



# SINGLETON EDIT



# Mayor's Message

Cr Sue Moore  
**Mayor**

With global conversations about the future of energy and the impacts of climate change prompting the need for economic evolution, Singleton is moving to meet the future head-on. In a community and an economy renowned for coal mining, and where our lifeblood has also been the lifeblood of NSW through royalties paid to Macquarie Street, Council has recognised the need to act now rather than wait for decisions beyond our control that have the greatest potential to change our community.

Best of all, our approach relies on partnerships with our community. We're working together with our residents, small businesses, industries and community organisations to identify what we can be doing now to future-proof our LGA for the generations to come. We're focusing on the here and now through our capital works program and our ongoing services to the community – like our annual bulk waste collection.

We're also looking even further beyond, like working with Transport for NSW to reimagine Singleton after the bypass is built, or the work we're doing with businesses now to ensure booming industries that are as diverse as they are innovative. And essential to any changes for the future of our local community is maintaining Singleton's character, which why Council's and Mount Thorley Warkworth Historic Heritage Conservation Fund is so important.



This also influences the planning and delivery of Council's operations, such as our record investment in sporting infrastructure, and our advocacy for state infrastructure and services. Working with the NSW Government to deliver for the people of Singleton is a key part of my role as Mayor. The fruits of this partnership were particularly evident with the funding announcement by the NSW Premier in July for the upgrades and extension of the AFL Clubhouse. Our community has experienced unfathomable heartache and sadness since the bus crash tragedy, and with most of the victims having played for the Singleton Roosters Club, I can't think of a more fitting tribute.

In acting in service to our community now, we also recognise we're also working for the residents we will likely never meet and who will never consider the actions we took to protect their rural lifestyle and ensure their wellbeing and prosperity. But that's what makes this approach so special. We're not just delivering exceptional facilities and services now for our community; we are also building a legacy that will continue to drive Singleton forward into the future.



# TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Business is booming in Singleton with the local economy reaping the benefits of a strong partnership between Council, the business community and the state government.

Supported by the NSW Government's Resources for Regions program, Council has teamed up with Business Singleton, regional partners and industry stakeholders to deliver a suite of economic development programs designed to strengthen the business community and the local economy.

These programs are delivering real benefits to the local economy by equipping business owners with the skills and knowledge to tackle the key issues facing the region, such as the changing economic conditions, critical staff shortages and the evolution to renewable energy.

Council conducted future-focused roundtable discussions across key core local industries throughout winter 2023, including agriculture, construction, retail, hospitality and



manufacturing to identify and prioritise strategies to address barriers to growth and harness opportunities for the future.

Meanwhile, Council and Business Singleton's partnership was once again recognised as award-winning in June with it's Spend in Singleton gift card program, which has injected over \$1million into the local economy thus far, taking out the Support Local Enterprise top gong at the 2023 NSW Local Government Excellence Awards.

This successful partnership culminated in the delivery of the free Reimagine Regional Business event in early August, where local businesses were inspired by Naomi Simson, the founder of online experience retailer RedBalloon and investor on Shark Tank Australia, and a panel of successful Hunter region business owners.





# BEYOND THE BYPASS

**As Singleton's biggest infrastructure project leaps ahead with construction soon to start on the bypass, Council is reveling at the opportunity to reimagine the heart of Singleton.**

Damian Morris, Council's Acting Director Infrastructure and Planning said instead of fearing the loss of traffic in the town centre, Council sees the bypass as a golden opportunity to reinvent Singleton as a destination in its own right, as well as improving the connectivity of the township that's currently divided by a major freight and transport corridor. Mr Morris said the community has longed for the bypass for decades, and the new infrastructure would go a long way in reducing congestion, noise, and vibrations, as well as improve road safety in the town centre.

The bypass is predicted to reduce traffic in Singleton by 15 - 35 per cent, but the most significant difference would be the removal of heavy freight transport from the CBD.

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*Transport for NSW Delivery Manager Andrew Mula, Singleton Council Acting Director Infrastructure and Planning Services  
Damian Morris, Singleton Council Director Organisation and Community Capacity and Transport for NSW Transport Planner  
Cassandra Jury*





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**“We have a real opportunity here to transform George Street and reunite this amazing heritage precinct with John Street, creating a borough of cafes, restaurants and boutique shopping experiences.”**

“If you look at other NSW towns like Bulahdelah and Berry, who have successfully transformed following the introduction of a bypass, it shows we have a real opportunity here to transform George Street and reunite this amazing heritage precinct with John Street, creating a borough of cafes, restaurants and boutique shopping experiences,” Mr Morris said.

“We’re doing the work now with the State Government to ensure bypassed Singleton is a town that continues to prosper. This includes working with Transport for NSW (TfNSW) on a Healthy Streets Assessment, which audits the entire human experience of George Street from safety and amenity to overall feeling and vibe, shade and shelter. We’re also completing a series of workshops with TfNSW to set the vision for the future of George Street — looking at aspects like enhancing heritage and the

creation of outdoor dining areas — establishing clear objectives so we can design a road map on how we’ll get there as well as opportunities for future funding sources.”

