



A fire crew extinguishes flames in bush in Woy Woy Rd, Woy Woy

Andrews claims secret plans for netball courts

Gosford Council had secret plans to use the Lemon Grove netball courts for ferry parking, the Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, claimed last week.

However, Ms Andrews' comments have been described as "blatant scare-mongering" by Cr Chris Holstein, who will stand against her in the March election.

In a press release last week, Ms Andrews said that a suggestion by the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce president, Mr Matthew Wales, revealed that the Lemon Grove netball courts would be turned into a car park for ferry passengers.

"There is no doubt that more carpark spaces are needed," Ms Andrews said.

"But Gosford Council has a responsibility to be open and accountable to its ratepayers and the truth is that ratepayers have been misled.

"Council tried to acquire homes in this vicinity late last year under the premise of using the land for 'open space'.

"We now see that this proposal was really for a car park area."

Cr Holstein, who has announced that he will stand as an independent candidate for Peats, said that council did not plan to use the netball courts for parking.

"Council has resolved and reaffirmed that the Lemon Grove reserve will not be used for

parking.

"This is just blatant scare-mongering on Marie Andrews' part," Cr Holstein said.

Ms Andrews said she had started a petition calling on Gosford Council to leave sporting facilities and people's homes alone and find other suitable areas for parking.

"It's simply not good enough," she said.

"The Carr Government has committed \$4.3 million to the building of the ferry wharf provided that all necessary conditions are met.

"Council should have thought of the need for suitable parking long before now.

"Ratepayers should have been told the truth right from the start.

"Who knows what other plans council may have?" Ms Andrews said.

Ms Andrews said that the council and developers had only provided 36 car spaces for commuters, but the proposed ferry would hold 450 passengers.

"This means that the excess cars would spill over on to local streets, limiting the number of car spaces available to local residents and workers.

"It would be irresponsible for the Council and developers to leave our community without an important sporting facility like the Lemon Grove netball courts.

"Our local kids deserve good sporting facilities and I'll do everything I can to make sure they have them," said Ms Andrews.

Jonathan Reichard, press release, February 4

Fire hits the Peninsula

The Peninsula area was hit by fire in the last two weeks, with blazes starting in Woy Woy South and the Patonga areas.

A fire started on private property in Woy Woy South at around midday on Thursday, January 30, quickly spreading into Brisbane Water National Park.

Using strategic back burning, 150 workers managed to contain the northern end of the blaze that evening despite temperatures in the mid-40s.

They continued to work on the southern end on January 31, patrolling and attempting to contain some areas.

The baseball pitch at Rogers Park cricket ground was used for heli-tankers to re-fuel, collecting water supplies from Correa Bay to drop on spot fires.

No property was lost in the fire but 100 hectares of land was burnt out.

Ms Sam Mattila from National Parks said that fire authorities

suspected the fire was deliberately lit.

"There were two ignition points starting on Nagari Rd in Woy Woy South," she said.

Members of the public were urged to contact police if they witnessed any suspicious activity in Nagari Rd on Thursday, January 30.

National Parks also suspected a fire was deliberately lit in the Patonga area the same weekend.

The fire, which started on Patonga Drive early Sunday morning also moved into Brisbane Water National Park.

According to Susan Butler from the rural fire service, the fire was contained by the evening of Sunday, February 2.

"Back burning was used to contain the fire and crews continue to patrol the area," she said.

No property was damaged but the fire is considered suspicious and any people who may have witnessed something are urged to call the police.

Fires such as these have been the result of extreme weather conditions this summer, which include a combination of high temperatures and strong westerly winds.

In preparation for extreme temperatures forecast for Thursday, January 30, National Parks closed all walking tracks and trails in Brisbane Water National Park and Bouddi National Park.

They also closed all parks and reserves with the exception of Gurrakool and Somersby Falls Picnic areas in Brisbane Water National Park.

Similar actions were also taken over the recent Australia Day long-weekend during an unprecedented four-day total fire ban with the closure of the Putty Beach camping ground in Bouddi National Park.

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service director-general Mr Brian Gilligan said that park visitors should obey closures for their own well-being.

"On hot, dry, windy days bushfires can start very easily and evacuations in the event of fire can prove treacherous."

"They can also place enormous strain on emergency services already committed to property and life protection in areas under immediate threat from fire," he said.

To find out about park closures National Parks and Wildlife Service can be contacted via the website www.npws.nsw.gov.au or by phoning the National Parks Centre on 1300 361 967.

Alison Branley, press release, February 6



A water-bombing helicopter refuels at Rogers Park



Ms Marie Andrews with concerned residents Sarah Fisher, Kevin McGuire and Vicky Rixom

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Forum

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Welcome to Edition 60 of Peninsula News

With an election in the offing, this edition includes, on page 8, a statement from each Peats candidate that responded to our request.

Edition 62 will also include an electoral platform statement from each candidate to help readers make an informed choice when voting.

Our next edition will include a pictorial feature on the history of Woy Woy which has its 215th "birthday" on March 3.

Contributions and advertising support are both encouraged and welcomed.

Cec Bucello, Manager

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About Peninsula News

Peninsula News is owned by Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Inc., an incorporated, non-profit association.

Its aims include providing a viable, non-partisan news medium and forum exclusively for the Peninsula and developing a sense of community on the Peninsula.

The day to day running and printing of the newspaper is undertaken by Mail Order Mall under licence from the association.

The paper actively encourages all groups and individuals on the Peninsula to contribute their news, opinions and items of interest for publication.

Contributions to the paper are edited to consistent standards of readability. Guidelines are available for intending contributors.

Community members are also invited to contribute by taking photos, joining the association, typing, or participating in committees.


There are 14000 copies of Peninsula News printed and distributed within the 2256 and 2257 postcode areas as well as to subscribers.

For further information on placing advertisements, making contributions, becoming involved or having material published, please phone the office on 4342 2070 during normal business hours

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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 to editor@PeninsulaNews.asn.au or on disk to save us having to retype them are preferred. Forum contributors are reminded that full contact details, including phone number, must accompany submissions. Please include a date with all contributions.

Name and suburb will be published.

Anonymous contributions will not be included.

Don't make us a target

I am deeply opposed to Australia's involvement in this war.

The Government has the right to defend the country, not the right to turn us into a target.

John Howard's enthusiastic support for George Bush's personal vendetta to finish what his "daddy" could not, is a disgrace.

How can a democratic Government put us at war, without a debate on the issue.

Innocent Australians' blood will be on this Government's hands, when we suffer retaliatory attacks, as I believe we will.

You will not stop single person terrorist attacks by bombing Iraq, you will markedly increase the likelihood of them.

How will this Government stop a suicide bomber in Sydney streets.

How will it stop the poisoning of our water supply.

How will it stop a bushfire

being lit.

There are a thousand ways Islamic extremists can reap revenge.

Blowing up countries is not the way to win the "war" on terror.

It is using old style militaristic tactics, in an era when one individual can reap more damage, than ever before in man's history.

John Howard does not have the right to commit Australia to this war, without a specific mandate from the electors.

Government is there to serve the people, not to dictate to them.

John Howard will happily use the rule of law when it suits his political purposes, but will equally turn a blind eye when it does not.

He who lives by the sword, will die by the sword.

John Howard will take this decision to his grave.

Warren Cross, Wagstaffe

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Flyer stop is good news

When news came out in Woy Woy's local paper (Peninsula News, January 28) that Newcastle Flyer service stops at Woy Woy station, this is indeed good news, not only to commuters, but also to many Australians.

After Bali, Australian travel views have been altered to a certain degree.

Besides, why go overseas for a holiday when New South Wales Central Coast has scenic places to explore?

With a defined schedule of the Newcastle Flyer to stop at Woy Woy at 7:30am Monday to Friday, then to arrive on time at Sydney Central station at 8:48am, those looking for jobs or simply excitement watching the scenery along the way would find it easy to "jump in".

