# WAVERLEY NEWS

### Summer 2023





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## **Contact us**



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**Customer Service Centre** 

NSW 2022

55 Spring St, Bondi Junction,

9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday

⑦ Twitter: /WaverleyCouncil



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Bondi Pavilion Welcome Centre

Queen Elizabeth Drive, Bondi Beach NSW 2026

10am – 4pm, Monday to Sunday

Waverley Council acknowledges the Bidjigal, Birrabirragal and Gadigal people who traditionally occupied the Sydney Coast and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

Front cover: Aerial shot of Bondi Pavilion by Eugene Tan, Aquabumps

# Message from the Mayor

2022 has been a special year, with Sydney re-opening, with activities returning to normal, and parties and gatherings resuming.

In Waverley, welcoming the community back to the beautifully restored and refurbished Bondi Pavilion has been a once in a generation opportunity for us all.

It has been a delight to witness the joy that the spaces and activities now on offer at the Pavilion have brought to people and I urge everyone to get to the Pav and make the most of it.

There is a range of programming over summer with something for everyone from kids activities, to films including our old friends, Flickerfest, community classes, music talks, exhibitions and more.

New events are scheduled each week so please head to the What's On section of the Bondi Pavilion website to keep up to date.

Another wonderful benefit for residents is the Welcome Centre at the Pav, where you can now pay rates, get a parking permit and enjoy a range of Council services down at Bondi Beach,



with no need to go to the Customer Service Centre in Spring Street, Bondi Junction for everything.

This summer, Council is working to trial a new beach safety message, Float to Survive, an evidence-based approach to public safety messaging, with the goal of reducing drownings in our waterways. Working with Randwick Council, we are at the vanguard of testing the effectiveness of the message and the technique for reducing drownings in Australia.

Please stay safe this summer and I would like to wish you, your family and friends and enjoyable and relaxing festive season, no matter what your celebrations look like.

## **Float to Survive**

"If you're struggling in the water, stop struggling, stop swimming, conserve your energy and 'Float to Survive'."

- Bruce Hopkins, Coordinator, Waverley Council Lifeguard Service

Waverley and Randwick City Council, in partnership with the University of NSW (UNSW) Beach Safety Research Group have joined forces this summer to trial a new drowning prevention program called 'Float to Survive'. This year Australia recorded its highest drowning rates in the last 10 years with 339 deaths and many of these drownings occurred at unpatrolled beaches, or out of hours, and in rivers and lakes.

Bruce Hopkins, Coordinator, Waverley Council Lifeguard Service (pictured) said "Float to Survive encourages people to float if they get into trouble in the water and signal for help. It calls for immediate change in how swimmers act when caught in an ocean rip, reducing physical fatigue caused by the instinct to fight and swim, minimising drowning risks by conserving energy and placing a person in a better position to breathe".

Find out more about beach safety at waverley.nsw.gov.au/beachsafe

Summer Beach Patrol Hours: Bondi, Bronte and Tamarama, 6am to 7pm



Please remember that Bondi, Tamarama and Bronte beaches, coastal parks and public streets are alcohol-free zones. Rangers work closely with the Police to ensure the restrictions are observed to help keep everyone safe.

# Major projects with a major impact

Complete in 2022



Bondi Pavilion Bar in action

#### Welcome back to the Pav

Bondi Ward

#### A haven for community, arts and culture

On Wednesday 21 September, Bondi Pavilion reopened its doors to the public.

The grand celebration drew thousands of people eager to experience their first taste of our re-imagined community and cultural hub.

Patrons saw a revamped, revitalized and refreshed Pav. With every step taken, visitors discovered something new, or rediscovered something from the Pav's rich past. They saw the new and improved amenities, gallery, pottery studio, music recording studio and theatre, alongside signage from the Turkish baths in 1920s, original murals from the 1930s, and an indigenous floor mosaic from 1983.

Following the successful opening, the Pav is well and truly on the map as a thriving cultural and arts hub.

