



**TG MILLNER FIELD – VIMIERA ROAD, MARSFIELD
MARSFIELD COMMON
25th JULY 2022**

Dear Members,

On behalf of the Board and Management of North Ryde RSL Club, it is our pleasure to provide you with an update as to our exciting plans for the future of TG Millner Field in Marsfield, an asset that operated by North Ryde RSL since taking it over from Eastwood Rugby Club in 2000 and which has subsequently been owned by the Club since 2017.

Background

TG Millner Field has been an important fixture in the Ryde community from when it was first developed in the 1950s. Its Marsfield location was a predominantly rural area first developed by returned servicemen and women after WWII, which has since changed dramatically due to the local community's dedication to providing a better life and opportunities for future generations.

Today, Marsfield is a thriving suburb of Sydney where the demographics and needs of the local community have vastly changed. TG Millner Field, which is **privately-owned by North Ryde RSL Club**, no longer serves the community that surrounds it, and despite repeated efforts over many years to attract the community and local sporting teams back to the licensed club and open space, **it now sits largely unused**.

Today, **68% of the local community derives its ancestry from countries where the sport of Rugby is rarely even heard of**. For example, in 2019 before Covid, the playing fields at TG Millner were **used only 20 times by local community sporting clubs or schools** excluding the use by Eastwood Rugby. Of the three fields at TG Millner, the third, full-sized rugby field has not been used at all for many years now.

Current situation

TG Millner Field has reached the end of its life in terms of its rugby and licensed Club uses and needs to be renewed to deliver benefits in the future to the local community.

In 2017, Eastwood Rugby Club entered into an agreement with Hills Council to create a Centre of Excellence and build three (3) new playing fields at Fred Caterson Reserve in Castle Hill in order to be closer to its catchment area - which has not been Eastwood for many years.

With the decision of Eastwood Rugby to relocate to Castle Hill, the TG Millner site once again has the opportunity to meet its potential and the needs of the local community - some 70 years after it was first developed.



The Marsfield Common proposal

A planning proposal has been created by North Ryde RSL and Eastwood Rugby which will deliver **132 two-storey terrace homes**, a **1 hectare public park** containing 2,000m² of varied play space for all ages and abilities and 700m² of multi-purpose sports and leisure courts.

The proposal involves the planting of **570 trees across the site**, a \$5M contribution towards **affordable housing** and a \$1M contribution towards a **new synthetic field** in the Ryde LGA.



This proposal - known as **Marsfield Common** - has been created by North Ryde RSL and Eastwood Rugby Club with the intention of leaving a positive legacy for the local community.

Ryde Council's Open Space Strategy, adopted in May 2021 – just over a year ago - found that Marsfield has 4.48ha of open space per 1,000 residents, making it one of the better-serviced areas of the Ryde LGA which sits at 2.89ha/1,000 residents overall. This provision is also well above the NSW Department of Planning's guideline of 2.83ha/1,000 residents. **Council's open space strategy does not identify a requirement for new public open space in the Marsfield area.**

If the local and state governments do not approve our proposal, it is likely that TG Millner Field will be sold to a developer and the members of North Ryde RSL, Eastwood Rugby and the local community will never see the potential benefits from the redevelopment of the site.



Since 2000, North Ryde RSL has invested substantial sums in the maintenance and operation of TG Millner Field and the licensed Club. **The successful redevelopment of the site will enable North Ryde RSL to secure its future, improve our offer at our current location at North Ryde and deliver a return to our 25,000+ members of a portion of the significant amounts of money spent by North Ryde RSL at TG Millner Field over the past 22 years.**

How you can get involved

Understandably, change can be hard. We strongly believe this is the best course of action for TG Millner Field, and while we gather community feedback around the design we would love to hear from our members regarding the proposal and the renewal of the TG Millner site.

Please visit the project website (www.marsfieldcommon.com.au) to learn more about the proposal, ask questions and to register to receive updates throughout the development assessment process.

Please also show your support by signing the [Marsfield Common petition](#) and liking our page on [Facebook](#) to stay up to date with the proposal.



We hope that you will get behind this exciting proposal and help us secure an outcome that will deliver a high-quality legacy to the local community while serving to secure the financial future of two key community organisations in North Ryde RSL Club and Eastwood Rugby Club.

Jim Morris
President

Chris Jones
CEO