

RANDWICK **SCENE**

**How
shark
drumlines
work**

Page 6

**More
greenery
please!**

**How your feedback
shaped our
Community
Strategic Plan**

Page 8





council@randwick.nsw.gov.au

Randwick City Council Customer Service Centre

Address: 30 Frances Street, Randwick, NSW 2031

Hours: 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday

Phone: 1300 722 542

Email: council@randwick.nsw.gov.au

Web: randwick.nsw.gov.au

Community Nursery: 9093 6250

Lionel Bowen Library, Maroubra: 9093 6400

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- parking
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- parks and beaches
- rates
- trees
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Randwick SCENE Magazine is written and produced by Randwick Council's Communications Team: Joshua Hay, Chelsea Hunter and Jillian Lewis. Design by Carlen Peddie, Gemma Elliott and Gavin Tso. Our goal is to inform you about Council's activities and to celebrate together, this wonderful place we call Randwick City.

Distributed to 63,000 properties in Randwick City.

Cover image:
Photo by Mark Bond, taken at a Plant With Us event.

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Councillor contacts

Central Ward



Kym Chapple (Greens) (Deputy Mayor)
kym.chapple@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0459 878 980



Dylan Parker (ALP) (Mayor)
mayor@randwick.nsw.gov.au
9093 6813



Daniel Rosenfeld (Lib)
daniel.rosenfeld@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0459 914 765

East Ward



Joanne McCafferty (Lib)
joanne.mccafferty@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0432 003 491



Michael Olive (Greens)
michael.olive@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0459 876 320



Marea Wilson (ALP)
marea.wilson@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0459 132 304

North Ward



Christie Hamilton (Lib)
christie.hamilton@randwick.nsw.gov.au
9430 6873



Kathy Neilson (ALP)
kathy.neilson@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0477 345 913



Rafaela Pandolfini (Greens)
rafaela.pandolfini@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0459 937 407

South Ward



Bill Burst (Lib)
bill.burst@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0459 912 106



Noel D'Souza (Ind)
noel.dsouza@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0477 351 202



Danny Said (ALP)
danny.said@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0408 653 006

West Ward



Alexandra Luxford (ALP)
alexandra.luxford@randwick.nsw.gov.au
9430 6871



Andrew Hay (Lib)
andrew.hay@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0457 030 154



Philippa Veitch (Greens)
philippa.veitch@randwick.nsw.gov.au
0408 916 420

From the Mayor – Dylan Parker

Our community has been through a lot over the last few months. We began the year with the tragic drowning of father and son, Peter and Mahan, and then just a few weeks later there was the horrifying death of swimmer Simon Nellist attacked by a shark. Our community rallied around each other and showed incredible acts of support on both occasions. I want to commend everyone for their care and compassion.

As a result of these fatalities, Council is urgently reviewing the water safety along our coastline including increasing the visibility of rock fishing safety messages. We are also working closely with the Department of Primary Industries on their shark management plans for our beaches. You can read more about this in detail in our story on page 6.

On a different note, I encourage you to take a look into the future of Randwick City and read about our shared vision for the community in the article about our Community Strategic Plan (page 8). See what your fellow residents had to say about what was important to them.

A planned burn off at Randwick Environment Park (page 10) has also been undertaken with an eye to the rejuvenation of the site. This is how we support our native bushland to become healthier and provides a more diverse home for native fauna.

We also celebrate the successes of the first year of FOGO (page 12) and welcome Plastic Free Randwick, a Council-supported program that will help food-based businesses to use more sustainable options, rather than single-use plastic (page 13).

All of these stories are about our community working together to create a safer, more liveable and more sustainable future for Randwick City.

Enjoy!

Dylan Parker
Mayor of Randwick



Hey Randwick, keep up the good work!

You're diverting 250 tonnes of
waste from landfill each week.

