



Avalon Preservation Trust

Incorporated as Avalon Preservation Association

Bulletin 110 December 2022



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

Thank you to all members and friends who attended the APA AGM on 31st October.

Our guest speaker was MacKellar's Independent member of Parliament Dr. Sophie Scamps MP. Her topic was 'From Little Things Big Things Grow'. She recounted her journey from "Our blue dot", to "Voices of Mackellar" to her election to federal parliament and lead on to explain what she has been doing in parliament. Dr. Sophie answered a number of questions from the floor and joined us briefly for supper.

Thank you to Dr. Jan Roberts for donating her book 'Remembering Avalon' as the thank you gift to Dr. Sophie.

The APA committee for 2023: President: Craig Boaden, Vice President: Dianne Ramsay, Secretary: Marita Macrae, Treasurer: Ken Roberts Committee Members: Chelsey Baker (remote committee member), Conrad Grayson, Peter Mayman, Roger Sayers, Geoff Searl, Joel Seaton and Helena van de Linde.

Incoming President Craig Boaden sincerely thanked Peter Mayman for his eleven years serving as President of APA. Peter has worked tirelessly towards improving the natural and built environment of Avalon Beach and surrounds. We thank him for remaining on the committee so all benefit from his corporate memory.

Thank you to Chelsey Baker our Assistant Secretary. She will be travelling in the outback in 2023 and will update APA on anything that might benefit the Avalon Beach community.

Thank you to Rohan Baker for setting up the audio technology for the AGM.

STREETS AS SHARED SPACES— ONE WAY SHARED ZONE

Delays in commencement of construction of the One Way Shared Zone has resulted in significant disruption to Avalon Village. The delay has meant construction work has been pushed into the busy Christmas holiday period. Retailers are angry. Drivers are angry. Residents are confused. In an effort to have this work completed expeditiously the re-established Avalon Chamber of Commerce has been in direct contact with Council CEO Ray Brownlee.

Despite early assurances that the number of contractors would be increased and work finished quickly Council recently had to update the schedule again. The bulk of the works were to be completed by 14th December. As of 15th December this current deadline has also not been met.

The following Works have now been deferred until February:

- ◆ south eastern footpath upgrade;
- ◆ formalisation of eastern crossing;
- ◆ shade structures in Old Barrenjoey Road.

Despite our best efforts, APA have not been given any indication of when the surface in the Shared Zone will be coloured to delineate the difference between the Pedestrian Only areas and the 10kph Shared Zone of Pedestrians and Cars. No date has been given for the installation of planters and planting.

APA is extremely disappointed with the delays in construction and, the trial has not yet begun!



From Geoff Searl:

This pic was taken in 1974 by John Stone and shows the same location where the two footpaths were recently “joined” between Stapleton Arcade and Ecodownunder at 2/74 Old Barrenjoey Rd. Drainage remediation was undertaken after this pic was taken.

Thirty or forty sandbags were still sitting in that environment after the downpour on Monday December 12 around 11.15am.



Night work on the Shared Zone and intersection upgrade

AVALON CUSTOMER CONTACT CENTRE (ACCC)

Thank you to the many people who quickly emailed Council to object to the Centre closing three days a week.

Where is this Centre? at the Avalon Recreation Centre, the entry to the left of the main entrance of the Centre. **We need to make use** of this Centre. Got a peeling car parking sticker? Take it there to have it replaced. Attend the Centre for payments, queries, information and any other Council business to experience the professional service provided by Council staff and to show we value the service.

Background Information:

Early in December APA and other local resident organisations were briefed on line by the head of Councils 'Community and Belonging' Division, about a proposal to reduce the number of opening days of ACCC from 5 to 2 days per week. As it seemed there was going to be no community consultation, APA Vice President presented to Council on behalf of APA.

Pittwater's three ward Councillors, Korzy, Amon and Genscher and a number of other councillors also argued against a 6 month trial of a 3 day a week closure of the ACCC. Councillors spoke about the number of emails received from residents, arguing for the Centre to remain open 5 days a week.

The following alternative motion was put by Councillor Korzy

- That:
1. The CEO defers and reviews this matter until after road and civil works towards the Avalon Shared Spaces project are complete, or March 2023 council meeting - whichever is later.
 2. Staff immediately improve signposting for the ACCC and inform residents that it is operational via social media and local print media.
 3. Staff investigate ways of improving the centre.

This motion was seconded by Councillor De Luca. Two councillors voted against this motion with the remaining voting for. Thank you to Councillors Korzy and De Luca, and all Councillors who voted to keep the ACCC open 5 days a week until further discussion in March 2023

In the meantime, Members and friends are **strongly encouraged to frequent the Centre** so that when this issue is raised again next year, Council has even more reason to keep the ACCC open five days of the week.

CAFE AND RESTAURANT AT AVALON BEACH SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

Council have advised that the lease of these two spaces is to go to tender on 14th December with tenders closing on 17/2/23. An evaluation of submissions would follow with a recommendation most likely going to the Council meeting for consideration on 28/3/23.

CONSERVATION ZONES REVIEW

APA and other resident groups were due to be updated at a meeting with Council on 12th December. This meeting has been postponed to 19th December. APA President Craig Boaden will attend this meeting on behalf of APA.

NBC is still accepting submissions although the official closing date was December 2. Put "Conservation Zone Review" in the subject line of your email, addressed to council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au.