Woy Woy residents would surely be benefited: business people, senior citizens and young people.

Also, Woy Woy with easy train

transport would attract more tourists, more business activities that accompany tourism.

The town of Woy Woy, in earlier days, has been the place of "escape" from the hub of city life.

It has a history of placid surroundings, a welcome smile from the locals to strangers in town.

Where we are now staying at Farnell St near the inlet lake, the water is clean, the evening breeze is pleasant, and the pelicans are flying, gliding above us.

The Pelican Island is their sanctuary, and to see them and their babies at close range one must hire a boat, so we were told.

Scenic Woy Woy area, with Ms Marie Andrews as Peats MP, representative to the NSW Government, has her to thank for her effort to talk Transport Minister Carl Scully into giving Woy Woy the much-needed train.

Lydia Apiladas Brown, Punchbowl

Council's competence is a political issue

Some businesses have paid levies, taxes and rates for more than 40 years.

This "new" economic strategy was the initiative of Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, funded by State and Federal Government, and the Chamber.

It suggests money paid through the levy would employ a "place manager" to implement the strategy and fund business promotion and development, security and street improvements.

Someone needs to be reminded what we ratepayers already pay our rates for here on the Peninsula.

After all, those who are in management at the Gosford Council are paid well enough to do these things already.

The fact is obvious that Gosford Council is not competent to do what is expected of it.

The strategy is already owned by the whole community: that is what we pay rates for, the good government of the people.

Mr Ian's Radford's assertion, "I would not like it to become a political football in the lead-up to the March State Election", must have been a joke.

The inability of the Gosford Council to provide the "good government of the people" is a political issue.

Edward James, Umina

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More time for Bensville school application

The council has voted to grant more time for negotiations over proposed extensions to the school at Bundaleer Cr, Bensville.

The decision was made against the wishes of local residents, who had requested the council refuse the application.

The decision was the result of a casting vote by acting mayor, Cr Craig Doyle, in the absence of mayor Cr Robert Bell who was ill.

Cr Chris Holstein moved that the extension be granted and Crs Daniel Cook, Tony Sansom, and Craig Doyle supported him.

Crs Malcolm Brooks, Lynne Bockholt, Judith Penton and Geoff Preece wanted to refuse the development application.

Cr Debra Wales was absent having earlier been granted leave without pay.

Residents requested that council refuse the application, saying that any extension needs to be small and there is no room for a church.

The applicants argued that they had invested a large amount of time in the project's development and progress had been made in negotiations with the residents.

They said that refusal would

send them back to square one.

The pointed out that they had cut their original estimate of the school catering for 350 down to around 180 students, only 40 more than are currently enrolled.

They also said that they had reduced the proposed church floor space to half that originally proposed.

Cr Brooks said that the applicant could not amend the original plan as much as had been proposed.

"It would have to be a new plan and that would require a new application.

"We would be granting an extension for something that is not there any more," Cr Brooks said.

Cr Sansom said: "Council has in the past agreed to defer the application for the school and the residents to get together.

"The outcome has been positive, the plans have been revised and the process is underway.

Cr Bockholt said: "Accepting a further extension of time is saying that on the site there will be an extension to the school and a church.

"I do not think there should be.

"I was daunted by the size of the proposal on the plans.

"This land is not suitable."

Jonathan Reichard, February 5



Bush at the Burrawang Reserve has been identified as endangered

Council directive for Burrawang

Gosford Council has directed its staff not to carry out any further work in the Burrawang Bushland Reserve without prior consultation with the Burrawang Reserve committee.

The council resolution follows the identification of an endangered community of plants in the reserve.

It also follows the second incident in three months in which Council work in the reserve has drawn criticism from the committee for its insensitivity.

An ecological consultant engaged by Gosford Council has found that part of the Burrawang Bushland Reserve contains an endangered community of plants.

"The advice from the ecological consultant was that an area of vegetation in the Hillview St reserve opposite Florida Ave, Woy Woy, is consistent with the Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland ecological community," the council was told in a staff report.

The reserve, owned by the Department of Land and Water Conservation but controlled by Council, will now be assessed for reclassification as a "reserve for environmental protection"

from recreation land which "does not necessarily protect the site from other uses by the Crown".

The department's Maitland office recommended that a formal land assessment be undertaken according to guidelines for "rapid assessment of environmental significance of leasehold land".

The assessment is due to start next month.

Identification of the endangered ecological community within the reserve also meant that the National Parks and Wildlife Service was required under the Threatened Species Conservation Act to prepare a "recovery plan".

"Recovery plans outline the actions that government departments and other organisations have agreed upon to help the recovery of the species, population or ecological community," the council was told.

"Recovery plans are designed to return the threatened species, population or ecological community to a point where their survival is viable in nature."

Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland is a low woodland dominated by trees of

Eucalyptus botryoides (Southern Mahogany) and Angophora floribunda (Roughbarked Apple) with a diverse understorey of sclerophyllous shrubs species including Banksia serrata (Saw Banksia), Banksia integrifolia (Coast Banksia) Macrozamia communis (Burrawang), and Acacia ulicifolia (Prickly Moses).

The woodland was included as an endangered ecological community under the Threatened Species Conservation Act in December.

"While only five occurrences of the Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland (totalling less than two hectares) have been identified in the determination of the Scientific Committee, it is possible that other remnants of the ecological community exist," the council was told.

"Remnants are very small and threatened by mowing and slashing, weed invasion, sand extraction and modified fire regimes."

At the same meeting, the council's Tree Preservation Committee added trees in the reserve to the Council's tree register.

Council agenda EP.004, February 4

Diamond ring fashioned for raffle

Local jeweller and Rotarian Mr Keith Ramsden has turned a unique diamond into a work of art to help poverty stricken children on Sumba Island, Indonesia.

The stone is a yellow 0.6-carat diamond from the Cempaka Alluvial Diamond Mine in South East Kalimantan, an area where diamonds have been found for more than 1000 years.

Keith has worked the stone

into a beautiful ring of white gold worth more than \$2500.

The ring is the prize in a major raffle being run by the Woy Woy Rotary Club in conjunction with its Indonesian Night to be held on February 25 at the Everglades Country Club.

"This is not only a magnificent prize, the winner will get a ring with a fascinating history," said Woy Woy Rotary Club's international director Mr Ross Pearse.

Two businessmen with interests in the mine, Mr Harry Suharsono and Mr Charles Watson, have donated the diamond in a joint effort with Woy Woy Rotary Club to help the children in Sumba.

Ross Pearse, January 29

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Cavalier approach

Gosford Council's workers at the sewerage pumping station have a very cavalier approach to sensitive bushland.

In this climate of concern for our environment, it should be pointed out to workers to approach all areas with great care.

Apparently, they can't work it out without supervision.

This particular area has been ignored for many years. Now volunteers and concerned groups are giving up time to preserve what is left of our valuable plant life.

It should be respected.

A large fine may make consultation with their own council environment representative a future prerogative.

E Hyslop, Woy Woy

Concern for seniors

There are annoyances, which cause concern for senior residents on the Peninsula.

I wish to bring attention to two of these.

The absence of public seating at bus stops (not where bus shelters are provided) is hard on older people with disabilities.

Woy Woy used to have multiple opportunities for such people.

Now seats are few and far between at the waterfront reserves for both rest and recreation, and in shopping streets.

Many people in Woy Woy are disabled in minor and major ways, and testimony for this is the number who use walking sticks and frames.

I can only assume that the seats have been removed due to vandalism and to prevent the homeless from using the seats at night for rest.

In this day of technological discoveries, surely seats to resist damage can be produced, and as for the homeless, well

they have to sleep somewhere off the ground.

More seats would also benefit picnickers.

Recently the damage and theft of flowering plants and shrubs has been noticed at Woy Woy from public gardens, pinched out of the "public purse".

Our rates pay for these and the thieves have no regard for public sentiment when they steal from a memorial park.

