

## City plan reviews roundabouts

A roundabout at the corner of Ocean Beach Rd and Railway St may be built before a roundabout at Ocean Beach Rd and Dunban Rd, Gosford Council's meeting on June 13 was told.

Discussions were still to be held with the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) over the priority of the two projects.

Council officers reported that depending on the outcome of the discussions, funding for the Railway St roundabout may be brought forward to this year's budget and the Dunban Rd roundabout re-programmed for two years time.

Council had sent a submission to the RTA seeking black spot funding, but had not yet received a reply.

A plan and estimate was also being prepared for the construction of a single lane roundabout at the intersection of Victoria Rd and Charlton St, to include "provision for heavy vehicle turning movement", the council meeting was told.

Details of the plans were revealed in a report accompanying the Council's "City Management Plan 2000-2005", which was adopted with amendments after community consultation.

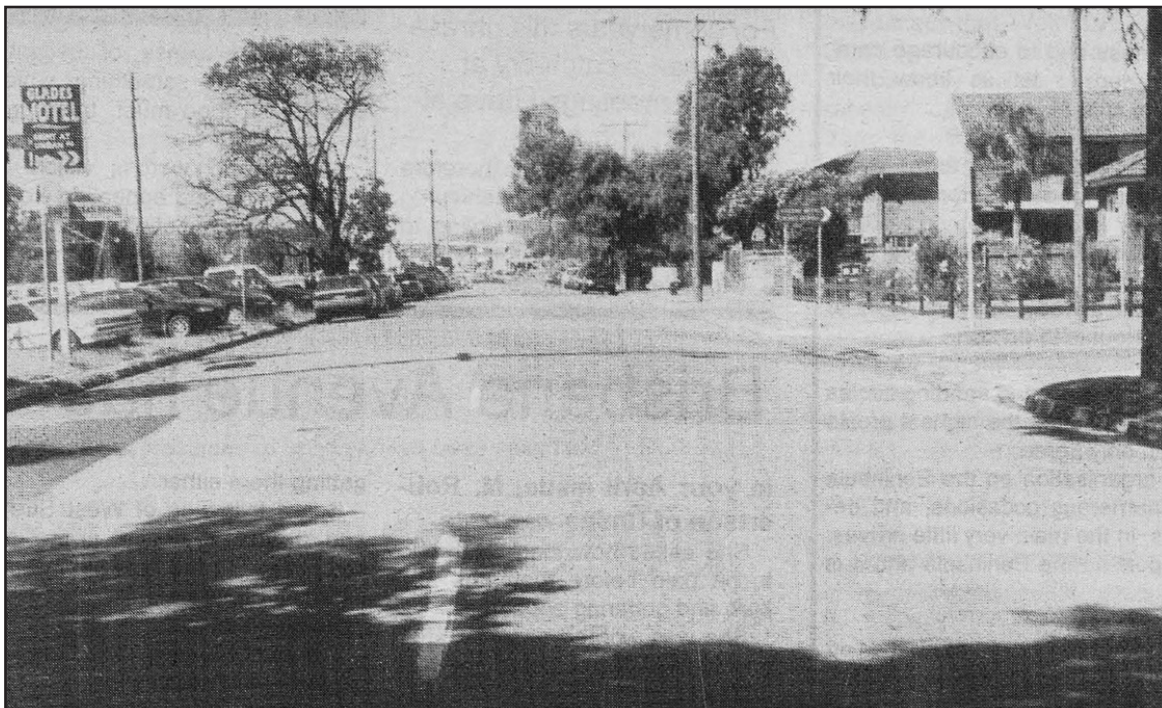
An abridged version of the plan will be sent to ratepayers with the July rates notice.

The management plan includes an interim capital works program, Council's recurrent and operational budget, state of environment report and its revenue policy.

Two public workshops were held during the public exhibition period of the draft, one of which was held at Umina.

The report listed some of the key points made at the workshops and the council officers' response:

It was requested that the strategic plan should indicate the release dates of the various sub-



Gosford Council is seeking Federal Blackspot funding for a roundabout for Railway Stand Ocean Beach Rd

documents within the plan, so that it is easier for the community to relate the documents to each other.

The officers said the strategic plan would be amended to give this information.

They also said a diagram would be included to indicate the timing for community input into each of the sub-documents under the strategic plan in the next strategic plan.

Workshop participants also said the strategic plan did not indicate which items were deleted from the previous document, making it hard to see continuity between plans.

They said that heritage was an important issue for the city and should be mentioned in the plan.

Council officers said a heritage inventory was being compiled and this would be included under the development, building and customer services section of the plan.

Participants also said the State Government document, Shaping

the Central Coast, which proposes a large increase in medium density for the Peninsula, contained a lot of motherhood statements without any indication to address issues of infrastructure.

Council officers said an implementation plan was being developed and infrastructure issues would be addressed in that document.

Council also received a written submission on the strategic plan from the Ettalong Ratepayers and Citizens Progress Association.

The association wanted to know if the Council's statements of intent were listed in priority order, to which officers replied they were not.

The Association said projected population figures for possible total medium density developments should be provided in the strategic plan and that medium density zonings for the Peninsula should be revised "so that future population levels will be restricted to sustainable levels".

Council officers said projected population figures would be included in the final copy of the strategic plan.

The interim capital works component of the draft strategic plan had some outstanding issues, which Council was still investigating at the time of publication.

Further community workshops will be held in September.

Other matters discussed at the Umina workshop included:

The merits of the new library slips, concerns about parking in relation to the Ettalong Fast Ferry and floodplain development.

Concerns were raised about traffic and parking for the Fast Ferry.

One participant suggested that the open area in Broken Bay Rd near the Rip Bridge could be used for multi-level parking for the ferry.

Council officers said they would consider the suggestion along with other feedback about the Fast Ferry that had been received.

Carl Spears, June 13

## Lottery win

A lottery ticket bought at Peninsula Newsagency in Woy Woy has won a retired broadcaster the first prize of \$100,000 in the \$2 Jackpot Lottery last week (June 15).

The 63-year-old winner was in disbelief when told of the win by a NSW Lotteries official.

"I feel numb," said the father of three, who nevertheless welcomed the news.

The winner said he planned to celebrate the win "quietly" with his family and he had no plans on how he would spend the prize money at this stage.

This is the first big win for the man who said he buys a lottery ticket "most days".

From NSW Lotteries

## Accounting firms disappoint



Cr Lynne Bockholt

Cr Lynne Bockholt has expressed disappointment that large accounting firms did not submit proposals to undertake the Council's management audit.

"I would have liked to have seen some of the bigger firms show some interest, eg Arthur Andersen Consulting, Deloitte, Tamahsu, KPMG and Coopers & Lybrand" she said.

"I am glad that Council has resolved to invite some of these firms to submit an expression of interest.

"I continue to believe that a far-ranging management audit will be one of the most important things I do on Council and I want to make sure that Council has the widest possible choice of firms to choose from."

May 29

## Peninsula Community Centre gambling service gets \$200,000

The Peninsula Community Centre will receive a grant of \$202,251 to provide counselling and treatment services for problem gamblers and their families over the next two years.

Announcing the grant, the Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, said: "Financial assistance for counselling and

treatment services for problem gamblers and their families is one of a series of Government initiatives to alleviate gambling-related harms in the community."

She said other recent Government initiatives included:

- Landmark legislation to require commercial gaming and wagering activities to be conducted in a manner which minimises the harm to gamblers, their families

and friends.

- Legislation to slow the growth in the number of gaming machines by imposing a freeze of at least 12 months duration on the number of gaming machines allowed in the registered clubs.

- Legislation to require the preparation of social impact assessments when clubs seek to increase the number of gaming machines in their premises.

- Legislation prohibiting the establishment of new clubs and hotels containing gaming machines in shopping centres.

Ms Andrews said that this latest Government funding initiative totalled \$36 million state-wide and followed more than \$30 million which had already been allocated from the Casino Community Benefit Fund.

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Forum

Peninsula COMMUNITY ACCESS News

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In this edition, we have devoted over 10 per cent of the newspaper to “Shaping the Central Coast”.

This document sets out to plan the future of the area up to 2025. Because of its importance for our future and its controversial plans for the Peninsula, an unusually large amount of space has been dedicated to discussion on its content.

We have included details of how two of our more active community groups view the report's content.

As a community newspaper, disseminating this type of information is seen as our major role.

We do this to increase public awareness and to encourage community debate. Readers are encouraged to let us know their thoughts for the rest of the community to share.

**Business Awards**

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce currently has forms available for customers to nominate businesses for awards for outstanding work in a number of categories.

Nominations close on June 30 and forms may be obtained from most businesses in the area.

Peninsula News has been nominated already and we wish to thank those people that have taken the trouble to do so.

**Publicity for sporting groups**

One of the biggest complaints that is heard around sporting circles is how difficult it is for sporting groups, other than the highest profile regional teams, to get publicity. We can only agree.

We have contacted every sporting organisation on the Peninsula over the past 12 months, some on numerous occasions, and despite several promises of regular news, in the main very little arrives.

We have two pages available for sport on the Peninsula and it is up to the sporting groups to use it.

**Staffing news**

Mary Brady came to see what it was like in a busy newspaper office and not only enjoyed her stay. Hopefully, we will see more of her in the future.

For those of you that are looking for work experience or need to arrange placement, give us a call.

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**Cec Bucello Manager**

**Current contributors**

Mark Snell, John Oakley, Stephen McNamara, Jim Lloyd, Amanda Jackson, Shirley Hotchkiss, Joan Chippendale, Eileen Canas, Karen Booth, Lynne Bockholt.

**Committee**

Christine Burge, Kevin Butler, Carolyn Carter, Bamara Ketley, Stephen McNamara, Mark Snell, Carl Spears, Michael Walls.

**Next edition**

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**Mark Snell - President**  
**Carl Spears - Journalist**

**Office:** 4/115 Blackwall Rd. Woy Woy **Phone:** 4342 2070  
**Mail:** PO Box 532, Woy Woy 2256  
**E-mail:** [pennews@worldpacific.com.au](mailto:pennews@worldpacific.com.au) **Fax:** 4342 2071  
**Website:** [www.peninsulanews.asn.au](http://www.peninsulanews.asn.au)

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The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Inc.

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce exists for the benefit of member businesses on the Peninsula and is a great way for business people to meet, network, exchange ideas and contribute to the ever-changing shape of our local business community.

The Chamber represents retailers, professionals, trades and commercial owners alike and is your voice at Local, State and Federal Government level.

**CONTACT POINT**

For those who require further information regarding the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and its activities, contact president Matthew Wales on 4343 1141 or secretary Mark Snell on 4344 4930.

# A meaningless phrase

I applaud the action of Gosford Council in questioning the term "ecologically sustainable development" which occurs in the State Government's regional planning strategy.

For some years this phrase has been a catch-Cry at various meetings I have attended.

Lacking definition, it therefore lacks a plan for achieving whatever it is that it is trying to achieve.

The listener or reader is lulled into a false sense of security, believing that something which sounds so good must, therefore,

Community Forum

Letters to the editor are welcomed and should be addressed to Peninsula News, PO Box 532, Woy Woy 2256. Contributions in Word format sent via e-mail [topennews@worldpacific.com.au](mailto:topennews@worldpacific.com.au) or on disk save us having to retype them.

be good.

Another such word is "vision".

Avery fine and appealing word, also needing definition and a structure laid down to attempt its achievement.

It's really important, I think, to read critically and to not, because

we so badly want changes for the better, interpret these woolly words so that they seem to mean what we would like them to mean.

**Mary Hawthorne, Pearl Beach**

# Brisbane Avenue has waited longer

In your April issue, M. Robertson of Umina was irate.

She asked how long rates had to be paid before footpaths and kerb and guttering appeared.

She was worried because after paying rates for 14 years she had neither.

Well, M.

Robertson, Brisbane Ave has

waited 62 years and still has neither and no prospects of getting them either.

It is a follow-on of West Street and, as the only outlet of the development on the hills behind us, it goes 24 hours a day.

So stand in line! Frequent letters to Gosford Council bring no results.

However, both were put into Osborne Ave (the next street) to

service the Youth Centre, which is not used and when opened will only be open about 20 hours a week.

It has no through traffic. I have paid rates here for 32 years and have been asking the same question for most of that time.

We are also on the bus route and the bus stops are just big pools of water every time it rains.

**C. Gissane, Umina**

# McDonalds raise funds for charity

**It's McHappy Day in Woy Woyon Saturday, June 24, a charity fund-raising day organised by McDonalds restaurants.**

On this day, \$1 from every Big Mac sold will help seriously ill children supported by Ronald McDonald House Charities and the Variety Clubs of Australia.

McHappy Day is the culmination of two weeks of fundraising called McHappy Time, which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for Australia's seriously-ill children.

Manager of McDonalds in Woy Woy, Mr John Ursina, said there would be activities at his outlet all day on June 24.

"During the daylight hours, we will have helium balloons and face painting for the kids," he said.

"We plan to make it a fun day." McDonald's Australia managing director Mr Guy Russo said: "Many charities will benefit from McHappy Time, some of which include Camp Quality, Bonnie Babes, Life Education Australia and The Salvation Army." "For the past 10 years, every restaurant around the country has been working closely with their local community on McHappy Day to raise money for children and help create plenty of fun and entertainment in-store.

"This year, McHappy Day is a chance to celebrate with mayors, school principals, business people,

sports coaches, fitness instructors, firefigh ters, rescue squads and the parents of McDonalds' crew all joining together for a worthwhile cause."

June 15

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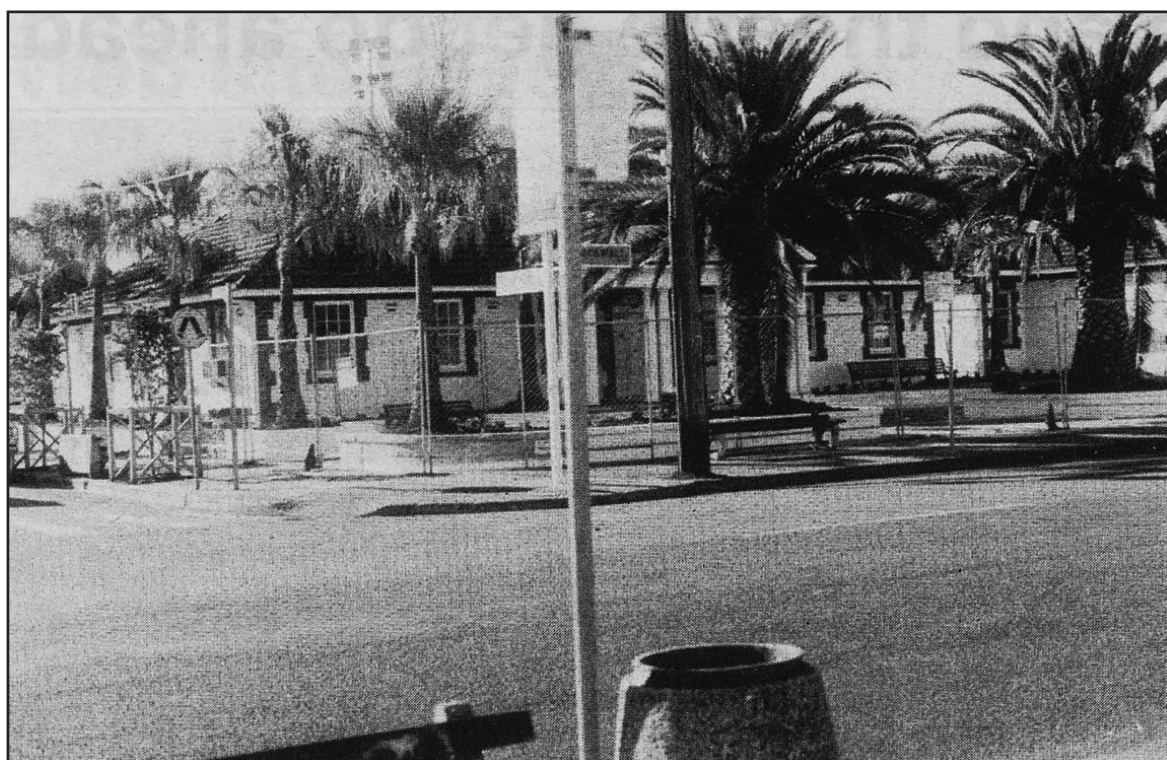
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Competition, PO Box 532 Woy Woy 2256.

