



autumn edition 2005

# news

N O R T H   S Y D N E Y

[www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au](http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au)

## NEW Parking Schemes

Two new parking strategies are being introduced this year - the Residential Visitor Parking Permit Scheme and the Discount Meter Parking Scheme for Residents. It is hoped the two schemes will give residents better access to parking for themselves and their guests.

North Sydney Mayor Genia McCaffery said Council's research indicated that 52% of vehicles parked on the street in North Sydney came from outside the area.

"North Sydney has become the car park for the lower north shore," she said. "A lot of people drive in to North Sydney, park their car for the day and then catch other transport into the city because it is cheaper to park here. We hope these new schemes will encourage commuters to rethink their mode of transport."

Under the current controls, in densely populated areas visitors are unable to park for more than two hours at a time, and less in some areas, resulting in some trades people refusing to visit the area.

The Residential Visitor Parking Permit Scheme entitles each resident in a restricted parking area to 20 visitor permits per year. Each permit is valid for one day. Residents living at the same dwelling must share the 20 permits.

The permits are in the form of a scratchy ticket; the year, month and date are scratched out to validate the pass. The permits can be purchased, for a nominal fee, at Council's Customer Service Centre.

The Discount Meter Parking Scheme, which is expected to be introduced in the middle of the year, entitles permanent residents to cheaper parking in metered parking zones.

Permanent residents who already have a parking permit will still be eligible for a 100% discount at meters while people who live within 50m of parking meters will be entitled to a 90% discount at those meters.

Residents seeking parking at major Council facilities such as the Olympic Pool, Bradfield Park and North Sydney Oval will be eligible for a 50% discount and a 10% discount in all other Council areas.

Mayor McCaffery said Council officers would now review the parking restrictions in each street in the North Sydney local government area. The review will begin in densely populated areas such as Kirribilli and McMahons Point, then extend to all suburbs.

### Talking point



Bradfield Precinct has welcomed the introduction of two new parking strategies this year. Co-secretary of the group, Leonie Meixner, says the initiative has been greeted with enthusiasm.

A resident of Kirribilli for more than 17 years, Leonie says the lack of parking has escalated over the past five years. "Loads of people now come into the area from outside and go to the cafes and restaurants, which is lovely but it does create pressure on parking," she says.

Leonie says visitors to Kirribilli and Milsons Point include commuters, parents and teachers from local schools and crowds visiting the foreshore on weekends.

"I think if you live in the centre of the city you have to expect parking problems. On the other hand, I think public policy should encourage people not to bring their cars into the inner city areas, but to catch public transport. We hope that the new strategies will give residents and their visitors greater flexibility and help to reduce the demand from people who live outside the area."



### In this issue

The results of Council's Customer Satisfaction Survey, page 4 and 5

The life of Bob Gordon - a new film about a local boat builder, page 6



## FROM THE MAYOR

One of the key issues emerging from our community consultation about the future of North Sydney is open space. Residents are telling us that they not only value it highly, but they want us to create more open space in the coming years.

With the population of Sydney expected to increase significantly over the next decade, it is not surprising that people value and are concerned about this precious public resource. Most inner Sydney people are happy not to have extensive lawns and gardens, but we do like being able to walk through the park or sit under a tree and read a book occasionally.

Council is hearing that message and we are developing strategies for open space in the future. In the meantime, we are fortunate to have some new areas of open space already in the pipeline.

During the Federal election campaign last October, the Liberal Party promised, if re-elected, to transfer the HMAS Platypus site at Neutral Bay to the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust where it will be protected as open space. Those of you who have lived

in North Sydney for a few years may remember the hard-fought campaign by our community to prevent the site being redeveloped with hundreds of units.

This promise was a victory for the local community and I am delighted that negotiations for the transfer are underway. Platypus is a beautiful foreshore site and an enduring gift to the people of Sydney.

The former BP site at Waverton opened to the public late last year and I've received letters from people delighted to have discovered these special parklands. Work is now underway to convert the Caltex and Coal Loader sites, also on the Waverton Peninsula, into equally good areas of public space.

