



**WTKCA AGM 9 June 2026**  
**President's Report & AGM Summary**  
**Michael J. Allsop**

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The Wagstaffe to Killcare Community Association ends its financial year at the end of February. This report covers our activities from 1 March 2025 to 28 February 2026. For the sake of interest we include additional commentary covering the period subsequent to the close of our financial year bringing us up to AGM date.

**Operational Activities**

We had a full program of activities during the FY. The standard weekday activities in the Hall continued strongly, tennis court usage was good, the court itself kept in good order, while hire of the Hall for weekend events was bolstered by concerts and exhibitions with strong community attendance. The WTKCA Trash and Treasure event was our major fundraiser in 2025, but we were unable to hold the Book Fair due to scheduling constraints on the Hall in the latter part of the year. Trash and Treasure always relies on the massive efforts put in by community volunteers, and Trash and Treasure 2026 continued this successful formula subsequent to the end of our FY. The last event in the FY was Australia Day 2026 which followed the recent format at the rear of the Hall. The Breakfast BBQ collection this year was to the benefit of the Killcare RFB.

After the kitchen renovation in Wagstaffe Hall in our previous FY, we continued to pursue upgrades to hall facilities with the agreement of Council. This included a full repaint of the interior of the hall in colours more in line with modern tastes and more suited to decoration by hirers for their events. We also funded a battery system to complement the solar array at the hall, taking advantage of Federal Government rebates.

Following the Special Resolution at our AGM in 2025, the Hardys Bay Residents Group was wound up and their activities conjoined with the Association commencing 1 July 2025. Apart from matters previously pursued in common, we also now support the distribution of dog bags and maintenance of dispensers throughout the popular walking areas. Of particular note is the generous sponsorship for supplies provided by Beach & Bay Vet, which is most appreciated.

**Advocacy Activities**

The approval of the proposed mobile comms tower at Killcare Heights remains outstanding. The Association made strong representations to the Land & Environment Court on this matter and we (still) await the final determination of the Commissioner. This is a strong public interest matter with safety and amenity implications for our entire community. We are hopeful of a positive outcome.

NPWS is progressing their design details for construction of the Half Tide Rocks "overlook" Track. We are waiting for further details on timing before consideration of our offer to part fund the works. We hope this will be a 2026 project.

We continue to pursue clearance of the Ettalong Channel to permit uninterrupted ferry services and general safety of navigation. Dredging works were carried out in 2025 following a multi-year maintenance contract let by the Dept of Transport. This was called back in May 2026 to repeat the work in some areas. As previously, ferry and bus shuttle arrangements were put in place in advance to meet the diverted Fantasea service at Patonga at our insistence.

We continue to pursue the issue of long term storage of boats and trailers along the foreshore parkland, restricting parking and visual amenity. In general these are never seen to move and seemingly the property of absentee owners. These have nothing to do with day to day boating operations at Pretty Beach boat ramp. Council has resisted taking action to date, but now (mid 2026) is looking to propose some form of restriction to address the problem.

We continue to lead the development of the Foreshore Masterplan for Hardys Bay and Pretty Beach as a co-operative effort with our volunteer urban design, planning, architecture and landscape architecture professionals. The scope of this plan includes a pathway all the way from Hardys Bay Parade in the east to Wagstaffe Wharf in the west, along with various foreshore protection and landscape improvements. Council's recent (early 2026) community consultation on the draft plan showed strong community support for the aspirations expressed in the plan and will lead to formal adoption by Council during 2026. Once adopted, the Association will continue to advocate for the execution of the various projects implicit in the plan in years to come, along with the support of our political representatives.

As to political engagement, in addition to holding a Meet the Candidates event for the Federal Election in May, we continue to have good working relationships with our State Member Adam Crouch and our re-elected Federal Member Gordon Reid. The Association also has good relationships with our 3 Ward representatives in Council, including the Mayor, and we appreciate the attention they have provided to matters brought to Council on our behalf. We will continue to use these channels for advocacy on priority matters for the Association.

### **Specific Projects**

Toward the end of 2025 we agreed with Council to co-fund two projects. The first was the provision of a path from the main surf club car park to the wheelchair accessible picnic table which was in place before Christmas. This solved the anomaly of a having a wheelchair accessible table without an accessible path and has been greatly appreciated by people with mobility aids.

The second was the provision of a picnic table and seating in the Stanley St playground which were installed in March (after the close of the FY) and have been very well received by nearby residents. This complements our earlier advocacy for improvements to the picnic area over the road in the Stanley St foreshore reserve.

### **Financial Position**

We continued our sound approach to management of the finances of the Association. Our successful fundraising activity, both through regular operations and events (eg Trash & Treasure), enables expenditure on community projects which closely match funds raised. Through improved interest rates we also saw a good contribution to reserves from interest on our term deposits. We maintain sound reserves for maintenance of Wagstaffe Hall, Turo Park Tennis Court and future Half Tide Rocks contribution to NPWS. We continue to seek grant funding opportunities as they arise in order to meet various community project opportunities.

In lieu of a formal audit, we now have a less onerous "audit review" to assure the integrity of our financial management process and representation of results. This is provided at a much more realistic level of professional fees than a strict formal audit.

## **Committee Matters**

At our AGM in 2025, approval was given to expand our committee by four positions to accommodate new committee members from the merger with Hardys Bay Residents Group. The expanded committee has worked very well together and covered a wide range of activities and other matters of representation. For our upcoming year, we had re-nominations from 11 of our 12 prior year committee members. All nominations were duly recorded by the Secretary in advance and in accordance with our Constitution. As there were no other nominations received, all nominees were duly appointed with one casual vacancy remaining. The committee as appointed comprises: Mike Allsop (President), Susan Johnston (Vice President), Ian Bull (Secretary), Richard Urquhart (Treasurer), Robyn Warburton, Martin Sieper, Bill Gregor, Noelene Brasche, Debbie Watson, Martien Coucke and John McKenzie. Please feel free to contact any of them if there are matters you would like to discuss.

I would like to thank Jenni Neary for her contribution to the outgoing committee and to the Foreshore Working Group, and wish her all the best for her move. I would also like to thank all returning members of the committee for their work and dedication to the community.

## **In Closing**

WTKCA maintains relationships with all community groups in our area with a view to providing mutual support wherever possible. Many of our members are also involved in various of these other groups, and our focus on specific matters can be informed through the efforts of others. We will continue this position in community advocacy to the benefit of all.