SCENE WINTER 2017

scene@randwick.nsw.gov.au

Randwick City Council
Customer Service Centre

Address: 30 Frances Street, Randwick, NSW 2031
Hours: 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday
Phone: 1300 722 542 Fax: 9319 1510
Email: council@randwick.nsw.gov.au
Web: www.randwick.nsw.gov.au
Community Nursery: 9093 6250
Bowen Library, Maroubra: 9093 6400
Malabar Community Library: 9093 6120
Margaret Martin Library, Randwick: 9093 6100
Des Renford Leisure Centre: 9093 6300
SMS service request: 0400 722 542
Your Say Randwick: www.yoursayrandwick.com.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/randwickcitycouncil
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Twitter: www.twitter.com/randwickmayor
Twitter: www.twitter.com/randwickcouncil
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Randwick City Council services
Phone the Call Centre on 1300 722 542 for enquiries about:
• animals
• building and planning
• community info
• council events
• council meetings
• development applications
• footpaths
• garbage services
• graffiti removal
• green waste
• illegal dumping
• halls for hire
• waste service
• on-call clean ups
• parking
• open space hire
• precinct meetings
• parks and beaches
• rates
• trees
• roads

Councillor contacts

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0449 112 177

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Cr Murray Matson (Greens)
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Cr Scott Nash (Lib)
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Cr Harry Stavrinos (Lib)
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9962 4275

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Distributed to 63,000 properties in Randwick City.

Cover shot by Glenn Duffus
Oliver and William from Little Bay with Sandy.
Come to Beach Breaks in July for more sand sculptures.
Welcome to the winter edition of our community magazine SCENE

Randwick City is known for its alfresco lifestyle. We have so many parks, sporting reserves, beaches and coastal walks, it’s hard to resist the lure of the great outdoors. This is especially the case during the winter months when the crisp air and sunny days makes our area even more beautiful. If you missed Sandy the Sandman being built at Maroubra Beach recently, head down to the Beach Breaks Carnival on 23 July to check out more great sand sculptures.

If you prefer to take in the sight of a wintery ocean from a clifftop, put aside an hour or three to enjoy the Boora Point Walking Track that has opened up in the Malabar Headland National Park. See our story on page 8 for all the details on how to get there and the views you’ll enjoy. While you’re in the area, pop down to La Perouse to see the snake show, which has been running since the early 1900s. Page 6 will give you a hint of the serpents you’ll see in all their scaly glory.

Our Rangers do such a fantastic job, and we thought it’d be interesting to see the wide range of activities that make up a typical day. Have a read (page 12), you might be surprised at the different ways they ensure your time in Randwick is made safe and easy.

In the coming few months you may read more about Randwick Council’s legal action opposing the amalgamation with Waverley and Woollahra. Our position has always been that we are in a strong financial position to stand alone. Whatever the outcome, our focus will continue to be on providing you with the best amenities and services.

In the meantime, enjoy this issue of Scene Magazine. I hope it inspires you to enjoy all that Randwick City has to offer.

See you around!

Noel D’Souza
Mayor of Randwick
Sign up to eNews for your weekly fix of Randwick Council news, projects, events and more. 
randwick.nsw.gov.au/enews

**New synthetic sportsfield for Latham Park**
We recently installed all-weather synthetic turf at South Coogee’s Latham Park Sportsfield. The new surface will decrease the amount of maintenance required whilst increasing the number of hours the field can be used. The field is the second synthetic field in Randwick City following the Heffron Park soccer fields.

**Alcohol ban at Coogee now permanent**
Council voted to permanently ban alcohol at all beachside parks and reserves in Coogee. The ban now brings Coogee in line with similar restrictions at Bondi, Tamarama and Bronte beachside parks.

**Surf’s Up: Beach Breaks is back in town**
Put it in your diaries – Beach Breaks Carnival will hit Maroubra Beach on Sunday 23 July from 12pm. You’ll find surfing contests, market stalls, food and drink as well as the announcement of the 2017 inductees into the Surfing Walk of Fame. This is always an exciting event – don’t miss it!

