

Copacabana Community Association Inc.

Summer 2022

COPA NEWS

www.copanews.com.au

We acknowledge the Garigal Clan of the Wannanginni Guringai people as the ancestral custodians of Bulbararing Allagai and Tdjudibaring and pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

Merry Christmas

and happy holidays to all

IN THIS ISSUE:

- What's On this Summer
- Copa Carols
- Holiday happenings
- Copa Tennis Club
- Salmon on our beaches
- Copa Medical
- Facts and figures
- Copa School
- Vacation Care
- Copa RFS
- Copa SLSC



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WHAT'S ON

DECEMBER

Saturday 10

Avoca Twilight Markets
5pm-9pm

Friday 16

Last day of school

Saturday 17

About Face:
Gosford Junior Portrait Prize
Gosford Regional Gallery
(Until 15 January)

Saturday 31

New Year's Eve Fireworks
Memorial Park, The Entrance
6pm-9pm

JANUARY 2023

Friday 13

Free Outdoor Movie Night
'Shrek', Kibble Park Gosford
5pm

Friday 20

Pop-Up Food Dining Experience.
Live Music and Fireworks.
Waterfront Plaza The Entrance
12pm-8pm

Thursday 26

Australia Day Fireworks
Leagues Club Park, Gosford
4pm-9pm

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 01

First day of school

Saturday 04

Copa Bushcare
2-4pm

Sunday 19

Gosford City Farmers Market
Showground Road, Gosford
7am-12pm

A word from the CCA President

Hello Copa people, CCA members and friends

...sliding into a Summer we hope will be a sunny and healthy one for us all. Fortunately, the chaos of last year is a bit of a dim memory as normality returns for the festive season. Travel is again on the agenda for many of us and we can probably expect the usual holiday crowds over January, which will provide a welcome boost for our local businesses. La Nina be gone – please!

We held our last public meeting for the year in November at our AGM and were pleased to welcome members and guests and report on our year in review and plans for next year.

We farewelled Geoff Parker from the Committee and thanked him for his three years of wise counsel and hard work on the CCA Management Committee. He and Julie have decamped to Davistown, but we know they'll continue to catch up with their many Copa neighbours and friends. We take this opportunity to thank Sarah Hirst, outgoing CCA Secretary, for her service and wish her well with her busy work and family life.

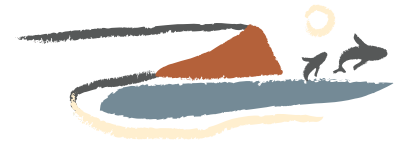
Along with Rob Morgan (Treasurer); Matt Francis (Secretary) and Margaret Platell (Committee member), I'm staying on as President for another year. We were delighted to welcome George Azoury to the committee at the AGM – 'new blood' is always good and we're sure he will make a terrific contribution to the CCA and the community.

We also thank our local business sponsors of Copa News for their continued support of the CCA and this magazine. We hope you enjoy this bigger issue about 'all things Copa'.

We again hosted Copa Carols on the Green this year and judging from the turnout on the day, local families appreciated the laid-back format, including lots of fantastic performances by kids and adults alike. We very much appreciated all the help from the Surf Club, the RFS and our wonderful team of volunteers and helpers who helped make the day such a success. It was also great to partner with Copa Public School P&C to co-ordinate their Santa pics fundraiser. (See story and pics in this issue).

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday and festive season. See you on the beach.

Sue Steedman



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Association Inc.

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what we can do for you.

'Twas a great day for *Copa Carols* on the Green

Copa families and kids gathered for a Christmas community get-together on the green on December 3. The weather was kinder than last year – sunny with a gentle breeze - and a much bigger crowd joined in the festivities. It was great to see so many kids enjoying the day with their parents. Our two facepainters, Kim and Kylie, were in high demand right until the very end of their three-hour shift.