RESTORING PITTWATER SPOTTED GUM FOREST

Students from Avalon Public School planted about 100 tubestock in Palmgrove Park beside Bellevue Avenue on November 25. The bush regeneration **Toolijooa** contract team helped with holes dug ahead of time, advice on how to plant and with watering. The contractors have planted about another 500 tubestock. The restoration is funded by a \$5000 grant to Pittwater Natural Heritage Association from Northern Beaches Council. [Pittwater and Wagstaffe Spotted Gum Forest](#) is an endangered ecological community, only safe from development on public land. This little patch of restoration is an historic first, as many big old trees are lost to property development.



AVALON DUNES

Following protests about lack of proper weed control from frustrated Avalon Dunes Bushcare members, NBC has allocated an extra \$27 000 this financial year, on top of the inadequate yearly \$15000, for more weed control, particularly for Morning Glory and Turkey Rhubarb, easy to spot on the dunes, now with thousands of seeds, right.

AVALON GOLF COURSE

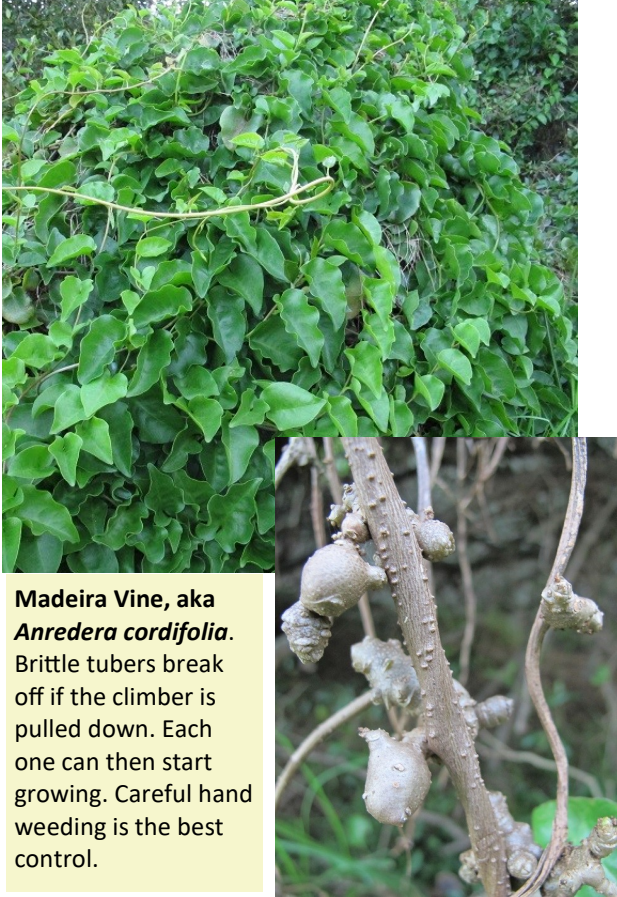
For a number of years NBC has been concerned about the high cost of maintaining Avalon Golf Course. Council is keen to make the course more financially viable. We are pleased to report that the NBC Property Manager has advised that as this land is classified 'community land' **it can't be sold.**

Currently there is positive action underway to maintain it as a golf course, discussed at recent meetings of interested golfing folk. Mens and Ladies members have met with the golf pro and the new greens keeper. Golf Australia has been contacted to advise on improvements. The Manager's Residence is one of three buildings listed as part of the heritage precinct. It needs substantial restoration similar to that undertaken by Council on both the clubhouse and the original kiosk.

Concurrently a group of interested locals have been investigating possible ways of retaining part of the course for golf, developing some of the land into a Coastal Botanic Garden, possibly renting some space to local businesses and finding ways that more residents can enjoy the green space. This project is in the early investigation stage and has the working title 'Avalon Green'. No golf club members were invited to the initial meeting of the Avalon Green group. This was the main reason the subsequent meeting of interested golfers was called.

APA is not involved, at this point just an interested bystander.

CAREEL CREEK BUSHCARE



Madeira Vine, aka *Anredera cordifolia*.

Brittle tubers break off if the climber is pulled down. Each one can then start growing. Careful hand weeding is the best control.



Careel Creek Bushcare group have morning tea on the steps of the Rugby clubhouse beside Careel Creek. Our target weed over the past 6 months has been a climber Madeira Vine, one of Australia's listed worst weeds. Its heavy succulent foliage and multiple tubers that grow along its stems are very heavy. This climber (from South America) can break down trees and smother all other plants, destroying the bushland ecosystem. You can see this weed behind the clubhouse along the track to the bridge over the wetlands.

LOOKING AFTER AVALON—GIVE BUSH CARE A GO!

All Avalon bushcare groups meet in the morning, mostly between 8:30 and 11:30 on the following days each month

Avalon Dunes:	first Sunday of each month
Bangalley Head Reserve:	second Sunday
Plateau Park:	second Friday
Angophora Reserve:	third Sunday
Toongari Reserve:	third Saturday
Old Wharf Reserve:	third Saturday
Catalpa Reserve:	fourth Sunday
Careel Creek:	fourth Saturday

There is no need to stay for the whole session. Any time you can spare is wonderful. For details of meeting place and times please contact Michael Kneipp, Northern Beaches Council bushcare officer 0417688492

More bushcare information: <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/environment/bushcare/bushcare-sites>

The aims of APA are to

- ◆ **Preserve the natural beauty of the area through promoting proper planning of all future development**
- ◆ **Express positively and in appropriate quarters the point of view of residents with regards to any proposed development and to protect the residential amenity of the area**
- ◆ **Work with and assist local government in any efforts to improve and beautify the locality and where appropriate instigate such improvements**

APA depends on your support.

Donations of time, money and expertise always welcome