

Norwood Matters



July, 2022

Where in Norwood is this?



We have posted the picture above on our [website](#), under “latest posts”. Click on the link to tell us where it is, or to comment on any item featured in this newsletter. (Hint: you are meant to look at the pavers carefully.)



Philip Copley identified last month’s photo: it was of Hall Street, off Conigrove Lane, a narrow lane between Edward Street and Osmond Terrace, which could lay claim to having the highest proportion of rat runners in Norwood.

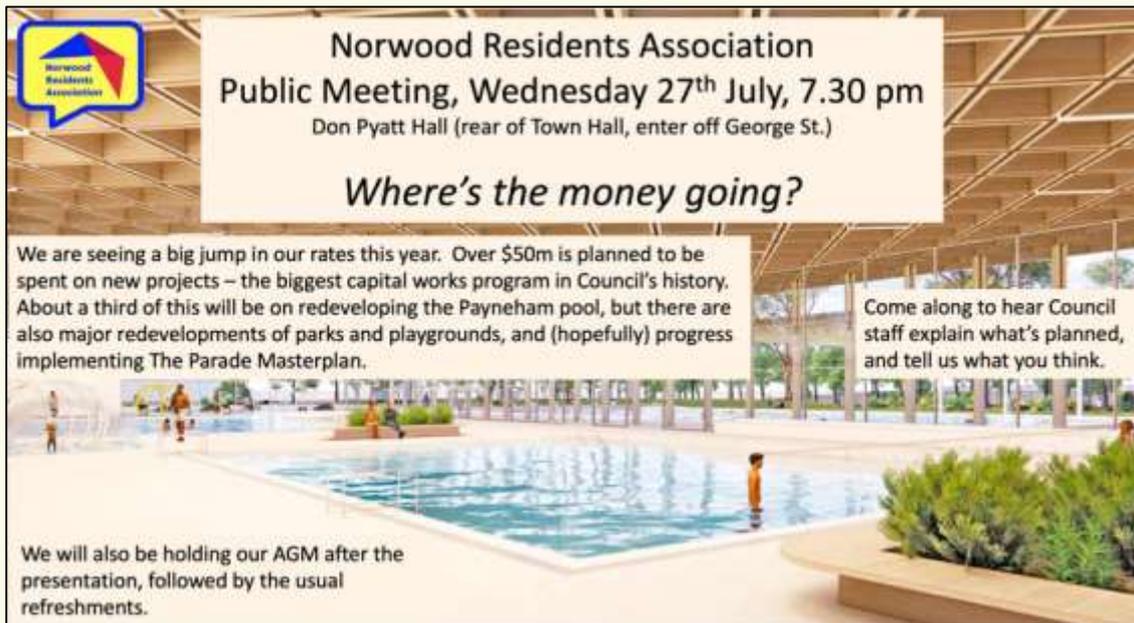
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Next general meeting

Don't forget that our next general meeting is to be held this Wednesday, 27 July. See the flyer below for details.



Three Council staff will talk and answer questions about Council's infrastructure projects for the first hour, with the AGM to follow.

NRA members have been sent material relating to the AGM, including proposed amendments to the constitution. ([Tell us](#) if you haven't received this.) All are welcome to the presentation, AGM and supper afterward, whether members or not, though of course only financial members can vote at the AGM.

Although masks are not mandatory, with current Covid numbers and our hospitals full, we think it's a good idea for those attending to wear masks.

Built Heritage Strategy released for comment

A draft Built Heritage Strategy has been released for comment. You can click on the image here to be taken to the consultation page.



Draft Built Heritage Strategy
2022–2027



The document is introduced in typical Council PR-speak. It doesn't give the impression that Council is worried about the loss of our heritage, stating at the outset that:

“This Strategy builds upon the strong legacy of a Council that values its rich built heritage and sets out the Council's desired outcomes and intended actions for the next five years, to ensure that the City's built heritage **continues to be valued and protected.**”

That is, everything is fine and this Strategy will keep up the good work.

Having said that, it does allude to the dilemmas involved in trying to protect our heritage while at the same time accommodating economic development and the changes in living patterns involved in a modern lifestyle.

You have until 5pm Friday 29 July to comment.

There is an “actions and initiatives” section at the end, which includes the initiative, “Expand the protection of buildings constructed between WW1 and WW2”, which will be accomplished by the following actions:

“Identify interwar era buildings that may be worthy of a greater level of demolition protection. Engage and work collaboratively with the State Government to explore amendments to the Planning and Design Code to facilitate policy change that will enhance protection of interwar heritage buildings.”