Entries close July 12.





Woy Woy Library - extension expressions of interest have been called for

## Police station to stay, Andrews assures

**Woy Woy police station will remain open, according to State Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews.**

"There is definitely no truth in the rumour that Woy Woy Police Station will close," she said.

Woy Woy Police Station was recently upgraded with funding from the State Government of more than \$350,000.

Improvements included: a new inquiry counter and office; public waiting and interview rooms; new gun and other storage facilities; a new charge room with three holding docks; and a prisoner toilet.

A new Breath Analysis Section room has been provided, together with electronic equipment to record interviews in a suspected persons' room.

Staff locker rooms and toilets

have been renovated and an enclosed dock provided for police vans.

Facilities have been improved to provide safe handling of people in custody.

"Having undergone this major upgrade, the Woy Woy Police Station is now better equipped to handle inquiries from the public and also to deal with people in custody." "The upgrade has resulted in improved working conditions for police officers and staff.

"The Woy Woy Peninsula is a densely populated area and it is imperative there is a police station in that location.

"There is certainly no intention by the New South Wales Police Service to close this vital police station," Ms Andrews said.

June 13

## Library brief is prepared

**Gosford Council is preparing a brief for Expressions of Interest from Heritage Architects to design an extension to Way Woy library.**

This is expected to be ready within the next few weeks.

Consultation with all sections of the community is planned before Council proceeds with any concept or design.

The Council's Library Committee for Woy Woy has made a number of recommendations about requirements for the extensions.

With the extensions, the library will be large enough to service the estimated 19,000 people who are expected to live within the library catchment areas of Woy Woy, the Bays area, Blackwall, Koolewong, Tascott.

According to the guidelines approved by the Library Council of NSW, this means an area of

between 911 square metres and 958 square metres.

This should just be possible on the current site.

The Woy Woy Neighbourhood Centre will remain in the old Fire Station.

Information technology will be a major feature of the new library; with its aim to be seen as a major information and educational resource for the community.

Council staff have noticed an increase in the demand for IT.

The community will be given the opportunity to be trained in the use of new technology.

Target groups might include the elderly, the young and school students.

There will be a need to increase staff when the extension is operational.

The extension must be sympathetic to the existing heritage buildings and surrounding

landscape but at the same time interesting and inviting.

Disabled people will be well catered for will all areas of the library safe and accessible to all potential users not just the able bodied.

This will influence the design of every part of the building from disabled parking to appropriate height of furniture and equipment.

The library should be open later on weekdays, say until 7pm.

Small, flexible display areas could be included for local artists and schools to display their work and would also be handy for public exhibition of Council items.

The Spike Milligan Centre will contain Milligan memorabilia: Spike's books and displays.

The present Council office would be incorporated into the new library so that residents could do all their Council business at the one centre.

Lynne Bockholt, July 12

## Visit hears of F3 plans

**Community representatives have visited the RTA's Transport Management Centre at Eveleigh.**

The visit was most informative, according to Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews.

"A host of information about phasing in' of the various stages of the Driver Aid Scheme for the F3 was provided at the briefing.

"Motorists will be relieved to know that there are plans well in place to install a number of other driver aids which will complement the eight variable message signs already operating on the freeway," she said.

"These include variable speed limit signs and further installations of closed circuit television cameras

to allow quick identification and resolution of traffic incidents and road congestion." All components of the Driver Aid Scheme should be completed by 2001.

• A wide range of Central Coast community representatives, including members of 'the media and local members of Parliament; attended the briefing.

They were told that what has been installed so far on 'the F3 was "only the tip of the iceberg".

In the meantime, motorists would benefit from the stage by stage implementation.

Road transport experts at the briefing acknowledged that the F3, which is part of the nation's No.1 highway, had already reached its capacity and needed to be upgraded to three lanes in both

directions.

Ms Andrews said: "I call on the Federal Member for Robertson to honour his 1996 commitment to the electorate to have the F3 widened.

"While this matter is delayed, traffic conditions on the F3 will only get worse," she said.

The Transport Management Centre (TMC) helps to manage and co-ordinate activities on the NSW road network.

The TMC commenced operations at the Australian Technology Park in Eveleigh in August last year.

Purpose-built for the RTA at a cost of about \$30 million, the TMC replaced the Sydney Traffic Control Centre.

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Mum would sit and read  
to me here for hours..."*



*"Now I read to her"*

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## Features

# Community centre and theatre get go ahead

**Gosford Council has approved the proposed community centre and theatre at McMasters Rd.**

Councillor Lynne Bockholt said the project had been two-and-a-half years of hard work.

"It should go to tender as soon as possible," she said.

"We're all looking forward to it and it will be worth it.

"I can't wait." Cr Bockholt said about 4000 people used the centre per week.

The proposal is to construct a new community centre over the existing carpark, demolish the existing building and construct a carpark in that location.

The theatre will have a capacity of 120 people.

Council received four submissions and a petition objecting to the proposal.

Council had previously decided to demolish the existing centre because of the high cost and functional problems associated with upgrading the two-storey facility.

The new centre will have a gross floor area of 2159 square metres and an external covered area of 145 square metres.

The building will house areas for administration, seniors, arts and craft, martial arts, a multipurpose hall, youth services, child care, dance studio and five meeting rooms.

The theatre building will have a gross floor area of 491 square

metres and an external covered area of 29 square metres.

The theatre will contain a 120-seat auditorium, foyer, stall, dressing rooms, servery, box office and an office.

Some of the key issues considered in approving the proposal included flooding and drainage, car parking, traffic, potential noise and public submissions.

Council records identified the site as an area that was significantly affected by flooding and drainage problems.

Council's director of development and the environment, Mr John Murray, said stormwater generated by the development would be collected in a system of gutters, pits and pipelines and discharged via an on-site detention structure into Council's stormwater drainage system.

"The additional stormwater generated by the development will not significantly impact on the adjoining properties nor properties downstream." Car parking will have a shortfall of 12.4 per cent of spots under that required under Council's development control plan (DCP).

The DCP requires a minimum of 112 parking spaces for the proposal.

The proposal has provision for only 103.

Mr Murray suggested going ahead though because the use of parking would be staggered



*The Peninsula Community Centre above is to be replaced by next year*

between the centre and theatre and therefore 103 spots would be adequate and the shortfall was minimal.

During the construction of the new centre, which would be built over the existing car park, customers would have to park in nearby Ross St and McMasters Rd.

The construction was expected to take about nine months.

Council's acoustic consultants, Caleb Smith Consulting, said noise

would not be a problem.

Mr Murray said: "The consultant has concluded that provided recommendations are implemented, noise from the community centre will not have an adverse impact upon nearby residents." Public submissions, which were against the proposal, raised several issues.

"The proposed 1.8 metre high metal-clad fence will be graffitied and damaged by vandals and the environmental effect will be that Rowan St will be blocked off from

the south easterly cooling breezes during summer," one submission claimed.

Mr Murray said a condition could be applied to ensure that any graffiti appearing in the area would be removed as soon as possible.

Other residents were concerned the project would have a detrimental effect on real estate values in the area.

Mr Murray said: "There is no evidence the facility will affect real estate values."

**Carl Spears, June 14**

## Cr Bockholt gives background on community centre approval

**Councillors Holstein, Penton and Bockholt had the first meeting with Council staff and community members of the community centre building committee in December 1997.**

Council had \$1.5 million to renovate the existing centre but after thoroughly studying every aspect of the building it was decided last year that a new centre was the answer.

The cost is about \$3.2m.

The Woy Woy Little Theatre was also approved by Council and this will be wonderful for our local

area.

It will be used by Woy Woy little Theatre of course, but also by other theatre groups, dance groups, schools and anyone else who wants to put on a performance of any kind.

Council was keen to ensure that the people living around the centre are inconvenienced as much as possible by the changes.

There will be a vandal-proof acoustic fence and heavy landscaping at the rear of the theatre to protect the amenity of local residents as much as possible.

Council accepted that there

might be some short term parking problems but believe that there is no other way of keeping the present centre operating while the new one is constructed.

Council has decided that the Peninsula needs three separate centres to cater for everyone's needs.

This new Centre at McMasters Road will be a pure community centre.

The basketball court will be relocated to the Woy Woy pool site which will become a sport and leisure centre.

Plans for two full basketball courts will be presented to the committee on July 7 and 9, if suitable, will be submitted for a development application and put straight on to public exhibition.

The new community centre will have an area roughly the same size as the present basketball

court for all kinds of community activities, including mind games like bridge and chess which are becoming increasingly popular.

There is a mass of storage space so that groups can meet in comfort and store their things so they don't have to cart everything around in car boots.

The pool site will revert to Council control mid-2001 and Council is currently planning a three-stage upgrade.

Stage one will be the two basketball courts.

Then I want to move on to a sports and leisure component including gym, massage, chiropractor and everything else associated with leisure centres.

I believe planning will start on this as soon as the basketball court plans have been approved by the committee and are in the system.

The third stage will be to

upgrade the present pools with a view to modernisation and making the area more attractive to the community.

I do not anticipate the stage three to be complete for several years.

The third arm of Council's community plan for the Peninsula is the youth club at the PCYC at Umina.

I understand that the tender has been let and work will commence in the very near future.

The PCYC is coming to see Council in the next week to discuss extra funding to ensure they get the whole centre built together rather than mess around with two stages.

I believe Council will support this, as we are keen to get the centre moving.

It has been a very worthwhile exercise getting all of this on track and I have enjoyed it very much, even though at times it has been very frustrating as we have encountered delay after delay.

The delay has been as nothing compared with the folk at the Woy Woy Little Theatre who have waited for 47 years for a dedicated theatre of their own.

Now they have it. Hooray! I'll be pestering the Council officers to get the tender documentation ready as soon as possible.

With good management the centre should be complete by October next year.

**Lynne Bockholt**

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## Web site develops

Peninsula residents may soon be able to use the internet to buy goods and services from local traders, if the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce has its way.

The chamber is setting up a web site for the Peninsula, which will include on-line shopping.

"The chamber is hoping residents, particularly commuters, will make use of the internet presence to shop after hours and to contact traders using e-mail during the day," said Chamber secretary Mr Mark Snell.

"We expect the site to provide a comprehensive service, offering convenient credit card shopping with home delivery, backed by local service and support." As well as commuters and internet surfers, the chamber believes the service could be used by those residents who do not have their own transport.

More than one third of Peninsula homes have internet-capable computers.

One quarter of households do not have a car.

The chamber has plans to augment the web site with a message service that will mean residents and traders will not necessarily need internet access.

E-mail kids will hand deliver printed e-mail messages to businesses on the Peninsula that do not have their own facilities, just as telegrams were delivered in days gone by.

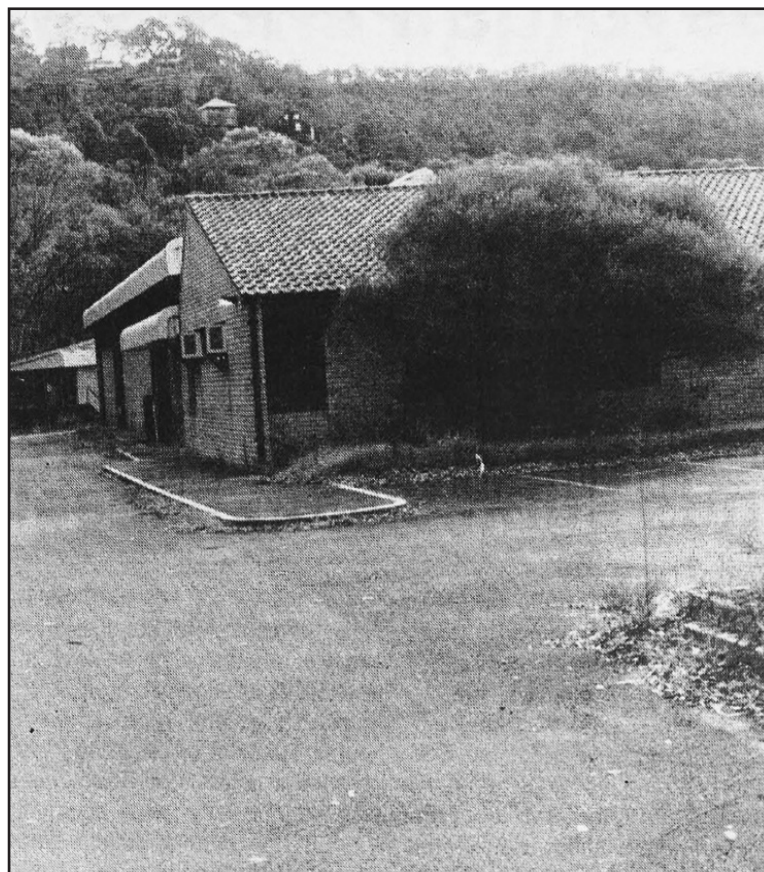
The chamber believes the site will allow local traders to meet the competitive challenge from both corporate and on-line retailers.

As well as on-line shopping, the site aims to provide comprehensive community information to residents.

The site plans to host directories of Peninsula-based web sites, e-mail addresses and phone and fax numbers, as well as Peninsula News and an events diary.

Further details can be found at the chamber's web site [www.peninsulanews.asn.au](http://www.peninsulanews.asn.au)

June 14



The PCYC building in Osborne St, Umina

## PCYC built in one go, says Councillor

## Clothing bins to be removed

Gosford Council has decided to ban all clothing collection bins from public land including those that provide income for charities.

However, the bins can still be set on private land, such as at service stations or on church land.

The move came about after complaints from ratepayers and a push by councillors Debra Wales and Lynne Bockholt, to remove the bins due to continual dumping of household rubbish at the bin sites.

However some charities, such as Lifeline which gets about a quarter of its income from the bins, have expressed concern at potential revenue loss from the decision.

Lifeline chairman, Mr Neville Boyce, said the organisation currently had 21 bins in the Gosford area.

Cr Bockholt said the bins were an eyesore and something needed

to be done.

"We have to make the hard decisions," she said.

Cr Wales said the bin removal was "never intended to be a witch-hunt on charities".

"I don't want the issue to be clouded with emotion," she said.

"They should be put in school yards, service stations and so forth, where they can be monitored."

Cr Malcolm Brooks wanted to know why Council allowed commercial operators to compete with charities and was concerned good-meaning people were donating clothes to commercial operators thinking they were helping charities.

Council agreed to the bins' removal from Council land within four weeks for commercial operators and eight weeks for charities.

Council also agreed to help charities find alternative locations.

Carl Spears, May 31

Both stages of the Umina Beach Police and Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) development are likely to be funded in full, according to Cr Lynne Bockholt.

"Council has allocated \$420,000 funding for stage one of the PCYC and I believe councillors will support advancing further funding for stage two to allow the whole facility to be constructed at the same time," she said.

The PCYC is funded as part of Gosford Council's "Financial Strategy".

"Councillors have agreed to fund several other buildings in full initially instead of in stages."

Examples included the Terrigal and North Avoca Surf Club.

"I understand that the tender for the PCYC has been awarded and once the extra funding is granted, work will get underway immediately.