A lot of rate payers could testify that stealing plants is endemic by so-called respectable types, and many pensioners lose plants they have cherished and pots they have paid for.

During the 1930 Depression, recalled by us oldies, giving slips from plants and asking for seeds and bits was socially acceptable.

But in these times, watching for residents to leave their homes on holidays and then "doing over" their backyards surely is not acceptable.

They are thieving from the "private purse", and they should be told to buy their own.

Enid Harrison, Woy Woy

'Do nothing' authorities

The National Parks and Wildlife Service and Gosford Council are securing land around our area but unfortunately they can't or don't try to look after it.

National Parks should be where people can drive to a picnic spot not a heap of bush and undergrowth causing fires and people's homes to burn down.

It's about time that both bodies tried to back burn in the winter so that residents wouldn't be afraid of fires.

Fireman did a good job after fire occurred but too late, just

God's help with the wind direction saved our properties.

It's time power was given to the fire authority to do what they think fit, not leave it to the "do nothings".

J Dillon, Woy Woy.

Reluctance to enforce footpath policy

I refer to the footway-outdoor dining policy of Gosford Council.

Council has issued guidelines for areas approved on public footways limited to areas directly adjacent to approved and existing places of dining.

Why does council condone breaches of its own policy?

"A clear distance of a least two metres of footway must be maintained for pedestrian traffic."

A one-way area exists outside a local delicatessen, where pedestrians have to give way to each other because the area is clogged up with excessive tables and chairs.

A large portion of the footpath has been taken over outside a

seafood shop also.

"Furniture made from plastic and other light-weight materials will not be permitted."

The council advises that it had carried out an inspection of Woy Woy, Umina and Ettalong in August 2002 and stated that proprietors who had not formalised agreements would be forced to remove items from the footpath.

The inspection must have been carried out in the dark, as no changes have been made by the proprietors and no action taken by the council.

Just recently, council changed the Footway-Outdoor Dining Policy which has now made complying with the policy easier.

Is it: "If they won't comply, then we will change the policy so what they are doing complies"?

Various ratepayers have advised council on numerous occasions and nothing has been done.

It appears council's reluctance to enforce its own policy could be because friends and relatives are in the business of footway dining.

Gosford Council is unwilling to enforce sections 626 and 627 of the Local Government Act 93 (non comply and illegal use) and this is just another example of Gosford Council's poor track record when doing their job is concerned.

RA Smith, Umina

Poisonous plants grow on the Peninsula



Recent alarmist news reports from overseas recently highlighted the problems that can arise from using the powerful ingredients in some plants.

One of the plants mentioned, *ricinis communis*, more commonly known as castor oil plant, appears to be growing freely on the Peninsula, both on private land and on council-owned land.

The plants frequently grow to flowering stage in places such as rubbish tips, railway lines and sidings, as well as disused land all over NSW.

According to the information obtained from Gosford Council web site, the plants are not declared as a noxious weed, yet in Hornsby LGA, the castor oil plants are declared noxious.

Unfortunately information from the NSW Department of Health could not be located on-line but

according to the Queensland Department of Health web site, the castor oil plant is a poisonous plant that can cause serious illness to children who eat them.

The site provides information and can be found at www.health.qld.gov.au.

There are many other garden variety plants that can also be dangerous to people and

animals on the Peninsula.

Plants such as rhubarb and oleanders also contain poisonous parts that Peninsula residents need to take care if ingested.

If confronted by a poison case, people should call the Poisons Information Centre on 131 126, which is available nationally.

Stephen McNamara, February 5

Stop dropping droppings

I'd like to address my comments through you to the person/s who collects their dog droppings in a plastic bag and then deposits this "package" in the bushland at the corner of Hillview St and Veron Rd, Woy Woy.

This morning on my daily walk I discovered and removed about 20 of these "packages". I then

disposed of them properly in a garbage bin.

We are approaching Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday, March 2, when we all get the opportunity to contribute a few hours to cleaning up our beaches, waterways, parks, roadsides and bushland.

Clean Up Australia Day also reminds us to review our waste disposal practices.

We have an excellent household garbage service, as

well as bins in public places. There are three public garbage bins within a short walk of where you are rubbishing the bush with dog droppings. Your household garbage bin is emptied each week.

The bushland is for native plants and animals, not plastic bags of dog droppings.

From now on, please "do the right thing".

Shirley Hotchkiss, Umina

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Bill of quantities for centre

Rider-Hunt Sydney Pty Ltd has been engaged by Gosford Council to provide a bill of quantities for the Peninsula Regional Leisure Centre construction, taking payments to the firm to over \$100,000 and more than three times its original quote.

The bill of quantities would be used to help define the project for the tender process.

The firm was originally engaged to provide council with quantity surveying services for the construction of the project.

Their services were quoted in November 2000 at \$35,000 for the project, which was valued at that time at around \$9 million.

Since that time the project had increased in scope and value to

the extent that the fee was now \$70,000, according to a council staff report.

The council was asked to approve the payment of a further \$45,000 for the firm to prepare a bill of quantities for the project.

The council was told that a bill of quantities would assist in the definition and interpretation of the tender documents, reducing the incidence of subsequent costly variations.

It would accurately reflect the scope of works and will reduce the range in the value of the tenders received.

The staff report claimed the development of the Parklea Leisure Centre for Blacktown Council, was delayed for four weeks while tenderers organised their own bill of quantities for the project.

The staff report stated that, with the preparation of the bill of quantities, the total fees payable to Rider-Hunt for the project would exceed \$100,000.

"Whilst these are two distinct services being provided, it is considered prudent to seek council approval for appointment of Rider-Hunt to undertake the work.

"This action is consistent with council's tendering Policy A3.07.

"As Rider-Hunt have been providing council with cost details of the project for two years to date, they are aware of the development and detail of the project.

"To engage a different firm to provide this service would delay the project", the council was told.

Council agenda CS.009, January 28

Aquatic tenders to be called

Gosford Council will call tenders for the construction of the Regional Aquatic Centre at Woy Woy even though essential State funding for the project has not been secured.

The council has not heard whether it will receive a grant under the Regional Sports Facilities Funding Program or funding from the NSW Department of Transport for associated road works.

Council staff have been asked to report on the options available should its funding submissions be unsuccessful.

The council will also write an open letter to Premier Mr Bob Carr, Minister for Central Coast Mr John Della Bosca and Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews, seeking a commitment to fund the project.

Council staff have also been asked to report on the projected operating deficit for the facility.

Council was told the aquatic centre originally was included in council's 1997 Financial Strategy as a project to develop the Peninsula Youth and Recreation Facility with an allocation of \$1.5 million.

The scope of this project had changed over time and several new elements incorporated.

The Regional Aquatic centre is now at the detailed design and documentation phase.

The project has been overseen

by a building committee comprising the mayor, councillors, Council officers and community representatives.

The original proposal was to develop a two-court sports hall as the first stage of an integrated wet and dry leisure facility on the existing Woy Woy Pool site.

Through prospective savings in the Financial Strategy, a \$2 million budget was proposed and a brief developed to appoint an architect for design and documentation of the centre.

In July 2000 four architectural firms responded to the design brief and provided detailed fee proposals and the council appointed Michael Davies Associates following a presentation.

Subsequently, council reconsidered the proposed staging of the project and proposed an amended project budget of \$7 million.

In considering advice concerning the condition of the existing pools, council resolved to endorse the option including an indoor 50 metre pool on 5 March 2002.

Council's decisions to develop the whole facility in one stage, to incorporate new pools in the facility and then adopt the indoor 50 metre pool option has resulted in a total project budget of \$16.35 million.

The balance of funds has been raised through an extraordinary rate increase.

Council agenda CS.004, January 28



NSW Corps of Marines took part in a re-enactment of Governor Arthur Phillip's landing at Woy Woy in 1788

Clean-up day to be held at reserve

Burrawang Bushland Reserve Bush-Care group is hosting a clean-up day as part of the upcoming Clean-Up Australia Day held on Sunday, March 2.