This would not have protected the buildings recently bulldozed on William Street, which were built before World War 1. Possibly they would have been protected if they were part of a defined Historic Area, and it is gratifying to see that the Council would:

“Work collaboratively with the State Government to explore amendments to the Planning and Design Code to facilitate policy change to further protect historic areas.”

After the loss of three old buildings in quick succession, we had hoped that Council was already doing this. Council staff possibly are, though such discussions are necessarily secret, as disclosure that protection of a building was being considered could possibly precipitate its demolition.

The three weeks that Council has provided is not a lot of time to comment on such an important topic for the community. On the other hand, protection of our built heritage is an urgent matter, and we would hate to think that it is delayed by fine-tuning a document that might be a valuable (to) guide to future planning, but is not essential to getting on with changing the Code.

Review of verge policy



The July meeting received a review of the verge policy, which was adopted twelve months ago. The chance to create a more attractive and environmentally sustainable verge outside their home appears to have appealed to many residents, and there is a backlog of applications for Council support.

An ongoing issue is the plastic grass, which is prohibited under the policy, mainly because of its impact on street trees. As you know, there is still a lot of it about. Council staff have adopted an opportunistic approach, trying to get residents to replace the plastic grass, particularly as it becomes ratty, but without imposing threats of fines or legal action. This has had only partial success.

Councillor Evonne Moore supplied this photo to her fellow councillors, pointing out that the plastic grass surrounding the tree blocks any moisture and nutrients reaching the roots.

Budget passed

The proposed budget that was discussed in last month’s Norwood Matters, has been passed with only trivial amendments. There was lengthy debate on a proposal by the Mayor to reduce the increase in rates from 6% to 5%, which was defeated. Interestingly, both sides described the amounts involved as “measly”.

Surplus land, Portrush Road/ Magill Road

The Mayor and CEO have had a meeting with Transport Minister Tom Koutsantonis about surplus land after the widening of the Portrush Road/ Magill Road intersection. The Council wants the land available for open space. By contrast, residents on Prosser Avenue who have spoken to us would prefer the land to be sold off for commercial development that would hopefully create a noise buffer between them and the traffic on Portrush Road. Without knowing how commercial buildings would be structured, or how they would be serviced, we don't know what would be the best way of protecting the Prosser Street residents. But if there were to be open space, we would be pressing Council to build a mound as a noise buffer for those who are now on the "front line".

Implementation of the Council parking policy

You may recall consultation for a new parking policy in February 2021. Council finally passed a new parking policy in December last year. In the eight months since we've seen nothing to show for it. Councillor Callisto approached staff on our behalf and was told that "an implementation plan is being prepared" with an apology that they could not be of further assistance. We note the Council provided money for the implementation plan to be completed by June this year. So don't hold your breath.

We understand that the responsibility for preparing the implementation plan is that of the General Manager, Governance and Community Affairs and that parking surveys will contribute to the decision-making process.

Implementation of the 40kmh speed zones

This time we can't blame the Council. It has signs already to be installed, but is waiting for Transport Minister Tom Koutsantonis to agree to it.

Why the Transport Minister's approval is needed at all is a mystery to us. After all, Council has completed the process specified by the State government, which included a survey of residents that showed strong support. And the government's own Road Safety Strategy argues that slower speeds are safer.

Commercial parking matters

The Malinauskas Government has fast tracked the Private Parking Areas (Shopping Centre Parking Areas) Amendment Bill 2022 to ban paid parking at shopping centres. This is in response to an application by Westfield to install payment infrastructure at Tea Tree Plaza, including licence plate recognition cameras. Westfield is proposing to charge those who park longer than three hours at the shopping centre.

[The Premier promotes this](#) as a victory for workers (i.e. employees at the shopping centre) and small business. In response, Parking Australia told *The Advertiser* (7 July) that the move would stop jobs and development in Adelaide. "Retail parking is not to make money out of the parking fees, it's about getting more people through the shops and in the shops".

The bill has to get through the Legislative Council, which might amend or reject it. Until it is enacted we don't know what the impact would be on parking in Norwood. However at this stage it looks like it will only apply to big, Westfield-style shopping centres.