FOGO. Where all good food scraps go

randwick.nsw.gov.au/FOGO



news in brief

Sign up to eNews for your weekly fix of Randwick Council news, projects, events and more.

randwick.nsw.gov.au/enews

Sympathies extended to victims of coastal tragedies

A minute's silence was held in honour of three people who died earlier this year along the Little Bay coast – Peter and his 10-year-old son Mahan who drowned after being swept off rocks while fishing; and ocean swimmer Simon Nellist who was killed by a shark. The deaths have rattled the Little Bay and broader Randwick City community. Council offered support to the community by providing drop-in stands at local beaches offering mental health support and education resources. Council staff will also review safety signage and education for rock fishers and approach the families of the victims to consider an appropriate commemoration if desired.

Coogee Fallen Lifesaver Memorial update

Stage two of the Coogee Fallen Lifesavers Memorial, located at the southern end of Goldstein Reserve, Coogee Beach is nearing completion with the standstone wall and plinth now installed, ready for a touchscreen display to be added. The interactive digital display will list the names of the fallen lifesavers and will be updated and maintained by the Coogee Surf Lifesaving Club. Landscaping and grass planting will be completed as soon as weather permits.



Maroubra Junction set for urban renewal

A new green oasis planned for the heart of Maroubra Junction will progress to design development and tender after Councillors supported the proposal. A \$1M grant from the NSW State Government will allow council to build stage 1 of the project. The project is designed to transform an underused space in the middle of Anzac Parade into an inviting community space to meet and gather. Recent community consultation found general support for the project with suggestions for farmers markets and exhibition and entertainment spaces.

Equal pay for equal play

Recipients of grants and funding from Randwick Council will be required to ensure equal opportunities for both male and female participants including equal prize money and the same opportunities to participate in events, competitions and training. The move follows national media interest last year following the revelation that female competitors in a northern beaches surfing contest received less prize money than male competitors.



Matraville incinerator plans up in smoke

Plans by the Opal papermill in Matraville to burn truckloads of waste to power their operations may go up in smoke before they've been formally submitted. NSW EPA draft regulations

propose to prohibit industries in the Sydney basin from using waste-to-energy technology if they're already using more environmentally friendly fuel sources. The EPA has confirmed this would mean the Matraville proposal would be ineligible. The Opal paper mill currently uses natural gas to power their plant, which is defined in the Regulation as a more environmentally friendly fuel than burning waste. Council has made a submission supporting the draft regulations.

FOGO wins big at sustainability awards

Randwick City Council's FOGO program was awarded the Communication and Engagement and the Resource Recovery and Waste Minimisation awards at the Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities Award ceremony in January. "The introduction of FOGO, our food and garden organics waste recovery service, was a giant leap forward for our community's efforts in looking after our environment and reducing the amount of greenhouse gas our waste produces," said Mayor Dylan Parker. To see the achievements of FOGO after one year of operation, see our story on page 12.



New Council for 2021-24 term

Following the Local Government elections held in early December 2021, Randwick welcomed eight new and seven returning Councillors to serve on Council for a three-year term from 2021 to 2024. Pictured above are (left to right) Councillors Michael Olive, Andrew Hay, Danny Said, Marea Wilson, Daniel Rosenfeld, Mayor Dylan Parker, Kathy Neilson, Joanne McCafferty, Deputy Mayor Kym Chapple, Alexandra Luxford, Bill Burst, Rafaela Pandolfini, Noel D'Souza, and Philipa Veitch. Cr Christie Hamilton was not present at the time of the photo. For the first time in Council history eight of the 15 Councillors are female, making this the first female-majority Council for Randwick. This is up from five female Councillors in the previous term.

Street lights go LED

Street lights in Randwick City will be swapped out for low power LED lights over the next three years as part of an SSROC Main Road Street Lighting Replacement Partnership Program. 2,360 street lights will be replaced resulting in a 61% reduction in energy consumption and saving \$126,000 per year in energy costs.

New plans proposed for Heffron Netball Centre

A \$3.2M plan to install undercover seating and all-weather shaded netball courts at Maroubra's Heffron Park is one step closer after Council endorsed a concept plan for the works. Netball is one of the highest participation team sports in Randwick City and the Randwick Netball Association currently has 341 teams who use the courts. Council will consider allocated funding in the 2022-23 budget to commence the works, which are likely to be staged over a number of years.

