

MAITLAND NEWS

momentum

Join the conversation

What's on

Major projects





Mayor
Philip Penfold

Mayor's message

Maitland has started the year off with a bang, with thousands of people visiting The Levee Central Maitland for our fireworks display on New Year's Eve. It was great to see a strong turnout at our Australia Day event in Maitland Park, with many others attending our citizenship ceremony where we presented our annual Citizens of the Year awards. Congratulations to everyone who was recognised and thank you for everything you do for our community.

In the coming weeks, we'll continue work on several key infrastructure projects for west Maitland including the delivery of Melville's Milton Morris Bridge, new amenities at Max McMahon Oval in Rutherford and a new playspace in Farley. Major upgrades are also getting underway along Haussman Drive, Thornton including widening the road to two lanes each way and constructing a new roundabout at the intersection of Haussman Drive and Taylor Avenue. These will be great improvements for our community and I'm excited to see them delivered.

With the year already steaming ahead, I'm looking forward to celebrating Steamfest on 18 and 19 April. It's on track to be an amazing event, so get ready for a great weekend celebrating all things steam.

Philip

Connect with your councillors



Meet this year's Australia Day award winners

On Australia Day, some of Maitland's best and fairest were honoured with our Australia Day Citizens of the Year Awards. Trevor Lynch and Meg Jackson were named our Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year respectively, with other honourees including Sportsperson of the Year, Arwen Kavanagh, Creative Arts Person of the Year, Alcyon Manen, City of Maitland Service Award winner, Carol Coffey and recipient of the City of Maitland Medal, Maitland Patchwork Quilters.

We also recognised Luke Mullard with a heroism award, and welcomed 22 new citizens as part of our Australia Day citizenship ceremony. For more on this year's winners, visit mait.city/AustraliaDayAwardWinners2025



Citizen of the Year Trevor Lynch

Long-time teacher and Rotary leader Trevor Lynch was named Maitland's 2025 Citizen of the Year for his decades of service to the wider community. As Chair of the Maitland HealthStays project, Trevor has been instrumental in planning for accommodation services near Maitland Hospital to support patients and their families, and his long-standing commitment to East Maitland Rotary earned him the 2025 Rotarian of the Year award.



Young Citizen of the Year Meg Jackson

Meg Jackson was named Young Citizen of the Year for her outstanding volunteer work with all-abilities representative sports programs, including netball and touch football. Meg is passionate about supporting people living with a disability and volunteers her spare time to provide home-cooked meals for those in need.



Momentum eNewsletter

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Major projects

Melville's Milton Morris Bridge

Work on Melville's Milton Morris Bridge is back on track. Before Christmas, Council's contractor Saunders Civilbuild completed two concrete pours to finalise the new bridge deck. Reaching this milestone increases the stability of the partially-constructed bridge, improving its ability to withstand severe weather. As planned, the old Ford crossing has also been removed to prevent it from trapping debris under the new bridge and becoming a hazard. Under their contract, Saunders Civilbuild is responsible for removing and disposing of the old timber. They are now completing guardrail and barrier works, with construction on track to be completed by mid-2026. For more, visit mait.city/MelvillesMiltonMorrisBridge



Upgrading Haussman Drive, Thornton

Construction is now underway on two major upgrades along Haussman Drive, Thornton. Funded by the NSW and Australian Governments and Council, \$6.9 million is being invested to install a roundabout at the corner of Haussman Drive and Taylor Avenue while another \$7.4 million will go towards the duplication of Haussman Drive. Early works, including tree removal and site establishment, are underway. From late March, works will transition into major construction, commencing with early drainage works and service relocations. These projects will improve traffic flow and access for residents in Thornton, Chisholm and surrounds for many years to come. There will be changed traffic conditions during construction, with updates reported through Live Traffic. For more, visit mait.city/HaussmanDrive



Multi-million dollar road maintenance blitz

This summer, dozens of Maitland's roads are getting a facelift as part of Council's \$3.3 million road resealing program for 2025-26. More than 70 local roads are being resealed with a bitumen spray to waterproof and protect them for the future. These works are primarily aimed at preventative maintenance and take place during the warmer months so the new road surface can bond to the existing surface. While some roads may appear to be in good condition, work needs to take place early in a road's life cycle to reduce the need for future, more expensive and larger-scale repairs. As part of this process, there is a period of up to seven to 10 days where the stone must be left to settle into the bitumen while traffic passes through the area. Once the stone settles, a sweeper will be sent out to remove any loose gravel. For more, visit mait.city/RoadResealing