It is wonderful to see the foreshores gradually being returned to public ownership, where they can be enjoyed by all.

Genia McCaffery  
**Mayor**

## NEWS in brief

### Coal Loader Sustainability Centre

A Sustainability Centre is proposed for the Coal Loader site on Balls Head Road, Waverton. Council wants to hear from individuals who are interested in working with Council to design the Centre.

The Centre will be remodelled from an existing building located on the site and will showcase a range of sustainability features such as energy and water efficiency, waste minimisation and the use of recyclable, non-toxic building materials.

Council is in the process of engaging an architect to remodel the building and is developing a strategy for how the Centre will operate and function.

Council is interested in hearing from individuals who would like to participate in this design process. No previous experience is required. Participants will be required to attend several meetings over the next nine months.

If you are interested in taking part, please send a brief expression of interest to Environmental Management Officer -barpen@northsydney.nsw.gov.au. For further information contact Council on 9936 8467.

### North Sydney Council Tsunami Appeal

North Sydney Council has established its own Tsunami Appeal and people can make donations via Council. The funds raised will be given to one of the organisations working in Asia, undertaking relief and reconstruction work. If you want to contribute to this worthwhile effort, please call into Council's Customer Service Centre or call Council on 9936 8100.

### Tibetan Monks visit North Sydney

Students, teachers and members of the public are invited to visit a group of Tibetan monks who are visiting North Sydney Council as artists in residence from May 30 to 4 June 2005. Visitors will be able to observe the monks creating a traditional sand mandala (a mystic symbol of the universe used for Buddhist meditation). The monks are from South India and are touring nationally from February to July. Staff from the Monks Tour will be on hand to provide information and answer questions about the mandala. There will also be a morning guided meditation and evening teaching/public talks. Entry is by donation. For further information visit Council's website or phone Sacred Footsteps Tour program coordinator, Helen Wright on 0422 114127.



### NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL

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# CATCH UP WITH FOOTPRINTS

Late last year 20 volunteers aged 20 to 40 years signed up for our Footprints challenge. Three teams, representing the North Sydney, Lane Cove and Willoughby local government areas are now competing to see which can make the greatest overall reduction to their ecological footprint.

North Sydney's team leader Alex, 31, from Cammeray has tried worm farming as one of the first changes to his lifestyle. Within a week of setting it up he was using 'worm juice' as a liquid fertilizer on his plants.

Alex has also taken part in workshops to reduce waste and increase recycling. "I always did recycle. But I think I'm more aware of it now and I'm probably more pro-active - especially with plastic and glass."

He says the program is extremely positive because of its accessibility to members of the public. "I think green can sometimes have a very militant connotation. Footprints is very accessible for young professionals like myself."

Alex says the program has given him fresh insight into sustainable living. "Maybe my cynicism has been eroded to some extent. I'm certainly more conscious now of what I produce and I'm just realizing that everything we do produce is coming from a finite resource."

By heightening the awareness of sustainability in volunteers Alex said he hopes the program has a "snow-ball effect". Already he has been sharing the knowledge gained from the program with family, friends and neighbours.

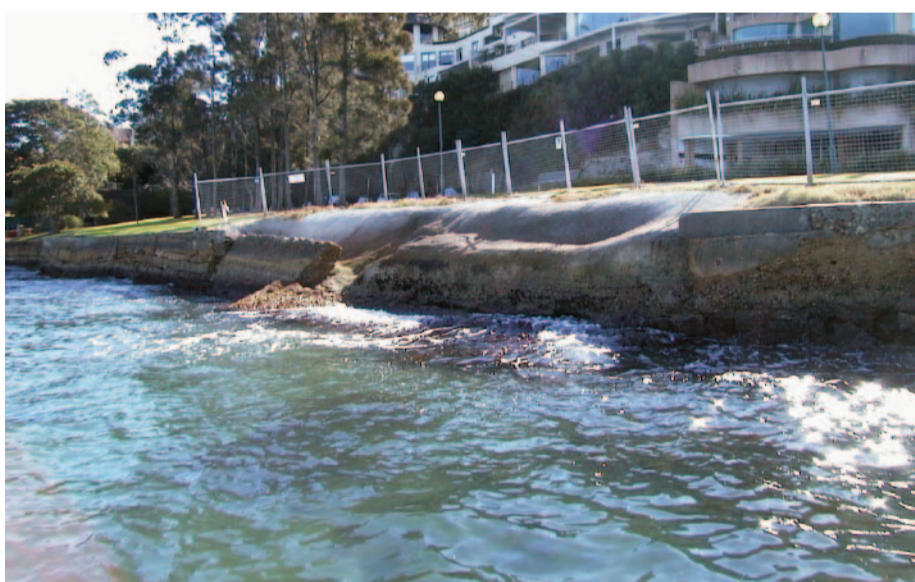
Footprints is a sustainable lifestyle initiative run jointly by North Sydney, Willoughby and Lane Cove Councils, assisted by a \$60,000 grant from the NSW Government's 'It's A Living Thing' program.

