

WINTER 2024

NORTHSYDNEY NEWS



NORTH SYDNEY FESTIVAL

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY CELEBRATION!

WHEN: Saturday 2 November | 11am to 5pm

North Sydney is undergoing a time of transformative change with the arrival of the new Sydney Metro Victoria Cross Station and an array of new retailers and hospitality venues choosing to make our local area their home. To celebrate this, and to showcase our wonderful community, we are throwing a party!

Join us for North Sydney Festival on Saturday 2 November, when the CBD will be transformed into a vibrant, bustling celebration.

Centred around the upcoming Sydney Metro Victoria Cross Station and North Sydney Station, the festival will turn the CBD streets and laneways into the place to be.

Take the opportunity to use the metro to enjoy a convenient and sustainable way to get to the festival and alight to see the familiar streets of Mount Street, Denison Street, Brett Whiteley Place and Elizabeth Plaza buzzing with excitement, music, dance, art and a variety of family-friendly activities.

You'll see the North Sydney CBD in a new light and enjoy a range of interactive experiences that reflect the diversity and spirit of the area.

The festival will feature a main stage with live music and shows, a kids' zone with activities and a storytime tent, art workshops,

roving performers, art installations and market stalls from local artisans. Renowned dance group Shaun Parker & Company will be performing Hover, their innovative hoverboard dance, and Elizabeth Plaza will be transformed by an artist takeover.

North Sydney Festival isn't just about arts and entertainment; it's also about showcasing our local economy. Local businesses in the CBD will extend their trading hours, offering street dining and special in-venue programming. This is a fantastic opportunity to experience some of our new top-tier restaurants, enjoy outdoor dining, and support our community's small businesses.

The North Sydney Festival is brought to you in partnership with the NSW Government through the Open Streets Program, an exciting initiative which aims to inject vibrancy into our streets and help create thriving local places that support businesses, creative sectors and the community through events and activations. The Open Streets Program is part of the NSW Government's Vibrant Streets Package.

Join us on Saturday 2 November for a day filled with joy, creativity, and connection. Come along, bring your friends and family, and experience the North Sydney CBD like never before!



Over the last two months I have attended a series of discussion panels, workshops, community engagement sessions and even a ‘Council of Youth’ made up of representatives from the 16 primary and secondary schools within our Local Government Area (LGA). Hundreds and hundreds of residents, students and workers have been part of a ‘once in a generation’ community engagement program to inform and shape Council policies and programs for the next decade.

No matter the topic under discussion, a single consistent thread or theme emerged: a real and exceptionally strong desire for connection – both personal and communal.

This desire for community connection is unsurprising in these exceptionally challenging times – the cost of living crisis, rental and affordable housing crisis, global conflict, the impacts of climate change or, more locally, the devastating impacts of the toll road projects on tree canopy and our wellbeing.

Is it any wonder, when the public discourse on complex and difficult policy issues is distorted by a polarised, ‘post truth’ culture of personal attack, that we reach for an antidote in each other?

No matter the age, ability, gender or cultural background, the feedback to

Council has been the same – we want to be more interconnected, to be a place where everyone belongs and feels welcome and accepted.

The benefits of creating opportunities to connect with each other – whether in a dog park, at Stanton Library, a community centre or an event hosted by Council – are vital to promoting a stronger and more resilient community. Evidence demonstrates that socially connected and diverse communities have less mental illness and cognitive decline, and are safer, more vibrant and interesting places to live, study and work.

The North Sydney LGA is often perceived as a place with little diversity. Yet, 40% of our community was born overseas, for 25% of us English is a second language, 37% of our community live in single person households and 52% of dwellings are rented. The socio-economic profile extends from some of the most disadvantaged to

the most educated and affluent people in the nation.

The advantage of being Mayor or a councillor is having a helicopter view of the incredibly diverse North Sydney community and seeing potential positive connections that others may not. Small acts can make a huge difference.

That’s why two years ago when I was elected Mayor I set out, very deliberately, to bring diverse people and groups together by literally and metaphorically flinging open the doors of Council to invite everyone in.

It is striking that expert panelists and community members alike suggest that part of nurturing social inclusion and community connection lies in joy and celebration. In my view, Council has the opportunity and obligation to provide places, spaces, events and programs that welcome everyone, no matter their background, economic status, age, gender or personal circumstances.

