



# Avalon Preservation Trust

Incorporated as Avalon Preservation Association

Bulletin 115 November 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 23rd 2023  
Ocean Room, Avalon Beach Surf Club

An urban planner by profession, Scott Phillips has 30 years of experience in the local and state government sectors. Previously he was Chief Executive of Local Government NSW and before that, general manager at Sutherland and Hornsby Shire councils. He has also lived and worked in Denmark and held several executive roles at state and local levels in the planning profession and served on several industry boards, ministerial advisory committees and panels.

**Our AGM is an opportunity to renew your APA membership.**

**Thank you to those who have already done so.**

**We really appreciate our members' support.**

## Current Issues in Avalon

### Shared Space Trial

This is set to continue to February and the Council's 'Have Your Say' will remain open until Wednesday, 28 February 2024. This will put the area to the test during the busy holiday season.

**Look out for this parking fine trap, the 10-minute car park in the shared space near Angophora Arcade.** You can only park there before 12pm, if your car is there after 12pm it's a No Stopping fine of \$200... ouch! We appreciate having a 10-min parking opportunity for people to grab a coffee, loaf of bread or drop in/pick up a script from the pharmacy. We have queried NB Council about their rationale in limiting this 10-minute parking opportunity to the morning only. They will include this feedback in their review at the end of the Shared space trial. **In the meantime, be warned.**

**Avalon Surf Club café/restaurant** lease(s) will now be handled by a commercial agent to manage. Let's hope they find a tenant(s) soon.

*In APA, we care for Avalon because we live here*

**Des Creagh Reserve at North Avalon** (near beach carpark) has seen repeated damage due to cars doing 'wheelies' across the grass. NB Council has erected a fence alongside the access road to the car park, and following vandal attacks on the Coast Banksias, more have been planted



#### **A Bus Stop Shelter at last**

We are relieved that NB Council has provided a shelter at last after strong community pressure.

*Council commented: We have organised transit of an existing shelter and seat to be relocated and installed at the bus stop on Barrenjoey Road, Avalon Beach.*

*Unfortunately due to recent extreme weather events, the shelter does require repairs, so will not be able to be utilised onsite instantly, but the required parts have been express ordered and repair works will be undertake as soon as they arrive, with the shelter to be open and available for use following these repairs.*

**Central Road Parking restrictions** . The council had a consultation process with 100 submissions received. Based on these, the traffic committee have amended their proposal to install the parking restrictions on one side of the road only (southern side).

#### **Other Avalon Issues** - Wins for the community!

- ◆ A 'Public Land' sign adjacent to 32 Watkins Road has been installed.
- ◆ NASA sheds are under construction near the toilet block at North Avalon Beach.

**A J Small** A commemorative plaque for Arthur Jabez Small has been produced by NB Council and suitable locations for it are currently being considered. Watch this space.

# AJ Small and Avalon Beach



Preserving the natural beauty was central in AJ Small's vision for Avalon. Purchasing 100 acres of land in 1913, he started holiday home developments, ensuring blocks of land were adequately sized to preserve trees and maintain the beauty of the area. Over the next few decades, he bought much of the area between Bilgola and Whale Beach. Originally known as the Clareville Estate, he renamed the area, Avalon Beach in 1921.

His house, Avalon, at 40 Bellevue Avenue was built in 1920 and is now heritage listed. His vision for Avalon was to plant roadside trees, build wide roads, and create public spaces including the golf course, beach area and rockpool at his expense. He freely contributed land for community parks or viewpoints including The Palmgrove and what is now called the AJ Small Lookout on Bilgola Headland.

A dynamic and public-spirited citizen, he was President of the NSW Town Planning Association and the Parks and Playground Movement. He was also involved in many City of Sydney town planning matters, including the extension of Martin Place to Elizabeth Street and Circular Quay public works.

The general community, and especially Avalon, owe much to his foresight and the many battles he won with the authorities to ensure the amenity of this area was maintained.



Avalon Beach, circa 1922



Small family and friends at 40 Bellevue Ave, circa 1925



The Pool with original Dressing Shed, circa 1920



Service Station built circa 1927



Avalon Store built circa 1927



The Palmgrove



northern  
beaches  
council

[northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au](http://northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au)

## 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

PO Box 1 Avalon Beach 2107 <http://avalonpreservationassociation.org.au/> and on Facebook