

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Council Meeting

Monday, 23 October 2023

Dragon Room

Level 1, Georges River Civic Centre

Corner Dora and MacMahon Streets, Hurstville



ORDINARY MEETING**ORDER OF BUSINESS****MAYORAL MINUTE**

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MAYORAL MINUTE

Item: MM036-23 Mayoral Children's Cultural Art Competition

Mayor: The Mayor, Councillor Elmir

BACKGROUND

Culture unites us through shared heritage and stories, connecting us to a specific place and time. Our diverse cultural traditions, reflected in our food, song, dance and harmonious coexistence, create a vibrant community that celebrates history and fosters well-being. It is also reaffirmed in the message of tolerance and understanding through cultural exploration and appreciation, demonstrated principally in Council's Better Together campaign.

A thriving and culturally rich community relies on a robust art and culture scene, with live music, performances, visual arts, cinema, and festivals that enhance its appeal as a place to live, work, and visit.

Council's Create Georges River Cultural Strategy outlines four strategic directions that set the foundation for creating places that reflect the dynamism of the area, embed culture and creativity in every day, and enhance cultural life for generations to come.

- Connect Georges River – foster connections between the community and cultural organisations to develop a strong cultural identity and connected cultural ecology;
- Create Georges River – providing conditions of innovation and experimentation to cultivate the creation of art and culture;
- Express Georges River – successfully demonstrate expression of cultural life authentically throughout the community;
- Sustain Georges River – promote the sustainability of cultural life in the Georges River area.

A dynamic art and culture scene is built on a foundation of strong community involvement. A strong partnership between Council and our community is vital to maintain participation.

Georges River Council encourages participation in the arts by young people. The Mayoral Children's Cultural Arts Competition presents a wonderful opportunity for young artists to gain exposure of their work and showcase days throughout the year that are culturally significant to them.

To encourage cultural and artistic expression, young artists aged 5 to 12 years old will be invited to design artwork that represents their view of days of significance.

Childrens' artwork that are chosen will then be incorporated into Council's acknowledgement and celebration of each day of significance. This could range from social media posts to posters or programs at our major events.

Council officers will collaborate with local schools to promote the competition and provide further opportunities for cultural and artistic expression to be experienced and appreciated in the community.

Council continues its commitment to recognising artistic expression with the winners of the Georges River Art Prize 2023, including the Little Artist Prize and Youth Prize, being announced this week. I encourage all residents to visit and enjoy the finalists' work which will be exhibited until 18 January 2024 at Hurstville Museum & Gallery and Clive James Library and Service Centre, Kogarah.

Art of all genres strengthens our community through creative self-expression, and cultural appreciation by breaking cultural, social, and economic barriers and sharing the message that as a community, Georges River residents are #Bettertogether.

MOTION:

- (a) That Council collaborates with local schools to establish the inaugural Mayoral Children's Cultural Art Competition, celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures and faiths within our local government area, and nurturing a sense of pride and belonging in the Georges River community.
- (b) That young artists aged 5 to 12 years old will be invited to design artwork that represents their view of the below listed days of significance:
- Christmas
 - Australia Day
 - Lunar New Year
 - Ramadan
 - Easter
 - Eid
 - Passover
 - ANZAC Day
 - Orthodox Easter
 - NAIDOC Week
 - Yom Kippur
 - Dashain
 - Diwali
 - Any other day of significance that a child finds a sense of belonging in.

Item: MM037-23 Georges River Council Carss Park Aquatic Facility Update**Mayor:** The Mayor, Councillor Elmir**BACKGROUND**

Since Council Resolved in November 2022 (CCL116-22) to build the LGA's third aquatic facility on the site of the former Kogarah War Memorial Pool, senior staff have met with the Premier's Office on multiple occasions to discuss this significant community project and the necessary deliverables to ensure future government investment.