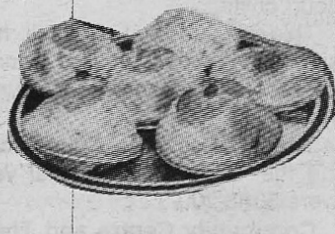
"This will be a wonderful facility for our young people and will be worth all the hassles and delays we have encountered along the way.

"There is strong support in the community for the Centre and when it is complete, Council will have donated about \$1.2m for the land and the Centre," said Cr Bockholt.

June 15

Feeling the COLD ???  
How about a

HOT



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**Jim Lloyd MP**

Federal Member for Robertson

wishes to advise his Electorate Office will relocate to:

**91-93 Mann Street  
GOSFORD NSW 2250**

(next to the Commonwealth Bank)

**on Monday 26 June, 2000**

All contact Information for the office will remain unaltered

**Telephone: (02) 4325 1604**

**Fax: (02) 4323 4555**

**PO Box 577 Gosford NSW 2250**

**Email: [jim.lloyd.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:jim.lloyd.mp@aph.gov.au)**

Access for disabled constituents has been improved



## What is IGA?

Over 800 independent supermarkets have switched to Davids Holdings – Independent Grocers of Australia, commonly recognised as simply IGA stores.

All these stores are **independently owned** and to be an IGA they have **committed to a high standard of service** and an undertaking to upgrade their facilities to present a happy shopping experience for their customers.

The range of stores cuts across three banner groups namely:-

**1. IGA Express** – As the name implies, quick service corner stores, service stations and convenience stores generally. Their range is adequate to meet the essential requirements of most shoppers.

**2. IGA Everyday** – These stores are generally larger in size, carry a good range of grocery items with some meat, deli, fruit & veg and general merchandise. No store is exactly the same, so **check out your local IGA Everyday.**

**3. IGA Supermarket.** These are the operators in the big end of town. Generally have all the serviced departments, deli, meat, bakery, fruit & veg, general merchandise and some are licensed to sell liquor. These stores meet the chains head on and are priced accordingly. We have all experienced the pain for consumers when the big four banks gained dominance, **don't let it happen to your supermarket industry.**

**IGA supports Dick Smith's products, you should too.**  
M. Hourigan and P. Gaffney



## Council

# Markets rezoning prepared

**A draft local environment plan will be prepared to rezone land at the Ettalong Markets complex from residential to business general.**

This will allow a parcel of land to be integrated into the complex, which includes the Sea Sand Motel and shops, Cinema Paradiso and

Ettalong Markets.

The land currently has two tennis courts and four single-storey units.

The applicant said the tennis courts would be used for transient recreational uses such as jumping castles and merry-go-rounds, and for open air cinema sessions.

Gosford Council has deemed the rezoning proposal reasonable.

The council indicated that possible future problems with on-site parking and amenity to nearby units would be considered when a development application was lodged.

Carl Spears, May 10

## Council defends subdivision appeal

**Gosford Council has decided to defend a Land and Environment Court appeal against its decision to refuse a two-lot subdivision of land in North Burge Rd, Woy Woy. Council's director of corporate and community services, Mr Chris Gallagher, said the cost to defend the appeal will be about \$20,000.**

Council said they had refused the original proposal because, among other reasons, the site area did not comply with the minimum size under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

Further, the available and developable width of the proposed Lot One was considered

unsatisfactory.

Council says the total area of the current block is 903.8m<sup>2</sup>.

Council's policy under the Gosford planning scheme ordinance reads: The Council shall not grant consent to the subdivision of land within zone 2(a) unless; (a) the minimum area of any allotment is not less than 450m<sup>2</sup>; and, (b) not more than 10 per cent of the allotments in the plan of proposed subdivision have an area of less than 550m<sup>2</sup>.

Mr Gallagher said the two proposed lots each of 452m<sup>2</sup> were 17.8 per cent too small.

The applicant said that it could "be argued that the two existing dwellings which existed before the prohibition to subdivision of

dual occupancies might have the benefit of existing use right".

The applicant, represented by John Hancock Consulting, also argued that the subdivision was a rational, orderly and economic use of the land and their plans demonstrated development "consistent with the existing and likely future built environment, among other things."

"Strict adherence to the statutory development standards and adoption of those standards ... is unreasonable and unnecessary and would tend to hinder the rational, orderly and economic use of the land," the applicant said.

Carl Spears, June 13

## Council Matters

with John Oakley

**The current policy of notification of development (and building) applications in the media and to adjoining property owners will soon be modified to exclude notification of "exempt and complying development" except under certain circumstances.**

Council's policy on advertising development applications has not been finalised but it is felt that "applications for development of single dwellings, dwelling additions, garages, swimming pools and minor alterations are of little consequence to the whole of an area".

Council's web site "now has the ability to provide a list of development applications received by council".

### Court Costs

Council is frequently involved in litigation in the Land and Environment Court.

The majority of cases are appeals against decisions of Council with respect to development applications.

Council does not involve itself in court proceedings lightly.

For the most part, decisions of Council that result in appellants taking action against Council, are based on a refusal of a development application that is outside the regulations and 1 or guidelines.

On occasions Council will sometimes refuse a development application on social grounds and 1 or community concerns, and perhaps against the technical advice of its professional officers.

The refusal of a proposed tavern and family bistro at West Gosford is an example.

This case cost Council approximately \$150,000.

Several councillors have argued that community concerns and social issues, as well as technical aspects, ought to be considered by the Land and Environment Court in reaching its decision.

Unfortunately, in most cases, the litigants must meet their own court costs.

This means that Council has significant expenses that cannot be recouped even when Council wins.

The legal costs to Council during the 1998/1999 financial year were \$698,200.

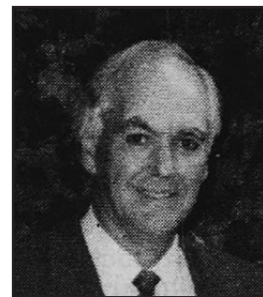
### Community Centre and Theatre

It is proposed to construct a new Community Centre over the existing car park, demolish the existing Community Centre and construct a car park in that location and construct a Theatre with a capacity of 120 persons.

Moved: Crs Bockholt 1 Penton for approval.

**The Vote:** Unanimous support. **Landfill (Tip) Upgrading capital Works - Woy Woy, Kincumber**

The total upgrade figure is \$6,325,055. Works have been scheduled for completion in the



2000/2001 year.

**Proposed Alterations J Additions to Existing Amenities Building at Eve Williams Memorial Oval, Patonga This was a contentious proposal.**

Dr Rod Clarke identified problems of the area proposed for showers being too small, the need for appropriate change rooms, encroachment into what is already a small oval.

In reply Robert Osborne stated that the facility would be used by a wide range of users.

He quoted the Foreshore Master Plan and stated that the plans had gone through three generational designs.

**Cr Bockholt:** "The building is charmless. The building shown tonight is frightful - a block building.

I don't like the design. Put more funds to it and get a proper design. Let's make it a really nice building. It's time the community got together".

**Cr Cook:** "We need to get it right. The design is abominable. I'd like to see more options put forward".

**Cr Preece:** "The change rooms are far too small and nonsensical".

**Cr Wales:** "The people applied for the grant and did it themselves.

Any community group should be supported.

I congratulate the group and John Hancock, the consultant".

**Moved:** Crs Doyle 1 Wales that the plans be approved and that \$10,000 already allocated for moving the cricket pitch be added to the \$20,000 grant plus \$10,000 work for the dole contribution.

**Amendment:** Moved Crs Penton 1 Bockholt that the \$10,000 for cricket pitch be added to the \$20,000 grant plus \$10,000 work for the dole contribution and that a new set of plans be designed to incorporate changes to meet the needs of the whole community.

**The Vote:** Crs Sansom and Brooks were absent on leave.

**For the Amendment:** Crs Bell, Bockholt, Cook, Penton, Preece Against the Amendment: Crs Doyle, Holstein, Wales.

**The Amendment** then became the Motion which was passed with the same voting pattern.

Dr Clarke commented that the decision of Council would allow the whole community to have their say.

**Questions Without Notice Question:** Cr Bockholt Last year Council resolved to put a couple of speed humps in the lane behind Berth Street, Umina.

They haven't been installed yet. When are they planned to be installed?

**Answer:** Director of Works: I will investigate and advise.

**Question:** Cr Bockholt: In July last year I placed Augusta Street, Umina on the list for gaps in the kerb and guttering to be filled so that the entire street has kerb and guttering.

Nothing has happened yet. When will this happen?

**Answer:** Director of Works: will investigate and advise.

## BULK WASTE PICK-UP

**Residents receiving a domestic garbage service are reminded that they are entitled to four (4) Bulk Waste Pick-ups per financial year.**

***BEFORE* placing any bulk waste on the footpath residents *MUST* contact Council's contractor Pacific Waste management on 4324 6133. The contractor will advise of the first available date for collection and of the restrictions that apply.**

**Residents placing bulk waste on the footpath more than 48 hours prior to the arranged day of service will be liable for a fine for obstructing the footpath.**



**Gosford City Council**

*Leading to the future*

*Whilst serving for today*



# Events

## What's on in and around the Peninsula

To have information about your group's events and activities included, just drop the details into the 'Woy Woy Visitor Information Centre' at 18-22 The Boulevard Woy Woy (around the corner from Fisherman's Wharf) or phone 4341 2888 or fax 4341 8555.

Please come and see us anytime for free maps, ferry times, accommodation and lots of 'other information'.

### Wednesday June 21

Peninsula Choir meet & rehearse (every Wednesday night) 7.30pm at St Andrews Hall Umina.

Now rehearsing for 6th Annual Concert with Gosford Brass Band.

### Friday June 23 (till July 1)

Woy Woy Little Theatre performs 'Run For Your Life'. Lots of laughs from the Peninsula's own live theatre group.

Tickets Adults \$14 Con. \$12 Child \$5. Bookings Olymic Store Blackwall Road ph: 4341 4067.

Central Coast Health - Nunyara Aboriginal Health Unit discussion of aboriginal health issues. 9am-3pm Umina Community Hall, Sydney Ave Umina. Morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea provided. Ph: Brian 4320 2696.

### Saturday June 24

Melaleuca Wetland Regeneration Group - if you would like to help with regeneration of one of the last wetlands on the Peninsula, meet from 8am at the end of Boronia Avenue Woy Woy (held every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month). Tools and gloves provided. All Welcome. Enquiries Norah 4341 3960.

Woy Way Rotary 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala Evening. Lynton Gardens Sommersby. Ph: 4340 2518.

### Sunday June 25

Northern Eagles play North Queensland Cowboys at NorthPower Stadium, Graham Park Gosford 2.30pm kick off.

Footy ferry leaves 12.1 Opm from Woy Woy Wharf.

Tickets \$6.50 return available from Woy Woy Leagues club or on-board.

Woy Woy Little Theatre performs 'Run For Your Life'. Matinee performance 2pm. See June 23

### Monday June 26

Deepwater View Club meet. Enquiries June 4342 2046.

Woy Woy Branch of Business & Professional Women - dinner

meeting (held last Monday of month). New members welcome Ph: Jill 4341 1844.

### Tuesday June 27

Ettalong Beach Toastmasters meet 7.30pm (every 2nd and 4th Tuesday). Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club.

Enquiries Jan 4341 6842.

### Wednesday June 28

Peninsula Choir meet & rehearse (see June 21) Buddhism & Meditation Talk by The Venerable Mahinda 7.30- 9.00pm Point Clare Hall Ph: 4323 1723.

### Friday June 30

Woy Woy Civilian Widows meet at 1 pm Ettalong Senior Citizens Building. New members very welcome. Enquiries Gladys Murray (held last Friday of the month).

Deepwater Plaza Seniors Club Bus Trip to 'The Endeavour' anchored at The Maritime Museum Darling Harbour. Lunch & morning tea included \$40. Bookings Tony Arico's Traveland Ph: 4341 7200.

### Saturday July 1

National Malaysia Borneo Veterans Association meet at 2.30pm at Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club. Ph: 4342 1216.

### Sunday July 2

Blackwalj Mountain Bushcare Group meet from 9am at the banner at the base of the mountain.

Working to protect the remaining 'Superb Lyrebirds' in the area and regenerate the vegetation. All welcome. Gloves provided. Held 1st Sunday each month. Ph: Tony 43427849.

### Monday July 3

Deepwater View Club meet. Enquiries June 4342 2046.

### Tuesday July 4

Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club Kids Holiday Fun - Bingol Disco 10am-12noon. Ph: 4341 1166.

Woy Woy Little Theatre auditions for 'An Inspector Calls'. Ph: 4344 5594

### Wednesday July 5

Peninsula Choir meet & rehearse (see June 21)

### Thursday July 6

Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club Kids Holiday Fun - Show with George from Playschool 'Missy's Birthday Suprise' Ph: 4341 1166.

Woy Woy Little Theatre auditions for 'An Inspector Calls' Ph: 4544 5594.

### Friday July 7

Woy Way Older Women's Network meet 10.15am (held 1st Fri-day of month). Current workshop 'Living Skills'.

All welcome Ph: Coro143431079.

### Saturday July 8

Umina Garden Society meets 1.30-3.30pm (held 2nd & 4th Saturday each month).

Community Hall, Sydney Avenue, Umina. Melaleuca Wetland Regeneration Group meet (see June 24).

### Sunday July 9

Brisbane Water Cage Bird Society meet 10am Umina CWA Hall. All welcome including juniors. Ph Jan 4341 6123.

### Monday July 10

Deepwater View Club Fashion Parade 11 am Peridon Village Hall, Peridon Village Daley's Point \$6.

Ph June 4342 2040. All welcome.

### Tuesday July 11

Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club Kids Holiday Fun (see July 4).

The Troubadour Folk Club 'open Session' at Masonic Hall Woy Woy at 7.30pm. Bring your instrument or just bring yourself. All welcome. Cost \$3. Enquiries Frank 4341 4060.

### Wednesday July 12

Woy Woy District View Club meet (every 2nd Wednesday of the month). Ph Millie 4344 5717.

### Saturday July 15

Northern Eagles play Melbourne Storm at NorthPower Stadium, Graham Park Gosford 7.30pm kick off. Footy ferry leaves 5pm & 6pm from Woy Woy Wharf.

Tickets \$7 return available from Woy Woy Leagues club or on-board.

### Tuesday July 18

Peninsula Womens Health Centre, McMasters Rd 'Way Woy. Talk on 'Mind Mapping' Ph: Eve 43425905.

Arthritis Foundation Woy Woy Branch meets 10am at Meals on Wheels Hall Woy Woy. Morning Tea & Door Prize. All welcome. Enquiries Gladys 4342 1790.

### Wednesday July 19

Endeavour View Club monthly meeting at Woy Woy Leagues Club 10.30am. Enq Patricia 4344 5043.

Ettalong Umina Lions Club meets at 6.30pm for 7pm Woy Woy Leagues Club. Ph 4342 1352. (3rd Wednesday of each month)

### Friday July 21

Peninsula Womens Health 6 week course 'Transforming Anger' (see July 18).

### Monday July 24

Deepwater View Club meet. Enquiries June 4342 2046.

## Signs for cycling ban

Gosford Council has decided to erect signs in Peninsula shopping areas prohibiting cycling on footpaths Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, has welcomed the decision.

The new road rules state that children aged twelve or under be permitted to ride their bicycles on footpaths as a lesser danger than riding on public roads ..

"Arising from a number of concerns expressed by constituents about the new road rules, particularly in relation to footpath cycling, I made

representations to the Traffic Committee of Gosford Council seeking an exception to the road rules," she said.

"Those representations were based on the need to protect pedestrians from the possibility of being knocked down by a cyclist." Council has now agreed to the installation of the signposts prohibiting cycling on the footpaths of the shopping areas.

It was anticipated that the signs would be installed "as soon as possible".