We'd like to thank the people who helped to make the day such a success, including helpers from the Surf Club and the RFS. Particular thanks to our great team of volunteers who spent many hours on planning and preparation, and all those who showed up on the day to help out:

June Morin for Allagai Bay choir and kids choir direction and rehearsal management; Rebecca Harcourt for performer management and many hours of other work; Roge Mairet, Marlies Seisun and Elizabeth O'Rourke for table decorations and lolly bags for the kids and Angela for helping with set up; Neil McKay of Copa Supermarket for donating the lollies; Elaine Norling for the photography; Jonas Hartwell for the electrics; Patrick Conwell for the sound gear and Sue Mitchell for the signage.

And we have to give a shout out to Briar Forrester and the team from Copa School P&C, who ran their Santa photos fundraiser all afternoon, with a constant stream of families in the line to spend a few minutes with the man in red.

The crowd appreciated the wonderful performers who entertained us on the day and we thank them all for helping to make Copa Carols so much fun: The singers in both choirs; Amy Patterson; Lilah Washington; Jess Huorn and Lily Ianssen. And a special thanks to John Oates for his words on country and to him and his band 'The Chestnuts' for giving us a fantastic finish to the day with some well-loved tunes.

And we couldn't have done it without all the 'bodies' who helped with, set up and pack up, including Greg Maude, Dave Woods and ex-CCA VP Geoff Parker (who also did a lot of the Council & permit wrangling).

And finally, thanks to all the Copa people who came along and joined in with your good humour and Christmas community spirit.

Sue, Rob, Matt, Margaret, and George (CCA Committee).



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holiday happenings

ACROSS THE COAST

Christmas Lights Spectacular

Hunter Valley Gardens – on now till January 26

Enjoy a truly memorable night out with your friends and family as you wander through the themed displays created with over 3 million lights. Stunning new displays include a 14m Christmas tree, 8m tall present stack, 2.5m giant illuminated Santa, brand new '12 days of Christmas' and more.

Plus amusement rides including superslide, carousel, teacups and ferris wheel. Open 5:30pm–10:30pm, rides from 6pm–10pm. Bookings required: www.hunervalleygardens.com.au/events/christmas-lights-spectacular



Rolling Sets Festival

Saturday, December 10, The Entrance

Fresh off the back of a sold-out national arena tour and a new single release; Hilltop Hoods (and Rolling Sets alumni) are set to own the RS stage this December. Joining them are DMA'S who are heading home after a quick romp overseas playing packed shows along with Dope Lemon, Dune Rats, Alex Lahey, Peach PRC, L D R U, Leisure (NZ) and more.

For tickets go to: www.lovecentralcoast.com/events/rolling-sets-festival

Free School Holiday Activities

January 10, 10am-2.30pm, Gosford

Gosford's Kibble Park will come alive with School holiday activities, with an interactive reptile show, face painting, laser skirmish, kids' creative play and 30 minute Picasso workshop run by local artists. The kids will be entertained while you can sit, relax and enjoy the warmer weather.

Bookings required for Picasso workshop. More info at:

www.lovecentralcoast.com/events/gosford-school-holiday-activities



Free Outdoor Kids' Movie nights

Gosford, Wyong & Toukley – January

Enjoy dinner or grab takeaway from a local eatery and sit down under the summer night sky for a free open-air screening of the animated classic Shrek. This free family event will have a range of activities for the kids including crafts, circus play space, roving entertainment and lawn games. Limited seating and picnic rugs will be provided or bring your own. Come early to find a great spot. Activities will commence at 5pm for a sundown movie start. For more info and dates go to: www.lovecentralcoast.com/events/outdoor-movie-nights



Breakfast with the Alpacas

Jiliby

An opportunity to get up close and personal on a farm with a herd of 78 alpacas and 7 llamas. During your visit you'll also meet 60 Wiltipoll sheep, angus cows and horses. Or you can experience a 1.5hour 'Breakfast with the Alpacas'. For more info and bookings see: www.irislodgealpacas.com

Flannel Flower Walking Track

Bouddi National Park

Located near Wagstaffe and Killcare, the Flannel Flower bushwalking track runs between Tallow Beach and Lobster Beach and offers great views from the lookout. The track starts on Hawke Head Drive, Killcare.

