



WAVERLEY  
COUNCIL

# COMMUNITY & CULTURE, the 60s

YEAR

EVENT

Waverley's diverse cultures and communities are unique amongst beachside suburbs. Home to people from across the world, accepting and tolerant by nature, it is a successful multicultural and multi-faith local government area.

1960

The last tram runs from Bondi Beach to the city.

The Bondi Pavilion building had become increasingly run down over many years. It had also lost its liquor licence. By the late 1960s, one third of the men's changing area is closed and the Pavilion's once-grand auditorium is rarely used.

Armistice Day/Remembrance Day. Council holds an event in Waverley Park. Council instructs the Australian flag to be placed at full mast from 8.00am and just before 11.00am for it to be lowered to half mast. Council employs a bugler who plays the Last Post and Reveille. At the conclusion, the flag is placed back at full mast.

1960-1961

The Bondi Lions Club conducted a 'Mardi Gras' at Bondi Beach on New Year's Eve. This New Year's Eve carnival sees 'festoon lighting' at the rear of Bondi Surf Bathers' Life Saving Club, dancing in front of the club and a fireworks display. This 'Mardi Gras' is a fundraiser to extend the children's

swimming pool at North Bondi. New Year's Eve event started at lunchtime with children's events and a BBQ and finished on New Year's Day 1961.

1960-63

Bondi Waverley School of Art receives £300 per year from Council to support its activities.

1965

The Turkish Baths section of the Pavilion is taken over by Council and is let out to the Bondi Boys' Club at a nominal rental. Council takes over sole control of the top floor of the Pavilion. The four shops on ground level are leased out.

The lessee of the Turkish Baths accepts the termination of her lease and explains that she has been having difficulty with the business as many other licensed clubs nearby provide Turkish Bath-like facilities for men. The Bondi Boys Clubs' occupancy of the site is supported by Council.

1968

Council runs Operation Boomerang a program whose aim is to assist Indigenous youth through education at a 'top advantage level'. Operation Boomerang aims to give Indigenous young people a chance 'so that they in turn will be able to better help their own people'. Council claims that Operation Boomerang 'is already helping the other boys at Waverley College to know and to love and understand our Aboriginal brothers'.

Stage One saw enrolment of Richard Donovan of St Mary's as a full-time boarder at Waverley College. Stage 2 saw Judith Johnson of Griffith enrolled at St. Catherine's Church of England School for Girls. Council is meeting all school fees and expenses and aims to send one Indigenous boy and girl to a boarding school each year. The Patron of Operation Boomerang is the Mayor of Waverley; the Chairman is a Counsellor, as is the Vice-Chairman. The Honorary secretary/Treasurer is the Town Clerk of Waverley.

1969

The Australian Army leases an area of vacant land of approximately eight acres to Council who proposes to provide a sports oval, games area and children's playground. Council names it Rodney Reserve after nearby Rodney Street which runs in front of the reserve. There has been discussion between Council and the military for control of the land since 1963.



# COMMUNITY & CULTURE, the 70s

## YEAR      EVENT

1970

NSW Planning and Environment Commission, with representatives from Council, creates the Bondi Junction Study. It recommends a new transport interchange adjacent to the Bondi Junction Plaza which would be a bus/train transfer hub. It recommended a bypass expressway to relieve Oxford Street of its heavy traffic.

Stage one is the creation of the Bondi Junction Plaza, a complete one-stop shopping centre in a pedestrian environment. The plaza covers 1 hectare and is bounded by Oxford, Grosvenor and Grafton Streets. Its artistic focus is a 7-metre high ceramic construction by Robert Woodward called The Blue Wave. 1981.

Large numbers of New Zealanders migrate to Australia and make Bondi Beach their new home, changing the demographic mix of Waverley.

The Sun City to Surf race is held for the first time. It is run over 14 kilometres, commencing in the CBD and finishing at Bondi Beach. 2,107 participants competed, with 42 female competitors. By 1973, over 3,000 competitors are taking part in the race.

Bondi Pavilion is in a very run-down condition described as a 'white elephant' and a 'mildewed, mock-Spanish mansion on the beach'. The media describe it as in 'all peeling paint, damp floors, leaking loos and musty, dank changing rooms sadly unchanged since the era of neck-to-knee bathing costumes.' Council starts plans to completely renovate the building. It is a massive undertaking. The community response is split between the cynics and those hugely enthusiastic about the Pavilion's

future. A great deal of community discussion ensues.

- 1974 Bondi Pavilion Theatre Opening 1974 Gough and Margaret Whitlam
- The theatre was officially opened on the first night's play by the Prime Minister, Gough Whitlam, on 23 March 1974.
- The Bondi Pavilion Theatre was the first step in the planned Bondi Arts Centre.
- 1975 1975. Waverley Alderman, David Taylor, says he would like to see a bomb put under the Bondi Pavilion and a new start made on the site, advocating that a huge casino be built there to be run by Council and the State government. Claims are made that the Council could make \$1 million per year and therefore reduce rates by 50 per cent and build low-cost housing.
- Bronte and Tamarama Advancement Society call for Bronte House to be the home of a Waverley museum and gallery. An open day is held, the first in 15 years. It is anticipated the house will not be open to the public again.
- 1975-78 Bondi Pavilion renovations are completed and it is opened as a community cultural centre. \$400,000 is spent on the premises which now houses: a gym, exhibition rooms, large grassed amphitheatre, netball court, child care centre and workshops for craft classes. The original ballroom was converted into the Bondi Pavilion Theatre after lobbying by the Bondi Theatre Group. The dressing sheds on the northern courtyard are demolished creating an open area at the back of the Pavilion. Lockers are removed and the former Turkish Baths are demolished. The building is re-licensed and the Pavilion becomes the centre of Waverley's 1977 cultural program.
- 1976 Waverley's first Council child care centre opens, the Gardiner Child Care Centre at 2 Rattray (later Gardiner) Street, Bondi Junction. The Centre is named in honour of Lillian Gardiner to recognise her generosity in donating the land on which the childcare centre stands. Her father, Albert Gardiner, one of the first Labor Senators in the Australian parliament, originally owned the property. Finance to build the centre came from the Interim Committee for the Children's Commission, a Federal Government body.
- 1976-81 Workforce figures showed a decrease of Waverley's working residents. Between 1981-1986 there was an increase, but at the same time unemployment increased significantly over the decade.

- 1976-86 Waverley's overseas born population rose substantially to 38.5 per cent and is considerably higher than the Sydney urban average of 29 per cent. Major migrant communities are: United Kingdom and Eire (8.8 per cent), New Zealand (4.4 per cent). This represents a doubling in the proportion of New Zealanders over the decade (up from 2.3 per cent in 1976).
- 1978 The Bondi Pavilion Community Centre is opened by NSW Premier Neville Wran as an extension to the existing theatre activities in a 'varied community arts complex'. Classes: craft, jazz ballet, keep fit, yoga, pre-natal classes, karate, tai chi, relaxation, personal development courses, art appreciation, and pottery. Children's classes in: pottery, mixed craft, drawing, creative drama and jazz ballet. The exhibition gallery is fully booked throughout the year. It is also used for launches, seminars and workshops.
- Festival of the Winds started in Bondi Park and Bondi Beach. It was founded by John Silk who explained that while he was in the bath one day he heard a voice telling him to start a kite flying festival. The first festival was to be a tribute to pioneer Australian box kite design and aviator Lawrence Hargrave, whose image appears on the first Festival of the Winds poster, is now a highly collectable print. The day was a huge success and has been held annually ever since.
- 1979-2010 In 1979, Council began its involvement in the Festival of the Winds by sponsoring the musicians performing on the day. It has gone on to support each festival, including establishing a multicultural festival held at the same time. The Sydney Kit Flyers Association took over the organisation of the festival and Council remains a major sponsor.