Since last year's clean-up, the bush-care group has been busy and has made a significant improvement to the reserve with a continuing weeding program,

rubbish removal and bush regeneration.

The Bush-Care group is seeking the assistance of residents to support them in its endeavors on the day.

It is expected that the clean-up will be for four or five hours starting at 9am for registration followed by a pre-clean-up briefing.

The meeting place will be the

Nambucca Dr playground, Woy Woy, adjacent to the Reserve at 9am on Sunday, March 2.


Those attending are asked to wear suitable clothing, including sturdy shoes, a hat, and sunscreen. A responsible adult must accompany children.

For further information, please call Jim Morrison on 43419583

Press release, February 5

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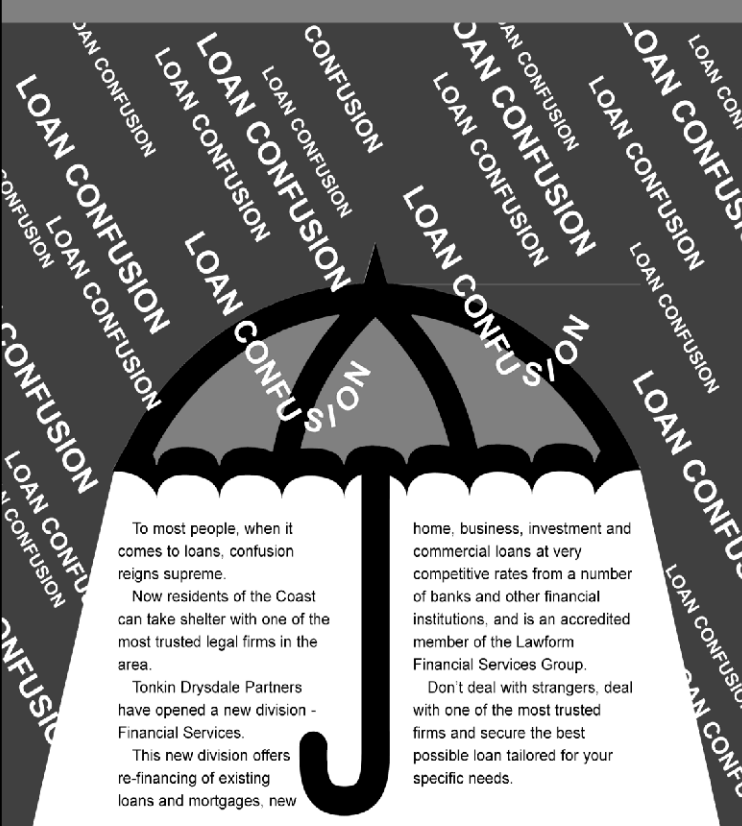
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Valentine's Day

Busy time for florists

Florists on the Peninsula are gearing up for their busiest time of year as Valentines Day approaches.

Orders were coming in for thousands of bouquets, bunches and bundles of blooms and foliage, according to local florists.

Flower growers were expecting a bumper crop of most flower varieties.

Ms Paula Lawry from Blackwall Road Florist said that along with the traditional red rose, Gerberas are a local favorite.

"If people can't afford roses they might go for a mixed bunch.

"As long as they're red and white, they still look impressive," she said.

She urged people to get orders in as soon as possible.

"People tend to order on the day or the day before, but its best to order as soon as you can," she said.

Paula said that in previous years orders had included headless roses, proposals written on cards and jewelry inserted into bouquets of flowers.

Valentines Day on the Peninsula may not be romantic for all though.

Recent statistics show that more than 30 per cent of all households are lone-person households, more than three times the Sydney average.

Relationships Australia is urging couples to look past the commercialism of Valentine's Day to find sincere gestures to convey their feelings and nurture their relationships.

Relationships Australia CEO Anne Hollands said that Valentine's Day should be about celebrating relationships and seizing the opportunity to

express feelings.

"The commercialism of Valentines Day suggests that love will be measured by how much you spend," she said.

"But for many couples even the cost of a dozen roses can strain the budget."

For those who cannot afford a big balloon ride or a midnight cruise, Relationships Australia is providing many low cost ways to give a Valentines Day gesture.

Their suggestions for creatively celebrating love in a relationship include re-enacting your first date, making a banner, writing a love letter, making a book of lover's cheques, full body massages, beach picnics, meeting as strangers, sharing a fantasy, leaving hidden messages and sharing a bath, spa, or skinny dip.

Florist Paula Lawry said that, while these ideas were all very good, flowers were traditional for Valentines Day.

"The red rose resembles the meaning of Valentine's Day," she said.

Alison Branley, press release, February 6



Florist Paula Lawry gets ready for Valentine's Day

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Toastmasters start speechcraft course

Ettalong Beach Toastmasters will start a speechcraft course on March 4.

Speechcraft is designed to help people overcome their fear of speaking in front of groups.

Participants are encouraged to learn new speaking skills and put them into practice in a friendly and supportive meeting environment.

Not only do they learn how to speak effectively but also how to construct speeches and use body language to its full effect.

The course will run over seven Tuesday evenings between 7.30pm and 9.30pm at the Ettalong Beach Club.

Costs of \$90 include manuals, training and educational sessions with experienced Toastmasters.

Cost also includes the graduation expenses and diploma.

For more information about speechcraft or Toastmasters, call the co-ordinator Jackie on 4382 6154 or Jan on 4341 6842.

Letter, February 5

Plaque for fire ferry service

Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews has presented a plaque of appreciation to the Palm Beach Ferry Service.

It was presented on Tuesday, January 28, at Ettalong Wharf on behalf of the Central Coast Commuters.

The plaque was in recognition of the service provided during the recent bushfires, which disrupted road and rail services.

Media release, January 28

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Meditation group starts for women

The Peninsula Women's Health Centre is introducing a monthly meditation group.

The group will meet on the last Wednesday of every month from 10am to 12noon.

It will be an opportunity for participants to receive general information on meditation as well as an outlet to share individual experiences and expectations.

Each monthly session will have a different theme such as relaxation, healing, getting answers to life's questions,

chakras, visualisations and building an inner sanctuary.

Ing-Gerd Russell, who has many years experience in practising and teaching meditation, will facilitate the group.

Participation in the group can be for the whole series or individual sessions.

The cost of each session is a gold coin donation and bookings are essential.

For bookings or more information, phone Peninsula Women's Health Centre on 4342 5905.

Fax, February 6

Support for groups

The government's recent change to the gaming legislation has led Ettalong Memorial Club to look at new ways to support local non-profit groups.

The club is to introduce regular trivia nights, each of which will be dedicated to a fundraising group, such as surf clubs, schools and emergency services.

Groups are encouraged to register their interest in participating in the program.

The nights will offer group members a fund-raising activity for a special goal and the opportunity to show off their IQs as they tackle questions in general knowledge, music,

geography, movies and other topics.

The recent tragic spate of bushfires highlighted the work carried out by firefighters.

Many of the local brigades, who are made up of volunteers, rely on organisations such as the Ettalong Beach Club for financial assistance to ensure their vital work can continue

Teams of six can register by phoning the club on 4341 1166 or pick up an entry form at reception.

Entry is \$20 per player, payable at reception and includes light snacks.

Ettalong Club Magazine, February 5

Silt of concern

Gosford Council has received a petition from 10 residents of Hardys Bay expressing their concern about the build-up silt in the bay.

They said it was a considerable load of silt, much of it road base metal, that had been carried down from the residential developments that had taken place on Killcare Tops.

The petitioners claim that the build up of silt in the Mudflat Creek corner of Hardys Bay has been to such an extent that considerable change has taken place to tidal flows and channels.

The petitioners state that many properties are now diminished by increased floodproneess and have experienced a mosquito build up brought on by the stagnant nature of Mud Flat Creek.

