hall, and is partially funded by the NSW EPA.

To learn more, watch our informational video on [cb.city/CommunityMagazine](https://www.cb.city/CommunityMagazine)

Exciting changes are coming to our City

An exciting transformation of the Bankstown CBD is underway to create a vibrant metropolis and Sydney's newest place for opportunity.

The completed vision will transform Bankstown CBD into a leading education, health and lifestyle hub, creating thousands of new jobs and injecting millions of dollars into the local economy.

Designed with the community in mind, the new CBD will celebrate the diversity and sense of community that is unique to Bankstown.

The changes to our City are a blend of transformation projects carried out by Council, Sydney Metro, Vicinity Centres and Walker Corporation.

The Appian Way

The Appian Way was named after one of the oldest and most important strategic roads of the Roman Empire. But, unlike its historical namesake, The Appian Way in Bankstown is being transformed into a beautiful leafy pedestrian promenade.

The upgrades will connect the Bryan Brown Theatre within the Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre, with the new Western Sydney University to the new Southwest Metro at the Bankstown Railway Station, by 2024.

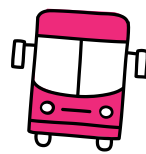


Artist impression of the new Western Sydney University Bankstown City campus



Western Sydney University

The new Bankstown City campus is almost complete at 74 Rickard Road. Located between the Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre and Civic Tower, it'll provide Western Sydney University students with a convenient and connected place to study and socialise.



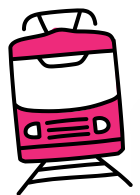
Bankstown Bus Interchange

Did you know? The bus interchange in Bankstown has been temporarily re-located to The Mall and Jacob Street. It's in preparation for a new fresh food precinct and Coles at Bankstown Central.

Southwest Metro – Bankstown Station

Faster and more frequent trains?

Yes please! The NSW Government promises air-conditioned metro trains every four minutes during peak times. Work is continuing along the current T3 line.



Find out more about changes
to the City at [cb.city/Progress](https://www.cityofbankstown.nsw.gov.au/cb.city/Progress)

Hogan's happy place

There's nothing Hogan loves more than his best friend and owner Bernard Hemming... although, a trip to his local off-leash dog park comes pretty close!

Hogan is an 11-year-old Labrador, whose duty in life is to guide Bernard and keep him safe. When he has time off, Hogan loves to go to the dog park where he runs around and socialises with other dogs.

Hogan's lucky enough to visit his local dog park, Narwee's Richard Podmore Reserve, at least once a week with Bernard and their support worker. Bernard says it's the best dog park in Sydney.

"Hogan loves the size of it because he can really run around. When other dogs are there, he'll take off and they'll chase after him... he's the leader of the pack!", Bernard says.

With multiple seating options and plenty of shade, it's also a peaceful place for Bernard to relax.

"I know that Hogan's safe and can't get out onto the road because it has a double gated entry."

A trip to the dog park is just one of many ways Bernard thanks Hogan for all his hard work.

As the weather warms up, treat your furry friend to a trip to one of our ten fantastic off leash dog parks. Find your nearest at cb.city/OffLeashParks

 **I've been to a few dog parks in my time, and this one is just the best!** 



Bernard & Hogan



Richard Podmore Reserve, Narwee



The most popular dog breeds in CBCity are the Cavoodle, American Staffordshire Terrier Cross, French Bulldog, German Shepherd and Toy Poodle!

What breed of dog do you have? Share a pic of your pooch at cb.city/CommunityMagazine



Float to Survive

with Hoppo from Bondi Rescue!



Floating is a key skill that can save your life, even if you can't swim. It's something anyone can learn.

Bruce "Hoppo" Hopkins' passion for keeping people safe around water doesn't end in the off-season.

During summer, you'll find Hoppo on the famous sands of Bondi Beach, leading his team of lifeguards on reality TV show *Bondi Rescue*.

But this September, he'll be teaching the residents of CBCity how to stay safe in the water. Hoppo's company, *Surf Educators International*, have launched a program called Float to Survive and we'll be running it with him at Birrong Leisure and Aquatic Centre.

According to Hoppo, floating is a key skill that can save your life, even if you can't swim. He says it's something anyone can learn.

"If you don't know how to float and how simple it can be, you tend to battle against the water. Floating gives you time to think, rather than panicking and becoming exhausted. If you can relax and float, then you can wait calmly to be rescued," Hoppo says.



