

WAVERLEY NEWS

Autumn 2025



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Photo: Bondi Pilgrimage by Brandon Bailey, winner in our annual Love the Coast photography competition (Living Connections category winner).



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COUNCIL

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Find out more about our Mayor & Councillors or at waverley.nsw.gov.au/councillors

Message from the Mayor

As I reflect on my first six months as Mayor, I am proud of the positive and transformative changes being delivered across Waverley. My team and I have been working hard to ensure our community thrives and remains the best place to live, work and visit. I am excited to share some of our key achievements so far.

One of our most ambitious undertakings is the reimagining of Bondi Junction through a Master Plan process – the first in 20 years. This vision will bring transformative change, including the development of a vibrant civic and cultural precinct alongside an exciting entertainment district. We have also initiated the process to transform the old Council Chambers into a dynamic community multipurpose space, ensuring that our residents have better access to recreational facilities.

Delivering on key infrastructure projects remains a priority. We have advanced the much-needed upgrade of Bronte Surf Life Saving Club and Community Facilities Building – a project that has been long overdue. With strong community consultation and Council's





endorsement, this essential upgrade will now proceed, strengthening the role our surf clubs play in keeping us safe on our beaches. We have also fast-tracked improvements to Rose Bay North Shops and the North Bondi Bus Terminus, enhancing accessibility and amenity in these key locations.

I am also very proud that Waverley has taken a leadership role in fostering social cohesion, co-leading a Mayoral Roundtable and becoming the first Council to adopt a Local Government Antisemitism Policy. I thank my fellow Mayors across Sydney for their involvement and leadership so that our communities can remain inclusive and connected.

As ever, our commitment to community events and festivals has never been stronger. We have increased events and activations, particularly at Bondi Beach, making full use of the Pavilion as a cultural hub – and there is much more to come.

It is an honour to serve as your Mayor, and I look forward to working together to make Waverley an even better place to live.

Will Nemes
Mayor of Waverley

Photo: Mayors of Sydney together at the Social Cohesion Roundtable in February 2025

Booking venues in Waverley is now EasyAs!



Are you looking for a local venue to host your next celebration, social club or business event? It's never been easier to find and book one of Council's many venues from sports courts, Bondi Pavilion, community halls and the Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre.

Our new platform enables you to:

- see real-time availability across all venues,
- easily search, reserve and pay for your space,
- quickly receive a booking confirmation
- get updates on essential booking details.

This is just another way we're improving online services for local residents and businesses.

Remember, it's also now EasyAs to submit parking permit applications and renewals online and organise a clean-up collection at a time that suits you.

Book a Council venue



Find other online services



Our jam-packed Autumn School Holiday Program



The Autumn school holidays run between 11 – 30 April and, as always, we have a fantastic lineup of activities for kids across our venues. We have something for all ages and interests, from sports and games to workshops and crafts. Here are some highlights.



See our full School Holiday Program

Enchanting adventures at Bondi Pavilion

For the final weekend of the school holidays, every nook and cranny of Bondi Pavilion will be taken over by a mesmerising menagerie of puppets. Alongside a talented troupe of local young performers – trained by the acclaimed theatre-makers Erth Visual & Physical Inc – you will embark on an extraordinary adventure to get up close to these life-sized puppets of endangered creatures.

Arts & crafts at Waverley Library

These school holidays, we have crafts, crafts, and more crafts at Waverley Library! If your child is an avid creative, or just wants to get in touch with their inner artist, they will find plenty of opportunities to get crafty at our Easter Craft, Pixel Paper Craft, or Robot Craft sessions.

Sports workshops at the Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre

If your little ones can't get enough of team sports or are bouncing off the walls at home, sign them up for one of many sports workshops with our expert coaches and facilitators. During our school holiday programs, we regularly offer basketball, soccer, tennis, four sports, karate, and archery. This autumn, after wonderful feedback from our summer program, we will also offer surfing lessons.