To track the progress of Footprints volunteers or access information on sustainable living, visit the Footprints website at [www.northsydney.gov.au/footprints](http://www.northsydney.gov.au/footprints)



*Left: Footprints volunteer Alex Toltz shows off his worm farm.*

## New Beginnings



Council is preparing for one of its biggest seawall reconstruction efforts to date, replacing 150 metres of seawall at Henry Lawson Avenue, McMahons Point.

At the time of writing, a development application for the project was being lodged. If approved, the project will take approximately nine months and cost \$2 million dollars to complete.

The seawall has become structurally unstable due to deterioration and aging. Sections of the wall have already collapsed, largely as a result of many years of wave action that continuously hit against the wall, causing the fill behind to be displaced and consequently leaving huge voids on top and at the base. Council has temporarily stabilised the collapsed sections to prevent further erosion to the embankment. Some areas have also been partitioned off from public use.

Director of Engineering and Property Services Greg Cooper said the seawall now needed to be rebuilt because it was too weak to cope with the usual repair technique of injecting grout behind the face of the wall to fill the void.

"The existing seawall is now at risk of losing its function, should further damage to its structure occur. We are faced with no particular alternative but to go for the conventional construction which is demolition and re-building."

Sydney Harbour has heavy water traffic, and the seawalls, built more than 100 years ago, are vulnerable to damage.

Independent North Sydney Mayor Genia McCaffery said Councils were rarely given adequate funding for such public works. "Sadly, foreshore Councils such as Mosman, Leichhardt and North Sydney all struggle to find the necessary funding for repair and reconstruction.

"We recognise that the site has been an eyesore and we are delighted that work will be able to commence this year".

## A touch of green in Kirribilli

The Environmental Levy has funded a new street tree planting project at Ennis Road, Kirribilli. Ten super-advanced *Gleditsia triacanthos* 'Sunburst' or Golden Honey Locust trees have been planted to match other trees on the street.

Street trees are important because a healthy tree canopy helps to purify the air, control runoff, provide shade and shelter for cars and people, as well as habitat and food for wildlife.

Environmental Levy Coordinator Ralph Forinash said tree planting was also important to areas such as Kirribilli because it contributes to a village atmosphere. "These new tree plantings will help define the individual character and identity of this landmark street," he said.

Over the past year, a number of other street tree planting projects have commenced in streets that have very few trees, have trees that are nearing the end of their safe useful life or have trees that are not appropriate to the site. Since the program began approximately eight years ago, some 35 streets are now in various stages of replanting.



# The vexed issue of PARKING

Parking was a hot spot in Council's customer satisfaction survey for both residents and businesses.

Only 53% of residents and 41% of businesses are satisfied with the way Council manages parking in North Sydney. The main cause of dissatisfaction for both groups is that there are not enough parking spaces available.

North Sydney Mayor Genia McCaffery said this finding was not unexpected. "Parking is a scarce resource in inner Sydney.

“ Even with tough restrictions we still have residents who can't get a parking space near their home and we do understand their frustration. ”

Put simply, there are more people wanting to park in North Sydney each day than there are available spaces. We manage parking by resident parking permits, time restrictions and meters, but we know the demand far outweighs the parking available in the area.