June 14

## Osborne Ave road closure requested

A petition with 52 signatures has been presented to Gosford Council from residents of Osborne Ave, Umina.

They requested the relocation of a road closure from the corner of Brisbane and Bathurst Avenues to the corner of Osborne and Bathurst Avenues, Umina.

The petitioners stated that since the construction of kerb and guttering and a footpath across Bathurst Avenue in Osborne Avenue, vehicles entering and exiting Bathurst Avenue have to cross the footpath and cause damage, leaving debris.

Two petitions, totalling 169

## Woy Woy Little Theatre Inc.

*presents ...*

# RUN FOR YOUR WIFE!

**WRITTEN BY RAY COONEY**

John Smith loves to please the ladies - and loves married life so in order to have both he evolves an efficient system to keep them happy and well apart. A night in hospital results in the schedule going to pot and the phones running hot. Mayhem ensues and the best laid plans .... Two hours of solid laughter.

Directed by **Hilda Bird**

**Performance dates:**

Fridays 8 pm - June 16, 23 & 30

Saturdays 8 pm - June 17, 24 & July 1

Saturdays 2 pm - July 1

Sundays 2 pm - June 18 & 25

**Ticket Prices for all Performances:**

Adult \$14    Concession \$10    Child \$5

## Woy Woy Primary School Hall

cnr Park & Blackwall Roads, WOY WOY

**BOOKINGS - Olypic Store, Blackwall Road, Woy Woy**

# 4341 4067

### DAILY EVENTS

**Woy Woy Pelican Feeding** at 3pm Pelican Park in front of Fishermans Wharf. Bring the camera.

### WEEKLY EVENTS

**Children's entertainment** at the Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club.

**Sundays** from 11 .30am - 3.30pm - Clowns, jumping castle, disco, cost \$2.00. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Free bike tours every Saturday.** Leave 2pm from Ettalong Bike Shop, your bike or hire a bike. Also mountain bike tours daily on request - all equipment supplied at \$75 per person. All fitness levels catered for Phone 4341 3906

**Cash Housie** St Mary's Hall Ocean View Road Ettalong 7.30pm (every **Saturday** night). Free Tea and Coffee. Cash Prizes. Proceeds Woy Woy Catholic Parish Community Fund. Enquiries

Rob 4369 0626.

Ettalong/Umina Lions **Bingo** 10.30-12.30pm (held every **Monday**) Ettalong War Memorial Club Entertainment Centre. Cash Prizes. All Welcome. Ph 4342 1352.

Outreach Crisis Recovery Group meets from 7.30pm (held every **Monday**).

Rear Hall Anglican Church 151 Blackwall Road Woy Woy. Addiction, dependency & crisis help. Enq Bill 4368 357.

Fairhaven Services **Cash Housie** 7.30pm (held every Monday). Umina Bowling Club.

All proceeds Intellectually Disabled Adult Services. Ph 4325 3608.

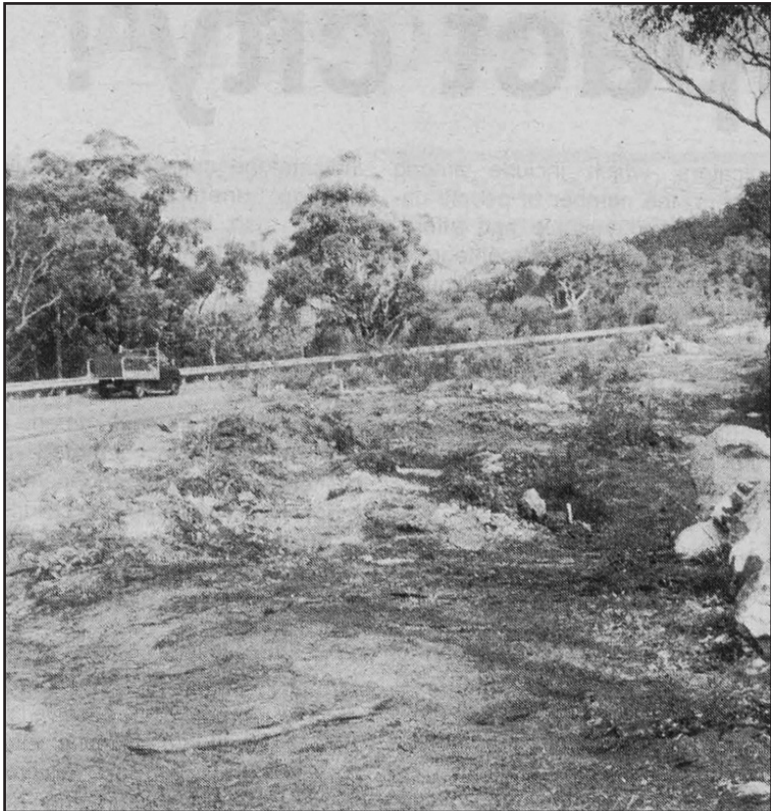
**Scrabble** at Progress Hall, Woy Woy Rd every Thursday at 12.30pm.

**Social Bingo** at Progress Hall, Woy Woy Rd every Wednesday and Saturday at 12pm.



June 14





The section of road to be completed with the help of Council funds

## Council to finish Woy Woy Road

Gosford Council will complete the Woy Woy Rd realignment near Staples lookout using its own funds.

It has received no further funding from the State or Federal Governments.

The \$1 million worth of works are due to be finished by the end of next month.

The Federal Government had given Council \$500,000 as part of its Black Spot program. The amount was the maximum allowed

for an individual project under the program.

After failing to secure further State or Federal funds, Council will now pay the outstanding \$500,000 from its budget.

Cr Robert Bell said he thought Council should write another letter in a last attempt to secure funding.

Cr Lynne Bockholt said she thought there would be no money from the State Government.

"Not until Peats is a marginal seat," she said.

Carl Spears, June 1

## Time capsule fees waived

Gosford Council will waive development application fees for the Woy Woy Rotary Club for its proposal to erect a monument, time capsule and flagpole for its 50th anniversary.

Rotary proposes to build the structure off Ocean Beach Rd, between the Meals on Wheels

building and the proposed community centre development in McMasters Rd.

Architect Mr Don Neil, who is responsible for the community centre and Little Theatre designs, will design the Rotary structure.

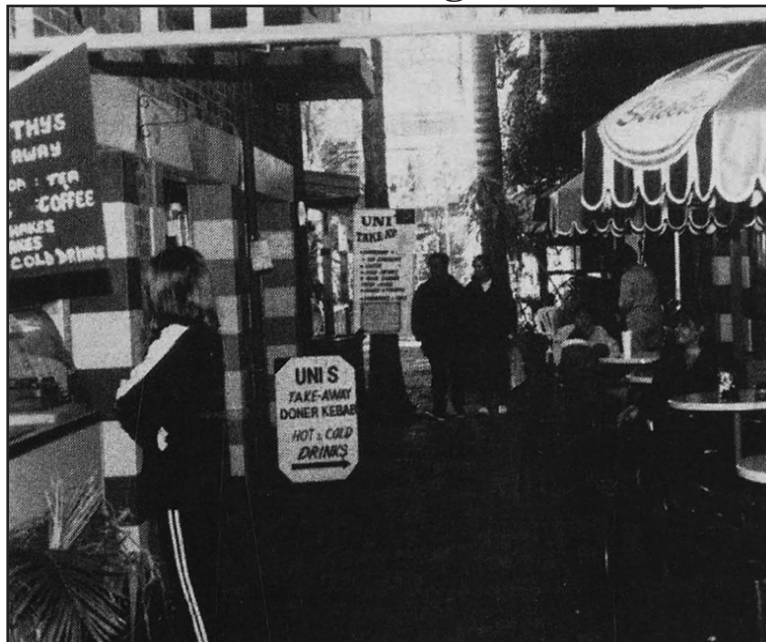
The Rotary monument will incorporate public seating.

Carl Spears, June 1

# ETTALONG MARKETS

## SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT YOUR DOOR

A comprehensive regular guide to stalls at Ettalong Markets



Freefone  
Communications

Ph: 4343 1925  
Mob: 0416 223 029

Ask  
about our  
great  
mobile  
phone  
specials  
At Shop 28

### Therapeutic Massage

*Feng Shui, Buddhism,  
Hinduism, Candles, Oils,  
Incense, Burners*

EMMA CHAND  
Shop 64  
Mob 0409 880658

### Temptress by Marian

*Incense & Oils  
Clothing, Jewellery  
and much much more*

at Shop 2B Market Entrance  
Also at  
318 West St, Umina

**STONEGARDEN**  
STATUES FROM \$5  
WATER FOUNTAINS  
BIRD BATHS  
AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS  
SHOP 6 & 7  
ETTALONG MARKETS

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**FULL RANGE OF OUTDOOR  
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Also available - V Drinks \$ 2.00  
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**RENTALS -** Fridges,  
washing machines, TV's,  
videos, stereos, exercise  
equipment & computers  
Special rates for personal  
shoppers with this ad



## Shaping the Central Coast

# Plans for a 'compact city'!

**"Shaping the Central Coast" is a State Government report which aims to provide "a vision for this part of NSW's greater metropolitan region".**

"Over the next 25 years the aim is to achieve a healthy and sustainable environment, a competitive and adaptable economy, livable communities and integrated regional management," says the report's opening statement.

However the document has come under fire from Peninsula community groups as being full of motherhood statements and for designating the Peninsula as becoming a "compact city".

Woy Woy South Progress Association committee member, Mr John Oakley, said it appeared as though two bureaucrats who had never visited the area had written the document.

"There is a list of sources, but no specific references backing what the report says," he said.

Gosford Council also decided unanimously that the strategy document failed to define "ecologically sustainable development" and agreed not to sign off on the document until their concerns were met.

Much of the development is targeted for the Peninsula which has been designated "compact city" status.

### Introduction

The strategy's introduction says the rapid development of the area, particularly over the past three decades, is due to the region's "extensive and diverse natural, social and economic assets".

More pointedly, the report says growth is due to the growing pressure of land markets in other parts of Sydney.

"The Central Coast in 2025 will be shaped largely by the decisions made now and in the coming few years," the report says.

"If not properly managed, such an increase in population could have a profound impact." Local environmentalist, Mr Bryan Ellis, who has been holding public meetings objecting to the findings of the strategy, agrees on the profound impact, but said the State Government strategy has no answers.

Addressing Gosford Council, Mr Ellis said: "It's the belief of many on the Woy Woy sand plain that the document defeats its own purpose "by failing to suggest concrete answers to the problem of lack of infrastructure.

"The F3 and rail network are at, or near to, capacity," he said.

"Shaping the Central Coast" says it provides guidance necessary to plan future development over the next 25 years.

The key principles of the strategy are to manage the supply of new and redeveloped housing so as to: "create a compact urban structure"; "create opportunities for employment and business growth in locations that support access by public transport"; "improve the design and quality of the urban environment"; "protect and improve

**In presenting its policy for the future of the Central Coast, the State Government is making specific proposals about the Peninsula which will affect the quality of our lives for the next 25 years.**

**While the details have yet to be determined in an implementation plan, the Peninsula has been designated to become a 'compact city'.**



Woy Woy commuter carpark - Plans needed for infrastructure

rural and cultural environments"; and, "manage the planning system efficiently"

Critics argue that nowhere in the document are concrete answers given to these complex problems.

However the document does discuss how these key principles will be investigated.

Work on "Shaping the Central Coast" started in 1996 and is designed to replace the GosfordWyong Structure Plan written in 1975.

The unnamed authors say that considerable community knowledge on the state of the area has been used to good effect.

### General outlook

The strategy identifies problems the area currently has due to the rapid expansion of the population over the last three decades.

The problems identified include a shortage of jobs and vulnerability to economic downturns, a lag in the provision of human services and public transport, loss of open space to urban and rural uses, and water pollution due to urban development and run-off.

### Future challenges

The strategy says the population of the area will continue to grow and therefore adequate services and access to those services must be provided.

"The trend towards dispersed settlements with separate places to live, work and shop is not effective and must be reversed," says the strategy.

"People need a choice of housing types, for example detached, multi-unit, large, medium and small that are affordable and well designed." The submission from South Woy Woy Progress Association (see elsewhere in this issue) says that the authors have

failed to define which housing will result in a successful compact city on the Peninsula.

The strategy says that local job opportunities have failed to keep pace with population growth and that "the reliance on external

sources of employment and income, especially Sydney, is not sustainable over time."

According to City Rail statistics, there are currently 4600 passengers using Woy Woy station per working day.

In total, 18,600 passengers travel on trains through or stop at Woy Woy station each working day.

Traffic on the F3 is currently growing at about 10 per cent per year according to Gosford Council's State of the Environment Report, with about 61,000 vehicles per day crossing the Mooney Mooney bridge.

### Sustainable

Ecologically sustainable development is an attempt to mesh the community's economic and social needs with the natural environment, according to the report.

"The determination of an 'ultimate carrying capacity' for population and the imposition of 'population growth limits' is not considered to be an appropriate management mechanism," says the strategy.

"Instead, a more relevant method is to state what the region's desired outcomes are, then measure the potential impact of change." The report then goes on to say that indicators will need to be developed over time, but the development of indicators is in its infancy.

The strategy identifies some indicators, which include among others, the number of people

unable to find suitable and affordable housing, the percentage of people living within 15 minutes walk or cycle ride to basic services, and the number of days per year that air quality falls below recommended levels.

Other indicators of "quality of life" could include crime rates per 1000 population and suicide rates.

The region currently has one of the highest suicide rates in NSW.

### The vision

The strategy says the vision for the region is: "in the year 2025, the Central Coast will be a place where ecosystems are healthy and a place where residents have lifestyle and employment choices as well as opportunities for community enrichment.

"It will be a fair, safe and equitable society." The strategy says that the Peninsula area is a "district centre" that will be generally self-sufficient as well as draw upon the "regional centres" at Gosford, Erina and Wyong-Tuggerah.

The strategy goes on to say that employment will be in balance with population growth.

"A substantial enhancement of people's skills, particularly in the delivery of services, processing of information, advanced technology, education and tourism, will have greatly reduced the need for residents to commute outside the region," the strategy says.

"The social pressures traditionally experienced by commuters, their families and community will have lessened.

"A strengthened public transport system (rail-based) together with an upgrading of the main inter-urban rail corridors, will deliver benefits within the region."

### Housing

"Restricting urban sprawl will contain the impact on the natural environment, enhance lifestyle choices and improve the competitiveness of the regional economy," says the strategy.

The strategy also identifies the need to upgrade infrastructure on the Peninsula to facilitate urban consolidation.

### Transport

State Rail is quoted in the strategy as anticipating a 20 per cent growth in peak hour passengers and a 35 per cent growth for the whole day by 2006.

The F3 comes under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government and the strategy says the State Government will encourage the Commonwealth to selectively upgrade the road.

The strategy identifies other possible modes of transport that could be used in the area including the high speed ferry and light rail.

### Living

"Over time, the Central Coast will be recognised as a region that promotes and supports social justice, cultural diversity and the maintenance of a high quality of life for all its communities," the strategy says.

The strategy quotes figures to indicate the current situation including unemployment being higher than the State average, with

youth unemployment at 30 percent.

"This situation is partly because the Central Coast attracts young families and retirees," the strategy says.

However, "this environment of high need is exacerbated by higher than average, and increasing, levels of child abuse, children in State care, incidence of domestic violence, teenage births and suicide rates," the strategy continues.

To resolve these problems the strategy suggests, in general terms, promoting a positive regional identity, developing interagency strategies for delivering services, and encouraging networks of community support.

Some other solutions include developing a framework to measure social capital, increasing educational opportunities, and investigating development of a regional cultural centre.

### Economy

The strategy lists its desired outcomes for the area as including a range of interesting jobs available locally or accessible by public transport or communication, electronic home industries and a well-trained workforce.