Photo credit: Erth Visual & Physical Inc puppets, Lucy Parakhina



BY Young
People
FOR Young
People

We are the Future, and the Future is Now: Youth Week 2025

Youth Week is an annual celebration between 9 and 17 April.

Here's what's on in Waverley for Youth Week...

Beach Bash '25

The highly anticipated Beach Bash event is back for Youth Week 2025. This popular event unites local young people for an unforgettable night of live music. Hosted at the iconic Bondi Pavilion on 12 April from 5.30 – 10pm, the bash will feature performances by emerging bands, DJs, and Bondi WAVE alumni.

2025 Featured acts:

- Cross Pollinate
- Lucid Dreams
- Gloss
- The Tide
- Baby Fever
- The Mackenzies
- Broken Jaw



Rising Makers Markets

For the first time, at our new and beloved Boot Factory, we will be hosting a market to platform Waverley's best young local creatives and entrepreneurs.

Held on Saturday 12 April, from 10am to 2pm, the markets will feature original art, ceramics, jewellery, homewares and much more from skilled makers 24 years and under.

Come along to the Boot Factory in Bondi Junction to pick up some unique wares and support emerging local talent.

With fresh tunes and delicious bites available throughout the day, join us as we celebrate NSW Youth Week with the makers of tomorrow.



Learn more about
Youth Week in Waverley

Bringing our community together

We're proud of the strong sense of community felt across our LGA and offer various initiatives and events that help strengthen cohesion, foster connections, and empower all ages.



Bringing our seniors and toddlers together in this Intergenerational Play Program

Calling all adults 65 and over!

This is an incredible opportunity for older adults (65+) to participate in an Intergenerational Program under the "INTEGRITY" research trial. The program brings adults and pre-school-aged children together for fun-filled and engaging activities, hoping to improve health and well-being outcomes for all.

Starting soon, this 20-week program involving 2-hour weekly sessions will be held at nearby local preschools!

Eligibility requirements apply.



Sign up or find out more by calling us on +61 2 8052 4365 or emailing us on integrity-study@georgeinstitute.org.au to find out more



Have a chat & a cuppa with us about end-of-life planning

We're proud to be hosting a series of Death Cafes throughout the year at the newly renovated Mill Hill Centre in Bondi Junction.

Through forums such as Death Cafes people have an opportunity to explore their thoughts and feelings about death, dying and end-of-life in a non-judgmental and compassionate environment.

The next Waverley Death Cafes are set for 2 & 30 May.



Find out what to expect from a Death Cafe

Art & literary prizes in 2025

Each year, Waverley Council proudly offers two prestigious national awards. The Mark & Evette Moran Nib Literary Award acknowledges the best in research-based literature, while the Waverley Art Prize celebrates excellence in Australian painting and drawing. Both prizes are currently open for submissions.



The Mark & Evette Moran Nib Literary Award

With a major prize of \$40,000, the Mark & Evette Moran Nib Literary Award is Waverley Council's annual celebration of the best in Australian research-based literature.

Books are judged by a panel of three expert judges using the criteria of literary merit, quality research, readability and value to the community.

Previous winners of the Award include celebrated historian Claire Wright, biologist Tim Low, journalist Gideon Haigh, and novelists Delia Falconer and Melissa Lucashenko.



Waverley Art Prize

The Waverley Art Prize has been running since 1986 as a painting and drawing prize. The Prize is aimed at emerging to professional artists, with the work of finalists exhibited at Bondi Pavilion Art Gallery and an Open Prize of \$15,000.

The Judges for 2025 are Anne Ryan, Curator Australian Art, AGNSW, and Jasper Knight, artist.

The funds raised through the art prize support Waverley Woollahra Art School and help them sustain their role as the longest running artist run initiative in Waverley.



Nominations for this year's prize open in April.

Find out more



Entries for this year's prize close on 11 May.

