

KEEP CONNECTED

CANTERBURY  BANKSTOWN

Special Edition

A Helping Hand **P4**

Refreshed City **P6**

King George
of Bankstown
2021 Australian
Survivor Runner Up
(featured) **P8**

Santa's Coming
to Town **P12**

[cbcity.nsw.gov.au](https://www.cbcity.nsw.gov.au)





Dear Resident

It gives me great pleasure to share with you this special digital edition of our community newsletter, Keep Connected. This edition will highlight what support is available to those who are doing it tough during COVID-19, how we can continue to stay connected and how to prepare for the better times ahead.

Throughout this pandemic, I have heard “shout outs” daily, but now it’s my turn to send a **BIG SHOUT OUT** to our residents here at Canterbury-Bankstown.

You have done an outstanding job in stopping the spread of the virus and getting vaccinated. Indeed, you have done our City proud!

As you know, our City has been at the forefront of working with the government to ensure we get ahead of this deadly virus. We’ve been proactive with messaging across all social and digital platforms in various languages, and we have assisted NSW Health in establishing testing clinics and vaccination hubs.

我非常高兴跟大家分享我们的社区通讯Keep Connected (《保持联系》) 特别数码版。这个版本重点介绍那些在COVID期间碰到困难的人可以得到哪些帮助、我们如何继续保持联系以及如何为未来的美好时光做准备。

在这次疫情期间,我每天都听到 shout out (呐喊),但现在轮到我向我们的居民发出**BIG SHOUT OUT (大声呐喊)**了。

大家在阻止病毒传播和接种疫苗方面做得很出色。

我知道,最近我们封城给每个人都造成了损害。因此,我们仍在提供紧急救济和支持方案,通过一些方式帮助我们的社区和我们的企业。

关于市政府提供的支持,详情请见:
cbc.city.nsw.gov.au。


Μου δίνει μεγάλη χαρά να μοιράζομαι μαζί σας αυτή την ειδική ψηφιακή έκδοση του ενημερωτικού δελτίου της κοινότητάς μας, Keep Connected (Μένουμε Συνδεδεμένοι). Αυτή η έκδοση επισημαίνει ποια υποστήριξη είναι διαθέσιμη σε όσους αντιμετωπίζουν δυσκολίες κατά τη διάρκεια του COVID, πώς μπορούμε να συνεχίσουμε να παραμένουμε συνδεδεμένοι και πώς να προετοιμαστούμε για τις καλύτερες μέρες που έρχονται.

Κατά τη διάρκεια αυτής της πανδημίας, έχω ακούσει “shout outs” (κραυγές) καθημερινά, αλλά τώρα είναι η σειρά μου να στείλω μια **BIG SHOUT OUT (ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΚΡΑΥΓΗ)** στους δημότες μας.

Κάνατε εξαιρετική δουλειά για να σταματήσετε την εξάπλωση του ιού και να εμβολιαστείτε.

Ξέρω ότι το πρόσφατο κλείσιμο του Δήμου μας πλήγωσε τους πάντες. Έτσι, εξακολουθούμε να παρέχουμε ένα πακέτο έκτακτης βοήθειας και υποστήριξης για να βοηθήσουμε με κάποιον τρόπο την κοινότητά μας και τις επιχειρήσεις μας.

Περισσότερες πληροφορίες για την υποστήριξη που παρέχει το Δημοτικό Συμβούλιο διατίθενται στο cbc.city.nsw.gov.au



I know the recent shutdown of our City has been hurting everyone, families, businesses and individuals. It has been devastating, economically and mentally for us all. In fact, when I announced my 18-point plan 16 months ago to help our local economy, I never imagined we would be in this predicament today.

But rest assured I will continue to do all I can to support you and this great City. That's why, we're still providing an emergency relief and support package to help our community and our businesses in some way.

More information about Council's support can be found at cbc.city.nsw.gov.au



Mayor Khal Asfour
City of Canterbury Bankstown

Tôi rất vui mừng để chia sẻ với quý vị ấn bản trực tuyến đặc biệt này của bản tin thư cộng đồng của chúng tôi, Keep Connected (Giữ Liên lạc). Ấn bản này sẽ nêu rõ sự hỗ trợ gì có sẵn cho những người đang gặp khó khăn trong thời kỳ COVID, chúng ta có thể tiếp tục giữ liên lạc bằng cách nào và làm thế nào để chuẩn bị cho các thời kỳ tươi sáng hơn sắp tới.

