

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT AGM 2023**

**Dear Neighbours,**

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM starting 10:00am Sunday March 17th at the Elvina Bay Fireshed.

Below are the main highlights from this year.

**Twilight in the Park**

On the heels of last years most fun Bush Ball, we held Twilight in the Park, a great music event and successful fundraiser for the WPCA. A big thank you to everyone who came and a special thank you to Prue Colville and Ron Thiessen for organising such a fun afternoon and great music. This year we are planning the biannual Bush Ball, so keep tuned for dates.

**Church Point Infrastructure**

Some components of the stage 2 masterplan works have been completed, these being the new boardwalk around the Church Point shop and the temporary tie-up pontoon.

Council will soon release plans for the Thomas Stephens Reserve Upgrade and the realignment of Pittwater Road. These works are expected to be exhibited this month (March) with the road realignment work to commence in Winter 2024 and the works at Thomas Stephens Reserve to follow in Winter 2025.

The relocation of the temporary ferry pontoon including the ferry masters shed are not included in these works. We have been in contact with State and Local government as well as NSW Maritime. Even though the moorings have been moved, which previously was the main impediment to the relocation, each of the stakeholders keeps passing the buck claiming no budget, complaints from users of Cargo Wharf and a general lack of desire to do what was agreed. We are continuing to work with onshore groups to put the case forward to complete what was agreed in 1997.

On a positive note Council approved the construction of the Commuter Wharf extension where the old temporary wharf was at Rostrevor Reserve. Technically this is temporary, the preferred plan being another arc added further into Pittwater. NSW Maritime is adamant this will not happen as the additional arc will pose a navigation hazard so the temporary solution will most likely be the long term solution. Exact numbers and the design have not been finalised nor the funding.

CCTV has been installed at Cargo Wharf, Church Point and detection loops will follow soon. This should allow the bollards to be removed and will permit non-commercial users to access Cargo Wharf on weekends.

**WPCA Website**

The website continues to be our primary means of communication. I recommend people check it frequently as it contains not only information and news about the Bays, but also issues outside of our immediate area which could impact our way of life. I would like to thank Wayne Lazarides and Martin Didsbury, for their continued efforts in maintaining, updating and managing this very valuable community resource. I would also like to thank Prue Colville for her keeping us up to date with Bays News. Go to: [www.westpittwater.com.au](http://www.westpittwater.com.au)



### **Government proposed changes to planning rules**

The state government has proposed sweeping changes to planning and increasing density across NSW. Please go to the WPCA website for further information and ways to have your say on this very important issue.

### **Northern Beaches Council**

With the amalgamation of Pittwater, Warringah and Manly Councils into the one Northern Beaches Council (NBC) it has become one of the largest councils in the State. Unfortunately, this has resulted in a bureaucratic one size fits all approach to many issues especially when it comes to a community such as ours that doesn't fit the norm. One thing that has caused much discussion amongst the Committee and with Council is the proposed changes to Local Environment Plans (LEP) & DCP. The WPCA has joined Pittwater Community Alliance (PCA) to advocate and protect the character of all of Pittwater. NBC are planning a demand management study of Church Point parking and WPCA successfully advocated to be consulted on the terms of reference for this review. We have also been advocating for improved commuter boat parking at Church Point and better access for Cargo Wharf users.

### **Pasadena**

The application for a PSA license by the Pasadena was refused. This is good news as if successful it would have allowed for intensification of use, increased noise and more stress on infrastructure. In addition, a plan of management was imposed on the Pasadena requiring acoustic treatment to the premises and noise monitoring devices.

### **Fire Trails**

Committee members have worked with NPWS and Council who manage the repair and maintenance work of the fire trails in Lovett Bay and Elvina Bay.

The WPCA supports the NSW RFS and encourages community members to join the West Pittwater Brigade. The Brigade is committed to developing the capability of members, so they can respond appropriately and safely in times of emergency.

I would like to welcome all new residents to the community and to the Association. There are many opportunities for people to contribute without being on the Committee. If you would like to be involved but not formally on the Committee please come up to me or one of the Committee members after the AGM or at any time. We are always available to talk.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the AGM.

Once again, thanks to the Community and Committee for their support.

**Michael Wiener**

President