The strategy describes ways to achieve these outcomes as improving transport and communication infrastructure, identifying new economic opportunities, attracting new capital to the region, conducting small business motivational and skills development programs, and developing initiatives for local investment.

### Implementation

The strategy says: "The challenge is not to create new structures of government but to develop processes that better coordinate and integrate existing structures to deliver the desired outcomes." "Shaping the Central Coast" was prepared within the framework of the existing State Government's "Shaping Our Cities" document, but with a regional focus.

"Shaping the Central Coast" is meant to be a general guide under which State and Local Government can base their more detailed decisions and policy.

However, criticism of the document by Peninsula community groups and Gosford Council suggests the local community feels the strategy is too obtuse to be of much use.

The strategy recognises the need for constant review and states that the Minister for Urban Affairs will consider setting up a committee of councillors, community and business representatives.

"It will be necessary to monitor and evaluate how the strategy is being implemented," the strategy says.

"This means measuring actual outcomes against the desired outcomes and, as appropriate, adjusting the strategy.

"A major review is to take place every five years."

Carl Spears, June 15



# A response from South Woy Woy

**Acknowledgement** This Association wishes to thank the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (DUAP) for providing a single copy of "Shaping the Central Coast" and for the opportunity to respond to the document.

Participation Given that the document was printed in August 1999, it is unfortunate that such a short response time has been given by DUAP.

It is also unfortunate that so few copies of the document were available free of charge and that so few opportunities existed for members of the public to attend DUAP presentations.

DUAP claims that it wants community comment yet there have been few opportunities for this to occur as the vast majority of the population on the Woy Woy Peninsula, which is represented in part by this Association, are unaware of the document or that their future will be dramatically influenced by its implementation, and, if aware, were not able to access the document or to attend DUAP briefing sessions.

It is very difficult to accept the bona fide of the stated wish to have adequate community consultation.

## Introduction

"Shaping the Central Coast" is a disappointing statement of what is purported to be "the planning strategy for a sustainable region" which provides THE vision for the Central Coast.

"THE VISION" is that of DUAP not the residents of the Central Coast. The "Planning Strategy" is a policy statement made up of numerous "motherhood" generalisations and unsubstantiated platitudes.

While there is an extensive list of "source" documents, few of these are actually used to substantiate the assertions by the author(s).

Photographs are acknowledged but the text author(s) are not identified.

"Shaping the Central Coast" gives no indication that it is based on valid research rather than unsubstantiated generalisations.

There is no discussion of alternatives nor is there an evaluation of the outcomes of the policies described.

Most of the policy outlined is based on one or more of the following myths:

- that if there is a sufficient density of population the public will use public transport and thus reduce traffic congestion;
  - that high density living will reduce building costs and give greater choice;
  - that by forcing people to live in a high population density area there will be a saving of valuable farmland and bush land; and,
  - that urban consolidation will increase housing choice.
- Source: SMH 14/1/00 citing Prof. P. Troy Specific Comments The document ignores literature that contradicts the policy espoused by DUAP.

## The South Woy Woy Progress Association has taken a keen interest in the detail of the 'Shaping the Central Coast' strategy. Here is its response..

Critical terms such as "compact city emphasis" are not defined and therefore are difficult to challenge in a meaningful way.

Does "compact city emphasis" mean two storey, five storey or perhaps even thirty storey residential buildings? Readers of "Shaping the Central Coast" can only speculate as to why DUAP has used undefined yet critical terms such as this.

In order to facilitate more specific comments, extracts from "Shaping the Central Coast" are entered into the following along with comments.

## Shaping the Coast

**"Over the next 25 years the aim is to achieve a healthy and sustainable environment, a competitive and adaptable economy, livable communities and integrated regional management."**

In general, the Central Coast has achieved these aims and any further dramatic increase in population will make these aims much more difficult to continue to achieve.

## Foreword

"maintain the region's distinct rural character" It is obvious that the Woy Woy Peninsula does not have a distinct rural character.

It is very much an urban area and the plan to give it "compact city emphasis", assumed to mean a much greater population density, will result in a significant decline in the quality of lifestyle.

It should be realised that the vast majority of residents on the Peninsula chose to live here in order to get away from a "compact city emphasis".

The same can be said about most residents living anywhere on the Central Coast.

## About the strategy

"The growth (of the Central Coast) also reflects the growing pressure on land markets in other parts of the Greater Metropolitan Region ...

especially the Sydney Basin" This is a driving motivation behind the DUAP push to force "compact city emphasis" on the Woy Woy Peninsula and other areas.

Despite the platitudes, solving Sydney's population problems at the expense of the Central Coast appears to be an aim of this strategy.

DUAP has ignored the fact that there are many country towns where infrastructure exists to accommodate large numbers of people but there has been a shortage of jobs that has led to the population decline in these towns and the "drift to the city".

Such towns would welcome new residents if employment opportunities were made available.

DUAP seems more interested in forcing Sydney's excess population into specific areas of the Central Coast rather than being proactive and exploring better alternatives which will require Government expenditure to create employment.

## Where strategy fits

Key principles: "protect and improve our natural and cultural environments" This is a list of motherhood statements.

One of particular interest is "protect and improve our natural and cultural environments".

The natural environment on the Woy Woy Peninsula has been destroyed by previous and current Government policy on medium density housing.

How will "compact city emphasis" improve this? The cultural environment created by medium density housing has generated huge social problems and infrastructure deficiencies on the Peninsula.

To further increase population density will exacerbate these problems.

**"ongoing commitment by all stake holders" Another platitude.**

The State Government has used the Peninsula to absorb much of Sydney's surplus population.

There has been little commitment or contribution from the Government towards infrastructure, employment, or major roads.

It has consistently refused to address the problems created by the population currently on the Peninsula.

## The place

"a long-established and wellrecognised tourism industry" Tourism exists because the Central Coast is still a pleasant place to visit.

Does DUAP really think that tourists will visit the Woy Woy Peninsula in order to see a densely populated urban area? "immediate access to major national infrastructure, particularly road (F3 Freeway) and rail (Great Northern Line)" Such a statement demonstrates the inability of DUAP to recognise the reality.

The F3 is clogged every day and has reached its capacity.

The rail system is barely coping with the ordinary commuter needs.

On occasions such as school excursions, the rail system has failed to cope.

"a shortage of jobs and vulnerability to economic downturns" "lags in the provision of human services and public transport" "loss of biodiversity and open space ...

"estuarine and lagoon water pollution ...

"Agreed.

How will pouring more people

into the Central Coast and the Peninsula in particular, solve these problems? Without doubt, the loss of diversity and water pollution will become much greater problems.

Is DUAP serious in suggesting that by increasing the population on the Central Coast, biodiversity will be increased and water pollution decreased? Such inferences within the document are indicators of DUAP's determination to impose its will on the people of the Central Coast.

## Future challenges

"This trend towards dispersed settlements with separate places to live, work and shop is not effective and must be reversed".

An astonishing statement.

Where is the supporting evidence?

What is meant by "effective"?

For many years there has been concern at the "drift to the city".

Does this problem no longer exist?

"must be reversed" - Is this a philosophical statement or is it based on sound research? If so, what research?

"The challenge is to ensure that the design of new or refurbished settlements provides a sense of place and easy access, and supports the use of public transport, cycling and walking".

"design of new settlements" seems to contradict DUAP's line of not allowing what is emotively referred to as "urban sprawl".

The correct term is actually "urban spread" or the like.

"sense of place" - The residents of the Central Coast already have a "sense of place" as indicated on page 6 where it is stated "a populace that prides itself on its Central Coast identity".

It is arrant nonsense to infer that a sense of place can only be achieved if DUAP's policy is followed.

**"and easy access" - To what? "People need a choice of housing types ... that are affordable and well designed". Agreed.**

However, if history and actual examples are of any value to DUAP, rather than unsubstantiated generalisations, the evidence available throughout the world is that the greater the population density, the higher the cost of housing.

It then follows that an increase in the population density on the Peninsula will result in more expensive housing that is less affordable for more people.

**"Public transport systems need to be improved." Agreed.**

If should be noted the State Government has consistently refused to address this issue in relation to one of the two arterial roads serving the Peninsula.

**Why should the community have any confidence that this will change? - " ... the natural environment is in a fragile state ... Agreed.**

How will increasing the population on the Central Coast

improve the natural environment and make it less fragile?

"The community expects that planning will improve the quality of life of residents."

Agreed.

How can a dramatic increase in population density improve the quality of life of residents who, with very few exceptions, chose the Central Coast to live because of low population densities.

The vast majorities see increased population density as a major force in lowering their quality of life.

**"continued reliance on external sources of employment and income ... is not sustainable overtime." Agreed.**

To greatly increase the population of the Central Coast without providing the types of employment required by a diverse population would exacerbate the existing problem.

The assumption that the range of occupations required by the workforce will be generated locally simply by increasing the population is highly suspect and certainly not supported by what little evidence is contained within the document.

## Regional goals

All the stated regional goals are widely accepted.

What is not accepted is the unsubstantiated inference that increasing the population in some parts of the Central Coast to have a "compact city emphasis" will facilitate the achievement of these goals.

It is more likely that achievement of the goals will be seriously compromised if the strategy of DUAP is accepted.

"Success depends on all sections of the community and government agreeing to a desired vision for the region ...

" Agreed.

The vision presented in "Shaping the Central Coast" is so fundamentally flawed in its assumptions that the community represented by this Association and by other communities on the Woy Woy Peninsula, reject categorically the planned "compact city emphasis" put forward by DUAP.

## the guiding principle of ESD

This Association agrees strongly with the need for Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) but refuses to accept that by increasing population pressure on the fragile environment of the Central Coast it will be possible to achieve ESD.

It is believed that with the large projected population increase on the Central Coast in general, and the Woy Woy Peninsula in particular, there will be an increase in the already extensive environmental damage evident on the Central Coast.

Continued on page 12



# Shaping the Central Coast

From Page 11

The vision "A substantial improvement in both the natural environment and people's quality of life will be the testament to the successful long-term implementation of ESD principles ...

"Historically' there is no evidence to support the contention that population increases have improved the natural environment or people's quality of life, unless of course one prefers high density living over life in a less densely populated environment.

"A substantial improvement In ... the natural environment" is a naive and simplistic statement that has no basis in fact.

One's view of "quality of life" is entirely dependent upon personal viewpoints.

To assert that quality of life of individuals living on the Peninsula and other areas of the Central Coast will improve with increased population density such as a "compact urban emphasis" for example, is a highly presumptuous and paternalistic assumption.

As mentioned earlier, most residents came to the Central Coast to escape high density living.

## Housing

**"Population growth accommodated largely within the existing urban districts.**

"existing settlement patterns are not sustainable".

"restricting urban sprawl" That is, increased population density.

There is no justification for such a desired outcome.

There is a plethora of evidence to indicate a direct correlation between population density and social problems.

Why would any government department wish to Increase the Immense social problems existing on the Woy Woy Peninsula by enforcing a policy of high population density?

Where is the evidence for this assertion?

A highly emotive phrase unbecoming in what purports to be a professional and unbiased document.

This outcome is in conflict with the proposal to have "green field" developments at Wamervale-Wadalba.

## Transport

**"An improved cross-regional and local road network ... " Agreed.**

"Direct, convenient and safe footpaths and cycleways connecting places" The State Government's performance to date in this regard has been very poor indeed.

More than platitudes are needed to make this a reality.

**"Efficient freight journeys, and reduced air and noise pollution" "reduced noise pollution"**

A major source of excessive noise pollution is the state railway system, especially with heavy freight trains at night.

With the introduction of the high speed rail link by 2007 to service the expanded population, noise pollution will almost



certainly increase dramatically.

How will this be reconciled with the rhetoric?

**"... improve Avoca Drive, the Entrance Road, Pacific Highway and Terrigal Drive"**

In keeping with the ongoing neglect of infrastructure in the Woy Woy Peninsula, this proposal once again ignores the problems associated with the two major arterial roads servicing the Peninsula.

It is an interesting revelation into the attitude of DUAP and the Government towards the Peninsula that no mention is made of either Brisbane · Water Drive or Woy Woy Road which serve what is currently the largest urban conglomeration in the Gosford Shire and under DUAP's plans, will become even larger.

Woy Woy Road not only serves the Peninsula but also traffic generated east of the Rip Bridge in an area (e.g. Empire Bay and Bensville) that is becoming Significant in the spread of population on the Central Coast.

## Environment

**"desired outcomes" "strategic directions"**

Agreed. If "encouraging a more compact settlement pattern" means crowding more people into the existing urban areas, then this strategy is rejected.

Where is the evidence to support the contention that denser urban development will mean environmental improvements?

## Living

"This environment of high need is exacerbated by higher than average, and increasing levels of child abuse, children in State care, incidence of domestic violence, teenage births and suicide rates"

Not to mention a massive illegal drug problem! These problems have increased with the increase in population and are particularly critical on the Woy Woy Peninsula.

Conversion of the Peninsula through steep increases in population to achieve a "compact city emphasis" will aggravate the present problems dramatically.

Infrastructure "existing water supplies are sufficient to cater for the region's expected population over the next 20 years" If Gosford City publicity is to be believed the

water supply to the Central Coast is of great concern.

The evidence provided to the public by Gosford City Council seems to be in conflict with the assertion that "water supplies are sufficient ...

## In conclusion

"Shaping the Central Coast" paints a rosy but unrealistic picture of what will be achieved under the DUAP plan for the next two decades.

Its recommendations are in conflict with what history has shown to actually occur and appear to be nothing more than I attempt to hoodwink the public into believing that an increase in population density, particularly to "compact city emphasis" level, Will magically bring all sorts of social benefits.

After much trumpeting and fanfare about community consultation at the beginning of the planning process, followed by a lengthy period of silence, the community is suddenly presented with a document that does not truly represent community views, but rather the views of DUAP.

To use the words of Professor Troy of the Australian National University (SMH 14.1.00), "Under consolidation is a highly suspect, socially inequitable policy, cooked up to justify cutting back public dollars for infrastructure".

What is very important for DUAP to recognise is that "Whatever policy may emerge from [such] considerations, it must be applied in a way that does not terrorise, oppress or penalise existing residents".

"Whatever may be the goals of our planning policies, they must not expropriate people's rights or devalue their lifestyles".

(Lewis, M.

Suburban Backlash) "Shaping the Central Coast" will have the above effects on the population of the Woy Woy Peninsula and this Association demands that the "compact city emphasis" planned for the Woy Woy Peninsula be deleted from any planning proposal.

Overall, "Shaping the Central Coast" is a paternalistic document comprising a plethora of unsubstantiated and unsustainable statements reflecting a political stance rather than well researched alternatives and potential outcomes.

## Executive summary

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce believes it is important to have a meaningful regional planning strategy - but believes that "Shaping the Central Coast" sets a series of challenges to ensure sustainable growth In particular, further population growth on the Peninsula requires adequate infrastructure to be put in place to meet both present and future needs.

The Chamber acknowledges development of the strategy is an on-going process ' and applauds the Department for its consultative approach.

The continuation of this approach will be vital in formulating the consequent implementation and action plans - and looks forward to further participation.

Serious infrastructure deficiencies exist on the Peninsula that are identified, to an extent, within the "Shaping the Central Coast" document.

The Chamber believes that the strategy must enunciate proposals in particular in relation to the following:

## Housing

Eg. Describe the zoning review to take place and its expected outcomes, types of structure and their environment.

## Employment

Eg. Describe measures to provide local work

## Traffic & Transport

Eg. Describe measures to upgrade Peninsula and connecting roads to provide for road and rail commuter, tourist and shopping traffic.

## Tourism

Eg. Describe measures to bring quality of natural environment (particularly water quality) up to acceptable standards and to maintain it.

## Water and waste

Eg. How will water supply, drainage and waste problems be addressed.