Trong suốt đại dịch này, tôi đã nghe "shout outs" (những lời khen ngợi) hàng ngày, nhưng bây giờ đến lượt tôi gửi **BIG SHOUT OUT (LỜI KHEN NGỢI NỒNG NHIỆT)** đến các cư dân của chúng ta.

Quý vị đã thực hiện một vai trò xuất sắc trong việc giúp ngăn chặn sự lây lan của siêu vi và đã đi chủng ngừa.

Tôi biết rằng thời kỳ phong tỏa vừa qua của Thành phố chúng ta đã ảnh hưởng đến tất cả mọi người. Do đó, chúng tôi vẫn cung ứng gói hỗ trợ và cứu trợ khẩn cấp để giúp cộng đồng và các thương nghiệp địa phương của chúng ta phần nào.

Muốn biết thêm thông tin về sự hỗ trợ của Hội đồng thành phố, vui lòng xem trang mạng cbc.city.nsw.gov.au

يسرني جداً أن أطلعكم على هذا العدد الإلكتروني الخاص من رسالتنا الإخبارية المجتمعية، Keep Connected (ابق على اتصال). يسلط هذا العدد الضوء على أنواع الدعم المتوفرة للذين يمرّون بظروف صعبة خلال جائحة COVID وعلى الوسائل التي يمكننا فيها مواصلة البقاء على اتصال ووسائل الاستعداد للأيام المشرقة القادمة.

طوال هذه الجائحة، سمعت "shout outs" (عبارات الشكر والتقدير) منكم يومياً، وجاء دوري الآن لأرسل **BIG SHOUT OUT (اعطّر عبارات الشكر والتقدير)** إلى سكاننا. لقد أبلّيتكم بلاءً حسناً في وقف انتشار الفيروس وتلقّي اللقاح.

إنني أعلم أن الإغلاق الأخير لمدينتنا قد ألحق الأذى والضرر بالجميع، لذا فإننا ما نزال نقدم الإغاثة في الحالات الطارئة وحزمة دعم لمساعدة أبناء مجتمعتنا والمصالح التجارية في منطقتنا بطريقة أو بأخرى.

يمكن العثور على المزيد من المعلومات عن أنواع الدعم التي توفرها البلدية على الموقع cbc.city.nsw.gov.au

A helping hand

CBCity COVID-19 support package

Finally with restrictions easing and our City gradually reopening, there's a bright and shining light at the end of the tunnel for 2021. It's been a tough few months for many, and supporting our community as best we can has been our top priority.

This crisis has taken its toll on many people. If we can lighten the load, that's making life a little bit easier for someone.

Mayor Khal Asfour

Our COVID-19 support package continues to provide valuable relief to local businesses, residents and workers during these difficult times. We've ensured eligible businesses and property owners struggling to pay their rates, are provided with compassionate options.

Absorbing childcare fees for families and extending hospital parking passes for local frontline healthcare workers, are just some of the other ways we've tried to lighten the load.

To help our local not for profit organisations continue supporting those in need, they were able to apply for \$500-\$10,000 grants to assist in:

- Providing emergency relief services to people experiencing hardship.
- Helping those who are most at risk of serious infection.
- Providing a wider range of services that could benefit the community.



Supporting our youth

To help answer their curly COVID-19 questions, we created a safe online space where local youth can express their thoughts and be heard by special guest speakers.

Beaming with loads of good advice, Marwa Kechtban from Headspace Bankstown recently joined one of our weekly sessions to discuss self-care, balancing home schooling and family conflict.

One of our regular attendees said: "It's so nice to be listened to and feel like our opinions matter when times are tough."

Our COVID-19 chats help to build the NSW COVID-19 Recovery Plan for young people. For more information, visit [cb.city/youth](https://www.cb.city/youth)

To learn more about how we're supporting the community visit, [cb.city/COVIDRelief](https://www.cb.city/COVIDRelief)



Community hampers making a difference

Thanks to a generous donation from Woolworths and Reckitt, our Meals on Wheels hampers have recently included a thoughtful little addition. About 200 separate hygiene parcels containing disinfectant, hand sanitiser, antibacterial wipes and multipurpose cleaners were distributed.

