



## Labour of Love

The initiative and dedication of one Cammeray resident has turned a wasteland of bare soil and weeds into a thriving reserve that is brimming with native plants and wildlife.

In 1998, Alan Baldry and his wife Joan began a small project: improving the pocket of land opposite their Wilson Street home. They finished that area a couple of months later, then began working on the strip of land adjoining their street, which had been used as a dumping ground and was over-run with weeds.

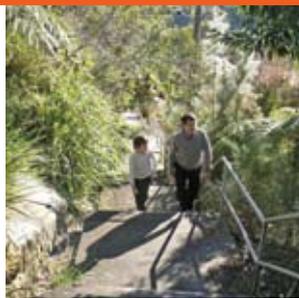
A decade later and the Wilson Street Reserve has been transformed. Alan says he and Joan have had some help from neighbours and, of course, their son Edward and daughter Evelyn. Council has provided plants, mulch and landscaping advice as part of the Streets Alive program.

“We used all native plants, mainly from the local area and grown from tubestock,” said Alan. “We added countless bags of crushed sandstone and native soil mix to give the young saplings a better chance of survival. Removing the weeds was a challenge, the Madeira Vine was the hardest to eradicate - it leaves nodules in the soil that last and last. The other difficulty we faced was the steep terrain - that’s why we had to use lots of logs and steps.”

The results are impressive and so are the vital statistics. The reserve is now home to 5000 new plants. About 15 cubic metres of weed-infested soil was stripped from the site. Alan is hesitant to guess the number of hours he’s spent on the reserve over the past 10 years, but those close to him say it would be at least 2000 - or more than 35 working weeks.

The Wilson Street Reserve is now restored to its natural state, but Alan is not content to rest on his laurels. He’s determined to continue weeding, watering, replacing dying plants and ensuring there’s no deterioration due to dumping.

Not surprisingly, Alan has embarked on a new project. He’s working on Warringah Reserve, at the end of Carter Street in Cammeray, with a large team of friends and neighbours from Plateau Precinct. With many hands helping out, and a much smaller plot of land, Alan is adamant that Warringah Reserve will be clean and green in no time.



### Message from the General Manager

The State Government has recommended councils do not produce publications featuring articles on council achievements in the lead up to the local government elections on 13 September.

