

# MANLY COMMUNITY FORUM

A community-led monthly newsletter for Manly residents

June 2022

## Hop Skip Jump Bus Under Threat

Our beloved Hop, Skip and Jump Bus service is under threat. Don't worry, the Manly Ward Councillors led by Deputy Mayor Candy Bingham, are rallying to keep the service running. **But we need your help.**

Other Councillors claim that it is unfair that \$850,000 is spent annually on the bus service for a few people in the Manly Ward. There is a view that these funds would be better spent on fixing potholes and installing new footpaths. But Manly Ward councillors say Manly is different - with high density living, elderly people and families with no access to a car. These Councillors have called for a cost-benefit analysis to make the bus service more cost-effective.

Now that the State Government has privatised the Northern Beaches State bus services one suggestion is for Council to approach the NSW State Government to become a 'transport provider'. In doing this a fee could be charged for patrons to use the service. Opal cards would be valid and this would go some way to making the service financially sustainable. If successful it could be extended to other areas as suggested by those ratepayers further north.

It will take time to develop the proposal and negotiate with the NSW Government, but it does give the Manly community time to demonstrate that they want and need this service.

Please email [councillors@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au](mailto:councillors@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au) with your personal stories about the fabulous HSJ bus and why it should continue. And ask all your family and friends to send an email as well to show that our "Skippy" bus service is much needed and loved in Manly. And please fill in a short questionnaire by using the QR code below.



## AGENDA

- Council work update Little Manly and Marine Parade
- Sydney Water update
- Manly Place Plan, Night Time Economy & Corso DAS
- Shelly Beach toilets update

## Join the Manly Community Forum Executive

We are seeking volunteers for the Manly Community Forum Executive. The Forum has been running for over 25 years. Over this time there have been several chairs, most recently Ray Matheson and Cathy Griffin have co chaired the Forum and are the Council liaison people.

In addition we have a well oiled executive machine that does all the behind the scenes work such as the coordinating Secretary, Treasurer, newsletter delivery coordinator, lots of wonderful newsletter delivery people, newsletter content creators and graphic artists who put the newsletter together. Many from our local community have contributed in these roles over the years.

It is now time to refresh and in some roles hand over the baton. Ray Matheson our Chair has some health issues and needs to take a step back as does our amazing secretary. Please come to our next meeting if you are in any way interested in contributing to the Manly Community Forum executive.

Our forum is one of several in the area offering a direct line of communication to Senior Council staff and Councillors. It is important to keep the Council informed about community priorities and for Council to keep us abreast of emerging and other issues.



OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON MONDAY 20 JUNE AT 7PM AT MANLY YACHT CLUB

## Other Ward Forum issues

The May Wards Forum Meeting agenda items are summarised here. Manly Place and Plan and Town Hall reuse update; Poor street, parks and garden maintenance in the whole of Manly Ward; Pedestrian Safety in the Manly area particularly along Pittwater Road near Harris Farm/ Childcare Centre. There is a request for construction of a pedestrian island at this location or something better. The Council stance on Electric Scooter / Bike Policy changes in response to new laws being considered by the State Govt. The massive increase in electric skateboards, bikes and scooters in the Corso area and along the beachfront providing an excellent example of why we need new laws and better policing.

Update on Clontarf Community Forum discussions with Sydney Water, James Griffin MP and Council on how to deal with illegal household stormwater connections to the sewerage system which contributes to the overflows during storm events. Also Sydney Water operations at the location for de-silting the main sewer pipeline at Clontarf Reserve and Holmes Ave Reserve has caused environmental concerns about the sensitive underwater environment especially for the local seahorse population and seagrass meadows in Middle Harbour and around the swimming pool at Clontarf. Manly Cove is also affected by wet weather events at the sewage overflow pipes in the Manly Cove area. This will be discussed with Sydney Water. We want more advocacy by the Council on these issues. Dilution is not the solution. The Council representative doesn't even turn up at the regular Sydney Water/NHSTP meetings.

## Sydney Water Update

The North Head Water Resource Recovery Facility, formerly known as the North Head Wastewater Treatment Plant serves over one million Sydneysiders: from Seven Hills in the West, Yagoona in the south and Kuringai and Collaroy in the north. They recently dropped their newsletter in our letterboxes and it's worth reading to learn what's going on up there at the North Head treatment plant as they are constantly improving their processes for the benefit of the environment. There will be some additional truck movements up and down Darley Rd while these upgrades occur, but ultimately there will be a minimal increase in the number of sludge trucks that take the processed biosolids to Lithgow for beneficial reuse in agriculture when the work is finished, even though the capacity of the plant will be increased. To find out all the dirty details check out the website [www.sydneywater.com.au/nh-biosolids](http://www.sydneywater.com.au/nh-biosolids)

## What else is happening in The Corso

The proposal to open a Hard Rock Cafe live music venue is causing waves. We cover it in detail on P3. But there is plenty happening as well.