Marcia, a 94-year-old Meals on Wheels recipient said she was touched by the surprise package that came along with her meal. "Meals on Wheels volunteers are wonderful people, there's no doubt about it!

We've also been working closely with OzHarvest and local organisations to collect and deliver at least 500 food hampers each week to households in need. Hampers contain staples such as rice, canned foods, fresh produce as well as culture specific food items.

"Because of Council's initiative in programs such as delivering food hampers, the community is back working together which is just amazing," Joumana Eljamal, Director of Sydney Community Connect, said.

If you live in Canterbury-Bankstown and need support as a result of COVID-19, visit [cb.city/COVID](https://www.cb.city/COVID)

Supporting our local businesses

Small businesses are at the heart of our community and they rely on us as much as we rely on them.

To help them stay afloat whilst they were closed, we hosted a free business grant webinar to help them claim much needed funding. In partnership with Canterbury Bankstown Chamber of Commerce and Service NSW, we walked nearly 150 local business owners through the application process for grants.

Show some love to our local businesses now they've opened. They're part of what makes our City so special. For information on business support, visit [cb.city/Covid-Business-Support](https://www.cb.city/Covid-Business-Support)





Building a Better City

A new look for Canterbury Leisure and Aquatic Centre

With plans to completely redevelop the 62-year-old facility and revitalise its services, let's take a moment to reflect on Canterbury Leisure and Aquatic Centre and what is yet to come.

Acting as the training ground for some of our City's most elite squad swimmers, some of whom have even been chosen to represent Australia at international championships, the centre has gone above and beyond to provide a community service.

Managing Director Alex Clarke of Harlee Elite swim squad said the redevelopment is welcome news that will assist his coaches even further. "As well as being a state-of-the-art centre for everyone in the

community to enjoy, it will also undoubtedly help raise our next generation of sports stars," Mr Clarke said.

As part of our plan to improve community health and wellbeing, the Centre's features will include a 50m outdoor pool, 25m indoor pool, an indoor warm water therapy pool and a zero-depth children's water play area. This is in addition to an on site café, sauna and gym.

Construction is due to start in mid-2022 and we plan to open in December 2023.

To learn more and tour the concept design, visit cb.city/LeisureNews



It will also undoubtedly help raise our next generation of sports stars.





Fun just got upgraded at our local parks

With warmer weather here, we've been refreshing local playgrounds around our City.

- Panania's **Killara Reserve** has a new 4.3-metre-high climbing pyramid, along with a wheelchair accessible carousel that's flush to the ground.
- Lansdowne's **Flinders Slopes Playground** features a 4x4m activity net, inclusive trampoline, spinner and flying fox.
- Padstow's **Playford Park** now features a new outdoor gym, play tower, picnic shelters and seating.
- Campsie's **Harold Street Reserve** now has more open space with increased shelter and seating options, as well as a new flying fox.

Keep an eye out for more to come! In 2021/22, we will be investing \$13.6 million to improve our parks and sporting fields around CBCity.

To find a park or sporting field near you, visit cb.city/Parks



Stay up to date as we continue to build a better City, visit cb.city/projects



The 'King of Bankstown' is home

The *King of Bankstown* has returned after spending 48 days in the harsh Queensland outback.

George Mladenov, the 2021 *Australian Survivor* runner up, endured hot days and freezing nights as he manoeuvred his way through the show's eighth season unaware of just how tough his family and community were doing back home in Canterbury-Bankstown.

"I came back in the midst of a global pandemic that I didn't realise just how bad it was. I came back to a locked down community... very harsh restrictions here, but we got through it," Mladenov said.

While thankful of his time in *Survivor*, being on the show reminded him of one important thing.

"The most important thing that matters is being proud of who you are and where you come from," he said.

"And for me, I scream Bankstown from the hills. I've lived here my whole life and I love living here.

"The fire of Bankstown burns bright, and it burned at the fire tribe.

I'm glad Australia, through *Australian Survivor*, got to see what a person from Bankstown is like.

"They're someone who sticks up for their community, it's someone who looks out for others, it is someone who is frank and fearless, and someone who you can trust."