Find out more and enter

The Mark & Evette Moran Nib Literary Award is presented through the generous support of Principal Sponsors Mark and Evette Moran, and community partner Gertrude and Alice Bookshop and Café.

What's happening in the Lawson Ward



Charing Cross Streetscape Upgrade

The Charing Cross Streetscape Upgrade Civil Works kicked off earlier this year and will continue throughout 2025.

Early site establishment works have been completed at Bronte Road and Macpherson Park work sites. Preliminary electrical works have been ongoing since mid-2024 and are expected to be completed by mid-May 2025.

Upcoming works include widening footpaths, repaving, tree-planting and street furniture installation.

Waverley Cemetery Shelter Rehabilitation

Work at Waverley Cemetery has been ongoing to restore the contemplation shelters. The seven contemplation shelters were in varying states of disrepair due to their age, construction material, and exposure to coastal elements. They required urgent remediation and/or restoration to provide a safe, peaceful space for reflection.

Five shelters have been open to the public since last December, and work is underway on the remaining two shelters.



View the staging plan maps for civil and electrical works

What's happening in the Waverley Ward



Marks Park Coastal Walk Remediation

In April 2024, extreme coastal weather and natural erosion caused a cliff to collapse below Marks Park on the Bondi coastal walk, taking part of the walkway with it.

Geotechnical engineers have inspected the site and determined that the walkway cannot be reopened until cliff stabilisation works are completed and it is repaired.

Council have engaged specialist contractors to undertake this work, starting soon, weather permitting. We expect the walkway to reopen in the second half of 2025.

Thank you for your patience as we complete this complicated work. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to this beautiful part of our coastline soon.

Miller Street Upgrade

Progress is underway for the Miller Street Upgrade project which is now in the detailed design stage after our stage two community consultation in 2024.

This upgrade aims to create a more welcoming space for residents and ensure safer environment for all road users. This upgrade aims to create a more welcoming space for residents and ensure a safer environment for all road users. Stay tuned for updates!



Learn more about the project

What's happening in the Hunter Ward

Barracluff Park Improvements

Waverley Council is improving Barracluff Sportsfield to enhance the playing surface and create better sporting facilities for our community.

The upgrade includes enhanced drainage, irrigation and turf quality. This work is essential for maintaining a safe community sporting facility that serves our local sporting clubs and recreational users.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in Autumn 2025!



Road Infrastructure Renewal

We are excited to announce that as part of our yearly Road Infrastructure Renewal program, we are reconstructing and refurbishing the footpaths, kerbs, and gutters in Young Street and Mitchell Street in Hunter Ward, along with several other streets across our local government area (LGA).

This program draws from the Waverley's People, Movement and Places transport vision to improve local streetscapes, making it safer and more enjoyable to move around Waverley. The upgrades will not only enhance the aesthetics of the area but also provide better walkability and accessibility for all residents.

We appreciate the community's patience and understanding while these works are in progress.



Find out more about the renewal program

What's happening in the Bondi Ward



Curlewis Street Streetscape Upgrade

Curlewis Street is an important community landmark marking the entrance to Bondi Beach and the Waverley area. The upgrade works make the area safer for all road users, promote active transport, and create a more inviting and vibrant space for the community to enjoy.

Stage 1 of the project is complete and includes improved footpaths, new trees, plantings, and landscaped areas. It also features an upgraded outdoor dining environment, improved pedestrian crossings, new multifunction light poles, and approximately 400m of a new two-way separated bike path.

Stage 2 is underway to implement bike path transitions and improvements at the Campbell Parade intersection, and it will be operational shortly.

Further updates will be provided regarding upcoming stages. We would like to extend our appreciation to the community while works have been in progress.

Bondi Park Electrical and Lighting Upgrade

Council has been working on Stage 2 improvements to the lighting, footpaths, access, and parking along Park Drive at Bondi Beach. The final stage of works involves substation power upgrades, which will continue throughout April and May. This new energy supply connection will ensure that our electrical and lighting systems meet both current needs and future demands.

