

## 'Artarmon Loop' now comes to Artarmon!

By Robert Newman

In May 2009, the *Gazette* reported on Willoughby City Council's (WCC) introduction of the free 'Artarmon Loop' bus service from St Leonards station through the Artarmon Industrial Area (AIA).

We are pleased to report that, with the addition of an off-peak service, the 'Artarmon Loop' will now actually come to Artarmon, with the trial of expanded routes during off-peak times to service Artarmon Station and Royal North Shore Hospital (RNSH).

The new trial service will operate **between 10am and 2pm** and includes the introduction of seven new stops in the residential area west of the railway line, three new stops in the AIA and a new stop at RNSH. The service will continue to cover the existing 16 stops in the AIA and Gore Hill area commencing from Herbert St near St Leonards station.

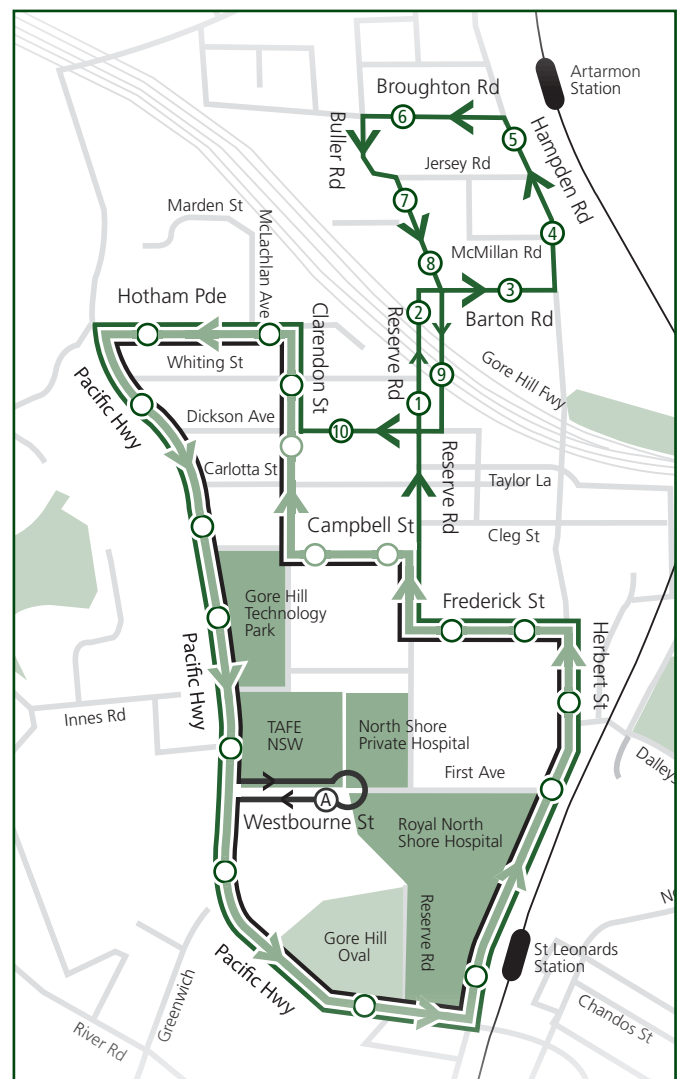
During the off-peak period, passengers wishing to travel along the regular route can access either bus marked with a **blue or red sign**. To travel to the Artarmon shops or railway station during the off peak period, catch the bus marked with a red sign which departs St Leonards station every 30 minutes, and passengers for the Royal North Shore Hospital should catch the bus marked with a blue sign which also departs St Leonards station every alternating 30 minutes during the off peak period. Customers should also note that the bus stop outside St Leonards station in Herbert St has been temporarily relocated 200 metres north to accommodate road and drainage works associated with the RNSH redevelopment.

**Artarmon Village Route (red bus sign - shown on the map at right in dark green):** will follow the standard all-day route (marked in light green on the map) until Reserve Rd but will continue across the freeway into Barton Rd, Hampden Rd, Broughton Rd, Buller Rd, Jersey Rd, Reserve Rd, Dickson Ave and rejoin at Clarendon St. (This service misses two stops in Campbell St and one stop in Clarendon St which will still be covered by the RNSH Route).

**RNSH Route (blue bus sign - shown on the map at right in black):** during off peak times the bus will cover the standard route and will also then turn into Westbourne St to a new stop near RNSH.

The new stops between 10am and 2pm are:

- ① West side of Reserve Rd south of Curry Ln (outside Artarmon Framing) – opposite the Freeway Hotel
- ② West side of Reserve Rd south of Barton Rd (outside 23 Barton Rd) – between the roundabout and the freeway
- ③ North side of Barton Rd opposite Thompson Lane – Artarmon Public School Carpark
- ④ West side of Hampden Rd south of McMillan Rd
- ⑤ 84 Hampden Rd (West side) – Artarmon Shops South
- ⑥ 6 Broughton Rd (South side) – St Basil's Anglican Church
- ⑦ East side of Reserve Rd south of Jersey – Thompson Park North



- ⑧ East side of Reserve Rd north of Barton – Thompson Park South
- ⑨ 113 Reserve Rd (East side) – Freeway Hotel
- ⑩ 28 Dickson Ave (South side) – opposite Firefly Dance Club
- Ⓐ 3 Westbourne Ave (South Side) – between the public and private sections of RNSH

The trial of the extended loop will run until June, and will then be reassessed. The service, while free to use, is funded out of WCC's e.restore program. As such, the better utilised it is, the more likely the service is to be kept running and for the local councillors to be able to justify its continued existence.