For the 31-year-old, getting vaccinated was a no-brainer. Especially if it allowed him to see those he cared most about.

"As the vaccine became available and I was eligible for it, I got it," Mladenov said.

"Our community has lived through some of the harshest restrictions, but now is the time to go out and about.

"[Let's] make sure our businesses get a spring in their step. I encourage everybody to go out and shop locally.

"I think to myself what's next for me? Well I'll tell you one little secret. Watch out you might be seeing me again on your screens in the not too distant future."





Our community is fantastic, we look out for each other and we were there for each other during the tough times. But now Bankstown is open again and it's time to get back to business.

**George Mladenov
2021 Australian Survivor Runner Up**

The kindness of Rangers

The Panania Free Rangers are a local not-for-profit organisation delivering fresh fruit and veggies to local families.

You wouldn't believe us if we told you that Jacquie Dredge's garage looks more like a large walk-in pantry than a place to park your car. Every Thursday, a truck arrives at Jacquie's place and it's filled with all the freshest produce you can imagine.

"We're all about fresh produce," Jacquie says.

"We distribute the fresh produce to families on a Thursday along with seven free kindness boxes to other people in the community.

"The kindness boxes have a little message attached saying: 'You've been nominated for a kindness box.' They bring a lot of joy to people who are struggling.

Now because of the lockdown, people are more aware of food security. We get lots of requests for seeds and seedlings. People are getting back into growing."

For people who are interested in growing fresh produce at home, Jacquie says herbs are a good place to start.

Learn more at pananiafreerangers.com



Hidden heroes

If you know Dale Donadel, you'd know the Picnic Point local goes beyond the call of duty for our community.

The manager of Chester Hill Neighbourhood Centre has made a life out of helping people for the last 20 years including vulnerable children, families and the elderly.

Last year, Dale won the Citizen of the Year at our Australia Day Awards after being nominated by her colleagues.



Dale's advice:

"Look around and acknowledge and recognise people who have made Canterbury-Bankstown what it is today."

Nominations are now open for the 2022 Australia Day Awards including the newly made Jack Munday Environment and Heritage Award.

Nominate: cb.city/AustraliaDayAwards



Birds of a feather

If you've seen people counting birds in our City this month, don't worry, they haven't gone "cuckoo". These avid bird watchers were taking part in the Aussie Backyard Bird Count.

Long-time member of the local GreenWay birdos, Jennifer Kent is proud to say you can see a great range of birds right at home - like the Tawny Frogmouth. Native to Australia, this nocturnal bird features patterned feathers that help them disguise as dead tree branches. Keep an eye out for them, they're tricky to see.

Experienced bird watcher Gavin Gatenby recommends visiting Earlwood's Gough Whitlam or Waterworth Park. He's seen his fair share of beautiful birds there, like the Australasian Darter. Gavin says: "Darter birds are able to dive deep into the water... you might see one flick their catch into the air and gulp it down head first."

Exploring your local park or reserve is a great way to get familiar with the beautiful range of birds that call Canterbury-Bankstown home.



For more information, visit
aussiebirdcount.org.au/resources

A Week on the Cooks River

Most locals have enjoyed a long walk along the Cooks River. But have you ever wondered how it got its name or the connection it has with Australian culture?

Titled: A Week on the Cooks River, Clare Britton - followed the 23 kilometre path on foot and by boat in an effort to uncover what Sydney history is reflected in its waters.

Clare Britton is a local artist from Earlwood who has specially focussed on the Cooks River for her PhD candidature at the Sydney College of Arts.

"Just that act of walking along the river has been so helpful for me in understanding the history of