Randwick goes 100% solar

All Randwick Council operations including libraries, sports fields, DRLC and council street lights will be powered by 100% solar energy from 1 July 2022 under a landmark new deal. Council, along with 24 other participating NSW councils, will be supplied by three NSW solar farms under a deal brokered by the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) with ZEN Energy. The deal will reduce Council's electricity emissions to zero – effectively saving around 7,000 tonnes of CO₂ a year.



A solar farm in Nevertire NSW that will be supplying Randwick's energy from 1 July.

Randwick Environment Park boardwalk complete

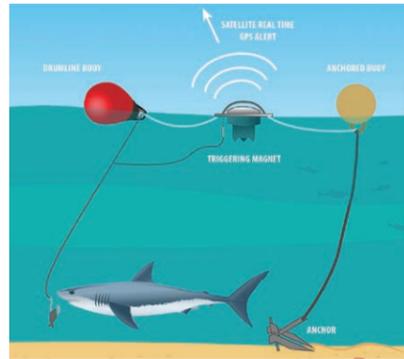
The new boardwalk at Randwick Environment Park is complete and open for public use. The boardwalk, which was built in place of the dirt track on the western edge of the park, completes the 1.2km loop around the park, making the walk fully accessible to all. The new section of the track is comprised of a 73m deco granite path as well as a 166m raised boardwalk through the trees. Randwick staff worked hard to ensure there was minimal impact to the natural surroundings of the park during the construction period.



Sea change



In 2021 Council agreed to support additional shark mitigation measures including SMART drumlines and listening stations to catch, tag and release target sharks and monitor for the presence of tagged sharks in our area. In February this year, these tools were deployed along our coastline. So, what are they and how do they work?



What's most surprising about sharks is that they travel further than you would expect – and certainly further than most of us have in the past two years. Dr Paul Butcher, Principal Research Scientist with the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI), has been tracking sharks as part of the NSW Government's Shark Management Strategy since 2015 and has seen sharks move from New Zealand, up the coast of Australia to Papua New Guinea and back again.

"They don't often stick to one beach and 'lurk'," he says. "They move quite vast distances. We've seen one white shark travel to WA and back three times. It's covered more than 40,000kms since it was first tagged in 2016."

The research that Paul and the DPI team have been undertaking these past seven years is filling in a lot of knowledge gaps about sharks, which all goes to paint a bigger, better picture about their behaviour and how we can exist alongside them in the water.

SMART drumlines

The tools that are providing DPI with this information are SMART drumlines (which stands for Shark Management Alert in Real Time) and tagged shark listening

stations, which are currently deployed along 21 locations half a kilometre off the Randwick City coastline by the DPI. A listening station will soon be deployed off Maroubra Beach.

In 2021, Council agreed to support DPI deploying SMART drumlines and listening stations, to be used in addition to the two shark nets already in place in Maroubra and Coogee. Previous research has shown that SMART drumlines are 15 times more efficient than nets for catching target sharks, catch significantly fewer non-target animals than nets, and result in a 99% survival rate of animals caught on the SMART drumlines compared to about 40% in nets.

The drumlines consist of a hook baited with one large sea mullet, which is attached to two buoys and a satellite-linked GPS communications unit that alerts contract boats when the bait has been taken. Within 30 minutes the contractor will pull up alongside the shark and spend the next 12-17 minutes tagging them with an acoustic tag, then will take them a further 1km offshore and release the shark. Non-target animals are given an identification tag and released in situ.

"One thing we do know from our satellite tagging is that when a target shark is caught they're often 15 to 25km offshore within 24 hours of being tagged, they don't hang around," Paul confirms.

Listening stations

Shark listening stations are buoys that provide a real-time alert when a tagged shark swims within 500 metres. "Any time a tagged shark is detected on any one of the listening stations, it sends information to the SharkSmart app, website and Twitter account with

a date and time, where the shark was previously detected and where it was originally tagged, so people can see the movements of sharks in the area."