# COMMUNITY & CULTURE, the 80s

YEAR      EVENT

- 1980      Council debates amalgamation with Woollahra Council. A report by the Boundaries Commission raised the possibility but this is rejected by Council and local residents, who form a 'civic alliance of concerned residents' to oppose any amalgamation with Waverley Council and any other adjoining municipalities.
- 1980-81      Council announces that their plan to bring Bondi Pavilion back to life as a community centre responsive to the needs of the people of the area has been a success. 'Since 1973 much money had been spent on remodelling, renovating and maintaining the building with the approval and help of the NSW State government' (Mayor). In the 1981 mid-year school holidays, 1,200 children used the Pavilion, more than twice the number of 1980. Programs include: monthly senior citizens concerts which attract 400 people and eight festivals held during 1980 attracting 2,000 per day. Bondi Pavilion is described as not a Council asset but a community asset.
- 1981      The Oxford Mall is opened, with stage one completed. The Oxford Mall is the first stage of the Bondi Junction Pedestrian Mall. The mall is

described as providing open urban space for public use and a venue for social, recreational and cultural activities.

Bondi's exposure to overseas tourists comes up in research from the Department of Environment & Planning. In 1983, thirty-three per cent of all foreign visitors to Australia visited Bondi, Manly and other Sydney beaches. The Department assumes over half of all tourists visit Bondi Beach alone meaning 143,000 visitors. Bondi Beach is clearly Waverley's most visited tourist attraction and is considered an 'icon' by Tourism NSW and heavily promoted by them.

1984 An area of Waverley Library is set aside for collecting and preserving 'memorabilia, photographs and books on the colourful history of Waverley'. It is to be called the Local History section of the Library.

Council purchases 27-33 Spring Street, Bondi Junction which is occupied by commercial buildings and the historic 19th century Boot Factory. Council purchases the property to protect the Boot Factory.

1985 The Bondi Youth Wave Music Project is set up. A series of workshops, seminars and performances for young people between the ages of 15 and 25 years who were interested in working in the contemporary popular music industry. The project was held at the Bondi Pavilion Community Centre and ran over eight weeks. Participants in the workshops were aged 16-25 with an even split of men and women. They came from all over Sydney.

Seminars were organised by the Bondi Youth Wave Coordinators, funded by Council with additional funding from the Australia Council Youth Incentive Scheme. The culmination of the workshop was a concert in the Bondi Pavilion Theatre during the Sydney Youth Festival. Project was deemed a huge success and continues.

1986 Musician in residence starts at the Bondi Pavilion.

Occupied dwellings in Waverley increased and among these private rental accommodation is a very significant proportion of Waverley's housing at 42 per cent, compared with 44 per cent in 1976 and a Sydney average of only 22 per cent.

The Young Trust group of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) organise for Bronte House to have a public open day. Owned by Council the house has been restored with the aid of a Heritage Council grant. Council has a policy to regularly open the house to the public.

The Bondi Community Mosaic is a project of the Bondi Pavilion

- 1986-87 Community Centre, designed and executed by local artist and residents in collaboration with the Pavilion Artist in Residence and the Community Centre Project Officer/Artist. Mosaic theme is related to the sea; fish, shells and imaginative sea creatures, while a section by Aboriginal artist Raymond Meeks depicts an Indigenous story of how the sea was made. The project was funded by Council, the State government and the Federal government with donations of material from local businesses.
- Two sculptures are commissioned by Council for the Bondi Beach foreshore, a surf life saver and a dolphin, created by Diana Weber of Rose Bay. The bronze surf lifesaver statute was commissioned to celebrate the surf life saving movement and was jointly funded by the Australian Bicentennial Authority and Waverley Council.
- 1986-1994 The Israeli, Russian, Chinese and Japanese communities increased in Waverley while the Hungarian, Polish, German, Czech and Greek communities have decreased. Russian, Hungarian, Chinese and Hebrew are the languages most widely spoken, after English. Yiddish is also popular.
- One of the largest increases during this time was in Chinese community with an 81 per cent increase over the 1986 census. Council has translated Council material into various community languages. Most of Waverley's Chinese community are in Bondi Junction. Council's staff includes Christians, Jews, Muslims, Hindus and Buddhists.
- 1987-89 Waverley Council sets up a precinct system because it is committed to community involvement in Council's decision making process. It is described as part of 'a scheme for open government.' Council later employs a Precinct Coordinator.
- 1988 While crossing Curlewis Street, Bondi Beach a local elderly homeless man, Norman ('Normie') Andrews, is killed after being hit by a car. He was well-known in the local community and had lived on the streets for many years. His sudden death shocks the community with police, local residents and community service groups advocating for the need to provide services and proper day care facilities for the homeless. It is estimated that 40-50 people sleep regularly on Bondi Beach.
- 1989 Council sought an injunction against the Billy's Bondi Beach Backpackers at Denham Street Bondi in the Land and Environment Court. This premises has operated illegally for a long time, even before Council rejected their application to operate as a backpacker's hostel in 1988.
- Council takes over the arranging and hosting of the ANZAC Day



# COMMUNITY & CULTURE, the 90s

YEAR EVENT

service in Waverley Park from Bondi Diggers Club, local RSLs and the Eastern Suburbs Legion Club.

Late  
1980s-early  
1990s.

Council invests \$300,000 towards the establishment of the Bondi Districts Chamber of Commerce.

1990

Residents complain about the ‘mushrooming’ of backpacker accommodation, most of it illegal. Short-term traveller accommodation is identified as a new housing phenomenon. Backlash against backpackers by local residents is noted for the first time. Council investigates a number of illegal premises in Bondi.

Council is successful in having restrictions on the establishment of backpacker hostels ratified by the State government. Council notes many backpacker sites have appeared quite quickly, as former boarding houses are re-born as hostels.

Community Crime Prevention Project piloted by Council and identifies two key areas of concern for residents: the impact of crime on older people and alcohol-related violence around clubs and pubs.

Council inspectors join police in the fight to keep cars off footpaths, median strips, malls and public reserves. In six weeks 159 on-the-stop infringement notices were issued by Council. For every \$43 fine the Council issues, the Police take \$16.25 for processing. The remaining

\$26.75 is for Council and the Council raised \$4,173 in six weeks from the scheme.

1991 Waverley and Woollahra Joint Local Environmental Plan (1991) is released. The Bondi Junction Commercial Centre is created to replace the existing local environmental plans. One of its specific aims and objectives is to control residential development and density, noting it aimed to 'provide opportunities for residential development at various densities in appropriate areas and to ensure that residential development is carried out to a scale and with a character suitable for the centre'.

1991 Now known as The Bondi Wave, the Pavilion's 12-week music project ends in three bands playing three concerts and singing all original songs at the Bondi Pavilion Theatre. Now sponsored by Council, State government, the Australia Council and Drum Media.

Council and police research shows that crimes such as burglary, vandalism and car theft tended to be committed in local areas by local residents.

Council proposes to pilot a Responsible Hospitality Project in which staff of licensed premises would be trained to discourage patrons from excessive alcohol consumption. Many problematic drunk patrons were not permanent Waverley residents, but visitors or backpackers.

Armistice Day/Remembrance Day. For the first time a representative from the NSW Association of Jewish ex-Servicemen and Women attended Council's Remembrance Day service.

Council adopts a Local Ethnic Affairs Policy Statement (LEAPS) to improve access to Council services for non-English speaking background (NESB) communities.

1991-96 Between these years, the Russian speaking community recorded the largest population increase in Waverley growing from 1,810 people to 2,480 people, an increase of 37 per cent. Russian is spoken by 2,440 residents over the age of five. Other community languages spoken by more than 500 residents are: Hungarian, Greek, Hebrew, Chinese, Italian, German, Spanish and French. The main shrinking communities are the long established European-born residents, a decrease which was already noticeable in the 1986 Census.

1992 Council published a profile of its largest ethnic group, the Russians, in order to address the specific needs of the community. The majority of Russians in Waverley are Jewish. The AJWS-Jewish Community Services

congratulated Council on its initiative to understand and assist this group of Waverley residents.

A new scheme to prevent community crime is been launched in Waverley with the aim to stop graffiti on public buildings, curb illegal alcohol sales and encourage the elderly to protect themselves. It is part of Waverley Council's Development Control Plan and uses building design to minimise opportunities for crime.

Norman Andrews House/Norman Andrews Centre (both names are used interchangeably) is set up in the memory of local homeless man, 'Normie' Andrews. The centre will be administered by the Chapel by the Sea which will provide practical support for homeless people living 'rough' at Bondi Beach.

