



Avalon Preservation Trust

Incorporated as Avalon Preservation Association

Bulletin 114 August 2023



Scott Phillips

INVITATION

to all APA members and friends
to hear new Northern Beaches Council
CEO Scott Phillips
speak at our APA Annual General Meeting

7pm Thursday November 16th 2023
Ocean Room, Avalon Beach Surf Club

MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS DUE for 2023-24

Thank you to those members who have already renewed membership of APA.

We value and rely on our members' support and interest. Strength of membership gives us credence with the Northern Beaches Council and State Government in putting forward our case for preservation of this lovely area. Members are able to contribute to our work which benefits from their skills and experience.

Our APA Bulletin, now sent out by email or post after each bi-monthly committee meeting, provides members with the latest information. It also goes up on our webpage and recent issues are in a booklet on the table in Avalon Library.

How to Renew your membership:

Membership fees are now: Annual: \$20 per year, and 3 year membership: \$50.

Renewals can be paid direct via EFT to Westpac: Avalon Preservation Association BSB 732 095 Account 070 127. Please include your **name and/or APA membership number if you know it.**

A Membership Renewal form is [HERE](#) on the APA website. Please email us at avalonpreservationa@gmail.com to let us know you have renewed.

You can also renew your membership by mail. Please download the Membership Renewal form, complete and post, enclosing cheque or payment information, to: **Secretary, Avalon Preservation Association, PO Box 1 Avalon Beach 2107**

APA Fighting Fund

The purpose of the Fighting Fund is to allow members and others to support specific future campaigns of concern to Avalon residents. Donations are optional and are not tax deductible. A big thank you to those who have already contributed.

CURRENT ISSUES IN AVALON

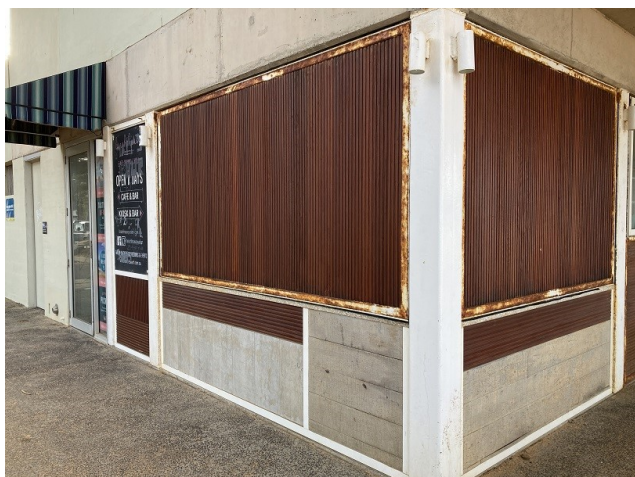
Conservation Zones and Character Statements

There has been much feedback to Council regarding proposed new Conservation Zone criteria. This has been considered by Council, submitted to State Government Department of Planning. Response from Dept of Planning is expected by end

of August. Depending on this response, Conservation Zone mapping will be updated and the community will have another opportunity to comment before it is finalised as part of the new NBC Local Environment Plan (LEP).

Avalon Customer Service Centre

The future of this Centre, located near the Avalon Recreation Centre is in jeopardy. Usage has dropped and as a cost saving measure Council have reduced the opening hours and are threatening to close this Centre. APA President Craig Boaden will speak at the next Council meeting in favour of keeping the Centre open. Council has been compiling data of the number of ratepayers who use the Centre as potential evidence to close this Centre. We implore all residents to make use of this customer service Centre for payments and enquiries to Council.



Café/Restaurant Avalon Surf Lifesaving Club

Council has advised that while negotiations had been progressing positively, after further consideration, the prospective tenant has decided not to progress with the negotiations for the lease(s). Subsequently, a new approach for the leases will now be discussed by Councillors at the August 22 meeting.

Coastwalk

Currently there is insufficient funding (from Transport for NSW) to complete. Construction of a bike and pedestrian path up the Newport Hill to Bilgola Beach (funded by Transport for NSW) will begin shortly. The exact route of the next section of footpath from Bilgola Beach to Avalon is still in Council's design and consultation phase and at present there are no funds to construct this section.

Barrenjoey Road Footpath

A well designed winding and undulating footpath, following the natural contours, is currently being constructed **beside Barrenjoey Road between the bus stop at Careel Bay shops and the bus stop opposite Currawong Ave**. This is also funded by Transport for NSW. It is not officially part of the Coast Walk but is a welcome addition to Avalon Beach's footpath infrastructure.

Additional Pedestrian Crossings Needed for Avalon Public School

A request has been passed to Council's Traffic Network team to investigate pedestrian crossings for The Crescent and Sanders Lane

MAINTENANCE:

Road Flooding on Old Barrenjoey Road adjacent to Dunbar Park

The stormwater drain in this area habitually fills with debris causing an unacceptable volume of water to pond. Following our request Council recently cleared the drain and have undertaken to clear it more regularly.

Woolworths carpark walkway water ponding. Council has investigated and cleared drainage twice.

Sandstone base to the information plaques adjacent to Avalon Beach SLSC have fragile edges and Council has undertaken repairs.

Cabbage Tree palms planted last year near Council/Woolworths carpark by primary school children and Canopy Keepers, have been damaged. These were planted as part of the Avalon Centenary celebrations. Cabbage Palms grow to their eventual width of several metres before the trunk develops and the foliage crown rises. Most of the other palms are growing reasonably well but as you see (or cant see them?) these are struggling. It is disappointing for children not to see the trees they planted survive and thrive. Council’s Tree Services manager has been advised and will assess.



SMALL SCALE WORK

NASA (North Av Surf Assoc) storage shed is currently out to tender. The storage shed is to be attached to the north end of the North Avalon toilet and change rooms.

Bollards are to be installed to protect Des Creagh Reserve in North Avalon from vehicle incursion.

A ‘Public Land ‘ sign is to be installed imminently, by Council, adjacent to 32 Watkins Road.

APA SUBMISSIONS

- ◆ **Car parking proposals for Central Road.** APA have made a submission, via Council’s ‘Have Your Say’ site.
- ◆ **Avalon Customer Contact Centre.** APA President Craig Boaden will speak at August 22 Council meeting in favour of keeping this Centre open.
- ◆ **Midget Farrelly Commemorative Sculpture** APA President has emailed Council expressing concern about the proposal to sculpt a large iconic rock outcrop at Palm Beach for this memorial. A number of alternative sculpture suggestions have been suggested, none of which involve damage to a feature of the natural environment.

PALMGROVE PARK RESERVE

Spotted Gums are a magnificent canopy tree, but many have been lost to suburban development. To restore some of this now endangered ecological community, Pittwater Natural Heritage Association received an environment grant from Council in 2019. Some of the cleared area between Bellevue Ave and Dress Circle Rd was mulched and planted with Pittwater Spotted Gum Forest trees, shrubs and ground covers late last year. Students from Avalon Public School helped the bush regeneration contractors do this.



More planting took place on National Tree Day last month, by students and community volunteers. Thanks to Northern Beaches Council for supporting the work with tubestock and more bush regeneration contract work to maintain the site.

Palmgrove Park Bushcare Group

This new group now works on the first Saturday morning of each month. There are plenty of weeds for everyone, so the group welcomes helpers. It is a fantastic place to be, out in nature and doing something to help our environment. For more information and to join the group. Contact Environmental Volunteers Field Officer Georgia: Georgia.Williams@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au for more information. You’ll learn about the bush, enjoy friendly company and morning tea chats.

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