



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

There's a lot to be excited about when I reflect on what we've achieved in the past 12 months and what's ahead for Lake Macquarie in 2023.

Last year, we achieved several ambitious infrastructure projects to improve liveability and transport links, including The Weir Bridge at Barnsley and, more recently, a new lakeside boardwalk at Swansea.

Our outdoor spaces are now even better for people of all ages. The updated Thomas H Halton play space at Croudace Bay is drawing families from around the region, while across the lake at Toronto, we've completed the new town green space and there are more improvements to come along the foreshore in the future.

Looking ahead, we have so much more planned in terms of capital works, events and activating our city.

We're continuing to extend the Fernleigh Awabakal Shared Track, improving our infrastructure to support a growing population and delivering

on bold projects like the new Sugar Valley Library Museum at Cameron Park as part of a planned \$130 million infrastructure spend in 2023.

In the events space, we have the One Act Play Festival drama showcase making its debut in February, the Archibald Prize touring our Museum of Art and Culture, yapang and returning favourites like the Lake Mac Festival and Float Your Boat.

It's all part of our core business – delivering services and facilities our community deserves.

On that note, I'm also looking forward to this year's Lake Mac Awards in March, where we will celebrate our local legends making our city an even better place to be.

I hope you've had a wonderful Christmas and New Year period, and look forward to what we can achieve together throughout 2023.

**Lake Macquarie Mayor
Cr Kay Fraser**

BOARDWALK ALL THE TALK AT SWANSEA

A new lakeside boardwalk on Pirrita Island is now open, allowing visitors to explore the picturesque coastal landscape and heritage of Swansea foreshore.

The accessible boardwalk spans 230 metres through mangroves and comes as a boon for visitors and locals alike.

The route passes Miners Point, a reference to the coal mining families who lived on the island throughout the 1900s, while 'Pirrita' is the Awabakal word for oysters from the mangrove trees.

Interpretive signage will be installed showcasing the heritage of the area, as well as its many species of native flora and fauna.

The project was delivered thanks to \$3 million in funding from the NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program.



CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING THESE SUMMER HOLIDAYS ACROSS LAKE MACQUARIE

There's still time to sign up for a host of family friendly activities, so head over to lakemac.com.au and search for our 'Holiday Activity Guide'. From exploring our great outdoors to author talks and creative workshops, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

 lakemac.com.au/holiday-guide

TIME TO GO MOBILE

Between e-bikes, e-scooters and Council's brand-new cycleways map, there's never been a better time to get moving across Lake Macquarie.

Micro-mobility company Beam is trialling e-scooters in four locations alongside their e-bike roll-out, which has attracted more than 5000 users to date.

Lake Mac is the first council area in the state to trial the e-scooters, which have proved popular north of the border.

The scooters have been deployed across shared pathways along the Croudace Bay, Warners Bay and Toronto foreshore areas, and sections of the Fernleigh Awabakal Shared Track.

The devices are restricted to 10 kilometres per hour and limited to specified existing ride-share networks, with no footpath or road access allowed.

lakemac.com.au/beam ridebeam.com



TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR BATTERY WASTE

Lithium-ion batteries can now be recycled at the Awaba Community Recycling Facility.

These batteries – typically found in rechargeable devices such as mobile phones, laptops, tablets, e-bikes, electric toothbrushes and power tools – are flammable and potentially dangerous when exposed to heat or compression.

It's important to avoid placing these items in your garbage bin and to dispose of them correctly – making sure to tape over the terminals before dropping them off at a battery recycling collection point.

This helps reduce the risk of harm to our community, Council staff and our waste collection vehicles.

Bunnings and Battery World stores also accept these batteries for recycling.

lakemac.com.au/crc



WHAT'S ON

Stay in the loop with what's happening in Lake Mac by checking out our event calendars.

lakemac.com.au/events

Lake Mac Festival 2023

28-29 January

Join us for two days packed full of family fun with food, live music, fireworks and more in store.

One Act Play Festival

24-25 February

The Lake Macquarie One Act Play Festival is a new theatre competition showcasing short, sharp and exhilarating one-act plays from Lake Macquarie and beyond.

Women in Sport Festival

4-12 March

This inclusive festival is returning with an extensive program for amateur and aspiring professional athletes, coaches, administrators and complete newcomers keen to try a new sport.



GET IN TOUCH

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