The petitioners request council to meet with them and undertake a site inspection of this area and seek council's intervention to solve this problem.

Council agenda P.004, January 28



Member for Robertson Mr Jim Lloyd presented certificates

Cycleway workers recognised

Certificates were recently presented to Work For the Dole participants who took part in the construction of

the Woy Woy waterfront cycleway.

Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Lloyd, presented the certificated

to the participants and congratulated them on their involvement.

Jonathan Reichard, February 6

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State Election

State election candidate statements

A number of candidates for the Peats electorate in the state election have provided Peninsula News with election statements.



Vicki Brooke

Vicki Brooke is the Greens Party candidate for Peats in the upcoming state election.

Vicki has a background in small business and the arts.

She has worked in managerial positions in a variety of enterprises including publishing and a children's charity.

She started and ran a company for 16 years servicing public arts and tourism clients throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Vicki is a voluntary business mentor for the Central Coast Business Mentor Service, helping small businesses who are experiencing difficulties.

Vicki has been involved in community affairs for over 30 years, lately as an activist and passionate campaigner against globalisation.

She is particularly concerned about genetically engineered food and crops and has helped run the Sydney campaign for the past three years.

In 2002, she lobbied politicians against the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).

Australia's secret negotiations with this WTO body involve the potential opening up to foreign companies of services such as the balance of Telstra, Australia Post, water services, health, education and much more.

Vicki is a member of a number of groups concerned with the environment and the quality of the society in which we live.

With increasing population pressure on the Central Coast threatening our environment and lifestyle, posing an additional burden on an already overloaded infrastructure, Vicki believes Greens policies are the only way to put grassroots democracy into effect at the ballot box on March 22.

She is opposed to over-development and further encroachment on public land and the foreshore by private interests.

She wants more money spent

on public health services including home nursing and aged care beds, better quality education opportunities and smaller classes, an efficient public transport system and improved roads, creation of sustainable local jobs, early intervention for young people and families in distress, conservation of water catchment areas.

Vicki is fighting to protect the forests, bush, waterways and natural beauty of the Central Coast to maintain a sustainable lifestyle for the residents of Peats, their children and grandchildren.

Her policies include:

- Sustainable development, not over-development
- More funds for public transport, footpaths and cycleways
- Developing sustainable local employment programs
- Clear air and clean water

Vicki Brooke, February 5



Chris Holstein

Following strong encouragement from residents throughout the Peats electorate, I have decided to stand as an independent candidate for Peats in the upcoming state election.

I have lived in the Peats electorate for over 30 years.

I have worked in the area and am very passionate about the unique needs of the region. I feel there are many essential issues that require attention.

Having an extended family including young children, adolescents, a wife in small business, commuter friends and pensioner parents, I am very aware of the many different needs of people within our electorate.

My work on Gosford Council has involved addressing and solving Peats' issues at a local government level.

Numerous residents have indicated to me that a change is needed at the state level.

An independent member for Peats provides many advantages for residents.

An independent is not tied by party affiliations or political pressure.

I will have the opportunity to bring to the state level the same

enthusiasm and passion that I displayed during my four years as mayor of Gosford.

Being in the state arena will give me greater ability to consult with all levels of government.

As an independent member there will be no opposition party, I can work with both sides with a bipartisan approach.

Over the next several weeks, I will be visiting residents, businesses and community groups in the Peats electorate and listening to what their main concerns are.

It's my intention to remain visible in the community during my term in government.

I do not want to become an absent representative, so I will continue to attend community meetings and the like, to keep informed of the communities needs.

I look forward to the challenge ahead and guarantee that I will pursue the issues with the same vigor that I have displayed in local government for the last 12 years.

I will be working for the people of Peats, not a party.

Chris Holstein, Gosford Councillor



Peter Moore

Gosford solicitor Peter Moore has announced that he will be standing as an Independent for the seat of Peats at the State election in March 2003.

Mr Moore, a former Alderman on Gosford Council, is a long-term resident of the Peats electorate and currently lives in Woy Woy Bay.

"People in the electorate of Peats know that there is little or no difference between the policies of the Labor and Liberal parties," Mr Moore said.

"Both parties represent the interests of big business and what people are looking for is someone who will stand up to the government of the day and fight for the issues that affect Peats.

"I am prepared to do that."

Mr Moore said that his campaign would be based on putting the people in the seat of Peats first.

"I have never belonged to a political party and in no way will I have to follow the party line in fighting for what matters to the electorate.

"The Labor Party, which has represented this seat for so many years, is no longer the party of the ordinary Australian and, in essence, it has taken this seat for granted.

"In the period leading up to the election on March 22, I will be putting forward policies and proposals which will give the people of Peats a real choice," Mr Moore said.

Mr Moore has been a Rotarian for 13 years and is a past President of the Rotary Club of Gosford North.

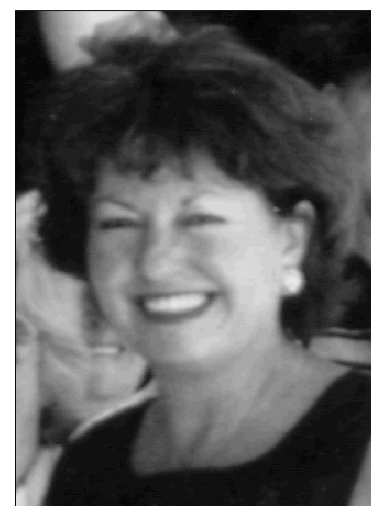
In addition, he has been a Red Cross Telecross Volunteer for 10 years.

Mr Moore said that his campaign will show that he is a person who cares.

"I welcome any enquiries the people of Peats may wish to make," Mr Moore.

His toll-free number is 1800 050 190.

Press release, February 3



Debra Wales

Your State representative should have wide community experience.

This is what I bring to the Electorate of Peats in the March 2003 State Election.

From my childhood in Booker Bay to raising a family in Umina Beach, I have always been passionate about the local area and preserving our quality of life.

With teenage children of my own, this is very important to me.

My involvement in the community has ranged from the upgrading of our town centres as the Peninsula Mainstreet Co-ordinator, a founding member of

the Ettalong Beach Heritage Committee, a member of the Woy Woy Community Centre Board, a Gosford Councillor and working as an urban designer with my husband in the family business.

Through involvement in community organisations and as a Gosford Councillor, I have come to appreciate the concerns of our local community and the aspirations of its residents.

As I move about the community, residents say to me that they are concerned about safety and security in their own homes, that they want locally led and locally based police, that they want their roads upgraded and improved, that they want a return to well maintained and well equipped schools and they are extremely concerned about over development and the changing character of their local neighbourhoods.

These are real issues that the community do not believe have been addressed over the last eight years.

A Liberal Government will ensure that policing is locally based and that we will be able to know with confidence who our local police officers are.

We will ensure that roads are upgraded and that funds are directed back into our local schools which desperately need urgent maintenance.

And importantly, a Liberal Government will restrain over development by abolishing SEPP 5 and giving Gosford Council and the community more control over where medium density housing and retirement villages are prohibited.

This is vital so that the character of our local neighbourhoods is preserved and our quality of life maintained.

The Electorate of Peats needs a change and as a hard working member of your local community with a proven track record, I can bring fresh experience and enthusiasm to State Parliament on your behalf.

This change must be brought about with the backing of a strong, vibrant and highly resourced team such as the NSW Liberal Party.

I hope that you will support that change and let me represent you over the next four years.

Debra Wales, February 8

Candidates invited to Progress meeting

The Koolewong and Point Clare Tascott Progress Association has invited candidates for the forthcoming State Election to its meeting on February 14 at 7.45pm to "announce their policies and obligations".

Questions will be asked from the floor by residents and members.

Spokesman for the association, Mr Robert Findley said: "Our organization is for

assistance to the citizens of the area in relation to all governmental issues of the day and the future of the city as a whole.

