



Tuesday 17 September 2019

**MEDIA RELEASE:** For immediate release

## THE NEWTOWN FESTIVAL 2019 PROGRAM IS HERE And there's still more to come!

It has taken months of collaborative planning, but it's time to reveal all the fun and fabulousness that will be on offer at Newtown Festival this November. Join us for a **full day of music, art, talks, markets, food, four-legged friends and more** to celebrate the Inner West community and beyond.

As a major fundraiser for **Newtown Neighbourhood Centre (NNC)**, the Festival will showcase the best from the Inner West at **Camperdown Memorial Rest Park** on **Sunday 10 November 2019** between **9:30AM – 5:30PM**.

For an **expected contribution of \$5.00 or more** at the entry gates, festival attendees can feel great about supporting those doing it tough in the Inner West and have an amazing day out!

NNC CEO Liz Yeo said *"Since last year's festival, thanks to our community, we have been able to start two new local initiatives supporting people who are sleeping rough or at risk of homelessness in the Inner West. We have invested in providing volunteer and professional outreach to people sleeping on our streets, with the aim of building trust, community connection and ultimately securing housing for people. So far this year 13 people have been housed. We simply could not undertake these initiatives without the community's support through Newtown Festival and our other fundraising activities"*.

Here's an A-Z of what you'll be able to immerse yourself in at Newtown Festival 2019.

### **ECO VILLAGE**

Curated by **Sydney Sustainability Centre**, the Eco Village will offer a **full program of discussions and workshops**; from learning what small steps you can take in your day-to-day life to begin your

sustainable journey and increase your understanding of current and future global environmental issues.

The Eco Village is also home to our wriggly friends in the **Worm Farm**, who assist us in diverting as much organic waste as possible away from landfill by munching on all the food scraps at the festival. You can **do your part** by bringing your compostable plates, cutlery and any leftover food across to the worm farm where the friendly Eco Village team will collect and process it all so that our little mates stay well fed!

### **EDGE IRL TALKS TENT**

**EDGE** "IRL" Talks Tent is a new addition to the Newtown Festival program this year. In collaboration with Inner West Council's EDGE Newtown Arts Program, the tent will host interactive sessions and "in real life" talks about some of the **prominent issues affecting the community** including the role of Art and Activism, the importance of art and creativity to community and economic wellbeing and prosperity, mental health, youth empowerment, social activism, sustainability and equality. Keeping in mind the importance of future generations, and **with 12 - 25 year olds in mind**, the EDGE IRL Talks Tent will host inspiring talks by high school students, yoga classes for mental mindfulness, sustainable fashion tips, DIY Gardening workshops with Stick n Stone, a keynote from Benjamin Law and spoken word performances from incredible musicians like Ziggy Ramo. And that's just a small taste of what's on offer.  
#EDGEinnerwest #EDGEnewtown

### **FOOD AND MARKET STALLS**

There will be over **200 stalls** scattered throughout the Festival site, with local businesses, designers and creators selling food and beverages from around the world, general merchandise, fair trade goods, plants, and handmade arts and crafts. There's sure to be **something for everyone!**

### **HEAPS GAY KARAOKE CLOSET**

Inner West party starters **Heaps Gay** are returning with their incredibly popular **Karaoke Closet** at Newtown Festival 2019! Located under the shade near the Federation Stage, step into their tropical love den to sing, dance and party with the Qweens! Love song dedications, dress ups and queer bangers are 100% encouraged.

### **KIDS ZONE**

Newtown Festival will once again feature a bunch of activities suitable for the entire family! The Kids Zone will be the **ultimate destination for young creative minds**. Check out the Kids Creation Station to participate in story time sessions, facepainting, pet rock making and more. Plus there are heaps of fun rides, along with back-to-back kids entertainment on the **Young Hearts Stage**.

### **LIVE MUSIC**

Over the last few years, the Newtown Festival music program has been curated to offer an **entirely Inner West based line up**. This year follows suit with a diverse array of local artists who have a strong connection with Newtown and the Inner West community.

We're excited to welcome back some Newtown Festival alumni, as well as showcase emerging talent and some of our favourite local sweethearts.

Nathan Farrell, from Nathan Farrell Entertainment said *"we're stoked to be involved in this great festival again in 2019. It's now our sixth year programming, and it's more important than ever to recognise how crucial events like Newtown Festival are to our community. We're looking forward to an amazing day showcasing the talent, diversity and vibrant culture of the Inner West."*

Please welcome in alphabetical order;

**AUSTRALIA | THE BUOYS | THE DELTA RIGGS  
GODTET | THE GOODS | HELU | JANNAH BETH | THE KNOW  
THE LAZY EYES | LOLA SCOTT | MAJUN BU | MURRAY COOK'S SOUL MOVERS  
OLY SHERMAN | P.SMURF | THE REGIME  
SCABZ | SORCHA ALBUQUERQUE ORGAN TRIO**