The target sharks that Paul and his team are most interested in finding out about are white, tiger and bull sharks, though they also catch dusky whalers, hammerheads, makos, bronze whalers and other non-target animals. "The benefit of this program is that we primarily catch the species that are responsible for most serious shark bites in NSW."

Future technologies

This multifaceted approach to shark mitigation also includes the use of drones. Fifty of NSW's beaches, including Maroubra Beach, now have drones as an eye in the sky. Another program that Paul is currently working on, could see these drones become autonomous and fly over beaches using image recognition software to detect sharks swimming close to beaches and send an alert to beach authorities, such as Lifeguards, who would sound an alert and clear people from the water.

What Paul would really like to see – but is still in the early stages of research – is a method that would avoid the need to capture sharks at all. "We're working on some environmental DNA projects now that would allow us to take a sample of the water column and detect spikes or troughs that would indicate the presence or absence of white, tiger and bull sharks," he explains. "A one-litre sample of water would be enough to let us know if there are any dangerous sharks in the region so there would be no need to tag the animals. It's one of those blue-sky technologies that would be great to use in the future."

Quick Q & A

How many sharks have you tagged since this program began?
We've tagged 700 white sharks so far, 232 tigers and 135 bull sharks along the NSW coast since the program began in 2015.

What are you more like to encounter while swimming, a shark or a dolphin?
A dolphin. From the drone research we've done, you are 140 times more likely to see a dolphin in the water than a shark.

Are sharks a sign of a healthy marine eco system?
Certainly. They are top end predators, so if there are sharks around then it is a healthy ecosystem and if we can have programs in place that allows us to live alongside them, then that's great.

Will the bait attract sharks to the area?
We're not attracting sharks to the area – we are intercepting them as they travel along the coast. We don't use burley and the bait we use is one sea mullet. We're only setting the lines during daylight hours and we take the bait out of the water at the end of the day and dispose of it on-shore.

What's it like handling an apex predator in the water?
It's not the rodeo that everyone thinks it will be because sharks are fairly timid animals and don't play up very much. The odd tiger shark likes to "croc roll" but the rest of the animals are fine being alongside the boat and are happy to swim away once tagged.

SMART drumlines are located around 500m offshore

Back to the future

“ The best way to find out what the community wants, is to ask them ”

They say the future is not somewhere we're going, but something we're creating. So how do you create the future you want? With a lot of planning and hard work, but it all starts with a conversation.

Most of us are familiar with setting budgets and some of us even set yearly plans. But when you're managing a 163-year-old public organisation like Randwick Council with almost \$2 billion worth of public assets and an annual operating revenue of \$181 million – things need to be more robust.

Randwick Council has long been regarded for its proactive management and service delivery. But managing a big organisation and providing a range of services takes planning.

The City Plan

Like many councils, we use an Integrated Planning and Reporting framework. At the top is our

Community Strategic Plan (CSP), called A Sense of Community, which outlines the community's vision for Randwick for the next decade.

This plan has been in development over the past two years and is now being considered by Council for adoption after being publicly exhibited in February and March 2022.

Underpinning this plan is comprehensive research and engagement undertaken through seven Informing Strategies covering the arts, environment, transport, recreation, economic development, housing and inclusion.

The strategies have specific outcomes with measurable objectives and strategic approaches (or direct actions) that Council will take to achieve the desired outcome.

The strategic approaches are then prioritised into four-year delivery programs (aligned with council terms) and then further broken down into one-year operational plans with the required budget, resources and staffing assigned.

But none of this planning matters, if it doesn't respond to the needs and changing requirements of our community.

And the best way to find out what the community wants, is to ask them.

Planning for the future

Over the past two years, more than 14,000 people have been consulted on Council's informing strategies and their feedback has directly shaped and changed what we're doing.

For example one of the strategic approaches is to identify potential sites for active sports including BMX tracks, a mountain bike course or outdoor bouldering.