Mr Morris said Council had been future-proofing Singleton Town Centre for the bypass for almost a decade with the complete upgrade of John Street and Ryan Avenue, as well as upgrades in Townhead Park including the new Arts and Cultural Centre, children’s playground and bike track.

“The Townhead Park precinct is strategically located on Maitland Road and has been designed to prompt motorists to think twice before driving past the turn-off to Singleton once the bypass is built. We’re also geographically well-placed between the New England area and lower Hunter and beyond for people to take a break. Singleton has so much going for it — it’s about building on those positives to entice visitors without the need for a highway through the heart of our town.” he said.

Following extensive advocacy by Singleton Council, the bypass will include a full interchange with Putty Road and a new 600-metre-long bridge at the southern connection. Major work on the bypass is expected to start in late 2023 and it is due to open to traffic in late 2026, weather permitting. The Australian Government has committed \$560 million and the NSW Government \$140 million to deliver the bypass.



*Chair of the Singleton Heritage Advisory Committee Lyn MacBain with Council's Acting Director Infrastructure and Planning Services Group Damian Morris and Manager Planning and Environment Mary-Anne Crawford*

## HERITAGE GRANTS SUSTAIN SINGLETON'S PROUD HISTORY

Funding under the Singleton Council and Mount Thorley Warkworth Historic Heritage Conservation Fund will allow locals to apply for thousands of dollars to protect and enhance unique local heritage in Singleton.

Applications are open year-round for Singleton Mount Thorley Warkworth Historic Heritage Conservation Fund, which is designed for owners or managers of local heritage items to apply for funding to enable major works, conduct urgent repairs or implement education programs and 21st century technology.

The grant fund, which has been active since 2018, has supported eight projects totalling almost \$80,000 to restore, repair and maintain heritage buildings in the Singleton area.

"Heritage is integral to understanding Singleton's story – its history, its identity and

its people," Chair of the Singleton Heritage Advisory Committee Lyn MacBain said.

"The retention and protection of Singleton's natural and built heritage has an important role to play in sustaining our future, supporting our incredible community and our local economy.

"The Singleton Mount Thorley Warkworth Heritage Fund means we can invest in protecting and conserving our local heritage, and gives more people the opportunity to participate and appreciate Singleton's unique history well into the future."

Applications for the Mount Thorley Warkworth Historic Heritage Conservation Fund are open year-round. For more information and to submit an application, visit [singleton.nsw.gov.au/heritagegrants](https://singleton.nsw.gov.au/heritagegrants)



# SINGLETON: **THE HOME OF SPORT**

The Singleton sporting community will soon enjoy improvements to lighting, seating, playing surfaces and clubhouses across the local government area as Council works on delivering a huge program of infrastructure upgrades.

Close to \$10million is being invested in upgrading, replacing, and building new sporting infrastructure across Singleton, work that will enhance the town's status as one of the leading sports destinations in the region.

Major projects in Council's 2023-2024 Operational Plan include building a new athletics clubhouse in James Cook Park, resurfacing all 12 of Singleton's netball courts,

upgrading the netball and tennis courts at Broke Recreation Ground, designing Alroy Oval's new fields and amenities, and upgrading the lighting to LED at Allan Bull Reserve, James Cook Park and Pirtek Park.

With a \$1.7million grant from the NSW Government and a \$250,000 contribution each from Singleton Council and AFL NSW, Council will extend the Singleton Roosters AFL clubhouse to improve the canteen and construct new accessible and female-friendly changerooms, amenities, first aid and umpires' room.



(Back) Singleton Roosters AFL Club's Dylan Hixon, Singleton Junior Rugby League Football Club's Kurt Rudder, Singleton Strikers FC's Dean Dunn, Singleton Track and Field's Hilary Kennedy. (Middle) Singleton Council's Coordinator Capital Works Katie Bell, Singleton Strikers FC's Natasha Hain, Singleton District Cricket Association's Daniel Storey. (Front) Singleton Netball Association's Alex Bailey

## Sporting infrastructure funding

**Singleton AFL Clubroom Extension**  
\$2.2million

**Singleton Athletics Building** \$1.25million

**Sportsground Lighting Upgrades**  
\$1.6million

**Pirtek Park Rugby League Amenities**  
\$1.6million

**Singleton Netball Court Renewal**  
\$1.2million

**Cook Park spectator tiered seating**  
\$700,000

**Broke Recreation Ground refurbishment**  
\$600,000

**Mountain Bike Track upgrade** \$450,000

**Singleton Golf Club Drainage + Irrigation Improvements** \$450,000

**Rugby Club Grandstand (final stage)**  
\$250,000

**Alroy Oval and amenity upgrade design**  
\$222,000

**Alroy Oval Basketball Court** \$250,000



*Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame chairman Godfrey Adamthwaite, Wambo Coal General Manager Brad Rigsby and Singleton Mayor Cr Sue Moore*

## NOMINATE NOW

# WAMBO COAL SINGLETON HALL OF FAME

The people of Singleton are being called on to nominate the next round of exemplary citizens to be added to the Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame.

