

COUNCIL NEWS Inner West

ISSUE 2, VOL. 3 - WINTER 2018

**FREE
MAIN STREET
PARKING**
After 7pm

An initiative of
INNER WEST COUNCIL

P3 FREE PARKING AFTER 7PM



P7 BUILT ENVIRONMENT AWARD WINNER



P8 UPCOMING EVENTS



NEW SKATE SPACE

Skaters came from all over Sydney to celebrate the official opening of Inner West's new skate space at Sydenham Green. More photos page 10.

RECORD BUDGET BOOST

Council's 2018-2019 budget includes planned record infrastructure spend of \$77 million – up from last year's \$66 million.

The 2017-2018 \$66 million for capital works was \$20 million more than the three former councils had previously delivered.

"So it's extremely gratifying to be able to once again improve on that number," said Inner West Mayor Darcy Byrne.

Big ticket items include \$23 million over three years to complete 12 "missing links" in The GreenWay.

(The GreenWay masterplan is on public exhibition until 24 June. Go to yoursayinnerwest.gov.au.)

There's also a \$65 million investment in sporting fields, parks and recreation facilities including \$31 million over three years to rebuild Ashfield Pool and \$2.3 million for Dawn Fraser pool at Balmain – "as part of our commitment to creating a healthier community," said Mayor Byrne.

(More on page 3)

MESSAGE FROM INNER WEST MAYOR, DARCY BYRNE



Lifting the bar on services

Council is putting forward a budget that is aimed at modernising

our services, infrastructure and financial management.

We are protecting everything that was good about the Ashfield, Marrickville and Leichhardt councils. We are also raising the bar, making Council more professional and more accountable to the local community.

The State Government's promise of improved customer service as a result of amalgamation hasn't come to fruition yet, but a new system will be rolled out this year to fix the problems and allow residents to make and track service requests online.

Council will also deliver an estimated 4% (\$5-7 million) in savings by instituting a target for all managers in every unit of Council. This will drive efficiency and save ratepayers' money.

There are some very exciting projects in the budget.

These include:

- \$31 million for a new state-of-the-art aquatic centre in Ashfield
- \$65 million for parks, sporting fields and recreation facilities over the next three years
- \$85 million over four years for roads, footpaths, stormwater drains
- \$23 million to complete the GreenWay pedestrian and cycle and biodiversity corridor
- \$600,000 to create our own Inner West alternative to Vivid that brings people into existing Inner West arts-based businesses
- A new rebate (approximately \$400) on waste charges for pensioners in Ashfield and Marrickville (bringing it into line with the former Leichhardt Council's policy)
- Turning main street parking meters off at night in Balmain, Rozelle and Leichhardt, and reducing parking fees by \$660,000

This budget is a step towards our goal of delivering the highest quality services and infrastructure of any local government in Australia.

RECORD BUDGET BOOST

Continued from page 1 The overall budget figure is \$250 million, "and Council is determined to ensure the Budget is funded in a sustainable way," said Mayor Byrne. Other notable amounts include \$85 million* to be spent on roads, footpaths and stormwater, and \$6 million* upgrading town halls.

The budget is predicated on a philosophy of continuing the services of the three former councils, while expanding best levels of service throughout the local government area.

For example, the former Leichhardt Council's more generous pensioners' rate rebate is in the process of being extended to the rest of Inner West.

As part of an ongoing commitment to transparency and accountability, Council has placed the Capital Works Program online, where anyone can access real-time information and data on how capital works are progressing.

Modernising Council's accountancy practices, undertaking a digital transformation and introducing cutting-edge technologies are also amongst Council priorities in the 2018-19 financial year.

*over four years



Patyegarang (c 1780s) was an Australian Aboriginal woman from the Cadigal people of the Eora nation. She is thought to be one of the first people to have taught an Aboriginal language to the early colonists in New South Wales

NAVIGATING CULTURE THE STORY OF PATYEGARANG

Inner West Aboriginal community, young and old, are invited to join in creating a public artwork for Patyegarang Place – Marrickville Library.

Conceived by artist Belinda Smith and working in collaboration with Professor Jakelin Troy, Nardi Simpson and Joel Davison, workshop participants will experience the story of Patyegarang, share Sydney language and each make their mark for a stunning artwork celebrating Aboriginal stories and culture in the heart of Marrickville.

Friday, 22 June, 10:30am-2:30pm. For more information and bookings, email victoria.johnstone@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

For more information about Patyegarang Place - Marrickville Library go to Council's website.

