

The Channel

your port newsletter

Dedicated cruise terminal to welcome cruise passengers

Port of Newcastle welcomes the NSW Government's commitment of \$12.7 million for the construction of a permanent multi-purpose cruise terminal facility at the Port of Newcastle. The funding was secured as part of a joint application with the Port Authority of NSW to the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund.

A permanent terminal will position Newcastle as an international cruise destination and secure the long term future of cruise shipping in the Hunter. According to the Australian Cruise Association, cruise shipping currently delivers around \$11 million per annum to the local economy.

The terminal will be built at the Channel Berth, within the Port's Carrington Precinct. This location meets current and future cruise industry requirements including berthing for vessels up to 320 metres in length. Passengers on board the visiting cruise ships will also be able to enjoy the sweeping views of the Newcastle Foreshore, the city skyline and Stockton Beach.

"Port of Newcastle's cruise terminal will enable the Port to attract more cruise ships. Purpose-built facilities will provide a professional welcome for passengers and will position Newcastle as a future home port where passengers can start and finish their cruise in Newcastle," said Geoff Crowe, CEO of Port of Newcastle.

The funding will enable the construction of a purpose-built terminal of approximately 3,000 square metres and a car park. It will



Pictured: Cruise terminal concept visualisation.

also deliver improved accessibility for the resupply of ship provisions, such as fresh foods and other consumables, when cruise ships call at the Port of Newcastle. When not in use by cruise ships, the terminal could be used for occasional events, navy vessel visits or other port uses.

Construction of the cruise terminal is due to commence in 2017 and will be operational in late 2018.

Visit www.portofnewcastle.com.au or log on to Port of Newcastle's YouTube channel to watch a video celebrating the announcement.

The 2017 cruise schedule is now live on the Port of Newcastle website.

Why don't cruise ships berth on the Newcastle side of the harbour?

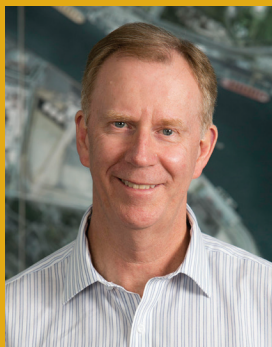
Smaller cruise ships once berthed at Honeysuckle, prior to 2010. However, cruise ships have outgrown this location as they have increased in size and passenger numbers.

For example, due to navigation restrictions, the *Celebrity Solstice* is too big to access the Newcastle-side of the port.

Deep water access and plenty of back up land for coaches and stevedore operations is essential for today's generation of cruise ships, which the Channel Berth provides.

CEO Message

The NSW Government's announcement that it will commit \$12.7 million from the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund to a permanent cruise terminal is a fantastic outcome for our region.



I would like to acknowledge the many port, tourism, business, cruise and government representatives who have contributed to this result via many years of planning, expertise and advocacy. We are also grateful for the community's interest in cruise shipping and its support for a dedicated cruise terminal. Construction of the terminal is due to commence in mid 2017 and will be completed in 2018.

In June, the State and Federal Governments jointly committed \$800,000 for new mooring bollards at the Channel Berth which will enable the Port to host larger, heavier ships carrying up to 3,500 passengers. Work on the new bollards will commence before the end of the year.

I look forward to the new and exciting opportunities that the construction of a dedicated cruise terminal will bring to our community.

Newcastle is a diverse port with 25 cargoes and we are committed to contributing to the growth and diversification of the Hunter region's economy. A dedicated cruise terminal is an important step towards that.

A stylized, handwritten signature of Geoff Crowe in a dark grey or black color. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'G' being particularly large and prominent.

Geoff Crowe
Port of Newcastle CEO



Pictured: The wind turbines were carefully unloaded and strapped to waiting trucks at the Mayfield 4 berth.

Wind turbines arrive

Keep an eye out in coming months for some interesting cargo that will be coming through the Port of Newcastle.

Eight wind turbines arrived in the Port of Newcastle on 15 October onboard the vessel *MV Erna Oldendorff*.

The shipment is the first of eight to arrive between October 2016 and May 2017, bound for the Goldwind White Rock Wind Farm near Glen Innes in the New England Tablelands. The wind turbine blades are the largest to arrive in Australia to date, each measuring 59.5 metres in length.

Port of Newcastle's CEO, Geoff Crowe, said it demonstrates the Port of Newcastle's capability to import large and heavy cargoes for developments happening around New South Wales.