We're making strides towards a waste-free Waverley

We're making it easier for residents to reduce waste and recycle food waste to get us closer to our target of increasing waste recovery by 80%.

Recycle Mate

Don't know if you can recycle your sunscreen bottle? Curious what to do with your old table now that you have a new one? Use Recycle Mate! Simply go to the A-Z recycling page on our website and use the new tool bar and map to find out how to dispose of your waste correctly.

Food waste education series

To help you help the environment and save money, we have been hosting workshops focusing on fun ways to reduce your food waste. So far, residents have learnt about zero-waste cooking, taken a deep dive into fermentation, learnt food preservation methods and will even try making beeswax cling wraps from scratch next month.



FOGO Trial

By 2030, the NSW Government will require every household in NSW to dispose of Food and garden Organics (FOGO) via a dedicated FOGO service.

Six months ago, Waverley commenced a FOGO service trial with 2000 residents, providing each household with a kitchen caddy, compostable liners, and instruction guides to get started.

So far, the Waverley community has sent 100 tonnes of organic material to be composted, turned into fertiliser and reused to help green areas grow instead!

Thank you to our wonderful trial residents who have been FOGO'ing like pros. Your insightful feedback is helping us to improve the service, ready for rollout across the LGA more widely.



Try Recycle Mate



Find out more about the FOGO trial

Help make sustainability Second Nature in Waverley



Our community is passionate about the environment, and taking steps to help protect it. Here are simple actions you can take to help us protect our place, and the planet:



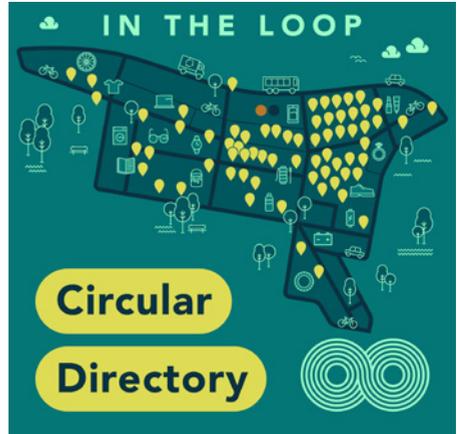
1. Use the Waverley Habitat Gardening Guide to

create an urban habitat in your garden, or access free plants by joining our the Living Connections program.



2. Request a Tree for your street to shade, cool and

beautify your street, as well as to support local biodiversity. Request Council to plant a tree outside your property and enjoy these benefits at your place.



3. Help us loop Bondi Junction into the circular economy by visiting these

leading local businesses to repair, reuse, refill and recycle your stuff.



4. Turn your food scraps into nutritious garden soil

with a discounted composting or worm farming system from Compost Revolution.



5. Subscribe to our monthly environment newsletter, and hear about

local champions, upcoming events and even more ways to help make sustainability Second Nature in Waverley.

Contact us

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 **Customer Service Centre**

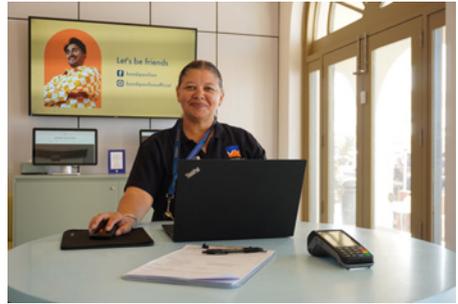
55 Spring St, Bondi Junction,
NSW 2022

9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

 **Bondi Pavilion Customer Service**

Queen Elizabeth Drive,
Bondi Beach NSW 2026

10am to 4pm, Monday to Sunday



Want more info about a story?
Scan the QR codes below.



Bondi Pavilion



Stay Safe This Summer



Have Your Say



Second Nature



What's On



Waverley Library



Switch to e-Rates

Help save paper by registering to receive your rates notice by email. Scan the QR code and register today to view and pay your rates online. It's that easy!

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