

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Wednesday 12 April 2017

### **PROPOSAL TO ASSIGN A RESERVE NAME**

The Geographical Names Board is calling for public comment on a proposal by the Central Coast Council to name a reserve in Woy Woy.

Chair of the Geographical Names Board, Narelle Underwood, said feedback is being sought on the proposal to name the site at Trafalgar Avenue as *The Runway*.

It is the site of an old airstrip constructed in 1942 by the Australian Army. It was part of a coastal network of landing grounds for military aircraft travelling along the eastern seaboard of Australia. It ran roughly adjacent to Trafalgar Avenue from McMasters Road in the north, to Oxford Street in the south.

The original purpose of the airfield was to house eight bombers used for coastal patrol activities however was designated as an Emergency Landing Ground (ELG) as the threat of invasion diminished.

After the war the airstrip was used for car and motorbike races and horse riding, and Marshall Airways conducted joy flights on weekends. In 1950 a Tiger Moth bi-plane overshot the runway and crashed into the roof of a house in Nelson Street.

Mrs Underwood said the board is encouraging community comment before it considers the proposal.

“It is important that place names reflect the character and history of the local area and community. We want to make sure everyone has an opportunity to provide their feedback on the proposed name,” she said.

Details of the proposal can be viewed and submissions lodged on the Geographical Names Board’s website at [www.gnb.nsw.gov.au](http://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au).

Alternatively written submissions may be lodged with the Secretary, Geographical Names Board, 346 Panorama Ave, Bathurst, NSW, 2795.

The closing date for submissions is 15 May 2017.

**Media: 0438 108 797**