

MEDIA RELEASE

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Riverfest 2019 showcases Parramatta River's charm as Sydney's most diverse recreational destination

The Parramatta River Catchment Group's premiere community festival, *Riverfest*, starts in just a few weeks! Now in its fourth year Riverfest is a celebration of the Parramatta River and its surrounds, offering people a wide range of fun and interesting ways to connect with Sydney's most iconic waterway.

This year's festival will run from 17-27 October and includes almost 20 tours, workshops and activities across six local government areas, including: City of Canada Bay's 'Spring Clean' at Rodd Point, City of Ryde's Granny Smith Festival, 'bat spotting' night walk at Darling Mills Creek, kayaking bushcare volunteer work day, Parramatta heritage tour, river foreshore clean-up at Rydalmere Wharf and Eric Primrose Reserve, plus much more!

PRCG Chair, Cllr Mark Drury, said that Riverfest showcases the different and exciting ways the community can engage with the Parramatta River.

"The Parramatta River means different things to different people. Whether it's water sports, history, clean-ups or bushcare, there are so many ways to enjoy all the wonderful things the river has to offer," Cllr Drury said.

"Riverfest also plays an important role in the delivery of our Parramatta River Masterplan. Community involvement is at the heart of our plan, and everyone can contribute to keeping the river clean. By showing some the different ways in which people can connect with the river, we hope they will be encouraged to help us achieve our mission to make it swimmable again. Our thanks also go to all the councils, state government agencies and community groups that are supporting this year's Riverfest."

The Parramatta River Catchment Group is an alliance of councils, state government agencies and community groups with the mission to make the Parramatta River swimmable again by 2025. Riverfest was launched in 2016 as a single event hosted by the City of Ryde at Putney Park. It has since expanded across the Parramatta River catchment to offer the community a wide and diverse range of ways they can engage with the Parramatta River and help make a difference.

The launch of Riverfest 2019 will take place on Saturday, 19 October at the Masters Swimming NSW (MSNSW) Open Water Swim at Lake Parramatta.



Parramatta River
Catchment Group



**LET'S MAKE OUR RIVER
SWIMMABLE AGAIN BY
— 2025 —**

For more information or to register your place at any of the events, visit:
www.ourlivingriver.com.au/riverfest2019

Note to editors:

- Images available on request.
- On Saturday, 19 October at the Riverfest launch interviews, photos and other media opportunities can be arranged upon request.

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