**Randwick Town Hall gets an upgrade**
A key civic building since 1882, heritage-listed Randwick Town Hall has been re-roofed and upgraded with a lift to meet accessibility standards. The Town Hall hosts important Council functions but also serves as a community venue for citizenship ceremonies, cultural events, election polls, fundraising activities and fairs. With work almost finished, we look forward to welcoming you back inside soon!

**Basketball court for Coral Sea Park**
Following popular demand, a new basketball court is now open in Coral Sea Park, Maroubra! Basketball is a fast-growing sport with Council courts already open at Heffron Park and Woomera Reserve, Little Bay. The Maroubra court is adjoined by upgraded cricket nets and a re-turfed landscape between the two. You’ll be sure to have a ball!

**Look Out Before You Step Out**
Have you spotted these bright stickers in Randwick? The ‘Look Out Before You Step Out’ campaign aims to educate people to be mindful when crossing roads and to not be distracted by other people, events or handheld devices.

**Council election**
Randwick City residents will go to the polls to elect 15 councillors on Saturday 9 September. Make sure you check your enrolment details, especially if you’ve moved house in the last few years. For more info, visit www.votensw.info

**Chifley Sports Reserve**
Fitness fans in Chifley can now work out in the great outdoors thanks to a brand new outdoor fitness trail at Chifley Sports Reserve. With stations positioned around the kilometre-long track, you’re sure to work up a sweat – and the view isn’t bad either!
Fun Facts:

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<th><strong>1,500</strong></th>
<th><strong>160</strong></th>
<th><strong>1,987</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>trees planted</td>
<td>road and pavement repairs completed</td>
<td>tonnes of green waste collected</td>
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**Energy savings for residents**

Randwick residents can now access a new energy saving initiative to help reduce energy costs and usage around the home. ‘Our Energy Future’ gives residents access to a range of energy saving products, from LED lights, insulation, solar panels and much more. Free workshops are scheduled for August 23, September 21 and November 23 at the Lionel Bowen Library.

**Special street signs for 75th anniversary of WWII battle**

We’ve installed special signs on streets in South Maroubra with connections to the Battle of the Coral Sea as part of commemorations for the WWII conflict. The battle, fought at air and at sea between the Japanese Imperial Navy and US and Australian Forces, had a profound impact on the Randwick City community, with many servicemen coming from the area and depot and army encampments in place at Randwick racecourse.

**100 year vision for Anzac Parade to be completed**

A vision for Anzac Parade proposed a century ago will finally be realised with plans underway for a monument at the southern end of the Parade at La Perouse. The 100-year plans came to light when the daughter of an Anzac, Margaret Hope, discovered the lost vision when researching the centenary of the Anzac Obelisk in Moore Park. This was intended to be one of two memorials at each end of Anzac Parade, dedicated to those who have served our country. Council has formed a Trust to develop concepts for the memorial.

**Western walking track at Malabar Headland commenced**

Avid bushwalkers and Sunday afternoon strollers alike will be able to enjoy a new 1.15km walking track connecting south Maroubra Beach with Malabar Beach. Comprising of a boardwalk, steps and seating offering spectacular views over the Headland, construction is already underway. The track will link with the National Parks & Wildlife Service Boora Point Walking track which opened in February (turn to page 8 to find out more).

**Heffron Tennis Centre**

We’re planning a new tennis centre at Maroubra’s Heffron Park. The facility will replace the current tennis centre, and will include an acrylic surface show court with spectator seating, nine courts with acrylic or synthetic turf surface, a clubhouse and a new landscaped setting.

**Thumbs up**

Outdoor exercise (try the outdoor gyms at Maroubra, Clovelly & Chifley Sports Reserve)
Basketball
Winter sunrises

**Thumbs down**

Losing your car in the car park
Scorching hot coffee
Smoking at bus stops
Stepping into his custom-built grass pit, surrounded by corrugated steel just a metre high, snake man removes a number of reptiles from a bag to present to a captivated audience lined around the perimeter. Tiger, brown, red-belly – no serpent is off-limits.

