

8.4. Vale Richard Young

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It was with sadness that, late last year, Wollstonecraft residents and members of the Wollstonecraft Precinct paid tribute to long time resident and Wollstonecraft Precinct member, Richard Young.

Wollstonecraft Precinct Chair, John Hancox, delivered the following moving valedictory in memory of Richard Young at the Wollstonecraft Precinct meeting held last October:

“Richard was born in NSW where they lived most of their lives in the Northern suburbs of Sydney and for the last 28 years in Milray Avenue. Richard was interested in big picture matters such as politics and world events. He spent most of his life in the advertising industry and was widely recognised as having a silver-tongue with dapper appearance which led to many successes in business.

As a result of his interest in politics, he moved to work in the Department of Trade as it was then known and moved with his young family to Canberra. He was appointed to be Trade Commissioner to Chile and again moved his family to live in Santiago for 3 years after which he returned to Australia to take up an appointment as a senior Trade Commissioner until retirement. Elizabeth says the Department got two for the price of one because she was always involved in the meet and greet functions so essential to foreign affairs.

He did however have another interest and that was his desire to be remembered as an author of fiction. Richard had a book launched by Ken Done in 2008. It is good for people to be made aware that you can't always make your dreams come true and providing for his family won over his desire to write.

Richard was a cricket tragic but an armchair one. He and Elizabeth both have a good, even mischievous, sense of humour the evidence of which can be seen in their email address RandE@.... One that is easily remembered or hard to forget.

On behalf of Wollstonecraft Precinct I record our sincere condolences to Elizabeth and her extended family on the sad death of Richard Young. “

I first met Richard Young at a Wollstonecraft Precinct meeting as a newly elected Ward Councillor. In the years since, attending those meetings as the local representative, I observed his wry humour, intelligence, modesty and considered contribution to matters before the Precinct.

Quiet, stalwart contributors make the Precinct system and our community exceptional – nurturing and cherishing connections. Richard epitomised the best qualities of North Sydney's engaged citizens and his loss is deeply felt. We extend our sincerest sympathy and condolences to Elizabeth and his family, neighbours and friends.

I therefore recommend:

1. **THAT** Council write to Ms Elizabeth Young and the Young family expressing deep sympathy and condolences on the passing of Mr Young and include a copy of this resolution.
2. **THAT** Council consult with Ms Elizabeth Young and the Young family in respect of the location of a tree to be planted in his memory.

COUNCILLOR ZOË BAKER
MAYOR