

FEBRUARY 2021

NORTHSYDNEY NEWS



Visitors to the Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability have an exciting new way to interact with the site, thanks to a cutting-edge augmented reality (AR) app. The app uses advanced AR technology to create encounters with animated animals, historical re-enactments and bring sustainability concepts to life.

Using a smartphone or tablet, visitors can scan QR codes located across the award-winning site to enjoy interactive experiences. Three unique trails have been developed highlighting different aspects of the site – its history, native animals and sustainability.

Mayor Jilly Gibson said one of the things that sets the Coal Loader apart from other areas of open space is the way that it seamlessly integrates the beautiful natural environment with the site's history as a coal loading facility and its current use as a centre for sustainability.

"The app takes public engagement to a whole new level as it lets people interact with each of these concepts in an innovative new way. Imagine seeing the Coal Loader site operating as it did 100 years ago and feeling like you were actually there?"

"Or reaching out to 'touch' a wallaby as it talks to you about its habitat? These are just two of nearly 40 new interactive experiences now available for free at the Coal Loader and I encourage everyone to visit the centre to enjoy it!"

Mayor Gibson said the Coal Loader is one of the unique jewels of Sydney Harbour. "There are so many reasons to visit the Coal Loader. It is treasured for its harbourside parkland, but also operates as a community hub where people can attend talks, workshops and events. Our new app is just one more reason to put the Coal Loader on your To Do list this autumn."



See the Coal Loader through new eyes



DON'T TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT.
SCAN THE CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE



History recreated





BUILDER APPOINTED FOR POOL

The world's most beautiful pool is set to become Sydney's best aquatic centre with construction scheduled to begin in mid March. Council has appointed Icon SI (Aust) to redevelop the North Sydney Olympic Pool, improving and expanding the range of recreational facilities at the centre.

The Pool will remain open until the end of February with booked swims in the 50m pool, unless closed by a COVID-19 public health order. Council will then decommission the facility, including removing equipment and memorabilia, before handing the site to Icon SI to start construction.

General Manager Ken Gouldthorp said the rumours spreading about cost blow-outs for the project were unfounded. "The entire budget allocation, including the design phase, consultation, DA preparation, construction and an allowance for contingencies has increased from \$57.9M to \$63.9M.

"The cost of construction is within 5% of the estimate provided by Council's quantity surveyors. I am confident that Council has struck the right balance between maintaining the essential character of the pool and upgrading to 21st century standards that meet the needs and expectations of the community."

Icon SI is one of Australia's largest construction companies with more than 80 projects ranging up to \$400M in value. It is part of the Japanese Kajima Corporation which operates across 20 countries.

Icon SI's portfolio includes a number of aquatic and sports projects including: \$15M Lane Cove Aquatic Centre (2020), \$26M Ruth Everuss Aquatic Centre in Auburn (2017) and \$45M Camberwell Grammar Sports Centre (2016).

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROJECT INCLUDE:

- upgraded 50m and 25m pools, and changerooms
- larger creche with private indoor and outdoor spaces
- exciting kids waterplay area with splash pad and water spray feature
- new 970 person grandstand with permanent shade for sun-safe swimming carnivals
- new warm water pool suitable for gentle exercise and other programs
- ramp access to pools and accessible change rooms
- expanded gym with harbour views and separate spin and exercise rooms to allow for more classes
- retained heritage features including the art deco harbourside wall, sundeck and heritage stair tower

DAS NOW ONLINE

From 1 January 2021, all development applications (DAs) and planning-related applications in metropolitan council areas must be submitted online through the NSW Planning Portal. This means DAs and other planning applications such as construction and occupation certificates can no longer be accepted at Council's Customer Service Centre.

DA documents submitted through the portal must be provided in a digital format eg. PDF. The change means that DAs can be submitted anywhere and at anytime, reducing the need for trips to Council during business hours. If you have any questions, please contact Council planning advisors on 9936 8100.



NEW RUBBISH TRUCKS MAKE THE ROUNDS

Council's waste contractor URM is rolling out a new fleet of waste management trucks that will improve the efficiency of waste collection. The new trucks have state-of-the-art safety features, including smart-reverse technology

which ensures the vehicle remains stationary if sensors detect an object or person behind. The trucks have an additional capacity of 1.5 tonnes and a scale that weighs the waste on board to ensure the truck is not over capacity and

prohibited items such as building materials are not present.

The technology will provide Council with additional information to help us better manage waste.

GIVE YOUNG STREET A WHIRL

Young Street in Neutral Bay has been closed and traffic redirected to give the village some much-needed public open space over summer. You are encouraged to test drive the new Young Street Plaza when you next drop by Neutral Bay for a shop, sip or bite.

The temporary plaza has been designed as a tranquil retreat from the busy village centre, with spaces to meet friends for a coffee, enjoy some takeaway or sit in the sun to read a book. Pop up activations are planned including live music and children's activities.

Council resolved to trial the plaza for three months as the community had mixed views about the concept. You are invited to give feedback on both the plaza and the impact of the road closure via the Your Say section of Council's website.

The plaza is fully funded by Transport for NSW as part of a funding deed for streetscape upgrades following the B-Line Bus Service works. It is built from hired fixtures and elements that can be used elsewhere if the plaza does not become permanent.