"As the State Government pushes for increased urban density this problem can only get worse. Council already limits the number of resident parking permits available for each property and in areas where parking is at a premium, new developments are sometimes approved on the basis that no resident parking permits will be issued.

"Even with tough restrictions we still have residents who can't get a parking space near their home and we do understand their frustration. Some changes for resident parking are underway and we will review the parking provisions in the development control plan and on-street parking resources."

The policing of parking was an equally contentious issue with 55% of residents and 56% of businesses being satisfied with the current level of policing. However, while many think parking is under-policed, a large proportion thinks it is over-policed.

"Residents and businesses are frustrated when they or their customers can't get a park because someone parks illegally or outstays their time limit. On the other hand, no-one likes to get a ticket. In recent months Council has altered the beats of our parking officers to make them more efficient – we'll keep listening to residents and businesses and do the best we can to meet the needs of the community."



## Vision and Values

While residents and businesses were answering questions about our services, we also asked what they value about North Sydney. The responses were used in the development of the new North Sydney strategy, 2020 Vision, which is currently being prepared.

The most valued aspect of North Sydney for residents was the foreshore areas (98%) and public spaces with great views (also 98%), good pedestrian access (97%) and the way people feel safe (93%).

The results were similar for the business community, with pedestrian access (96%) and safety (95%) being most valued, followed by the foreshore areas (86%).

Interestingly, an environmentally minded community was highly valued by both residents (96%) and businesses (94%). This reflects well on the environmental programs run by Council for business including community education and the CBD Greenhouse Initiative.

When asked to describe an ideal North Sydney of the future, the largest group of residents spoke about a strong community focus with community activities and village places. Businesses, on the other hand, were more likely to describe a place with less traffic and more parking.

**More details about the North Sydney Strategy will be included in the next issue of this newsletter.**



# CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

## The long-term trends

The results of the 2004 survey are not directly comparable to the 2002 survey because a different methodology was used. Council opted for a telephone rather than mail survey so that people's reasons for dissatisfaction could be probed.

"We changed our methodology so that we could get more detailed information about the causes of dissatisfaction," General Manager Penny Holloway said. "We don't just want to know how well or poorly we are doing, but what we can do to improve. While there may be many different causes of dissatisfaction, if there is a problem we are missing, we want to know about it."

"While the two surveys can't be directly compared, the trends show improved satisfaction in all the areas where Council has invested additional resources. In particular, satisfaction was higher with cleanliness of roads and footpaths and the maintenance of commercial plazas, both areas where we made specific changes to our service in response to the last survey."

An independent customer satisfaction survey found 86% of residents were satisfied with Council's overall performance during the previous 12 months. Just over 60% of businesses were satisfied, but a much larger proportion was neutral (14% compared to 4% of residents).

The service areas with the highest levels of satisfaction among both residents and businesses were:

- maintenance of parks, ovals and bushland reserves
- waste collection
- maintenance of plazas in commercial areas
- the appearance of public spaces in the CBD, and
- cleanliness of roads and footpaths.

The services residents and businesses were least satisfied with were the management and policing of parking and the maintenance of roads and footpaths.

The survey found low levels of dissatisfaction with the North Sydney Olympic Pool (3%), Stanton Library (6%) and the services offered at community centres (7%). While 38% were satisfied with children's services, only 10% were dissatisfied.

To measure the importance of services, survey respondents were asked to trade-off different service aspects. The service areas considered most important by residents were maintaining local roads and footpaths, maintaining parks, ovals and bushland areas and keeping roads and footpaths clean. Businesses placed less emphasis on maintaining parks and more on the management of parking.

