



VOLUNTEER WORKER NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2020



It has been a very strange year and I wanted to write to you to thank you for all that you have done to make sure our clients have been cared for and served with a smile each time you have been with them.

I know the clients have been incredibly pleased to have had you sharing time with them or working behind the scenes for them. They have greatly appreciated your efforts, as have the Board, my colleagues and me.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. What more can I say?

If we look back on the year, we know of the devastating Bush Fires and we certainly do not want a repeat of this again.



But over the last couple of weekends the vision on television has been alarming and brought back dreadful memories. Let us all encourage everyone to take care.

Then we have the first of the floods and that brought its own problems.

The Pandemic was new to us all and we had to find a way through this new problem. But we have managed and your assistance as we have changed, and revise protocols and procedures has been impressive.

Many thanks for all you have done. I thank you for attending the training sessions which we have had to introduce. We did hope that regular Newsletters and information we provided would be enough, but we had to put on the training. This has worked well as we have had the feedback on what we have been doing which has been invaluable. We shall continue with these in the New Year and hope that if you have missed a session in 2020 that you may do this in 2021.

Then we had more floods and the possibility of Moruya being cut off for a while. But we came through well and were able to always serve our clients.

Then another issue arose. The Batemans Bay Community Centre has been in the news twice this year and has required us to make sure we were watching the Shire Council. I still think that we will see changes taking place in how the Centre will be operated in the future.

As this is being written we are thinking of the Councillors being briefed by staff before the Council meets on Tuesday 8 December and makes a final decision.



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

I am expecting that a Lease will be given, and groups such as Out and About will have to use other spaces, less suitable throughout the Shire.

I also heard the Councillors at the Council meeting on 24 November say that the Batemans Bay Community Centre is not up for sale, in the life of this Council.

Their tenure in the role ends in September 2021 and what will they have left for the next council. It may be a situation which allows the new Council to do nothing else but sell the Centre to meet their commitments.

**More
than just
a meal**

But enough, maybe we can only wait and see what happens. We, and other groups such as U3A, Perfex and smaller user groups, have given all the arguments why it should not happen.

Maybe people power is the only thing left! So, write/email to your Councillor on the matter so they hear the voice of the people. We do need our Community Centre available to us when we want it not when the new Lessee has space for us.

On a happier note, I have to say that our Cooperative has had a particularly good year.



We have managed all the natural disasters thrown at us well and kept the Cooperative in good heart.

- ✚ we could not have our High Tea this year, but we have been able to host most people at a morning tea in the office.
- ✚ we have heard from our clients in the annual survey and they have been very complimentary.
- ✚ we have held the Annual General Meeting and have an excellent Board in place -there are two new members after two Directors retired.
- ✚ National Meals on Wheels Day was a great success, and we thank the Councillors who assisted.
- ✚ we have had a great deal of local and state-wide publicity which enhances our position.
- ✚ the President and I have been elected to the Management Committee of Meals on Wheels Queanbeyan and look forward to assisting them in their community efforts.

NOW IT IS TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas and New Year are here again!

This year we hope it will be a great family occasion for everybody.

- ✚ We have had the Christmas cards done again this year. The pupils of Batemans Bay Public School have completed them.
- ✚ They are now in the present for Clients. These have started to be sent to the clients already.
- ✚ The Christmas Menu is set and distributed with clients already ordering items whether to try or have in store.
- ✚ Out and About have their two Christmas celebrations organised *Narooma (14 December) and Batemans Bay (17 December)*.
- ✚ The Christmas tree is about to go up in the office.
- ✚ The office will close at mid-day on 23 December.

We will have final delivery dates and new year starting dates as follows:

Batemans Bay	last delivery Wednesday 23 December	First delivery 2021 ...6 January
Broulee and Tomakin	last delivery Tuesday 22 December	First delivery 2021 ...5 January
Moruya	last delivery Tuesday 22 December	First delivery 2021 ...5 January
South Head and Tuross	last delivery Thursday 17 December	First delivery 2021 ...7 January
Narooma	last delivery Friday 18 December	First delivery 2021 ...8 January

- ✚ The office will reopen on 4 January for part time hours that week and meals will be delivered from 5 January.
- ✚ Out and About will recommence on 11 January.

**Thank you...for staying safe and well; for your support and interest; for your work and encouragement. We can not run this organisation without you. Continue to look after yourself and your family.
Keep those hands and fingers washed.**

Best wishes
Alan

Your WHS Rep: Les Carter Contact on 44723632 or 0491441968 or email proteaplace6@gmail.com

Our Sponsors

Rotary Clubs of Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma
Moruya Jockey Club Travel Team Batemans Bay
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