OPEN SPACE FOR CROWS NEST

More public open space is coming to Crows Nest - 1,200 square metres of it - in the form of a new plaza and pedestrian link between the existing Hume Street Park and Willoughby Road. Council has spent \$15.7m on the resumption of properties at 43 - 49 Hume Street and 90-92 Willoughby Road and the design of the new plaza.

The properties are now being demolished to make way for a central grassed area, pathways, seating and gardens, as well as terraces for outdoor dining. The pedestrian link is expected to be well used by commuters when the new Metro Station opens in 2024. The NSW Government is contributing \$3.5m to the cost of the work, which is scheduled to be completed by September.

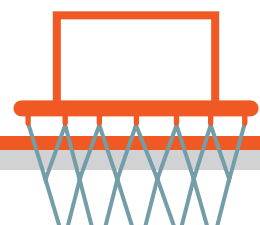
WHERE WILL YOU PARK IT?

Have you seen our park on wheels? Our Parklet is a mobile mini park with seating that temporarily extends public space from the footpath into road areas. You may have spotted it being used kerbside for outdoor dining.

Council is inviting expressions of interest from the community and local businesses wanting to use the Parklet free of charge on a six-week placement. Head to Council's website to apply and find out more.

HOOPS OF FUN

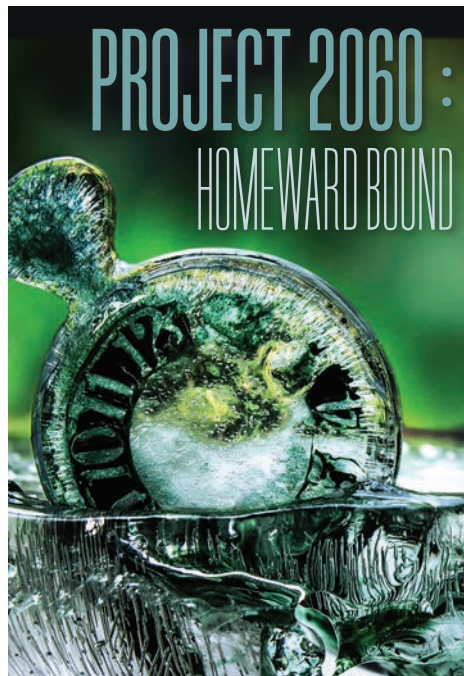
Council has installed free standing hoops across the area to increase options for informal play and exercise. Netball hoops have been fitted at Anderson and Forsyth Parks and both netball and basketball hoops have been installed at Bradfield Park Central. A combination netball and basketball hoop has also been installed at Brightmore Reserve.



FAREWELL AND THANK YOU MARTIN

North Sydney Council has bid farewell and happy retirement to much-loved Community and Library Services Director Martin Ellis after 30 years of service. One of Martin's greatest legacies has been his commitment to empowering community organisations. Under his leadership, North Sydney's community centres have been upgraded and have expanded the range of services they offer.

Other career highlights include fostering a public art program, establishing Council's first youth service, ensuring support for the most vulnerable in the community and consolidating Stanton Library's reputation as one of the most respected libraries in Sydney. He will be missed by colleagues and the many friends he made in the North Sydney community.



150 artists, 5 venues, March 2021

Artists and groups who contribute to Council's range of arts programs have been brought together to participate in *Project 2060: Homeward Bound*. In celebration of the rich creativity in the region a series of exhibitions will be held in the Coal Loader Tunnel 1 & 26 Chambers, Coal Loader Artist Studio, inTransit Art Space, Bridget Kennedy Project Space and Inside Outside Sculpture Plinth. Visit Council's website for details.

Coal Loader events

This Thursday's Theme – The Mess Hall will be transformed to host a mega-series of crafting classes on Thursdays throughout the year. The next one is on 11 February, please check Council's website for details.

Sunset Sessions – First Sunday of the month, the Coal Loader Platform hosts a stunning waterside pop-up bar plus live acoustic music. The next Sunset Sessions are on 7 February and 7 March from 1pm to 8pm.

Wednesday Wellness – Every Wednesday morning until the end of March, free wellbeing classes are held on the Coal Loader Platform including Pilates, Yoga, Tai Chi, Meditation and Strength Training. Bookings are essential via Council's website.

6 February
Coal Loader Tours, 10.30am, booking essential

20 February
Australian Finska Championships, 10am to 6.30pm

28 February
The Coal Loader Artisans Market, 9am to 3pm

6 March
Coal Loader Tours, 10.30am, booking essential

20 March
Aboriginal Cultural Tours, 10.30am, booking essential

Check Council's website for updates on all events.

Green events

9 February
Solar Garden Webinar, online event, 6.30pm to 7.30pm

23 February
Introduction of Modern Cloth Nappies Webinar, online event, 10am to 11am

7 March
Kayak Harbour Litter Clean Up, Lavender Bay, 8am to 10am

13 March
Grow your own Mushrooms, Coal Loader, 10am to 12pm

27 March
Earth Hour, check our website for event details in March

Other events

5, 12, 19, 26 February and 5 March
Twilight Food Fair, Ted Mack Civic Park, 4.30pm to 8pm

6 February
Bike Check In & Tune Up, Ted Mack Civic Park, 8am to 12pm

Until 22 February
Peter Kingston: artist of Sydney Harbour exhibition, inTransit Art Space in Council Chambers

Throughout February and March
Pop-up activations at Young St Plaza, please check Council's website

Nan Manefield Young Writers Award
Entries close 23 April, for details visit www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/YWA

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