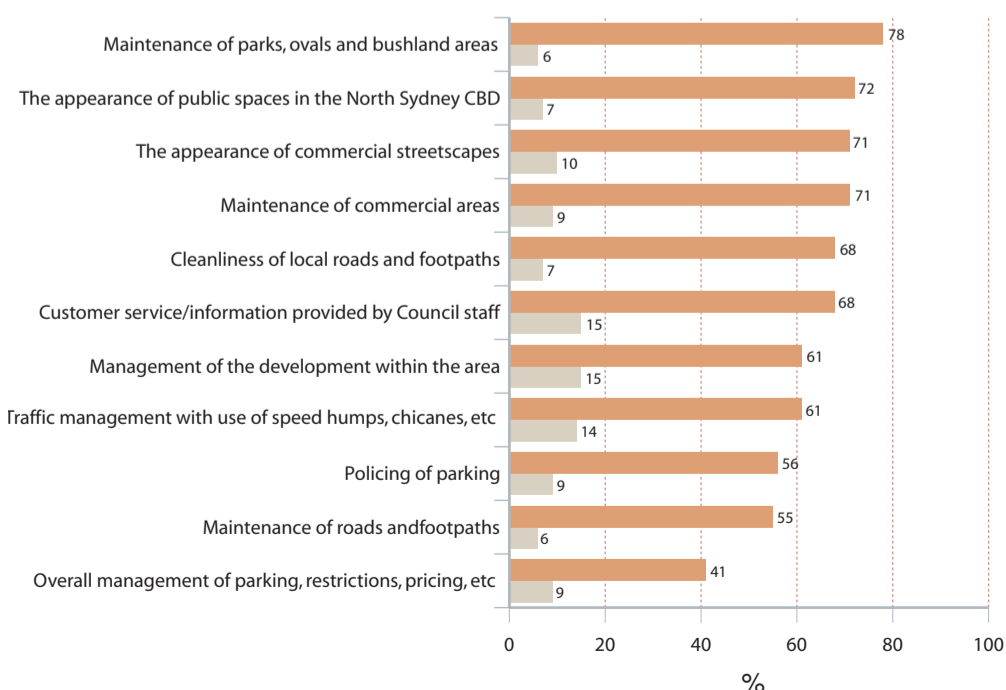
General Manager Penny Holloway said dissatisfaction with the maintenance of roads and footpaths was the surprise result of the survey.

"We will look at increasing the budget for road maintenance by 10% in the next financial year. In the meantime, we are undertaking a community education program to encourage residents to report defects promptly.

"At present, we provide the appropriate response to potholes within 48 hours of being notified. Unfortunately, when we don't know about them, they can deteriorate quite quickly. We are appealing to residents to phone or email when they see a pothole and not assume that someone else will have done so. If we can get to defects before they become large ones we should be able to improve the quality of our roads and footpaths."

