

# Newsletter

March 2022



**After:** Significant progress on Bondi Pavilion after 18 months of restoration and preservation work in March 2022. Credit: Buildcorp



**Before:** Bondi Pavilion before restoration in 2020.

## Bondi Pavilion

### Progress towards completion

The historic Bondi Pavilion has been through significant restoration and improvement works across the past 18 months. Despite the challenges of COVID and recent weather events, we are pleased to report that construction on the building advances steadily toward completion.

The major structural works on the beloved Pavilion building are finished. The new terracotta roof tiles laid last year reflect the original Post War Mediterranean architecture look and feel. Taking close care and attention, the team is now finalising the restoration of the iconic building façade.

The revitalised spacious courtyard now includes shady colonnade walkways and palm trees. The courtyard pavement provides a nod to its historic origins, with design features highlighting the original locations of the changing sheds.

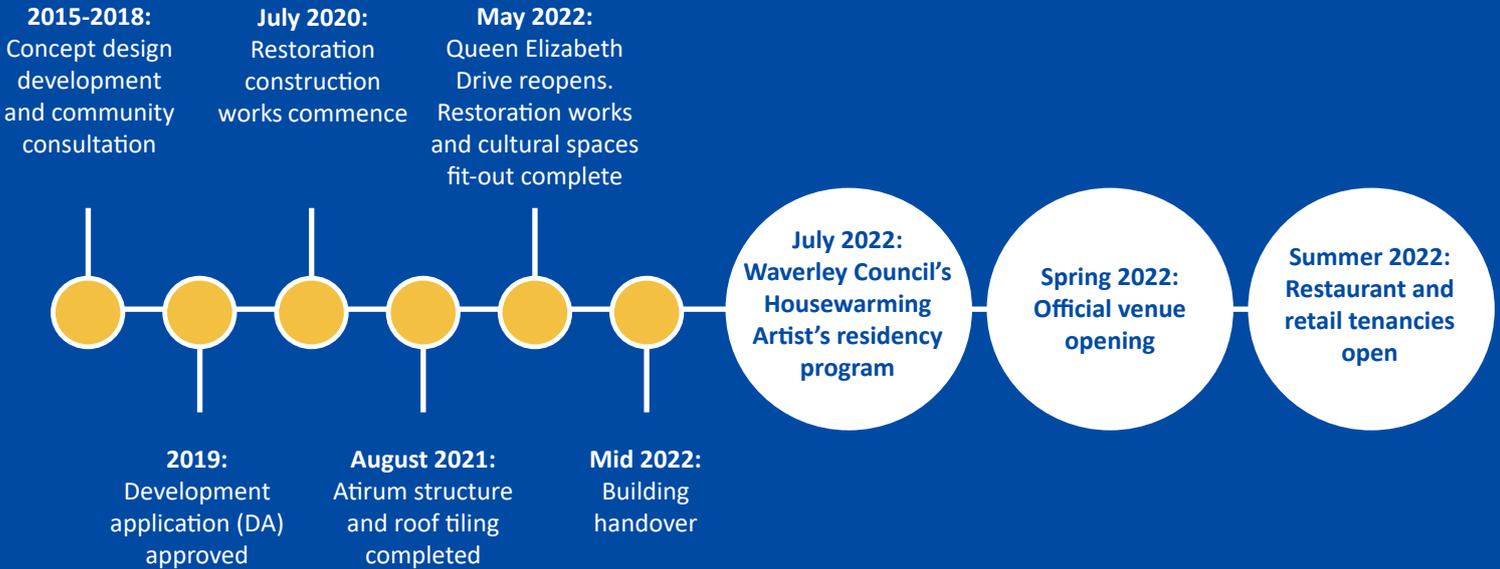
The internal fit-out of the Pavilion is 90% complete. The cultural spaces have been designed to be flexible and adaptable to support a diverse range of community and visitor requirements. The theatre now has new staging, flooring, seating, lighting and state of the art audio and visual equipment. The space has been opened-up to achieve its full creative potential.