## Social infrastructure

Eg. How and when will polic.e levels be increased? How Will adequate recreation facilities be provided? What support will be given to ensure that imporant community-building communication media such as Peninsula News continue to exist? The Chamber believes s.strategies in these areas have not been developed to meet the needs of the current population of the Peninsula, therefore in conSidering future accelerated growth, present increased challenges.

Indeed, strategies must be able to demonstrate that the Peninsula is not already at capacity.

The concept of the Peninsula becoming a "compact city" will have disastrous consequences should it not be properly managed.

Among the obstacles that must be addressed are the significant structural impediments in current funding arrangements and in other

# Peninsula

**The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce has made a submission in response to the 'Shaping the Central Coast' document.**

practices, which mitigate against infrastructure provision on the Peninsula.

Not the least concerning is the town planner that the regional strategy does not imply any need to review planning provisions on the Peninsula.

It is the Chamber'S view that both the total planning framework and the direction of the Peninsula's economic future need attention.

Responsibility for the planning framework lies with State and Local Government, in consultation with the community.

The Chamber is happy to assist in establishing an economic future for the Peninsula and is currently seeking Federal, State and Local Government funding, together with corporate and member sponsorship to enable it to do this.

Finally, the Chamber has detailed suggestions for changes to current planning provisions for the Peninsula, which we would like to submit for the formulation of plans.

A meaningful strategy - A meaningful regional planning strategy is sorely needed on the Central Coast, particularly one in which the Peninsula community can have confidence and can take pride of place.

To be a strategy, it must do more than describe what is to be achieved.

It must describe how it will be achieved.

To be meaningful and useful, it must chart the methods which will be used to take the community from the present reality to its future objectives.

In this, "Shaping the Central Coast" only provides a base - particularly in relation to the Peninsula, one sixth of the region's population.

There needs to be developed specific and concrete examples of what is meant.

It should be unambiguous and convey the same clear message to all.

It should leave no doubt as to who is doing what.

A regional planning strategy is the appropriate arena for these issues to be dealt with and put In context.

The eventual implementation plan should be in a form that Is able to be freely circulated Within the community.

The Chamber would like to see an accessible, realistic plan which describes the way it will achieve its goals in an understandable fashion.

Such a plan can provide a confident and optimistic basis for cooperation between govern~en!s of all levels and the community In facing the challenges ahead.

Implementation plan .

Gosford Council's current residential planning policies f~r the Peninsula anticipate a trebling of the number of villa units and a population growth of roughly 40 per cent on current levels.



# Chamber seeks meaningful strategy

**They encourage uniformity rather than the mix of alternatives proposed in the regional strategy.**

Council's policies will lead to an urban slum of wall-to-wall villas, creating social disintegration and alienation.

The Peninsula is very likely to become "Mt Druitt by the Sea", unless a cooperative and coordinated approach is taken by all levels of government, local business and, most importantly, with the support of the community.

The implementation plan could provide a solution, in applying performance measures for quality of life to the Peninsula equally with the rest of the region.

The Chamber submits that implementation plans may well, in fact, be more important than the regional strategy itself.

The chamber believes the regional strategy document does reflect the values of the community - demonstrated by the "criticism" that it only contains "motherhood" statements.

The chamber requests the same opportunity to comment on the implementation plan as is available to comment on the strategy document itself.

The Chamber is concerned that no mechanism is defined within the strategy document to ensure the aims of the strategy are achieved.

The measures have been defined, but measuring event is no consolation.

after the While the regional strategy's "implementation plan" has yet to be formulated, neither

performance history nor current indications imbue confidence that the established hegemony and prevailing practices will adequately address the challenge.

How will the strategy and implementation plan ensure that the planning framework itself is formulated to maximise its own performance measures?

## Infrastructure

The implementation plan must address social infrastructure.

This is more than just "human services" and deserves detailed consideration including policing, social support and communication within each community.

Recognition is needed of social structures and associated community-building activities, as well as remediation and support for social distress.

In particular, the role of and support required by the security services, community organisations and the media need to be addressed.

Examples could be given in other areas of Council responsibility, but it is important to acknowledge problems which are beyond the ability of the Council to address.

## Implementation plan

The following paragraphs list topics the Chamber would like addressed in the Implementation Plan for the Peninsula.

## Neighbourhood focus

- Neighbourhood shops of Umina Mall scale within the residential areas of the Peninsula and not on collector roads.

- Neighbourhoods could be: Greenhaven, Veron, Burge,



Alma and, maybe, Cowper and Springfield- Palm.

- Pedestrian and bicycle friendly neighbourhoods. Sensible, practical cycleways

- Orientation of schools, parks and other major neighbourhood community facilities away from collector roads.

## Road network

- Facilitate road and rail commuting within and across the Peninsula: Access on and off the Peninsula - Woy Woy Rd (cutting, Bult's Hill diversion, railway underpass), Brisbane Water Dr and Empire Bay Dr.

- Facilitate access into and out of CBDs

- Facilitate access to beaches and other attractions

- Hierarchy to reflect usage - greater recognition of Barrenjoey

Rd, Ocean View Rd, Brisbane Av, Lone Pine Av, Veron Rd, Hillview St, Gallipoli Av and Cowper Kahibah Rds .

- Traffic distribution across Peninsula as a whole • Coordination with CBD streetscape design • Design with tourism in mind

## Economic mix

- Retail business • Tourism businesses

- Larger leisure businesses - clubs & pubs

- Work from home - trades, services, professionals telecommuting

- Nearby employment - esp. Mt Penang

## Housing

- Need for cluster development alternatives

- Need to set limits to multistorey housing

- Revision of 2a and 2b zonings - both in terms of coverage and in terms of provisions: • Higher densities closer to CBDs

- Discourage security estates

- Reduction of paved area within building block

- In some cases, reduction of onsite parking requirements

- Energy-consciousness, encourage northern orientation Environment/tourism

- Tourism based on environmental richness and cleanliness

- Ramifications for drainage.

- Ramifications for tip, sewage and quarry effluent

- Retention and maintenance of existing bush reserves, eg cnr Hillview & Railway Sts

- Retention of existing rail line from Hawkesbury River to Woy Woy, along Mullet Creek.

- Provision of corridor for light rail, for possible future development Utilities

- Undergrounding power

- Telephone and telecommunications infrastructure

- Gas

- Sewerage and waste disposal CBDs

- Decongesting Woy Woy

- Encouraging Ettalong tourism

- Providing a retail focus at Umina

- Retain character of Patonga with adoption of DCP

The Chamber believes that many of the planning principles used in Canberra can, and should, be applied to the Peninsula and the Central Coast generally.

## Dementia facility to. have 42 places

**The Federal government has awarded The Hammond Care Group 42 residential care places for older people on the Peninsula, The new places will create about 20 jobs while providing care and services to older people and those with dementia.**

Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Lloyd, said the residential packages had been allocated to Hammond Care's proposed dementia facility to be constructed in South Woy Woy.

Hammond Care chief executive, Dr Stephen Judd, said that the new places were desperately needed in the area, which has one of the highest incidences of dementia in NSW.

"The urgent need is for services for those people who are physically able but have dementia," said Dr Judd.

"We are planning integrated housing which will provide residential care, and there will also be more community services and accommodation for people who are more independent," he said, Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, also commented on Hammond Care's increased role in caring for older people in the electorate: "I'm over the moon

about it.

"Hammond Care has an excellent record in aged care and the area sorely needs these services," she said, Since 1998, Hammond Care has been providing much needed community services for people with dementia under the Commonwealth funded Community Aged Care Packages Program.

"While our community care helps older people with dementia to stay in their own homes longer, we're also responding to the needs of older people on the Peninsula by providing specialist residential care in a homelike atmosphere, with world's-best care practices," said Dr Judd, Dr Judd said that Hammond Care's philosophy is that aged care services should be

very much part of the community, rather than separate from it.

"So what you will find, is that the specialist services for people with dementia will be very much integrated into the community.

"We are hoping for a smooth Council process to allow us to start building as soon as possible and therefore begin providing these urgently needed services," he said.

The new residential facility will be located at the old TAFE site in Railway Street, South Woy Woy.

The Hammond Care Group, a "not-for-profit" charity, has over 65 years' experience in providing care and services for the aged and people with dementia, especially those least able to provide for themselves.

June 16

## Simplicity Funerals

WOY WOY Ph: 4344 2333

**Provider of the  
Guardian Pre-Paid  
Funeral Plan**

Allan Maidment J.P. Area Manager

*Helping local families for over eight years*



## Umina Mall Pharmacy

Ocean Beach Rd Umina Ph: 4341 6906

**Interested in becoming a Guardian Angel?**

**Launched in April of last year by Guardian Pharmacies, the Guardian Angel Community Service Project received an overwhelming response.**

This year Umina Mall Pharmacy is keen to continue **helping children in need**, with the help of "caring Angels" willing to **open their hearts** to babies in orphanages in third world countries.

You can become a Guardian Angel by knitting a warm garment for a child in real need. Spend nothing but the cost of a few balls of wool and Umina Mall Pharmacy will ensure an orphan child receives your gift. Umina Mall Pharmacy will also **donate \$1 to World Vision** for every garment you knit.

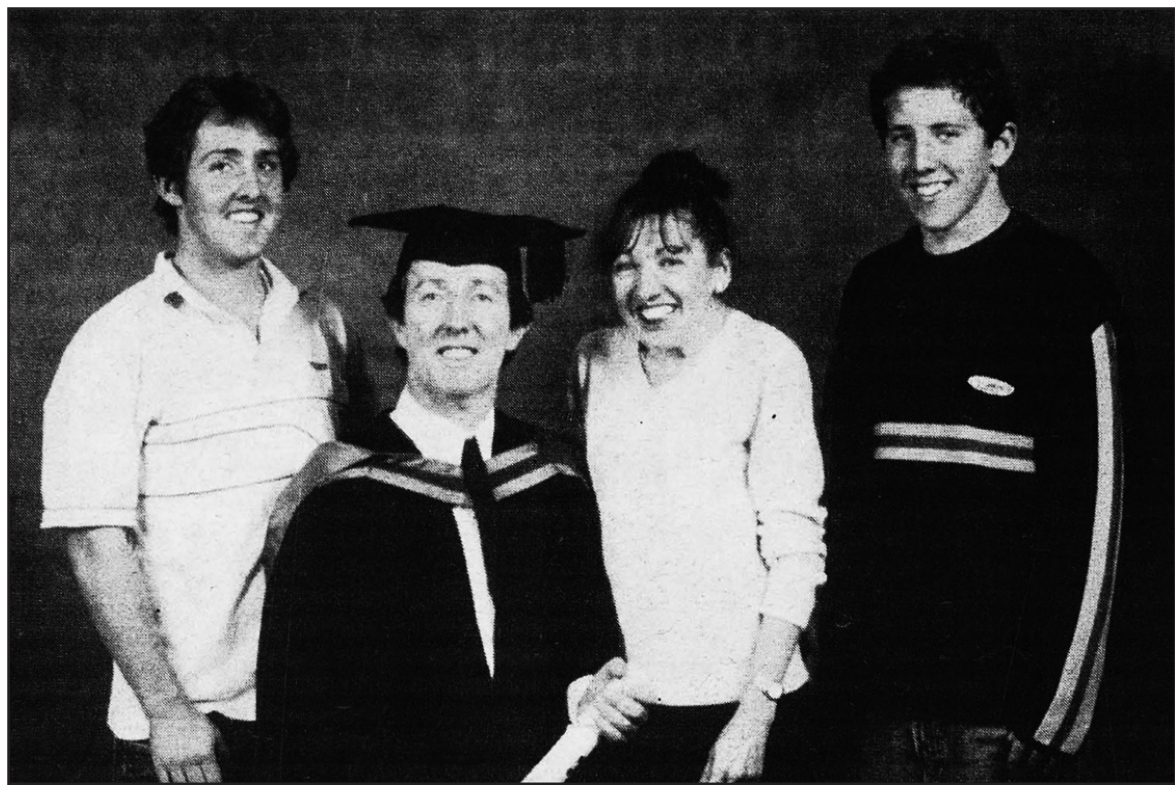
**PLEASE HELP!!** Every child deserves a **Guardian Angel**.

For further information please contact Umina Mall Pharmacy, located on the corner of Ocean Beach Road and Lone Pine Avenue, Umina.

Phone 4341 6906.



## Education News



## Stephen receives degree

Peninsula resident Stephen McNamara has received his Bachelor of Business Degree at a recent graduation ceremony held in Wagga Wagga.

Stephen studied the course by distance education, which meant that course notes and most assessments had to be sent back and forth to the University campus.

While studying away from the classroom usually meant that there

was little face-to-face interaction with the lecturers, Stephen did attend some residential workshops that were held at Albury, Bathurst or Wagga Wagga.

The Peninsula area usually has more than 30 students enrolled at Charles Sturt University campuses studying by distance education.

During the eight or so years that it took to complete the degree, Stephen worked for four separate employers.

This included shift work that would not have been possible if attending university classes.

Stephen studied Business Management and Information Systems for his degree, and used email and on-line Internet discussions to make contact with other students and the university.

Stephen now uses some of his skills in information technology by volunteering many services helping Peninsula News.

## Woy Woy Students win 'outstanding' awards

Woy Woy High School students Kelly Clarke, Eddie Garrett and David Laing have made outstanding achievements on the stage and on the field recently.

Six other students have received outstanding achievement certificates.

Kelly has been chosen to participate in the State Drama Camp, which principal Caroline Carter said required a very high standard.

It was the second year in succession that Woy Woy High

had had students selected for the program.

Eddie and David were selected to participate in the North Sydney Regional Cross Country team.

Carly Brett and Mary Callingham of Year 12; Rebecca Woods of Year 11; Kurt Cartwright, Michelle Melville and Vanessa Gordge of Year 7 had already achieved three faculty merit certificates as well as 15 class merit certificates.

This work has entitled these students to achieve outstanding merit certificates.

Amanda Jackson, June 13.



"Over the moon with results. ET Australia's Cafe Umina Beach and information Centre is providing the unemployed with valuable training. Above: (L-R at Back) Steven Anderson (trainer), Tom Pender. (L-R at front) Marilyn Jarvis and Billie-jean Wilson. Marilyn Jarvis said: "By the time I was halfway through the course, I was getting interviews and I now have two jobs. "ET Australia really gave me the opportunity I needed and the support of the staff has been fantastic. "I don't know where I would have been without them," she said.

## Environment program seeks schools

Gosford City Council is again inviting local schools to participate in its Schools Environment Awareness Program.

Theme for this year's program is "Use your Brain, not the Drain".

Gosford City Council general

manager Mr Peter Wilson said the program was now in its 12th year.

"We're inviting all primary schools in the city to take part in this year's program which will highlight the need to protect our local waterways," said Mr Wilson.

"Staff from Council's environment section are visiting schools to promote the program and encourage school children to help protect our local beaches, lagoons and other catchments.

"Importantly, we want to highlight the need to keep stormwater drains free of rubbish. We want children to understand how their local waterways are closely linked to, and affected by, stormwater drains.

"During the year, participating schools get involved in a range of projects based around the environmental theme. These projects could include designing posters, or producing dance or drama presentations.

"Our Schools Environment Awareness Program has always been popular with primary schools and it culminates with a special presentation day at Laycock Street Theatre later in the year," said Mr Wilson.

Any primary school wanting more information should contact Council's Schools Environmental Awareness Program Coordinator, Maree Whelan, on 4325 8144.

Vicki Brown, June 13

## Great effort in rugby league from Woy Woy

Woy Woy Public School's rugby league team was defeated by Bateau Bay in Round Two of the Westmont Shield

Woy Woy team put in a great effort against a strong opposition. The boys tackled hard all day long.

Shane Burraston was tireless in his attempts to tackle the big forward from Bateau Bay.

When we had the ball the boys tried hard but found it difficult to

break the Bateau Bay line.