Environment



Introducing Walka Landcare

There's a new Landcare group in town, with several local volunteers coming together to form the new Walka Landcare. The group is now in full swing, working on regenerating the reserve's bushland by planting native species, whacking weeds and monitoring birdlife. Volunteers will also be restoring areas of the riparian zone and protecting turtle nests from predators to help the local turtle population thrive once more. Freshwater turtles are an important native species in our local wetland and lagoon environments, which is why the work being done by Maitland's latest Landcare group is so vital. For more on local Landcare groups, or if you're interested in joining, visit mait.city/HunterRegionLandcare

Green streak: Maitland wins top environment awards

Maitland's ongoing efforts to shape a more sustainable future have been recognised on a state level, with the city recently claiming two gongs at the Local Government NSW Environment Awards. Our Environmental Sustainability Strategy (ESS) 2030 won the gold award for local sustainability, recognising Maitland's progress towards a circular economy, healthier green and blue natural spaces and more liveable communities. The city was also recognised with a Division B win in



the Towards Net Zero Emissions category for reducing operational emissions across Council. Since October 2023, operational emissions decreased by 40 per cent thanks to new energy-saving LED streetlights and switching to renewable electrical energy sources across all facilities since 1 January 2025. For more on Maitland's sustainability efforts, visit mait.city/EnvironmentalSustainability



Fast facts: Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO)

Every caddy of food waste matters, because it all adds up. If every Maitland household only produced **one bag of food waste** each week, that's around **37,000 bags** or **10 truckloads** of food scrap diverted from landfill. Every little bit counts.

Remember: only food, garden prunings and clippings, and the Council-supplied caddy liners are allowed in your green bin.

For more on FOGO, visit mait.city/FOGO

Join the conversation



Sign up to have your say

Providing feedback allows communities to be active participants in shaping their own future, so they can play a part in positive change. Join the conversation and receive updates on topics important to you at mait.city/Engage

Projects open for input

Waste Services Management Plan

We're inviting the community to take part in a new waste management survey to help shape the future of waste, recycling and resource recovery in Maitland. The survey asks about your experience with current services and your attitudes to waste and recycling, and will help inform our next Waste Services Management Plan. It takes around 10 minutes to complete, and your feedback will play an important role in improving services and supporting a more sustainable Maitland. Have your say before 28 February. Get involved at mait.city/WasteServicesManagementPlan



Social Strategy

Our work on Maitland's new Social Strategy is continuing, with early engagement now underway to better understand what helps people feel connected, supported and included in their community. Over the coming months, we'll be listening to residents of all ages through pop-ups, workshops and online activities to explore what matters most and how Maitland can be a place where everyone belongs. There are simple ways to get involved, including polls, surveys and digital vision boards, plus a child-friendly survey so young voices are heard too. Get involved at mait.city/SocialStrategy

