

Secondary entry #5: Gosford High School



# Gosford Gazette



Tree lined streets after the storm.  
Picture: Kellie Lynch

## Wild weather winds up across region

By ANUSHRIYA PANT

ON April 22, Gosford experienced destructive winds, heavy rainfall and dangerous surf conditions that resulted in extensive damage throughout the region.

The Bureau of Meteorology recorded that damaging winds havoocked the area, averaging 60-70 km/h with gusts up to 100 km/h as well as flood warnings for the area.

Terrigal resident Kellie Lynch, who was holidaying in Bali at the time of the storms, came home to find an enormous tree had narrowly missed her house and, thankfully, her new car had been parked elsewhere from its usual position.

Ms Lynch said, "I am thankful to the work of Gosford City Council for the safe removal of the tree". It took almost a fortnight for the tree to be removed, proving the high volume of stress upon council services.

As of Tuesday May 19, one month after the event, Gosford City Council has concluded their free green waste disposal service. However, some residents still have green debris in piles on their front yards.

The SES has also played a significant role in mop-up operations for the Gosford region, receiving 20,105 jobs during the weather event, and that "this is officially the biggest response operation in the history of the service". Of that number, Gosford accounted for 1571 jobs.

## More Mariner members

By JOSH WATT AND  
PATRICK KENNELLY

SINCE the arrival of the Mariners on the Central Coast in 2004, there has been a boom in community spirit for all things football.

Their tireless effort to involve all aspects of the community has seen participation in local football clubs surge, as well as ensure a wide fan-base for the club.

The Mariners' current membership stands at 6200 and includes the Yellow Army, a raucous support group which creates an air of enthusiasm and excitement at every game.

The Central Coast's local football clubs have experienced record numbers in junior registrations this year. Terrigal United Football Club committee member Troy Pegler said "we have had an increase of around 15 teams on the previous year's registrations".

He is confident that this is coming off the back of the Mariners' grand final win of 2013.

The Mariners run numerous community initiatives, including player appearances, school holiday clinics and recently they raised \$3000 through bucket collections for Camp Quality.

This has ensured a strong and positive presence not just in the football community, but in the wider Central Coast region.



Meet and greet with Mariners players motivates members.

Picture: Joshua Webb

Their first community dinner was held on May 18 at Shelley Beach Golf Club.

One of their most highly regarded role models and ex-captain, John Hutchinson, has retired after a stellar 10 years with the Mariners.

Hutchinson said "it means a lot to me, to be a part of this area".

Terrigal United Football Club's junior team manager Adam Montgomery said, "John Hutchinson has been a great role model to our young players".

Players from the club were inspired by their idol when they were invited to participate in a field march around the stadium prior to a recent home game.

These players were also lucky enough to shake hands with him and have their photo taken at the recent school holiday clinics, held at the Mariner's Centre of Excellence.

Mr Montgomery also said "this chance to interact with the Mariners team is an experience they will never forget and has certainly inspired them to achieve their best".



Coast Shelter is a caring place for all in need.

Picture: Lara Harriman

## Sleep out to help out homeless

By LARA HARRIMAN

COAST Shelter is a non-profit charity dedicated to "end homelessness on the NSW Central Coast".

Now over 20 years old, Coast Shelter has nine refuges and provides over 50,000 beds and meals each year as well as a wide range of support for varying circumstances.

"Coast Shelter accepts its

role of advocacy on behalf of our disadvantaged community members," said executive officer Laurie Maher.

Some of these include free legal services, referrals, no interest loans, food hampers, personal hygiene facilities and accommodation.

Coast Shelter relies on community backing to function, both in funding services and in providing them.

As well as business and

group supporters, annual fundraising events are crucial in raising awareness of the gravity of homelessness.

One such event, "Zoo and Snooze" at the Australian Reptile Park hopes to raise \$100,000 this year. The event offers the opportunity for individuals to experience homelessness for a night.

Other events include "Give Up Your Bed" and "Century Cycle Challenge".

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