

NSW GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

CHRIS LAKE – THE HEART BEHIND ONEMEAL AND LOCALKIND

I was honoured to present Chris with the NSW Government Community Service Award for his outstanding contribution to our community. As a key leader in One Meal and Chair of LocalKind, Chris devotes countless hours to supporting vulnerable people and inspiring others. He truly embodies the spirit of service, and this recognition is well deserved.

KERRY GWYNNE – AN INSPIRATIONAL LEADER!

The Dalwood Spilstead Service in Seaforth is one of NSW's most valued crisis-support centres, thanks largely to dedicated people like Kerry Gwynne. As long-time manager, Kerry is deeply respected and has made a lasting impact on countless local families. It was a privilege to present her with a NSW Government Community Service Award in recognition of her extraordinary contribution. Thank you, Kerry.

2025 LOCAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR



Congratulations Melissa Burgess

Melissa is Manly's 2025 Local Woman of the Year. As the founder of Op for Change, Melissa has built a thriving, volunteer-run op shop that donates all profits to local charities. Her leadership and generosity have made a lasting impact on our community, and I'm delighted to see her recognised at the NSW Women of the Year Awards.

In being named Manly's Woman of the Year, Melissa joins an outstanding list of passionate and inspiring local women who continue to make a positive contribution to our community. I thank Melissa and her team of volunteers for all they do to support those most in need across our local area.

SUPPORTING LOCAL ARTS & CULTURE



CONVERTING MANLY TOWN HALL INTO A THEATRE AND LIVE ENTERTAINMENT VENUE

I've long argued that Manly deserves a first class theatre and live performance venue.

The iconic Manly Town Hall should be transformed into a purpose-built arts and entertainment venue. A redevelopment would breathe new life into this landmark heritage building while delivering lasting cultural and economic benefits for our community.

I'm calling on Northern Beaches Councillors to bring forward a proposal to explore this transformation and help position Manly as a true destination for arts, culture, and live entertainment. I encourage those interested to write to their local ward Councillors and urge them to throw their support behind this project.

JUNE 2025 STATE & LOCAL UPDATES

Our community, your MP



James Griffin MP
MEMBER FOR MANLY



MANLY HOSPITAL SITE ADAPTIVE RE-USE

The transformation of the former Manly Hospital site into a health and wellbeing precinct continues with the NSW Government appointing Aveo as the delivery partner for the project.

Following years of community-led planning, and the construction of the Hospice, the Masterplan for the remaining Hospital site will:

1. Retain and adaptively re-use the buildings of heritage significance
2. Expand the southern bushland edge and create a network of accessible and connected public spaces
3. Open views and access into the site from Darley Road with a new public parkland

4. Provide publicly accessible health care services focusing on preventative and primary care for the community

5. Rejuvenate environmentally sensitive land and retain long-term public ownership of the site.

Subject to final approval the site will include a mix of appropriate community and retail spaces, seniors and supported living accommodation, all being built to complement the already open Adolescent and Young Adults Hospice (AYAH).

Formal community and stakeholder engagement to inform the finalisation of the masterplan will occur later this year. Please visit the website for further information.

MANLY LEGENDS IN NSW PARLIAMENT

When Parliament is in session, I take the opportunity to acknowledge the wonderful people and organisations in our community. You may recognise some familiar faces!



NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL RATES RISE UPDATE

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has approved the Northern Beaches Council's application for a 12.1% rate increase this financial year, followed by 11.7% in 2025/26.

Council have explained via their website that they will no longer be proceeding with projects like the Warringah Aquatic Centre renewal, or Manly Lifesaving Club redevelopment, however they say the rate increase will now allow them to "confidently move forward and continue to repair and renew roads, footpaths, rock pools, stormwater infrastructure and other community facilities."

Now that IPART has approved the application, at the time of publishing this newsletter, the elected Councillors are yet to have voted on whether they wish to proceed with the rate rise.

I appreciate many ratepayers are disappointed with the rate increase and concerned about the impact on residents and businesses. I encourage you to continue sharing your feedback with Councillors.

