

Central Coast top 100 Most Influential people as voted by you

THE votes have been tallied, the results are in and the Central Coast has decided. From today the Express Advocate can begin to reveal the region's top 100 Most Influential people as voted by you. Prepare to be shocked and amazed.

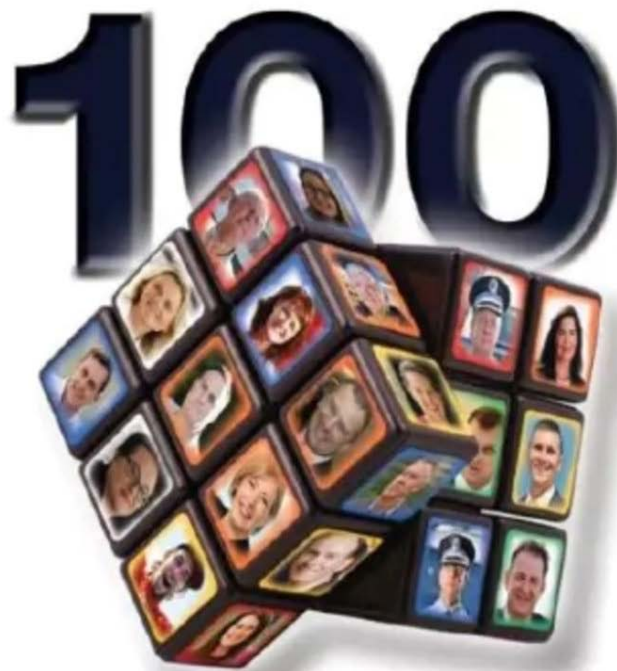
Richard Noone

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Central Coast Gosford Express Advocate

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Revealed: positions 21-100 of the Central Coast's Most Influential people

Central Coast

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From today the *Express Advocate* is revealing positions 21-100 of the Most Influential people as voted by you.

The response to our poll — the first to identify the Coast's true movers and shakers — has been nothing short of phenomenal, with a total of 167 individuals nominated during the two-week online voting period earlier this month.

Those who broke into the top 100 made their name in fields as diverse as politics, business, sport, medicine, arts, registered clubs and manufacturing.

And what is particularly telling about the top 100 is the quality and calibre of many of those who did not make the final cut.

We asked readers to nominate someone who either had a significant impact in the past year or was likely to do so in the next 12 months — and someone who has done something specific to influence our community beyond just holding a powerful job.

No list of this kind can ever be truly definitive or achieve an absolute consensus.

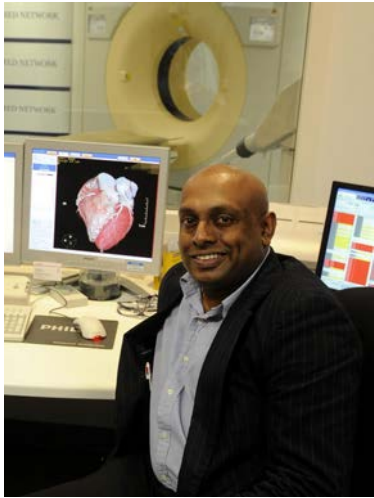
But what this list does succeed in doing is serving as a starting point for a conversation about the kind of people who do and can play a major role in shaping the future of the Central Coast.

And *Express Advocate* online readers did not disappoint, with some of the region's unsung heroes — those who let their actions speak louder than their words and those who command influence from behind the spotlight — ranking highly among the more familiar household names.

Next week we begin the top 20 countdown, with exclusive online profile articles, photos and videos.

Thank you for your votes, congratulations to everyone who made the list — and prepare to be shocked and amazed as we count down to the Coast's inaugural number one most influential person.

#50 — Dr Brendan Gunalingham: Medical. Heart surgeon.



Brendan Gunalingham

Reader nomination: *“Of his influence in the health sector on the Coast especially in the field of interventional cardiology. Dr Gunalingham has pioneered a procedure on the Central Coast that can assist in preventing strokes, with the introduction of the Watchmans Implant. The ‘Watchman’ is a permanent heart implant that helps stop clots that form in the heart travelling to the brain in patients with Atrial Fibrillation. Dr Gunalingham performs this procedure at Gosford Private Hospital. Given there are currently only 13 Hospitals performing this procedure across the entire Nation, this is evidence of Dr Gunalingham influence in Gosford. Dr Gunalingham is in influence is less patients travelling off the Coast for this procedure and a most influential Heart Specialist that provides training for other cardiologists in Australia and internationally.”*