We've welcomed back our wonderful community classes and community group meetings including yoga, martial arts and meditation, alongside the local



Bondi Memorial - The artwork, 'Rise', was designed by John Nicholson of Urban Art Projects

radio station, and have created even more experiences for people of all ages and interests to enjoy.

Come along for arts and culture, music, family, tours and experiences, and food!

Find out more at <u>bondipavilion.com.au</u> and see you at the Pav this summer.

## Honoring lives lost and survivors of LGBTQ hate and violence

(Waverley Ward)

Earlier this year, we were honoured to formally unveil the stunning Bondi Memorial with our partners LGBTQ+ health organisation ACON.

The Bondi Memorial is dedicated to all the victims and survivors targeted during a spate of homophobic and transphobic violence from the 1970s to the 1990s in Sydney and NSW.

Located in Marks Park, Tamarama where many of these incidents took place, it commemorates those whose lives were lost and pays tribute to the courage and resilience of those who survived, as well as their families and loved ones.

This important memorial shines a bright light on the impacts of prejudice and discrimination. Simultaneously, it is also a source of hope and healing, reminding us to celebrate diversity, inclusion, and acceptance in our community.

### Onslow Street Reserve Playground reopens

This year we upgraded Onslow Street Reserve Playground. The upgrade included a new play space with a multiplay unit, swings, rubber soft fall, play tunnel and nature play elements. We also planted a new tree and garden beds and improved the path connection to the playground.

Feedback from the community in March 2021 helped inform the design of the upgrade. We hope that our young people enjoy the exploratory and nature play spaces that we have created.

## The best is yet to come

Coming 2023



Boot Factory works in progress

#### **Boot Factory**

#### Lawson Ward

Our restoration and upgrade of the heritage-listed Boot Factory building in Spring St, Bondi Junction and Mill Hill Community Centre is expected to be completed next year. The potential of the restored building as a vibrant community space where history and innovation rub shoulders is becoming more and more evident each day as our works progress. Recent milestones include the installation of new wooden floors and laminated beams on all levels and soaring concrete columns on the top floor of the Boot Factory building which look spectacular.

Supply chain issues and labour shortages, as well as poor weather and latent conditions, have understandably resulted in some delays, but we look forward to this new chapter for the building which the Council is transforming into our first Innovation and Knowledge Hub. The Hub will be a destination where we can nurture ideas to further transform Waverley into a smart city of the future and ensure that neighbouring Waverley Library keeps pace with the knowledge economy.

waverley.nsw.gov.au/bootfactoryupgrade



Artist impression of Bronte Surf Lifesaving Club

#### Bronte Surf Lifesaving Club and Community Facilities Update

[Lawson Ward]

In October, Council and Bronte Surf Lifesaving Club lodged a development application for the upgrade, which will be assessed by the Sydney Eastern Planning Panel.

We hope to deliver a modern and sustainable new club that will be home to over 1,900 Bronte Surf Lifesaving Club members, Council Lifeguards and employees, and a hub for rescues, first aid, training and storing equipment.

Bronte Surf Club trains and maintains more than 400 active volunteer lifesavers on patrol, educates around 800 Nippers each season and is one of the oldest surf clubs in NSW.

haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au/brontesurf-club-and-community-facilities



**Diamond Bay Clifftop** 

## Clifftop Walkway Upgrade

We're working on improving safety for all users of the clifftop walkway at Eastern Reserve, Dover Heights and Diamond Bay Reserve, Diamond Bay by upgrading sections of the coastal walkway.

We completed temporary remediation works in 2020 to address safety concerns and are now looking to implement more permanent solutions. This will include creating four new viewing platforms and relocating the existing Diamond Bay viewing platform to capture coastline views in a safer location, replacing the boardwalk and shifting the boardwalk in sections to improve safety, as well as replacing fencing to improve visibility, access and safety.

Construction will commence in 2023. This project is proudly funded by the NSW Government.

waverley.nsw.gov.au/clifftopwalkwayupgrade

## We want you!

Get involved in your community and make a difference

#### Do you know a Local Hero?

Our annual Local Hero Awards recognise those in our community who are passionate about making a difference, and those dedicated to making Waverley a special place to live.