1993

Council owned, but privately occupied, Bronte House has an open day which is run by Council volunteers. It is opened as part of Heritage Week by the National Trust. The house has not been open to the public for some time.

There is an estimated 75 illegal backpacker accommodation sites in Waverley. Council sets strict new standards for hostels including controls for: late night noise, rowdy behaviour and drunkenness, overcrowding and to ensure fire safety. Social problems are identified in Waverley as genuine boarding houses, which form an important traditional housing stock for low income residents, are converted to backpacker hostels. This forces low-income and elderly residents out of affordable accommodation.

Council works to reduce drunkenness which a crime statistics study (carried out by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research) found to be a major cause of assaults and anti-social behaviour in the Local Government Area. More than half of the assaults in the Waverley LGA occur in just nine streets and almost 25 per cent occur in two: Campbell Parade and Oxford Street. More than 27 per cent of the assaults in these hot spots occur in pubs and clubs and another 31 per cent happen in the streets outside. Hot spots are concentrated at Bondi Beach and Bondi Junction.

1993-94

Waverley becomes the first Council in NSW to implement a prohibition on sexual harassment and infectious diseases (broadening it from a policy prohibiting discrimination on the basis of HIV/AIDS statute to that covering other infectious diseases, such as Hepatitis C).

Council's Community Services Department administered \$225,000 in grant funding to local organisations.

Integrating special needs children into Council centres is a high priority. In 1993, there were 27 children receiving this care. Speech pathology is offered to children attending all three Council child care centres.

Waverley Library: installation of two CD-ROMs, including one for public use, library's computers were fully booked throughout the year and helped library staff provide information on 'obscure topics', a lift for people with disabilities was installed. Disability Discrimination Commission notes 'it was rare to find a library adapted to the needs of people with disabilities.'

1995-1996

1993-1994. More than 40 per cent of Waverley residents were born overseas, 25.2 per cent of people in Waverley were born in Non-English Speaking Background (NESB) countries. This makes Waverley to 13th most multicultural local government area in NSW, an increase of almost two per cent since the 1986 census. Waverley now has an established Russian-speaking community.

1996

1993-1994. The Bell Jazz Lecture was established in honour of one of Waverley's most distinguished residents and musicians, Graeme Bell.

1993-1994. Creation of a Boarding House/Backpackers Development Control Plan.

1993-1994. Council embarks on an extensive capital works program. Projects include: building of a baby health clinic and child care centre and completion of the reconstruction of the park (\$2 million); new Library and public car park (\$9.9 million); traffic and streetscape improvements (\$10 million); open space projects for beachside parks and the coastal walk (\$1.1 million); upgrading of the facilities at Bondi Baths (\$1.3 million), relocation of storm water drains away from Bondi Beach (\$3.04 million). Bondi Junction implements a traffic management scheme in conjunction with general public area improvements (\$1.5 million).

1994. Tension rises in the media around Bondi's future. Locals like it the way it is, not the way it could be. Outsiders often have grand plans for Bondi. Leo Schofield, resident of Bronte House, asks: 'Can Bondi function simultaneously as a marvellous place to live, a magical weekend destination for surf-starved inhabitants of Sydney's western suburbs, an international tourist destination and a chip in the nation's memory? If so, who is to make the decisions about its future?'

1994. Sydney Olympic Bid Committee for the 2000 Olympic Games includes beach volleyball in its sports program. Bondi or Manly are mooted as possible sites.

1996-1997 1994. Waverley is one of the most densely populated areas in Sydney, if not the most densely populated. It also has a high percentage of dogs per population and Council receives many complaints about dogs running free in public reserves and fouling parkland. Council installed eight dog dropping disposal bins in Waverley's parks, declared that Mackenzie's Beach/Bay is not a dog beach and set up off-leash dog areas in parts of Waverley Park and Rodney Reserve.

Council prohibits dogs from swimming, going onto the beach sand or the grassed areas adjacent to beaches. Dogs are allowed, when leashed, on the coastal walk or throughout other parts of Waverley. In response to complaints that Council is anti-dog the Impounding Officer stated: 'Waverley Council is not anti-dog. Far from it. We love dogs.'

1994 Council is split over calls to ban rock fishing. In 1993, a coroner recommended Waverley Council effectively prohibit rock fishing by erecting warning signs about its danger. Council was advised to remove all ropes, ladders and similar devices used by anglers to climb down to the extreme rock ledges jutting into the ocean. After debate it was decided that the ladders and ropes will remain at North Bondi after Council rejected plans to remove them, claiming it was unrealistic to expect taking away devices such as ropes and ladders would stop people from rock fishing.

1994-95 Council's three child care centres provide high quality care at an affordable price for 10 hours per day, 49 weeks per year for 153 children. Council applied to the Federal Government to have the childcare centres accredited. Sixteen new places for children between 0-2 year olds were created. Council aims to provide care for children with special needs, because of this Council's childcare centres have a higher enrolment of special needs children compared to other day care centres in the region. 38 children with special needs were accommodated, including 24 children with disabilities.

A new Waverley Seniors and Community Centre in Spring Street brings together the former Clarrie Martin Seniors Centre and Bondi Beach Seniors Centre. Activities held in the Centre include: yoga, housie, indoor bowls, tai chi, gentle exercise, arts and crafts, discussion groups, Community Visitors Scheme. The Centre has guest speakers and social groups for Russian, Italian, Spanish and Polish older people.

Meals on Wheels operates with the regular assistance of 76 volunteers. It delivers 170 hot meals daily and 77 frozen meals. In conjunction a Home Shopping Service delivers shopping to 24 clients fortnightly.

Community Services provided \$215,000 in grants to 19 community organisations during the year.

Council adopts a revised Community Crime Prevention Policy.

1995 Council adopted a model for the distribution of functions amongst the newly created departments. Known as the purchaser/provider split. Created an environment to improve competitiveness, achieve higher levels of customer satisfaction, meet defined service standards and strive for value for money.

1995 Bronte House is Waverley's oldest existing building and is leased as a private residence to Leo Schofield. It is open to the public six days per year.

Council adopted a revised Community Crime Prevention Policy which outlines strategies for a safer Waverley. Council also continued to participate in the NSW Police project 'Safer by Design' which aims to ensure new buildings comply with the principles of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.

1995-96 Over 400 heritage items and eight conservation areas have been adopted by the Waverley Heritage Study which has been incorporated into the draft Waverley Local Environmental Plan 1995.

Council is committed to maintaining a socio-economic mix in Waverley and because of this Council launches an Affordable Housing Strategy aimed at reducing the depletion of low cost housing and maintaining a mix of rental and private housing in Waverley.

Council operates the Waverley Community Living Project an accommodation and training program for people with a mild intellectual disability. There are three projects within the service: group homes, home education service and independent living house.

Council provides 43 housing units for people over 55 years on low incomes. Waiting list for a unit is seven years.

Council's Access Committee, a sub-committee of Council, meets monthly and works towards making Waverley accessible to everyone regardless of ability or disability.

Council runs free immunisation clinics monthly to vaccinate children against: poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus.

Over 2.5 million people visit Bondi Beach every year placing heavy demand on the beach and associated services and facilities such as public toilets and rubbish removal.

Bondi Pavilion, now a key centre for community arts and culture, continues to grow. The exhibition gallery is in high demand. More than 100 regular weekly classes and workshops are held. Musical highlights include the 3-month Bondi Youth Wave course for unemployed youth, music projects for disability groups in collaboration with Junction House. The Waverley Council Youth Art Award and Exhibition attracted thousands of visitors. A heritage conservation plan and an upgrade of the master plan for the Pavilion are completed. Monthly concerts for the frail and aged are held.

Skillshare runs training courses to meet the needs of the local jobs market. 90 per cent of participants who started Skillshare courses completed them. Over 700 people were helped to achieve employment or further education.

Council builds heritage style bus shelters which are part of Council's commitment to public transport. Shelters will provide increased protection from the elements and include community notice boards.

1996

In Waverley, 24,110 residents were born overseas, 40 per cent of Waverley's population. Of this 14,550, 24 per cent were born in non-English speaking countries (NESB). Overall 37 per cent of Waverley residents are from a non-English speaking backgrounds in general the overseas born NESB population is older with significantly high proportions of people of NESB aged 45 years and older.