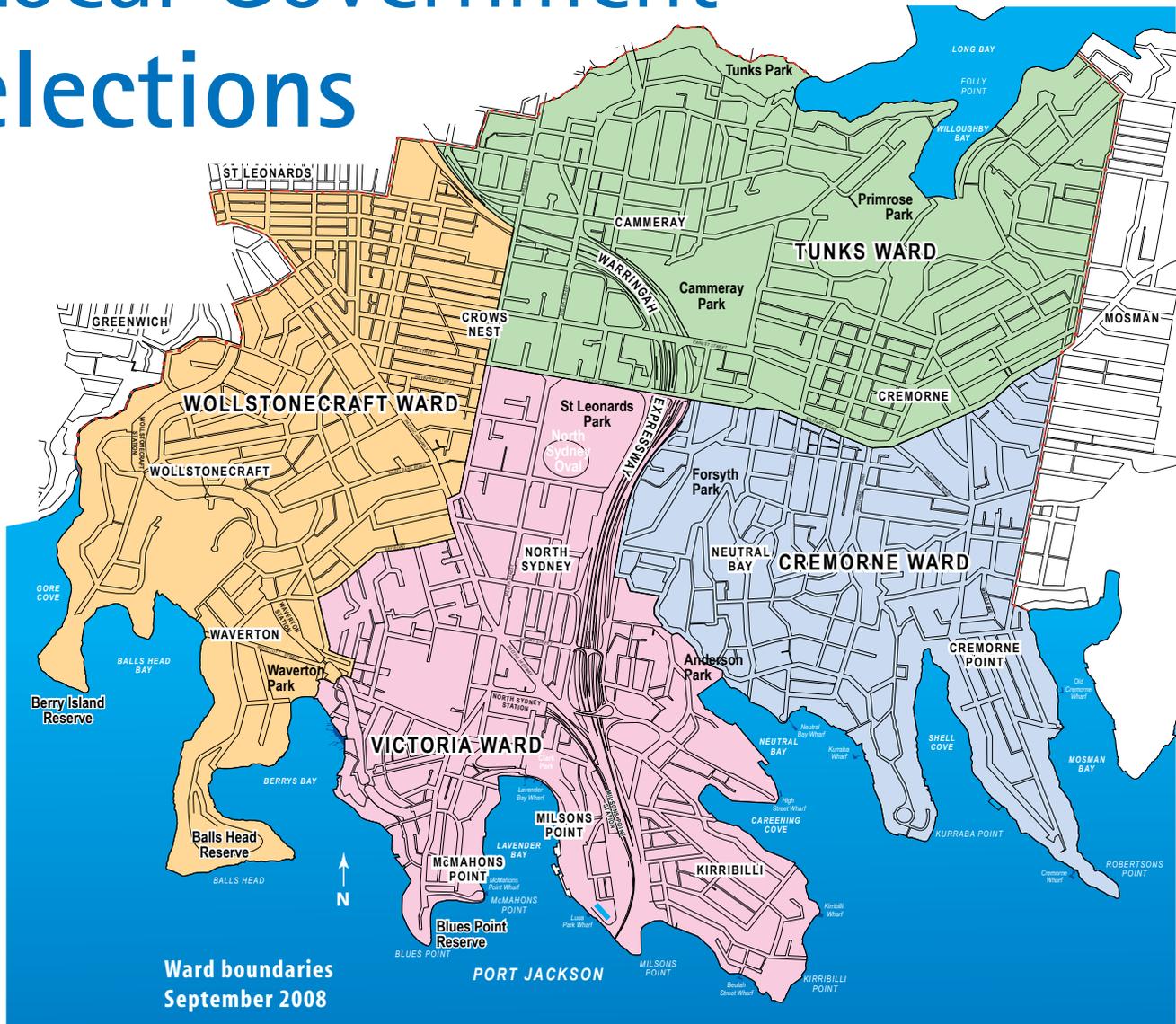
We are therefore using this shorter edition of *North Sydney News* to let you know about important ward changes and to give you advance notice of poll questions that will you receive on election day.

We’ve included precinct news and the what’s on section, as we know many residents keep these pages as a handy

reference to events and activities each quarter. The usual news and features will return in the December edition of *North Sydney News*. In the meantime, if you require information about any Council service or activity, please check our website [www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au](http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au) or phone 9936 8100.



# Local Government elections



Local government elections will be held across NSW on Saturday 13 September 2008. Voting at local government elections enables residents and ratepayers to choose who they want to represent them at a local level.

Voting is compulsory for all residents who are registered on the electoral roll. If you are enrolled for Federal and State elections you will automatically be enrolled for the North Sydney local government area. If you do not vote, and cannot provide a valid reason for not voting, you risk being fined.

Ratepayers who own property within North Sydney, but live elsewhere, are entitled to vote. However, you will need to have registered to vote in North Sydney before 4 August. The rolls are now closed.

In North Sydney, residents and ratepayers elect one mayor and 12 councillors for a four-year term. The North Sydney local government area is divided into four wards - Victoria, Tunks,

Wollstonecraft and Cremorne. On election day, you will need to cast a vote for the mayor of your choice as well as for three councillors in the ward where you live.

Ward boundaries are reviewed from time to time to reflect shifts in population. The aim is to ensure equal representation across wards.

North Sydney's wards were reviewed in 2006 and the new boundaries will come into effect from 13 September. This may mean you are no longer in the same ward that you were in for the local government election in March 2004.

The ward map above - shows the new ward boundaries. However, the easiest way to check your ward is to visit the Australian Electoral Commission's website. Choose the local government elections link on the home page, then type in your full name and address to find out in which ward you are enrolled. Visit [www.elections.nsw.gov.au/local\\_government\\_elections](http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/local_government_elections)

# Where to vote

There are no absentee votes in local government elections, so you cannot vote in another local government area. You must vote at a polling place within your ward or at the Principal Polling Place for the North Sydney local government area, which is North Sydney Boys High School, Falcon Street, Crows Nest.

If you cannot attend a polling place in your ward between 8am and 6pm on election day, you can cast a pre-poll vote from Monday 1 September at the Hutley Hall, Council Chambers, 200 Miller Street, North Sydney.