There are other major changes in the built environment of the Corso with Development Applications currently being considered by Council for the Steyne Hotel, and the approved International College of Management Sydney (ICMS) DA opposite the former Council Chamber as well as the Royal Far West site along the Steyne.

Now open for submission till 13 June is a shop top apartment conversion for 19- 23 The Corso (former Chemist Warehouse now Kidstuff building), described in the application to include new retail spaces at the ground floor of 19-21 The Corso as well as building services (waste room etc).

The three upper building levels of 19-23 The Corso will be reconfigured into twelve apartments, being nine two-bedroom apartments and three one-bedroom apartments. Each apartment will be provided with a new balcony or wintergarden to provide outdoor living spaces. Existing light wells will be enhanced to increase amenity and natural light into what are existing, substandard residential dwellings. New private open space areas will also be provided to the eastern apartments. A communal rooftop area is proposed on the top of 19-21 The Corso for communal open space purposes. The existing strata building, which is currently not accessible, will also be upgraded to enable compliant building services, fire stair and lift arrangements. The existing strata building, which is the subject of Fire Order No EPA2020/0234, will also be upgraded to enable compliance.

Council has no solid plans as yet for the reuse of the Former Manly Town Hall.

## Manly Place Plan

The Manly Place Plan consultations should be considering the CBD public facilities, carparks, toilets, seating, rubbish bins and waste management, delivery traffic, taxi ranks, bus stops as well as cleaning and safety etc.

We suggest emailing your councillors with your thoughts at [councillors@northernbeachescouncil.nsw.gov.au](mailto:councillors@northernbeachescouncil.nsw.gov.au)



**ONE OF SYDNEY'S LEADING  
LAW FIRMS**

PROVIDING FULL SERVICE  
TO THE NORTHERN BEACHES



- FAMILY LAW & GENERAL LITIGATION
- CRIMINAL LAW & TRAFFIC LAW
- ESTATE PLANNING
- CONVEYANCING & LEASING

**HPL.COM.AU ♦ 21 / 22 DARLEY ROAD, MANLY ♦ (02) 9977 0125**



## Hard Rock Cafe live music venue for the Corso, if not, then what?

Seems that the DA 2022/0662 for change of use from retail to a pub and live entertainment venue (Hard Rock Café), building works and signage at 1 / 63 - 67 The Corso Manly submitted to Council on the 4th May 2022 (now closed for public submissions) has few friends. The Hard Rock Café is a franchise with a venue in Darling Harbour, Sydney. The Hard Rock Cafes offer music, food and an area to be entertained with performances from artists including musicians and comedians. The Manly Business Chamber has made a submission suggesting that the proposal does not accord with their Commercial Vision Document (CDV).

The CVD supports and promotes the vision that Manly can be more than just fast food and surf shops, and instead be a community that offers fine-grain retail and interesting offerings that can help Manly improve its branding and elevate it to a destination that supports the local community while attracting visitors who want to visit Manly for its uniqueness - not a tired and overly commercialised brand that Hard Rock Café and all its incarnations are.

Like others, including many Manly CBD residents who made submissions, the Chamber has highlighted the following concerns;

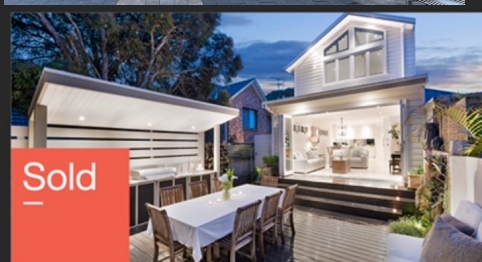
- The 3am liquor licence will further increase the number of intoxicated patrons leaving the venue in a concentrated area with three already established large pubs in the immediate vicinity. Indeed the New Brighton Hotel, next door, is claiming the frontage to The Corso has not been designed in a way that minimises conflict between patrons. It claims the patrons from the proposed Hard Rock Café will be lining up directly adjoining those from the New Brighton Hotel which has the potential to cause altercations between people in each of the establishment's lines. Further, the patron line for the Hard Rock Café will be extending deep into The Corso and blocking off foot traffic, despite the Plan of Management stating that the line will only be along the frontage of the site, there is insufficient space along the frontage to cater for the proposed capacity of the venue. The proposed venue will detract from the safety and security of the entertainment and tourist precinct and will result in adverse impacts to the community.
- Noise from both the venue activities as well as the mechanical ventilation system is a problem for residents living nearby.

## Hard Rock Cafe continued....

- The possibility that the venue will only operate in the later part of the day, leaving a wide-street frontage of The Corso under-activated, thus losing some street activation and creating 'dead-space'
- The lack of waste management proposed for this venue, will further exacerbate the current localised waste management issues already keenly felt in Market Lane

The installation of the huge guitar sign fronting onto the Corso also seems to have offended people with its oversized intrusion into the Corso. As described in the proposal by the applicant 'The guitar sculpture will change views and vistas in the area surrounding but large portions of the Corso will be unaffected. The guitar sculpture is larger in size than is typical of signage in the Corso and is designed to be an element of visual interest and it intentionally projects from the building to raise its prominence. This is intended to create visual interest and difference in a business area.'