## Satisfaction in key services areas

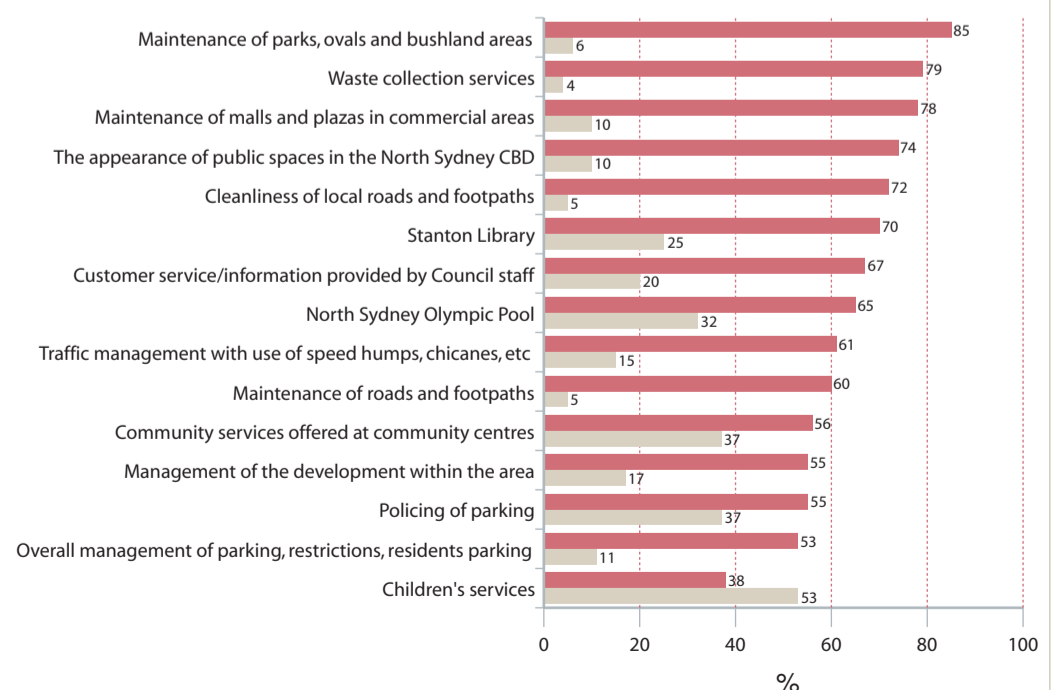
### business



base: all business respondents (n = 200)

■ satisfied ■ neutral

### residential



base: all residential respondents (n = 400)

■ satisfied ■ neutral



## LIFE OF AN ARTISAN

As you cast your eye across the water, with the backdrop of the CBD still in view, try to imagine a point in time when boat builders were dotted across the landscape, busy at work on the waterfront.

Now in his 80s, Bob Gordon and his son Robert are the last boat builders in Lavender Bay. They are part of an extraordinary history extending back to the 1870s when William Dunn began his business on the western side of the Bay.

In recognition of the significance of Bob Gordon's story and the fascinating history of our waterfront, Council has commissioned a short film about this colorful local legend, as part of Seniors Week 2005 (13 – 20 March).

Born in 1922, Bob began his lifelong love of boat building at the age of 15, when he built his first boat at Rushcutters Bay. "I know I will be doing this until the day I die because this is what I love doing," he says.

Born on a farm, he had a strict upbringing with no formal education and subscribes to the school of hard knocks, "The person who educates themselves is likely to come to the top of the heap," he says. "There's plenty of evidence that people who have had to fight hard probably wouldn't have got to where they were if they didn't have to fight. It's a challenge."

As a young man, Bob joined the merchant navy before returning to building boats at Lavender Bay after World War II.

In his many years on the water, Bob has seen many changes not least the changing use of the waterfront as industry has given way to leisure and residential development. He dismisses much of modern society as being driven by hedonism, "We don't value the things that are really valuable. We just want instant pleasure," he says.

Bob is an expert craftsman and still works regularly with his son, building wooden sailing craft with methods and materials that are rapidly disappearing. After 66 years of boat building he admits: "It becomes an obsession. There's nothing wrong with an obsession - unless it breaks the law."

Producers Helen McGrath and Chris Parker are currently gathering stockpile footage. They would welcome any local film, Super8, video footage or photos of Lavender Bay, from 1930 to 1980. If you can help, contact the filmmakers at Life Captured for further details, phone 9922 7718.

**A free screening of this fascinating documentary will be held at North Sydney Council (Hutley Hall) on Thursday 17 March. For more information contact 9936 8187.**

## Sharing our history

Three additional heritage databases will be added to Council's website to celebrate heritage week from 9 –17 April. The Plaques Register, The Mosman Daily Index and Building North Sydney will join the Face of North Sydney, Naming North Sydney and the Public Art Register, creating a comprehensive overview of heritage in the North Sydney local government area.

Director of Library and Community Services Martin Ellis said the databases were useful research tools for students and teachers, property owners, homeowners and anyone with an interest in the local area.

"These databases are rich with information and images about our past and the lives of previous generations. By putting them on-line, we hope that they will be used by a much wider audience than they could be locked away at Stanton Library. They contain fascinating information and are well worth browsing through."

Here's a quick summary of what they contain:

**Face of North Sydney** - 6000 images from Stanton's local history pictorial collection.

**Naming North Sydney** – a public database containing information on every street name, park name and locality name in North Sydney.

**Public Art Register** - a selection of public artworks on display in the North Sydney local government area.

**Mosman Daily Index** – an on-line index to editorial comment on North Sydney events, people, organisations, places, buildings and sites of the Mosman Daily.

**Building North Sydney** - a digitised collection of 3,500 architectural plans and blue prints from 1930 to 1949. Many of these original art deco plans are hand-drawn and beautifully coloured. The resource includes commercial, domestic, ecclesiastical and school buildings.