Former Red Wiggle Murray Cook and current Soul Mover said *"Living in the Inner West, specifically, Newtown has been a massive part of my adult life. From share houses in Australia Street through the 1980s, to finally ending up as close to the Enmore Theatre as any live-music-loving-noise attracted resident would want to be, I honestly can't imagine living anywhere else. My kids both went to Newtown Public and Newtown High School of the Performing Arts, and it brings me great joy to be playing the main stage at Newtown Festival on Sunday 10th November with my band The Soul Movers."*

### **NNC COMMUNITY HEART**

The incredible team at NNC will be providing a **chill out space** for all festival attendees to enjoy and relax in. Step inside to take advantage of comfy couches, bean bags, and a breastfeeding station and change table. Whilst there, have a chinwag with some of the dedicated NNC staff and volunteers to find out exactly how they help those doing it tough in the Inner West, you can also grab some free fresh fruit, have a glitter makeover, get artsy and crafty, take some polaroids and share your hopes for the future of Newtown.

### **SASSY TREATS DOG SHOW**

Our good friends at [Sassy Treats](#) are back again to host the **2019 Annual Dog Show** and your pooch is invited to be a part of the action! With a range of categories on day including Most Unique, Doggie Dash, Celebrity Look-a-Like and of course Champion BFFF (Best Furry Friend Forever), your pooch is sure to take home a prize. All proceeds from the dog show registration directly support the programs and services provided by the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre. Stay tuned to our socials to find out how to register your BFFF.

Sassy Treats will also be conducting a workshop on **dog etiquette and safety** on our family friendly Young Hearts stage.

## NNC FESTIVAL SERIES

In 2017, the NNC Festival Series was introduced and continued in 2018, offering additional events in the lead up to the Festival. This year, the series will host a range of events with something for everybody, including **kids DJ workshops**, intimate gigs, the return of Urbane's Cult Classic open air cinema and lessons in sustainability.

More details will be coming soon and all events provide additional fundraising for the NNC.

## ON DAY ENTRY CONTRIBUTION AND PRE-FESTIVAL CONTRIBUTION

Last year, over 40,000 people came to Newtown Festival, with many digging deep to support NNC at the gates and throughout the day.

An expected contribution of \$5.00+ at the entry gates means you get a huge day of multifaceted entertainment with over 215 performers across multiple tents and stages, 50+ food and drink vendors, and over 200 market stalls to peruse. You can also learn handy life hints from the Eco Village, entertain the young ones in Kids Zone and immerse yourself in inspiring talks and numerous workshops.

This year, we are partnering with our friends at [PleeezPay](#) to allow you to **contribute prior to the festival**. Based on attendee feedback from last year's event survey, it was clear that patrons are looking for ways to contribute prior to the event. In the coming weeks and until the festival, you will be able to contribute online and get express entry at the gates on festival day. You will also be able to pre-purchase festival merch, including the souvenir drink bottle, t-shirt and poster, then collect it at one of the Festival Info Booths. More detail on this will be available in the coming weeks.

The Festival's performers and artists, Eco Village team, IRL Talks team, Dog Show team and our incredible volunteers donate their time for the cause. All contributions received through Newtown Festival go **directly** to the NNC and the people, programs and services it provides, so please give generously!

## GET INVOLVED

We invite you to join us and celebrate Newtown's uniqueness, vibrancy and accepting community, helping individuals who need support and creating a sense of harmony in the area. There are a number of ways you can get involved and feel great whilst doing so. By holding a food or market stall, becoming a Festival partner, volunteering your time or just giving generously when you donate at the gate, you can make a big difference! Every bit counts.

Applications for [food and beverage](#) and [market stall holders](#) are open now. Volunteers can also register their interest to be involved in the Festival [here](#)! More information can be found in the [Get Involved](#) section of our website.

## WHAT IS NNC?

NNC aims to build an inclusive, resilient, self-reliant and creative community.

The Centre provides community support services to the local community and in particular to disadvantaged groups such as the aged, people at risk of homelessness, people with mental illness, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and people on low incomes. The

Centre also engages in community projects with the specific purpose of retaining and developing Newtown's unique character – the "Newtown Vibe".

To find out more, follow NNC on [Facebook](#) or visit their [website](#).

## NEWTOWN FESTIVAL

**Sunday 10 November 2019**

Camperdown Memorial Rest Park

Newtown, NSW 2042

9:30AM – 5:30PM

Expected contribution: \$5.00+

Join the conversation with #newtownfestival

**WEB | FACEBOOK | INSTAGRAM**



### MAJOR PARTNERS



### MEDIA PARTNERS



### FOR MEDIA

Please head [here](#) to access various assets including;

- Newtown Festival 2018 Generic Imagery
- Newtown Festival 2019 Artwork

General media enquiries should be directed to [hello@morsecodepr.com.au](mailto:hello@morsecodepr.com.au)(.)

*Please do not publish the below details;*

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For general Newtown Festival enquiries please contact;  
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For Newtown Neighbourhood Centre enquiries, please visit;  
[www.newtowncentre.org](http://www.newtowncentre.org) or phone 02 9564 7300

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