PLANNING REFORMS AND OUR COMMUNITY

The new state government planning laws commenced earlier this year. For our area, this means a significant shift allowing low-rise (1-2 storey apartments) and mid-rise (3-6 storey) developments within 800 metres of designated town centres. These new planning rules override Council's existing development controls, with the aim of increasing housing supply in areas close to services and public transport.

In the electorate of Manly, these reforms will apply to residential area within 800 metres walking distance of:

- Balgowlah Stockland Shopping Centre
- Manly Vale Town Centre
- Dee Why Town Centre
- Mona Vale Town Centre
- Manly Town Centre
- Warringah Mall Shopping Centre

Speeding up building approvals is key to solving housing affordability issues. However, growth must be well-managed and supported by the right infrastructure, especially when it comes to public transport.

On the Northern Beaches, we are heavily dependent on our bus network and require ongoing investment in our roads.

Sensible and responsible planning means making sure our transport, roads, and local services can support the needs of a growing community. The NSW Government must ensure housing changes are backed by a comprehensive infrastructure and transport plan for our area. I have asked Transport for NSW to fast track a road infrastructure and public transport plan for the Northern Beaches.

WORKING FOR YOU

So you can keep me accountable, here is a snapshot of projects I am working on.

PROJECT / ISSUE	Incomplete or preparation still underway	Planning or works commenced	COMPLETE
\$3.89m North Head National Park Upgrades			✓
\$19.5m Young Adults Hospice			✓
Extra B-Line Buses			✓
Opal Cap on Fast Ferry Service			✓
Manly Village Public School Expansion			✓
Ivanhoe Botanic Gardens Upgrade (behind Manly Oval)			
\$3.95m cycle and pedestrian friendly bridge at Queenscliff			
Pedestrian Crossing at North Manly			
Removing graffiti from Burnt Bridge Deviation			
Demolition of Aquarium			✓
Adaptive re-use of Manly Hospital site			
Retaining full services at Dalwood Spilstead (Seaforth)			✓
Balgowlah Boys Upgrade			
Re-establishing a direct Barangaroo to Manly Fast ferry service			
Cleaning up Curl Curl Lagoon			
Securing funding for Sydney Water to improve sewer overflow at Clontarf			



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CONDAMINE STREET REPAIRS UNDERWAY ✓

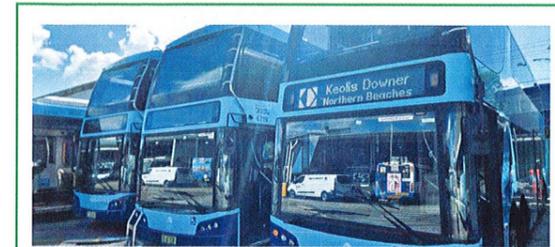
Road maintenance has now begun on Condamine Street, Manly Vale, following sustained advocacy to Transport for NSW on behalf of concerned residents. I've been pushing for this busy stretch to be prioritised, and I'm pleased that repairs are now underway between Kenneth Road and Gordon Street. The works include resurfacing damaged sections, repainting lines, and improving overall safety. I'll continue to fight to ensure other priority roads across our community are addressed in the same way.

TIDYING UP SWAINE RESERVE IN MANLY VALE ✓

A small but important project to remove all the overgrown vegetation, construct a new walking pathway with formal edging, and install new park furniture in this often overlooked park in Manly Vale.

IMPROVEMENTS TO TRAFFIC AT SEAFORTH ✓

I have met with the Minister for Roads to discuss the traffic congestion, particularly around Ethel Street and the Sydney Rd roundabout during peak hour. This intersection needs improvements for traffic flow and pedestrian safety. I am lobbying the NSW government for funding on this issue.



BUS RELIABILITY ✓

- 6 new double-deckers have been deployed on local routes to the CBD.
- 10 of the 43 recalled bendy buses are on track to be returned to service by Jun 30.
- 50 new bendy buses, 10 B-Line double deckers, and new Zero Emission Buses (ZEBs) will operate from the Brookvale Depot by the end of the year.
- I continue to lobby Transport for NSW to deliver better services and reliability for our local routes.

