

## Coastwide Civil boosts employment in Shell Cove

### Locals creating a world-class project on their own doorstep

- ◆ Globally successful South Coast company leads boat harbour construction team
- ◆ Three locals give their perspective on the new world-class boating precinct

#### SYDNEY, 2 MAY 2018

Great people make great places and in the case of Shell Cove, the Illawarra's newest coastal community, a group of passionate locals are behind the creation of a world-class boat harbour and marina precinct.

Local company **Coastwide Civil** has worked on the civil, marine and earthworks at Shell Cove since the project's inception. From the first roads and subdivisions, to the creation of the groyne and breakwall, the team from Albion Park are now busy dredging the channel and connecting the ocean to the inner harbour.

Coastwide Civil Director Craig Rogers uses local trades and services whenever possible at Shell Cove, a joint development between Frasers Property Australia and Shellharbour City Council.

"We took this job on because it was on our doorstep and it is the nature of work in which we've built our reputation across Australia. The challenging marine site combined with major earthworks was right up our alley in terms of specialist capability," Mr Rogers says.

"Once completed, the community will have a world class facility and lifestyle, not to mention the creation of jobs and buy in from all of those involved in the construction phase.

"The local area benefits because so much of our machinery and workforce base is local. It takes a huge effort to keep it all operational, with auto electricals, mechanical workshops and parts suppliers all benefiting from the influx of work. We endeavour to use all local trades and services," he says.

#### Staff of Coastwide Civil talk about working locally

Bernadette Cardillo rides 4km to work from her Barrack Heights home. Now a qualified engineer, Ms Cardillo completed a two-year traineeship as a site engineer at Shell Cove.

"We all work hard on site and then after work I get to spend time with family instead of being on a project further away in the city," she said.

"To work in my local area means in a few years I can say *"I was a part of that"*. Commuting is one big difference for this project but really it's about creating a community and having an impact where people can enjoy themselves, that makes it such a great opportunity."

For Lachlan Rogers, a 17-year old civil construction trainee from Kiama, the Shell Cove project is his first job since leaving school. Working locally means Mr Rogers can travel to work with friends and build up his L-plate licence driving hours.

"My friends and family are interested in what I do and they can see it unfold because it's close by," he says.

"In years to come people will not ever really know the amount of work put in but I've learnt pipe laying, screening material, how to build a breakwall and so much more."

Clinton Alexander, an 18-year old apprentice plant mechanic from Dapto, says Shell Cove brings a great deal to the local area.

"The pace of construction is fast and I'm excited to see people spending money while they're here," he says.

“I’m working 15 minutes from home and I get asked all the time by people I know about how it’s unfolding.”

Coastwide Civil has grown progressively to become one of the leading specialist marine and civil contractors in NSW and it supports the local community in many ways.

While working on Shell Cove, the team has worked with Frasers Property Australia to engage schools, TAFE colleges and universities, holding a range of tours and study days. Students have engaged first hand in construction and engineering works.

“We are committed to employing youth in the local area, providing the opportunity for them to gain degrees and trades with first-hand experience of working on such a major boat harbour project. It is extremely satisfying to see the trainees from the start of the project now working as fully qualified engineers and tradespeople,” Mr Rogers says.

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