Council creates the Waverley Heritage Awards concerned that the increasing gentrification of the area is leading to greater pressure being placed on many surviving heritage buildings. Council admits it has made mistakes in the past regarding the lack of protection for local heritage items and vows to learn from these mistakes. There are three categories in the awards: Best Outdoor Building, Best Alterations and Additions and Best Interior Restoration or Renovation.

Christianity is the main religion in Waverley, comprising 48 per cent of the population. The second largest group was those declaring 'no religion', 19 per cent, and Judaism is the third largest group at 16 per cent of residents.

The organised Christmas Day and NYE events at Bondi Beach successfully stopped a reoccurrence of the anti-social behaviour of previous years (drunkenness, violence, beach litter, rescues and injuries). Strategies followed were developed by the Bondi Beach Safety Committee and were a great success.

240 Waverley residents identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, 0.4 per cent of the population.

The first Sculpture by the Sea event is held. Thousands attend and it becomes an annual event.

1996-97

Approximately 24,000 Waverley residents are born overseas, 39 per cent of the community. Of these 13,500 are from households where English is not the first language spoken. Council adopted a range of strategies to ensure they meet the needs of people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Special projects are undertaken, translation of Council service brochures into a range of languages, with specific community sessions organised for the Russian speaking community. Services are provided specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people. Council supports calls for the Federal government to apologise for the removal of Indigenous children from their families and financially compensate those affected by these practices.

Council adopts an affordable housing policy.

Council aims to develop traffic and transport policies to encourage the use of public transport and other environmental sustainable means of travel so as to minimise the negative impacts of traffic and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Paid Parenting Leave becomes available for Council staff. Waverley Council is recognised in Human Resources News for its family friendly policies.

1997

Council operates two libraries with a high demand on both. The library operates a Home and Hospital Library Service making fortnightly and monthly visits to 420 housebound people, delivering over 37,000 items. The library also has an extensive cultural program.

Traffic management continues to be a priority in Waverley. Traffic management improvements are completed in Bondi Junction and traffic management plans developed for Charing Cross and Bronte.

Council operates three long-day childcare centres, providing high quality care for 146 under 6 y.o. children, 10 hours a day, 49 weeks per year. Council's childcare centres were reviewed by the National Childcare Accreditation Council. All three centres received accreditation for the maximum period of three years, achieving the highest rating possible in all categories. Council also sponsors the Waverley Family Day Care Scheme.

Meals on Wheels and the Shopping Service help frail older people and those with a disability to remain independent in their own home. 145 people receive meals daily Monday-Friday and 90 frozen meals each week. The Shopping Service shops for local frail residents every week.

The Waverley Community Living Project is an accommodation and training program for people with a mild intellectual disability. Projects running: group homes offering supported accommodation and training, Home Education Service, Independent Living House.

1997

The Waverley Community and Seniors' Centre in the Mill Hill Centre, Spring Street increases its programs. Due to the centre's popularity older people who live in the Eastern Suburbs, but outside Waverley, can now join the Centre as associate members.

Council provides 43 housing units for people over 55 years on a low income.

Council's Access Committee works toward making Waverley more accessible to those with a disability. Achievements: Telephone typewriters (TTYs) installed in the Library and Information Centre and a hearing loop available at the Information Counter and at Community Services.

More than 25 per cent of Waverley's 60,000 residents come from a non-English speaking background; over 40 per cent of residents were born overseas. Largest ethnic communities are: Russian, Hungarian, Polish and Israeli. There is also a growing Chinese community.

Council runs training courses for locally long-term unemployed people designed to meet the needs of the local jobs market. Called Skillshare this program helps over 700 people to find employment or gain further education.

Bronte Post Office, Charing Cross Post Office and Ebley Street Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) all completed.

Council announced that the Waverley area and Bondi in particular is facing a great deal of pressure from development. They announce that the views of residents living there should be of primary consideration. Council has had several battles regarding development applications in the Land and Environment Court in an effort to pursue more appropriate development.

The Olympic Coordination Authority (OCA) approaches Council to host the beach volleyball event for the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000.

Initial public meetings show residents support the event (to the surprise of Council). Bondi Beach is announced as the site for the event, which will involve the building of an Olympic Beach Volleyball Stadium on the sand.

The Council upgrading of Bondi Pavilion is part of a five-year building maintenance program specifically focused on the Pavilion.

Proposal for light rail to Bondi Beach, a so-called 'tourist tunnel', is rejected by the NSW State government. The inaugural meeting of the Waverley Local Tourism Committee is held.

Aboriginal reconciliation and multicultural festival held at Bondi Pavilion.

Planning agreements have been developed for the provision of affordable rental housing and community housing.

Over 400 heritage items of natural and built significance in the local area and eight conservation areas have been adopted by the Waverley Heritage Study, which has been incorporated into the draft Waverley Local Environmental Plan.

Council motion: "Waverley Council, representing over 60,000 residents comprising 40 per cent of whom were not born in Australia and 25 per cent of non-English speaking background, formally apologies to the Aboriginal people for past actions and deeds done to them which have been classified as genocide. The deeds were not done by us, but we hope that this, in some small way, will ease the pain and assist in reconciliation".

The Bondi Wave is in its 13th year. Each band in the course is able to record their best songs in a professional 24-track recording studio. Bondi Wave now designed as a rock music course, but participants are also exposed to other styles of music, including world music and jazz. Course costs \$300, there is a group audition and 30 students accepted. The course is 10 weeks.

Illegal parking continues to be a problem. Council's Parking Officers issued 1,500 infringement notices in public car parks; 3,256 in resident parking areas and 597 for unlawful parking on footpaths.

Waverley Council Youth Art Award and Exhibition attracted over 200 entries and thousands of visitors. Bondi Pavilion is the venue for more than 100 regular weekly classes and workshops. Festivals this year: South American Festival, Festival of the Winds, Sydney Fringe Festival. Bondi Youth Waverley course for unemployed youth and music projects for disability groups in collaboration with Junction House and Youth Music projects.

1998

Work begins on the new central Waverley Library building which will be on the corner of Ebley and Denison Streets.

Waverley and Woollahra Councils form a new joint planning authority to handle development applications around the border of the two municipalities. Waverley wants the border moved from the middle of Oxford Street to the northern edge of Syd Einfeld Drive, moving Woollahra from Bondi Junction. Woollahra Council opposes this. Waverley wants complete control of planning in Bondi Junction.

Council has asked the Local Government Boundaries Commission to bring Bondi Junction totally within its jurisdiction and produced a report on how this can be achieved. The new authority will have the power to decide on developments over \$5 million. The previous joint committee of the Councils ran into problems over parking for the expansion of the Westfield Shopping Centre which brought about the intervention of the NSW State government.

Council donates \$10,000 towards the Paralympic Games and calls on other councils to do the same. Council commits to work in partnership with the Sydney Paralympic Organising Committees to ensure widespread community involvement in the Games.

Controversy arises about whether Bondi is the most appropriate place for the Sun-Herald City to Surf race to finish. Despite an historical association with the run, the largest public participation sports event in Sydney, there is continuing ambivalence within Council over the race's value to ratepayers. Negatives include traffic problems and heavy use of Council facilities. These are not balanced by a healthy return for the area's traders. Council declares overall there is no net benefit to the Waverley residents.

WaverleyWorks commenced a partnership with Job Futures. Its success is measured by its assistance to 3,017 job seekers. NSW government figures show that Waverley Works has performed 33 per cent better than the Job Network Inner Sydney regional average so far. WaverleyWorks entered into a joint venture with the Unity Church in Bondi Junction and Work Ventures to establish a hospitality training cafe, Breakaway Cafe.

Bondi Junction and parts of Bondi will receive parking metres after a two week trial at Bondi Beach.

1998-99

A new Development Control Plan (DCP) on multi-unit housing was introduced which incorporated an Affordable Housing Strategy. Council acquired seven affordable housing units.

Construction of a purpose built music recording studio, rehearsal space and a multi-purpose community use building in the southern courtyard of Bondi Pavilion is completed.

Ninety per cent occupancy rate and a 95 per cent customer satisfaction level were achieved at Bondi Pavilion courses, services and events and there is a sustained demand for the Pavilion spaces.