But why? Well, our research shows that adventure sports activities are becoming increasingly popular and mainstream. There is community demand for more recreational opportunities for young people and there's a projected 30% population increase in people aged 5-14 years and a 29% increase in 15-24 year-olds by 2036.

We've used this feedback and the views from thousands more voices to design, test and refine our Community Strategic Plan.

The resulting plan is one that empowers our community to be knowledgeable, proactive and responsive to climate change, that encourages a creative and culturally rich city, that provides diverse and affordable housing and creates a future where sustainable transport options are the preferred choice for getting around.

The plan also aims to ensure a city where everyone has the opportunity to participate in sport and recreation and where the community is healthy and active.

We also want a city with a 24-hour economy that includes diverse night time activities and experiences; and empowers businesses to start, grow and thrive through a collaborative business culture.

It's a bold vision, and one that won't be achieved by Council alone – but will require all levels of government, local businesses and the community to work together.

If you want to learn more about our Community Strategic Plan scan the QR code to read it.



What you'd like to see in Randwick City

1. **Improved town centres and streetscapes**
2. **Quality development**
3. **More greenery**
4. **Better public transport**
5. **Traffic and parking management**
6. **A walkable and rideable city**
7. **Improved outdoor recreation**

Better transport, more cafes, good restaurants, bars.
Karolina, Coogee

The cleanest beaches, the cleanest parks, the smoothest roads and footpaths, the lowest rates in NSW.
Ben, Kingsford

A greener environment.
Jennifer, South Coogee

Maintain the good hospital and university precinct recognising the value of education, diversity, new ideas/ research.
Anne-Maree, Coogee

Sustainable, family houses- not high rises. Duplexes that are not company title.
Kell, Malabar

More community feeling, more green areas, no traffic congestion, easy to get around for all.
Helen, Randwick

Clean beaches community that cares and loves.
Lea, Malabar

More trees on the horizon than telegraph poles.
Penny, Matraville

Fewer high-rise apartments and better affordable housing.
Rob, Maroubra

Indigenous culture and knowledge embedded in urban design and its dominance on public arts and events.
Edna, Coogee

Working with fire

The barren, blackened aftermath of a controlled burn may seem alarming, but there is new life and regeneration just waiting to burst forth. In order to secure a strong and healthy future for our native bushland, and protect nearby housing, Council plans a burn off every few years. Find out what this involves.

Fire has long been part of the Australian landscape. For thousands of years, Aboriginal people supported our bountiful landscape by selectively burning some ecosystems, while protecting others. In fact, many of our native plants have adapted to regenerate after being burnt.

Understanding how fire can support a diversity of plants and wildlife to thrive is integral to ensuring a healthy, safe bushland environment. To do this, we work with Fire and Rescue NSW to establish safe, Indigenous fire management practices in our local government area.

Preserving our native flora

Randwick Environment Park is a unique mixture of recreational green space, which includes a playground, oval and BBQ area, as well as bushland and an ephemeral wetland. The park is surrounded by people's homes, so keeping the bushland safe from uncontrolled fire is important.

The park is also home to an abundance of native flora and fauna, including the Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub (ESBS), a community of plants that together create their own ecosystem. ESBS has significant cultural value to local indigenous groups, who traditionally used the plant species for shelter, medicine, food and a range of ceremonial purposes. Once widespread across Randwick City,

ESBS is currently classified as critically endangered, meaning without care and protection it could become extinct.

Randwick Council is working hard to bring back the scrub through bush regeneration, flora surveying and propagation of ESBS species. Controlled burning is also part of the process.

Many of the plants within the ESBS plant community rely on heat to germinate and have developed mechanisms to help their survival after fire. In fact, some of these plants depend on fire during some stage of their lifecycle. For example, banksias have a hard seed pod, which is usually triggered to open after fire. In addition to the heat from fire, chemicals in smoke and ash can also trigger the germination of some plants.

How is fire used?

Randwick Council has a bushfire management plan for Randwick Environment Park, which helps to guide our day-to-day management actions. Hazard reduction burns can be used as an effective part of this plan.