Council’s only purpose is to support our community. We want to continue to hear your ideas and views – write in, call us, turn up to Council meetings in person or online. Continue to raise your voice.

Your participation is the glue that holds our community together and holds your Council to account.



MAYOR	Zoë Baker	m: 0438 857 547	mayor@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
ST LEONARDS WARD	Cr William Bourke	p: 9936 8100	cr.william.bourke@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
	Cr John Lepouris	p: 9936 8100	cr.john.lepouris@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
	Cr Godfrey Santer (Deputy Mayor)	m: 0418 203 071	cr.godfrey.santer@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
	Cr James Spenceley	p: 9936 8100	cr.james.spenceley@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
CAMMERAYGAL WARD	Cr MaryAnn Beregi	m: 0411 829 995	cr.maryann.beregi@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
	Cr Jilly Gibson	m: 0437 454 523	cr.jilly.gibson@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
	Cr Georgia Lamb	p: 9936 8100	cr.georgia.lamb@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
	Cr Ian Mutton	p: 8042 8704	cr.ian.mutton@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
	Cr Shannon Welch	m: 0422 463 707	cr.shannon.welch@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

NEW HOMES FOR NSW

HOW STATE GOVERNMENT HOUSING REFORMS WILL AFFECT OUR AREA

A growing population and an affordability crisis are putting increasing pressure on housing in New South Wales. To meet demand, the State Government has set a housing target of 377,000 new homes, of which 5,900 will need to be provided by North Sydney Council. Its two plans for delivering these homes will have implications – sometimes overlapping – for the North Sydney Local Government Area (LGA).

Under the **Transport Oriented Development (TOD) Program**, the government is proposing to rezone precincts around designated transport hubs. There are eight of these precincts around the state, including the new Sydney Metro Crows Nest Station area.

When the government puts its proposed changes on public exhibition, you will be able to provide your feedback on the proposal at the Department of Planning's website. Council will publish a direct link on our Your Say website.

The government's plans for **'low and mid-rise' housing** were on exhibition for public feedback in January and February this year. These reforms propose sweeping changes to increase building height limits and density in areas closest to town centres and

transport hubs. The majority of the North Sydney LGA will be affected by these reforms in some way.

Ours is already one of the most densely populated LGAs in the country, with the lowest amount of open space in northern Sydney. Council has repeatedly raised concerns about the government's one-size-fits-all approach to housing reform, the absence of plans for more affordable housing, and the pressures the changes will put on infrastructure like roads, sewerage, schools and hospitals.

Nonetheless, the government's low and mid-rise housing reforms are likely to be implemented in the coming months. You can visit the Department of Planning website for the most up-to-date information: planning.nsw.gov.au

You may see sensationalised and sometimes incorrect media reports about how the government's plans will affect our area. Council will provide clear information about how these policies will specifically affect our suburbs over the coming weeks and months, when we have more detail from the State Government.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

The 2024 Local Government elections will be held on Saturday 14 September and voting is compulsory for all residents registered on the electoral roll.

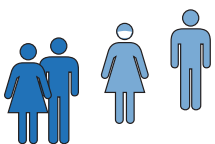
Voters in North Sydney will be asked to elect ten (10) Councillors, five (5) for St Leonards Ward and five (5) for Cammeraygal Ward. A map of ward locations is available on our website at northsydney.nsw.gov.au/council/wards-map

You are eligible to vote as a non-resident if you are:

- an owner of rateable land in the ward or council area
- an occupier or rate-paying lessee of rateable land in the ward or council area

OPTIONS FOR VOTING

On election day



If you vote on election day, you must vote at a polling place within your ward between 8am and 6pm. Please note, if you are not in the North Sydney Local Government Area on election day, you will need to vote another way.

Pre-poll



Pre-poll voting is open from Saturday 7 September to Friday 13 September. Pre-poll venues are available on the NSW Electoral Commission website.

Postal voting



The NSW Electoral Commission must receive your postal vote application by 5pm on Monday 9 September.

To be counted, your completed ballot papers and postal vote certificate must be received by the NSW Electoral Commission no later than 6pm on Friday 27 September (13 days after election day).

Telephone assisted voting



Telephone assisted voting will be available to people who are blind or have low vision.

For further information regarding the elections, please visit the NSW Electoral Commission website.