Nominations for the 2023 Awards will be opening in February 2023. Do you know someone deserving of a nomination?



Find out more at waverley.nsw.gov.au/localheroawards



L-R: Mayor Paula Masselos with 2021 Local Hero Award Winner Louise Mulroney



Waverley Council Engagement team at Have Your Say Day pop-up

#### Make a difference in the community

There are many ways to get involved with your local community. We'd love for you to participate, have your say, give back, and help make Waverley an even better place to live, work and visit.

You can help make a difference and connect with your community by:

- Volunteer and help those in need
- Join a community group of your interest and connect with like-minded people
- Make friends with other green thumbs with our Public gardening program
- Share your ideas by joining a Neighbourhood or Local Village Improvement Project
- Create a safe Street Play event with your neighbours
- Sign up to Have Your Say at haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au
- · Join local residents and attend precinct meetings

Find out more at waverley.nsw.gov.au/volunteering

#### Grab your grant

Heads up! Our Community and Cultural, Environmental and Creative Street Grants will be available in March 2023.

If you are working on a project that will benefit the local community, environment, or streets and need some help, our Small Grants Program is a fantastic opportunity that can help you get the support you need.

waverley.nsw.gov.au/ smallgrants

## Celebrating winners in Waverley in 2022



2022 Brightest and Best winners

#### **Big business**

The Brightest & Best Business Awards bring together our local business community to recognise their contribution towards making Waverley a dynamic place to live, work and shop. The awards are open to all businesses large or small that operate across Waverley, with all entries assessed against their industry peers.

Our economy is driven by our local businesses who contribute to our thriving community by providing employment opportunities and the goods and services that make Waverley a great place to live and do business.

For a full list of winners, visit waverley.nsw.gov.au/business awards



2022 Mark & Evette Moran Nib Literary Award short-listed authors

#### Mark & Evette Moran Nib Literary Award 2022

Congratulations to Dr Delia Falconer, Newtown author and Senior Lecturer at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS), who won the 2022 Mark and Evette Moran Nib Literary Award for her book *Signs & Wonders* (Scribner Australia) on 16 November.

Falconer is the second author in the Nib Award's 21-year celebrated history to win the \$20,000 Nib Award twice. She first won the Award in 2011 for her extraordinary book *Sydney*.

The \$2,500 Nib People's Choice Prize was awarded to Glebe academics and acclaimed psychologists, Dr Rachel E. Menzies, of Sydney University, and Professor Ross G. Menzies, of UTS, for their co-authored work *Mortals* (Allen & Unwin).

The Nib Award celebrates excellence in research and writing and is presented annually by Waverley Council with the generous support of principal sponsors Mark and Evette Moran. It remains Australia's only major literary award of its kind presented by a local council and is judged on high literary merit, quality of research, readability and value to the community.

Be sure to visit, <u>waverley</u>. nsw.gov.au/nib for your complete Nib Summer Reading Guide for a great escape, chosen by the 2022 Nib Literary Award Judges, Jamie Grant, Katerina Cosgrove, and Lee Kofman.



L-R: Judges Daniel Mudie Cunningham, Michelle Cawthorn, Waverley Art Prize winner Tonee Messiah and Mayor of Waverley, Paula Masselos

#### 36 years of the Waverley Art Prize

The Waverley Art Prize has continued to attract some of Australia's most cutting-edge artists. This year was no different with over 780 artworks received in a variety of mediums from painting, drawing and printmaking. This year's judges', artists Michelle Cawthorn and Daniel Mudie Cunningham.

The Waverley Art Prize is one of the many ways that Council helps recognise, nurture and award our artistic community as part of our ongoing commitment to the arts.

Fostering emerging artists to have a voice in our community is one of the most important legacies of this prize, and we're so proud of the artists who have entered over the years.

To view the full list of winners, visit <u>waverley.nsw.gov.au/wap</u>

## Second Nature

We're lucky enough to live in one of Sydney's most beautiful places. We're committed to keeping it this way by making sustainability Second Nature.