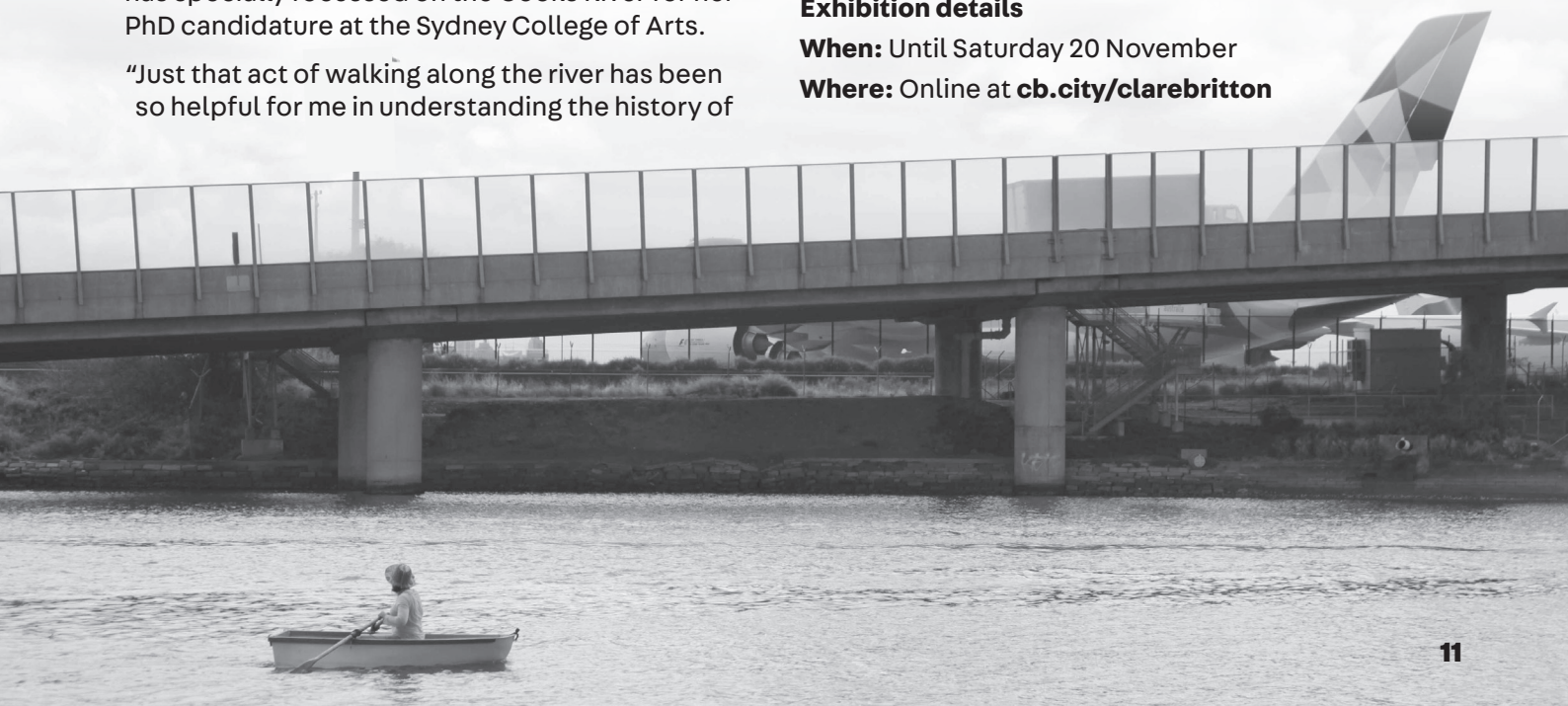
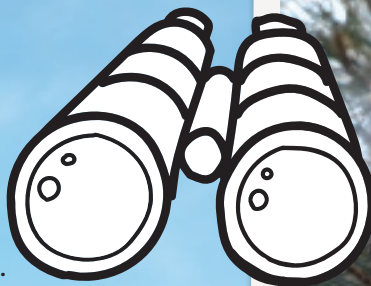
Sydney and the way that language is written down in our landscape," she said.

From its patchy beginnings in Yagoona, through Botany Bay to the Pacific Ocean, Clare's artwork forms a visual and written map of the river.

Exhibition details

When: Until Saturday 20 November

Where: Online at cb.city/clarebritton





What's On

Carols in the Park

Bring a picnic blanket for a night filled with songs, entertainment and Christmas spirit.

When: Sunday 5 December
6-9.30pm

Where: Wiley Park Amphitheatre

Cost: FREE. Bookings essential

Book your spot at cb.city/Carols

Christmas Lights Competition

Is your tinsel the talk of the town?
Send us a photo and the location
for your chance to WIN great prizes.

When: Until Wednesday 15 December

Where: Facebook @ourcbc

Learn more at cb.city/Christmas





Community Read and Sing along

There's something special about seeing your kids develop a love for reading. Our weekly Read and Sing sessions provide little ones, aged 1-5 years, with live singing and storytelling performances to help grow their literacy with plenty of fun and interaction.