It's a 2.9k return journey, and suitable for most people. See here for details: www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/walking-tracks/flannel-flower-walking-track



Horse Riding at The Outlook

Terrigal

Horse riding, pony rides, trail rides, birthday parties, school holiday camps – this place has all you horse lovers covered. Located halfway between Avoca and Terrigal, it's a beautiful property that's only a short drive from Copac. Bookings essential. See here for details:

www.theoutlookridingacademy.com.au

And if it's raining...try these Indoor Kids Play Centres

KINCUMBER INDOOR SPORTS, For kids 0-6

www.in2playsports.com

MONKEY MANIA, Gosford

www.monkeymania.com.au/central-coast

CLIP'N CLIMB, Gosford

www.clipnclimbcentralcoast.com.au

KIDSWORLD PLAY CENTRE, Erina

www.impactc.me/erina-play-centre

INFLATABLE WORLD, Charmhaven

www.inflatableworldoz.com.au/stadiums/charmhaven



COPA TENNIS CLUB

A LOCAL GEM THEN AND NOW

The Copa tennis courts were built in 1988 in Susan Fahey Park, funded by the Bicentenary Celebrations Scheme, and in 1991 the complex was completed with a Clubhouse and toilet facilities. The courts were ready for play by September 1991, at a hiring cost of fifty cents! At that time, the courts, clubhouse and facilities were fenced off from the park, and Copacabana Newsagency staff looked after the bookings. The fencing was removed some time later and a Tennis Club Committee was formed.

Two of the early players and longstanding Copa residents, Allan and Beryl Steward, created a Friday afternoon group of players, with Allan still playing at the age of 92! Speaking of the Friday group - many of whom kept an eye on security and safety issues at the courts - former Tennis Club President, Lorraine Parks, recalls some of the social activities that have gone on over the years. Friday suppers took place every week on a rotational basis at each player's home and fancy dress was mandatory. Many memorable photos have recorded these festivities.

Allan Steward said: 'I treasure those memories and the close relationships we had and still enjoy. The tennis club was the springboard for a lot of social life in Copa for many families.'

The committee wishes to acknowledge and thank the various owners of the Newsagency over time, all of whom have



contributed to the success and continuing use of these local courts. Monitoring, bookings, banking and communicating with the Tennis Club Committee continued until late 2021, when the Club - with the help of Tennis NSW and IT capable committee members - converted to an Online Booking system.

The Club now has a website at:

play.tennis.com.au/copacabanatennisclub

Online bookings, payment with code entry, associated night court lighting, together with committee communication via the web have resulted in increased court use, especially during the pandemic, with Covid-safe practices in place. Last year, Central Coast Council made substantial upgrades to Susan Fahey Park, which along with the tennis courts, have given Copa a beautiful recreational area.

Lorraine Parks was the Club President from 2003 to 2022, with able assistance from all committee members. She recalls taking over from Paul Favaloro (who was President for most of the earlier years), with Mark Presdee still the resident Coach. Mark is now coaching the children of those he coached many years ago. Matt Francis was elected President in August this year, and it seems the Club is in good hands with a strong committee working behind the scenes, including Treasurer Roge Mairet and Committee members, Todd Lyndon, Wolf Messthaler and Margaret Platell.

They will be ably supported by Lorraine, who continues her volunteer service as Vice President/Secretary after nearly two decades at the helm. We thank her for providing the information for this story, and for her dedication and service to the tennis community.



Allan and Beryl Steward

Copa Tennis Courts

WE'RE NOW ONLINE

with our own webpage ...

play.tennis.com.au/copacabanatennisclub



To book Scan QR Code or ...