In its 14th year, the Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame recognises those individuals, organisations and families connected to Singleton by birth, education or residence who have achieved State, National or International acclaim in their field of endeavour.

Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee Cr Godfrey Adamthwaite said nominations were invited in the categories of Arts, Science and Education; Community Service; Sport; Public

Service; Business, Industry and Tourism; and Meritorious Family.

“The Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame is a great way for everyone in our community to celebrate the hard work, achievements and dedication of our fellow residents and those with a strong connection to the Singleton local government area,” he said.

“If you know an individual or an organisation who has achieved excellence in their particular field, or who simply goes out of their way to make life better for our community, I whole heartedly encourage you to put them forward and recognise their work and achievements for generations to come.”

**Nominations close on Friday 13 October 2023. The inductees will be announced at a special ceremony on Thursday 23 November 2023. Submit your nomination online at [singleton.nsw.gov.au/singletonhalloffame](https://singleton.nsw.gov.au/singletonhalloffame)**



# SPRING INTO BULK WASTE

Households across the Singleton local government area are being encouraged to schedule in their spring clean out, with Council's annual bulk waste collection locked in from **6 November 2023 for a period of six weeks**.

The bulk waste collection service offers residents who receive a domestic waste and recycling service a one-off opportunity each year to dispose of bulkier waste items free of charge, simply by placing them on the kerbside for collection.

Damian Morris, Council's Acting Director Infrastructure and Planning Services said eligible residents could place up to two cubic metres of domestic waste on the kerbside the weekend before their collection week. Items placed out earlier will be considered illegal dumping and may attract a fine.

"Our annual bulk waste collection always proves very popular with residents, and much like our mattress musters, tyre drop off days and other initiatives on our sustainability calendar, we expect most eligible households to take advantage of this fantastic service," he said.

"Don't forget when you're doing your clear out that your trash could be someone else's treasure, so we're encouraging everyone to use sites like Facebook Marketplace, Gumtree, and eBay, or hold a garage sale to sell things like furniture, bikes, kid's toys and décor items and reduce your bulk waste pile."

Each property will be serviced by the bulk waste collection once. For further information, including the full list of acceptable and unacceptable items, bulk waste terms and conditions and the full pick-up schedule, please visit Council's website at [singleton.nsw.gov.au](https://www.singleton.nsw.gov.au)



*Council's Coordinator Waste Management Environment and Projects  
Sean Blackford and Waste Services  
Technical Officer Michelle Willis*





# ETCHING: REMBRANDT'S LEGACY

**Master  
Printmakers**

Singleton Arts + Cultural Centre  
Main Gallery  
9 Sep - 19 Nov 2023

Image: Rembrandt van Rijn, Joseph and Potiphar's Wife



**SINGLETON**  
ARTS + CULTURAL CENTRE





# POTENTIALLY SYMBOLIC OBJECTS

ETCHINGS BY  
**Ross  
Woodrow**

Singleton Arts + Cultural Centre  
Main Gallery  
9 Sep - 19 Nov 2023

Image © Ross Woodrow



**SINGLETON**  
ARTS + CULTURAL CENTRE



# CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS

## 2023/24 HIGHLIGHTS



Sewer Sludge Lagoon and  
Drying Beds  
**\$4.4million**



Water Main Renewal  
Program  
**\$1.1million**



Inlet Road  
**\$3.4million**



Pioneer Mountain Bike Track  
**\$450,000**



AFL Clubhouse Extension  
**\$2.2million**



Elderslie Road  
**\$564,233**



Broke Road  
**\$1.7million**



Glendon Road  
**\$395,000**



Singleton Netball Courts  
**\$1.2million**



Mirannie Road  
**\$360,000**



Putty Valley Road  
**\$2.2million**



Lemington Road  
**\$350,000**



Goorangoola Road  
**\$664,800**



Alroy Oval + Amenity  
Upgrade Design  
**\$222,000**



Broke Recreation Ground  
**\$601,150**



Cranky Corner Road (South)  
**\$500,000**



Lake St Clair Playground  
**\$565,000**



Carrowbrook Road  
**\$250,000**



Sportsground Lighting  
Upgrades  
**\$1.6million**



Lizzards Bridge  
(Dyrring Road)  
**\$400,000**

For more information on Council's capital works program, visit  
**[singleton.nsw.gov.au/capitalworks](https://singleton.nsw.gov.au/capitalworks)**

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