FREE MAIN STREET PARKING

Council has turned off main street parking meters after 7pm on Darling and Norton streets in Leichhardt, Rozelle and Balmain.

"This change to parking meters will send a clear message to visitors and residents that our area is open for business," said Inner West Mayor Darcy Byrne.

With meters also located in a number of side streets off Norton Street Leichhardt, Darling Street Balmain, and Darling Street and Balmain Road Rozelle, Council then asked the community if these, too, should be turned off at night.

Feedback on the parking meters changes in side streets was subject to community consultation until Sunday 13 May.

At the time of going to print, Council was about to consider the changes before making a final decision.



MASSIVE CASH INJECTION FOR PARRAMATTA ROAD

The grant funding is from the NSW Government's Parramatta Road Urban Amenity Improvement Program (UAIP), with \$1.37 million for master planning and design, and a provisional amount of \$21 million for the construction and delivery of the improvement plans.

Inner West Mayor Darcy Byrne said the much-needed renewal would include new open space, new cycle paths, and streetscape improvements.

"Parramatta Road is crying out to be brought back to life," he said. "This funding will allow us to deliver improvements that help enliven what is currently a pretty blighted roadway.

"Improvements like these, teamed with a modern global public transport system like the trackless trams (Guided Electric Transit) which Council has been lobbying for, could really revitalise Australia's oldest arterial road."

The grant of more than \$20 million dollars is earmarked for seven projects:

Council will create a new park, new cycle and GreenWay connections and improve streets surrounding Parramatta Road.

- GreenWay connection under Parramatta Road
- GreenWay connection under Longport Street
- Public domain improvements to key north-south streets next to Parramatta Road including Rofe Street, Renwick Street, Norton Street, Balmain Road, Catherine Street and Crystal Street
- A new cycle connection along Dot Lane
- Conversion of Petersham Street to a 'pocket park'
- A new north-south pedestrian and cycle connection along Johnstons Creek
- Public domain improvement and cycle connection to Pymont Bridge Road between Parramatta Road and Mallet Street

Council is committed to completing the designs by December 2019. The projects should be completed by 2021, except for the Pymont Bridge Road improvements which are to finish in 2023, due to WestConnex.

The \$198 million UAIP is part of the NSW Government's 30-year plan for the renewal of the Parramatta Road Corridor which stretches from Granville to Camperdown.

MEMORIAL RESTORATION

Council restored the 1921 World War I memorial in Camperdown Park in time for Anzac Day.

The \$36,000 restoration was part-funded by NSW Community War Memorials Fund grant.

The marble statue of a Digger holding a rifle is mounted on a sandstone plinth, which is inscribed in gold gild with the names of local soldiers who died through service.

Prior to Anzac Day, Petersham RSL Club President Michael Ablott inspected the refurbished memorial (below).



NEW WASTE APP WILL SAVE WASTE

Council's new Waste App will contain loads of information that is currently printed and distributed to over 70,000 households in the Inner West.

Into the future, it will replace the printed waste calendars, Council clean up brochures and e-waste and chemical cleanout flyers.

The app is also a new and more efficient way to find out when waste collection days are held.

Plus there's an A-Z list of tricky waste items that explains where and how to dispose of them.

FREE SWIM DAY



Council hosted a free swim day at Ashfield Aquatic Centre on 15 April.

It was a day of mixed emotions for residents and Aquatic Centre staff alike – but the pay off will be the brand new complex, set to open in early 2020.

Over 1,200 people braved a cool windy April day to mark the closure of a much-loved community facility after 50+ years of outstanding service.

After a free barbecue, games sessions and inflatable fun events throughout the day, the old facility closed forever.

The new Ashfield Aquatic Centre will encompass a health and fitness centre, spa, steam and sauna facilities,

a new children's leisure pool with landscaping and green wall, new community meeting room facilities, a new 50m indoor pool with accessible ramp and pool divider, and a new world class 'moveable floor' for the outdoor pool allowing it to be used for water polo, learn to swim and aqua aerobics lessons.

Other features include a community green space, change rooms, crèche and retail space, landscaped areas and terraces for the external pools, an improved entrance with customer service area and increased parking spaces.



From left: playgroup coordinator Isha Colley, Prosper executive director Karen Craigie, and Inner West Deputy Mayor Julie Passas.