"There are many issues concerning the area such as transport, roads, schools, community centre, recreation areas, foreshore protection, environmental protection and general assistance which the government should be providing, but so far has not been able to give the attention we deserve."

E-mail, January 30

Killcare Bushfire Brigade Station construction to start

Construction of the new Killcare Bushfire Brigade Station is to start soon after lengthy delays and a budget shortfall of \$92,000.

The shortfall will come out of capital works funds in a future budget review.

At a recent meeting, the council voted unanimously to proceed with the fire station.

Cr Lynne Bockholt spoke about the state of the current facilities: "This is just two old sheds dragged together.

"It's an absolute disgrace," she said.

"I'm sorry it has dragged on for so long."

The work involves the demolition of the existing timber framed building and construction of a steel framed and clad building.

The new building would include a garage, office, training and meeting rooms as well as associated landscaping, internal paving and fencing works.

The construction period is 16 weeks and the work is scheduled to start this month.

Seven tenders were received from Winterton Constructions Pty Ltd Surry Hills, Kinsley Constructions Pty Ltd St Leonards, Williams River Steel Pty Ltd Tomago, McKenzie Building and Construction North Sydney, Classic Group Pty Ltd Baulkham Hills, Plum Custom Building Pty Ltd West Gosford, and KWW Mainstay Ourimbah.

Written advice was received from the lowest tenderer, Winterton Constructions Pty Ltd, that they were withdrawing their tender as a result of unforeseen circumstances.

The tender assessment involved consideration of the price, financial capacity and resources, previous experience and performance, quality of

work, environmental protection and occupational health and safety.

Based on this assessment, Gosford Council was told that Kinsley Constructions Pty Ltd was the preferred tenderer.

A staff report stated: "The company is experienced in this type of work and has recently completed construction of a frozen food warehouse and factory refurbishment to the value of \$3 million and supermarket refurbishment works to the value of \$6 million.

"It is recommended that the tender from Kinsley Constructions Pty Limited be accepted."

The council was told that additional works which were not included in the original estimate and higher than anticipated building costs meant the project would cost more than expected.

Council's contracts section provided an estimated cost of \$343,055 to complete the development based on council accepting the recommended tender.

Funds have been expended to date on application fees, working drawings and geotechnical, civil and structural engineering designs.

Council's budget for the project was \$251,350.

This left a shortfall of approximately \$92,000.

It was decided to proceed with the project even though "this may result in another project(s) being deferred".

The decision would ensure "that Council retains the Rural Fire Service funding for the project and completes the project to Council's requirements", the council was told.

Jonathan Reichard, Council agenda FS.023, January 28



Work underway at Woy Woy courthouse

Work starts on courthouse

Work has started on Woy Woy Courthouse to accommodate a new Children's Court.

It is anticipated to be complete within 12 months.

The upgrade of Woy Woy Courthouse will include:

- Specialist services and facilities to enable both care and criminal matters to be heard including conferencing and interviewing facilities.
- Facilities to accommodate Children's Registrars and specialist children's Magistrates.
- Disabled access extended to

include staff and magistrates.

- Domestic violence room with toilet facilities.
- Facilities for mothers.
- Fenced external areas for children with two discreet paved play areas.
- A new secure van dock, detainee interview rooms and six holding rooms.

"This will be a boost for the Peninsula, creating more jobs and providing specialist services enabling both care and criminal cases to be heard by expert children's magistrates," Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews said.

According to Ms Andrews, the purpose-built courthouse will meet the Carr Government's commitment to providing facilities, which meet the specific needs of juveniles.

The decision to convert the Woy Woy Courthouse was made following discussions with the Senior Children's Magistrate working on the Central Coast and other agencies including the police, Juvenile Justice and Legal Aid.

The tender for the \$2.1 million project has been awarded to Artel Constructions Pty Ltd, a Gosford-based company.

Press release, January 30

Meeting addresses bush management

A meeting about environmental management on the Peninsula was attended by more than 30 people on Wednesday, February 5.

The meeting was held at the Peninsula Environment Centre in Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

The focus of the meeting was to identify issues experienced by Peninsula bush care groups, and suggest collaborative actions to resolve them.

Meeting participants included members of the Peninsula's

Council-affiliated bushcare groups, as well as others from groups outside the Peninsula.

Central Coast environment groups were represented, and Cr Chris Holstein also attended.

There was acknowledgement that collectively the groups were in a better position to negotiate changes in management practices with Gosford Council.

For example, one suggested solution to the problem of council work crews damaging reserves was for council to have a dedicated bush work crew to work on bushland reserves.

Because of the number of issues raised and discussion generated, another meeting will be held in a fortnight to draw up action strategies. It will be held at 6pm on Wednesday, February 19, at the Environment Centre.

A group of five were nominated to collate the issues and strategies suggested at the meeting and provide a framework for the next meeting.

For further information, phone 4342 5333.

Shirley Hotchkiss, February 5

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Dog annoys neighbours

A petition, with five signatures, has been received by Gosford Council from residents of Veron Rd, Umina, complaining about a barking dog in Numby Close.

The petitioners claimed that the dog barked constantly when the owners were not home and that this barking continued late into the night.

Council agenda P.008, January 28

Obituary: A passion for golf and cars

Eddie Stokes passed away at his home on January 3 after a long and brave battle with mesothelioma.

He leaves wife Maree and three sons Lee, Mark and Chris.

His funeral took place at Palmdale on Tuesday, January 7, and his popularity was evident by the large number of people who attended.

In recent years, Eddie realised it was a race against time but he loved his golf and, throughout his long period of ill health, continued to play as long as he could stand.

He was a well-known golfing member at Everglades Country

Club and a member of the Whingers Social Golf Club, aptly named for some but certainly not Eddie.

One of his favourite pastimes was to put the clubs in the car and head off for a couple of days with some of his mates for a game of golf.

Another passion in Ed's life was cars: if he was not fixing one, he was buying one.

His mechanical expertise was given eagerly to anyone who needed it, especially if it involved an electric golf buggy or cart.

Eddie and Maree came to Woy Woy in 1991 from Sydney and Eddie was a driver for Peninsula Bus Lines from that time until his

retirement due to poor health in 1996.

It was a job he really enjoyed because it gave him the opportunity to meet people, joke and have a chat.

Ed and Maree have always been involved with Everglades both through golf and socially and, in Maree's case, a very active member of the Women's Golf Committee.

He will be sadly missed by the golfing fraternity, both men and women.

His fellow members at Everglades and his many friends have extended deepest sympathy to Eddie's family.

Judy Andrews, January 29

Arts and Entertainment

What's on event calendar ...continued

Sunday February 23

Buffalo Lodge, Woy Woy 381
Umina Community Hall, 11am (2nd & 4th Sun)

Buffalo Lodge Gosford No 63 (2nd & 4th Sun) 1pm Umina Community Hall

Dancing Old Time/New Vogue, 1pm – 4pm (4th Sun) Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre. Enq: 4341 3222.

Burrawang Bushland Reserve Bushcare Group 9am (4th Sun) corner of Hillview and Railway Sts, Woy Woy. Meet in the Nambucca Dr playground. Phone 4341 9301

Monday February 24

Labor Party Peninsula Day Branch, 1pm, (4th Mon) CWA Hall, Woy Woy. Carer's Support Group, 10am, (4th Mon) Group Room, Health Services Building, Woy Woy Hospital. Enq: 4344 8427

CWA meeting at Wagstaffe Community Hall (4th Mon) 1.30pm Enq: 4360 2504

Deepwater View Club Christmas Luncheon, Woy Woy Leagues Club 11am (4th Mon.) Visitors welcome Enq 4341 0272

Triantan to perform at folk club

The Troubadour Folk Club will have Triantan perform on Friday, February 14, at 8pm

Triantan has recently released a self-titled CD, which is a collection of songs which are promoted as true to the song

traditions, reflecting the joys and sorrows of the people who gave such a richly Celtic heritage to our country.