Salmon on our beaches

by **Margaret Platell**

Lecturer in Environmental Science, Newcastle University and CCA Committee Member

Photo: Thom Newman

During late October and early November, reports appeared on social media of large fish washing ashore at Avoca, Terrigal and as far north as Wamberal. These fish were obvious to those on their morning walks, but many did not know what type of fish they were or why they were there.

The beached fish were identified as the Eastern Australian salmon (*Arripis trutta*) by some recreational fishers and confirmed by DPI (NSW). Following water quality testing and autopsies, DPI (NSW) concluded that their demise was likely due to 'bait showering' – but what is this and what do we really know about this Australian fish?

Eastern Australian Salmon are distributed along the eastern coast of Australia from Queensland down to Tasmania. These purely marine species are a surface-dwelling (pelagic), schooling fish that reach relatively large sizes. Large schools in coastal waters often represent spawning migrations from south to north, with the Eastern Australian current helping to disperse the very young fish in a southerly direction. Salmon spawn between October and March and spawn earlier within this period when further to the north. Salmon spawn as far north as Coffs Harbour and it has been calculated that eggs and larvae from this spawning location have the potential to reach Tasmania.

Salmon have been part of the diet of indigenous peoples in NSW, particularly since around 1500 BP following

developments in fishing technology, such as using line with shell-carved fishhooks, trapping and netting. Salmon are regarded as a staple food source and are good eating fish when consumed fresh or smoked. Traditional ecological knowledge formed the basis of successful fishing, in which flowering trees were used as an indicator of salmon off the beaches. Nowadays, this species is also recreationally and commercially fished, being most recently assessed as 'sustainable' for the eastern seaboard.

Salmon, as well as many other fish species, spawn during the longer and warmer times of the year. This increased productivity in phytoplankton then links to zooplankton increases, with zooplankton prey being crucial food sources for very young fish. When salmon increase in size, their diet becomes dominated by small pelagic fish

(baitfish) such as Australian sardines. Baitfish are also schooling species, which allows salmon to take advantage of this ready prey availability.

However, such bait schools can be quite large, as too can be the schools of salmon, and can attract larger predators such as sharks, which use body and fin movements to ram/stun their prey.

It is most likely that the beached salmon were just 'unlucky' and got caught up in the overall feeding activity around these fish schools. Although there are many different reasons for fish mortalities, including poor water quality, disease and fishing activity, this identification of a natural cause has enabled a window into that species' existence and allows a fuller understanding of our marine environment.

Further reading

FRDC (2020) Eastern Australian Salmon. Retrieved from <https://fish.gov.au/report/350-Eastern-Australian-Salmon-2020?jurisdictionId=7>



Photo: David Benson

COMING SOON TO COPA

oh bless home

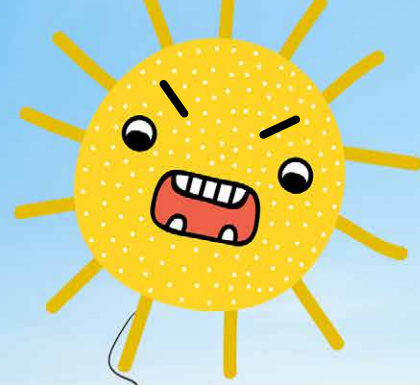
COPACABANA

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- Coffee
- Treats

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IG: @ohblesshome

Summer is here – time for a skin check



Here in Copa, we all enjoy our beach and outdoor lifestyle and now that the sun is finally out, it's an ideal time to get your skin checked right here at Copacabana Medical Centre, where Dr Risto and Dr Diana offer comprehensive skin checks and an informed medical opinion as well as treatment, including skin surgery.

What is skin cancer?

Skin cancer is an uncontrolled growth of abnormal cells in the skin. There are three main types of skin cancer – in order of frequency: basal cell carcinoma (BCC), squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) and melanoma.

Skin cancers can present as pigmented or non-pigmented moles but can also appear as pearly papules or red scaly lesions that itch, bleed or look inflamed, and/or as scars or recurrent or non-healing ulcers. However, many remain asymptomatic and thus require regular full body skin checks for early detection.