From Friday 16 August to Friday 13 September (inclusive), Council will enter a caretaker period under the regulations of the NSW Electoral Commission. Under these regulations Council is not able to make any major decisions that will bind the new council or limit its actions.

2024 COMMUNITY AWARDS



Altruistic locals were recognised in the annual North Sydney Community Awards this April. All the award recipients generously give their time to help our community and environment: from protecting local wildlife to supporting social housing tenants, volunteering for women affected by domestic violence and looking after our streets.

“The North Sydney Community Awards acknowledge the many local heroes who

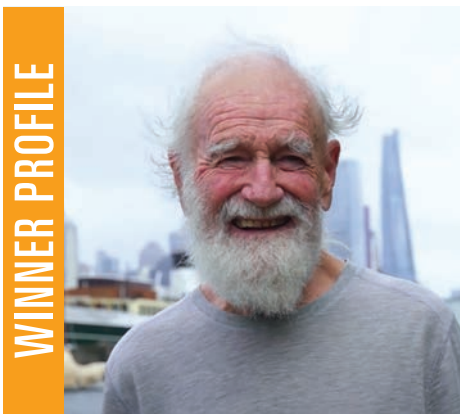
help make North Sydney a kinder, better connected and more sustainable place,” said Mayor Zoë Baker.

The winners across the five categories were:

- **Community Builder:** Mary’s House volunteer team and Greenway Tenants Group
- **Eco Warrior:** Michael Stevens and Vera Yee

- **Living Legend:** Sissi Stewart and Mark Shalovsky
- **Trailblazer:** Aden Barclay
- **Next Generation:** Redlands senior students, Ishnika Lokuge and Ted Greenaway (you may remember Ted as our cover star from the spring edition of North Sydney News)

Congratulations to all the award recipients and nominees – and thank you for everything you do for our community.



Michael Stevens, joint winner of the Eco Warrior Award and founder of HarbourCare

Michael Stevens founded HarbourCare in 2012, as a formal program to support volunteers concerned about pollution in Sydney Harbour and its impact on wildlife. Now, he collects about 1,000 litres of rubbish annually.

“We’ve got 70 volunteers who help me clean the beaches, and I thank them for all the work they do. About 90% of what I collect is plastic. If it’s not removed it disintegrates into microplastics, which are toxic for fish and birds. Every little thing we can remove from the beach is great, because then it can’t do any harm.”

Getting involved with HarbourCare could be as simple as picking up rubbish along your daily walking route.

Find out how on Council’s website at northsydney.nsw.gov.au/HarbourCare

GET INVOLVED:

VOLUNTEER IN NORTH SYDNEY



Looking to add more meaning to your days outside of the 9 to 5 routine? Dive into the heart of the North Sydney community by volunteering your time and skills. Whether you have a passion for the environment, cultural activities like language exchange groups, or local history, there's a volunteering opportunity that suits you. Volunteering is not only about giving back; it's about forming connections, gaining new skills, and creating lasting memories.

North Sydney offers a diverse array of opportunities to suit various schedules and passions. You could represent your community on a Precinct Committee, lend a hand at Adopt-a-Plot, or become a museum attendant at one of our historic house museums. Whether you can spare a few hours each week or join a one-time event, your contributions will make a significant impact.

Begin by exploring the myriad opportunities listed on our website at northsydney.nsw.gov.au/volunteer

From there, you can also click through to our Community Directory to discover even more volunteer roles with local organisations.

Join us in building a stronger, more connected community in North Sydney through the power of volunteering.



Sissi Stewart, Boorowa 2022

BUILDING BRIDGES TO BOOROWA FOR 25 YEARS



south-west of Sydney – to rehabilitate degraded farmland with native plants.

The work is a partnership between Council, Boorowa Community Landcare Group and Hilltops Council. Through drought, rain, sleet and freezing weather, participants have planted more than 73,884 local native trees, shrubs and groundcovers across the district.

Long-time volunteer Sissi Stewart has been on almost every trip.

“I was a Bushcare volunteer and my husband was a country boy. When the opportunity came up 25 years ago, we took part. You learn a lot. We don’t always appreciate what country people contend with when it comes to weather and drought.”

Sissi’s decades-long dedication to the project was recognised at this year’s North Sydney Community Awards. She is humble about her joint win of the Living Legend Award.

“If you like doing something, you don’t really need rewards.”