Beginning in the early 1900s, the show has come to be synonymous with one family – the Canns – although the original snake man was ‘Professor’ Frederick Fox, whose antidote to snake venom took him around the globe. When he died from a snake bite in 1914, George Cann, a legendary collector of Sydney-dwelling snakes, took on the show.

The show remained in the Cann family right up until 2010, when the volunteers of the Hawkesbury Herpetological Society took over the running, taking the role of snake man John Mostyn, Andrew Melrose, Neville Burns and, pictured here, Rob Ambrose. Rob’s earliest childhood memories are of watching the snake show with his grandfather at La Perouse and he now works as a professional snake catcher in the Sydney region.

Snake bites are an ongoing hazard, and indeed as part of his show Rob demonstrates how to fit a compression bandage should a bite occur. “There’s a risk, but not as much a risk as those who first started the show used to face,” he says. “We have a lot of measures in place, as well as the development of first aid, on our side.”

With the setting sun on his back and an enraptured audience clamouring for a closer (but not too close) look, snake man is sure to always draw a crowd; a crowd who leave with a lasting memory of an unassuming pit in a place named after a Frenchman, where they saw a bloke wrangling deadly snakes. They will talk of it for years to come.

Catch it Sundays and public holidays from 1.30pm.
Randwick City Council has transformed a former bowling club in Kensington into a modern community centre just a stone’s throw away from bustling Anzac Parade.

The centre features two hireable rooms catering for up to 100 and 130 people and looks out over beautifully landscaped gardens complete with lemon trees, large grassed areas and a basketball court.

The new centre has been built retaining the former bowling club building brick walls, roof and historic foundation stones, but adding modern elements such as solar panels and rainwater irrigation.

Randwick Mayor Noel D’Souza said the sympathetic conversion is a boost for Kensington and provided much needed open space.

“Kensington is one of our area’s most beautiful suburbs, but there’s a shortage of open space and places for the community to gather,” Mayor D’Souza said.

The former Kensington Bowling Club closed its doors in 2013 and the land reverted to Council.

In 2014 Council conducted detailed community consultation and developed a plan for a new community centre with substantial open space joining the park, oval and playground.

“We listened carefully to the community and I think we’ve come up with a great new facility that’s got something for everyone,” Mayor D’Souza said. “The centre is now integrated seamlessly into the park providing more space for locals to enjoy.”

The Centre is available to book between 8am and 9pm by community groups at subsidised rates and is also available for private events and celebrations. Council will host weekly community programs including activities such as Tai-Chi, exercise and seniors activities.

An all-abilities outdoor gym has also been constructed next to the centre in Kensington Park.

Want to hire it?
Give us a call on 1300 722 542 or email council@randwick.nsw.gov.au

OFFICIAL OPENING
Saturday 8 July 2017
10am-1pm

Free activities, food, entertainment and fun for kids. Check out the new community centre and catch up with neighbours.
Time to make tracks
Malabar Headland National Park

**Overall rating: ****

**VIEWS:** ✭✭✭✭✭  
**ACCESSIBILITY:** ✹

**WALKING GRADE:** ✹  
**PARKING:** ✭✭✭✭

**Where:** Malabar Headland National Park  
**How far:** 3.7km one way/1.5-2 hours.  
**Difficulty level:** Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Occasional steps, short, steep hills, limited signage.

**Entry/exit points:** South Maroubra Surf Life Saving Club car park or Fishermans Rd car park, Malabar.

**What you’ll see:** Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub, historic war relics, maybe even a whale!

**What to bring:** Walking shoes, hat, water, camera.

**Amenities:** There are toilets and picnic tables at either end of the track, but nothing along the trail itself.

**Access:** ✹

**Parking:** ✭✭✭✭

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_We all love to don our active wear on the weekends, so why not put those lycra outfits to good use by participating in one of Sydney’s unofficial sports – going for a coastal walk._

Sydney’s newest National Park, Malabar Headland, provides a spectacular bush escape with the National Parks and Wildlife Service opening the Boora Point Walking Track earlier this year.