How common is it?

Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world. Skin cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in Australia. As many as 2 of 3 Australians will be diagnosed with some form of skin cancer before the age of 70.

What is the danger?

If left untreated, melanoma, invasive SCC and some other less common skin cancers readily spread to other body parts (i.e. metastasize) and can be deadly. BCC is a slow growing skin cancer which rarely metastasize but spreads locally destroying every tissue/organ it encounters.

Treatment

In early stages, most skin cancers are curable by surgical excision under local anaesthesia.

Prevention is the best way to treat skin cancer.

You should:

- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight between 10am and 4pm
- Cover up with a hat, shirt, and sunglasses
- Avoid tanning and never use UV tanning beds
- **Apply** (and regularly reapply) broad spectrum UVA/UVB (ideally **SPF 50+**) **for all outdoor activities**
- Examine your skin from head to toe at least monthly
- Visit your GP annually (or as otherwise recommended) for a skin check.

We encourage you to book an appointment at Copacabana Medical Centre for a full body skin check.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish our patients and all in Copa a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy festive season. Please note that Centre hours will vary over the holidays. Our website is being upgraded, but you can still book online at www.copamedical.com.au

Opening Hours:

Monday - Friday:
9:00am - 6:00pm

Same day appointments available

Contact us to find out more or to
make an appointment:

Ph: 4381 1576

or book online: copamedical.com.au





Cherish your Christmas traditions – *Whatever they are*

We might not all be fronting up to church or Midnight Mass these days, but there are probably many traditions you and your friends and families consider sacrosanct at Christmas. Festive food in the Southern Hemisphere summer is vastly different to our neighbours in the chilly North. Summer weather means that prawns, ham, cherries, mangos and pavlova are more likely to be on the menu than roast meats and vegetables and boiled puddings, but we know some people stick to the hot lunch routine even if it's sweltering.

In most houses, there's a tree of some sort, no doubt decorated with love and ornaments that have been in the family 'forever' or handmade by the kids. There may be some tinsel involved and possibly an angel at the top of the tree. There'll be carol singing and someone will usually object to Bing and his ubiquitous but clearly inappropriate-for-here 'White Christmas'. And just like in millions of other houses all over the world on the night before Christmas, Santa will visit and deliver presents to those of us who have been nice, not naughty. He might scoff down a beer and some cherries and the reindeer might be lucky enough to get some water and carrots to fuel the journey.

However, Christmas is celebrated very differently in many parts of the world, and in some places, the traditions do not faintly resemble what happens here in Australia. How would you like to wake up to find rotten potatoes left in your shoes by a mischievous Santa? Or chow down on Kentucky Fried Chicken for your Christmas dinner? Here's a few fun facts you might not know.



In Japan, Christmas means KFC. On December 25 every year, you'll find millions of Japanese people sitting down to a hearty meal of KFC fried chicken, with orders placed with the restaurant months in advance. It's all thanks to a very effective marketing campaign that began in the 70s. It created a whole new Japanese Christmas food tradition that has survived to this day.



In Iceland, they actually have 13 Father Christmases, called Yule Lads. These mischievous characters are said to live in the mountains and visit towns one by one in the 13 days leading up to Christmas. Children leave shoes out for the Yule lads, who will leave presents and sweets in them if they've been good, or rotten potatoes if they've been bad.



In Denmark, homes are decorated with superstitious characters called nisser who are believed to provide protection from evil spirits. On Christmas Eve, Danish families place their Christmas tree in the middle of the room and dance around it while singing carols.



Brazilian families come together on Christmas Eve to eat dinner as late as 10pm. Then at exactly midnight, they exchange gifts, toasts and wish each other Feliz Natal.



One of the less-festive Christmas legends is the Austrian story of Krampus, Santa's evil counterpart, who Austrian children believe will whisk them away in a basket if they're naughty. Each year, people descend on town squares, dressed up in their scariest Krampus costumes designed to terrify onlookers.