The installation of parking meters in identified areas: Bondi Beach (1,228 meters) and Bondi Junction (99 meters).

Events: City to Surf Fun Run, Sculpture by the Sea Cole Classic Ocean Swim, Festival of the Winds, Christmas and NYE celebrations, Sea Theatre Festival and a number of outdoor events associated with the Sydney Fringe Festival. Bondi Pavilion events: Flickerfest International Short Film Festival, Waitangi (Maori) Festival, the South American Festival, Youth Week and Environment Day events, Kids Fun Day, Jazz in the Pav, Pacific Waver Festival and Carols by the Sea.

Many cultural activities were held in the Seniors Centre as part of the International Year of the Older Person. Specifically: Come and Tell Me a Story and Back to the Beach Competition.

Significant Development Control Plans were introduced: Multi-Unit Housing, Dwelling House Development, Charing Cross Conservation Area, Energy Smart Homes, Site Waste Minimisation and Management and Access for People with a Disability.

Waverley Library's Collection Management Policy is adopted and the CD collection was expanded with the addition of a jazz collection launched in conjunction with the Library's annual Jazz Art exhibition and the Bell Jazz Lecture.

In conjunction with the University of NSW, Council carried out a detailed study of the impacts of changes to childcare funding in Waverley. The study showed clear difficulties with care

affordability for middle to low income families in Waverley. The importance and significance of the study, which is unique for a local government area, saw the study receive wide media attention.

Council's Family Support Program employs a Social Worker who delivers counselling, advocacy and advice to families.

Waverley Community and Seniors Centre now has 850 members who regularly attend activities organised from the facility. Community Living Project provides living skills training and support for 18 adults with a mild to moderate intellectual disability.

Council develops a draft Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy and the Disability Access Policy and Action Plan are completed.

1999

Council receives positive feedback for the introduction of parking meters. Extensive community consultations are held prior to the introduction of the meters. Petitions are received from residents in West Bondi requesting the extension of the resident parking scheme into streets adjacent to the existing scheme.

The new central library opens in Denison Street Bondi Junction with: theatrette, meeting and training rooms, expanded reference and study area, group study rooms, children's activity room. The use of public access internet computers increased by more than 400 per cent. In its first year the Library records nearly 600,000 visitors.

Waverley Council creates an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Access & Equity Policy.

Christmas and NYE events at Bondi Beach. Problems of anti-social behaviour have been addressed. Dance party held on the beach for 15,000 and large crowds for the dawn of 2000 on Bondi Beach. Strategies developed by Council's Bondi Beach Safety Committee were even more effective than the last three years. Drunkenness, violence, beach litter, rescues and first aid treatments were virtually non-existent, creating the safest, most trouble free Christmas-NYE period at Bondi for many years.

Questions are raised publicly about whether to move the Sun-Herald City to Surf race from Bondi Beach in 2000 because of construction of the Olympic Beach Volleyball Stadium.

Eruv, a Jewish symbolic wall or ritual boundary fence, is constructed, allowing Orthodox Jews to carry parcels, push prams and exercise dogs on the Sabbath and other holy days. The Eruv is 26 kilometres and stretches

from Vaucluse to Bondi Junction, without it the Orthodox Jews would be confined to their homes. As part of the building the Bondi Beach promenade gets a new balustrade aluminium railings and handrails down to the beach.

As part of the Campbell Parade upgrade of the Bondi beachfront Council commissioned Australian artists to celebrate Bondi in public art works. The Bondi Public Art project is commissioned by Waverley Council. Rondels are installed on Campbell Parade, each showing Bondi's heritage and beach culture. Basalt and sandstone were chosen as they both occur locally; some of the rondels contain photos which have been baked onto specially prepared glass.

Also as part of the project new street furniture covered in mosaics was created. The mosaics show the natural environment and the area's beach lifestyle. Near Lamrock Avenue a pedestrian safety barrier was created by an artist in the form of a stainless steel sculpture inspired by the waves. It is open in design so the view from the street to the beach is not obstructed.

Council creates a Waverley Bike Plan highlighting safe bike routes. The aim is to increase urban bike riding.

Scandal surrounding the Olympic Games and its officials sour goodwill toward the Olympics generally. When the size of stadium and extent of its impact on the beach is revealed resident support for the event diminishes and opposition groups form. Council seeks advice about its power to refuse the event. It cannot do so.

The NSW State government grants approval for the Olympic Beach Volleyball Stadium's construction. Many on Council oppose Bondi Beach as the venue for the Olympic beach volleyball competition, proposing the event go to Maroubra or Cronulla beaches. Residents pack Council meetings to voice their opposition. A proposed 9 month construction time will limit access to the beach during this period. The Olympic Coordination Authority offers a compensation package to Council of \$500,000. This is later increased to \$1 million.

Construction begins on the new \$2 million multi-use building in the back courtyard of the Bondi Pavilion. Building will feature an all-purpose hall, recording studio, rehearsal rooms. Extensions of the Pavilion are part of a master plan Council has for the building over the next 15 years.

1999-2000

Waverley has an older population than the Sydney average with 14 per cent of people over 65 y.o., compared to 12 per cent in Sydney overall. Seven per cent of Waverley residents are aged over 75 years compared to 5 per cent in Sydney.

In general, Waverley's overseas born residents from a non-English speaking background are older. Forty-one per cent of all older people over 65 in Waverley were born overseas in a non-English speaking country. This is nearly double the proportion in the general population of Waverley. Of all the older people in Waverley who speak a language other than English at home 27 per cent do not speak English well or at all.

Waverley has a lower than average level of home ownership compared with the Sydney average. 33 per cent of dwellings are fully owned, compared with the Sydney average of 40 per cent. About 43 per cent of dwellings in Waverley are rented, with monthly housing loan repayments and weekly rents significantly higher for families in Waverley than in Sydney overall.

Waverley residents are highly educated with 22 per cent having a degree and 56 per cent having some post-secondary qualification.

Hours of Bronte Child Care Centre are extended to cater for strong community demand.

WaverleyWorks achieved accreditation and was awarded an expanded subcontract with JobFutures to provide a full range of employment services.

Major events at Bondi Beach and Pavilion included: Clean-Up Australia Day, a professional long board contest called the 'Bondi Classic', Easts Rough Water Ocean swim, Flickerfest International Short Film Festival, the South American Festival and the Sydney Fringe Festival which is based in the Pavilion in January-February.

Council wins an innovation award for our Affordable Housing Strategy as part of the inaugural Southern Sydney Region of Councils Annual Awards Program for excellence in planning.

Waverley's three child care centres, Waverley, Gardiner and Bronte Childcare Centre, achieve re-accreditation under strict guidelines established by funding authorities.

\$2 million extensions to Bondi Pavilion are undertaken as part of the Council building program which also includes the building of a new Library in Denison Street and the Mill Hill Centre, next to the old Boot Factory.



# COMMUNITY & CULTURE, the 00s

YEAR EVENT

2000

The Development Control Plan no. 12 is enacted, Guidelines for Boarding Houses, Backpacker Accommodation and Bed and Breakfast establishments.

Council faces a big problem of dumped cars at the beachfront, left behind by backpackers after they leave Australia. Council sends 100 abandoned cars a month to recyclers. Under current laws it can take up to six weeks to remove old cars. This is becoming a key issue for Waverley locals where parking is difficult and dumped cars take up valuable parking space.

Bon Accord Avenue, Bondi Junction is closed for several hours during the Jewish New Year. For Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the road is closed for two hours each day.

Mural on the Bondi Beach promenade is extended when a project is funded by the Attorney General's Department. The 20 young people from a work-for-the-dole program cleaned buildings in Waverley affected by

graffiti, including bus stops and picnic shelters in beachside parks, and their reward was to get the opportunity to create a piece of aerosol art along the beachfront sea wall. Council supplied WAYS with the paint to be used in the mural which stretched from the skateboard ramp to near the start of the Pavilion.

About 20 illegal hostels are estimated to be operating in Waverley. Council decides to advertise in the share accommodation section of daily newspapers to warn tourists about the danger of illegal hostels which do not have proper fire and safety regulations.