In 2021, Council consulted Fire and Rescue NSW to look at performing a burn in Randwick Environment Park. A burn was considered with two main purposes. The first, to reduce underbrush, which can be a threat to nearby homes and residences in the case of a non-controlled fire, and the second, to assist in natural regeneration and seed development of fire dependent species.

What about native fauna?

Within our bushland lives an abundance of native fauna – lizards, spiders, bees, small birds and other life. Before Bushland officers prepare a site for burning, they look for any nests or animals and relocate them to nearby bushland. Wildlife also has time to move elsewhere as the deconstructed vegetation dries out over the following month. Plus, the slow, low intensity, and patchiness of a controlled burn, provides wildlife with the opportunity to escape easily to nearby bushland. After the burn, a flush of new vegetation growth provides the local wildlife with a greater variety of food and resources, benefiting their survival.



Burning at Randwick Environment Park

Two locations in Randwick Environment Park required a controlled burn, equalling roughly a hectare. The burns took place in December 2021, with the assistance of Fire and Rescue NSW and National Parks Indigenous Rangers, who started the fire.

Before the burn

Before a burn takes place, the site needs to be prepared. To do this, we cut down dry vegetation and some larger trees to create a consistency across the site. The goal with the burn is to give lower plants and scrub the opportunity to thrive. Larger trees prevent the light from filtering through, so many smaller native plants and scrub, like ESBS, which should thrive in this area are struggling.



On the day of the burn



Weather and wind is monitored closely up to the day, and the burn only goes ahead if conditions are suitable. As is the practice with Indigenous fire burning, a mosaic-style burn was planned. Indigenous rangers from National Parks and Wildlife began the burn with a cultural ignition ceremony. Staff were located around the perimeter of the burn, keeping a close eye. Most small fires died out naturally. In

some cases, a light mist was sprayed, if needed. The goal was to prevent soil disturbance – the ashbed is full of naturally occurring chemicals and nutrients that feed the land and encourage the growth of new vegetation.

Days after the burn

Although to the regular eye, the burn site may appear decimated, there is a lot of life beneath the ash bed, and the result will increase the long-term health of the bushland. Seed pods have opened, nutrients have released and naturally occurring chemicals in the soil will stimulate growth and regeneration. Now, without the trees blocking the sunlight, low scrub and native ground cover have the chance to take hold. Once it comes back, there will be a lot more native diversity. A more diverse range of plant species will attract a diversity of birds and insects, which makes for healthier bushland.



Watch a video of the burn process here:



First year of FOGO

Just over a year ago our rubbish trucks made their first rounds as they picked up the new green lid FOGO bins. The results are in and the amount of waste that has been diverted from landfill says FOGO has been a big success!

Well done Randwick City, you've already achieved great things in the first year of using FOGO! It's amazing that a simple change in perspective – to viewing food scraps as a resource instead of waste – can result in a huge difference for our environment.

Over the past year we have collected 14,000 tonnes of food and garden waste and turned it into compost. That's around twice the weight of steel used in the Anzac Bridge. Crucially, by not sending this waste to landfill we have prevented the creation of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.

The content of red bins, which goes straight to landfill has been reduced by 25% and the contamination rate in the green bins is an incredibly low 1.5%, which shows that you understand exactly what goes in the FOGO bin.

"It's a tremendous effort and the residents of Randwick City are to be congratulated for doing such a great job," says Randwick Mayor Dylan Parker. "Every single person who has used our FOGO service has made a difference, and it's my hope that they feel a sense of pride and achievement. This truly is a community that cares about the environment and the future we're handing over to our children."



Mayor Dylan Parker with Costa Georgiadis and the Friends of FOGO group.

FOGO like a pro

If you have questions about kitchen caddies, compostable liners, your FOGO bin or what can and can't be FOGO'd head to our website and search 'FOGO like a pro' for answers as well as tips and tricks to become an expert FOGO-er.