And of course, it's not only Santa or Father Christmas who brings gifts in other countries. Right across Italy, on January 6 there is a visit from la Befana. This translates literally as 'the good witch', and legend says that on this date she would fill stockings with candy for the children on the good list, and coal for the naughty children. Arguably no worse than rotten potatoes you could say.

Whatever you're doing, however you're celebrating, enjoy your holidays and celebrate with your friends and family in whatever way you choose. May the sun be shining and the rain begone! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.



×
MERRY
CHRISTMAS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

×



Copacabana Public School

A message from Mary Hunt – Principal

Stage 3 Camp

We welcomed some very tired but happy Stage 3 students and teachers back to school on Friday, 28th October at 7:30pm. Congratulations to our students for their outstanding behaviour whilst on the excursion. Students enjoyed visiting the Australian National Museum, the Electoral Education Centre, Questacon, Parliament House, the War Memorial and the Dinosaur Museum, just to name a few places!

Thanks very much to Mrs Woodham for her organisation and to Mrs Wilson, Mrs Sutton, Mr Bragg, Mr Smyth, and Miss Blair for their help whilst on the excursion.

Head Start – Welcome Kindergarten 2023

At Copacabana Public School, we are currently running our Head Start – Kindergarten Transition program. We are excited to be meeting our new 2023 Kindergarten students and their families to our wonderful school. Over the past few weeks, the children have participated in a range of educational activities. Our school leaders have done a great job proudly showing our new 2023 Kindergarten families to the Kindergarten rooms. Thank you to our amazing P&C for purchasing the special 'Head Start' t-shirts for our new Kindergarten students..

2022 NSW Premier's Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Sam who represented our school at the NSW Premier's Spelling Bee Final. The students, teachers and community at Copacabana Public School are very proud of Sam's achievements.

Intensive Swimming School

Congratulations to our super swimmers at Swim School over the past two weeks. The NSW Department of Education School Swimming and Water Safety program is for all students from non-swimmers all the way to squad swimmers. For non-swimmers, the program develops water confidence and provides students with basic skills in water safety and survival. For strong swimmers, the program develops confidence in deeper water and works on technique correction and confidence in a variety of strokes. Thank you to Mr Mensforth for his organisation of Swim School and to Mrs Sutton, Ms Butler and Mrs Gilmore for supporting our students through the program. We also thank our wonderful P&C who have subsidised the cost of this very valuable program.



Thinking of Selling? Think Stone.




Avoca Vacation Care Programme

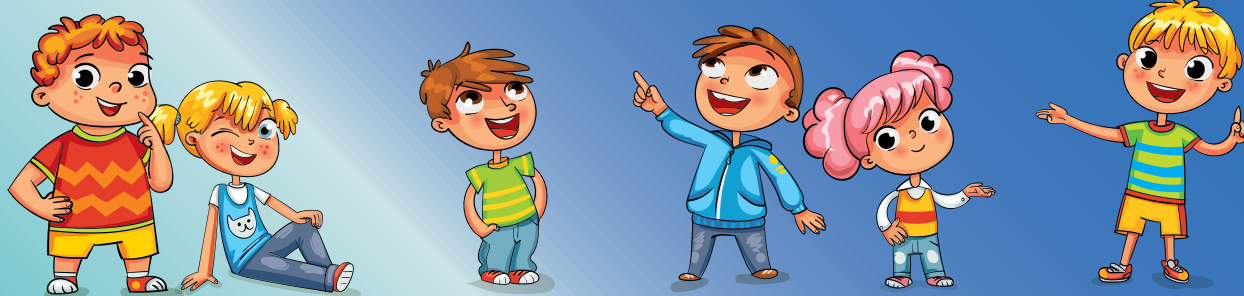
Located in the grounds of Copa Public School