Waverley Community Indicators and Local Democracy Project is set up part of a three-year study into the development of 'community indicators' which will measure economic, environmental and social trends and changes in five local government areas including Waverley.

Twenty five people are arrested during protests against the building of the Beach Volleyball Stadium. Calls of: 'we will fight them on the beaches' and the event described as 'folleyball'. A visiting Olympic Co-ordination Committee Commissioner describes the protests as 'a local pocket of resistance'. There is a formal protest from the Bondi & District Chamber of Commerce and a local activist group is formed called Bondi Olympic Watch made up of local business people.

The Sydney Olympic Organising Committee is forced to cancel a test event at Bondi after it was refused by Council. The media describe the Olympic Volleyball event on Bondi Beach as 'the most controversial venue of them all' and Council as a 'reluctant host' of the event. Construction and deconstruction occurs between May-October 2000. The volleyball events are held over 10 days, 16-26 September. The Bondi Pavilion and the Surf Life Saving Club are used prior to and during the event. 2000. The Olympic torch relay goes through Bondi Junction, Waverley, Charing Cross and on to Coogee Beach on 14 September 2000. SLSC surf boat from Coogee Beach to Bondi Beach arrives near North Bondi SLSC. Torch goes through Dover Heights to Rose Bay and on through to Woollahra.

Day 99 of the 100-day torch relay was in the Waverley Local Government Area. Council distributed posters for local shops to display for five weeks prior to the run. Council Traffic Management Plan is put in place to deal with anticipated traffic delays. Council also ran a campaign calling on residents to come out and watch/support the relay.

Council passes a resolution 'recognising and supporting the community's right to protest against the construction of the stadium'. Sustained local protests begin based on: damage to the beach environment, damage to local economy, the restriction to the public's right to use the beach, the

moving of the Lifeguards is a risk to public safety, the position of the stadium will create dangerous rips, troughs and currents in popular swimming areas of the beach.

Residents now strongly oppose the building of the Olympic Volleyball Stadium which comprises a main court of 10,000 seats, a second court of 400 seats and five practice courts. Having no power to refuse the Olympic stadium being built Council agrees and negotiates to get the best deal for the Bondi Beach environs.

Conditions include the OCA providing solid and lasting community benefit from the event: Bondi Pavilion is to have a lift installed and a gallery level built, there is to be an upgrade of the public toilets and showers including installation of disabled facilities and the installation of ramps into the Pavilion. \$1 million spent on Bondi Pavilion. A strict timetable is set up for the removal of the stadium after the conclusion of the event. Council also negotiates various compensation for direct losses, loss of opportunity and additional costs in excess of \$2 million.

2001

Renting in Waverley. The most common form of housing tenure in Waverley is private rental, making up 39 per cent of occupied dwellings. By comparison Sydney's average is 24 per cent. Compared to Sydney Waverley has a lower proportion of home ownership with 33 per cent of dwellings fully owned, compared with Sydney's 39 per cent.

Leo Schofield opens Bronte House to the public a couple of times per year, after a six year revitalisation project on the Bronte House gardens. They were transformed under the direction of the Royal Botanic Gardens.

Compared to Sydney, Waverley's non-English languages differ most with Russian, which was spoken by an additional 3.2 per cent of people in Waverley compared to Sydney, and Cantonese, which was spoken by 2.2 per cent fewer.

The most common religious belief in Waverley is Christianity, followed by 56 per cent of the community. The most common non-Christian religion was Judaism with 19.7 per cent of the community.

Waverley residents of all ages earned on average much more than Sydney's. Eleven per cent of residents earned \$1,500 per week compared to six per cent overall.

Following the terrorist attacks in New York City, a memorial service is held in Waverley Park with several hundred participants hearing a cross-section of religious leaders speak about the incident.

Census data shows that people in Waverley earn high incomes. However this year shows that 24 per cent of residents aged 15 years or older were on low incomes and of these 42 per cent were aged 55 years or older.

Mortgages and rents were about 30 per cent above Sydney's. Waverley has seen a dramatic decline in boarding houses catering for individuals on low incomes. The Department of Community Services profile found that families in Bondi contained a significant number of households in rental stress.

Waverley has a growing number of older people with 13.6 per cent of its total population aged 65 years or older. Waverley has the 12th highest proportion of overseas-born residents of all LGAs in NSW, which adds cultural richness to its social fabric.

Waverley has a large number of people living alone, 15 per cent. Also a large number of group households, 11 per cent. Both are much higher than the average in Sydney - 8 per cent and 4 per cent respectively.

Waverley is described as one of the most densely populated LGAs in Australia with a population density of 6,595 people per square kilometre, compared to only 329 per square kilometre for Sydney overall.

Between 1996-2001 the number of overseas visitors increased from 2 per cent of the total population to 3 per cent. In comparison the proportion of overseas visitors in the Sydney Statistical District is 1 per cent.

Notable population changes in Waverley since 1996 include an increase in the number of older persons and a decrease in the number of young adults. Statistically Waverley has an older population than Sydney, 14 per cent compared to 12 per cent.

This was the first year the census asked people to describe their ancestry. In Waverley only 25 per cent gave their ancestry as Australian, the most common was English (31 per cent) followed by Irish (15 per cent), Eastern European (8 per cent). Compared to the rest of Sydney the biggest differences in the common ancestries were the larger proportion of people with Eastern European ancestry and the smaller proportion with Australian ancestry. The most common non-English language spoken at home was Russian, followed by Italian and Chinese. Compared to Sydney Waverley has a much large proportion of residents who speak Russian, Hungarian and Hebrew. Waverley's main religious belief is Christianity, 56 per cent. The most common non-Christian religion was Judaism, 20 per cent.

The first comprehensive bike plan is developed. When the Roads and

Traffic Authority backed out of funding for an on-road cycling route linking Centennial Park and Bronte, Council allocates funds so this cycleway can be built.

Waverley differs in some important demographic characteristics from other inner Sydney areas: home ownership is low (43 per cent compared to 63 per cent), over 40 per cent of dwellings are rented, home to a large concentration of Jewish people (28 per cent of Jewish people in NSW live in Waverley). It is the local government area with the largest proportion of Russian speakers and people citing Russian ancestry. Compared to Sydney overall three times as many Waverley residents live in group households and almost twice as many live alone, an ageing population particularly pronounced in post-war immigrant communities and a high proportion of mature age first-time mothers.

The old boundary between Woollahra and Waverley Councils ran through the middle of Oxford Street at Bondi Junction. There had been 140 years of joint administration by Waverley and Woollahra councils. This was highly contentious as both Council's sought control of Bondi Junction and this hampered its renewal.

The Sproats Inquiry proposes that Bondi Junction's commercial centre all be placed under the management of Waverley Council. Council is pleased with the result saying that 'co-ordinated and rational planning at Bondi Junction as well as upgrades' can now happen.

A proposal for heavy rail from Bondi Junction to Bondi Beach is rejected by the NSW State government.

Waverley demonstrated significant differences in living arrangements compared to Sydney with 15 per cent of resident living alone, compared to 7 per cent in Sydney. Twelve per cent live in group households compared to 4 per cent for Sydney. The most common form of housing in Waverley is private rental, 39 per cent, significantly larger than the 24 per cent in Sydney.

The average mortgage payment in Waverley in 2001 was about \$1,611 per month. Sydney's average mortgage was \$1,334 per month. Among private renters the difference was even starker with Waverley renters paying 27 per cent more per week compared to Sydney overall.

2002

Visitor and Tourist Management Strategy released.

Bali bombing terrorist attack victim. The ashes of Robyn Webster, killed during the Bali bombing terrorist attacks were scattered offshore from

Bronte Beach with a full march past from the Bronte Surf Club where Robyn was a member.

Bali bombing terrorist attack victim. Also killed was Waverley resident Chloe Byron, on holiday with her family. Her father is well-known in the Bondi Beach long board surfing community. In 2003, local aerosol artists painted a memorial mural for Chloe at the third ramp on the promenade behind Bondi Beach. It became known as the Chloe memorial and Chloe known as 'the girl with the frangipani in her hair'. It becomes a revered part of the Bondi Beach landscape.