- 1 **Shut it.** 
- 2 **Shade it.** 
- 3 **Freeze it.** 
- 4 **Wash it.** 
- 5 **Hide it.** 

Order more caddy liners

Run out of compostable caddy liners? We deliver these to each household every six months, but if you need more before then you can order a pack on our website or you can call our Customer Service Centre on 1300 722 542.

Choose to refuse

Cafes and restaurants that want to get drastic about reducing their use of plastic have a valuable resource in Plastic Free Randwick, an organisation set up to help the transition to more sustainable choices.



There are many plastic-free options.

The message is unavoidable – it's time we learn how to live with less plastic. One of the most harmful materials of modern life, plastic is polluting our ocean, harming wildlife and filling up landfill for centuries to come.

Plastics can take anywhere from 20 to 450 years to decompose. So even though we have only been producing plastic for the past 60 to 70 years, it's not going anywhere in a hurry. It's time to look for alternatives and make the shift away from our current reliance on single-use plastics. This is where Plastic Free Randwick comes in.

The initiative is run by not-for-profit organisation, Boomerang Alliance and is jointly funded by the Federal Government and Randwick Council.

It has been rolled out across Australia since 2016 and provides free assistance to food retailers to help make the transition away from single-use plastics as simple as possible.

The program targets six key items: coffee cups and lids; straws; foodware (cutlery, bowls, plates, clear cups etc); take-away containers; bags; and water bottles. Within the food industry there are sustainable replacements for all of these items and Plastic Free Randwick offers free assistance to businesses to find the best fit for them.

Participation is open to all food retailers in Randwick. Cafes,

restaurants, bars, food retailers and mobile vendors will receive personalised advice and support, tips on how to reduce single-use packaging costs and waste, and free promotion.

Residents can get involved too by supporting local businesses who participate in the program, and always remembering to BYO cup and refuse unnecessary single-use items.

It really is becoming more and more simple to keep our community plastic-free.

Find out more and join at plasticfreerandwick.org/join

How to support Plastic Free Randwick

- Buy food & drinks from member businesses
- Request "No lid/straw/bag please"
- Reuse BYO cup/container
- Follow us on social media
- Share #BYOmugshot and tag us!

Join plasticfreerandwick.org

 @PlasticFreeRandwick



The Coogee Shark Tower

While the devastation of an attack will never change, our approach to sharing the ocean with sharks certainly has. Find out how Council responded to two attacks at Coogee a century ago.

Sadly, the recent tragedy at Little Bay was almost 100 years to the day since Coogee had been shocked by a similar event. On 4 February 1922, 18-year-old Coogee Surf Life Saving Member, Milton Singleton Coughlan, was killed in a shark attack. Less than a month later Mervyn Gannon was also attacked at Coogee Beach, and later died of his injuries.

These were two of many shark attacks at beaches across Sydney and the nation in the 1920s. In early 1922, the NSW state government moved swiftly and brutally, deploying its state trawler and catching 25 sharks, not long after Coughlan and Gannon died at Coogee. A hunting spree ensued when the state authorities offered a £50 reward for sharks caught in Coogee Bay. It is a risk mitigation strategy that is hard to comprehend in our contemporary society.

In response to this same threat, Randwick Municipal Council moved swiftly to erect the first of two, galvanised iron Shark Towers (or lookouts) on Coogee Beach.

The first Coogee tower was constructed in September 1922 and was operational shortly after, in time for the summer swimming season of 1922/3. The controversy surrounding the location of the initial tower was reported in the Sydney newspapers, testament to a nation searching for answers to improve beach safety at our iconic beaches. The specifications of the tower to be constructed on the Coogee

sands with diagrams and detailed description of its features were published widely in the press.

Desperate for any mechanism that would alert swimmers to the presence of sharks, Council resolved to proceed with the construction of the first tower in the middle of the beach. The Coogee shark towers had a 'bird nest' lookout on top with an electric bell to quickly warn swimmers.

The community's fear of shark attack was widely felt by swimmers across the nation and would only escalate as the 1920s and 1930s progressed. These marine animals were referred to in the media as 'public enemy no. 1' and 'those fiends of the ocean'. Through the prism of history, it is hard for us to imagine there was little public empathy or respect for these natural inhabitants of our marine environment.

