



# MANLY COMMUNITY FORUM

A community-led monthly newsletter for Manly residents

March 2023

## Manly to Shelly

We live in paradise and our piece of paradise must be cared for. The Manly Community Forum and the Marine Parade Action Alliance have been working with the Northern Beaches Council to ensure that the precious and internationally renowned Manly to Shelly walkway is maintained and protected into the future.

In 2022 the Northern Beaches Council received a grant of \$86,668 and technical support from the NSW Government to better understand the northern beaches open coast and lagoons and develop a Coastal Management Program (CMP). While the 1.3km of the Shelly to Manly section will be included in this CMP, it will be a high-level staged process to identify and map issues from Shelly to Palm Beach. It is not the Masterplan we need to identify the specific issues for funding and works along the Shelly to Manly section.

But in the meantime, Council has commenced work to replace the amenities block at Shelly Beach and will embark on a landscaping plan which includes low block stone wall at the rear of the beach to separate the sand and grass area. The shower stand at the ramp will also be improved with a more accessible platform installed. We would like to see the filthy bins here removed as well.

Further along the walkway, between Bower Lane and Manly actual red tape exists, with several lengths wrapped around the heritage cream coloured post and rail fence along the potholed shared footpath (which also demands some immediate attention). Visitors share the surf line viewing point with an empty, rusty old interpretive sign frame and a light pole with graffitied compliance signs. Fortunately, most visitors don't see the ocean facing eroding stone wall supporting the walkway. And much of the stonework supporting the landscaping on the cliff side also needs urgent attention. Council is considering what action to take where the path narrows where there is a landslide covered by weeds intruding onto the path creating a pinch point.

## AGENDA

- Meet the Candidates
- Updates on everything
- North Head Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Traffic calming on Darley and elsewhere

**Manly Community Forum meeting**  
**Monday 20 March 2023**  
**7.00pm Manly Yacht Club**

Chairperson: Cathy Griffin  
contact via [secretary@manlycommunityforum.com](mailto:secretary@manlycommunityforum.com)



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

# Shelly to Manly continued.....

Visitors and locals often stop to admire the sunbaking water dragons, and humans ignoring the 'danger stay off the roof' sign on the roof of the rapidly decaying shed. This shed damaged in the last big storm and its future needs to be considered. The stretch of the path from the shed to Bower Lane is a spectacular 50 metre patch work of trip hazards. If the first pothole is missed, the puddle at the bottom will surely get the unsuspecting visitor. Council has been requested to re surface this entire section now that all the underground services, Ausgrid, NBN, Telstra, Jemina gas, Sydney Water etc seem to have finished accessing their pits as part of recent repairs, or construction for the new apartment buildings.

Looking out onto the rock platform, visitors miss the detail of the dog poo in and around the rock ponds while they express wonder about the dogs, off leash despite signs to the contrary, bounding about or nervously avoiding the waves washing up onto the rocks. People keep sending the secretary@manlycommunityforum.com photos of dog poo on the rock platform but they won't be published here because YUK, no one needs to see that. Enough said. Just don't do it please. The Fisheries - Department of Primary Industries needs to take decisive action to prohibit the dogs below the mean high tide mark of the Aquatic Reserve to protect rock platform habitat.

During a high tide the waves overtopping the concrete wall can be very exciting, but locals are concerned that it won't be long before this wall gives way, just like the stormwater pipes that blew off the concrete slabs further along. The CCTV monitors the wave action, capturing the spectacular height the waves reach while undermining the concrete encasing of the stormwater pipes. The swimming community is still waiting for the steps into the Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve, promised many times since they were damaged by the waves a few years ago. A resolution to maintain the existing infrastructure and improving the amenity of the area at Bower Lane is also long overdue.

Finally, and sadly the iconic Sculpture walk with the braille interpretations is slowly disappearing and not being maintained or replaced.



## New amenities at Shelly



## How many swimmers?

A survey conducted daily of the number of swimmers traversing the Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve everyday between July 2021 and January 2022 in the early morning revealed a very busy waterway. Swimmer numbers varied according to conditions in the water on the days of the count. Covid restrictions aside, winter attracted between 50 and 150 swimmers each morning, Spring 80 to 250 daily depending on conditions in the water and Summer 100 to 300, with special days like Anzac Day and Christmas Day attracting well over 500. A very busy and beautiful waterway for swimmers to enjoy which is becoming more popular each year.

- **Bouquet** to the contractor for starting the new toilet block at Shelly Beach. The community looks forward to Safer, Smarter, Faster Commercial Construction of this much needed amenities block.

## Save the Date for Community Northern Beaches Christmas in July @ the MCF meeting

The Manly Community Forum will be hosting a **Christmas In July** function at the **17 July 2023 meeting**. All funds raised will be donated to the Community Northern Beaches.

You can also make a tax deductible donation to the Community Northern Beaches using this QR code.



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# North Head Wastewater Treatment Plant

As part of the ongoing communication and interaction on local issues, the Manly Community Forum attended the first of the quarterly North Head WRRF (sewage treatment plant) Community Reference Group (CRG) meetings last month. Along with other members of the community, the MCF were treated to an afternoon presentation by the new Facility Manager.

The presentation ran through the day to day operation of the second largest waste water treatment plant in Sydney. The North Head facility processes about 350 million litres of water each day, from as far as Rouse Hill out west and Narrabeen in the North. It has the capacity to hold an additional 300 million litres of water in the North Side Storage (NSS) for later processing during times of heavy rain. The facility generates up to 60% of its own electricity requirements through hydro and co-gen gas produced on site. The presentation took us through the upgrade of the bio solids project which is to increase the bio solids output and remove more solids from the wastewater treated to meet increasing demand as the Sydney population increases. This will mean more trucks travelling to and from the plant. They are in the process of building two new large-scale digesters, which include new capabilities to co-generate electricity to supply the facility.