Many thanks go to Mr Paget for his coaching efforts, duly assisted by Mr Sainty.

The support from Richard Smithers, from the Woy Woy Leagues Club, is appreciated.

Parents who have supported the team all the way through the competition, assisted with transporting the team to EDSAC Oval.

Brendan McGrath

## Students have fun

Ettalong Public School students are really having fun this year: 105 kindergarten children walked to the Cinema Paradiso at Ettalong to see the "Tigger" movie.

The children all joined in singing the songs they had learned in the classroom and when they returned to school they wrote stories about the film.

On June 14 and 15, all the students took part in a \$2 bowling day to raise funds for shade areas at the school.

The portable bowling lane was transported to the school and each child took their turn to bowl the ball down the lane.

The children were all very excited when the pins were knocked over and they received vouchers from McDonalds and the school canteen along with various novelties as prizes.

Thanks to Astro Lanes at

Bateau Bay for this fantastic way to raise funds for our school.

Also Year 6 students are prepared to head off on their Snowy trip accompanied by their equally enthusiastic teachers.

All should have a wonderful time.

Look out for the photos in the next edition of the Peninsula News.

Children aren't the only ones who have fun at Ettalong Public School.

Parents, carers, and pre-schoolers are looking forward to a fun day at Lions Park, Woy Woy, on Friday, June 23, from 11am to 2pm.

A BYO picnic is planned so everyone can relax and catch up with old friends and meet some new ones.

Anyone starting at Ettalong School next year is invited to come along and join in "a great day out".

Bruce Donaldson, June 14

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4342 6633



# Cooperation suggested

**Woy Woy High School principal Caroline Carter has suggested a co-operative approach to restructuring the education system on the Peninsula.**

She has proposed a model which includes broad community involvement in her submission on the future of secondary education on the Central Coast.

It was "based on a collegiate structure to provide a co-ordinated, seamless education service on the Peninsula" from kindergarten to TAFE.

The following is an extract of her submission.

The history of public education on the Woy Woy-Umina Peninsula is long and distinguished.

All schools on the Peninsula have enjoyed strong community support ever since their establishment, some over 100 years ago.

Even though it happened almost 40 years ago, there are people in our community who can still remember the satisfaction of winning the struggle to have a full high school built on the Peninsula, so that their children did not have to travel to Gosford to complete their education.

These features can be harnessed to remodel education provision on the Peninsula in such a way that schools work co-operatively, rather than compete.

This means that a web of inter-related offerings can be more easily established to provide a range of students with the opportunity to complete their schooling and participate in tertiary education in their local community.

Proposed Model:

Mainstream schools of four K-Year 4; two Years 5-8; one Years 9-12/TAFE; and one K-Year 6 (Pretty Beach).

One of the current primary schools to become a Years 5-8 school; other primary schools to be K-Year 4; one of the current

high schools to become Years 5-8, and one to be Year 9-12/TAFE.

Alternatively, two primary schools be made Years 5-8 and the two high schools become a Years 9-12 school.

Year nine would be a "rites of passage" year which would include residential time at the Broken Bay Sport and Recreation site.

Tafe facilities would be built on the site of one of the current high schools to enable ease of providing both SD and TD VET, as well as providing special TAFE courses to adults in the local community, making up for the loss of the TAFE site at Woy Woy South.

Special education provisions so that students with special needs can complete their schooling in their local community.

An alternative education provision through schools and local agencies working together, for example the PCYC in Osborne Avenue, the Peninsula Community Centre, the Women's Health Centre and Ettalong Time-Out.

Local service clubs could also be included in this project to provide mentors and contacts for work placement, etc.

Students who cannot function effectively in a mainstream school, (but who are not ED), would be mentored to complete their schooling in this alternate program, which would include special adolescent counsellors, and drug and alcohol counselling.

A community LAN (Local Area Computer Network) incorporating schools, agencies, and students' houses to provide educational programs K-TAFE and intercommunication. Including local businesses in the LAN would streamline work placements and work experience provision.

Secondary principals will be meeting on June 22 and 23 to make their final recommendations to the Minister.

Amanda Jackson, June 13

## Ettalong accepts kinder enrolments

**Ettalong Public School is now accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2001.**

Enrolment forms can be obtained by phoning the school on 4341 3655 or by calling in at the school office.

Ettalong Public School offers a Headstart Program, which allows the children to become familiar with most aspects of school life before they begin Kindergarten.

The children come to school for 1.5 hours per week, for 10 weeks, in the year before they begin school, where they meet the teachers and

get to know the routines.

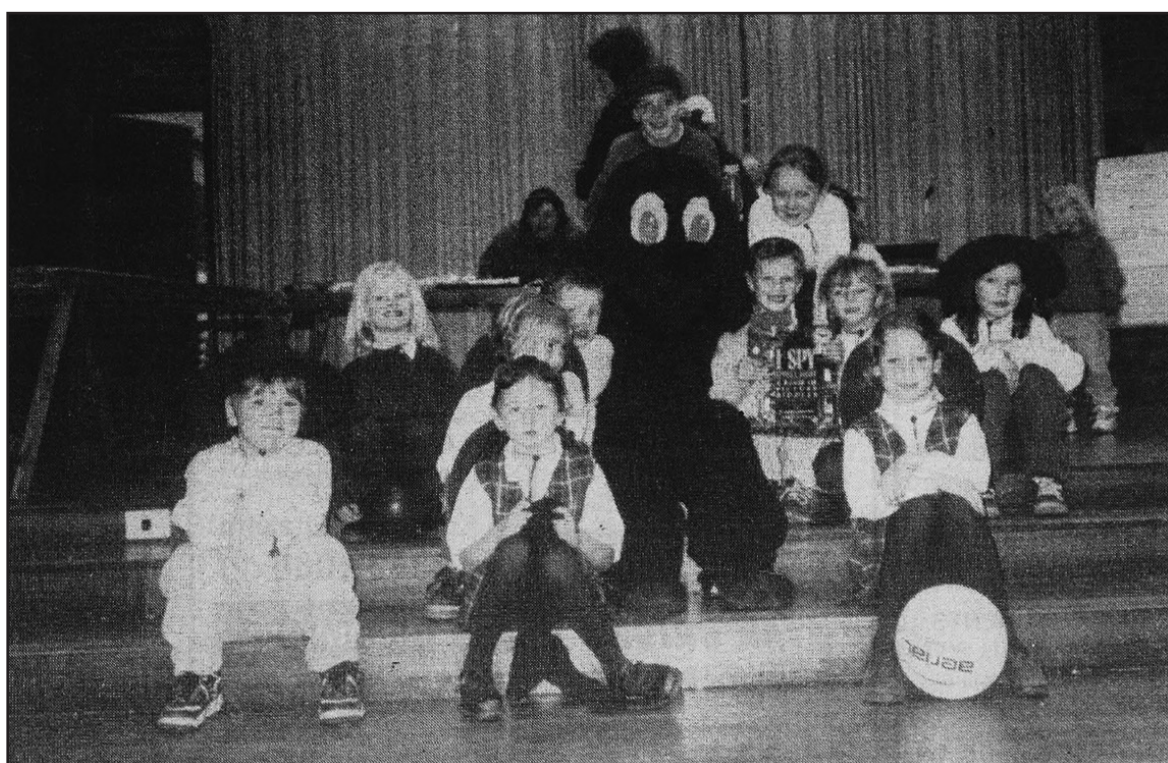
This program prepares the children for "big" school and has proven to settle many of the fears of most children and parents.

It also allows the children to begin learning from day one at Kindergarten.

Headstart begins this year on Wednesday, August 16, for children enrolled at Ettalong Public School for 2001.

A parent information evening will be held in the school library on Wednesday, August 1, at 7pm.

Bice Donaldson, June 14



Some students at the book fair - raising much needed funds

## Book fair raises funds

Woy Woy South Primary School's P&C Association has raised \$6426 through hosting a "Books on Tour" book fair.

The school had a visit from Miss Frizzle, Franklin the Turtle, Lester the Frog, Clifford the Dog and The Famous Magic School Bus.

P&C secretary Ms Sue Bartlett said: "We had the very much appreciated help from the experienced staff of Scholastic and to each and everyone involved, we give thanks.

"The Fair was also complimented by Mr Ken Jolly, managing director of Scholastic, and Mr Mark Leatham, general manager of Scholastic book fairs.

"Thanks also to Mrs Jacqui Timmis."

Competitions were held during the fair including colouring competitions, designing and building robots, and a lucky door prize was drawn at the end of the day.

Storytelling from the Fairy

Godmother and the Witch were also a feature of the fair.

All 27 prize winners on the day received a gift voucher from Scholastic.

Year 6 students made cakes for morning and afternoon teas.

Money raised from the day will go to the school library.

"The most memorable part of the day was seeing the smiles on young children" Ms Bartlett said.



Some of the Woy Way students at practice for the Olympics

## Nineteen students to perform

**Nineteen Woy Woy High students have been selected to take part in the Olympic Games opening ceremony.**

The 19 were chosen after an Australian-wide selection process.

The students had to produce a video tape to showcase their talents to Olympic organisers.

The students had to then perform live at the ABC.

The successful dancers were Lauren Brown, Melissa Bull, Sarah Clifford, Stacey Curtis, Jessica Edwards, Susan Habkour, Kim Honan, Kylie Horton, Shannon Howlett, Aimee Johnstone, Danielle Kerz, Melissa Oliver, Jacinta Pound, Casey Reece, Holly Robertson, Lauren Robertson, Lamie Russell, Amanda Smith and Melissa Varley.

## Teachers to learn new skills

**Woy Woy Public School is inviting members of the school community to its development day for teachers.**

Teachers will undertake training and development on antidiscrimination and occupational health and safety issues.

Principal Mr Warrick Hannon said the sessions, running from 8am on July 17 "would be of interest to many of our school community as they look at the ways we integrate students into the schools".

Mr Hannon said discrimination issues such as age, race, disability and sexuality and the aspects of harassment, victimisation and vilification would be discussed.

Anyone interested should contact the school on 4341 3555.

Carl Spears, June 14

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## Sport



Woy Woy's Kirby Utterick receives instruction from Socceroo Harry Kewell

# When Harry met Kirby ...

**Kirby Litterick, 9, of Umina has had many a soccer player's dream come true, when she met Australian Socceroo Harry Kewell recently.**

Kewell plays for Leeds United in the English Premier League, which finished third in this year's premiership.

He was voted the English Premier League's Young Player of the Year and is expected to star for Australia's Olympic Soccer team as well as in the forthcoming World Cup qualifying campaign as a striker for the Socceroos.

Kirby met Harry Kewell at Wentworth Park, Sydney, where she was part of the elite Coerver training squad.

The meeting between the squad and Kewell was part of a coaching clinic and media shoot.

The coaching clinic included Kewell's involvement with the squad in one-versus-one and two-versus-two exercises and fast break attacks, as well as hints and advice to the youngsters.

Kirby said she was looking forward to seeing him again at the Olympics when Australia meet's Nigeria on September 16.

"I don't think I'll ever meet him again, but I'll never forget it," she said Kirby said she enjoyed the media shoot as well.

She rode a scooter with Harry Kewell, which was filmed by Channel 7 and will be shown on their Olympic show.

"The scooter ride was great and Harry was pretty good on it too," Kirby said.

"I would like one for Christmas." Although the meeting with Harry Kewell was a highlight, Kirby has other commitments to fulfil for the Coerver squad.

Recently, she has attended demonstrations at National Soccer League, Super league and National Women's Team Pacific Cup matches.

In the upcoming school holidays, Kirby will assist with coaching clinics for boys and girls aged seven to 13 at Plum Park, the Central Coast Soccer

Association's home base ..

Kirby attends Woy Woy South Public School.

Kirby is one of the few girls to take part in the NSW Soccer Federation's Coerver Skill squad.

Based at Parklea in North West Sydney, the squad members meet two nights each week for training in the world-wide "new era" Coerver coaching techniques.

The squad is made up of elite players selected from a statewide talent identification program run by the Federation.

The program consists of less than 20 players, who are asked to give up weekend competition matches so that they can concentrate on skills development.

Players who remain in the squad are expected to move on to playing for top clubs, State squads and eventually to enter an institute of sport for further skills development with the final aim being to play for their country.

It is rare for someone of Kirby's youth and gender to make the squad.

Carl Spears, June 14

## Paralympic torch visits

**Peninsula residents have the opportunity to take part in the Paralympic torch relay as it passes through the Gosford municipality on Saturday, October 14, and Monday, October 16.**

"The torch will travel through Bensville, Empire Bay, Daleys Point, Blackwall, Woy Woy, Umina, Pearl Beach and Patonga," according to mayor Cr Chris Holstein

He said that the Motor Accidents Authority was running a competition which gave people the opportunity to take part in the Paralympic torch relay.

"People have the chance to win one of 300 places in this year's relay. Major prize winners get the opportunity to carry the torch along the arch of the Sydney Harbour Bridge."

He said the relay will begin in Canberra on October 5, and will then travel to other capital cities around Australia.

Cr Holstein said people can enter the competition if they are at least 12 years of age before October 1 by telephoning 1900 929 200 or by visiting the website at [www.torchrelay.com.au](http://www.torchrelay.com.au).

Entries must be completed by the deadline on Friday, June 30.

Amanda Jackson, June, 13



Danny Serret leads the heat at Lake Macquarie

## BMX rider on verge of Australian tour

**Woy Woy's Danny Serret, 10, is poised to join the Australian team to race in New Zealand after only 14 months of BMX racing.**

Danny's father Gino had made a bike for him in late 1998 and shortly after Danny joined the BMX Club at Terrigal.

Proud mother, Heather, said her son has a great passion for the sport.

"When we first visited the club, he was so excited he thought all his Christmases had come at once, just knowing he would be able to race BMX," she said.

"In the first year of racing, club official Narelle Walker encouraged Danny to try out in the region Zones."

Danny took her advice and finished with his first winner's trophy.

"After his first trophy, he wanted

to go all the way and give his best to the sport. He loved it so much," Ms Serret said.

Ms Serret said that, although Danny went on to the State titles and won his first race, he didn't succeed in the others in his first year.

"He didn't get that state plate but he walked away happy knowing he got to race in the State titles," she said.

Danny has since progressed to the stage where he is on the verge of being selected for an Australian team, his mother said.

Danny said he really enjoyed the sport and had made some good friends.

"I competed in the five region zones and went to Taree, Lake Macquarie, Maitland and Port Stevens," Danny said.

He is currently looking for a sponsor.

## Bowls tournaments played

**Two of the Coast's most prestigious and popular bowls tournaments will soon be played on the Peninsula.**

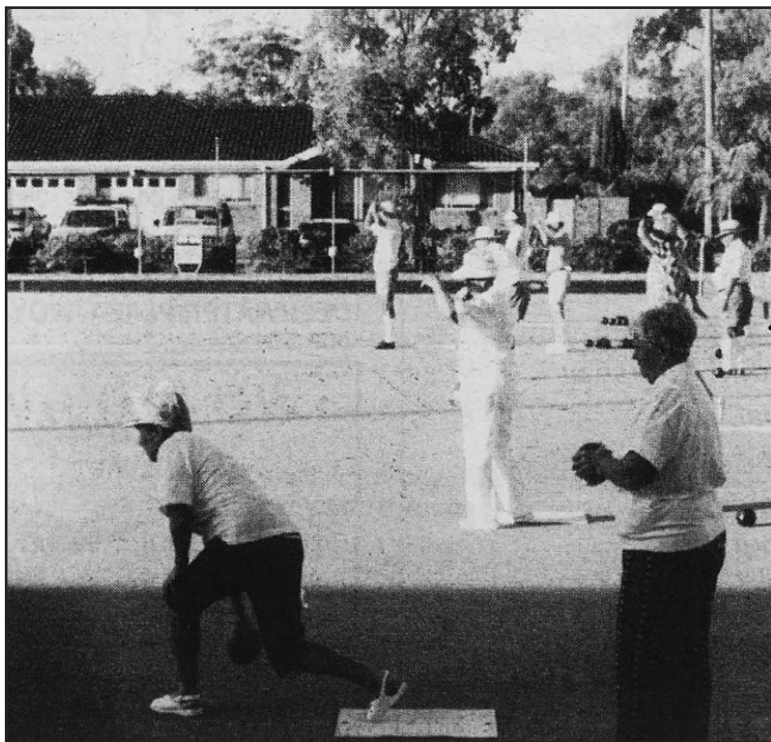
Umina's Kingfisher triples played until June 23 has again attracted a top field while Ettalong's annual Prestige Fours tournament is filling fast with outstanding sides already entered.