Alternatively, you can apply for a postal vote. Postal vote application forms are available from the Returning Officer, Hutley Hall, 200 Miller Street, North Sydney, Council's Customer Service Centre at the same address, or from the NSW Electoral Commission's website [www.elections.nsw.gov.au](http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au)

Your completed form must be submitted by post, fax or email to Council's Returning Officer and received no later than 5pm on Monday 8 September 2008.

Once your application has been processed you will be sent postal vote ballot papers and a declaration envelope for their return. You must complete the ballot papers and sign and date the certificate in the presence of a witness. The ballot papers must be posted to Council's Returning Officer or handed in at any polling place on election day.

For information about any aspect of the election, please phone the Returning Officer on 9936 8388 or 9936 8386.

## REMEMBER

- Voting is compulsory
- You must vote in your ward
- You can vote at North Sydney Boys High School, regardless of your ward
- You can not cast an absentee vote in another local government area

## ALL ENQUIRIES

Phone John Wright, Returning Officer, North Sydney Council, on 9936 8388 or 9936 8386.

## Cremorne Ward

- Forsyth Park Community Centre, off Montpelier Street, Neutral Bay, *Multi-Ward*
- Neutral Bay Public School, Bydown Street, Neutral Bay
- North Sydney Boys High School, Falcon Street, Crows Nest, *Principal Polling Place*
- SCEGGS Redlands, Allister Street, Cremorne

## Tunks Ward

- Cammeray Public School, Palmer Street, Cammeray
- Middle Harbour Public School, Macpherson Street, Mosman
- North Sydney Boys High School, Falcon Street, Crows Nest, *Principal Polling Place*
- St Peters Anglican Church, 29 Waters Road, Cremorne

## Victoria Ward

- Forsyth Park Community Centre, off Montpelier Street, Neutral Bay, *Multi-Ward*
- North Sydney Council Chambers, 200 Miller Street, North Sydney, *to be confirmed, please check website closer to election day*
- McMahons Point Community Centre, 165 Blues Point Road, McMahons Point, *Fully Wheelchair Accessible*
- North Sydney Boys High School, Falcon Street, Crows Nest, *Principal Polling Place*
- North Sydney Demonstration School, McHatton Street, North Sydney, *Multi-Ward*
- St Aloysius Junior College, Burton Street, Milsons Point

## Wollstonecraft Ward

- Crows Nest Uniting Church Hall, Shirley Road, Wollstonecraft
- North Sydney Boys High School, Falcon Street, Crows Nest, *Principal Polling Place*
- North Sydney Demonstration School, McHatton Street, North Sydney, *Multi-Ward*
- North Sydney Girls High School, Pacific Highway, Crows Nest
- Waverton Uniting Church Community Centre, 75 Bay Road, Waverton

# Have your say

When you vote on 13 September you will have the option of answering five yes/no questions on matters of community interest. Here are some for and against arguments for each question to start you thinking...

## Advertising on Bus Shelters

Do you support the proposal to allow advertising on bus shelters in high-traffic areas only, with the revenue to be reserved for capital projects such as road and footpath renewal, improved sporting facilities and the upgrading of North Sydney's village centres?

### Yes Case

---

- Council's long-term financial model indicates a trend of costs increasing faster than income - reducing available funding for capital projects.
- Income from advertising is likely to range from \$300,000 to \$600,000 per annum, which would provide much-needed funds for capital projects.
- Restricted advertising in high-traffic areas would have a low visual impact on residents.

### No Case

---

- North Sydney is currently free of the proliferation of advertising seen in other local government areas.
- The look of the current heritage-style bus shelters would be negatively affected.
- Visual pollution.



## Advertising on Public Infrastructure in the CBD

Do you support the proposal to allow advertising in the North Sydney CBD on public infrastructure such as bus shelters, multi-function poles or free standing advertising panels, with the revenue to be reserved for capital projects such as road and footpath renewal, improved sporting facilities and the upgrading of North Sydney's village centres?

### Yes Case

---

- Council's long-term financial model indicates a trend of costs increasing faster than income - reducing available funding for capital projects.
- Income from advertising is likely to range from \$300,000 to \$600,000 per annum, which would provide much-needed funds for capital projects.
- Advertising in the CBD would have a low visual impact on residents.