With many new arrivals in our community coming from landlocked countries, we know that water can be unfamiliar – and dangerous. Learning to float could be a life saver. It doesn't take long; **one session of around an hour is all you need.**

The program is open to adults and children (aged six and up) who want to be more confident around water.



Sessions cost **\$20 per person.**
To book your spot, call **9707 5500.**



5 stars for our pools

Whenever you swim in a CBCity pool, you're swimming in a five-star pool!

Royal Lifesaving Australia has awarded all our pools five stars in its recent annual safety assessment.

This is the highest possible ranking and, with all our pools achieving overall safety scores in the high 90's, they rank in the top 1-2 percent in New South Wales for safety.

Mayor Khal Asfour says safety is the most important thing that we do.

"Our lifeguards are only the tip of the iceberg. Behind the scenes, our entire team is working hard to keep our community safe at our pools," Mayor Asfour says.



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Abbey Connor

Our own Aussie Dolphin!

Abbey Connor has made a splash in international waters, representing our City fiercely at the World Championships in Budapest and the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.



The Max Parker Centre is close to home for me and it's a really great facility.

The 17-year-old Panania local and champion butterfly is the youngest on the Australian Dolphins Swim Team to qualify for both internationally renowned competitions.

Our Leisure and Aquatic Centres have been a second home for Abbey during her preparation, where she can be seen training with her Harlee Elite squad up to eight times a week.

"They've put in new diving blocks, and all the equipment is awesome. It's been a really huge help with my training," Abbey says.

Abbey has spent three months overseas, where she trained and competed in Slovakia, Budapest, Spain, France and Birmingham. That's quite extraordinary for her first overseas trip!

She's returned home to Panania with a fourth placing and an experience that is indispensable, and is training even harder for the Paris 2024 Olympics. Well done Abbey! You have done our City proud!

What's on at Morris lemma Indoor Sports Centre

Not keen on getting in the pool? There's plenty of fun activities at Morris lemma Indoor Sports Centre (MIISC) where you can stay dry. Check out some of MIISC's offerings:

MIISC Kids

Are you a parent or guardian of a child 0-5 years? Bring them along to our fun and interactive program, MIISC Kids. Children can play freely and join sports games, as well as practice their throwing, balancing and crawling skills.



Women's Super 7's netball competition

Step onto the court and show everyone what you've got in this social netball competition. This competition runs every Wednesday night during the school term, so be sure to get your team together and practice your shots before then!

Open men's futsal competition

Take a shot at becoming the best team in CBCity! This is a jam-packed 12-week competition on Wednesday evenings. The competition runs every term, so get your team together and lace up your boots for a fun match.

Find out what else is on at MIISC at cb.city/MIISC



Canterbury-Bankstown is such an amazing place... with so many different cultures come different cuisines.



Foodies flock to Bankstown's food festival

Featuring celebrity chef Alvin Quah

Popular MasterChef contestant Alvin Quah sees CBCity as one of the most important places in Australia when it comes to food. With its 'melting pot' of different cultures, Alvin doesn't believe those living in the area realise just how lucky they are to be surrounded by such a huge variety of international cuisine.

"Canterbury-Bankstown is such an amazing place. It's incredibly vibrant and, with so many different cultures come different cuisines," Alvin says.

Famous for his Malaysian cooking and state-of-the-art eyewear, Alvin cooked up a storm at our Bankstown Bites Food Festival. His incredibly entertaining cooking demo, featuring a twist on San Choy Bao, proving to be a highlight of the day.

Alvin encouraged his audience to go home and make their own version of his favourite "go-to" meal.

"I try to create dishes that everyone can relate to and San Choy Bao is simply a lettuce wrap which is so versatile. My twist is that I use duck which is so delicious!"

Alvin, who was born in Malaysia and moved to Australia in 1994, credits his mother for instilling in him a love of cooking and a knowledge of flavours. He was just 12 when his mum put him to work in the kitchen.

"For many years I was in charge of cooking all the baked treats for Chinese New Year and mum saw it as a way to keep me out of trouble. It was also something for her to boast about!"

He hopes he can inspire others to be adventurous in the kitchen.

"There is so much to learn about cooking from other cultures – things you wouldn't think of doing in your own culture. It's such a great opportunity to learn more about other people and their story."