"The Port of Newcastle will handle 70 wind turbines for Goldwind's White Rock Project and is well placed to handle more large project cargo imports to support wind farm, property, rail and road developments happening around the state," said Geoff.

"Previous project cargo imports through the Port of Newcastle include a tunnel boring machine for the Sydney north west rail link, locomotives, rail and passenger wagons, mining machinery, large tanks and boilers, transformers and prefabricated structures."

The cargoes will be imported via the Mayfield 4 berth and stored on the Mayfield Site before being transported via truck to Glen Innes. The next shipment of wind turbines is expected this month and the best vantage point to view the turbines arrive will be the Newcastle and Stockton Foreshore.

A day in the life

Surveying the Port with Senior Hydrographic Surveyor, Robert Kelly

If the *David Allan* dredger is the work horse behind the ongoing maintenance of Port of Newcastle's deep water channel, then the survey team is its eyes and ears.

Working alongside the *David Allan*, Port of Newcastle's survey team provides information to guide the development of the dredging program and priority areas in consultation with the Harbour Master.

Senior Hydrographic Surveyor, Robert Kelly, is assisted by a team of experienced surveyors and the Port's custom-built survey vessel, the *JT Gowlland* in mapping the harbour floor.

Utilising a multi-beam echo sounder, inertial motion sensor and GPS positioning system, the *JT Gowlland* provides the data for Robert and his team to use in the production of hydrographic plans of the channel and the berths for the Harbour Master. These plans are vital for detecting any navigational hazards and the areas in the harbour that require maintenance dredging due to siltation.

Additionally, Robert and his team undertake land and engineering surveys, ensure navigation aids are correctly positioned and assist with the environmental management of the Port.



Q&A with Robert

What led you to this role?

I completed a Bachelor of Surveying at the University of Newcastle and obtained my Registered Land Surveyor's qualification.

My previous experience was in land-based surveying so when the role opened up at what was then Newcastle Port Corporation, I saw it as a great opportunity to broaden my skills.

What does a day in the life of a Port of Newcastle Hydrographic Surveyor look like? A typical day would involve operating the multi-beam echosounder on board the *JT Gowlland* to collect hydrographic data that is then validated and processed in the office. There is a good mix of field and office based work.

What advice can you give to students who may be interested in this role? A strong interest in mathematics is essential along with the desire to work outdoors as part of a team – even in cold, windy and rainy weather conditions.



Pictured: All in a day's work. Robert on the water aboard the *JT Gowlland* and back in the Port of Newcastle office (inset top right)

Spring clean for community facilities

2016 marks the third year that Port of Newcastle has sponsored CityServe and its team of volunteers.

CityServe is an annual event held in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie in partnership with Councils, business and community organisations.

The projects are held across October and target community facilities, such as surf clubs and sporting grounds, schools, childcare centres, community halls and parks and street spaces that need cleaning, painting, repairing or just a general spruce up.

This year, in addition to Port of Newcastle's financial sponsorship of CityServe, staff rolled up their sleeves to assist with a project in Carrington.

Staff gave the bollards along the Throsby Creek walkway a fresh coat of paint, taking advantage of the spring weather while supporting a great local cause. Thank you to all the CityServe volunteers for the great work that you do.



Pictured: A scene from Port of Newcastle's new education website.

Learn about the Port online

Port of Newcastle has developed an interactive education resource accessible via the Port of Newcastle website.

The Smart Board responsive online tool explains the features of the Port to students, from the cargo handled at the shipping berths to interesting facts about the Port's operations.

Visit www.portofnewcastle.com.au, click on 'Discover the Port' or go directly to the site at www.discovertheport.com.au to check it out.

Celebrating Our Hunter River

Port of Newcastle was proud to support the 'Our Hunter River' education event, as part of Newcastle Art Gallery's celebration of the *JOHN OLSEN: The City's Son* exhibition.

Local students took part in a unique educational experience as part of the event, recreating the Hunter River as a temporary art installation in Civic Park on Friday 4 November. Class groups used a mixture of new and recycled art materials to create sections of the river.

Port of Newcastle was pleased to partner with Newcastle Art Gallery in celebrating the iconic Hunter River, its connection to the Port and the Novocastrians that live, work and play around our working harbour.

Find out more www.nag.org.au.

CONTACT US

6 Newcomen Street Newcastle NSW 2300
PO Box 790 Newcastle NSW 2300

P: +61 2 4908 8200
E: community@portofnewcastle.com.au
W: www.portofnewcastle.com.au