### No Case

---

- North Sydney is currently free of the proliferation of advertising seen in other local government areas.
- The look of the current infrastructure would be negatively affected.
- Visual pollution.

## Container Deposit Legislation

The Container Deposit Legislation (CDL) system involves a mandatory deposit to be paid by the consumer on certain nominated containers, for example, glass, aluminium, steel or plastic. Anyone who returns a container to the retailer or to a bottle depot receives a refund of between 5 cents and 20 cents. A similar system currently operates in South Australia.

Do you support the introduction of Container Deposit Legislation in NSW?



### Yes Case

- A significant increase in the rate of reuse and reprocessing of containers.
- Income opportunities for community groups and disadvantaged people.
- Reduced litter and a cleaner environment.
- Savings in waste disposal costs for Council and therefore ratepayers.
- Reduced cost to the nation of the resources used in containers.

### No Case

- Higher consumer prices paid for CDL containers.
- Fuel and other costs incurred by consumers returning containers to the collection depots.
- Increased establishment and administration costs for producers.

## Residential Parking – Unit Developments

Should Council amend its planning instruments to permit one dedicated car space per unit with at least one bedroom, exclusive of visitor parking, in new residential unit developments?

### Yes Case

- Relieve street parking problems in residential areas.
- Current policy forces some residents to park on the street.
- Current policy provides for insufficient off-street parking in residential unit developments.

### No Case

- Encourages more cars into the North Sydney area, increasing traffic and demand for on-street parking in village centres.
- Adds to pollution problems, including increasing carbon emissions associated with climate change.
- Could increase of the cost of development.

## Climate Change Levy

A. Do you support an increase in Council's existing Environment Levy special rate to fund an expansion of initiatives to assist residents, businesses, schools and Council to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and respond to the challenges of climate change?

B. Currently the Environmental Levy is based on an average of \$34.70 per rateable property per year. In the event that there is support for an increase in the levy, would you support an increase to an average of:

- \$50 per year
- \$60 per year

### Yes Case

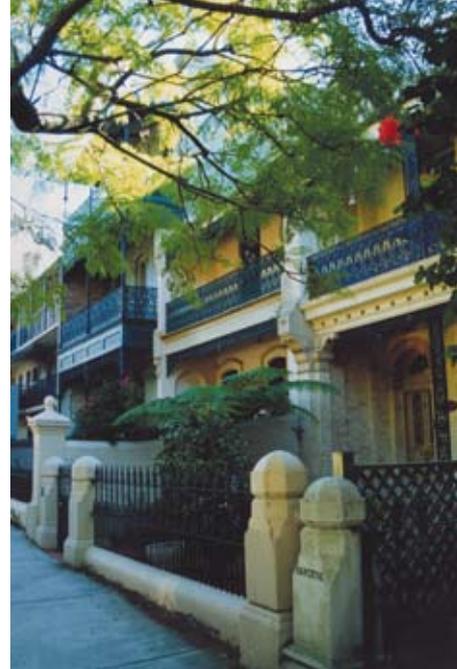
- A greater reduction in greenhouse gas emissions generated in the North Sydney local government area.
- A stronger focus on local sustainable and active transport initiatives, energy efficiency and renewable energy.
- Additional support for local businesses to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Additional support for residents and businesses to absorb anticipated increases in energy costs.

### No Case

- Additional financial burden on ratepayers.
- Funding should be sourced from the Australian or NSW Government rather than local residents.
- Limited benefit of local initiatives unless part of a national strategy.



# North Sydney Council Planning Review



Council is currently undertaking a major review of our planning controls, including a new local environment plan (LEP) and a new development control plan (DCP). The aim of the review will be to ensure future development is sustainable, well designed and compatible with the character of local areas. The new LEP and DCP will apply to the entire North Sydney local government area.

The planning review is in response to planning reforms initiated by the State Government. Council is required by the State Government to have its new comprehensive LEP gazetted by March 2009.

A number of projects are also being undertaken as part of the planning review. These are the Local Development Strategy, Residential Development Strategy and Heritage Conservation Review.