This track provides the first public access to the Headland for more than 100 years since it was closed for use as a rifle range.

It offers sweeping views up and down the coast and the possibility of seeing migrating whales. Between June and July you may glimpse a pod of humpback whales or – if you’re super lucky – the southern right whale as they head north to breed. From August until October those same whales will head south past the headland towards their feeding grounds, possibly with little ones in tow.

The Headland also contains some historic WWII relics from when it was used as a defensive position known as the Boora Point Battery.

Remember, this is currently an out and back track, so you’ll either have to double back to reach your car, or use another transport option at the other end.

Fortunately, this won’t be a problem for very long. Randwick City Council has started work on the Western Walking Track, and once that opens you’ll be able to do a full circuit of Malabar Headland and access the Headland at all times.

**Don’t forget:**  
The Boora Point Walking Track closes when the Rifle Range is in use so please check safety messages and alerts on the National Parks website before visiting. [www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)
Taking care of ‘kidness’

The business of finding a childcare centre that suits a family’s needs can be nerve-racking. Take our expert’s advice, however, and it becomes child’s play.
When it comes to choosing the right childcare centre, trust your senses, says the Co-ordinator of Randwick Council’s Moverly Children’s Centre, Ada Chin.

**Sight**

You need to like the look of the space, Ada says. It should be clean with open, warm and welcoming areas that allow different activities to take place.

Also, watch the interaction between staff and children. Do you see sustained conversations, eye contact and nurturing touch? Do you get a sense the staff have genuine relationships with the children?

**Sound**

Listen to how the children interact, because they model the behaviour they see around them. Take note about how they speak to each other – are they bossy or kind? Do you hear children engaging one another without needing to be supervised? This is a good sign, says Ada, because it shows they are applying what they have learned about dealing with others respectfully.

**Touch**

Texture is an important way for children to learn about the world through sensory experience. Are there play items like play-doh and paint? Or toys made of wood, fabric or another texture aside from plastic? Are there soft areas for the bubs to roll around on and explore the world on their tummies?

**Taste**

A good centre keeps an eye on the eating habits of their little ones and will switch out the options that are being left on the plate. This also shows that a centre offers variety in their menu, which prevents kids from getting bored with their food options.

Are there fruit trees, herbs or vegetables grown in the outside area? Children gain a greater appreciation of food when they can see it grow and ripen.

**Smell**

While most childcare centres use offsite catering for their meals, some, like Moverly Children’s Centre, have their own chef and kitchen. Ada says this offers another learning experience. Children are drawn to the kitchen to ask what is on the menu and will want to write what it is on a whiteboard. While watching the action in the kitchen they also come to understand that cooking is a vital part of meal preparation. So find out if there is the potential for your child to learn more about food at their centre.

**Moverly Children’s Centre,**

1 Argyle Crescent, South Coogee, 9093 6150
moverlychildrenscentre@randwick.nsw.gov.au
Not just the parking patrol

Think Council Rangers only deal with illegally-parked cars? Think again. As local government’s regulatory enforcers, Rangers deal with an array of different business owners, residents and visitors to ensure everyone can enjoy Randwick City safely.

We followed Ranger Kevin James to see what a typical day involves...

06:00AM Kevin’s first job of the day is to follow up a complaint about a barking dog. The resident has sent in a diary of noise complaints. Kevin visits the property and spends the next 35 minutes recording what he can hear. He’ll continue to do this for about a week or so, before deciding on the next course of action.

09:15AM After a quick pit stop back to the office to file some paperwork and grab a coffee, Kevin heads off to carry out lifejacket patrols. Since December 2016, it’s the law to wear a lifejacket when fishing from rocks in Randwick City. Randwick Rangers and police from the Marine Area Command regularly speak with rock fishers to make sure they’re wearing jackets.

10:45AM Kevin visits a business on Coogee Bay Road after a complaint about signage blocking the footpath. A-frame signs can become trip hazards to pedestrians and make access difficult for those with prams and mobility scooters, so it’s essential businesses understand the law.