The Boorowa project was conceived in 1999 by a North Sydney Bushcare volunteer travelling through the region. After speaking with locals, the volunteer saw an opportunity to help reverse the environmental damage caused by historic over-clearing, by connecting enthusiastic urban volunteers with farmers.

As part of the 2024 trip, Council funded a bird survey which found past years’ planting sites were providing habitat for a variety of bird species, as well as some amphibians, reptiles and mammals.

One of the most high-profile results of the project over the past quarter century has been the revival of habitats for a threatened species, the superb parrot. Sissi says seeing the parrot among the corridors of native plants is a highlight.

“The landscape has changed so much – now there are patterns, areas of planting that are doing well. We hope that we contributed.”

On this year’s trip, the Mayors of North Sydney and Hilltops councils, and the Landcare Group President, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work together for another five years.

RECOGNISED FOR EXCELLENCE

We are incredibly proud to have won the Community Partnerships category of the NSW Local Government Excellence Awards for Building Bridges to Boorowa. A huge congratulations and thank you to all the Bushcare volunteers who have helped the project endure for so long.

Council was also highly commended at the awards in the People, Workplace, Wellbeing category for our workforce realignment project to ensure we’re best resourcing areas of need; and nominated in the Environmental Leadership category for the Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability.



ACCESSIBILITY ENHANCES LIVEABILITY

Lived experience will play a crucial role in shaping Council’s initiatives to improve services for people with disabilities in the coming years.

Our new Access and Inclusion Committee, comprised of community members with lived experience of disability, advises Council on how we can make North Sydney more accessible and inclusive. The Committee will meet four times a year, to give recommendations and share expertise that will help us improve our services and facilities for everyone. They have already been instrumental in the early stages of developing Council’s Social Inclusion Strategy.

Some of the small ways we’ve improved accessibility recently are through new accessible parking at the Coal Loader, making changes to our website to help people with vision impairments better navigate it, and providing accessibility training for Council employees.

With the Committee’s help, we’ll continue to make improvements to our local area and the way we deliver services to the community – from signage to footpaths, inclusive playgrounds to library resources. Because a more accessible community is a more liveable community, for everyone.

OUR NEXT TEN YEARS



Council recently embarked on its most extensive community engagement to date with our 'Have your say on North Sydney's next ten years' campaign. This consultation asked everyone in our community to explore the shared challenges and opportunities in our future, to help shape our new Community Strategic Plan (CSP) for 2025-2035. The campaign ran from 12 May to 23 June and aimed to empower our whole community to meaningfully participate and provide input into decisions affecting their future.

Council specifically sought feedback on five Discussion Papers (Culture and Creativity, Economic Development, Integrated Transport, Open Space and Recreation, and Social Inclusion) to help us understand our community's evolving needs, aspirations and priorities. We were pleased to receive over 1,000 responses to our online surveys – an exceptional response that is testament to the reach and quality of this consultation.

We also welcomed over 600 people to our in-person and online community forums, which featured expert panels to provoke thought and encourage evidence-based discussion. Council teams were also out and about spreading the word at our many local markets and events, and it was wonderful to see so many of North Sydney's residents, workers, businesses and visitors getting involved in the conversation.

To ensure we heard from unique and diverse voices, we also held a number of dedicated community workshops – including a demographically selected group of 60+ residents. We were also delighted to join a First Nations workshop in partnership with Indigenous consultancy firm Murawin, to help us foster meaningful connections with the local Aboriginal community and collaborate on plans that honour the past, present and future.





SO WHAT'S NEXT?

We are currently working through the feedback provided and the next step will be developing 'Informing Strategies' to align Council's operations with the evolving needs and aspirations of our community. These strategies will serve as a bridge – ensuring that the services and projects planned are directly responsive to our community's priorities.

Once these strategies are developed, Council will once again be seeking community input – this time, asking you to vote on the listed priorities as determined in the first round of feedback. This step will help us identify the most important initiatives according to the community. Council will then focus on these top-rated priorities and provide detailed information on how these can be achieved and integrated into the longer-term CSP.