Chelsey recently brought her daughter, Coco, along for the first time. "[She] had lots of giggles and even clapped with joy, she had a great time," she said.

Read and Sing sessions are delivered in English and several languages including Vietnamese, Arabic and Polish.

To register or learn more: cb.city/LibraryEvents



Can't make it to a session?
View recordings at a time that suits you by visiting cb.city/VirtualStoryTime



Have a recipe worth sharing?

Post it on our interactive *Keep Connected* page and see what's cooking this Summer!



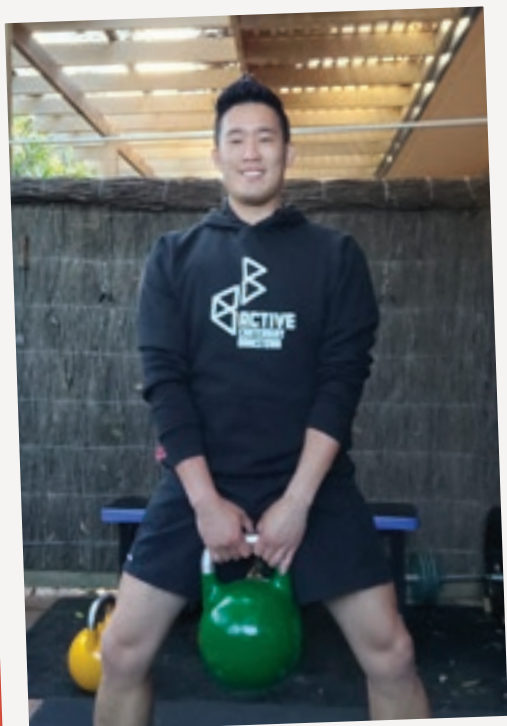
Getting fit and healthy for Summer

With a whole lot of time spent indoors lately and changes to routine, some of us may have put on a few "COVID-19 kilos". To help spring back into shape, Active CB Lifestyle has introduced a fun new Exercise Referral and Weight Management Program.

With an active mix of group sports, water-based activities and exercise sessions, the 12-week program offers a personalised workout schedule and personal fitness trainer.

Canterbury Leisure and Aquatic Personal Trainer Andy Fung said that this program is a great way to lift your mood and get moving again. "The endorphins released by exercising help boost your mood and having someone to guide you on your fitness journey can help you build life changing habits."

To learn more and sign up, visit cb.city/ActiveCB-Lifestyle or call 9707 9236.



Where Interesting Happens

Design for Padstow



Welcome back!

While you're doing your shop, we're brightening up the City and adding a little flair. Ten temporary spaces will provide new areas to sit and enjoy while being out and about.

"I thought that's a good way to bring the community together. Customers can get a takeaway coffee and sit out in the sunshine," said Mark Dimetra, owner of La Cantina on Clarke Street in Earlwood.

It's all about welcoming you back. You'll light-up when you see our Light House design on Amy Street, Campsie and at The Mall in Bankstown.

It has seating, a pack-and-go counter and solar panels too. It's an eco-friendly place to rest when you need a quick break.

Chill out at East Terrace Reserve in Bankstown and Earlwood Avenue, whilst enjoying the green oasis surroundings with timber seating, lush plant foliage and bike racks at your convenience. The space is inspired by the rich tapestry of our City's culture. Spot the different languages saying "Welcome" and "Warami" - the Dharug word for "Good to see you".

See the designs for the next six installations at Belmore, Chester Hill, Georges Hall, Narwee, Padstow and Revesby.



Visit cb.city/StreetsAsSharedSpaces

We're Back to Business

Start your engines – local businesses are back!

Help accelerate our economy by eating, playing and visiting local.

EXTREME Indoor Go Karting in Villawood is just one business ready to welcome you.

Follow us on **Facebook** @ourcbcity to see some businesses back in action.



