



# Councillor Gail O'Neill

## Division 14

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CITY OF  
**GOLDCOAST™**

# COUNCILLOR NEWS

NOVEMBER 2020

My office in Tugun continues to safely operate in isolation Tuesday to Friday from 8.30am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-4.30pm. Residents are invited to contact me to discuss any community concerns or suggestions. For assistance, please telephone 07 5581 5275 or email [division14@goldcoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:division14@goldcoast.qld.gov.au).

To keep up to date with important Division 14 related information, visit: [facebook.com/gailoneilldivision14](https://facebook.com/gailoneilldivision14)

## Law and order

### CCTV proposed for Kropp Park

I've called for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) of Kropp Park due to a spate of recent vandalism. I'm hoping the City will be able to install CCTV in this popular park. This action is being supported by Coolangatta Police.

### Illegal activity

The City has received several reports of public drinking along the Tugun to Bilinga Oceanway. Police have asked that if anyone observes this illegal behaviour to immediately report it to the police.

## Local area works

### Boundary Street, Currumbin Waters stormwater drainage improvements

Stage 3 of this project commenced in October and is expected to be completed by May 2021. Engagement with internal and external stakeholders is ongoing including face-to-face consultations with property owners and residents, mail-outs and letter-box drops to directly impacted residents, local project signage and updated webpage project details.

Stage 3 works include installation of a new underground drainage network along Elizabeth Street and Noojee

Street, crossing Michel Drive, with a new outfall constructed into Currumbin Creek and the relocation of underground services. This will also involve the resealing of road surfaces, kerbs and affected driveways.

### Update on major upgrades to Kirra Pavilion

Cyclists, please ensure you dismount and be mindful of pedestrian safety on the temporary walk-way that has been installed to accommodate major upgrades at the Kirra Pavillion.

### Waste Management

A friendly reminder for residents to bring in your rubbish bins as soon as possible after collection, to avoid penalty.

## Spotlight on SouthernGC

### TogetherGC Mural



In the spirit of uniting during these tough times, Division 14 partnered with Theory Agency to create a lasting reminder of the COVID-19 crisis and to celebrate how the Southern Gold Coast and border communities have pulled together to navigate the pandemic. It was great to have the support of Chief Lifeguard Warren Young and Senior Lifeguard Scott Franzman, who were more than happy with how the mural brightened up their space at John Cunningham Lifeguard Centre. Local businesses can contact my office to arrange to collect a free campaign poster for their shop front window.

## Our Border Region

Karen Andrews MP recently launched the 'Our Border Region' coffee table book. David Lister from HeadlineAd created this beautiful book to showcase the best of the regions landscape, history, community and businesses. Platinum sponsors, The Neumann Family were acknowledged for their continued support of the Southern Gold Coast community. It was great to be able to join with Karen Andrews MP, Laura Gerber MP, Councillor James Owen (Tweed Shire Council), Mardi Neumann, Michael Kelly (CEO Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary) and Nick Scott (Gold Coast Community Fund) to celebrate the launch.



## Rydges Gold Coast Airport

Rydges Gold Coast Airport opens later this month, just in time for summer and the festive season. With 192 rooms, lobby bar, restaurant, a 25 metre resort style pool, a fantastic conference and event space, and roof-top bar 'The Salty Fox' for guests to enjoy views of the tarmac and ocean. The mid-November opening will be of great benefit for the whole region.

## Council Community Organisation Hardship Relief Grants

Congratulations to the following recipients, who have received City funding to assist in the continuity of their services to vulnerable Southern Gold Coast residents: Kirra Surfstock, C3 Church Currumbin, Veterans Care Association, Currumbin Beach Vikings SLSC, U3A Twin Towns, Queensland Country Women's Association Coolangatta, Rotary Club of Burleigh, Tweed Coolangatta Junior AFL, North Kirra SLSC, Fight 4 Youth.

## What's on in our community

### Tugun Lights Up 2020

Presented by Division 14 Councillor Gail O'Neill, in partnership with Community Bank Tugun, part of Bendigo Bank, Tugun Lights Up – a Tugun Progress Association event – is scheduled for Saturday 5 December from 4pm to 8.30pm (subject to QLD Health and City Event approval). This event is being run under a COVID Safe Event Plan and therefore staged entertainment will be by ticket only. Entry is free with attendees asked to register prior online by visiting: [tugunlightsup.com.au](http://tugunlightsup.com.au).

