Read the latest news from Vincentia

MARCH 2026

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Vincentia Ratepayers & Residents Asssociation



Regular Stories from Vincentia

Welcome to our second newsletter for 2026 covering a wide range of matters. Starting with update on Electric bikes, followed by information on proposed Charging Stations for Electric Vehicles at Burton Street, leading to tenancy changes in Burton Street Mall. For diversity - Dog litter, the PopUp Brewery,

how to get involved in a local film, and update on intended Council changes to Community Consultative Bodies (CCBs).

E BIKE UPDATE

Further to our February 2026 Newsletter article on E-Bikes and Pedestrians February Newsletter

The NSW Government has reacted strongly to the numerous accidents and complaints about dangerous and anti-social e-bike activity, with emphasis on the growing number of throttle-only, high-powered e-bike activity.

The legislation introduced on 24th March will significantly enhance enforcement capacity for police and transport officers by extending seizure powers. If an e-bike can go faster than the 25kmh limit, it is considered an illegal bike and can be removed. If a device does not meet NSW's legal definition of a pedal-assisted, it can be seized even if it was bought in error.

Minister for Roads and Regional Transport, Jenny Aitchison, said once an e-bike is taken it is not given back. To be legal, the rider must primarily propel it by pedalling – the motor can't be the only thing moving the bike. It should only help the rider, like when going uphill or facing strong winds.

Choosing a legal e-bike | NSW Government

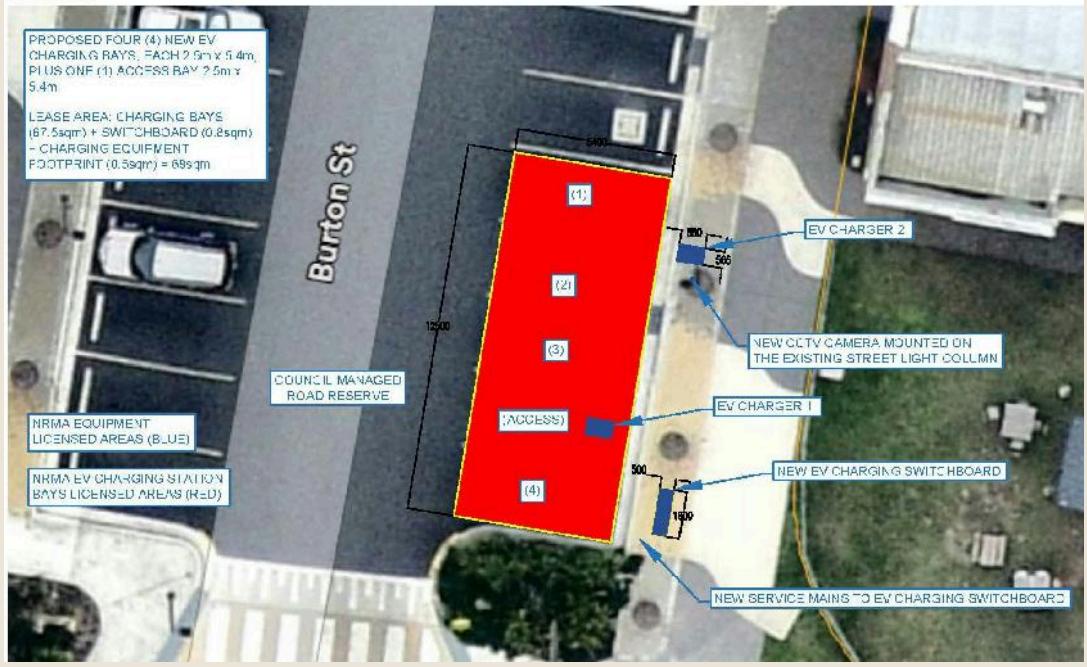
ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGING FOR BURTON STREET MALL

Council have advised an EV charging station is proposed for Burton Street mall at the Excellent Street entrance. The details

are:

* The NRMA will be responsible for the installation, infrastructure, signage and maintenance





* Plans provided indicate 2 Fast Charging stations on 5 car parking bays. Note: each charger has the capacity to charge 2 vehicles at the same time. It is to be confirmed whether we will commence with one, or two charging units. If we have 2 charging units, 4 vehicles can be on charge at the same time.

