

## President's report to AGM 2024

Before I present my formal Report of our activities for the year to you, I want to acknowledge the contribution of my fellow APA committee members during 2024, and to thank them for their work on behalf of all members. I also want to thank our bookkeeper Trish Wingfield for her excellent work, and to acknowledge the magnificent efforts of our Treasurer Ken Roberts to streamline our financial management system. Thank you Ken.

I want to extend a warm welcome to all new members of APA, including our new local MP for Pittwater Jacqui Scruby. Welcome to all of you!

I'd also like to recognise the efforts of our NBC Community Liaison Coordinator Andrew Johnston, formerly of Rob Stokes' staff, who since June 2023 has been very active in making enquiries within NBC on our behalf and in communicating replies back to us.

I am sad to report that on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October this year our beloved APA member and former committee colleague **Patricia Gleen** died. She was 93. Several of us attended the memorable service for Pat at St David's church in Palm Beach. Pat worked tirelessly for APA over many years, and we remember the APA committee meetings that she and David generously hosted at their home in Wandeen Road. Pat Gleen was a truly remarkable woman and we will all miss her.

The APA has had a busy time since I reported to you at the 2023 AGM. As I reported last year, Council's work towards one integrated Local Environment Plan (LEP) for the entire Northern Beaches area has continued, but the draft of the Conservation Zone Review, although completed, was delayed due to a prolonged consideration by the NSW Department of Planning. The Review is a very important document with widespread ramifications for Avalon Beach, Pittwater and the entire LGA. APA made a detailed submission on the draft of this important document. Very fortunately for Avalon residents, the Department recommended retaining the current zonings. The revised LEP timeline now is for a draft to go on exhibition for public comment in the first half of 2025, with finalisation not until early 2026.

In other activities, your committee followed up or made submissions on a wide range of issues during the year: I'll quickly go through a partial list, but as you can see it covers a wide range of issues:

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| • Urban tree canopy reduction in the LGA                  | Letter to CEO NBC 10/1/24 + see also June 24  |
| • DA 12A John St  | Submission to NBC opposing (follow up to our previous submission on the original DA in 2021). |
| • Parking Riverview Rd near Shore Brace                   | Submission to NBC in general supporting but arguing to widen the scope                        |
| • Parking at Hilltop Rd shops – to make some spaces timed | Submission to NBC supporting.   |
| • Retaining wall in Park Road                             | Committee discussed the project with NBC. APA supported a hold until the issues are resolved. |

- Proposed NSW government planning reforms
  - 27-29 North Avalon Rd. Seniors living DA
  - Pedestrian & parking improvements near Avalon Public School
  - Clearing of noxious weeds Public Pathway to Pittwater foreshore Riverview Rd north opposite Shore Brace
  - Renewal of Taylors Point public wharf
  - Land & Environment Court case re DA for 1102 Barrenjoey Rd Palm Beach (former fish & chip site)
  - Shotcreting of State heritage geological site Patrick & Wanawong Sts.
  - Water running across Barrenjoey Road at Bilgola Bends.
  - Trial of osprey nesting platform
  - Reduction of urban tree canopy
  - DA 154 Cabarita Road
  - DA 1 Careel Bay Rd (cnr Barrenjoey Rd)
  - Avalon car boot info day 26 October
- SAPA made a submission to Department of Planning opposing a “one size fits all” approach. 23/2/24
- APA made a submission opposing this DA in 2023. I attended a Land & Environment Court onsite hearing 29 April 2024. MAPA made a further submission to NBC opposing application to void LEC conditions. 5/ 24.
- Submission to NBC March 24 supporting the principle of increasing road safety but proposing that 2 pedestrian crossings be added.
- APA committee members attended an onsite inspection. APA wrote to CEO NBC cc 3 Pittwater Ward councillors.
- Attended online briefing April 24.
- Made a submission to NBC lawyers opposing. April 2024.
- Enquired of NBC, held discussions with Project lead. April 2024.
- Contacted NBC & wrote to RMS to report continued water on road.
- This trial of a nesting platform in Hitchcock Park was supported in a submission by APA in May 2024
- APA made several submissions about the reduction in the urban tree canopy over the past few years, 16/1/24 + 6/24
- Submission to NBC opposing DA, 6/24
- Careel Village Shopping Centre. Submission to NBC opposing DA, 1 October 24
- APA conducted a booth during this event, providing information and member applications.

Next year, the significant issues we will be grappling with will most likely include:

- considering any other LEP support policy documents exhibited during the year
- holding a mid-year or autumn event with an invited guest speaker each year.  
***Please let us know who you'd like to hear speak.***
- continuing to address inappropriate residential developments leading to lessening of the tree canopy in Avalon Beach.

Craig Boaden  
President