



Newport Residents Association Inc.

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President's Report for year ended 30th June 2016

I would like to thank the members of the Newport Residents Association allowing me the privilege of being their President for the past twelve months. The year, as has been the case for the last few, has been active and tumultuous in many ways.

One of the major ways that the Newport Residents Association has been able to represent and influence matters that affect Newport residents is the close involvement with our local council and councillors of Pittwater LGA. Unfortunately in May this year the current state government, with no mandate, abolished our local Pittwater council and merged it to form one Northern Beaches Council made up of the prior Manly, Warringah & Pittwater LGA's, this was despite 89% of the Pittwater residents voting against such an amalgamation. This change I believe will make it a lot harder for the NRA to effectively represent and influence matters for the benefit of our community, but we will still try.

We are extremely grateful to have had two Newport Resident Association members as councillors in the outgoing Pittwater Council being Sue Young and Kylie Ferguson (Kylie was deputy Mayor). Kylie has been appointed to the Implementation Advisory Group in the new council. On behalf of the NRA I would like to thank these two ladies for the huge effort they have put in for both the interests of Newport and the wider Pittwater community over nearly four years.

I need to make special mention of thanks to our Treasurer and past President Kyle Hill and committee members Peter Middleton, Bill Thompson, Selena Webber & Wendy Dunnett for their support and assistance during the year.

The year in brief

- Submissions to IPART and the Boundaries commission re our opposition to the forced amalgamation of Pittwater LGA including direct lobbying and direct representation at public meetings
- Active representation in Pittwater Forever, a federation of nineteen Pittwater community groups, to fight the amalgamation
- Representation on all four PWC Community reference Groups (a special thanks to those members who represented the NRA)
- Participation in other PWC workshops and advisory groups such as the RAD workshops & Mona Vale Place Plan etc.
- Submissions re Planning law changes to site coverage.

- Submissions regarding Development Applications which were not in accordance with the Newport Master Plan, parking matters, fuel tankers in back streets, wood fire heater rules, new proposed planning assessment panel, the extension of the B-Line bus service to Newport
- Submission against the extension of the RMYC marina (and support the Horseshoe Cove Assn in this matter especially the possible precedent it may set)
- Community and financial support for the 2016 Newport Sculpture Trail event
- Review of over 100 DA's and Section 96 applications and attendance and participation at Land & Environment Court conciliation conferences
- Representation at most twice monthly council meetings during the year speaking to items on the Agenda where necessary

For the year ahead we need to attempt to continue an active involvement in the new council to ensure the interests of Newport and Pittwater are maintained. I invite all members and residents to contribute their skills and a few hours of their time during this coming year, to help in the quest to maintain Newport and the Pittwater region as the beautiful, clean and natural place we have come to appreciate and enjoy.

Thank you.

Gavin Butler
President 2015/2016