GRANTS PROGRAM OPENS SOON

Council's 2018 grants program opens shortly – and Inner West individuals and community groups are urged to apply for up to \$50,000 in grant funding.

Applications open Thursday, 7 June and close Monday, 16 July. Two information sessions for interested grant applicants are scheduled for Petersham Service Centre (28 June) and Ashfield Civic Centre (4 July).

Types of grants include Arts and Culture, Community, Environment, Local History, Recreation and Stronger Communities.

Recently, Inner West Deputy Mayor Julie Passas presented a cheque for \$6,900 to one of 2017's

successful applicants for a Community Grant, Prosper (Project Australia).

The Prosper project uses a qualified English as a Second Language teacher to support the development of English-language skills and early childhood health literacy in culturally and linguistically diverse families.

To find out more about Council's 2018 grant program, and how to apply, go to www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/grants

IMPROVING CUSTOMER SERVICE

Council is implementing new technology later this year that will assist in improving customer service.

The new technology will provide faster access to information, automated updates on the status of customer requests, and a new and improved online request service.

Plus the new website, also to be launched later this year, will be packed with many exciting features.

Council incorporated feedback from over 1,200 citizens, via surveys and focus groups, to inform the design and functionality of the new website.

Council thanks everyone for their patience as continued improvements are made across the organisation to benefit the local community.



CREATING AN EDGE

EDGE Inner West, a \$600,000 arts program, is one of the 'big ticket' items in this year's budget.

Council will give the local arts scene a huge boost by rolling out a \$600,000 program of street activations, light installations and live music.

EDGE will capture the Inner West's unique arts and creative culture, and could become a major fixture on the Sydney arts calendar.

"We have more people working in creative industries here in the Inner West than anywhere else in Australia," said

Inner West Mayor Darcy Byrne. "EDGE will allow us to harness our community's creativity and give emerging artists a platform to showcase their work," said Mayor Byrne.

Council is compiling a database of all potential partners, groups, artists and communities who are interested in EDGE.

Go to <https://innerwest.smartygrants.com.au/EDGE>

WHAT MAKES A GOOD NEIGHBOUR?

Council partnered with the 21st Biennale of Sydney to host an international billboard art project and forum in April and May.

Giant billboards by artist duo Elmgreen & Dragset in Ashfield, Rozelle, Newtown, and Sydenham prompted citizens think about “What makes a good neighbour?” and “What role do artists play in connecting our neighbourhoods?”

“Is a good neighbour a stranger you don’t fear?” Elmgreen & Dragset asked.

The project took in not only Sydney, but Istanbul, Belfast, Limerick, Moscow, Milan, Ljubljana, Plovdiv, Chicago and Seoul, among others.

The project culminated in a *What makes a good neighbour?* forum at Ashfield Town Hall on Thursday, 17 May, which featured the artists as well as artist and rapper Khaled Sabsabi, who emigrated to Australia in 1978 during the civil war in Lebanon.

Mr Sabsabi’s latest work, *Bring the Silence*, is on exhibition as part of the 21st Biennale of Sydney www.biennaleofsydney.art/artists/khaled-sabsabi/ until 11 June.



NEW LEASE OF LIFE FOR OLD DULWICH HILL LIBRARY

The old Dulwich Hill Library has changed its focus from literacy to equitable housing.

In March, Marrickville Legal Centre (MLC) moved into 12-14 Seaview Street, Dulwich Hill – site of the original Dulwich Hill Library.

MLC’s Managing Principal Solicitor Annette van Gent said the centre’s staff were grateful to Inner West Council for providing them with new premises. MLC was previously housed in Illawarra Road, Marrickville.

MLC serves a large community in Sydney’s inner west, south-west and southern suburbs – around 1.5 million people – with a focus on equitable housing.

“Council has a long-standing relationship with MLC, who are very effective advocates for disadvantaged people. We are delighted to welcome them to the old library,” Mayor Byrne said

MLC provides free and accessible legal and related services to people who experience social and economic disadvantage.

In addition to housing, the Centre has expertise with youth law and family and domestic violence. It also offers general, family and employment law services. Call 9559 2899 or drop in during office hours.



Inner West Mayor Darcy Byrne welcomes Managing Principal Solicitor Annette van Gent to MLC’s new home

2018 BUILT ENVIRONMENT AWARDS



The restitution of a riverside terrace house in Marrickville has taken out the 2018 Marrickville Medal for Conservation.

