



TRRA Management Committee 2015/16 – Personal Biographies

Geoff Washington (President) Nelson Bay

Geoff retired to Nelson Bay in 2007 and immediately became involved in a range of community activities including the East Tomaree Precinct Committee. He was a founding member of TRRA and has served previously as President and Chairman.

Starting his career as a secondary school teacher, Geoff has worked as an economist and regional planner in Australia and Canada, and as a policy advisor in the Commonwealth and NSW State governments.

Geoff worked for ten years in tourism as Director of Research and Development in the Australian Tourist Commission, and subsequently as Assistant Secretary in the Commonwealth Department of Tourism and Recreation. In 1969 he worked as a consultant on the development of a prospectus for the establishment of the Myall Lakes National Park.

He and his wife Judy have always been active in their community organisations including Parents and Citizens Associations, Lane Cove Historical Society, an Afghan Refugee Support Association and the Lane Cove Council Cultural Planning Group.

Dick Appleby Vice President / Webmaster / Media Nelson Bay

Dick and his wife Sally had been visiting the Tomaree Peninsula for many years before finally settling in Nelson Bay 15 years ago, running a small business in the hospitality industry.

He worked in the Coal Mining Industry in the Hunter Valley for 34 years in a number of different capacities, including operating major earthmoving machinery in the open cut mines. He held senior positions in the Federated Engine Drivers and Fireman's Association and the Combined Mining Union, was Deputy Chairman N.S.W. Mining Unions Liaison Committee, of the Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) Northern Board of Management. Dick also served two four year terms as a Councillor on the national CFMEU Mining



Division representing 20,000 northern NSW members. He has also worked on various road and dam construction projects in Qld, WA, NSW and NZ.

Dick retired in November 2006 and devotes his time to community activities, his enthusiasm for offshore fishing, 4 wheel driving and Computers. He currently administers the TRRA website.

Cath Norman (Secretary)
Nelson Bay

Pending

Denis Pittorino (Treasurer)
Nelson Bay

Denis was born and educated in Sydney. He worked in the public sector for most of his career and studied Public Administration at the NSW Institute of Technology. The first half of his career was spent in auditing (both internal and external) followed by a move to the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal. His role included managing a database of financial data provided by the broadcasters and producing statistics on the broadcasting sector and viability studies into the capacity of markets to support new services. In later years, he commenced a small computer accounting and bookkeeping consultancy. He moved to Nelson Bay 11 years ago and has an interest in maintaining and sustaining the ecological beauty of the area.

Margaret Wilkinson (liaison)
Corlette

Margaret has a long and proud involvement in East Ward community affairs. Her experience as Secretary of the Corlette Halls and Parks and Reserves 355 Committee and previously as secretary of the Corlette Salamander Bay Precinct has provided a wealth of community experience and enduring frustration.

Her community activity includes the formation of a special Bush Regeneration Group at Bagnalls Beach Reserve where she organises community volunteers to plant trees, weed and mulch in public areas around Corlette. She is proud of the improvements made in the Yawl-Helm Detention Basin. Margaret also coordinates a project through the Garden Club to bring back Christmas Bush along the approach road to Nelson Bay. She is fully aware of the vital importance of environmental integrity and believes that this will not in any way diminish the employment opportunities in our area. In fact she believes that more jobs and commercial activities will result.



Nigel Waters (Planning)
Nelson Bay

Nigel is a self employed consultant on information policy and privacy matters as well as a principal Researcher on the Interpreting Privacy Principles project at the Cyberspace Law and Policy Centre at the University of NSW, as well as teaching at UNSW.

From 1989-1997 Nigel was Deputy Australian Federal Privacy Commissioner and Assistant UK Data Protection Registrar. Before this career in information policy, Nigel worked in urban and regional planning in the UK.

Nigel is a Board member of the Australian Privacy Foundation and on the advisory board of Privacy International, which he represents at international meetings. He has just stepped down after three years on the Executive of the Consumers Federation of Australia and is still active on general consumer matters.

Nigel and his wife Nikki have lived on the Tomaree Peninsula for ten years and is an active member on many local community organizations including the EcoNetwork Port Stephens and its working group Climate Action Tomaree, and the Coastal Patrol (now Marine Rescue NSW).

Geoffrey Bassar (Membership)
Salamander Bay

Born & educated in Lithgow NSW, Geoffrey spent time in the family retail business before moving to Sydney in 1957 where he worked in sales and marketing primarily in the manufacturing & retail sectors for a number of years, before establishing his own menswear business. Following this he become involved in the Insurance Industry and Risk Management Practice, once again in Marketing & Sales.

For over 50 years Geoffrey has been involved in Community Service, through Apex Young Men's Service Clubs, and Rotary. For a number of years he was a member of the Board of the Montefiore Homes Aged Care Group in Sydney which was responsible for the lives of 750 residents & 900 staff in four Campuses.

Geoffrey retired from full time employment in 1998 but has continued with some Business Management consultancies. After visiting the Tomaree Peninsula for 45 years, he and his wife Nanette settled here nine years ago and are very active with a number of community groups.

John James (Research)
Nelson Bay

Grew up in Victoria and after studying science moved to Sydney in the early 1980's.

Was very involved in the Holroyd Community Development Association in Western Sydney with the establishment of a Neighbourhood Centre and two Before and After School Care Centres. Having spent many holidays on the Tomaree Peninsula, moved to Nelson Bay in the late 1990's after being transferred for work to the Williamtown RAAF Base with the Bureau of Meteorology. Is married and has two children; both now studying at the University of Newcastle. While the children were younger, John was involved in a number of local junior sporting clubs and the Sea scouts.

Brian Frost (Finance)
Soldiers Point

Peter McBean (Minutes)
Corlette

Pending

