



THRILLING: Surf boats in action at Mollymook.

Boats are back

MOLLYMOOK Beach will be a hive of spectacular surfboat action this Saturday with Mollymook Surf Lifesaving Club hosting the third round of the Warilla Bowls South Coast Boat Series competition.

There will be approximately 80 crews and 20 boats from South Coast surf clubs competing in the six divisions from junior male and female through to Masters.

Starting at 8.30am the 90 round robin races should conclude about 2pm.

Competition will be fierce, as these top crews battle for the points.

Spectators are welcome.

Call for tenders

THE Ulladulla Harbour Walkway project is moving ahead, with Shoalhaven City Council calling for tenders.

The work will include the construction of the timber walkway and viewing platforms along with lighting and landscaping from the Harbourside shopping complex along to the Boardwalk Café.

Tenders will close on Thursday, February 23, with work expected to commence on the long-awaited project by mid-2012.

Funding request

SHOALHAVEN City Council last night considered providing financial assistance for the upgrade of the Country Women's Association (CWA) hall in Milton.

Councillor Robert Miller moved a motion calling for almost \$20,000 to be provided in the next council budget to improve the foundations, renovate the side entrance and replace concrete paths, timber walkways and handrails at the aging building in Wason Street.

As the main community meeting venue in Milton, Cr Miller said no work had been carried out for more than 20 years and that there were safety hazards posing a risk to users, especially the elderly.

Approval sought

THE installation of a large field gun would complete the representation of all three armed forces in Ulladulla's Rotary Park.

The Shoalhaven branch of the National Servicemen's Association is seeking approval from Shoalhaven City Council to place a 105 millimetre Howitzer Field Gun on the eastern side of the Nashos' memorial.

The three-metre long gun would complement an existing anchor from HMAS Brunei and propeller from a DC Douglas 43 Dakota bomber.

The Nashos are seeking approval, but have not yet secured a gun for the site.



TOUGH: Elizabeth Sheridan on Narrawallee Beach last week and (INSET) with husband Scott and boys Thomas, 17, Jack, 11 and Tim, 12.

This one is for the kids

Walker prepares for Kokoda

STORY: Stuart Carless

PART-TIME Narrawallee resident Elizabeth Sheridan has been creating plenty of interest in recent weeks as she prepares to take on the Kokoda Trek.

Elizabeth, 39, has become a common sight on local roads and beaches as she prepares for her Kokoda assault in August this year.

The mother-of-three is hoping to raise thousands of dollars on behalf of sexually abused children with all money raised from her walk going to her favourite charity, Bravehearts.

What sets her apart from many other people who have also completed the trek is that she is planning to do it in just 96 hours. It normally takes eight days or more to complete the 96 kilometre journey over PNG's Owen Stanley Ranges.

Elizabeth runs a childcare centre in Oakville just outside of Windsor in Sydney but has spent every available moment over the past 11 years at the family holiday home in Narrawallee.

Her training for the fundraising trek has included numerous laps of Narrawallee Beach with a weighted backpack in the soft sand, runs on the beach, long road walks with weighted packs and a couple of climbs up Pigeon House Mountain with an 11kg pack. Last week she completed the Pigeon House climb (and back) in just 1 hours 35 minutes.

She told the Times that she was by no means an extreme sports person – just a mum and a small business per-

son who wants to make a difference.

She said she would be "more than ready" when the time arrives.

Elizabeth said she had been stopped on numerous occasions by people wanting to know what she was training for and on each occasion has been happy to tell them what she is doing – and why.

Many of them, she told the Times, were shocked to learn how common sexual abuse is in our society.

Statistics show one in five Australian children are sexually abused before they turn 18.

Elizabeth described the statistics as "frightening" but said most Australians were more concerned about the cost of petrol and the state of the country's roads.

"I am very passionate about child safety and I am now ready to put my feet where my heart is and raise much-needed funds".

She has already raised more than \$12,000 through donations.

The funds raised through the walk will be used to support victims of child abuse through the provision of counselling, to prevent other children from becoming victims of abuse through education and to stop continued abuse through advocacy.

Elizabeth believes Bravehearts offers the most effective way of addressing the issue and minimising the hardship felt by victims.

• Those people wanting to support Elizabeth are encouraged to visit www.trekforkids.org.au



It's too early to celebrate: clubs

LOCAL clubs have welcomed Prime Minister Julia Gillard's decision to abandon her deal with Independent MP Andrew Wilkie over the introduction of mandatory pre-commitment for poker machines.

Secretary manager of the Milton-Ulladulla ExServos Darryl Bozicevic this week described it as a step in the right direction but warned that it was too early to celebrate.

He said a trial of pre-commitment technology in the ACT represented a "good forward step" but the industry was waiting to see the detail.

Mr Bozicevic also warned that the Federal Government would still have a fight on its hands if it moved to cap ATM withdrawals at \$250 in clubs or set a maximum of \$1 bets on poker machines without proven evidence that it will help reduce problem gambling.

All club managers from the Milton-Ulladulla region and Lake Conjola met with Joanna Gash last week to discuss gambling reform.

Mr Bozicevic said it had been a 'good' discussion and Mrs Gash had agreed to take the concerns of local club representatives back to her party.

He said local clubs would also welcome the opportunity to meet with a Federal Government representative to discuss gambling reform.

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