19th December – 22nd December 2022 • 16th January – 27 January

7am to 6pm **PLEASE BOOK EARLY:** avocaschoolcare@gmail.com

MON 19 DEC (\$80)	TUES 20 DEC (\$90)	WED 21 DEC (\$90)
<p>WATER SLIDE DAY</p> <p>It is perfect weather for some water play. A double water slide is coming for maximum fun. Please bring spare clothes and a towel.</p>	<p>NIAGARA PARK STADIUM</p> <p>Today the children will be playing all day. Wheelchair basketball, trampolines and foam pit. Sausage sizzle and ice block included. Bus leaves at 9.30am sharp, please don't be late!</p>	<p>WOY WOY INDOOR POOL</p> <p>Children will swim indoors and eat lunch outside. Children that attend must be able to swim and follow instructions. Day governed by strict ratios to ensure the safety of all children. Limited places. Bus leaves at 10am, returns 3pm.</p>
THURS 22 DEC (\$80)	MON 16 JAN (\$90)	TUES 17 JAN (\$90)
<p>CHRISTMAS BAKING</p> <p>Children will make edible Christmas treats to take home. This day is always fun and gets everyone into the Christmas spirit. The Centre will be closing at 4 pm, to give the educators a chance to get organised for Christmas too!</p>	<p>NIAGARA PARK STADIUM</p> <p>This day is always so popular we booked it again. Sausage sizzle and an ice block are included. Bus leaves at 9.30 sharp, please do not be late. Returns at 3.30pm.</p>	<p>BUBBLE SOCCER</p> <p>Something new to try: Bubble Soccer is action packed! Children will feel invincible as they bounce around the oval. www.ultimatebubblesoccer.com.au/sydney/</p>
WED 18 JAN (\$80)	THURS 19 JAN (\$90)	FRI 20 JAN (\$80)
<p>BIKE & SKATEBOARD DAY</p> <p>Bring your bike, scooter or skateboard. Helmet and safety gear must be worn. Depending on numbers we may take small groups of children to the skate park.</p>	<p>LET'S GO ICE SKATING</p> <p>Today the children will have the opportunity to stay cool while skating at Erina Ice Arena. Bus leaves at 11am, returns 3pm.</p>	<p>FREAKY FRIDAY</p> <p>It's creepy and it's spooky, the games we play are kooky. Come if you dare! Dress up, watch a movie and enjoy the ghostly fun.</p>
MON 23 JAN (\$90)	TUES 24 JAN (\$80)	WED 25 JAN (\$90)
<p>SEEING SOUND WITH SONIC KITCHEN</p> <p>The Sonic Kitchen will conduct science experiences where children can see sound and interact with it. Includes discussion about vibration; making slime; making the slime dance using loudspeakers and making sand pictures using a Chladni plate and iPads.</p>	<p>REPTILE MAN AFTERNOON</p> <p>We have Kym the reptile man visiting us at 2pm with some pretty special creatures that will captivate the imaginations of children by displaying a variety of wildlife in a fun and safe hands-on environment. Learn, connect, explore.</p>	<p>WOY WOY INDOOR POOL</p> <p>Today the children will swim indoors and eat lunch outside under cover. Children that attend must be able to swim and follow instructions. Day is governed by strict ratios to ensure safety of all children. Limited places. Bus leaves at 10am, returns 3pm.</p>
THURS 26 JAN (CLOSED)	FRI 27 JAN (\$80)	PARENTS PLEASE NOTE
<p>AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</p> 	<p>MYSTERY DAY</p> <p>Depending on the number of children we will make a decision about activities closer to the day.</p>	<p>Once you book, the fee will still apply even if you cancel!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children need to bring lots of healthy food & water. • Covered footwear must be worn at all times & hat for outside. • Sunscreen supplied by the centre; please bring towel & extra clothes for water play. • Please arrive 20 mins prior to departure of all excursions.

WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR





COPA RFB UPDATE

There's little sign of an easing of the wet weather conditions that have prevailed across most of NSW for more than twelve months, and that will likely mean a very quiet bushfire season. The conditions are likely to continue until at least January.