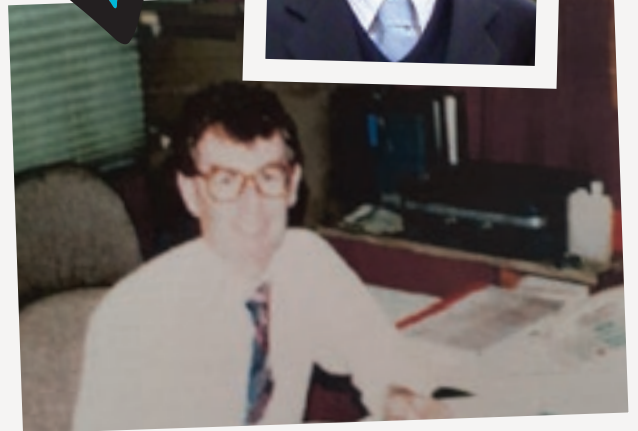
Celebrating a sparkling local's Diamond Jubilee

This year marks 60 years of service for Trevor Newton!
















Local Georges Hall resident, Trevor recalls his first day on the job back in 1960 as a 15-year-old in our mail room. Nowadays, Trevor puts his knowledge and experience of our City to work at our Customer Service Centre.

One of his career highlights was meeting Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd. "[He] was coming out to announce a grant to further upgrade the Bankstown Arts Centre, which was built on the site of the old Bankstown Swimming Pool. I got the opportunity to take him through the centre and explain the history of the pool," Trevor recalls fondly.

Congratulations Trevor!



Contact a councillor

BANKSTOWN	 <p>Clr Khal Asfour (ALP) - Mayor khal.asfour@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 9707 9523</p>	 <p>Clr George Zakhia (LIB) george.zakhia@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0439 724 557</p>	 <p>Clr Bilal El-Hayek (ALP) bilal.el-hayek@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0410 111 161</p>
BASS HILL	 <p>Clr Alex Kuskoff (ALP) alex.kuskoff@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0403 602 924</p>	 <p>Clr Charlie Ishac (LIB) charlie.ishac@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0498 141 149</p>	 <p>Clr Rachelle Harika (ALP) rachelle.harika@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0418 859 353</p>
CANTERBURY	 <p>Clr Clare Raffan (ALP) clare.raffan@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0499 790 033</p>	 <p>Clr Philip Madirazza (LIB) philip.madirazza@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0408 983 498</p>	 <p>Clr Linda Eisler (GRN) linda.eisler@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0400 426 424</p>
REVESBY	 <p>Clr Linda Downey (ALP) - Deputy Mayor linda.downey@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0411 462 287</p>	 <p>Clr Glen Waud (LIB) glen.waud@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0434 360 791</p>	 <p>Clr Steve Tuntevski (ALP) steve.tuntevski@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0439 346 894</p>
ROSELANDS	 <p>Clr Nadia Saleh (ALP) nadia.saleh@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0428 457 637</p>	 <p>Clr Mohammad Huda (ALP) mohammad.huda@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au 0408 425 686</p>	 <p>Local Government elections are 4 December 2021. Find out more at, elections.nsw.gov.au</p>

If you need help understanding this document please contact Council on 9707 9000

إذا كنت تحتاج لمساعدة في فهم هذه الوثيقة يرجى منك الاتصال بالبلدية على الرقم ٩٧٠٧ ٩٠٠٠

Εάν χρειάζεστε βοήθεια για να καταλάβετε αυτό το έγγραφο παρακαλώ επικοινωνήστε με το Δημαρχείο στο 9707 9000

Telephone Interpreter Service 131 450

Nếu quý vị cần người giải thích tài liệu này, xin điện thoại đến Hội đồng Thành phố qua số 9707 9000

Se ha bisogno di aiuto per comprendere questo documento, telefona al Comune al numero 9707 9000

如果你需要幫助理解這份文件，請聯絡市政府。電話：9707 9000

문서를 이해하는데 도움이 필요하시면 전화 9707 9000 로 카운슬에 연락하십시오.

Доколку ви треба помош да го разберете овој документ, ве молиме телефонирајте во Општината на 9707 9000

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 9708

Campsie 9789 9423

Chester Hill 9707 9740

Earlwood 9789 9417

Greenacre 9707 9744

Lakemba 9789 9419

Padstow 9707 9747

Panania 9707 9737

Riverwood 9789 9416

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

9153 0441

To view past issues online,
visit cb.city/newsletter

Cover feature

Photo: George Mladenov

Let us know what you
think of Keep Connected
at cb.city/feedback