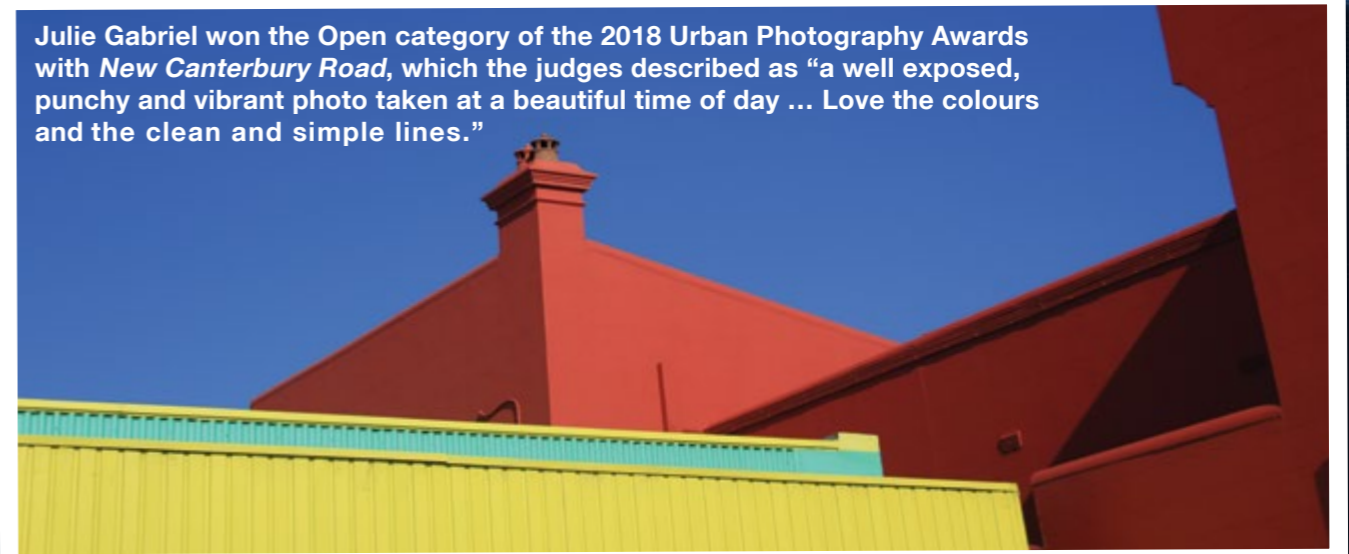
The judges noted that Mackenzie Pronk Architects oversaw “excellent conservation and streetscape outcomes” and “thoughtful attention to the geography of Marrickville and the Cooks River”.

The original 1886 Victorian Italianate terrace house’s detail had been removed last century, with lost elements including the front balcony, iron lace and cast iron columns.

Replacements were either sourced from demolition yards or reconstructed, while the original timber floors and tessellated tiles were uncovered and restored.



Julie Gabriel won the Open category of the 2018 Urban Photography Awards with *New Canterbury Road*, which the judges described as “a well exposed, punchy and vibrant photo taken at a beautiful time of day ... Love the colours and the clean and simple lines.”



FOR YOUR DIARY

PERFECT MATCH

Friday, 3 – Sunday 5 August

Perfect Match – the public art program that matches property owners with artists – is back in August.

From its first year – when eight property owners and 33 artists registered to be ‘matched’ – this year 40 property owners and 70 artists from across the Inner West applied.

The 2018 sites will be officially unveiled during a weekend of free neighbourhood celebrations, talks, tours and more on

www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/PerfectMatch



FOOTPRINTS ECOFESTIVAL

Sunday, 26 August, 11am-3pm

The eighth footprints ecofestival features a great sustainability-inspired entertainment line-up for all ages.

The much loved festival returns to Whites Creek Valley Park in Annandale. For more information on a great family day out, go to

www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/footprintsecofestival



DULWICH HILL VILLAGE FAIR

Sunday, 16 September, 10am-4pm

The Dulwich Hill Village Fair celebrates the delights of Dulwich Hill village with live entertainment, children’s activities and a huge mix of market stalls including handicrafts, homewares, children’s toys and clothing and homemade preserves and sweets, as well as a host of local foods including cakes, pastries, coffee, cheese and deli items and family favourites like roast chicken.

www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/DulwichHillVillageFair



NATIONAL TREE DAY

Sunday, 29 July

Planting Day at Richard Murden Reserve, Haberfield, Sunday, 15 July

Planting Day at Marrickville Golf Course, Sunday, 22 July

Planting Day and tree giveaway at Whites Creek Valley Park, Sunday, 29 July

Volunteer and find out more:

www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/NationalTreeDay



OPEN INNER WEST 2018

Open Inner West is back in 2018 with 12 days of culture, happenings, festivals, celebrations, film screenings and performance.

