



# Surveillance cameras zoom on trouble spots

TERRY COLLINS

ANYONE thinking of performing any criminal activity or anti-social behaviour on the Woy Woy Peninsula, should think again.

With the activation last week of 20 CCTV cameras at prime problem spots at Woy Woy, Umina Beach and Ettalong Beach, police have the entire area under surveillance 24 hours a day.

Officially launching the cameras on Monday, Gosford Mayor Chris Holstein said they would serve as a strong deterrent for potential law breakers.

"The peninsula is a great place to live, work and play and will continue to be so," Cr Holstein

said.

Brisbane Water crime coordinator Sen-Sgt Vivienne Crawford said while footage from all 20 cameras could not be monitored continuously, footage would be available for later viewing and would be invaluable in the apprehension of law breakers.

"Already, the system has succeeded in helping us locate a young man behaving in an anti-social manner and returning him to his home," Sen-Sgt Crawford said.

"If a member of the public calls in a complaint staff at the station can immediately identify the area of concern and direct a car there if

necessary."

Peninsula Chamber of Commerce president Matthew Wales, who has been a strong advocate for securing the camera coverage, said the installation of seven cameras at both Woy Woy and Ettalong Beach and six at Umina Beach was pleasing. Robertson Federal Labor MP Belinda Neal agitated for \$680,000 in federal funding for the project, honouring a commitment to the people of the peninsula.

"These cameras will bring enormous social benefits to the residents, shop owners and businesspeople," Ms Neal said.



Colin Woolsey demonstrates the new CCTV system to Belinda Neal, Gosford Mayor Chris Holstein, Vivienne Crawford and Matthew Wales.

Picture: MARK SCOTT



## CCTV Security Cameras rolled out

**Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Vice-President, Andrew Tregent has welcomed the commencement of the Peninsula CCTV security camera rollout with the first cameras now being installed in Umina Beach and Ettalong Beach.**

"The Chamber is delighted to see the first of the security cameras being installed," said Mr Tregent. "Over the last few years the Peninsula Chamber has been lobbying heavily to secure funding for the security camera network.

"When Federal Member for Robertson, Belinda Neal took up the challenge and secured the \$680,000 Federal Funding through the Safer Suburbs Plan from the Australian Government Attorney General's Department, we were absolutely delighted," he said. "It was so important for the long term safety of our town centres that the funding was secured and now we are seeing the results of all the hard work."

Gosford City Council is implementing the program on behalf of the Federal Government.

"The security cameras are an important tool for the NSW Police Force to monitor our three commercial centres of Woy Woy, Umina Beach and Ettalong Beach so that they can combat graffiti vandals, under-age drinking and anti-social behaviour," said Mr Tregent.

The new CCTV system will be rolled out over the next few months giving the NSW Police Force the opportunity to monitor the cameras in real time or tape and store footage for future reference.

"The Federal Government should be congratulated on its investment in the future of our town centres through the Attorney General's Department funding," said Mr Tregent.



# First security camera installed

**The first of 27 CCTV security cameras for the Peninsula has been installed in Ettalong Beach.**

The camera is located on the corner of Picnic Pde and Ocean View Rd, Ettalong Beach, and is part of the Safer Suburbs Plan grant of \$680,000 awarded to Gosford Council by the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department.

The beginning of the Peninsula CCTV cameras roll-out is being welcomed by business owners.

Ettalong Beach Business Group president Mr Ray Dearlove said the first camera installation at Ettalong Beach was a significant step for improved safety and security in the town.

"All good things come to those who wait," Mr Dearlove said.

"Gosford Council and the Federal Government are to be congratulated on delivering on the promise.

"We look forward to the balance of the CCTV cameras being installed in the coming weeks."

Peninsula Chamber of Commerce vice-president Mr Andrew Tregent said the chamber is delighted to see the first of the

cameras being installed after years of lobbying to secure funding for the project.

"When Federal Member for Robertson Belinda Neal took up the challenge and secured the \$680,000 Federal Funding through the Safer Suburbs Plan from the Australian Government-Attorney General's Department, we were absolutely delighted," Mr Tregent said.

"It was so important for the long-term safety of our town centres that the funding was secured and now we are seeing the results of all the hard work.

"Gosford Council is implementing the program on behalf of the Federal Government and they have done an excellent job in getting the system in place on schedule.

"The security cameras are an important tool for the NSW Police Force to monitor our three commercial centres of Woy Woy, Umina Beach and Ettalong Beach so that they can combat graffiti vandals, under-age drinking and anti-social behaviour."