IMPROVING WATER QUALITY AT CLONTARF ✓

In the short term, construction is underway on a below-ground pipeline at Clontarf Reserve. The pipeline is expected to be completed by 30 June 2025 and will help significantly improve water quality by preventing wastewater from spilling onto the beach during heavy rain events.



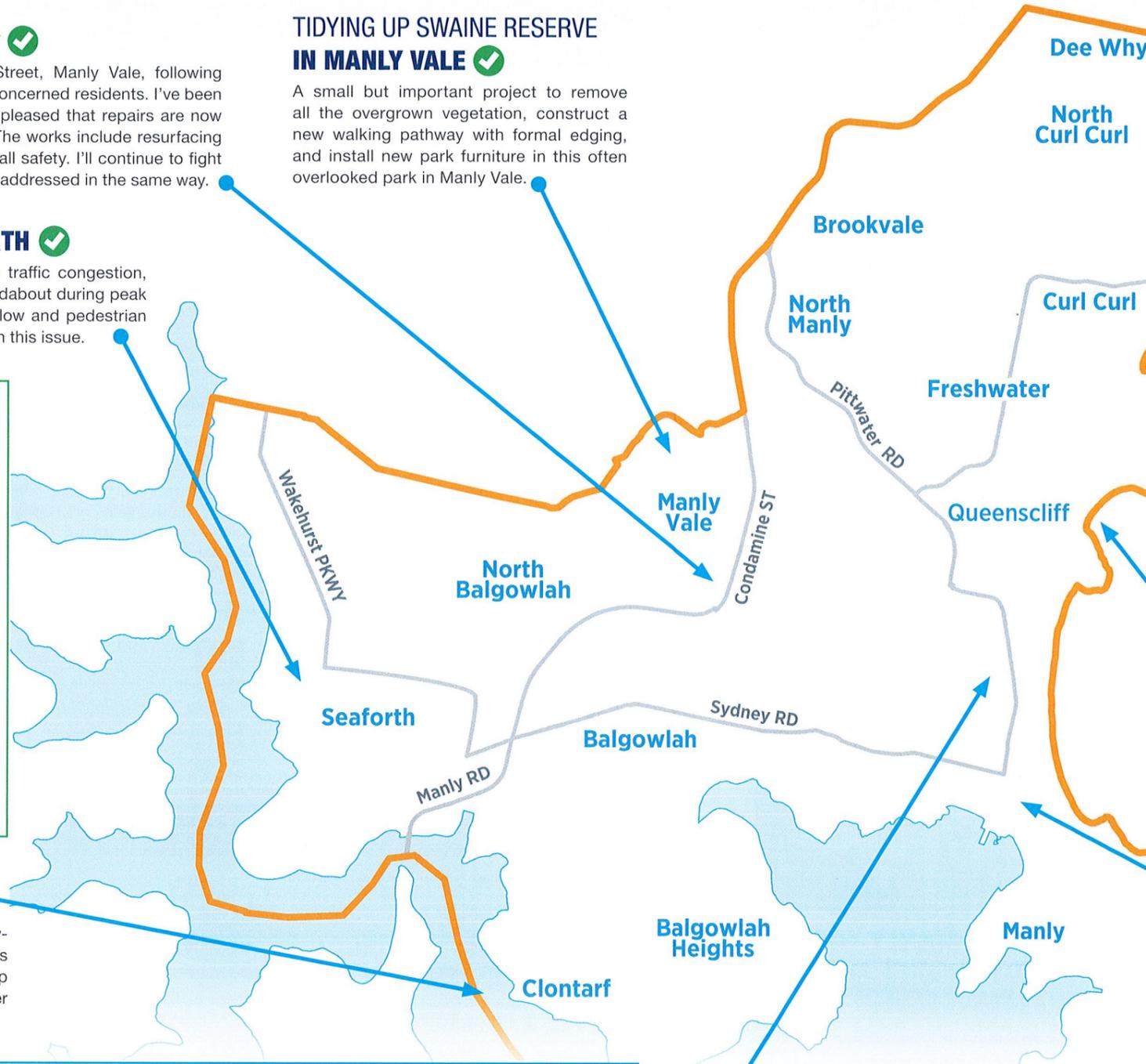
UPGRADES TO LOCAL LIFESAVING CLUBS ✓

Our Surf Life Saving Club's deserve modern and fit-for-purpose facilities that match the value of the role our surf life savers play in keeping our community safe. I'm delighted that funding has been secured under the NSW Government Surf Club Facility Program to deliver vital upgrades to three local surf clubs:

\$215,425 to upgrade **Dee Why Surf Life Saving Club's** bathroom and changing facilities through demolition, plumbing, tiling, electrical, and carpentry work.