To ensure all relevant stakeholders are consulted in the development of the planning review, we have prepared a community consultation plan. We have already undertaken extensive consultation with precincts and councillors. There will be further opportunities for community input in the next few months. When finalised, all the draft documents will be put on exhibition for public comment.

A special section on Council's website has been created for the planning review. The section will enable residents and ratepayers to find out more about the review and to be kept informed of its progress, key dates and upcoming opportunities to participate in the process.

The website will also include a feedback section and the opportunity to join a mailing list so that you can receive email alerts about updates or upcoming events. For more information on the planning review and to join the mailing list log on to [www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/planningreview](http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/planningreview) or contact North Sydney Council on 9936 8100.

## A quick guide to planning terminology

### Local Environmental Plan

A local environmental plan (LEP) is the principal legal document for controlling development and guiding planning decisions made by Council. It includes land use zones, which establish the type of land use that is permitted or prohibited. The LEP also includes development standards to ensure that new development is compatible and appropriate with the role and character of an area. Development standards generally control a certain aspect of development, such as building height or floor space ratio.

### Development Control Plan

A development control plan (DCP) supports and supplements controls established in the LEP with more detailed planning and design guidelines. Some examples of development controls and design guidelines which are included in the DCP are colours and materials, building setbacks, and energy and water efficiency. Unlike local environmental plans, the DCP controls are not legally binding, however, they are given weight in the assessment of development applications. A DCP may apply to a particular type of development, such as a residential or commercial building, or to development

proposed in a particular area or locality, such as Neutral Bay.

### Local Development Strategy

The Local Development Strategy (LDS) outlines Council's vision and directions for managing development in North Sydney over the next 25 years. The LDS addresses a range of themes including: economy, housing, transport, environment and governance.

### Residential Development Strategy

The Residential Development Strategy (RDS) provides a framework for accommodating future housing in a sustainable manner, taking into account the challenges of population growth, an ageing population, declining household size and managing the impact of development on the natural environment.

### Heritage Conservation Review

A review of North Sydney's heritage conservation inventory and policy is being undertaken to establish a robust basis for protecting heritage buildings in the future, while providing the flexibility to manage the pressures for contemporary living standards and amenity.

# What's on in North Sydney this Spring

## Kids fiesta

This year's Children's Festival will be held on Saturday 25 October from 10am to 2pm in Civic Park, 200 Miller Street, North Sydney. Activities include acrobats, face painting, dance and music, with performances by the North Sydney Girls' High School Wind Ensemble and St Mary's Primary School Rock Band. There will also be animal encounters with baby farm animals, bats and reptiles. Entry is free.

## Garden Competition

The 12th annual North Sydney Garden Competition closes on Friday 19 September and will be judged in the week beginning Monday 22 September. The winners will be announced on Wednesday 15 October at a champagne presentation evening.

The categories are: most beautiful balcony or courtyard, most environmentally friendly garden, most beautiful commercial garden, most beautiful garden, the Lex and Ruby Graham prize for the most beautiful public area maintained by residents and best children's garden. Entry forms are available from Council's Customer Service Centre.

## Primrose Park Artists Studio

Quiltmaker Dianne Finnegan and Meredith Peach, a basket maker, painter and illustrator, will showcase their work at the Primrose Park Artists Studio from 28 November to 5 December

Both artists have scientific backgrounds and both use these skills when producing their art.

For more information about the exhibition or artists in residence program phone 9936 8100.



## Bennett's sizzling success

Smiles and sausage sandwiches filled Prior Park in June when the Bennett Precinct held a community get together with a focus on family. The 100-strong crowd enjoyed the relaxing Latin American music by Victor Valdez and his harp, as well as the magic tricks of David Hewitt.

A team of volunteers from the precinct, spent hours planning the family fun day, and invited more than 1200 households through letterbox drops and a door-knock

The strictly organic sausage sizzle was a hit – even the vegetarians loved the secretary's "secret" spiced onions. Bennett Precinct is planning to hold a Christmas carol evening at Prior Park in early December.

## Election day sale

Hayberry Precinct is holding another Giant Recycle and Sale Day on Saturday 13 September to coincide with the local government elections. The bargains will be on sale from 7.30am and organisers expect the event to wrap up around midday.

