

Coogee Live Opening
Live Lighter Omeo Hub, Port Coogee
On Friday 23 March, 2018

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. Girls and boys.

On behalf of elected members and staff from the City of Cockburn I welcome you to the Live Lighter Omeo Hub as we launch the celebrations for the inaugural, 'Coogee Live' Summer Festival.

This is one of four hubs, the others being: The Coogee Beach Surf Life Saving Club Hub; The Livelighter Coogee Beach Hub; and the Port Coogee Hub.

I thank Marie Taylor for her 'Welcome to Country' - always presented in a way that captures our imagination and reflects the rich and diverse nature of Nyungar cultural and heritage.

Marie you always speak from the heart, leaving a message for each and everyone of us, as we walk together on the journey of reconciliation.

Thank you once again for joining us tonight.

I acknowledge the Whadjup people of the Nyungar Nation, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we have gathered and I pay respect to their Elders both past & present. I extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians who are with us tonight.

I acknowledge and welcome:

Deputy Mayor Lee-Anne Smith, OAM;

Councillor Kevin Allen and his wife Debra;

Councillor Stephen Pratt and his wife Elena;

Councillor Philip Eva, JP and his wife Michele;

Councillor Michael Separovich;

My wife, Patricia;

Mr Stephen Cain, Chief Executive Officer, City of Cockburn and other members of staff;

Sponsors of 'Coogee Live':

- City of Cockburn
- Lotterywest - major sponsor
- Healthway - promoting the Live Lighter message
- Frasers Property
- Regis Aged Care
- Fremantle Ports

Amy Henderson, PR & Communications Co-ordinator, Project 3;

Members of the media;

Ladies & gentlemen, girls and boys.

This is the inaugural 'Coogee Live', a three-day celebration of the diverse and family-friendly lifestyle Cockburn has to offer.

Locals and visitors alike will discover intriguing works of art, interactive activities, community group demonstrations and musical interludes as they wind their way along the event trail stretching the length of Coogee's picturesque coastline.

This is going to be a great weekend of arts, culture and community planned and hope you all enjoy exploring the vibrant lifestyle of the Cockburn

Coast. – key themes include our shipwrecks, our pioneers, our sporting community, our aboriginal heritage, environment, horseracing history, and our cultural and artistic community

Events such as 'Coogee Live' don't just happen, they require months of planning, decision making, funding and ultimately, an action plan to deliver on the expectations of all key stakeholders.

I thank the City of Cockburn's Events Team led by Marie La Frenais and Amy Henderson, PR & Communications Co-ordination, Project 3 who have worked tirelessly to arrive at this point in time.

To our sponsors, I thank you for joining in this significant initiative that will allow the City to showcase the great lifestyle that is available in Cockburn, and particularly down here at Coogee.

Investment in arts and culture has been shown to be beneficial to both the liveability and economic development of local communities.

The City of Cockburn is proud to deliver events that showcase the community facilities and infrastructure of Cockburn in a planned and sustainable manner and one that reflects our investment in our community's health and well-being.

Throughout the year our community has access to an increasing number of free events that reflect our amazing multi cultural society and the depth of our volunteer base. It is always gratifying to see the traditional dress worn at our citizenship ceremonies of those who take the pledge to become Australian Citizens and the effort made by them to ensure their traditions and cultures will live on forever in their hearts and minds while adopting the many Aussie traditions that make the place we call home, Australia, such a great place to live and raise a family.

The City's Strategic Community Plan 2016-2026 has a number of themes around community including lifestyle and security, providing safe, attractive, healthy programs and infrastructure for a diverse range of activities and people.

As always, it requires the strength of partnerships and people willing to make things work in a dynamic environment. The City's staff and its volunteers work diligently to bring opportunities to our community which allow the rich tapestry of life to be presented in music, song, dance, food and enjoyment for one and all.

As 'Coogee Live' comes to life you will be thrilled by the diversity that is Cockburn.

I now have great pleasure in launching the 'Coogee Live' Summer Festival.

Please enjoy.