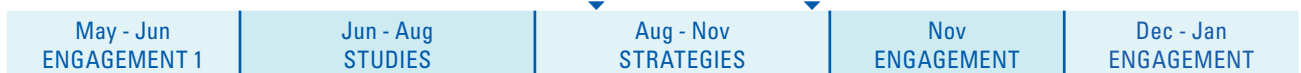
A draft CSP will then be created and exhibited to the community for feedback to ensure transparency and continued involvement in the planning process. Council will then finalise the CSP and develop a detailed Delivery Program (DP) and Operational Plan (OP). This will outline how Council will implement the strategic initiatives over the coming years, ensuring that North Sydney's future is shaped by the collective vision of the community.



2024

14 Sep
ELECTION

28 Oct
COUNCIL MEETING



2025

10 Feb
COUNCIL MEETING

7 Apr
COUNCIL MEETING

5 May
COUNCIL MEETING

30 Jun
COUNCIL MEETING



Thank you to everyone across North Sydney for having your say!

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT OUR NEW PARKING METERS

You may have noticed new cashless parking meters and Touch N Go boxes around our town centres and CBD. Our parking meters have been changed due to the Australia-wide shutdown of the 3G network. All previous parking meters in the North Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) used this network, which therefore required an upgrade. Council took this opportunity to update the paid parking system.



Over the past year, less than 4% of people paying for parking used coins. In addition, our older parking meters malfunctioned primarily due to coin-box vandalism and jams. The removal of coin payments in our new meters ensures their reliability long-term.

When parking in the North Sydney LGA, there are now three options you can choose from when paying.

Differences between a parking meter and a Touch N Go

Parking meters

Our parking meters are now a little narrower, solar-powered and no longer contain buttons – leaving room for a large touch screen. If the screen is blank, it is in power-saving mode. To awaken, press 'Touch Here To Start' underneath the touch screen.

You have the option of paying with your smartphone via the PayStay Guest website as an alternative to paying directly on the parking meter screen. Use your smartphone to scan the QR code on the

front of the parking meter screen to be taken directly to PayStay Guest.

Touch N Go

Touch N Gos are small blue boxes that require you to pay by smartphone. If surrounding parking meters are out of order or offline, Touch N Gos will be unaffected. Touch N Gos use Near Field Communication (NFC), a technology allowing communication between two electronic devices over short distances. Payment on a Touch N Go is registered through the NFC connection as your smartphone is held up close to the box or by scanning the QR code, directing you to the PayStay Guest website.

PayStay App

In addition to our physical parking meters and Touch N Gos, you also have the option of skipping payment at both machines by downloading the PayStay app and paying directly on your smartphone.

Please note: You must manually start and stop your parking session when using the app. If you have spent less time than paid

for in a parked space, press 'Stop' and a notification banner will appear showing the amended total cost of the parking period.

To avoid fines, you must obey signs relevant to your parking space.

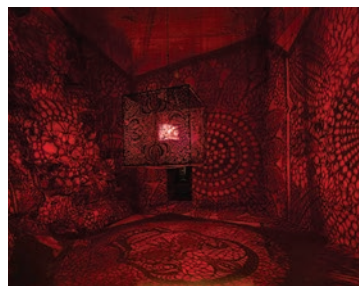
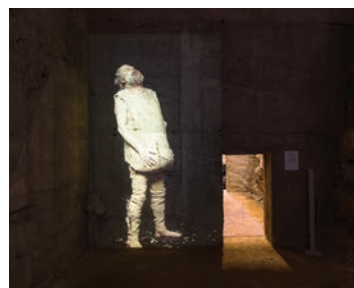
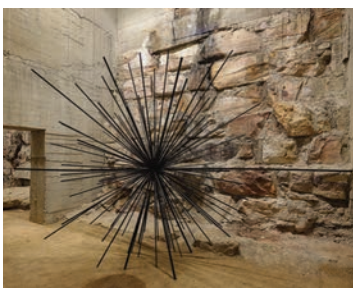
You can create an account prior to downloading the app by heading to paystay.com.au

Did you know?