* The space required will be slightly larger than the existing parking bays to accommodate disability access.

Siting: EVCharger 1 is shown in a parking bay – thought to allow for the different placements on EVs of their charging ports. Whereas EVCharger 2 seems to be sited on the pedestrian pathway.

* Charging times & capacity: The minimum charge for fast charging is 75kW, and a typical charge takes around 15-45 minutes. The time required is influenced by the size and age of the vehicle. Newer EVs have larger battery capacities.

These chargers are not suitable for E Trucks.

Council are asking for community input on the installation of the EV Chargers in Burton Street. Click here to have your say and view more details of this proposal Get Involved

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BURTON STREET MALL aka Vincentia Shopping Centre

Lots of changes in Burton Street mall. There has been an important shift in the tenancy with an emphasis on health and well-being with a strong leaning towards Women's health.

Vanessa McKenzie operates Balanced Physiotherapy & Pilates. The Physiotherapy is located on the ground floor opposite Phoebe's Café, and Reform Pilates is located on level 1 upstairs.

Much of her work is managing and preventing musculoskeletal conditions, in addition to women's pelvic floor health, including pre and post-natal care. Vanessa's philosophy is movement is medicine.

https://www.balancedphysiopilates.com.au

Jo Marjoram is a Nurse Practitioner, operating as Jervis Bay Health Choices, specialising in Women's health. Jo is in Suite 3, upstairs – next to the Reform Pilates studio. She has 30 years' experience in nursing, midwifery and clinical research. https://jervisbayhealthchoices.com.au

Jo shares her space with

Jen Freeman who conducts Therapeutic Sound Treatments for women on Saturday mornings. Sound therapy supports relaxation and nervous system regulation. www.soundhealingsouthcoast.com

and

Kara Roberts, a Womens Health Dietitian – who attends the premises once a month, and is also available via Telehealth. https://www.pausenutrition.au

Oracle is a not for profit group, providing a therapeutic and healing space, supporting families and individuals to live a life free of Domestic, Family, or Sexual Violence, substance addiction, homelessness, isolation, disconnection, and exclusion. They provide tailored recovery and support pathways. They also have two fully equipped rooms to rent for external services. They are located on Level 1, suite 2.

https://oracle.org.au

Dr. Alexandra Putica in Shop 4, operates Calypso Chiropractic providing Chiropractic for athletes focusing on recovery, improving performance and preventing future injuries. Her treatment philosophy – to heal from within, assists all ages from toddlers to grandparents and includes Pre & Post Natal Care. https://calypsochiro.com.au

Be Relax Thai Massage is located on the ground at shop 3, providing a wide range of therapeutic and relaxation massage.

https://berelaxthaimassage.com.au

Good Things Organic is a retail shop and belongs in the health well-being domain. They provide the opportunity to buy in bulk numerous food stuffs and fresh organic fruit & veg. They also provide products that are unusual and not readily available. Some examples:

Boobie Bix – for breast feeding women to boost milk production and postpartum health.

Probiotics – fermented cheeses, and Sauerkraut in multiple flavour choices.

Kefir drinks (fermented drinks for gut health), Bone broth.

Located at shop 6, 10 Burton Street.
https://goodthingsorganic.com.au

One of the changes to the tenancy is the loss of the much valued key cutting & engraving business Ian's Keys. Apparently we can expect a beautician to occupy that space – Nichola, Beauty In Bloom.

LOCAL FILM OPPORTUNITY

Are you interested in being involved in the making of a film, either as an actor or by offering production support?

The plot of The Rock is described as a poignant, witty narrative of a First Nations encounter with white-man's law, which crosses historical and contemporary settings. It is a spiritual story that has humour and a magical twist.