Mr Tregent said it was important to remember that the security cameras alone would not stop crime in town centres but would

certainly assist the police in reducing the incidence of crime.

The new CCTV system will be rolled out over the next few months giving the Brisbane Water Local Area Command the opportunity to monitor the cameras in real time or tape and store footage for future reference.

The CCTV camera images will be relayed using a wireless transmission system to a monitoring facility, which will be located at Woy Woy Police Station.

According to Gosford Council, the current target date for installation and testing of the Peninsula CCTV system is June this year, with commissioning shortly thereafter.

The performance of individual cameras will be monitored, with a view to relocating cameras and providing additional cameras in future.

**Press release, 2 Apr 2009**  
**Ray Dearlove, Ettalong Beach Business Group**  
**Press release, 6 Apr 2009**  
**Andrew Tregent, Peninsula Chamber of Commerce**  
**Press release, 15 Apr 2009**  
**Alexandra Hornby, Gosford Council**



*The first CCTV security camera installed on the Peninsula, located on the corner of Picnic Pde and Ocean View Rd, Ettalong Beach*



# CCTV cameras put vandals on notice

TERRY COLLINS

VANDALS and thieves would be well advised to avoid the Ettalong Beach area after the installation last week of the first of 10 CCTV cameras planned for the town centre.

Richard Bernsten and Ray Dearlove, of the Ettalong Beach Business Group, said the closed circuit cameras had been promised in the lead-up to the 2007 federal election.

"All good things come to those who wait," Mr Bernsten said.

Mr Dearlove said Robertson Federal Labor MP Belinda Neal had been instrumental in the Government handing over funding for the CCTV scheme to Gosford Council.

"Credit where credit is due," Mr Dearlove said.

"They promised the cameras and they are delivering. They should be fully operational by June, posted at various points in the Ettalong Beach CBD."

Mr Bernsten said: "We are sick and tired of the



Richard Bernsten and Ray Dearlove are happy with the installation of the first CCTV camera at Ettalong Beach.

Picture: TROY SNOOK

anti-social behaviour around Ettalong Beach.

"Last week a cashier at IGA was threatened with a knife. To her credit she raised the alarm and the intruder took off, but we've had enough of this sort of thing."

Mr Dearlove said graffiti

was a continuing problem and the cameras would act as a deterrent.

"If anyone does anything anti-social or illegal, they will be caught on one of these cameras," he said.

"They will feed footage into a central location and perpetrators will be easily identifiable."

17 July 2009

## PENINSULA MAINSTREET

### Mainstreet Matters

With Debra Wales



## CAMERAS ON...

Last Monday the Closed Circuit TV cameras (CCTV) were switched on across our three Peninsula town centres for the first time. After many months of consultation and planning, the Federal funded "Safer Suburbs Plan" became a reality.

Over the years, the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce had been researching and trialing many different programs to counteract anti-social behavior in our business centres. All of which were great programs but needing resources and very much time consuming for people running their own businesses. Such programs as 'Business Watch' and manned security and a number of community social projects none of which resolved the problems of mindless graffiti vandalism and broken shop windows in the long term. However, with CCTV the police now have a resource that will be invaluable to them and the judicial system. Our thanks to our Federal Member for Robertson Belinda Neal who secured the funding needed to see this project come to fruition.

Our thanks to Gosford City Councils Project Managers, John Cragg and Sharen Sordo who organized community committee meetings, safety audits, consultants and managed the planning process to see the cameras placed strategically. And our thanks to the Brisbane Water Area Police Command for supporting the concept and planning process to bring the project to its finale.

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Ken Baker President  
Central Coast  
NSW Business Chamber  
Regional Advisory Council



Central Coast

NSW Business Chamber Central Coast represents all industry groups across the whole Central Coast region.

Our blueprint *Toward a Sustainable NSW Central Coast Region* is the document getting the attention of all levels of government as we lobby to achieve better outcomes for the Central Coast.  
[www.nswbusinesschamber.com.au](http://www.nswbusinesschamber.com.au)

We need major State Government reform to reduce inefficient costs to business and to deliver on their strategic plan including infrastructure spending for the region.

To this end, the **Honorable Barry O'Farrell** leader of the State Opposition will be addressing our Business Leaders' Breakfast on 4th August.

The following day we will be hosting the Federal Minister for Small Business amongst other portfolios, the **Honorable Craig Emerson** with a business luncheon. This is a good opportunity for business to let the minister know what needs to be done to support business in our region.

It is important that business be heard so if you would like to attend and get more information on the above business events, contact the Central Coast office on (02) 4353 0763.

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