While things are quiet, our firefighters continue to keep up with training so they are prepared for the time when things return to normal – and this is something everyone can do. It's important to know your fire risk and be prepared. Simple things like keeping up with household maintenance and having a bushfire survival plan can make a huge difference.

In coming months, you will likely see our members out and about in the streets of Copa as we endeavor to locate and clearly mark fire hydrant points. These hydrants allow pumps to connect to the reticulated water supply in the event of a property fire. Being able to find them quickly can save vital minutes of searching in an emergency. You can help by

knowing where the nearest hydrant is to your home, making sure it is kept clear at all times and is easy to find.

Copacabana Brigade will run a major recruitment drive in January when we reach out to members of the community to join us in the world's largest volunteer fire service. There are more than 70,000 volunteers across NSW.

Our members come for many reasons but a desire to protect and serve the community we all value is a common theme. We respond to a range of incidents from bush fires to house and structure fires, road accidents and assist at other events like floods, storms and searches. Volunteers have the opportunity to learn new and valuable skills that will not only assist in their voluntary role but in day-to-day life and the workplace.

Ours is a friendly and inclusive brigade with people of many ages and backgrounds and we would love to welcome you to the team. Keep an eye out for recruitment information on social media, on posters and banners from January.

Finally, our favourite event of the year – the annual Santa Run - is coming up at Kincumber on December 23, and in Copa on December 24. It's a tradition that has been carried out at Copa since at least the 1970s (see image) if not before. This time last year, we were all still in the grip of Covid-19 restrictions and we did the Santa run in masks. We are all looking forward to more normal conditions this year. We've had confirmation from Santa at the North Pole that he will be joining us on the trucks again.



Move your home up the wanted list.

McGrath

Steve Nixon 0403 943 341
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Copacabana SLSC

The beach patrol season has started again for Copacabana SLSC. We are literally up and running with our Nippers program once again seeing a large group of children on the beach on Sunday mornings learning about water safety and having a fun time in the water and on the sand. It's not too late for your children to join the Nippers program if they might be interested – just come down to the beach on a Sunday morning.

Our Patrols have been very active in keeping the beach safe since the season started on September 24th. We also have a large number of members training for their Bronze medallion and Senior Resuscitation Certificates.

Weekenders at Copacabana has also started again on Friday evenings from 5:30 -8:00pm. Come down for a drink and a meal and enjoy the view. The Club will also be open for meals and drinks on Saturday and Sunday evenings from 5:30-8:00pm during the Christmas School Holidays.

See you on the beach!
Regards,
Tom Tseng,
President, Copa SLSC



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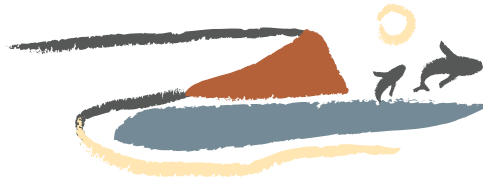
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Copacabana Community Association Inc.

Join the CCA and contribute your ideas for Copa

This quarterly newsletter is designed and published by the Copacabana Community Association (CCA). It is distributed in hard copy and via email. We also manage the website copanews.com.au

The CCA is run by a volunteer Management Committee who work on behalf of members and the broader community to improve facilities and advocate for beautification projects in Copa. We make representations and submissions to local Council and State government in order to safeguard the unique, low-rise 'beach and bush' characteristics of our suburb and we keep a close eye on zoning regulations that currently protect our area from over-development. From time to time we also apply for grants and funding to support important community projects and events.

We co-ordinate events designed to foster inclusivity and often work together with the Surf Club and the Copa RFB to help achieve better outcomes for the community.

Meetings are held bi-monthly at the Surf Club.

Next meeting Monday, February 6, 2023 at 7.30pm. All welcome. Come along and have your say.

The CCA gets its revenues from sponsors of this newsletter and from annual membership subscriptions.

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