This is an opportunity to support the Shoalhaven First Nations Film Festival. For a strong sense of connection and 'allyship' in

this filmmaking project, contact : sfnff2025@gmail.com

More information https://sfnff.wpcomstaging.com/the-rock

COUNCIL REVIEWS CCBs



CCBs in the Shoalhaven have joined forces and are working together to ensure community consultation continues. Options have been debated and assessed that strengthen the independence of community forums, protects volunteers, Council staff and Councillors.

Over time, legal uncertainty has emerged about the status of CCBs—specifically whether they are Council committees, or independent community groups. This lack of clarity creates legal and governance risks for both Council and participants. In response, Council has resolved to conclude the current CCB model of engagement from 1 July 2026 and consult with community and CCBs to determine the most appropriate alternative engagement model that should be for the long term.

While the CCB model has played an important role, Council is reviewing it to ensure community engagement is inclusive, effective and safe into the future.

Meetings of combined CCBs recently discussed this issue and have formulated a draft proposal to put to council

Council are asking for community input on the proposed model. Click here to have your say and view more details of this proposal Get Involved Your submission is required by 16th April 2026

EASTER is scheduled for the first week of April this year. It will be interesting to see if we will experience a busy time with visitor tourist numbers as in previous years, due to the fuel crisis – the cost for travellers, and availability of fuel.

However, it won't affect the popular PopUp Brewery:

BANDS ON THE BAY IS BACK FOR EASTER LONG WEEKEND



At the Vincentia Sailing Club, thanks to JB Brewery providing a PopUp Brewery. Good music, craft beers and interesting food trucks from Friday 3rd to 6th April. Money raised goes to Australian Marine Conservation Society.

BANDS PERFORMING:

- The Castaways 3rd of April 3pm – 6pm
- All The Fuss 4th of April 3pm-6pm
- The Bong Bong Allstars 5th of April 3pm - 6pm
- Salty 6th of April 3pm - 6pm

FOOD TRUCKS

- Nani’s Indonesian 3rd & 4th 12pm-7.30pm
- Blue Nami Japanese 5th & 6th 12pm-7.30pm

How do you feel about dogs fouling our walkways, beaches and other spaces and the dog owner makes no effort to clean it up?

It's bad when we tread on it and our shoes carry it home with us. Not only is it smelly and disgusting, but it is also a health hazard! One Vincentia family was so irritated they started their own protest:



Dog owners who don't pick up after their dog can be fined, but it is catching them at the right moment. Reporting a neighbour to authorities can often lead to ongoing hostility.

A study paper by Sydney University in June 2023 stated:

Dog faeces may contain microorganisms that cause illness in humans such as *Salmonella*, *E. coli*, *Giardia* and internal parasites.

Dog poo can also be a potential reservoir for antibiotic-resistant bacteria, meaning humans could develop bacterial infections that are difficult to treat through contact with dog faeces.

A recent Sydney study also identified dog faeces washed into storm water as a significant contributor to water pollution.

Note: The best way to dispose of dog faeces is in the bin. Composting requires high temperatures to neutralise the nasties in dog poop; home composts are unlikely to get hot enough. Burying it simply allows microorganisms to build up in the soil.

Is leaving dog poo in the street so bad? The science says it's even worse than you think - The University of Sydney

The University of Sydney report is here.

For all the dog owners out there, that do pick up after their dogs, your community thanks you



Our February newsletter mentioned DA26/1007 for 2 Barnett Street, Vincentia – reference new developments are changing the face of Vincentia. Judging by the large number of submissions lodged with Council there is major concern by residents and community about this DA. Maybe the inundation of submissions is the reason Council's DA Tracker has become unavailable.

DA Tracker Unavailable

Shoalhaven City Council DA Tracker has been down for several weeks. Council are working on updating their software and apologised for the inconvenience. They recommend contact

their Customer Experience Team on 1300 293 111. Or to view current applications use Council's Application Search

How to Access DA information

DA Search Instructions

Vincentia Ratepayers and Residents Association

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