EV charing station in Grafton Street, Bondi Junction

#### Net Zero carbon emissions by 2030

In 2022, Waverley launched a new Environmental Action plan with strengthened environmental measures, including new Net Zero emission targets for our Council by 2030 and for the community by 2035 (announced in 2019).

To help meet these ambitious targets we finalised the Electric Vehicle (EV) Transportation Policy and accelerated the rollout of EV charging stations at Grafton St and Eastgate Car Park, with new on-street chargers coming soon to Castlefield St, Trafalgar Ave, Glenayr Ave and Waverley Library. We commenced a long term 100% renewable electricity contract with Zen Energy.

#### Banning single use plastics

In 2022, we celebrated the ban of single use plastics in NSW and supported businesses and residents to reduce single use products through reusable container trials at local food based businesses, providing resident rebates on reusable sanitary products and nappies and providing more opportunities for disposing of problem wastes responsibly. We are continuing to work with apartments to reduce recycling contamination and are now holding regular Recycle It Saturday problem waste drop off events, in addition to our drop-off points in Bondi Junction.



Storm runner by Ken Kench momentary.magic.au

#### Love the Coast

A staggering 218 submissions were received in the 2022 'Love the Coast' photography competition. Enter your photo of our spectacular coastline before 6 January 2023 to win great prizes. You can also join our Summerama beach cleans-ups, clothes swaps and more on Sunday 26 February at Bondi and Bronte.

#### secondnature.org.au



Ecological restoration in Bronte Gully continues. Planted in 2018, the eastern end of a large infestation of Giant Reed and now a self-sustaining native habitat.

#### **Restoring our environment**

Council has been continuing its work on the ecological restoration of Tamarama Gully, Thomas Hogan Reserve and Bronte Gully by removing weeds and planting 1600 indigenous plant seedlings from the Indigigrow Nursery. This will reinstate a self-sustaining ecosystem characteristic of the original native vegetation communities once present on these sites and improve habitats for native flora and fauna. And we have expanded the successful Living Connections program to provide much needed habitat for small birds and pollinators on private land. Free native seedling, expert advice and education resources on habitat gardening are now available to residents across Waverley.

## **Events**

#### What's On Waverley

Discover local events at waverley.nsw.gov.au/events bondipavilion.com.au/whats\_on

### **12/** NYE at Dudley Page Reserve

Saturday 31 December 6pm – 12.30am Dudley Page Reserve, Dover Heights

Enjoy unobstructed, panoramic views of the 9pm and 12am Sydney Harbour fireworks in a fun and relaxed environment.

DJ, food stalls and licenced bar available.

#### Summer Cinema

#### Wednesdays 6.30 – 8.30pm Bondi Pavilion Theatre

This summer, make Bondi Pavilion your choice for must see movies with screenings of classic cinema from around the world in our brand-new theatre.

#### **O1/** Summer School Holiday Program 6 – 25 January Various times and locations

Keep the kids entertained this summer with a bumper program of kid's workshops and events hosted at Bondi Pavilion, Waverley Library, Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre and the Waverley Woollahra Art School.

#### Flickerfest

#### 20 – 29 January Bondi Pavilion

Your favourite international short film festival returns to Bondi this January for just 10 days.

It's Australia's leading Academy Award accredited BAFTArecognised Short Film Festival.

Flickerfest is the country's largest Australian and International short film competition, screening the best of shorts from Australia and around the world.

### 02/ Summerama

#### Sunday 26 February Bondi and Bronte Beach

The season for Summerama has arrived! It's time to get outside and have some fun by the coast. Join our beach cleans-ups, clothes swaps and more.

#### Sydney World Pride 2023

#### 17 February – 5 March 2023

Gather. Dream. Amplify.

Sydney WorldPride will celebrate Australia's brilliant and diverse LGBTQIA+ community, in a city renowned for its diversity, inclusivity and proud LGBTQIA+ population, all during the glorious Sydney summer. It will feature more than 300 fabulous events, including the World Pride Bondi Beach Party on Saturday 4 March from 3pm to 10pm.

sydneyworldpride.com