

# your library is getting a green makeover

22 April - 13 May 2019

[www.wsc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au)



Council has been successful in securing grant funding from the NSW Government's *Heritage Near Me* program for the *Mittagong Library Energy Efficiency Upgrade (MLEEU)* project, which will be used to upgrade and improve the energy efficiency of Mittagong Library.

#### Why does Mittagong Library need a green makeover?

The Mittagong Library is an important community informational, educational, cultural, and social institution that is currently located within a historically and culturally significant heritage listed sandstone building.

However, due to its heritage nature, this building is not as energy efficient as it could be and an unnecessary amount of energy is used in an attempt to light, heat and cool the internal space.

#### What will the MLEEU project achieve?

The aim of the MLEEU project is to greatly improve the energy efficiency of Mittagong Library by installing a raft of energy efficiency measures that will result in substantial savings in energy costs. This will greatly benefit staff and community members by creating a comfortable space to work and visit.

#### ▶ New Air Conditioning System

The Mittagong Library currently uses a number of gas and electric heaters for heating and open windows and ceiling fans for cooling. Neither of these systems will be as effective or efficient at heating and cooling the interior as a new ducted air conditioning system.

#### ▶ LED Lighting Upgrade

The library requires new lighting technology and fixtures that will be more efficient and aesthetically pleasing. The new LED lighting upgrade will see the removal of the wooden hanging fixtures and fluorescent tubes. These will be replaced with modern LED fixtures that are functional, look good and are more energy efficient while still meeting the Australian Standards in lighting for Australian libraries.

#### ▶ Building Insulation Envelope

Mittagong Library's high ceiling subsequently requires significant energy use to warm the building. Installing insulation will significantly reduce the energy required to heat and cool the building.

#### What will we achieve?

By undertaking this project, we will not only make Mittagong Library a more comfortable and accessible building for the community but we hope to reduce our energy consumption by 76 per cent.

#### When will these works take place and will the library close?

Work is scheduled to take place between 22 April and 13 May 2019. The completion date may vary subject to weather conditions.

While this work is being undertaken, the branch library will need to be closed. However, the Wingecarribee Mobile Library will be providing a library service from this site every Wednesday and Friday from 10am to 4.30pm.

The popular storytime program will still continue each Thursday between 10.45 and 11.15am at the Girl Guides Hall, located adjacent to the library, at 10 Albert Street in Mittagong. For more information see [www.library.wsc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.library.wsc.nsw.gov.au).

When the facility reopens in mid-May, you will be walking back into a library that has had an environmental face lift and is now ready to service the community more effectively into the future.

Council thanks residents and visitors in advance for their cooperation and apologises for any temporary inconvenience.

#### Do you have a heritage home and want to improve on your energy bills?

It is often essential to service a heritage property to ensure it is a comfortable home to live in and in doing so, is using energy in an efficient, sustainable manner. However, some people may think that because they have a heritage listed home, they are not able to change, improve or modify their home. This is not the case.

There is range of energy efficiency measures you can take in your heritage home that may be considered of minor works by council and be assessed as an exemption from getting a development application.

#### So, what are the steps you need to take if you want to make your heritage home more energy efficient?

1. The first and best thing you can do is contact Council's Heritage Team at [heritage@wsc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:heritage@wsc.nsw.gov.au) and let them know what you would like to do (e.g. lighting upgrade to LED's or installation of air conditioning unit). Our Heritage Officers are here to help you and will strive to achieve a positive solution that suits everyone
2. If Council's Heritage Officer deems the works to be minor then you will be exempt from having to submit a development application\*
3. Before you start any works, you will need to have in writing that the works you are planning to do are minor and therefore exempt from a development application.

\* The local heritage of the Wingecarribee Shire is managed through environmental planning instruments such as State Environmental Planning Policies and the *Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan (WLEP) 2010*. Clause 5.10 of the WLEP 2010 contains the planning controls for heritage conservation and Schedule 5 lists the statutory heritage items in the Wingecarribee Shire.

The MLEEU project is a perfect example of undertaking actions that will improve the energy efficiency of a heritage listed building, whilst satisfying the Heritage Conservation requirements under the *Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010* as being exempt from a development application.

For more information visit [www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/heritage](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/heritage).



This project was assisted by the NSW Government through the *Heritage Near Me* program