In the upcoming months, the building works will be completed, the hoarding will be removed and Queen Elizabeth Drive will reopen. After completion of the main construction works and commissioning (testing) of the cultural and community spaces, the Pavilion will be handed over to Waverley Council by June 2022. A staged opening between winter and summer will welcome back the community, artists and new tenants.

We thank you, the community, for your patience during the project and as we work to bring it to completion.

# Project timeline

We have made significant progress on this complex project and are nearing completion. We have adapted the program extensively over the construction period, to manage the impacts of COVID and wet weather. The timeline below demonstrates our milestones achieved along the way and a look ahead. Waverley Council will open the Pavilion in stages, starting with the Housewarming Artist's Residency Program in July 2022.

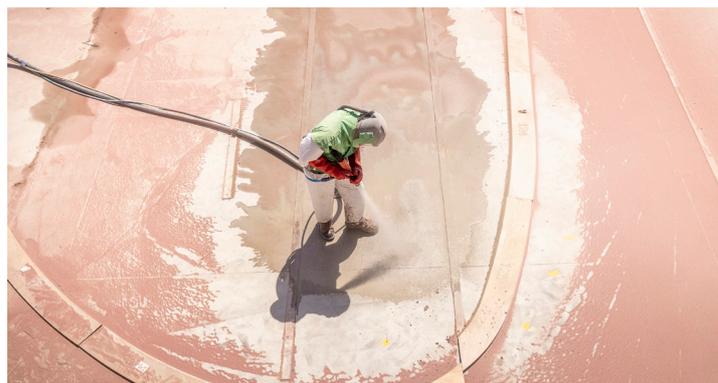


## Historic courtyard

The Bondi Pavilion courtyard now allows visitors to walk through history, with the patterned concrete design on the pavement highlighting the footprint of the original ground floor changing sheds.



The courtyard pavement design is based on the 1928 ground floor layout plan of the original Pavilion, which included dressing sheds in the courtyards. The original Pavilion had capacity for up to 5,000 visitors and included three Turkish Baths, a gymnasium, a band auditorium and dining room and ballroom upstairs. Credit: NLA Hurley Photograph



The historic design in the courtyard is created using a specialising shotblasting method. Using a decorative concrete mix called marangaroo quartz, the blasting impact is changed from light to heavy to create the desired effect on the pavement.

Specialised shotblasting method used. Credit: Buildcorp, March 2022

# Restoration process

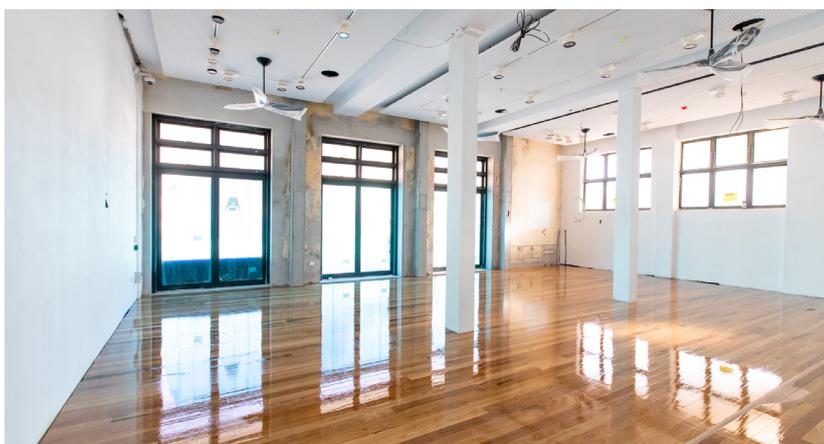
To restore murals and heritage frames in the historic building, our teams worked closely with heritage preservation specialists who investigated the historic style and then developed restoration plans. Heritage specialists treated common problems such as flaking paint, fading and graffiti. Treatments include careful cleaning, re-touching surface damage, graffiti removal and advice on how to minimise the effects of light damage.