One of Ettalong's very popular members A.J. 'Grumbles' Evans rose to the occasion in a recent match by producing three consecutive touchers on one end, a feat he had never previously accomplished in his long and distinguished career and a feat that will probably never be repeated.

"A.J." in his usual inimitable style let all and sundry know of his achievement.

The only fact he didn't divulge was that every time he touched the jack his bowls went in one direction and the jack the other.

From Ettalong Bowling Club



Bowls, a ,Popular Peninsula pastime

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Everglades lady golfers in action - the group raised \$1600 for the Woy Woy aged care bus fund

# Everglades ladies raise \$1600

**The Everglades ladies' golf group recently had two golf days and raised \$1600 in the process for the Woy Woy aged care bus fund.**

The group has also just finished its Year 2000 Championships.

The A-grade champions were Hien McManus with 322 gross over, closely following by Bev Crowther with 324 gross.

Nett winner was Jan Henry with 295 closely followed by Jenny Sonter with 296.

The B-grade champion was Marie Conallin with 395 and the

runner up was Nona Lockeridge with 410.

The nett winner was Judy Dunstan with 297 from Anne Woods with 306 nett.

In C-grade, a new member, Beatrice Jaeger won with 426 shots and Lorraine Stevenson was runner-up with 431.

The nett winner was Carol Mapplebeck with 303 and Heather Huntington, runner-up on a countback also with 303.

Veteran's Championships were also held during the first two rounds.

A-grade was Beverleigh Crowther, 160 gross from Hien McManus, 162 gross.

Nett was won by Faye Spence 141 from Jan Henry with 144.

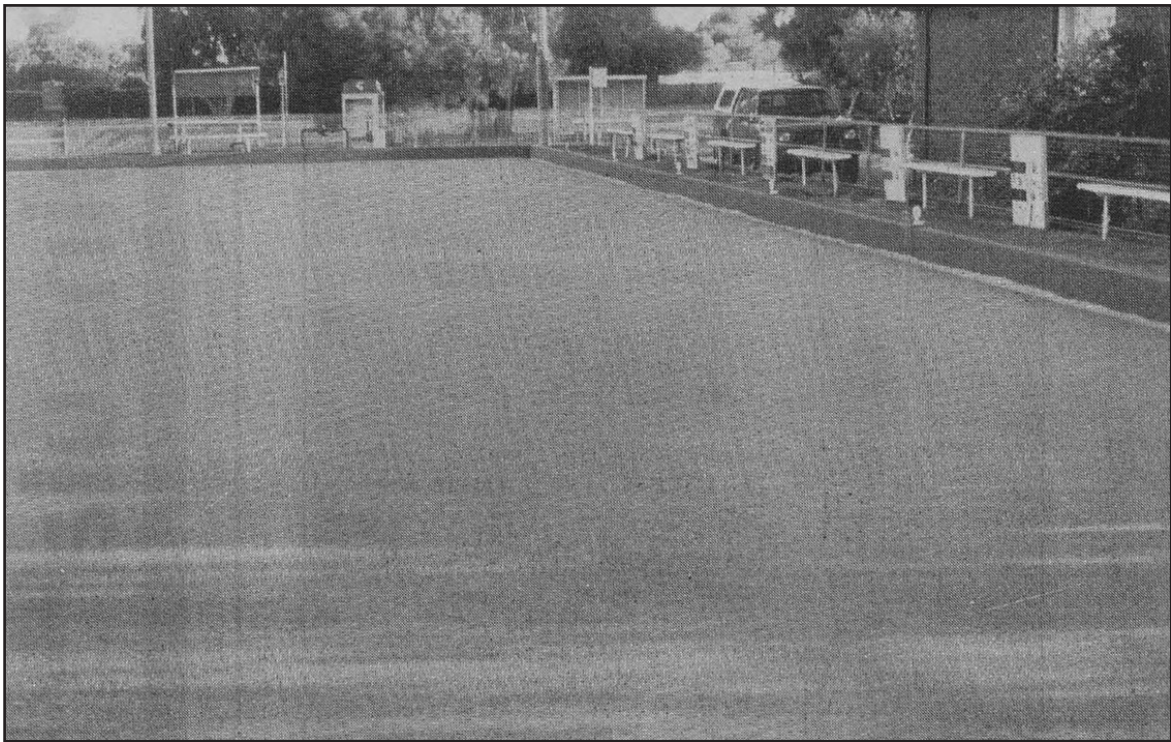
B-grade winner was Janet Jenkins 199 gross on countback from Marie Conallin.

Nett winner was Judy Dunstan 148 from Faye Stratton on 152.

C-grade was won by Beatrice Jaeger with 211 gross from Barbara Olde with 216 gross.

Nett winner 'was Veronica Jordan, followed by Heather Huntington'.

Mary Brady, May 30



Woy Woy Bowling Club's new synthetic green

# New bowling green is in use

**Woy Woy Bowling Club's synthetic green is in full use.**

Although slow to start, the green's speed is expected to be regained within a few weeks.

Students from Woy Woy High School, both boys and girls, have elected lawn bowls as their chosen Tuesday afternoon sport.

An average of 24 students from the school participate each

Tuesday, under the tutelage of club president Glen Smith and his willing helpers; Fred Hawkesworth, Ted Martin, Gordon Armstrong, Roy Beleski and Graham Kenney who have been instructing students on the finer points of the game.

Popular club members and hard working school teachers from Woy Woy Public School Neil Williams and Chris Newell were the first team to reach the semi-finals of the club pairs championships.

They have since been joined by Gordon Graig and Sel Manual, Ray Duignan and Jim Rochester and father and son duo Martin and Alan Rogers.

Still on the green, bowler Ted Roffey, 95, bowls with the club on a regular basis. He last won a club championship in 1994.

Ray Wright, June 12.

# Council grants given

**Gosford City Council is seeking applications for its Recreation Assistance Program (RAP) .**

General Manager of Gosford City Council, Mr Peter Wilson, says RAP replaces the Capital Improvement Grant Program, "We have \$40,000 in grants to .be allocated to sporting and recreation clubs and associations within the Gosford Local Government Area," says Mr Wilson.

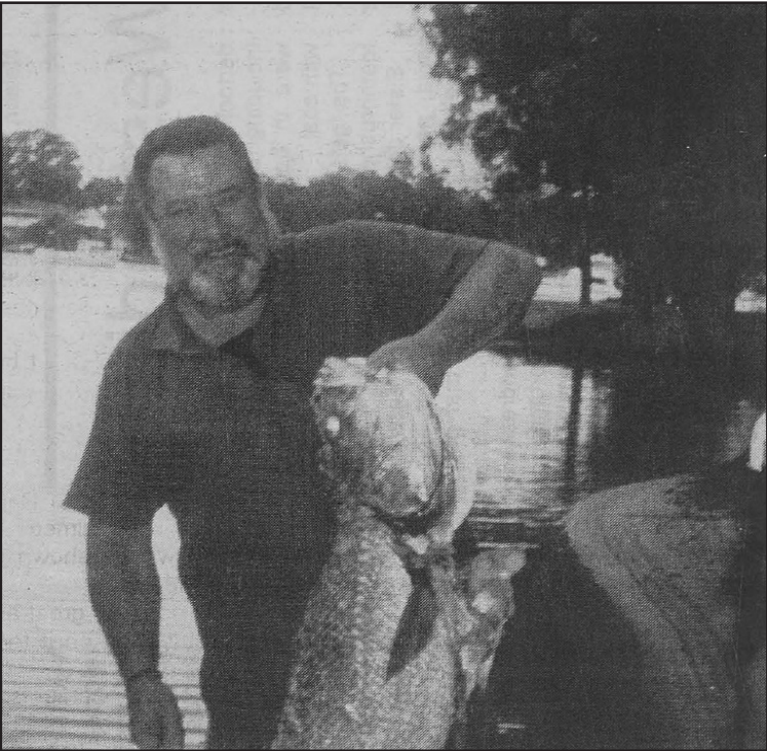
"Funds are provided on a dollar for dollar basis for up to 50% of the total project cost.

"The provision of materials and, to a lesser extent, voluntary labour is allowed as part of an applicant's contribution to the project cost.

"Eligible projects include upgrade or development of buildings such as amenities buildings or clubhouses, fencing, floodlighting , ground improvements, studies or investigations leading to a capital project, equipment such as uniforms and training aids, and hardcourt facility developments or improvements," All applications are ranked by the Gosford City Sports Council prior to consideration by Council Mr Wilson says.

Applications close Friday 21 July with successful grants to be announced by 1 September.

For further information or an application form, contact Council's Recreation Officer John Ferguson on 4325 8430.



Barry Whitney with his 18kg Jewie caught at the Rip Bridge

# Winner announced

**The winner of the Woy Woy Hotel interclub fishing competition was Gosford RSL.**

It was the last Woy Woy Hotel competition of the year.

James Condon won the junior competition and Ray Halewell won the seniors.

Runner-up junior went to James Hayes.

- With winter well upon us, not a lot of fishing has taken place, but there are still some nice fish around with blackfish, bream and good sized flathead going up to 2.9kg in Paddy's Channel.

With whiting also, now is a good time to get your live bloodworms.

Barry Whitney caught an 18kg jewfish at the Rip Bridge.

In Brisbane Waters there ar

**FISHING**

greenback tailor being caught on WA pills and lures.

The best time for these is early morning or late afternoon.

On the outside scene, there were big seas and big swells, which meant little was caught.

There are plenty of mako sharks at the east and west reefs.

We suggest you try down at Flinton Steel for bream and flathead.

A \$20 voucher for Fish of the Month was won by Ken Andrews.

The fish of the month for June is tailor.

Ken Bartlett, June 14, Jamie's Bait and Tackle

# Two athletes sponsored

**Everglades Country Club has sponsored two young athletes to attend events in their chosen sport.**

Michael McGurren, who has been chosen to attend the Australian water polo selection trials in Perth, received a cheque for \$500.

Blake Vanderwoulde, who

holds the 800m State Schools Championship for athletics, received a cheque for \$464 to attend the recent Pacific School Games in Sydney.

Club president, Mr Brian Crawley, said the club was proud to support the young athletes and wished them well.

Carl Spears, May 24



## Danielle is heat winner

Bensville's Danielle Preston, 17, has won her heat of the Model Quest 2000 last week.

Model Quest is an annual state-wide event organised and conducted by the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children to raise money for the organisation.

Danielle will now compete in the Hunter Regional Final at Belmont in November for a chance to go into the grand final at the Sydney Hilton in December.

Entrants are judged on deportment, catwalk technique, presentation and style, appropriateness of dress for age and the ability to participate in a choreographed event.

Carl Spears, June 15

# Nunyarra health unit holds aboriginal forum

**The Nunyarra Aboriginal Health Unit of the Central Coast Health Service will be conducting a forum for members of the local Aboriginal community at Uirilina Community Hall on June 23.**

The forum will take place from 9am until 3pm and will focus on Aboriginal health issues.

The topics to be discussed include an Update on the local Aboriginal Health Strategic Plan, discussing what has been

achieved and what local health issues need to be addressed.

The forum will also give people information on who can make these things happen, and will follow with an open discussion allowing those who attend the opportunity to have their say.

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided.

For details and information on transport contact Brian Dowd, Aboriginal Health Education Officer, on 4320 2696.

Amanda Jackson, June, 13.

## Youth Council at Web

**The Gosford City Youth Council meets today at the Web Youth Centre, Woy Woy, at 4:45pm.**

The Youth Council is a youth advisory body to Gosford City Council and other youth bodies in the Gosford City local government areas.

"Our main aim is to make Gosford City a better place to live for young people," said president Amy Bauder.

"We are currently trying to gain standardised policy from the local bus companies on youth fares.

"We have had some success with the

Mayor, Cr Chris Holstein, and the Council's Traffic Committee currently investigating the situation.

We are also currently trying to boost our membership.

"Anyone aged 12 to 25 years is welcome to attend our meetings and have an impact on the future of the Gosford area." July's meeting will be held at the Labyrinth Cafe, cnr Baker and Erina Sts, Gosford, on Tuesday, July 11, at 4:45pm.

For further information, please contact Amy Bauder on 4325 2862 after hours.

## Rotary's 50th

**The Rotary Club of Woy Woy will celebrate 50 years of service on June 24 with a special Changeover Dinner.**

The dinner, to be held at Linton Gardens Receptions, Somersby, will reflect on the past 50 years and the contribution the club has made to the Woy Woy area.

Guest speakers will attend, as well as state and local politicians and dignitaries.

Cost is \$35 per head.

For further information, contact Chris Nelson on 4344 3599.

## Donna returns from West India

**Peninsula nursing sister Donna Jelley recently returned from a Churches of Christ overseas mission at Ashwood Memorial Hospital in West India.**

Initially, she was shocked by the prevalent poverty and poor living conditions.

Her own living quarters were very basic with running water for one to two hours a day, a septic system that didn't work and a bucket in which to wash.

The hospital was 100 years old and, although very prestigious when first built, is now in disrepair and badly in need of upgrading.

The hospital had a three-bed labour ward, three outpatients' cubicles for

doctors and one big ward in which to house the maternity patients and their children.

There were no toilets and people had to relieve themselves in an adjacent field.

Under these conditions, it is little wonder Sister Jelley witnessed at least one baby die a week and up to 10 stillbirths a day during her six-week stay.

Sister Jelley commented that a "majority of women have at least one deceased child".

Her favourite experience was a visit to a nearby orphanage which housed five to 16-year-old children.

They were provided with education, food and board.

One dorm slept 50 children on the floor.

Sister Jelley and a female doctor undertook physical checks on all the girls including checking their teeth which were in bad condition from cleaning with coal.

The girls were taught how to use toothbrushes and tooth paste.

Sister Jelley said, "the children were timid, needy and small for their age, dispelling the popular belief that poverty is character-building." The problems are being addressed by politician's wives who are promoting a limit of two children per family and better neonatal health.

"I've always had a heart for missions," was Sister Jelley's main reason for volunteering her nursing services in poverty-stricken West India.

Karen Booth, June 13



## Joint beautification project starts

**A joint beautification project developed by Gosford City Council and residents of the Correa Bay section of Way Woy Rd has started at South Woy Woy.**

Council machinery has been at work cleaning out the area among trees immediately to the west of the Shoalhaven Drive railway underpass beside Correa Bay at South Woy Woy.

The aim of the project is to make the

Way Woy Rd entrance to the Peninsula more attractive.

Rubbish vegetation has been cleared and mulch applied in preparation for plantings of Australian native grasses, shrubs, and trees.

Nola Parry, an expert on Australian native plants.

is acting as planting advisor.

Council's Director of Works, Stephen Glen, assisted by Stephen Mitchellhill,

Les Irwin and Wayne Reid, has taken on the responsibility for preparation of the area.

Local residents will undertake the planting activities and the on-going maintenance of the plants.

All concerned are excited that such a project has been undertaken and that Council and the community are working so closely together for the common good.

John Oakley, June 13

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