**Plaques Register** – contains information and photographs of over 100 historical plaques in the North Sydney area (note: you can also view the plaques by following one of four plaque walks, look for the plaque walk leaflets on our website).

**To access the heritage databases visit Council's website at [www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au](http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au). For more information phone Stanton Library on 9936 8400.**

# CREMORNE POINT responds to Tsunami

The Cremorne Point Precinct group assisted Oxfam's Earthquake Tsunami Emergency Fund appeal on New Years Eve by collecting at Cremorne Point, Taronga Zoo and Kurraba Point.

More than 20 members of the Precinct group were mobilised to collect \$14,000 from party revellers. Their collection complemented the work being done by Oxfam collectors at managed access points including Bradfield Park and Blues Point Road where \$74, 176 was contributed.

Official accreditation was provided by Oxfam, which provided collection buckets and shirts. With an Oxfam representative in attendance, the group counted donations and raised additional funds by holding a guessing competition to estimate the final amount.

Precinct Chairperson Glyn Jones said he was amazed at the level of generosity from the public. "It seemed everyone in the community was affected by the scale of the disaster and wanted to contribute in some way."

Glyn praised the Precinct volunteers for their efforts. "The excellent result for such a worthy cause is our reward," he said.

"Just as the people were grateful for the opportunity to give, our group feels privileged to have been involved."

In 2005 Glyn wants the Cremorne Point Precinct to be more proactive on important issues that affect the area so that Cremorne Point and its Reserve remains one of the residential, tourist and recreational icons of Sydney.

*below: Members of the Cremorne Precinct who raised money for Oxfam Community Aid Abroad's Earthquake Tsunami Appeal.*



## Reduce Risk this Easter

Traditionally, Easter is one of the busiest times on NSW roads. Almost 30 per cent of fatal fatigue crashes occur during holiday periods. With thousands more vehicles on the roads we all need to take extra care.

RTA studies show that during a four-second microsleep a car travelling at 100km/h will travel 111m while being completely out of control.

If you are travelling long distances over Easter, plan to take regular breaks to reduce the risk of a fatigue-related crash. Don't ignore the early warning signs: yawning, poor concentration, tired or sore eyes, and restlessness. Take a break.

Free 'driver reviver' rest maps are available from North Sydney Council. Maps detail almost 100 rest areas across the state where you can park safely, get out of your car and refresh yourself with a free snack and tea or coffee before continuing your journey.

Double demerit points will be in force across the long weekend. For more information go to [www.rta.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au) or call Council's Road Safety Officer on 9936 8246.

## Village Voice: Bay Precinct

Council, Bay Precinct, local residents and business proprietors have been working together to create a vibrant new look for the Green Park Village Shops located between Park Avenue and Grafton Street, Cammeray.

New paving, decorative lighting, contour bench seating, topiary Ficus trees, new garden beds and kerbside fencing are just a few of the elements that local shoppers can look forward to in 2005.

Cammeray resident Peter O'Carroll said: "Bay Precinct became involved in the upgrading to make sure that the existing shopping strip will continue to be a community asset. It is important to preserve communal areas such as Green Park Village, because they function as meeting places for the community."

In keeping with the leisurely village atmosphere, the area will be given a much-needed make over. There is potential for expanded outdoor dining areas in front of an existing café. A 'Welcome to Green Park Village Shops' sign will be placed at either end of the village. The estimated cost of the upgrade is \$180,000 and is expected to be completed by mid 2005.