Thank you to everyone who attended Bankstown Bites. See you in October for Movies Under the Stars!

For more information on our upcoming events, visit cb.city/MajorEvents



What's on at the Bryan Brown Theatre

We're excited to bring you a star-studded list of upcoming shows. Rediscover the classic story of *Beauty and the Beast*, tune in with the Music Man, join us for a country music jam and more!

Beauty and the Beast Jr. presented by City Kids by Davin Griffiths-Jones

When: Wednesday 28-Thursday 29 September

Stage to Screen ft. Robert Jeffrey and Monique Montez

When: Tuesday 11 October

The Music Man presented by Bankstown Theatre Company

When: Saturday 29 October-Sunday 6 November

Kings and Queens of Country Music ft. Paula Watt and David Bond

When: Tuesday 8 November

For more information, visit
BryanBrownTheatre.com.au



From TAP to The Voice The rise of Theonie Marks

Theonie Marks will never forget the moment international star Rita Ora turned her chair on *The Voice*. It was "instant euphoria" for Theonie. Suddenly, she was part of "Team Rita" and onto the next stage of the competition.

For Theonie, that night on *The Voice* was the culmination of years of hard work, which began in the CBCity Talent Advancement Program (TAP).

"I was in TAP from the ages of 12 to 17 and it was the most amazing experience because it improved my vocal range and built my confidence," Theonie says.

We're all very proud of Theonie and, even though she wasn't crowned *The Voice* winner, her career is now taking off in ways she had only dreamed about!



Lights, Camera, Action STUDIOVENTURE

Professional photography, videography and podcasting facilities are now available for hire for local businesses and organisations in CBCity!

Producing high quality content at Studioventure will ensure your business stands out above the rest.

Whether it's a podcast, headshots, promotional or business training video, Studioventure will cater to your marketing needs every weekday from 9am-5pm.

For bookings, visit cb.city/Studioventure



Recognising our little local legends

We have so many inspiring young people in our City, each with a different story to tell. Nine-year-old William is incredibly selfless and inspires us all with a kindness that shows he is wise beyond his years.

When his best mate Charbel was in hospital undergoing cancer treatment, William called him every single day to talk, play games and try to lift his spirits. The pair have been best buddies since they were two and it was very hard for William to watch his best friend go through cancer treatment.

"He didn't deserve to go through that... he was scared that some people would make fun of him when he lost his hair, so I would facetime him to try to make him feel happier about himself," William says.

William was nominated by Charbel for our City's Kindness award in last year's Children and Youth Awards, for being "the most loyal and caring friend that I could ever wish for".

William said he was over the moon when he won the award, and it was even presented to him in front of his school at an assembly.

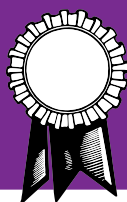
I didn't even know what I did, I was just being a friend!

William spent the gift card he won on some games that he could play with Charbel, so the pair could spend even more time together.



We're so proud of our little local legend for showing true kindness and are happy to report that the pair are reunited, with Charbel back at soccer and in good health.

Know any incredible young people like William and Charbel? Nominate them for CBCity's Children and Youth Awards!



You can nominate a child in Years 3-6, or a young person aged 12-18 years across eight different categories. Entries close **Sunday 2 October**. Visit cb.city/CYAwards

Welcome to Carrington Preschool

We recently opened the first pre-school in Campsie – and the first operated by CBCity!

Carrington Preschool is one of a kind, as it's the first to combine an occasional care centre and a preschool in the same location. This innovative centre has been a great success, caring for 40 children every week.

We love being able to grow with our community and we can't wait to continue to expand our early childhood education facilities. Find out more about our early childhood education facilities at cb.city/Children



Generations of fun

Grandparents hold a special place in our hearts. They share with us their wisdom, stories and unconditional love.

In a Grandparents' Day competition last year, locals celebrated the important role of older people in their lives. Emma from Greenacre told us that her nan looks after her every day so her parents can go to work.



Emma, her brother, and their nan, Sonia (Greenacre)

Our nan, who we call Queen Nanny Dragon, loves us so so much! She always puts everyone before herself," Emma says.

Khadija, her brother, and their grandmother (Lakemba)



Lakemba local, Khadija, says her bond with her grandparents is like no other.