### Currumbin Community Christmas Carols 2020

Preparations have commenced to deliver Currumbin Community Christmas Carols 2020 on Monday 7 December at Galleon Park, Currumbin Waters. We will be submitting a COVID Safe Plan, together with the proposed Event Plan, for QLD Health and City Events approval.

### Coolangatta Christmas Carols 2020

Save the date for Coolangatta Christmas Carols 2020 (subject to QLD Health and City Events approvals) on Sunday 13 December at 4pm for pre-entertainment, with the main show commencing from 5.30pm to 8.30pm.

### Coolangatta New Year's Eve Fireworks

Welcome in the New Year on Southern Gold Coast with two fireworks displays at Coolangatta Beach, proudly supported by Division 14 (subject to QLD Health and City Events approval). Everyone can enjoy the New Year celebrations with a family friendly display to take place at 9pm (EST) and the main display at midnight (EST).

### Mateship Run 2020

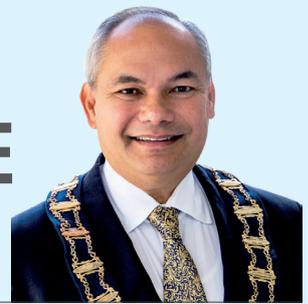
Support young veterans by participating in this year's Mateship Run on Sunday 8 November, the charity fun run that starts and ends at Currumbin RSL. Register for the 5km walk or run, the 10km run or the 21km half-marathon. This is a COVID Safe event. Due to restrictions on event capacity spaces are limited, so get in early and avoid missing out. Register today at: [mateshiprun.com.au](http://mateshiprun.com.au).

### Beach 5s Rugby, Greenmount Beach

Division 14 proudly supports the Beach 5s Spring Festival, which is on track for 13-15 November at Greenmount Beach. Beach 5s is a 5 aside sand-based competition based on modified rules of Rugby Union, Rugby League and Touch Football, with no line-outs, scrums or conversions. It's the game you know – but not as you know it! For more information visit: [beachrugbyaustralia.com.au](http://beachrugbyaustralia.com.au).

*All information correct when going to print.*

# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



## Getting on with the job

Even in a pandemic, our fabulous Gold Coast spirit makes us want to get on with life with as little disruption as possible and that is certainly the City's approach to making things happen.

Congestion-busting is one of my core priorities so I'm happy to report two major bridge improvements. We are removing the Isle of Capri bottleneck by constructing a new two-lane bridge downstream of the current narrow roadway.

The \$40 million project is now full steam ahead to increase daily vehicle capacity by nearly 50%. A wider vehicle and pedestrian bridge will be constructed with the old bridge to then be removed and replaced by a twin of the first. This will keep traffic flowing and the project is generating 137 new jobs.

Meantime down south, the new Tallebudgera Coplicks footbridge is now open, replacing the 84 year old former structure to make the crossing safer and flood resilient. School-children, older folk and cyclists will particularly love this new amenity that will serve the community for another 100 years.

Parts of the old bridge that was built in 1936 have been saved for heritage purposes and used in the new one. Design and other earthworks improvements will reduce upstream flooding to protect the local community. It's a great improvement for one of the city's most beautiful places.

Speaking of which, did you realise that Kirra Hill has just celebrated its centenary. Site of the Coolangatta State School, this iconic Gold Coast facility was built when the 1919 Spanish Flu epidemic prompted closure of the NSW border, cutting off children who attended the Tweed Heads Public School. They say history repeats and to me this is a classic example.

We are fortunate to have such a wonderful asset with its stunning scenic views across our city combined with a community centre that brings people together to enjoy a great range of events, arts and culture programs, fitness classes and social gatherings.

But wherever we are in our city, we must be mindful that nature is a powerful force and we need to remain alert and prepared for storm, flood and bushfire events.

Weather forecasters are predicting a La Nina cycle this year so summer may provide some real challenges. I encourage everyone to assemble an emergency kit, make sure your home is secure and clear of debris or rubbish and have a plan worked out if things get grim.

Our disaster management centre and its staff are well prepared for the coming storm season but I encourage everyone to play their part. Please stay safe and well until I talk to you again.

**TOM TATE**  
**MAYOR**