



Newport Residents Association Inc.

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President's Report for year ended 30th June 2017

I would like to thank the members of the Newport Residents Association for allowing me the privilege once again of being their President for the past twelve months. The year has been very active and represents the first year of being part of the new amalgamated Northern Beaches Council.

One of the major ways in the past that the Newport Residents Association had been able to represent and influence matters that affected Newport Residents was the close involvement with our local (now dissolved) Pittwater Council and councillors. The new Northern Beaches Council is one of the biggest in the state and so far the concerns that we had about being heard or being able to influence a large council covering so many different towns and villages appears to be playing out to our detriment. The Northern Beaches Council is still being run by an Administrator until the elections this September and whether matters that affect Newport will improve after three locally elected councillors are in place, remains to be seen. We will only have three out of fifteen councillors in the new council make-up.

We do have two of our members representing us on two of the Strategic Reference Groups in the new council (we previously had five in our smaller council) and I would like to personally thank Lorrie Morgan and Peter Middleton for being prepared to stand. It is unfortunate that the NBC refuses to acknowledge these two people as representatives of our Resident Association, preferring to note them as only as community representatives.

We have remained a member of Pittwater Forever, which was originally a federation of 19 Pittwater community groups who came together to fight for the retention of the Pittwater LGA. Pittwater Forever has remained but with a new focus on the retention of the attributes achieved for Pittwater over its 24 year history in the green, built and community environments.

We will continue to try and work with the new council for the benefit of the Newport community in whatever way we can and I invite all members to be involved as possible in helping make this happen. In this next year the NRA needs to reach out to a wider and younger section of our community to ensure the interest of our wider community are heard.

I would like to make special mention of thanks to our Secretary, Wendy Dunnet, our Treasurer Kyle Hill and our committee members Peter Middleton, Sue Young, Bill Thompson and Selena Webber for their support and assistance during the year.

Thank you

Gavin Butler
President 2016/2017