

Wagga Wagga City Council to save lives through blood donation

Representatives from Wagga Wagga City Council are ready to roll up a sleeve and save lives by taking part in the annual Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Local Government Blood Drive.

The blood drive started on 1 July and runs for three months. During that time, Council staff will be joined by Councillors and community members in a big effort to collectively donate as much blood and plasma as they can.

Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Dallas Tout and Deputy Mayor Councillor Georgie Davies are leading the way by donating at the Wagga Wagga Blood Donor Centre.

Cr Tout said “Wagga Wagga City Council has taken part in the Lifeblood Local Government Blood Drive for several years now and it is great to see the uptake in staff donating.

“The Australian Red Cross Lifeblood do a great job at collecting this valuable resource which helps save thousands of lives every year.”

Cr Davies said: “We hope Council’s involvement in the blood drive encourages the wider community to continue to donate blood, or to start donating; it’s never too late to help save lives.

“You never know when it could be you or a loved one who needs blood.”

Lifeblood is hoping more than 3000 donations will be made in the area throughout the Local Government Blood Drive before it wraps up on 30 September.

Last year, locals clocked up 2900 donations, with one donation saving up to three lives, meaning Wagga Wagga City Council has had an impact, saving up to 120 lives.

Lifeblood spokesperson Mitch Bryce said local government organisations always come together to show they are the heart of our community.

“We know Wagga Wagga City Council has many incredible donors already and we look forward to welcoming first-time donors who are inspired to donate as part of this blood drive too,” Mr Bryce said.

“New blood donors are always needed, especially during winter.

“At this time of year many of our regular donors are sick with colds and flu, but the need for blood doesn’t stop.”

The demand for blood products is increasing as the population continues to grow. Every week, Lifeblood needs 33,000 blood donations to meet patient needs.

Cancer treatment, emergency surgery, road trauma and bleeding during childbirth are some of the most common uses for donated blood in Australia.

“With one in three people needing blood in their lifetime, you never know when it might be a family member, a neighbour or someone from your community who needs it,” Mitch Bryce said.

“Every drop counts and all it takes is an hour of your time.”

To make an appointment to give blood call **13 14 95** or visit www.donateblood.com.au.

There are 500+ appointments available to donate in Lifeblood’s Wagga Wagga Donor Centre in the next two weeks.

--- Ends ---

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:

What: Speak to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor who are giving blood at the Local Government Blood Drive.

Who: Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Dallas Tout, Deputy Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Georgie Davies, Mitch Bryce – Australian Red Cross.

When: Wednesday 9 July, **10:45am**.

Where: Lifeblood Wagga Wagga Donor Centre, 67/69 Berry Street.

Contact 6926 9190 or media@wagga.nsw.gov.au

About Wagga Wagga City Council

Wagga Wagga City Council serves more than 68,000 residents across an area of 4825 square kilometres with an overall budget of \$277.1 million.

The organisation manages more than \$2.48 billion in assets, including a 2300km road network, Wagga Wagga Airport, Livestock Marketing Centre, and the Oasis Aquatic Centre.

Council also provides important community facilities such as Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, Wagga Wagga City Library, Museum of the Riverina, and Civic Theatre, as well as maintaining countless parks, playgrounds, and sporting facilities to ensure Wagga maintains its reputation as ‘the City of Good Sports’.

Keep updated on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).