Bali bombing terrorist attack remembered. On 18 October, at midday, the Council Lifeguards sounded an alarm on Bondi, Bronte and Tamarama beaches to observe a minute's silence to remember the victims of the Bali bombings. In the Bondi Junction Mall Sunday markets, a Waverley Council ranger rang the old Bondi Beach shark bell to begin the minute's silence.

A Waverley literary award is created, the Westfield Waverley Library Award for Literature which is launched during the Sydney Writers Festival. This is presented for excellence in research in the creation of a literary work of merit published in the year of the competition. The author must be Australian.

Other factors judges consider in awarding the prize: readability, innovation, literary merit, knowledge and value to the community. Fiction and non-fiction are eligible. The first winner is Tim Low who wins \$15,000 for *The New Nature*. After 2008 the prize has a new sponsor and goes on to be known as 'The Nib' the CAL Waverley Library Award for Literature. The award is organised by Council, through the Library, with the support of the Friends of Waverley Library.

Bronte and Tamarama beaches became no-go areas for drunken revellers over the Christmas-New Year period. This move is part of a widespread Council crackdown on alcohol-fuelled behaviour, mob violence and vandalism. 'No Alcohol' signs are erected on all beaches allowing police and park rangers to enforce the law. Concern about trouble experienced on these beaches over the past years on New Year's Eve. The problem group is identified as 'overseas backpackers', but Council reassures locals that people who want to picnic in either Bronte or Tamarama parks and enjoy a social drink on New Year's Eve won't be targeted.

Council develops a Tourism and Visitor Management Strategy with volunteer residents to discuss the impact of tourism on Bondi. This will provide a policy direction and management approach to better co-ordinate Council efforts to address negative visitor impacts. At the same time tourism benefits need to be maximised especially for locals.

Council announces it wants tourists but also it is essential to keep the character of Bondi, 'We don't want Irish pubs on every corner'.

Council donates \$1,500 toward the establishment of the Councillor Pat Dixon Memorial Scholarship established by the Local Government Association.

2002-03

Council has a \$6 million plan to revitalise the area and transform Bondi Junction Mall.

For people in the private rental market in Waverley the average rent was about \$343 per week in comparison with the Sydney average of \$269.

When surveyed in a Council Community Indicators Survey many people articulated that the Waverley area 'has a distinct character about it' i.e. people are friendly, shops and facilities are close and there is a sense of belonging to a community. The area is seen to represent a diverse mix of cultures.

1.9 million people visited Bondi Beach. 64,840 people live in the nine square kilometres around Bondi Beach, a population density of 7,200 persons per square kilometre, the densest in Australia.

Introduction of the Pavement Management System Council carries out physical inspection of all road assets (pavements, kerbs, gutters and footpaths) to determine their condition and their remaining useful life. It finds 50 per cent of pavements needed rehabilitation and resealing works, 65 per cent of kerbs and gutters needed some form of reconstruction and over 60 per cent of the footpath network needed reconstruction to improve pedestrian safety.

2003

During the year an average of five million people visited Bondi Beach, now the fifth most visited site in Sydney.

Council commences formal procedures to close the lower car park at Ben Buckler due to the increased incidences of backpackers and campers living there.

Bondi locals declare they have 'war stories' about life on the 'backpacker frontline'. Residents of Lamrock Avenue, Hall Street, Jacques and Consett Avenue form resident action groups to deal with backpacker hostels in their residential streets. Fletcher Street and Dellview Street residents have a win against the backpacker hostel in Fletcher Street when its DA to increase its size was rejected by Council. Fletcher Street site was formerly a hotel, Beaches Hotel. Over 80 submissions were received by Council regarding the development.

The Minister for Local Government resolves the outstanding transfer arrangement for the Bondi Junction commercial centre as Waverley and Woollahra Councils are unable to do so. Woollahra retains ownership of the Grafton Street car park and the Bondi Junction town centre moved to Waverley's control 13 February 2003. The Waverley Woollahra boundary at Bondi Junction moves from Oxford Street to the other side of Syd Einfield Drive.

Waverley Council conducts a community survey and residents agreed strongly with the key statements 'The Waverley area is one of the best places in Sydney to live'. The reasons for this satisfaction were: neighbourhood and tolerance, convenience of access, public safety and the LGA's natural environment is respected.

2003-06

. Waverley and Woollahra Councils reprogram traffic signals to accommodate the Jewish Sabbath. The two intersections are affected are in Old South Head Road. Council installed the devices at the two intersections after a request for them was rejected by the Roads and Traffic Authority. The signals will work by detection sensors. They are referred to as 'kosher crossings' and are Australia's first.

2004

Refurbishment of Oxford Street Mall. New draft Bondi Junction Local Environmental Plan takes a 'whole of place' approach to planning that looks beyond the built environment and sets out the broad strategies to translate the community's vision for the Junction into action.

Council plans to spend \$500,000 improving bus facilities, along with a \$2.5 million upgrade of Oxford Street. This is to be known as the Town Square and plans include newly a newly renovated Oxford Street mall.

Bondi Pavilion nominated for the new National Heritage List, selected by the Federal government from the Register of the National Estate. It was put forward by Waverley Council. The site is now protected from works that could threaten its national heritage value.

Council provides 44 affordable units for people over 60 years of age.

The Waverley Bike Plan is released, recommendations include: the immediate establishment of a cycleway from Bronte Beach to Centennial Park. A network of cycle ways is planned linking beaches, shopping centres and other facilities throughout Waverley.

Bondi Junction Heritage Assessment identifies properties and areas of heritage value in Bondi Junction.

Council donates \$650,000 to the Bondi community drop in centre, Norman Andrews House. It saw an upgrade of the centre's 3rd floor, construction of four bedsits and en-suites. The centre teaches living skills and helps residents find work, focusing on stable accommodation and one-on-one support. It has been operating for 12 years offering showers, food and advice for up to 50 people at a time. It is a successful partnership between the Bondi community, the Uniting Church's Chapel by the Sea and Waverley Council.

2004-05

2004-2005. Council estimates the number of illegal hostels operating in the Local Government area to be as many as 80. Council said backpacker accommodation must: be of an appropriate size, manage its environmental impact, improve the benefit to the area and negate visitor impacts to the local amenity of the local community.

Plans to build a 242 bed backpacker hostel at Bondi Beach are met with angry protests from local residents with Council receiving 49 formal complaints for the proposed Jaques Avenue development. Council unanimously refused registration for a large scale backpacker hostel in Jaques Avenue, Bondi Beach which locals called the 'Little Monster'.

The first year of the implementation of the Community Safety Plan saw the development of a youth protocol for Bondi Junction, the development of a homeless person's protocol and the development of a model strategy for promoting safe celebrations at Bondi Beach over Christmas New Year.

2005

Council implements a Christmas New Year Strategy to manage crowd behaviour, particularly in relating to alcohol and safety. The Safe Summer Initiative was broadened to include Dudley Page Reserve, Tamarama and Bronte Beaches. Key activities: strict enforcement of alcohol free zones across Bondi, Bronte and Tamarama Beaches on Christmas Day, a large licensed New Year's dance concert in Bondi Park extending into the Pavilion with enforcement of the alcohol free zone outside of the area.

Council awards an annual award for reconciliation to be known as the Pauline McLeod Award. It is part of Council's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Access and Equity Policy.

Council runs a training workshop, Advocating for Access 2005, during the International Day of People with a Disability. Council's Disability Action Plan targets include: access audits for major Council projects, continued implementation of the Accessible Footpath Plan, development of a consultant's brief for a Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan. Access Awards are again incorporated into the Bondi Junction Business Awards Scheme.

New bike parking racks installed at Bondi and Bronte Beach.

Along the Bondi to Bronte coast walk interpretive signage is installed to increase people's understanding of Waverley's history.

Waverley Action for Youth Services (WAYS) creates a mural at Bondi Beach's aerosol art wall, on the promenade behind the beach, promoting safe sex practices for young people. The project is supported by Council.

2005

The Waverley Heritage Assessment is completed. Council's Communications Strategy, the Communications Action Plan, was developed.

The Waverley Community and Seniors centre continues to provide a wide range of weekly social and physical activities and low cost health service to people over 50 years old. This year the Centre aimed to increase services towards local culturally and linguistically diverse groups, by introducing new monthly Greek social outing tours and continuing to expand the Russian and Italian social groups.