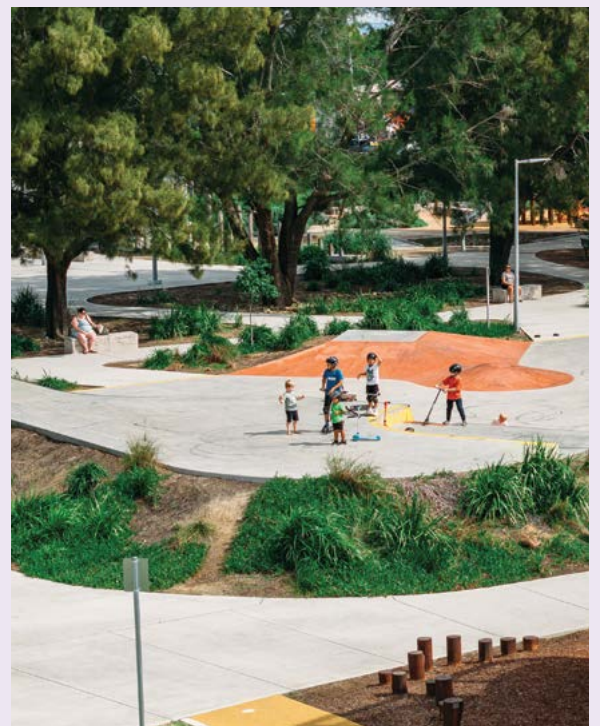
Projects under review

Community Infrastructure Strategy

Maitland's first-ever Community Infrastructure Strategy (CIS) was recently on public exhibition, inviting the community to help shape how local facilities are planned and delivered into the future. From parks and playspaces to pools and libraries, the CIS sets a clear direction for community infrastructure across Maitland as the city grows. Submissions are now being reviewed and considered, before the CIS is finalised. Follow the project at mait.city/CIS

Walka Water Works Plan of Management

The draft Walka Water Works Plan of Management was recently on public exhibition, outlining how this important heritage and recreation site will be protected, managed and enjoyed into the future. The plan focuses on balancing heritage conservation, environmental protection, community access and future use, guided by community values and feedback. Submissions are now being reviewed and carefully considered to help shape the final plan. Follow the project at mait.city/WalkaWaterWorks



What's on

Hunter Valley Steamfest

Burton Automotive Hunter Valley Steamfest is steaming back into Maitland on 18 and 19 April for a weekend of history, heritage and family fun.

At the heart of Steamfest is its impressive collection of steam trains. Experience the thrill of the annual ARTC Great Train Race or hop aboard a heritage steam train and enjoy a scenic journey through the Hunter Region.



Step back in time with the Steam Rally at the Garnham Grounds, featuring a fascinating display of antique machinery, including traction and portable engines. Car enthusiasts can also visit the Show 'n' Shine at Maitland Park on Sunday 19 April, showcasing more than 500 classic cars, alongside live entertainment, food stalls and family-friendly fun. For more, visit steamfest.com.au



Magic Round in Maitland

We're teaming up with Tooheys Newcastle Rugby League to bring the 2026 Magic Round to Maitland Regional Sportsground on Saturday 11 April, and it's shaping up to be a real try-stopping event for footy fans and families alike.

Now in its third year, Magic Round will kick-off the Denton Engineering Cup season, showcasing every premiership club in action at one of the region's leading rugby league venues. Expect big hits, big eats and plenty of family fun, with food vendors and activities running throughout the day. Tickets are on sale soon, so stay tuned. For more, visit mymaitland.com.au

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Wonnarua People as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land within the Maitland Local Government Area. Council pays respect to all Aboriginal Elders, past, present and future with a spiritual connection to these lands.

Disclaimer

This newsletter has been prepared by Maitland City Council from information available as at 6 February 2026. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information herein, however Maitland City Council accepts no responsibility for any consequences resulting from misdescription or inadvertent errors.

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maitland
CITY COUNCIL

Council events for your calendar



Street Eats – Louth Park
Hillview Playground
Fri 27 Feb, 5pm to 8pm



Summer Night Sounds
X Dashville*
Harold Gregson Reserve
Sat 28 Feb, 4pm to 9pm



Maitland Roller Disco
Harold Gregson Reserve
Sat 28 Feb, 5pm to 8pm



Seniors Festival
Various locations
Mon 2 to Sun 15 Mar



Get involved in Citizen Science
East Maitland Library
Wed 11 Mar, 9.30am to 10.30am



Conversations: Art and
Dementia
Maitland Regional Art Gallery
Thurs 12 Mar, 10.30am to 12pm
Tues 31 Mar, 2pm to 3.30pm
Thurs 2 Apr, 10.30am to 12pm



Street Eats – Rutherford
Norm Chapman Oval
Fri 13 Mar, 5pm to 8pm



Street Eats – Gillieston Heights
Victor Warby Reserve
Fri 27 Mar, 5pm to 8pm



Street Eats – Lochinvar
Hereford Hill Playground
Fri 1 May, 5pm to 8pm



Ross Noble – Cranium of
Curiosities
Maitland Town Hall
Fri 8 May, 8pm to 9.50pm



Street Eats – Thornton
Wirraway Park
Fri 29 May, 5pm to 8pm

*Council sponsored event.

Find other events at
mait.city/WhatsOnMaitland