Open Inner West 2018 showcases our rich cultural diversity, giving everyone the opportunity to revel in 69 cultures and unearth diverse communities.

Open Inner West 2018 is from Friday, 15 June to Sunday, 24 June.

Highlights include:

- Opening event, *First Cultures, Land, Culture, Life* at Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative in Leichhardt with an acoustic performance from the much-loved Stiff Gins. Terri Olsen, renowned Aboriginal dancer will also perform. Local children will present a performance piece workshopped in the weeks leading up to the event.
- *Biryani & Babes*, at Red Rattler in Marrickville. Presented by 2 Boys in Saris and their queer family, the night features mouth-watering South Asian cuisine, and performances by some of Sydney’s most shameless and sassiest queens and kings, and non-binary royalty. Adult only event, \$30.
- *Play Bouzouki Yia Ma*, a free celebration of Greek music over the millennia and its impact on the local community and world stage. St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Hall, Marrickville. Combining a presentation by Costa Vasili – acclaimed Greek Australian bouzouki player and author – a live bouzouki performance by Maki and Tom accompanied by traditional dancing from children of the local Greek dancing school, and a complimentary light lunch including Greek delicacies that normally accompany bouzouki performances.

As well, there’s a hip hop concert, and cultural festivals from Indonesia, Peru, China and Brazil.

Don’t miss Open Inner West. Go to www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/OpenInnerWest



PEOPLE AND PLACES

DENNIS TUTTY PLAQUE UNVEILING



Balmain Tigers Rugby League Football Club Chairman Dr Leslie Glen (left) and League legend Dennis Tutty shared a laugh at the official unveiling of the plaque dedicated to Tutty at Leichhardt Oval

NEW SKATE SPACE



Politicians, skaters and local kids came together under the flight path to celebrate the opening of the new skate space in Sydenham Green

CARNIVAL OF CULTURES



Thousands of enthusiasts braved 40+ degree heat to attend Carnival of Cultures in Ashfield Park

BAIRRO



Thirty thousand people packed Audley and Fisher streets in Petersham for the 15th annual Bairro Português Petersham Food & Wine Fair

BLUESFEST



Headliner Ross Wilson (Daddy Cool, Mondo Rock) pulled out all the moves at BluesFest at Leichhardt's War Memorial Park

LET'S FLY THE ABORIGINAL FLAG OVER SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE



Cheree Toka's campaign is supported by Inner West Council Council is supporting a local woman's campaign to fly the Aboriginal flag fly over the Sydney Harbour Bridge 365 days a year. Proud Kamilaroi woman and Inner West resident Cheree Toka's campaign demands the NSW Government reconsider its opposition to flying the Aboriginal flag over the iconic bridge. Ms Toka said she's delighted Council has backed the campaign. "By flying the flag, it shows the people of NSW, and indeed the whole nation, recognises and respects Aboriginal culture. It will also mean we can move forward, together, as a nation," she said. Ms Toka needs 10,000 signatures on a hard copy of the petition to allow this proposal to be debated in parliament. Download a copy of the petition at www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/FlyTheFlag, collect your signatures and return to: The Mayor's Office, Inner West Council, PO Box 14, Petersham 2049 by 30 June 2018.

YOUR COUNCILLORS



Mayor, Councillor Darcy Byrne (LAB) – Balmain Ward
darcy.byrne@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
9392 5900



Councillor Sam Iskandar (LAB) – Marrickville Ward
sam.iskandar@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0421 494 515



Councillor Rochelle Porteous (GRN) – Balmain Ward
rochelle.porteous@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0418 213 054



Deputy Mayor, Councillor Julie Passas (LIB) – Ashfield Ward
julie.passas@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0419 206 855



Councillor Tom Kiat (GRN) – Ashfield Ward
tom.kiat@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0403 491 018



Councillor Vittoria Raciti (LIB) – Leichhardt Ward
vittoria.raciti@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0481 910 660



Councillor Marghanita Da Cruz (GRN) – Leichhardt Ward
marghanita.da.cruz@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0490 788 943



Councillor Pauline Lockie (IND) – Stanmore Ward
pauline.lockie@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0434 690 544