This project is going to ramp up as more construction workers are on site (upwards of 150 per day), along with many extra truck movements delivering materials needed for this project. The project is set for completion June 24. Concerns were shared about increasing traffic and truck movements and driver behaviours up and down Darley Road and through Manly village. Daily truck movements in and out of the facility were discussed and again efforts to keep these to speed limits and operational hours. Concern was expressed about the persistent speeding cars and trucks heading to the plant outside of the stated construction hours, as well as noise impacts on residents. The Plant Manager agreed to consider installing speed monitors on Darley Rd to moderate speeding and stated that Bluefish Road from the top of Darley to the Sydney Water will be resurfaced soon.

The MCF will continue to meet at the NHWRRF each 3 months. to engage and get a better understanding of how this essential facility operates and coexists with the local Manly community.



## Jump Rock

Summer is almost over but the crowds are still heading to Jump Rock for a splash into Spring Cove. This seems to be as popular as jumping off the wharf or the old aquarium site. It has been made more popular and accessible by someone sawing off the metal spikes at the ends of the tall metal fence installed by the former Manly Council and damaging the fencing at the end of the road. Whilst neighbours are happy to put up with some of the joyous shrieking and splashing during the day, complaints are numerous about the rubbish left everywhere and the appalling, often late night drunken behaviour and disgusting language used by some of these jumpers and their friends. Neighbours are often abused for not allowing people into their homes to use their toilets, borrow their phones to call home, put their phones on a charger or provide bandaids for cuts and other injuries.

Any suggestions on how to improve this situation are welcome at [secretary@manlycommunityforum.com](mailto:secretary@manlycommunityforum.com)

# THE AGENCY

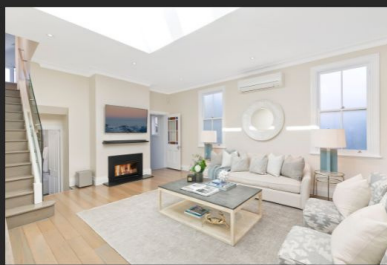


502/54 West Esplanade, Manly



Designer Harbourfront Retreat with Resort Facilities

**Auction**  
Saturday 25th March at 3.45pm



4 Ocean Road, Manly



Elegance, Style and Ocean Views Collide in a Prime Location

**Auction**  
Saturday 1st April at 10.30am

We have just listed these two properties in Manly.

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, along with honesty and integrity, look no further than Jake Rowe.

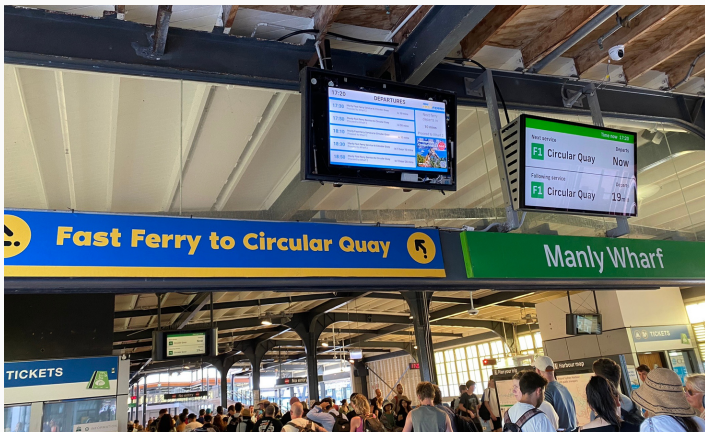


**Jake Rowe**  
[jakerowe@theagency.com.au](mailto:jakerowe@theagency.com.au)  
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Experience sells

# Brickbats and Bouquets

- **Bouquet** to the local Little Penguins who are breeding up a storm with double the number of eggs to Little Penguins in the Critical habitat this year. Only 27 pairs were recorded last season. Please keep your dogs off the harbourside beaches and cats indoors during the Little Penguin breeding season which is now. The newly hatched chicks are very vulnerable as they cannot escape easily from harmful predators. Hopefully this will bring the numbers back up to a viable population in the only NSW mainland colony.
- **Bouquet** to TPTforNSW and the Manly Wharf staff for the faster and more frequent Ferry services on the route to and from Manly on the recent hot and very busy weekends. Not much nostalgia for the slow old ferries among the happy visitors boarding the smaller ferries every 20 minutes.



- **Brickbat** to Council for not installing permanent wayfinding signs directing people to the fancy almost new toilets on East Esplanade.
- **Bouquet** to the property owners in Ashburner St for trimming back their overhanging tree hedge. Everyone now has a clear access to the full width of this very busy path.. Thanks and keep up the good work all you hedge trimmers.
- **Brickbat** to Council for the installation of the traffic calming curbs in the middle of the road along the Steyne. Please focus on the speeding e bikes and scooters.
- **Bouquet** to the Council cleansing staff who start work at 3am clearing the late-night rubbish from our beaches and parks. Shout out to Steve at Shelly and the other guys who clean East Esplanade.
- **Brickbat** to the editor for being so negative last month about the paradise we live in. But paradise needs to be cared for and protected.

## NSW State Election 25 March 2023

Manly Community Forum has invited candidates for a Q&A session at the March forum meeting. Pre polling or early voting will commence a week out from the election starting on the 18 March 2023 at St Matthews Church in the Corso. Postal vote applications are available online now.

# WHARF BAR



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