Another contemporary shark mitigation strategy - the concept of a 'shark proof net' at Coogee Beach - had long been talked about. This concept had been around since at least 1912, as the Council's Press Clippings volumes in our corporate archives reveal.

The first 'shark proof net' at Coogee was installed after further shark 'scares' at Bondi and Coogee in November 1922. The first Coogee shark tower was not preventing further incidences and Council was desperate to quell the public disquiet, which was apparent Sydney-wide, but especially with local swimmers.

In addition to the first shark tower, it was resolved to install the first shark proof enclosure that would allow over 5000 people to surf comfortably at Coogee Beach. Despite the elected officials' valiant efforts and belief that this net would 'resist the heaviest seas', it was washed away before there was even time for the official opening.

Georgina Keep, Local Studies Librarian, Randwick City Library



Coogee Beach on a winter's day, 1924. The shark tower in the centre of the beach was erected in late 1922 after several fatal shark attacks. Photo: Randwick City Library Service.

What's on

April to June 2022

FRENCH EXPLORERS VOYAGES TO AUSTRALIA

1 April until 16 October
Each Wednesday and Friday between 10am and 2pm, and each Saturday and Sunday between 10am - 4pm
Community Galleries
La Perouse Museum
Free



POETRY SLAM WORKSHOP AGES 12-25

12 April
6-8pm
Margaret Martin Library, Randwick
Level 1, Royal Randwick Shopping Centre, Randwick
Free

ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE

25 April
5.30am
Goldstein Reserve, Coogee
Coogee March 9.30am
Coogee Diggers to Goldstein Reserve
Free



FOOD FORESTRY

6 May
Each Friday, until 1 July 2022
1.30-4pm
Randwick Community Centre
27 Munda Street, Randwick
Booking required

EXPLORE LA PEROUSE WITH DEAN KELLY, ABORIGINAL CULTURAL GUIDE

22 May
11.30am-12.30pm and 1.30-2.30pm
La Perouse Museum
1542 Anzac Parade
La Perouse
Cost: \$20

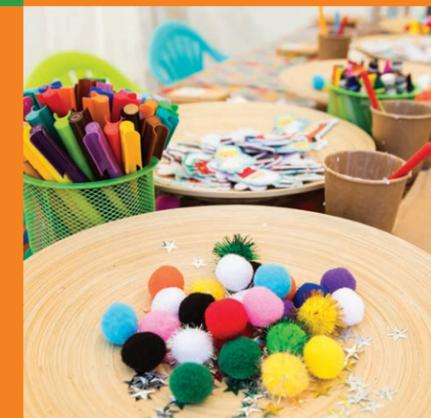
KOOJAY CORROBOREE

27 May
Coogee Beach
11am



CRAFTERNOON IN PERSON

17 June
2-3pm
Third Friday of every month
Lionel Bowen Library
669-673 Anzac Pde,
Maroubra
Free



INSIDE THE WATCHTOWER

18 June
11.15am-noon
La Perouse Museum
1542 Anzac Parade
La Perouse
Cost: \$15

For more information on events visit randwick.nsw.gov.au or call 1300 722 542

ANZAC DAY 2022



MONDAY 25 APRIL

Coogee Dawn Service 5.30am

Goldstein Reserve, Coogee

Watch the livestream on Facebook

SUNDAY 24 APRIL

Malabar RSL sub-Branch

Bob Clarke Memorial Reserve
opposite Matraville Sports High
School, Anzac Parade, **10.30am**

Coogee Legion sub-Branch

Level 1, Coogee Legion Club,
200 Arden Street, Coogee, **11.30am**

Kensington RSL sub-Branch

Randwick Bowling Club
2 The Avenue, Randwick, **10.30am**

MONDAY 25 APRIL

Maroubra RSL sub-Branch

Cenotaph opposite the
Juniors Maroubra,
Anzac Parade, **4.30am**

Matraville RSL sub-Branch

Cenotaph, 1 Norfolk Parade, **5am**