Councillor John Stamolis (IND) – Balmain Ward
john.stamolis@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0408 448 285



Councillor Mark Drury (LAB) – Ashfield Ward
mark_drury@bigpond.com
0448 722 942



Councillor Victor Macri (IND) – Marrickville Ward
victor.macri@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0408 219 260



Councillor Louise Steer (GRN) – Stanmore Ward
louise.steer@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0490 788 418



Councillor Colin Hesse (GRN) – Marrickville Ward
colin.hesse@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0401 719 124



Councillor Lucille McKenna OAM (LAB) – Leichhardt Ward
lucille.mckenna@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0408 629 888



Councillor Anna York (LAB) – Stanmore Ward
anna.york@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
0435 656 772

WHAT'S ON INNER WEST

MONDAY, 4 JUNE

Series of three family history workshops, Balmain Library, 10am-12 noon. Workshop 1: Introduction to family history. *What is family history? Ways to start searching, how to source info.* Book: www.innerwestlibraries.eventbrite.com.au or call 9335 2173

MONDAY, 18 JUNE

Family History Workshops, Balmain Library, 10am-12 noon. Workshop 2: *Introduction to Ancestry.* Book: www.innerwestlibraries.eventbrite.com.au or call 9335 2173



FRIDAY, 15 – SUNDAY, 24 JUNE

Open Inner West, various venues. Over 10 days, revel in 69 cultures across the Inner West.

www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/OpenInnerWest



FRIDAY, 22 JUNE



Inner West Aboriginal community members' workshop to create a public artwork for Patyegarang Place – Marrickville Library, 10:30am-2:30pm. For more information and bookings, email victoria.johnstone@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

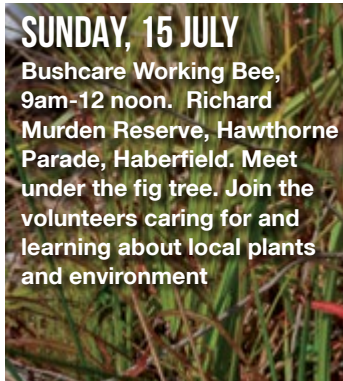
MONDAY, 2 JULY

Family History Workshops, Balmain Library, 10am-12 noon. Workshop 3: *Introduction to Trove for family history.*

Book: www.innerwestlibraries.eventbrite.com.au or call 9335 2173

SUNDAY, 15 JULY

Bushcare Working Bee, 9am-12 noon. Richard Murden Reserve, Hawthorne Parade, Haberfield. Meet under the fig tree. Join the volunteers caring for and learning about local plants and environment



WEDNESDAY, 25 JULY-SUNDAY, 5 AUGUST



MONSTER MASH exhibition at Chrissie Cotter Gallery, Pidcock Street, Camperdown. Opening: Wednesday 25 July, 6pm. Gallery hours: Thursday to Sunday, 11am-4pm
Photo: Jane Fanklin

SUNDAY, 29 JULY



National Tree Day. For information on Council's events, go to www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/NationalTreeDay
See page 8

THURSDAY, 2 AUGUST

Rainwater Harvesting Workshop, 6pm-9pm. Learn about installing a tank at this free technical workshop. For info email jean.brennan@innerwest.nsw.gov.au or call 9392 5000

FRIDAY, 3–SUNDAY, 5 AUGUST



Perfect Match weekend of free neighbourhood celebrations, talks, tours and more on www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/PerfectMatch

WEDNESDAY, 22 AUGUST-SUNDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER

typecast
exhibition of
typographic artwork
at Chrissie Cotter
Gallery, Pidcock Street,
Camperdown. Opening:
Wednesday,
22 August, 6pm.
Gallery hours: Wednesday to
Sunday, 11am-5pm.

SUNDAY, 26 AUGUST

footprints ecofestival,
11am-3pm, Whites Creek Valley
Park, Annandale. For more
information on a great family day
out, go to www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/footprintsecofestival

SUNDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER



Dulwich Hill Village Fair, 10am-4pm. Dulwich Hill Village Centre, Marrickville Road www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/DulwichHillVillageFair

Inner West Council

PO Box 14 Petersham NSW 2049 | P 02 9392 5000 | F 02 9392 5911 | E council@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
Customer Service Centres | Petersham 2-14 Fisher Street | Leichhardt 7-15 Wetherill Street | Ashfield 260 Liverpool Road