- You can use the PayStay app map to check the rates and duration of parking locations in our LGA to plan ahead
- You can opt into additional app reminders. These include when your parking time runs out or to top up meter payments in line with parking guidelines. Additional fees will apply
- You can add multiple number plates to the PayStay app to toggle between your chosen car when parking

For a step-by-step on how to pay and additional information on our parking meters please visit our website: northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Parking-Meters

Photography of artworks by Document Photography



the north sydney ART PRIZE 2024 WINNERS

Top (left to right): \$20,000 Major Open Award
 Wona Bae & Charlie Lawler 'Late'
\$12,000 Sculpture Award Mark Booth 'Terrain'
\$5,000 Site Specific Award Peachey & Mosig
 'A sudden katabasis/An accidental witness'

Bottom (left to right): \$2,000 Emerging Artist Award
 Nick Wishart 'Lightworks' | **\$1,000 Award for Work on/with Paper** sponsored by Primrose Park Art & Craft Centre Inc - Tianli Zu 'Fatal Alert' | **\$1,000 Award for Drawing** sponsored by The Royal Art Society - Belinda Yee 'Graphite Profile (Harbour 1)'



COUNCIL MULCH

Ever wondered how mulch is made at North Sydney Council?

It's a surprisingly simple process!

What is mulch made of?

Council mulch is made purely of trees! It's a combination of native and exotic varieties containing all parts of the tree: leaves, trunks and branches. The trees used in the mulching process come from recycled older trees cut around the local government area. Weed species are not used in the mulch to avoid additional weeds growing in our parks and gardens. Native tree-only mulch is created especially for our bushland areas, ensuring they thrive naturally with no weed species' seeds impacting it.



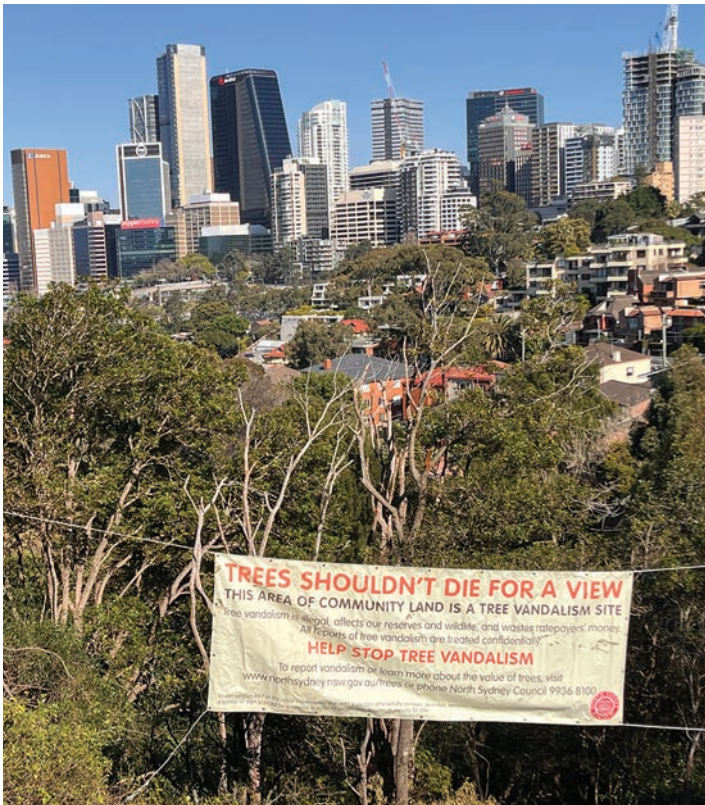
Why are trees cut down?

Trees are only ever removed as a last resort. This can be due to poor health condition, stability or structural integrity.

Once removed, the whole tree is mulched in a Council truck and taken back to our St Leonards depot yard. The mulch then sits for as long as it can to break down, eventually being placed in a large stockpile to be distributed by our Parks and Gardens team throughout North Sydney's tree surrounds, parks and gardens.

Just a few places where mulch is placed

- Street gardens that form our Streets Alive Program
- Surrounding North Sydney Oval
- Public gardens and parks
- Balls Head
- Berry Island
- Tunks Park
- Bushland areas



TREES SHOULDN'T DIE FOR A VIEW

You may have seen saddening news reports of native trees being killed for views in recent months.

Deliberately poisoning, ringbarking, pruning or removing trees without Council's consent are all forms of tree vandalism. Whether on public or private land, tree vandalism is illegal, with penalties of up to \$1.1 million.

Tree vandalism is usually motivated by self-interest – for example, to gain a better view – at the community's expense. Each tree that forms part of North Sydney's urban forest helps to cool our city, enhance liveability, improve air and water quality, and provide homes for our native wildlife. All these benefits are incrementally reduced with every healthy tree that is killed or harmed.

