

WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT BLACKBUTT RESERVE

The top three things that people were most satisfied with were:



94%

satisfied overall

General upkeep of the site **92%**

Picnic facilities **88%**

Wildlife Exhibition **83%**

This survey was conducted to understand how satisfied people are with their visit to Blackbutt Reserve, what would encourage them to visit more often and whether they had noticed recent improvements in the reserve.

2016 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

This was conducted to help us to better understand issues, priorities, levels of importance and satisfaction with the services and facilities we provide.

Five facilities & services **most** satisfied with

75% Library services 

74% Maintenance of beach facilities & beaches

70% Parks and recreation areas 

68% Garbage collection and disposal 

60% Sporting facilities 

Five facilities & services **least** satisfied with

19% Parking in the Newcastle CBD 

24% Long-term planning & vision for the city 

24% Management of the Newcastle CBD 

31% Management of residential development 

34% Providing cycleways 



5pm to 9.30pm, Friday 2 December
CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK
Civic Park

Celebrate with Serenade under the Stars by Newcastle Youth Orchestra, the Australian Army Band and the Conservatorium's combined choir. There will be food trucks, kids activities and switching on of our Christmas lights.



Saturday 31 December
NEW YEAR'S EVE
Honeysuckle Precinct

Enjoy the last day of the year admiring Newcastle's working port with live music, family friendly entertainment and 9pm fireworks in the Honeysuckle precinct. Book in for dinner, grab some takeaway or bring a picnic and join the fun.



Thursday 26 January
AUSTRALIA DAY
City Hall & Honeysuckle Precinct

Nominate amazing individuals and community groups for the City of Newcastle Australia Day Awards. Newcastle Citizen, Young Citizen and Community Group of the Year will be presented at the Australia Day Citizenship and Awards ceremony at City Hall.

Nominations are open until Wednesday 7 December 2016, for more information call 4974 2239 or email awards@ncc.nsw.gov.au

Summer 2016

WHAT'S ON

The weather is warming up... time to get outdoors and enjoy the sunshine!

For more information, bookings and costs, visit www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au



On until 30 January 2017
HUMANOID DISCOVERY
Newcastle Museum

Appreciate your body this summer with this blockbuster exhibition that's all about the miracle of the human body and how it works. Explore the body's systems and organs with fun interactive exhibits!



18 November 2016 - 25 February 2017
Lovett Gallery, City Library

The world-renowned exhibition, on loan from the Natural History Museum in London, features 100 awe-inspiring images.



24 September 2016 - 25 April 2017
SEASON PATROLS

Lifeguards are on patrol at Newcastle, Stockton and Dixon Park beaches and Merewether Ocean Baths.

Nobbys, Bar and Merewether beaches and Newcastle Ocean Baths are patrolled all year round.

Beresfield, Lambton, Mayfield, Stockton and Wallsend swimming centres are now open.

For your own safety, please swim only at patrolled beaches.

For patrol times and baths cleaning schedules, visit www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au

SUMMER 2016

Council News

Community newsletter from Newcastle City Council



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A MESSAGE FROM THE LORD MAYOR



It's fair to say that the city is buzzing in more ways than one this summer.

An innovation project will ensure Newcastle and the Hunter continue to be enterprising in the digital age, a new cruise terminal for the port and securing the annual Virgin Australia Supercars Championship event continue to position Newcastle as an emerging global city.

We are experiencing a construction boom and Council's investment in the city is helping drive this growth.

We are planning a new lease of life for South Newcastle Beach with a uniquely designed skate bowl, kiosk and outdoor gym featuring in the next stage of the Bathers Way project. Concept plans reveal the signature widened pathway, an iconic skate bowl reaching out into the sand and a street-style skate park that skaters can 'drop in' to from the shared pathway.

Our local neighbourhoods are also a top priority with community feedback recently sought from residents and businesses of Beresfield, Stockton and Wallsend about upgrades to their public domains. In Wallsend, we are redesigning three bridges including Tyrrell Street Bridge, which when built will help mitigate a repeat of the flood damage caused when debris swept down Ironbark Creek during the 2007 Pasha Bulker storm and the April 2015 superstorms.

Construction of a 140-metre rock seawall at Stockton is underway and due for completion early 2017. The seawall, will protect Stockton from powerful storms like the one that devastated dunes and walkways in June.

The refurbishment of the Merewether Ocean Baths pavilion has been completed including a new ramp that improves access to the building.

We have funded improvements to Civic Park as part of the inner-city's revitalisation and helped improve the aesthetic of building facades, while supporting events through our \$300,000 grants and sponsorship programs to activate the city.

Meanwhile the Newcastle Art Gallery is working to acquire a new work by renowned artist John Olsen inspired by our fabulous city and the Hunter River.

As a symbol of our commitment to inclusion and equality we have created the Islington Rainbow Walk as part of recent upgrades to Islington Park. Everyone is encouraged to experience the Walk which runs through the park alongside Throsby Creek.