Troubadour Folk Club is held at the CWA Hall opposite Fisherman's Wharf at Woy Woy. Frank Russel, February 7



An aerial view of Woy Woy town centre using Landview.

Internet system shows the Peninsula

The State Government has unveiled a new internet-based information system, which can be used to view aerial photographs of the Peninsula with various overlays which show land usage.

During a visit to the Central Coast on January 22, planning minister Dr Andrew Refshauge

officially launched a website which includes the "Landview" program.

With a click of the mouse on www.iplan.nsw.gov.au/industrylands, businesses and homeowners are able to open Landview and zoom in to see aerial photographs showing the various land usages in the area.

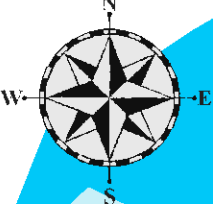
Accessing the website brings up a picture of the Central Coast

that looks as if it is taken from a satellite.

The website has a tool bar that allows the user to focus on a particular area and then they can zoom in to their area of interest.

The high definition image allows zooming in on roads, streets, parks, shops and homes.

Jim McGinty, Jonathan Reichard, February 6



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Sunday	16th	5pm	JULIA STARR	
Thursday	20th	7pm	KRISTY LEE	
Friday	21st	8.30pm	THE BOYS ARE BACK	
			SUPERSONIC	
Saturday	22nd	9pm	THE BRIAN ADAMS SHOW	
Sunday	23rd	5pm	DEXTER MOORE	

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Arts and Entertainment



The success of November's performance of the Pirates of Penzance has led to a second season.

'Pirates' back by popular demand

Brisbane Water Secondary College is performing the "Pirates of Penzance" again "due to an overwhelming number of requests".

Students performed the Gilbert & Sullivan comic opera in

November, directed by teacher Roger Macey.

It is being performed at Ettalong Beach Memorial Club on February 27 and 28 with matinees at noon and evening performances at 7.30pm.

Doors open 30 minutes before performance.

Tickets cost \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors.

Bookings can be made by phoning Robyn on 4341 9066.

Press release, February 5

Auxiliary holds tour of Berrima

Woy Woy Football Club ladies' auxiliary is holding a tour to Berrima on Wednesday, February 19.

The visit will include a tour of the old gaol and court house, now a museum.

There will also be an opportunity to wander the galleries, antique and craft shops.

A complementary morning tea will be provided, but lunch must be purchased separately.

Tickets are \$22 and are

available 10am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, from reception at Woy Woy Leagues Club.

The bus departs at 8am.

With enquiries, phone 4341 7506 or 4341 3398.

Leaflet, February 6

Williamson play to be performed

"After the Ball" a play by David Williamson is to be performed by Woy Woy Little Theatre group at the Peninsula theatre from March 14 to 30.

The play is a frank, critical look at Australian suburban life from the 1960s to the 1990s, according to director Mrs Fran Kendall.

"It traces the aspirations, the disappointments and the realities that test family life at a time when social change has never been more bewildering.

"It makes a plea for reconciliation."

The play tells the story of Stephen (Marc Calwell) and Judy (Cath Stone), brother and sister, whose lifestyles and outlooks could not be further apart.

When they are reunited at the bedside of their dying mother, family memories painfully and mercilessly return.

Fran Kendall said that David Williamson's play was very down to earth.

"I'm in my early 60s and the main characters speak just as my parents did," she said.

Mrs Kendall said that older Australians would also appreciate historical value of the play tracing events over the past 50 years such as the introduction of decimal currency and the Whitlam years.

"Although it's realistic dialogue, it's also very funny."

"We get really good audiences at the Peninsula Theatre and get a good response from them," she said.

She said she hoped people would come and see the cast of nine in the intimate atmosphere of the theatre.

The play opens Friday, March 14, at 8pm and runs Saturdays 8pm and Sundays 2pm until March 30.

Tickets are \$16 adult, concession \$12 and child \$5.

Bookings can be made at the Olympic General Store, Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy, or by phone on 4341 4067.

E-mail, Alison Branley, February 6

Designer calls for new logo

A local graphic designer has called for a new logo to be designed for the Peninsula.

He was responding to the suggestion of community activist Ms Heather McKenzie (Peninsula News, January 28) that a logo prepared for Woy Woy five years ago should be used more widely.

Mr Barry Parker of Sphere Creative at Umina said: "The Peninsula is undergoing a revolution with new developments at Ettalong and the new ferry," he said.

"We need something that is going to reflect that."

Mr Parker said that a new logo should be commissioned with key people in the community investigating what is unique to the Peninsula, using a cross section of the community.

He said that using this research to ascertain values of the community, a more current logo could be produced to encompass the Peninsula area.

Mr Parker said a logo designed five years ago as part of a competition did not fully represent the Peninsula.

"It's generic," he said.

"It's already dated and does

not fully represent the values and attitudes that are distinctly Peninsula," he said.

A logo which came as a result of a competition was not the best way of producing a logo, he said.

"It would be a mistake to use the current logo."

"It doesn't do the area justice," he said.

Ms McKenzie defended the logo selected from 55 entries in the competition run by the Woy Woy Village Renewal Committee five years ago.

"It was done five years ago on a community basis."

Ms McKenzie said that, while Mr. Parker was entitled to his view, she would like to see what sort of response would be given to his ideas.

"If we could get a few more people to comment and spark a bit of debate that would be good," she said.

Ms McKenzie said that the logo was effective in making people aware of the beauty around the area.

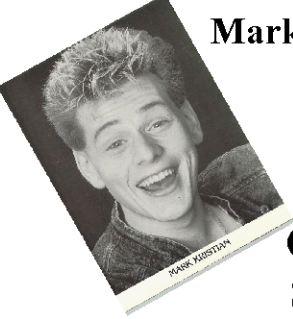
"I like the logo. "If I had the money, I would have it on 2000 T-shirts by now," she said.

Alison Branley, February 6

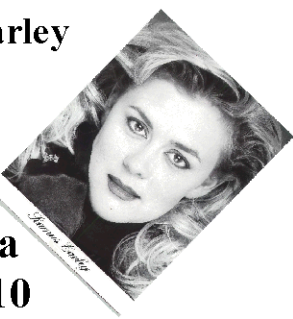
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School plans 75th anniversary

Ettalong Public School has started to plan its 75th Anniversary celebrations to be held in June.

A special 75th Anniversary school calendar is on sale through the school and a committee has begun planning events for the big day.

Anyone who has old photos or letters is invited to contact the school.

Past students and teachers who would like to be involved in organizing the celebrations will also be welcome.

The school has welcomed new staff members - Karen Morrow as extra deputy principal and Rachel Andrew who will be teaching 2/3A.

Kindergarten students all arrived at school last Monday and Tuesday, while P&C

members served tea and coffee to help settle their parents' nerves.