Tree vandalism contributes to a significant wider canopy decline trend. Development pressures and NSW Government infrastructure projects contributed to a 27% loss in canopy cover across our local government area between 2008 and 2022.

Preventing tree vandalism is very difficult, as it's often done in secret and the effects can take weeks to appear. Community vigilance is our best line of defence. If you see or suspect tree vandalism, report it to Council as soon as possible. Timing is critical for gathering useful evidence and taking compliance action.

REPORT TREE VANDALISM Phone: 02 9936 8100 | Online form: northsydney.nsw.gov.au/TreeVandalism

REVERSING CANOPY LOSS

Each year, Council plants hundreds of new trees in our streets and parks. You can help by planting and caring for trees on your own property or taking part in our Streets Alive, Trees for Newborns and Native Havens programs. See Council's website for more information.

Reversing canopy loss takes time. The full results of this investment in our local environment won't be seen immediately – but it will help to preserve the leafy character and liveability of our city for generations to come.

SOLAR POWER IN STRATA? IT IS POSSIBLE!

Do you live in an apartment and want to explore more sustainable energy options?

Limited roof space and the differing energy needs of residents have traditionally been barriers to switching to solar power in apartment buildings.

But these barriers can be overcome – and Council can support you on your strata solar journey.

Waverton resident Garry, who is secretary of his strata committee, shared his experience of installing a solar sharing system in his building. While a few of the unit owners were interested in solar, building momentum and consensus among everyone was a challenge.

Enter Council’s Futureproofing Apartments program. Through the program, Garry’s building was able to take advantage of a free energy assessment. They were given a detailed report providing recommendations and a financial case for upgrading to a solar sharing system generating power for each unit.

“The report gave all the owners a common agenda,” says Garry. “It told us we had a reasonable ability to generate solar. We wanted 100% agreement. The report showed us the economics, which made it reasonably easy to get that.”

The unit owners in Garry’s building saw solar as infrastructure that would deliver an equal supply of energy to each unit. How the owner chose to use it was up to them.



“Some are changing their habits and using it during the day. Others are looking at batteries or heat pumps to store the energy during the day and use it at night.”

The solar sharing system they installed, provided through Allume, allows multiple units in the same building to share a single rooftop solar PV system. Garry’s building was also able to take advantage of Council’s Sustainability Rebates program, receiving a \$5,000 rebate for installing the solar sharing system.

Apart from how easy it was to install and get started, what Garry likes about the system is its responsiveness to demand.

“If one unit is using more power in the morning, they get the bulk of the energy at that time, and over the course of a few days or weeks it’s evened out.”

The system produces roughly 40kwh per day – or about 70% of the building’s total energy demand. Garry says his power bills have more than halved since the system was installed.

His advice for others interested in doing something similar is to take up Council’s support: “The best way to have your first conversation with the other owners is to have the report done. You need independent advice you can trust to start the conversation.”

Find out more about how your building can benefit from the Futureproofing Apartments and Sustainability Rebates programs on Council’s website.

NORTH SYDNEY OLYMPIC POOL UPDATE



We’re pleased to be launching a new monthly North Sydney Olympic Pool e-newsletter to help you stay informed on all the latest updates. Please sign up at northsydney.nsw.gov.au/SignUp



KELP FOREST PHOTO AWARD EXHIBITION AT THE COAL LOADER



Photo Patrick Webster

Explore the beauty of these underwater forests through an immersive exhibition in the historic Tunnel One at the Coal Loader

Open daily
13 to 28 July
10am to 3pm





Photo by Jason Busch

Wendy's Secret Garden endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR)

The beloved Wendy's Secret Garden has been awarded deductible gift recipient (DGR) status. This is exciting news for our community with this status helping the garden live on in perpetuity.

What Wendy Whiteley began as a huge guerilla garden was safeguarded in October 2015, when North Sydney Council was granted a 30+30 year lease of Wendy's Secret Garden by the NSW Government.

In receiving the DGR endorsement, the garden has been recognised as charitable to the community through the protection and enhancement of the natural environment.

The garden has recently undergone improvements to make the space more welcoming and accessible. A series of ramps have been added to allow visitors to navigate the garden's levels with greater ease and gain access to the lower areas.

A new sandstone wall has also been constructed beneath the majestic fig tree. This new addition reflects Wendy's vision of repurposing materials to harmonise with nature as well as providing extra seating and preventing soil erosion.