Mural restoration in the courtyard. Credit: Buildcorp, March 2022



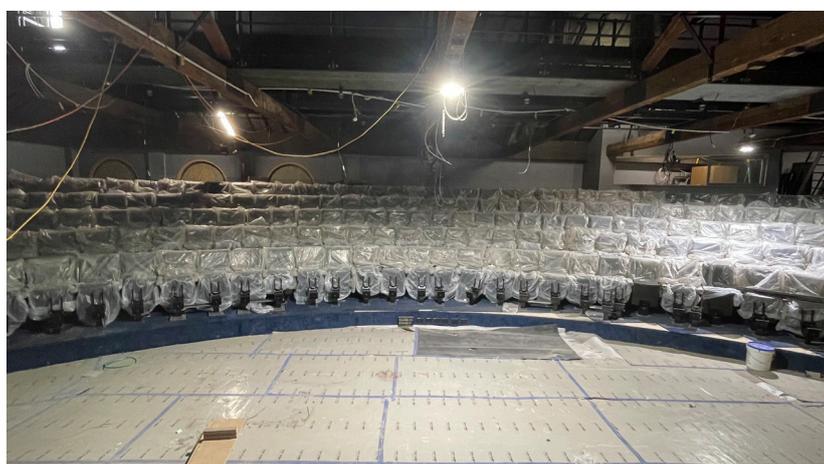
A preservation specialist carefully restoring a historic door frame. Credit: Buildcorp, March 2022



The Yalagang Room in the Bondi Pavilion. Credit: Buildcorp, March 2022

## New flexible cultural spaces

Previously used for amenities, new spaces have been created in the Pavilion for cultural uses. The Yalagang Room and Bondi Story Room have been designed to flexibly adapt to a variety of cultural and community uses such as art exhibitions, dance and physical theatre, workshops, classes and more.



Theatre renovation nearing completion. Credit: Buildcorp, March 2022

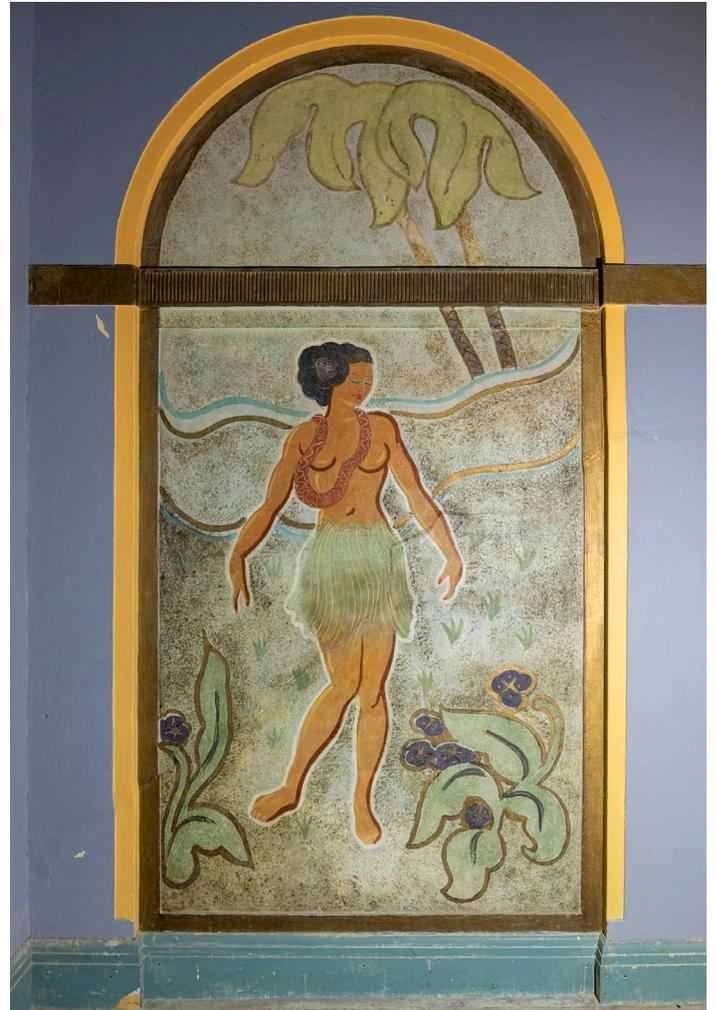
## Theatre re-imagined

The Pavilion Theatre fit-out is reaching completion. The seating has been redesigned to make better use of the available space, significantly improving visual access to the stage. The theatre has new staging, flooring, lighting and state-of-the-art audio and visual equipment. This space can now achieve its full creative potential and be enjoyed by artists, directors, technical teams and visitors.