The Webbe Street car park is provided by us ratepayers. It provides free parking for the first two hours only, after which you can be fined an expiation fee of \$58. (Unless you are a council employee, in which case it is free all day.) The parking on the rooftop of the shopping centre is free for the first two hours, after which it costs increasing amounts, up to a daily rate of \$8. The basement parking is also free for the first two hours, but after that the costs rise more steeply to a daily rate of \$20.

Upcoming entertainment in and around Norwood

- 22/7-24/7 Suor Angelica
- 22/7 The Wolfe Brothers - Startin' Something Tour
- 22/7 Nights on Mayfair LIVE

- 23/7 Renee Geyer Live
- 23/7 Come and Sing A Cappella
- 27/7 Leila Forouhar Live in Concert
- 30/7 Christmas in July Dinner Show with AJ & The Wildhearts
- 5/8-7/8 Playschool live in concert - Once upon a time
- 10/8 Shane Gillis (comedy)

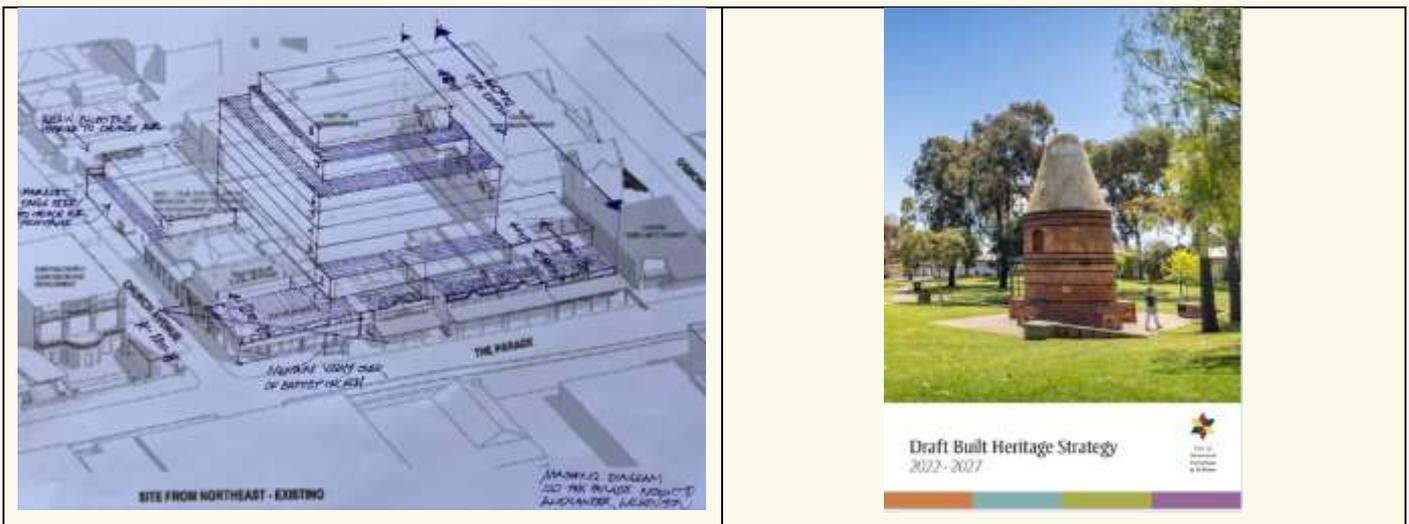
- 12/8 Superwog (All Ages) - Mad Dogs Tour

- 13/8 Fusion Pops Orchestra - Disco Fever

Plus many bands at the Norwood Hotel, Cue Bar, Robin Hood, Kensi etc. For full details go to the Showbook website (<https://showbook.com.au>) or use the app. And don't forget, Norwood is hosting [Raising the Bar](#) again. This year is on Tuesday 9 August: 20 talks, 10 bars, free.

From our Facebook page

Click on the image to be taken to a recent post on the Norwood Residents Association Facebook page.



If you are reading this as a paper copy (for example, from the library) you can thank the Dunstan Electorate Office for the printing.

Thinking of joining the Norwood Residents Association? Click [here](#) to found out how. Then you will have the newsletter emailed to you every month! Our mailing address is: Norwood Residents Association, 7 Coke Street, Norwood, South Australia, 5067



I/we would like to join the Norwood Residents Association

Name(s):

Address:

Email address:

Post to the our Coke Street address above, or email: norwoodresassoc@gmail.com.

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