Any donations made to the garden from 1 January 2024 onwards are tax deductible.

To make a donation, please visit northsydney.nsw.gov.au/SupportWendysGarden

GREEN EVENTS

National Tree Day
Sunday 28 July | 9.30am to 11am

Native Havens Garden Tour
Sunday 11 August | 9am to 1pm

Nestbox Building Workshop
Saturday 17 August | 10am to 1pm

Urban Forest Strategy Webinar
Thursday 22 August | 6.30pm to 8pm
Online

Fern ID Walk and Talk
Saturday 31 August | 10am to 1pm

Introduction to Wildlife Watch
Sunday 1 September | 10am to 1pm

Composting with Weeds
Saturday 14 September | 10am to 1pm

Wildflower Walk - North Head
Sunday 15 September | 8am to 2pm

Electric vehicle basics with the Electric Vehicle Council
Wednesday 18 September | 6pm to 7pm

Community Nursery Open Day
Saturday 21 September | 9am to 12pm

Composting and Worm Farming
Wednesday 25 September | 7pm to 8.30pm
Online

COAL LOADER EVENTS

Fix-It Hub
Saturday 10 August, Saturday 14 September
10.30am to 1pm

Heritage Tours 'The Coal Loader Tours'
Saturday 3, 17 August,
Saturday 7, 21 September
10.30am to 12pm

Eco Holidays 'Little Garden Growers'
Monday 30 September, Tuesday 8 October
11am to 1pm

Eco Playgroups 'Wombat Stew', 'Not a Stick', 'Spring' and 'Bugs'
Wednesday 7, Monday 19 August,
Wednesday 4, Monday 16 September
10.30am to 11.30am

Imperfectly Sustainable 'Love Your Reusables' and 'Low Waste Parenting'
Saturday 24 August, Saturday 28 September
11am to 12.30pm

Spring Artisan Market
Sunday 1 September
9am to 3pm

Bookings must be made for most events on Council's website

Stanton Library



Unlocking the Potential of Medicinal Cannabis
Wednesday 14 August | 1pm to 2pm

Writers @ Stanton
My Efficient Electric Home Handbook
Monday 26 August | 6pm to 7pm

[Go to Council's website to book](#)

NORTH SYDNEY OVAL

Rugby Union

Saturday 27 July | Norths Rugby vs Hunter Wildfires

Monday 5 August | Norths Rugby vs Hunter Wildfires

Rugby League

Sunday 4 August | Bears vs St George Illawarra Dragons

Sunday 11 August | Bears vs Newtown Jets

Sunday 18 August | Bears vs Penrith Panthers

Saturday 31 August | Bears vs Newcastle Knights

WAFL - Week One Opening Game

Friday 30 August | Sydney Swans vs Collingwood



National Tree Day community planting

Sunday 28 July | 9.30am to 11am
Brightmore Reserve, Cremorne

Join us to plant native trees and help regenerate local bushland in the Cremorne-to-Cammeray wildlife corridor. Enjoy a free sausage sizzle afterwards. Family-friendly event.

Register: northsydney.nsw.gov.au/TreeDay



JOBS@ NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL

Have you ever considered a career in local government? Why not join North Sydney Council!

With over 400 employees, our Council's aim is to ensure North Sydney remains a welcoming, well designed, safe and beautiful environment for residents, workers and visitors.

We're a fun, dynamic and supportive team. We are committed to making a real difference in our community by providing quality services and delivering projects that make North Sydney a great place to live and work.

If you'd like to find out more about working at North Sydney Council, please visit northsydney.nsw.gov.au/jobs

GARDEN COMPETITION

Calling all green thumbs and garden enthusiasts – enter our annual North Sydney Garden Competition to showcase your gardening skills, celebrate the beauty of our community, and inspire others with your creativity and dedication to cultivating stunning indoor and outdoor green spaces.

Entry is free and will close on 30 August 2024. Gardens will be professionally judged and photographed. Winners will be announced at our Awards Ceremony in late October with prizes including gardening tools, vouchers and more.

We can't wait to see what you've grown!

Enter at northsydney.nsw.gov.au/GardenComp

ENTRIES CLOSE 30 AUG

JUDGING 16 - 27 SEPT

PRESENTATION TBC

HAVE FEEDBACK? Scan the QR code to share your thoughts on North Sydney News



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