Unsurprisingly the adjacent pub, the New Brighton Hotel, has made a very detailed objection to the proposal. Some of their objections are well founded and reflect the concerns of others. They have highlighted, among other things, errors and non compliance in the FSR calculations as well as strongly objecting to the oversaturation of licensed premises in Manly. Stating in their submission 'In the suburb of Manly, there already exists 112 liquor licenses (5 of which are only permitted to sell packaged liquor for take away), which equates to an outlet saturation of 705.9 licenses per 100,000 residents compared to a saturation of 175.6 licenses per 100,000 residents for other major Australian cities. The fact that Manly already has an outlet saturation 7 times higher than other major cities clearly signifies that the suburb, and The Corso in particular has reached its capacity for liquor licenses. The proposed Hard Rock Café is considered to further exacerbate the adverse social impacts that alcohol and alcohol fuelled violence is having on the area.'



57 Golf Parade, Manly - \$4,810,000

Jake and his team have recently sold these two houses on the flat of Manly. Both properties sold for more than 10% above our price guide at auction.

Jake has sold over 500 properties in the Manly area over the past 20 years. If you are looking for an agent with an exceptional track record, look no further than Jake Rowe.



**Jake Rowe**

**The Agency Manly**

M 0414 612 546

[jakerowe@theagency.com.au](mailto:jakerowe@theagency.com.au)

Shop 1, 22 Darley Road, Manly NSW 2095

[theagency.com.au](http://theagency.com.au)

# World Environment Day 2022

World Environment Day was celebrated by several groups in our community on Sunday 5th June. There was the launch of a new Bushcare group which plans to have early morning Weeding Working Bees at the Fairfax walk area at North Head. Volunteers, supervised by Garigal Landcare and NP&WS, removed a huge swathe of weeds including paspalum, fleabane and whisky grass to allow the endemic native plants to take hold. Email the secretary@manlycommunityforum.com for further details.

On the other side of the Eastern Hill, Day at the Bay was in full swing, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the declaration of Cabbage Tree Bay as a No-Take Aquatic Reserve. At Shelly Beach there were talks, stalls and music and, despite the cold and the wind, lots of people were getting in the water. A terrific new information board was unveiled highlighting some of the 160 fish, shark and ray species that thrive in our blue backyard.

## Mental Health First Aid at Manly Library

Mental Health First Aid Courses are running at Manly Library 2-day course – 9.30 am to 4 pm. Refresher courses: 4 hours. The courses teach you to provide initial support to people experiencing mental health problems such as anxiety, depression, psychosis, alcohol/drug misuse, suicidal thoughts and trauma.

Dates: 21/22 June, 19/20 July, 16/17 August, 20/21 September, 11/12 October, 8/9 November, 6/7 December

Refresher Dates: 30 June, 21 July, 22 September, 13 October, 10 November, 8 December

Email Margo@mhawareness.com.au to register or for more information or ring 0448 991 076; Website: Mhawareness.com.au

# Little Manly: Point Park & Beach Update

Despite being reported as being finished by the end of May, we can confirm that the playground at Little Manly is far from completed. The toilets near the car park may commence soon and there is now security worksite fencing at Little Manly Beach indicating work on the new bleacher style steps will commence soon.

## Brickbats & Bouquets

- **Bouquet** to Council for quickly and efficiently (in the rain) completing the beautiful new concrete path from the Skiffy to Osborne Rd. Everyone including those who push a walker or a pram along this path is very grateful. Comment from pedestrian 'I have lived here for 25 years and this is the best thing the Council has ever done'
- **Bouquet** to NSW Government & Environment Minister James Griffin. The ban on soft plastic bags, effective at the end of June has finally been introduced in NSW. Don't forget your own carry bag. This will be followed by other single-use plastic items including straws, stirrers, plates, cutlery, bowls, cotton buds and polystyrene cups all to be banned from November 2022.
- **Brickbat** to Council for Taste of Manly with beer and no wine. Let's hope this year's debacle with the last minute change in location of the long running Manly Food and Wine Festival is not an excuse to cancel the event for good.
- **Brickbat** to Council and Sydney Water for the stormwater covers popping again at Bower Lane. Time to get to the table and find a solution. And when will the steps be replaced? Apparently lack of materials is the reason it is taking so long. Maybe a temporary solution could be considered.

# WHARF BAR



OPEN 7 DAYS DJS & LIVE MUSIC

[www.wharfbar.com.au](http://www.wharfbar.com.au)

Manly Wharf East Esplanade

9977 1266



FOR MORE UPDATES VISIT OUR  
MANLY COMMUNITY FORUM  
FACEBOOK PAGE



KNOW SOMETHING WE DON'T?  
EMAIL US AT  
SECRETARY@MANLY  
COMMUNITYFORUM.COM



MANLYCOMMUNITYFORUM.COM