Nuatali Nelmes
Lord Mayor of Newcastle



COUNCIL NEWS

This publication is brought to you by Newcastle City Council's Communication and Engagement Unit

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- 282 King Street, Newcastle

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CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN

Council services will shutdown from **12 noon Friday 23 December 2016** and reopen on **Tuesday 3 January 2017**

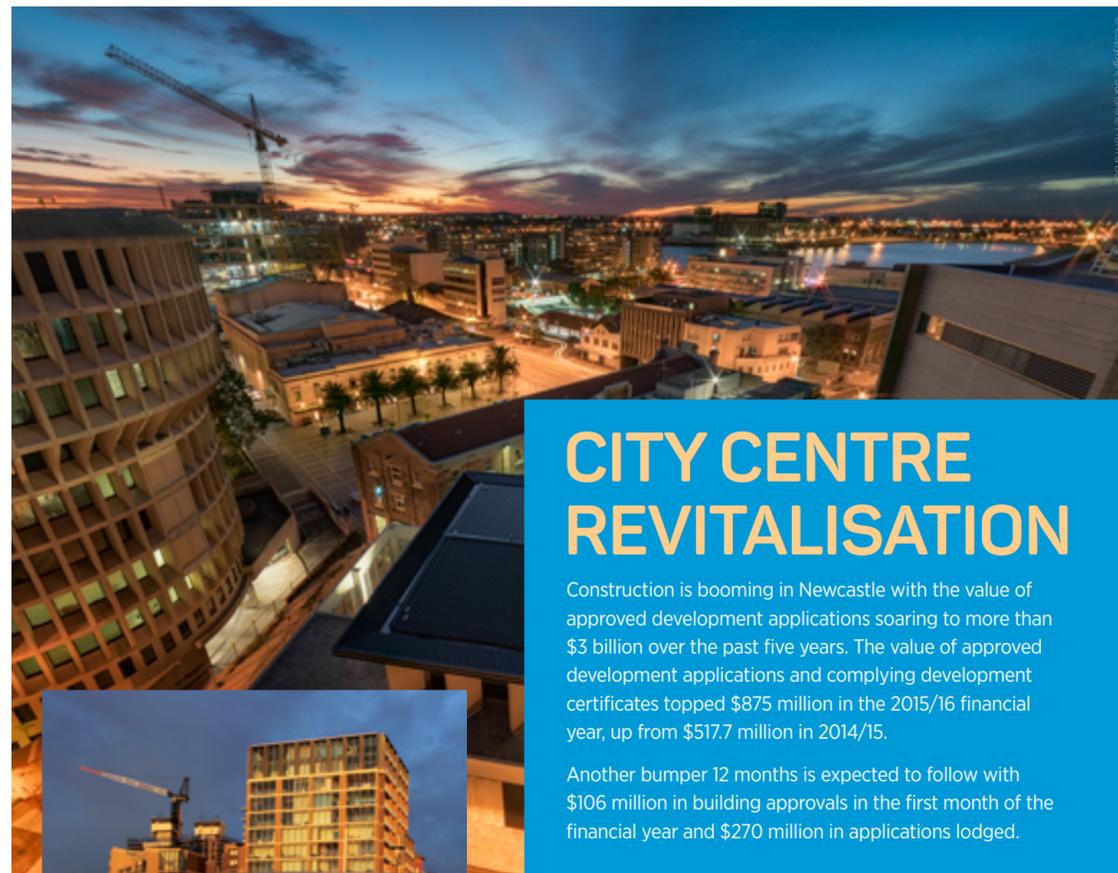
HUNTER INNOVATION PROJECT

The Hunter Innovation Project is a major catalyst in the ongoing transformation of Newcastle. It is a unique collaboration between major education, research, business, government and community organisations in Newcastle.

The partnership between Newcastle City Council, The University of Newcastle, Newcastle Now and Hunter DiGiT welcomed a \$9.8 million funding commitment from the NSW Government to position the Hunter Region as a major player in the digital age.

The HIP partners will also contribute a further \$8 million to the project, which will include the installation of smart technology and wi-fi throughout Newcastle's CBD and the establishment of an innovation hub for researchers, industry and entrepreneurs to commercialise ideas and promote economic development.

www.hunterinnovationproject.com.au



CITY CENTRE REVITALISATION

Construction is booming in Newcastle with the value of approved development applications soaring to more than \$3 billion over the past five years. The value of approved development applications and complying development certificates topped \$875 million in the 2015/16 financial year, up from \$517.7 million in 2014/15.

Another bumper 12 months is expected to follow with \$106 million in building approvals in the first month of the financial year and \$270 million in applications lodged.

A SNAPSHOT

While Newcastle awaits delivery of the light rail and urban renewal projects, we have funded improvements to Civic Park, the façades of inner-city buildings and the Wheeler Place activation project. We have also supported Christmas festivities and other events to keep the city's revitalisation moving.

Our efforts to revitalise Hunter Street have focussed on two key areas in the past 12 months. The first is working closely with NSW Government agencies on the Newcastle Urban Transformation and Transport Project. Our plan is outlined in *Connecting Newcastle: Our urban renewal vision*.

The second is delivering temporary improvement and city activation projects across the city centre.



JOHN OLSEN: The City's Son

5 November 2016 - 19 February 2017

A 'Newcastle boy' celebrates his birthplace with an exhibition and a new painting created for our city.



John Olsen OBE, AO *The sea sun of 5 bells* 1964 oil on gesso on board, 3 panels overall 366.5cm x 536.3cm x 9.8cm Gift of Ann Lewis AO 2011 Newcastle Art Gallery collection Courtesy the artist

Born in Newcastle in 1928 and a self-described 'Newcastle boy,' master painter and Australian living treasure John Olsen OBE, AO returns home in November to open an exhibition of his works of art at Newcastle Art Gallery. He will also unveil a major new painting to celebrate our city and the Hunter region.

JOHN OLSEN: The City's Son, features works personally chosen by the artist that reflect his affection for Newcastle and the Hunter region's waterways; the beaches, harbour, lake, river and wetlands. Olsen describes the works of art selected as 'going coastal' because they resonate with the city's relaxed culture and lifestyle. The exhibition will showcase more than 35 works of art from the Gallery's collection including ceramics, prints and paintings spanning 1954 -1992.



SUPERCARS

Newcastle City Council will partner with Destination NSW and Supercars Australia to host the annual season-ending round of the Virgin Australia Supercars Championship from November 2017 for at least five years.