"Even though they live in India, I speak to them regularly over the phone and always learn about my history and culture," Khadija says.

With this year's Grandparents' Day coming up, we're excited to show our grandparents how much we love them!

Bring them along for generations of fun with games and crafts at MIISC Kids on Monday 24, Wednesday 26 and Friday 28 October, and a Grandparents Golf Day on Monday 24 October at Sefton Golf Course.

For more details and to register, visit cb.city/Grandparents or call 9707 9000

Spring school holiday fun

There are so many activities to choose from these school holidays!



- Master the challenge of a ninja obstacle course;
- Play soccer, basketball and other games at Morris Iemma Indoor Sports Centre;
- Drop by Belmore Youth Resource Centre on our open day to join in the fun and find out more about our youth programs;
- Take part in themed activities as part of our libraries' 'Let's Go First Nations' celebration;
- Sharpen your pencils for a graphic novel workshop; and
- Join in our Walkabout Reptile Show at our Library and Knowledge Centres.



Book your spots and see what else is on at cb.city/SchoolHolidays



BYRC back in action

Our City's hidden hideout for young people is back in action! Belmore Youth Resource Centre (BYRC) is a safe and fun space where those aged 8-24 years can access a variety of programs and services, or even just swing by to chill out!

BYRC is open for after school drop-ins every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday during the school term, from 3-5pm.

Find out what other programs are on at BYRC at cb.city/YouthPrograms

Meet local, Julie Magill

Julie Magill is a CBCity local, sudoku master, lover of all things sports, and an advocate for people with a disability. Julie was diagnosed with cerebral palsy when she was just ten months old. It's a physical disability that affects her right side and can sometimes make it tricky to get around.

"I wear special shoes, use a walking stick and have half a splint on my right leg," Julie says.

Her disability means Julie needs assistance going up stairs, she has trouble getting in and out of the car, and uses an access ramp to get on the train.

But these are just some of the barriers that people living with a disability face every day. There are around 25,000 people in our community who, like Julie, face an array of physical, communication and social barriers as a result of their disability.

Our Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) 2022-26 challenges these barriers so that everyone in our community, regardless of disability, can live more freely and equally. Julie is involved in our Universal Access Advisory Committee, a group of people with lived



experience of disability who meet once a quarter and who were in close consultation with Council during the development of the DIAP. The Committee made several suggestions around the presentation of the DIAP, including creating an AUSLAN summary.

And when I read the Plan, I was really proud of the language used and that Council took steps to use the social model of disability.

Through four key focus areas, the DIAP 2022-26 aims to address the needs and barriers of people living with disability in CBCity.

View the Plan and learn more about our commitment to disability inclusion at cb.city/DIAP

Get a grip, pull your weight

Gerry Pyke's role as a Remote Area Coordinator in the Ambulance Service means working in challenging conditions.

But few challenges stand out as much as staring down a Tug O' War rope at a team of determined police officers.

Gerry's NSW Ambulance team and the NSW Police Force team both reached the final of CBCity's Tug O' War Cup – twice! The ambos were "pipped by the coppers both times", (as Gerry puts it!) Now the ambos have another chance, because after two years on hold due to COVID-19,

the event returns this spring. The Cup brings people together to take a stand against domestic violence, an issue Gerry is passionate about.

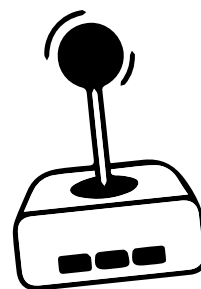
Say NO to domestic violence

"Domestic violence takes many forms, including psychological and financial, and all are abuse. The Tug O' War is a great community event, but it also spreads the message that domestic violence is never acceptable," Gerry says.

The Tug O' War Cup will be held on Wednesday 23 November.

For more information or to register visit cb.city/TugOWar

Find more than just a book at your local library



CBCity libraries are packed with books, but they are also buzzing with activities, many of which might surprise you.

Chess and Arcade Games

On Friday evenings, the large study room at Campsie Library and Knowledge Centre transforms into Wolf's Den, a games session for adults.

Chess features twice a month, but on the other Friday nights, the room echoes with the electronic beeps of retro arcade style games.

Phil Pham is a regular attendee at Arcade nights.

"It's not just about playing your favourite games, but also interacting with like-minded people, something that's rare in the age of home consoles and internet," Phil says.