11:05AM Another lifejacket check, this time at lesser-known spots at South Coogee and North Maroubra. A Mandarin-speaking fisherman isn’t wearing a lifejacket – thankfully, Council has safety advice written in six languages, so Kevin is able to offer the man some guidance about staying safe.

11:30AM A car with no plates has been abandoned in Maroubra. A notice of intent is placed on the windscreen, which gives the owner the opportunity to contact Council if the vehicle is not abandoned. Under NSW law, Council must follow a complex process before a vehicle can be impounded.

12:15PM A big part of Kevin’s job is reuniting lost dogs with their owners, a hugely satisfying task that is only possible when an animal is microchipped. Thankfully Lulu, a Staffordshire Terrier cross we meet at Little Bay, is microchipped and complies with a wag of the tail when Kevin uses his handheld scanner to check.

01:20PM Kevin heads off to investigate a report of a van with no licence plates parked in a residential street. Unregistered vehicles carry a $600 police fine, but on closer inspection, the van is home to a chap who has fallen on hard times. Screwing up the notice of intent he was about to place on the windscreen, Kevin instead proffers his business card and some supportive words, putting the man in contact with a range of organisations that provide support for people experiencing homelessness.

02:10PM Kevin visits a building site where signage isn’t being displayed. Every building site is required by law to display contact information for the site manager so they can be alerted to any issues relating to the site.

02:35PM With all his visits done for the day, Kevin makes his way back to the office to catch up on paperwork and a well-deserved bite to eat, before clocking off at 3.00pm.

Responsible for a myriad of functions, no two days are the same for Randwick City’s Rangers’ team. Say hello next time you see one walking the streets – after all, they have your safety in their best interests.
We love seeing your snaps of #RandwickCity! Share with us on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook and we’ll re-share the best ones.

SNAPPED

@dwthom
@isabelladobozy
@wongymark1
@chenwang_1019
@applebee2010

THE BIG RANDWICK CROSSWORD

**DOWN**
1. This family is synonymous with the Snake Pit at La Perouse (4)
2. Another name for a racing track, and which is now the site of a park in Maroubra (8)
4. Sydney’s ‘iconic eccentric’, born in 1902, who worked at the Little Sisters of the Poor home in Randwick (3, 5)
6. Another name for the Rabbitohs team (7)
8. Fred Williams Reserve Playground is located in which suburb? (10)
11. The Ivor Rowe Rockpool is where in Randwick City? (5, 6)
12. Randwick’s very own Olympic gold medallist swimmer in the 1912 Games (5, 6)
15. Collective name given to electronic goods that can be recycled at Council’s Recycling Centre (6)
19. Always swim between the red and ______ flags at a lifeguarded beach (6)
20. Maroubra’s surfers are commonly referred to as ___ Boys (3)

**ACROSS**
3. Number of Councillors elected every four years in Randwick City (7)
5. First name of marathon swimmer Mr Renford (3)
6. _____ Breaks, our annual surfing-themed Carnival at Maroubra (5)
7. We’ve just opened new synthetic sports fields at this South Coogee Park (10)
9. We’re building a new centre at Heffron Park for this racquet sport (6)
10. The site in Coogee where in 1935 a shark regurgitated a human arm bearing a distinctive tattoo (8)
13. Randwick City’s first Mayor (6, 6)
14. Council’s Administration Building is on this street (6)
17. The Coast Hospital was renamed after royalty (6, 5)
18. Playground in Coogee named after national rugby union star (10)
20. Lionel _____ Library (5)
21. Mayor D’Souza’s first name (4)
22. Number of pieces of gym equipment at the Clovelly Outdoor Gym (8)
23. Randwick’s earliest established picture theatres were here (10)
Randwick overturns daytime bathing ban

Randwick’s motto semper prima, meaning ‘always first’, was certainly true in December 1902 when Randwick Council became the first in the state to permit daylight bathing at its beaches. At the time, daytime bathing was not legally permitted due to concerns about appropriate attire. Skinny dipping was a common complaint – particularly at Clovelly, then known as Little Coogee. Council and plain-clothed police officers launched crackdowns in 1900 to catch nude bathers and in 1902 the Minister for Lands, Paddy Crick, ordered an iron fence capped with barbed wire be built to conceal bathers from public view. Randwick’s overturn of the daytime bathing law was on the basis swimmers were clothed ‘from the neck and shoulders to the knees with a suitable bathing dress or costume’.