2005-06

Council adopted its first Strategic Asset Management Plan.

Council's Heritage and Design Award recognises and promotes good design solutions that ensure that the significant qualities of heritage buildings and conservation areas are maintained and enhanced. It has two categories: conservation and contemporary design.

2006

Funding was granted for the Waverley Alcohol Awareness Strategy and for its implementation.

The Waverley Strategic Plan, Council's first medium term strategic plan, was finalised and adopted by Council.

Backpackers, long a part of Bondi's culture, are studied by Council to determine the impact they have on the local environment, community and businesses via the Focus Group for Backpacker Study. The group builds on research gathered from the Council's community consultations under the Visitor and Tourism Management Strategy and from the University of Western Sydney's backpacker study.

Council receives escalating complaints by locals that backpackers are causing disturbances, violent brawls, damage to residential and business property and illegal dumping on nature strips prompted the working group. Residents report high levels of noise disturbance and general rowdiness and anti-environmental behaviour.

Trial introduced of a Commercial Fitness Group and Personal Trainers Policy. This is made permanent in 2008. Under the policy trainers can have a maximum of 10 participants at a time and some areas of Waverley are entirely excluded, including Waverley Cemetery, Bronte Baths and all children's playgrounds.

Council hosts first Family Bike Fair, a 2.5km designated circuit around Bondi, bike safety workshops, cycling advice and bike maintenance.

2007

Access Aware Pilot Project launched. This is a comprehensive online database of accessible businesses and facilities. Council supported the project from its inception and participates in the pilot project for one year. The reason for the project is concern that many frail aged people and people with a disability have mobility difficulties, including poor vision and hearing problems, that make it difficult to access local shops, cafes, banks and other Waverley businesses.

Council painted a line on the promenade behind Bronte Beach, near Bronte Baths, past which dogs were not to go. It said 'no dogs'. Bronte dog owners hit back with a doggie demonstration. Dogs are prohibited from going past this line and near to the Bronte Baths. Dogs were banned from the end of the promenade following complaints from residents that unattended dogs were causing problems while their owners went for a swim.

Council lobbies for a forum on alcohol licensing to deal with the problems associated with 24-hour trading at licensed premises. The Council is joining Randwick, Manly, Leichhardt and City of Sydney councils in lobbying for the forum. There is a clear statistical link between licensed premises and anti-social behaviour and violent assault.

The Bondi Wave now holds one-day free seminars and courses and paid workshops. It is now one of Australia's most respect music courses, often attracting industry professionals and offers a unique programme of workshops to give young people to chance to create music and expand their skills in a nurturing environment. Courses include: song writing, vocal technique, theory, home recording, music production, guitar master class, rock photography, video production for live performance.

From this year onwards every short listed author in 'The Nib' will receive the Alex Buzo Prize named in honour of Waverley resident and playwright Alex Buzo. He was pivotal in the development of the national literary award prior to his sudden death in 2006. Shortlisted authors then go into the running for the main prize. The Alex Buzo prize began at \$600 and goes on to be increased to \$1,000 by 2009.

Council supports businesses which show a marked decline in patronage during winter months by setting up a Bondi Bohemia Winter Festival with a large range of activities to attract visitors to the beachfront in mid-winter.

2007-10

Council holds a family friendly New Year's event celebration in Dudley Page Reserve with: children's rides, food stalls and children under 15 y.o. free entry. This is a ticketed event with limited numbers. The park has one of the best views of Sydney Harbour and is a great vantage point for the New Year's Eve city fireworks.

2008

The Waverley Traffic Committee agrees to 13 parking bays at Syd Einfeld Car Park being allocated for free all-day parking for motorcycles and scooters. Council encourages car share. Figures show over the last 10 years the number of registered vehicles in Waverley rose by 6,000 to 32,800.

Waverley Council's Community Safety Plan is used as the basis to discuss community safety issues, particularly in Bondi Junction. At a series of resident's meetings they highlight: alcohol-fuelled and anti-social behaviour, noise from drunken revellers and under-age drinking in parks as their main concerns.

Bondi Junction hoteliers railed against Council and a proposal to reduce their trading hours, labelling Council 'alarmist and exaggerating' in their claims of drunken antisocial behaviour in Bondi Junction. The Robin Hoot Hotel applied to the Licensing Court of NSW to extend its 3.00am trading to its outdoor deck area and Council opposes the application.

Waverley Heritage Assessment identifies properties and areas of heritage value in all areas of Waverley except Bondi Junction. The Waverley Development Control Plan provides guidance on how residents can protect and conserve heritage values.

Waverley Council produces 'Green Links' walking maps. They show walking, cycling and rollerblading routes that make it easy to navigate Waverley and get off the main roads. Council also produces specific cycling and walking maps.

Sustainable transport projects in Waverley are an initiative of Council, including: a car share scheme, the community beach runner bus and the walking school bus.

Council organises a live telecast and BBQ from 9.00am at Bondi Pavilion forecourt, Bondi Beach so that residents can watch the Federal

government apology to the stolen generation. The theatrette at Waverley Library is also used as a public broadcast spot for local residents to watch the apology with other community members.

2009

Beachside councils: Waverley, Manly, Pittwater, Sutherland, Warringah and Randwick unite to petition the State government for tougher rules to combat anti-social behaviour on their beaches, including removing a legal loophole that forbids the confiscation of alcohol in parks and on beaches.

Eastern Suburb s Relay for Life in Centennial Park. For the first time three local Councils (Waverley, Woollahra and Randwick) join with the Centennial Park Trust to support this event.

Waverly Council holds a Living Library event at Waverley Library. Students at the Library 'borrow' a human book who will give them a personal account of their life i.e. they are a living book. The living books included: Council Lifeguard, a Rabbi, World War 11 serviceman and a local Indigenous resident.

Council gives pensioners, seniors and welfare recipients 25 per cent discount on residential beach parking permit.

2009-10

Council is committed to encouraging artworks in the public domain as a way to create high quality, imaginative and expressive spaces for the Waverley community. They must positively impact on the public domain. Council has a Public Art Policy 1999 and guidelines within this policy's framework were adopted in 2010.

Principles of the Public Art Policy include: artworks must contribute to the enrichment of the aesthetic experience and quality of life amongst the community link art and aspects of Waverley's cultural life including its Indigenous heritage, social history and the unique urban coastal environment.

2010

Council holds a Bee Safe Buzzy Bee campaign in local schools concerned that some parents and carers are putting their own and other children at risk by not parking safely in school zones. As part of this program Council donates revenue from fines imposes on drivers parking illegally in school zones, for a 12 month period, to the Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation. Money from the fines and extra money added by Council staff saw \$52,500 donated.

Dog off-leash exercise areas are expanded to: Diamond Bay Reserve, Rodney Reserve (part), Waverley Park (part), Queens Park (part) Varna Park (part). The contamination of stormwater by dog droppings has been identified as an issue of environmental concern.

Armistice Day/Remembrance Day. Council unanimously moves a motion to ensure the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island flags are flown with other ceremonial flags around the Waverley Park cenotaph during Remembrance Day ceremonies. Council also decided to extend invitations to the Coloured Diggers Co-ordinators to be included in the planning of all military service commemoration events.

Council creates a Cultural Diversity Policy to provide a framework for Council and shapes its support of the multicultural community in a changing environment.

Competition for parking spots, particularly at Bondi and Bronte Beaches is described as 'fierce'. A Beach Parking Permit for ratepayers and residents: \$100. For non-residents: \$1,300. Study shows that 80 per cent of the spaces at Bondi Beach are used each year by less than 20 per cent of Waverley residents. Council is 'very keen to encourage people to come to the beach, but perhaps not quite so often by car.'

The winter festival now renamed Bondi Winter Magic Festival. First outdoor 700 metre square ice skating rink is built at Bondi Beach, Australia's largest outdoor rink. It is called the Bondi Bergstation, and proves hugely successful described as 'the world's most unlikely ice rinks'. It is set up on the grass in Bondi Park and later moves to Bondi Beach, then to the front of the Pavilion. All Bondi Winter Magic Festival events are sponsored by Council and Tourism NSW.