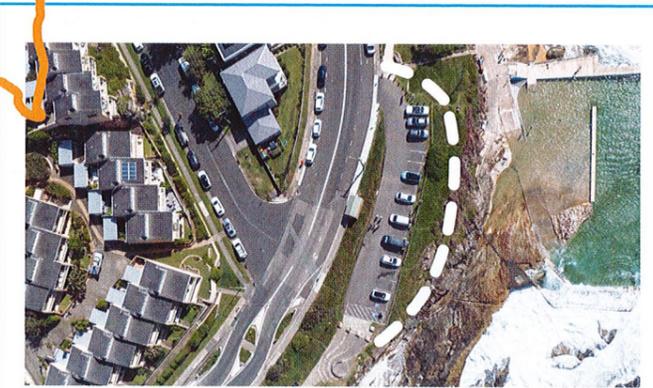
\$181,583 to provide building upgrades to **North Steyne Surf Life Saving Club** which are urgently required. The project is being run in conjunction with Northern Beaches Council and comprises exterior upgrades, new guttering, and upgrading internal walls.

\$98,738 to transform **North Curl Curl Surf Life Saving Club's** facilities, relocating and expanding the wet area and bar to support community gatherings and social events. The improvements will foster stronger community ties, support member retention, and encourage new lifesaving memberships.



UPGRADING OF MICHAELA HOWIE PLAYGROUND AT DEE WHY BEACH ✓

A **\$250,000** upgrade of the playground at Dee Why is underway. Thank you to all the residents who have contacted me in support of this project.



CURL CURL BOARDWALK EXTENSION ✓

Thanks to funding secured from the NSW Government, the long-awaited South Curl Curl Boardwalk extension is now set to begin, with completion expected by September 2025 (weather permitting). This boardwalk extension will provide a safe and accessible connection between South Curl Curl Beach and the iconic Fisherman's Walk, allowing users to bypass the headland carpark. Another great piece of local infrastructure.

QUEENSLIFF RAMP ✓

Thanks to Queenscliff locals Paul and Tracey Oates, who led the campaign for the Queenscliff ramp, we now have a new cyclist, pedestrian and pram and wheelchair friendly ramp at Queensie. The ramp by-passes the steps getting up the hill and provides better connectivity between Queenscliff and Freshwater. The ramp has been a great success and is another example of important infrastructure to connect our community.

NEW BRIDGE AT NORTH MANLY ✓



DELIVERING A NEW PEDESTRIAN & CYCLE BRIDGE – \$3.95 MILLION

In 2023, I was proud to secure **\$3.95 million** to construct a new pedestrian and cycle bridge at Queenscliff. This project will deliver a safe access path away from the busy Pittwater Road, connecting Aitken Avenue to Hinkler Park over Manly Lagoon. The bridge will be four metres wide, offering safer and more effective accessibility to shops, schools and recreational areas. This will be great addition to the area, and I am delighted to see the project finally getting underway. Construction should commence in July this year.

MEDIAN STRIP REPAIRS ON PITTWATER ROAD, NORTH MANLY DELIVERED ✓

Works to repair and flatten the 800-metre median strip between Riverview Parade and Kentwell Road along Pittwater Road, North Manly have now been completed. These median strips marks the first stage of Transport for NSW's broader commitment to install a safe crossing option on this stretch of Pittwater Road. I will continue to advocate to Transport for NSW to ensure that these safety improvements are progressed as a matter of urgency. A big 'thank you' to community members who raised concerns about this issue.