A queasy legacy

This rock ledge in Little Bay is known by locals as Doctors. As legend has it, doctors from the nearby Prince Henry Hospital would dispose of unwanted medical waste here in the dead of night.

The power and the blackouts

Built in 1929 in Matraville on the shores of Yarra Bay, Bunnerong Power Station became the state’s biggest power producer by the 1950s. However the station was plagued with problems and couldn’t keep up with demand. Sydneysiders endured almost nightly blackouts and the plant was upgraded numerous times to increase its output and by the mid 1960s had become the largest power producer in the southern hemisphere. With the completion of newer power stations, the station was progressively decommissioned from 1973 and eventually demolished in 1987.

When it happened...

1838
The village of Coogee is officially gazetted.

1860
The population of Randwick hits 800.

1918
William Inglis & Son buy Newmarket.

1925
The Maroubra Speedway opens.

1935
A shark at the Coogee Aquarium Baths mysteriously regurgitates a human arm with a distinctive tattoo.

They said it

“Maroubra has the finest beach around Sydney – Coogee is not a patch on it.”
Randwick Mayor James Robertson, circa 1890

“People will be able to have their little fowl yard and their garden and within 20-25 minutes of leaving their work in Sydney ... be able to reach home by tram, and so will practically be living in the country.”
Minister for Lands William Paddy Crick on the benefits of buying property in Maroubra in 1901.

History in numbers...

3051
The number of houses built in Randwick City between 1910 and 1914 – doubling the housing stock to 6188.

5
The number of fatalities at the Maroubra Speedway. It was closed in the 1930s and is now Coral Sea Park.

£5,000
The cost to build the Coogee shark enclosure in 1929, it was removed in 1942 as no spare metal was available to maintain it in wartime conditions.

1pm
The Saturday finish time for Council labourers in 1882 – the same year they were also paid to work Christmas Day.

Information for this section is obtained from “Pictorial History Randwick” by Joan Lawrence published in 2001 and “Randwick” by Pauline Curby published in 2009 to celebrate 150 years of local government in Randwick City. Both books are available for loan from Randwick City Library and “Randwick” is also available for sale. Phone 9093 6400.
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<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<td>Wed 28</td>
<td>Author Talks: An Evening with Michael Bendon</td>
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<td>Sat 8</td>
<td>Kensington Park Community Centre Official Opening</td>
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<td>Beach Breaks Carnival</td>
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<td>Randwick Town Hall</td>
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<td>TUE 1</td>
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<td>Royal Randwick Racecourse</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost: Free entry for local residents and ratepayers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 3</td>
<td>Eco-Living Fair and Garden Awards</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9.30am-3pm</td>
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<td>Randwick Community Centre</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cost: Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 11</td>
<td>Card Making with Gail Kenward</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5.30pm-6.30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lionel Bowen Library, Maroubra</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cost: $4 per card</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 15 – Sun 17</td>
<td>Nox Art Exhibition</td>
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<td>6pm-9pm</td>
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<td>Randwick Environment Park</td>
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<td>Cost: Free</td>
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</table>
FREE EVENT

BEACH BREAKS CARNIVAL

SUN 23 JULY MAROUBRA BEACH 12-4.30PM

SURFING WALK OF FAME  SAND SCULPTURES  MARKET STALLS
MOUTH WATERING  FOOD  KIDS ACTIVITIES  RIDES  MUSIC
STATE TITLE SURF COMPETITION

AND HEAPS MORE!

FOR INFORMATION WWW>RANDWICK.NSW.GOV.AU 1300 722 542