## WHAT'S ON In North Sydney

### Arts/Music

#### Date

- 9 April National Youth Week, Shoreshocked Youth Festival at St Leonards Park, from 12.00-8.30pm. Phone 99368190.
- 9 - 17 April Mosman Art Society Exhibition, 10am-5pm, 99368187
- 29 April Launch of Wish You Were Here: Postcards from Special Places, Primrose Park Art and Craft Centre: 9936 8187
- 30 April - 6 May Exhibition of Wish You Were Here: Postcards from Special Places at Hutley Hall: 9936 8187
- 6 May Entries close: Bill Coppel Young Writers Award: 9936 8400
- 1 June Presentation of Bill Coppel Young Writers Award.
- 27 May - 10 July Guringai Festival celebrating indigenous culture, 9936 8187

### Community Events

#### Date

- 8 March International Women's Day Celebration, Crows Nest Centre, 9439 5122
- 13 - 20 March **Seniors Week program.** Theme: 'The Best Time for Ages'. Various activities are scheduled. Phone 9936 8187 for details.
- 14 March Neutral Bay Seniors is holding a computer course for beginners and a workshop teaching skills in family history research at the Neutral Bay Community Centre, 9.30am - 2.30pm.
- 15 March Take part in a free 'Come and Try Day' at Cammeray Golf Club, Cammeray Croquet Club and Cammeray Tennis Club, 10am - 12 noon. (A complimentary luncheon at Cammeray Golf Club for all participants from 12pm - 2pm.)
- 16 March Explore your history in photographs, Stanton Library 12pm - 1pm
- 17 - 20 March In conjunction with the Sydney Flying Squadron at Milsons Point, North Sydney Council will house an historical exhibition of photographs and squadron memorabilia at Hutley Hall. (12pm - 4pm Thursday - Sunday). There will be a special screening and launch of the Bob Gordon documentary on Thursday 17 March.
- 20 March Seniors Day Luncheon, Crows Nest Centre, 9439 5122
- 17 March Harmony Day Celebration, Crows Nest Centre, 9439 5122
- 9 - 17 April National Trust Heritage Festival 'Community + Heritage - celebrating sixty years' Historical Walking Tours: 9936 8400 or [www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au](http://www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au) for all events.
- 17 April ANZAC Memorial Service at 2.30pm North Sydney ANZAC Club: 9923 1942
- 18 April Migrant Information Day, Crows Nest Centre: 9936 8193
- 30 May - 4 June 'Sacred Footsteps from the Roof of the World' Tibetan monks build a sand mandala, Hutley Hall: 9936 8411



### Spotlight on Shoreshocked

Get down and dirty at the 2005 Shoreshocked Festival, staged at St Leonards Park, corner of Miller and Falcon Streets, North Sydney, on Saturday 9 April from 12pm - 8.30pm. This annual youth festival is part of National Youth Week, 9 - 17 April and a joint initiative between North Sydney, Kuringai, Willoughby, Lane Cove and Mosman Councils.

Six to eight unsigned local bands will be making waves off centre stage after battling it out at Pre-shocked. A hip-hop tent and dance area will offer plenty of local DJ talent. For information, contact Greg Nikoletos 9936 8190 or visit [www.shoreshocked.com](http://www.shoreshocked.com) or Council's website.



### 'Wish You Were Here: Postcards from Special Places'

A showcase of entries from Council's exciting new photographic competition will be launched by Mayor McCaffery on Friday 29 April at Primrose Park Arts and Craft Centre. All entries will be put on public display at Hutley Hall from Saturday 30 April to Friday 6 May. For more information contact 9936 8187 or Primrose Park photographer, Tony Peri on 9405 2052. (photo above: taken by Tony Peri)

### North Sydney Art Prize

The theme for Council's annual art prize is 'North Sydney - its people, landscape, character and spirit'. This year's winning entrant will receive \$4,000 and there are scores of smaller awards on offer.

All artwork must be delivered to Council on 11 July 2005. Entry forms are available from Council's Customer Service Centre or by visiting Council's website. A launch will be held on Saturday 23 July 2005 and an exhibition of all entries will be on display at North Sydney Council's Hutley Hall from 24 July - 1 August 2005.

### Bill Coppel Young Writers Award

Stanton Library is holding its annual Bill Coppel Young Writers Award - a literary competition for young people aged 11 to 18 years. Entry forms will be available from 8 March 2005. The closing date for entries is 6 May 2005. This year the prizes total more than \$2,000 in value. A presentation ceremony will be held on 1 June and entries will be displayed in Stanton Library and on Council's website. For more information contact Yasmin Greenhalgh on 9936 8423.

### Contact your Councillors

#### North Sydney Mayor

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