

Sustainable Communities 2023-24.

Case study: Campbelltown Repair Cafe



Sustainable Communities is all about telling a community's story, getting people together to help their local towns, schools, and businesses, and fostering pride in achievements. It celebrates our connection to nature and each other.

Sharing initiatives is the focus of the Sustainable Community awards, supporting positive ripple effects to more areas of Australia and beyond.

During 2023-24 we saw multiple community projects that showed the linkage between caring for the environment and caring for human health and wellbeing, which is a key component of this case study.

The Campbelltown Repair Cafe is run by volunteers alongside Rotary's Magill Sunrise Market which is supported by Council. The Café has been established with partnerships and continues to have broad and meaningful connections to different groups and individuals, with cross-pollination being an area of strength. The volunteers happily provide free repair services and skill sharing on the second Sunday of each month from 9:30am-2pm. Community members are invited to sit with repairers so that a deeper understanding and connection is forged and empowering skill acquisition. Volunteers allow 'shadowing' to further benefit anyone who wants to learn a skill and the group offers tours and information sessions regularly. All their actions support sustainability, with many volunteers noting that environmental considerations were a major driver for their support and ongoing involvement.



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The Campbelltown Repair Café's submission under the 'Community action and partnerships' category was the only one from a non-Council group in 2023-24 and highlighted their impacts to date (Since 2021 to 2023):

- Diverted over 1212 kilograms of material from landfill.
- Had 1470 items presented by 1012 people resulting in 1163 items fixed.
- Of the repaired items, 31% were sewn/darned or felted, 24% were general/jewellery repairs, 21% were electrical, 13% were mechanical and cycles, 7% were sharpening and 4% were wooden.
- An overall repair success rate of 79% with some partially repaired.

Congratulations to the Campbelltown Repair Café community for addressing multiple community needs and helping Keep SA beautiful! If you'd like to learn more, contact: rccampbelltownsa@gmail.com