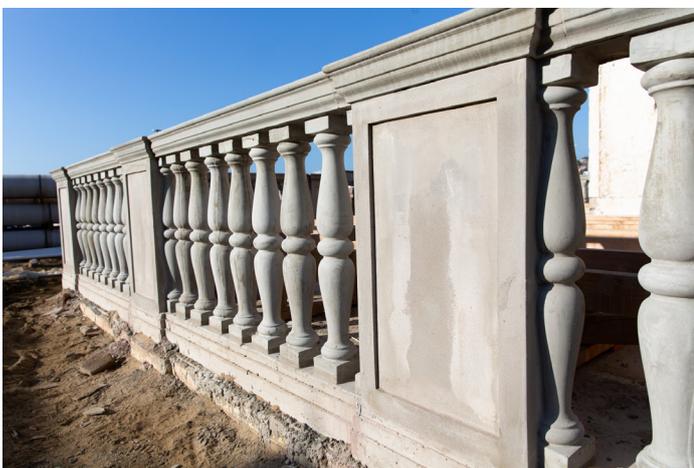
# Do you know this artist?

During the Pavilion renovation, beautiful old murals were discovered on the theatre walls. With attentive care, these were restored and the room was redesigned to make the murals visible to future patrons. We believe the artworks could even date back to the 1930s when the room was used as a ballroom.

We would like to discover more about the murals' creative origins and contributors. If you know the artist or have any other background on this artwork, please email: [bondistoryroom@waverley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bondistoryroom@waverley.nsw.gov.au)



*Old murals discovered and restored in the Pavilion Theatre. Credit: Buildcorp, March 2022*



*Heritage bannister at the beachfront of the Pavilion.  
Credit: Buildcorp, March 2022*

## Heritage beachfront bannister

To construct the building's beachfront bannister, our team completed 3D model scanning of the old remaining bannisters to create a mould. To ensure quality frame and heritage preservation, specialists produced and reviewed several prototypes.

# Works update

## Completed works

- Main Pavilion building structure and fit-out completed
- Roof tiling completed
- Fit-out to the Pavilion Gatehouse completed
- Theatre, Art Gallery and cultural space rooms completed
- Courtyard landscaping completed
- Solar panels installed



Restored courtyard at the Bondi Pavilion. Credit: Buildcorp, March 2022

## Current and upcoming works

- Complete Theatre fit-out
- Complete fit-out of the Hightide room and the community radio and music studios
- Complete restoration of the Gatehouse Archway
- Complete Pavilion façade restoration
- Re-open Elizabeth Road to pedestrians and vehicles
- Complete landscaping
- Remove hoarding around the Pavilion
- Complete building testing and utilisation
- Building handover to Waverley Council

## Feeling social?

-  [facebook.com/WhatsOnWaverley](https://www.facebook.com/WhatsOnWaverley)
-  [Twitter.com/WaverleyCouncil](https://twitter.com/WaverleyCouncil)
-  [Instagram.com/WaverleyCouncil](https://www.instagram.com/WaverleyCouncil)

# Working with the community

The Buildcorp team is committed to working closely with Waverley Council and local stakeholders to minimise disruption in the area.

For enquiries or concerns about the project, please contact us  
E: [bondipavilion@buildcorp.com.au](mailto:bondipavilion@buildcorp.com.au)  
P: 02 9565 0189



Ensuring the community's safety is a top priority of the restoration program. Credit: Buildcorp, December 2021

## Want to know more about the historic project?

Head to [waverley.nsw.gov.au/bondipavilionproject](https://waverley.nsw.gov.au/bondipavilionproject) for the most up-to-date info.

For non-construction enquiries about the Pavilion please contact [pavilionconsultation@waverley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pavilionconsultation@waverley.nsw.gov.au)

Follow Waverley Council on social media to see regular pavilion updates, including stories on the Pavilion's long history.