Council officers are in the process, with the assistance of suitably qualified consultants, of developing a Detailed Business Case for a future Georges River Council Aquatic Facility utilising the NSW Submission of Business Cases Policy and Guidelines (TPG22-04) and the NSW Government Business Case Guidelines (TPP18-06). This business case will build on previous studies and investigations, and draw together the evidence needed to support this future funding. The business case will consider the level of community use of a new aquatic centre, as well as expected social, economic and environmental benefits and costs. Following the completion of this Detailed Business Case, Council will have the ability to progress discussions with State and Federal Government Departments in the hope of obtaining funding to construct an aquatic facility.

While this detailed business case is under development, Council officers are preparing a business paper to provide information to relevant NSW Government representatives in order to seek funding for the design and development approval of a future aquatic facility. The detailed investigation and design of an appropriate aquatic facility will be undertaken in conjunction with the development of the new Carss Park Plan of Management and Master Plan. Community consultation on this significant planning document is set to commence in the 2023 calendar year, enabling the community to provide their thoughts on the future vision of the Carss Park site.

In line with Council's Community Strategic Plan, I am pleased to provide the above information to demonstrate Council's commitment to the construction of a third aquatic facility and to provide an update on the significant work being undertaken by staff to support the community in its aspirations for an active and healthy lifestyle.

Council officers are in the process of engaging a suitably qualified contractor to undertake the demolition, remediation and landscaping of the former Kogarah War Memorial Pool site. Based on the substantial use of Carss Bush Park during the summer months, including three large community events (Magic of Christmas, Australia Day and Greek Summer Festival), the demolition works are expected to commence in February 2024. Further information will be provided to the community on the demolition program following the engagement of the contractor.

The community will be kept up to date on the activities and actions relating to the pool via the project page on our website.

MOTION:

That this Mayoral Minute be noted.

Item: MM038-23 Vale Brian Langton

Mayor: The Mayor, Councillor Elmir

BACKGROUND

Last week we were all shocked to hear of the passing of the Honourable Brian Langton who had been such a wonderful servant of our community and the Australian Labor Party.

After being educated at Marist Brothers Kogarah, Brian quickly followed in his father's footsteps embarking on a career in local politics; being elected in 1971, at the age of 23, to Kogarah Council. Twelve years of representation on this body, including a stint as Mayor, evolved into a 16 year tenure as the Member for Kogarah. A fierce advocate for his local community Brian is remembered for many achievements. Highlights include convincing then Premier, Neville Wran, to fund a Cardiac Unit at St George Hospital, a Unit that has established itself as one of the leaders in its field and extended the life of many of our residents. He also established with Phill Bates, the Annual cycling promotion at Anglo Square, Carlton, that was held for 19 years.

From 1995 Brian had time as Minister for Transport, Tourism, Fair Trading and Emergency Services before retiring as local member in 1999 to be succeeded by Cherie Burton and now Premier Chris Minns. The Premier is on record stating that Brian was a close confidante and highly valued his support. Councillors would be aware that amongst many other roles Brian represented the Premier for many years on our Traffic Committee.

A committed supporter of Australian Rules football, Brian was President of the St George club in the early 2000s as well as Chairing the NSW Judiciary in that sport for roughly 20 years. He was also appointed to Chair Sydney Ferries and as a Board Member of Bus NSW. Of course, life outside his political career also saw volunteering for many local organisations including in the early 80s the Board of St George Hospital, the St George School for Children with disabilities, as well as Lifeline, Wesley Mission, St Vincent de Paul, St George Cancer Care Centre and indeed a plethora of good causes.

Brian and his wife Elizabeth were married for 47 years and to her and their three children, Davina, Adele, Celia and families we extend our sincere sympathy. While we mourn the loss of a magnificent contributor to our district they suffer the tragic loss of husband, father and grandfather.

MOTION:

That Council notes the passing of the Honourable Brian Langton, former Mayor and Member for Kogarah. We extend our deepest sympathies to his wife Elizabeth and family.