Get your game on at cb.city/games-night

Family History

Looking for a lost ancestor? Or want to know who lived in your home 100 years ago?

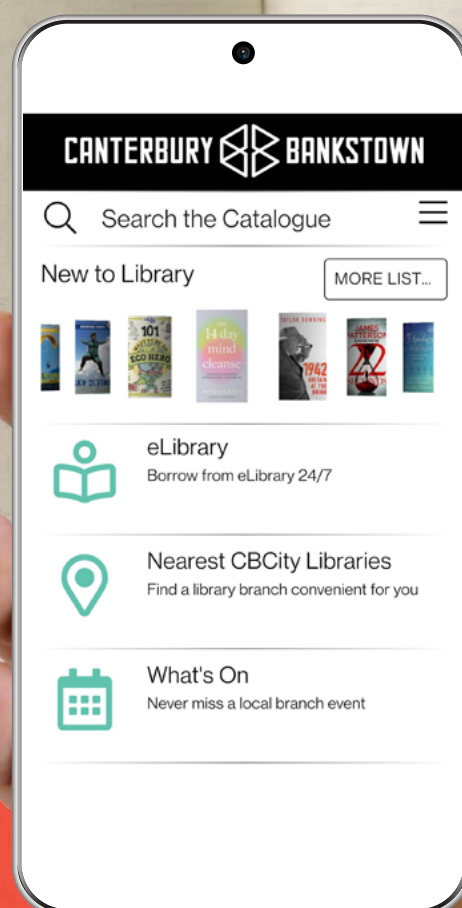
Our family history team thrives on questions like these! You can make an appointment to ask about local history or family history, or just turn up at one of our regular Drop-In sessions.

September is History Month and the team will be running events with the theme of 'Hands-On History'.

Start your exploration at cb.city/FamilyHistory

Your library in the palm of your hand!

Download our CBCity Library app to scroll through our catalogue, reserve books, renew your loans, explore the eLibrary and much more. Look up 'CBCity Library' in the App Store or Google Play.



Bankstown Arts Centre presents:

Sub Terrains Bankstown Biennale 2022

Sub-Terrains is the fascinating theme of this year's Biennale, exploring the "hidden stories" within the landscape surrounding the Bankstown Arts Centre.

Artworks from more than 20 artists will be showcased at the Biennale, which will include installations, responding to the Sub-Terrains theme.

The Biennale aims to highlight the Aboriginal history of Salt Pan Creek after colonisation and based on Joe Anderson, a long-time resident of the area in 1930s and 40s.

In 1933, Joe (also known as 'King Burruga') was filmed near Salt Pan Creek, Bankstown, declaring a petition to the King of England, calling for equal rights and justice for Indigenous Australians.

The Biennale will mark Joe's political legacy and this nationally significant local history. It's also intriguing to know that the waterways feeding Salt Pan Creek, flow beneath the Arts Centre and our culturally vibrant precinct.

Sub Terrains Bankstown Biennale 2022 runs from Saturday 8 October-Saturday 26 November.



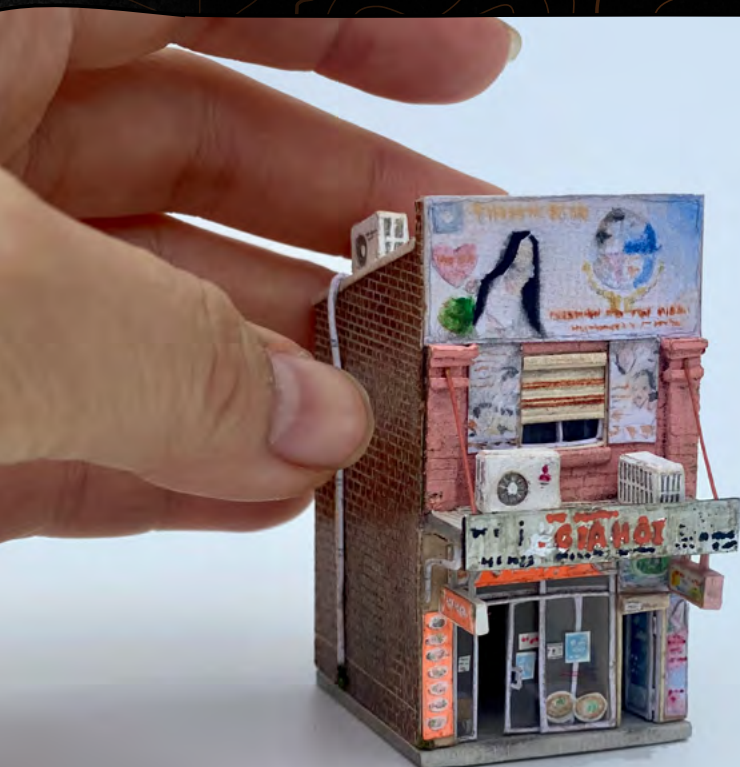
Children on the banks of Salt Pan Creek 1925, Mitchell Library, State Library NSW, Cited in Rivers and Resilience – Heather Goodall and Allison Cadzow