Items for sale will include furniture, computer accessories, toys, books, clothing and much more. The proceeds from the day will be donated to Cure Cancer Australia and will contribute to the fundraising efforts of the Hayberry Precinct CanToo Running Team, which will participate in the Sydney Running Festival.

For more information send an email to [garagesale@hayberry.org](mailto:garagesale@hayberry.org)



## Arts/Music/Literature

- 14-15 Sept Page to Stage, Ensemble Theatre 9929 0644
- 
- 14-20 Sept History Week, walks, stalls and workshop  
9936 8400
- 
- Sept – Oct Spring Into Jazz 9936 8585
- 
- Sept – Nov The Art of Lavender Bay, Don Bank Museum,  
16 Napier St, North Sydney,  
Wed & Sun 1pm-4pm 9936 8400
- 
- A rift through the heart of North Sydney:  
40 years of the Warringah Expressway,  
Heritage Centre, Stanton Library 9936 8400
- 
- 30 Oct Children's Halloween Party, 6pm-7pm  
9936 8400
- 
- 13-16 Nov Helga's European Film Festival, St Leonards  
Park 9936 8585
- 
- 15-23 Nov Primrose Park Arts & Crafts Exhibition,  
Hutley Hall 9936 8192
- 
- 28 Nov - 5 Dec *Ground Cover* exhibition by Dianne Finnegan  
and Meredith Peach, Primrose Park Artists  
Studio 9936 8192

## Community events

- 19 Oct Crows Nest Fair, Willoughby Rd, Crows Nest  
9439 8220
- 
- 25 Oct Children's Festival, Civic Park, 10am-2pm  
9936 8187
- 
- 2 Nov Neutral Bay Fair, Rangers Road, Neutral Bay  
9953 0133
- 
- Ford Ranger Cup one-day cricket match,  
NSW Speedblitz Blues v Western Australia,  
North Sydney Oval 9936 8585
- 
- 9 Nov Hayes Precinct Street Party, Hayes St,  
Neutral Bay 0411 105 760
- 
- 27 Nov HMAS Waterhen, Freedom of Entry,  
North Sydney CBD

## Eco events

- 13 Sept Worm farming workshop, 11am-1pm, Supper  
Room, Council Chambers 9936 8130
- 
- 17 Sept Get out of hot water: savings on your hot  
water system, 6.30pm-8.30pm, Supper Room,  
Council Chambers 9936 8130
- 
- 27 Sept Natural cleaning workshop, 11am-1pm,  
Supper Room, Council Chambers 9936 8130
- 
- 8 Oct Gardening with Australian native plants  
& how to attract birds to your garden,  
6.30pm-8.30pm, Hutley Hall, Council  
Chambers 9936 8130
- 
- 13 Oct Weed grass identification workshop,  
9am-11.30am 9936 8258
- 
- 15 Oct Rainwater tanks workshop, 6.30pm-8.30pm,  
Hutley Hall, Council Chambers 9936 8130
- 
- 18 Oct Making a herb spiral workshop, 2pm-4pm,  
Cammeray Public School, Palmer St,  
Cammeray 9936 8130
- 
- 1 Nov Solar power workshop, 11am-1pm, Supper  
Room, Council Chambers 9936 8130
- 
- 10 Nov Native grass identification workshop,  
9am-11.30am, Smoothey Park, Wollstonecraft  
9936 8258

## Spring into Jazz

- 14 September, 2pm-4pm, *The Mixmasters* St Thomas Rest Park, West St, Cammeray
- 21 September, 12noon-2pm, *Sydney Jazz Club's Berry Island Picnic* Berry Island Reserve, end of Shirley Rd, Wollstonecraft
- 28 September, 2pm-4pm, *Slide McBride Wild, Cool and Swingin'* Cremorne Point Reserve, end of Milson Rd, Cremorne Point
- 5 October, 2pm-4pm, *Jazz Nouveau* BP Parkland, Woolcott St, Waverton, entrance from Waverton Park
- 12 October, 2pm-4pm, *The Rick Robertson Trio* Milson Park, McDougall St, Milsons Point
- 19 October, 2pm-4pm, *John Morrison's Swing City Band - a 10 piece extravaganza* The Music Shell, St Leonards Park, Miller St, North Sydney