



| PARRAMATTA



YOUR CITY HAPPENINGS

DEC - FEB

Photo credit: Ken Leanfore



Councillor Martin Zaiter, Lord Mayor of City of Parramatta, opens the record-breaking Parramatta Lanes, where 335,000 people flocked to experience the City's best eats, beats and arts.

WELCOME TO YOUR CITY HAPPENINGS

As the days get warmer, there's a real sense of energy and optimism across our City. Exciting new community spaces are on the horizon, and plans for our new recycling centre are taking shape. With Christmas just around the corner and a new year full of possibilities ahead, there's so much to celebrate in Parramatta.

Lord Mayor
Cr Martin Zaiter

NEVER MISS A THING



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WHAT TO SEE & DO THIS SUMMER



MUCH LOVED CAROLS EVENT RETURNS TO PARRAMATTA PARK 13 DEC, 3-9:30PM

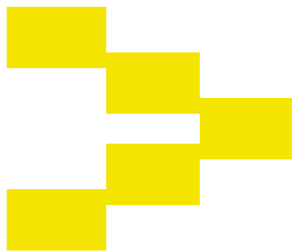
Celebrate the festive season at Carols in Parramatta Park! Sing along to your favourite Christmas tunes performed live, enjoy rides, delicious food stalls, and soak up the festive atmosphere with the local community. It's the perfect way to kick off the festive season.

COUNTDOWN TO 2026 31 DEC, 5-9:30PM

Bring your picnic blanket for a night of music, food and celebration under the stars. Aussie superstar Jessica Mauboy headlines the main stage, with Emma Memma delighting little ones on the family stage. Enjoy high-energy sets from crowd favourites band Furnace and The Fundamentals, bringing classic hits and party vibes all evening. Don't miss Parramatta's first-ever NYE drone show lighting up the sky before a finale of fireworks.

CELEBRATE AUSTRALIA DAY AT PARRAMATTA PARK 26 JAN, 4-9:30PM

Join us for an unforgettable afternoon with an iconic Aussie live music concert, family-friendly entertainment and delicious food stalls. As the sun sets, experience Balloon Glow—a magical display of illuminated hot air balloons lighting up the night. Free entry means everyone's welcome. Pack your picnic rug, rally your crew and enjoy Australia Day in the heart of Parramatta.



CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW YEAR IN PARRAMATTA & EPPING 20 & 21 FEB

Step into Lunar New Year with a brand-new community festival in Epping honouring the powerful Horse. Enjoy gravity-defying high-pole Lion Dancers, vibrant festival art, workshops, live music, cultural entertainment and more.

Parramatta Square
20 February, 4-9pm

Boronia Park, Epping
21 February, 4-9pm



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to find out more about your City happenings featured in this newsletter, plus access Easy Read and accessible versions.

SUMMER SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS



HOLIDAY ADVENTURES AWAIT

Get ready for a jam-packed school holiday program filled with free fun, discovery and creativity across Parramatta!

Kids can spark their curiosity with hands-on science experiments, be wowed by live magic and circus performances, or come face-to-face with prehistoric creatures. There's even a chance to meet some of our fascinating local wildlife—think possums, snakes, and yes, even a crocodile! From crafty workshops where kids can create their own take-home masterpieces, to interactive shows that ignite imagination, there's something for every young explorer.

It's all happening right here in Parramatta—free and unforgettable.

BEAT THE HEAT AT PAC

Parramatta Aquatic Centre has everything you need for a refreshing escape this summer. Clock up some laps in our 50m and 25m pools. Have a blast with the kids in the splash zone, or simply take some much-deserved time for yourself to chill out and lounge poolside. Jump online to check opening hours, pool availability, plan your next visit and PAC your summer with fun!

SCHOOL HOLIDAY SWIMMING INTENSIVES

Fast-track your child's skills and confidence in the pool. The program is also the perfect way to keep them active and having fun during the school holidays. Led by qualified instructors in a safe and supportive environment, each session is designed to help kids thrive in the water.

FAMILY FUN AT PHIVE

These school holidays, PHIVE is the place to be! From creative workshops to playful activities, there'll be plenty to keep kids curious, active and inspired. Whether you're popping in for a quick visit or planning a full day out, enjoy a lively mix of hands-on fun and family-friendly experiences.



SCAN HERE

to find out more about school holidays at PHIVE



YARRA COMMUNITY CENTRE

We're excited to announce that the Yarra Community Centre will be opening its doors in early 2026. This new modern space will be operated by the City of Parramatta as a multipurpose community space, designed to support the local community and facilitate connection. The centre will include a variety of flexible spaces for community learning and events with library services and free Wi-Fi. Stay tuned, more updates coming soon!

CLEAR OUT FOR CHRISTMAS – DO IT THE SAFE WAY 21 DEC

Get your home ready for the festive season by safely disposing of unwanted household chemicals. The Household Chemical CleanOut is your chance to clear space under the sink or in the garage before summer celebrations begin. Drop off items like paint, cleaning products, gas bottles, pool chemicals, and motor oils for free at the City of Parramatta Rydalmere Operations Centre. Make your home safe, fresh, and ready for guests while doing your bit for the environment.

RIVERSIDE THEATRES

STEP INTO THE MAGIC OF HOLIDAY INN 3-21 DEC

Nothing says Christmas quite like a feel-good musical bursting with song, dance and old-world charm. Irving Berlin's *Holiday Inn* is a nostalgic celebration that will have you smiling from start to finish. With show-stopping numbers like Steppin' Out With My Baby and Shaking the Blues Away, this dazzling production is the perfect way to kick off the festive season.



SCAN HERE
to find out more
about what's on at
Riverside Theatres.



DISCOVER THE WONDERS OF THE GARDEN OF SOUND 7-11 JAN

Join loyal gardeners Dag and Dug as they try to bring their musical garden back to life in *The Garden of Sound*. Dag loves chaos, Dug loves control – and they need help from young audiences to restore harmony before the music fades away! This interactive show for kids and families is filled with laughter, creativity and imagination.



THE BOGONG'S SONG – A STORY FOR EVERY GENERATION 15-17 JAN

Journey into a world of storytelling, shadow puppetry, dance and song in *The Bogong's Song*. Created for children aged 5+ and their families, this beautiful production invites audiences to open their hearts and connect with Country. Performed by Bangarra Dance Theatre, it's a moving reminder that even the smallest creatures, like the Bogong moth, play an important role in the world.



UNDERCURRENT: THE BEAT OF WESTERN SYDNEY 22-24 JAN

Feel the energy of the West with *UNDERCURRENT* – three nights of live music that celebrate the bold, future-facing sound of Western Sydney. From underground electronica to Pasifika soul and genre-bending experimentation, this powerhouse lineup showcases the trailblazers and rising stars shaping the City's vibrant cultural scene.

WHAT'S NEW



PARRAMATTA MARKETS EVERY WED, 7:30AM - 2:30PM

Kicking off in January 2026, Parramatta's beloved markets are getting a new look. Enjoy the best of local produce, flavour and community every Wednesday at Centenary Square. Plus, keep an eye out for the new Seasonal Weekend Markets, celebrating food, art and culture throughout the year.



Got a secret spot that makes your suburb sparkle? A hidden peaceful walking trail? A perfectly cosy café? Whatever your beloved local gem is, we want you to share it with us. Sign-up to Participate Parramatta for your chance to win a \$300 e-gift voucher.

All you need to do is snap a photo of your favourite spot and upload it to be in the running. Entries close **Monday 5 January 2026** — you gotta be in it, to win it!

**SNAP &
SHARE TO
WIN BIG!**



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@atparramatta



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Parramatta Ward



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