Biennale artists: Maddison Gibbs, Jason Wing, Paula Dó Prado, Carmen Glynn-Braun, Nicole Monks (co-curator), Jamie Eastwood, Vandana Ram (co-curator) and Cigdem Ayedmir.



Find out more at cb.city/BankstownBiennale



Local life captured

We introduced you to Mylyn Nguyen's detailed miniatures and Garry Trinh's photography in an online exhibition in 2021.

Now you can see their work in person at the Bankstown Arts Centre. Both artists are local residents, and our streets feature throughout their art. Mylyn's miniatures of Bankstown shops capture everyday scenes and inspire a sense of wonder in even the most ordinary of places, while Garry's photos reveal the magic in the mundane.

The exhibition is called 'Time Pass' and will run until **28 September 2022**.

For more about what's on at the Bankstown Arts Centre, visit cb.city/ArtsCentre



@bankstownartscentre
#bankstownartscentre

The perfect playdate this Spring

Parry Park in Lakemba is now officially open – and it's just in time for everyone to enjoy while soaking up the sunshine this spring!

The Parry Park Playspace is a spectacular new playground, with all the bells and whistles to keep the kids happy.

You'll find swings, a climbing tower, bike paths, water and sand play areas, as well as a new amenity building with barbecues and a picnic area.

It's one of 16 parks to be upgraded this year, including Earlwood Oval which is being decked out with an improved playing surface and new irrigation system, practice wickets, playground, half basketball court and new access paths.

Hurlstone Memorial Reserve will offer a new community space, including a multi-purpose meeting room, covered outdoor break-out space, toilet facilities and a kitchenette - perfect for local community group gatherings!



We have 244 playgrounds and play spaces across the City. Find one near you at [cb.city/Parks](https://www.cb.city/Parks)



Spring clean!

After shivering through the colder months, it's finally time to spring clean!

For big items that don't fit in the red bin – furniture, fridges and other household items – follow these easy steps. →

Book your Clean-Up at [cb.city/BulkyWaste](https://www.cb.city/BulkyWaste)



Make your spring clean easy with these simple steps:

1. Book ahead for your Bulky Waste Clean-Up, visit [cb.city/BulkyWaste](https://www.cb.city/BulkyWaste)
2. Check your confirmation email for the time and date of your booking.
3. Before putting items out for collection, make sure your items will be accepted, see the list at [cb.city/BulkyWaste](https://www.cb.city/BulkyWaste). Also, consider whether you can donate or recycle any items instead.
4. Place your bulky waste items in a neat and safe pile the day before your booking. Label your pile by attaching the sticker sent to you or your Booking Reference Number written on a piece of paper.
5. You're all done. We'll take it from there!

Bankstown Arts Centre

9707 5400

**Belmore Youth &
Resource Centre**

9718 9848

**Bryan Brown Theatre
& Function Centre**

9707 9404

Customer Service

9707 9000

Leisure & Aquatic Centres

Birrong 9644 8300

Canterbury 9789 9303

Max Parker 9771 2148

Roselands 9789 9302

Wran 9726 2283

Library & Knowledge Centres

Bankstown 9707 9704

Campsie 9789 9405

Chester Hill 9707 9740

Earlwood 9789 9417

Greenacre 9707 9744

Lakemba 9789 9419

Padstow 9707 9747

Panania 9707 9737

Riverwood 9707 5436

**Morris Iemma Indoor
Sports Centre (MIISC)**

9153 0441

Sefton Golf Course

9743 9436

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Cover feature

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