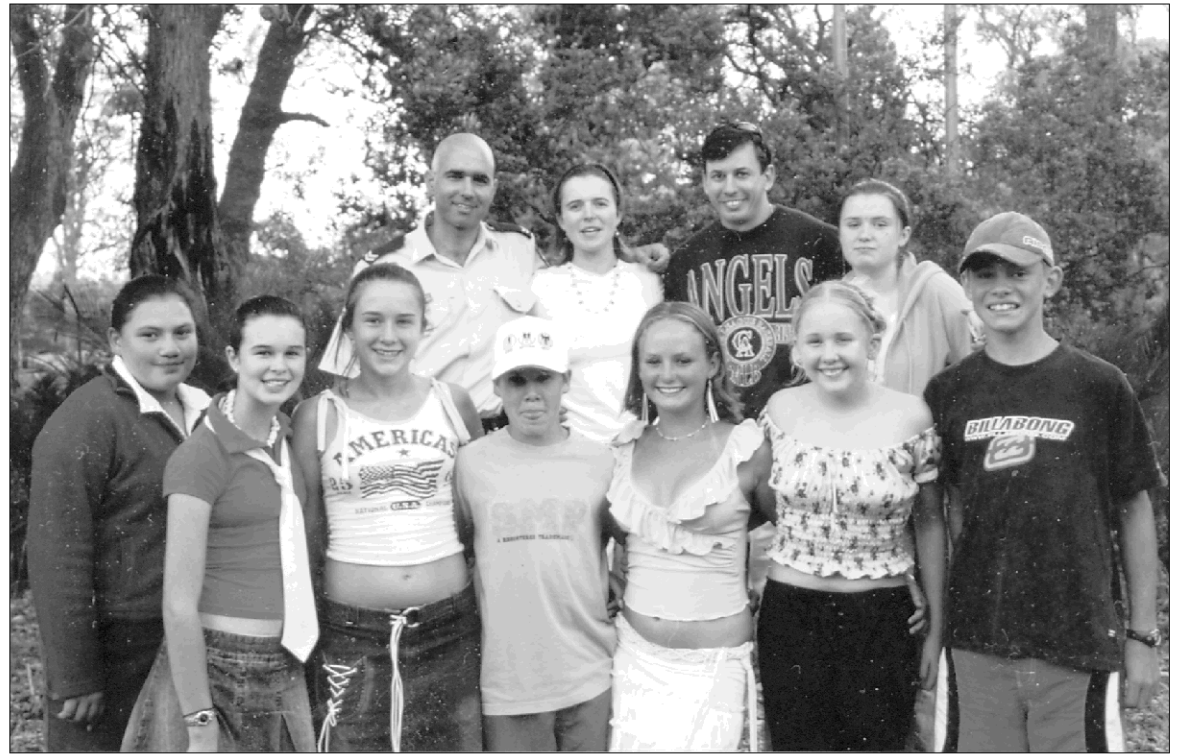
Parent-teacher talks began last week so that parents had an early opportunity to tell teachers about the needs of their child, and to help establish a good home-school partnership that is so important to a student's development.

Ettalong School is hoping to establish a school band this year and to increase opportunities for students in the performing arts.

This will be discussed at the first P&C meeting of the year, which will also be the AGM and will be held on Wednesday, February 18, from 9 to 10.30am.

Anyone wanting more information about anything happening at the school can contact the office on 4341 3550.

Liz McMinn, February 4



Pictured are mentors Robyne Bourne, Jessica Hawkins, Christie Coombes, Mitch Gordon, Jaydyn Edwards, Aleshia Bleakley and Nathan Mosely in front, while mentor trainers Paul Hanna, Tina Davies and Joe Schumacher stand behind with mentor Emma McEwan.

Drug mentoring program at Umina campus

A mentoring program initiated by the Peninsular Community Drug Action Team (CDAT) will be run at Umina college campus this year.

It aims to teach the peer leaders in Year 9 "to support the incoming Year 7 students in making positive choices".

The program is designed "to help them make the transition

smoothly and to reduce risk-indicating behaviour and encourage positive lifestyle decisions".

Peer leaders were introduced to the program at a training weekend at Patonga camp recently.

"It was a real challenge for them and for us," said CDAT committee member and mentor trainer Mr Joe Schumacher.

"We endeavored to build a

peer champion role and teach them to lead by example.

"They will become the first reference point for the younger students to access appropriate services, if necessary," he said.

A video and resource package will be available for parents or interested parties from the Peninsular CDAT.

Contact John McCaskie on 4344 2509 for further details.

Press release, January 29

Request for Woy Woy campus speed zone

A petition, with 102 signatures, has been forwarded to Gosford Council by Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews, on behalf of concerned residents.

They are requesting a 40 kilometre speed limit around

Woy Woy campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College between the times of 8am and 9.30am and 2.30pm and 4 pm.

The petitioners also requested a pedestrian crossing on Rawson Rd, Woy Woy, for students.

Council agenda P.012 January 28

Liam wins national board race

Liam Jackson, from the Umina Surf Life Saving Club, came first in his age group in a national board rescue competition in Tasmania recently.

Liam competed for NSW in the under-13 age group at the Australian Interstate competition held at Clifton Beach, Tasmania.

His results also included a

second place in the individual board and fifth in the iron person events.

The competition pits the best surf lifesaving athletes from each state against each other, and ranks as the toughest in the world.

The NSW junior team finished second, just a couple of points behind Queensland.

Brian Jackson, January 27



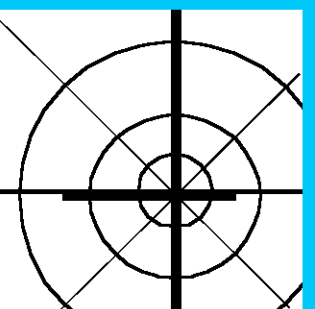
Under 16 Hunter Valley Region Representatives at Rogers Park on Sunday 2 February. Pictured Central Coast batting vs Maitland fielding. At the crease is Adam Kelly with James Sainty at the other end. Both are from Woy Woy Cricket Club.

www.thePeninsular.net

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The Peninsula's community web site

Reference point for the Peninsula



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Public Notices

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brings musicians, poets and story tellers to the Central Coast to perform with and entertain local residents
The club next meets on Friday, February 14 at the CWA Hall (opposite Fishermans Wharf) Woy Woy
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Public Notices

ANNOUNCING THE OPENING OF THE 2003/2004 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURAL GRANTS PROGRAM

This year's grants round consists of these programs;

- Community Development Grants
- Community and Cultural Plan Outcomes
- Cultural Grants

What are the Community Development and Cultural Grants?

The Community Development and Cultural Grants Programs are annually funded programs provided by Gosford City Council. These grants are provided to community organisations for projects which assist and allow members of the local community to participate in meeting their own needs, bringing about social change and/or for projects which enhance the cultural life of the Gosford Local Government Area.

Who Can Apply?

Non - profit organisations Gosford City Council including Section 355 committees.

Information Sessions

Two information evenings will be held during the grants application period in order to assist people and organisations who are interested in accessing the grant funding. Along with the application / submission process, the evening will also cover the relevant grants policies and what this means for applicants. Full details may be obtained by phoning Council's Community Development section on **4325 8351.**

How Do Organisations Apply?

By requesting an information pack and then lodging an expression of interest on the forms provided by Council. To request an information pack or to obtain further information, please contact Tim Keogh in the Community Development section of Council, or any member of the team on **4325 8351** or call in to the Community Development Section of Gosford Council at 53 Mann Street, Gosford.

Or Email

Tim.Keogh@gosford.nsw.gov.au

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Golf fixtures book finalised

The Everglades fixtures book has been finalised for the new year's men's golf.

The events have been varied by not having as many Stableford events on Sundays and having more stroke and par events.

Ambroses have been reduced but still remain when course renovations are being done.

A father and son event has been included.

One Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, there is a four-club event.

However the biggest change is that the singles championship will be played on two weekends from October 11.

The Everglades Pennant Team for the Men's Golf were selected recently.

The teams are as follows.

A Grade: Captain A Kerr, P Callingham, B Carmichael,

P Carson, K Dawkins, B James, A McVicker, S O'Brien, S Smith, S Wilson and D Walker as manager.

Colts: Captain S Silvia, B Collins, D Foster, B Hyndes, W MacFarlane, H Marshall and F Quintrell as manager.

Juniors: Captain L Johnson, M Bluff, S Hoyland, T Scott and F Quintrell as manager.

B Grade: Captain P Thorpe, A Blanch, M Anthony, G Heath, B Parsons, I Rand, P Ryan, D Yeend and N Elkin as manager.

C Grade: Captain G Clarke, C Casey, D Ferguson, G Minnett, T Nailard, C New, F Peacock, R Thompson and N Elkin as manager.

This year squads have been chosen rather than teams and from these playing teams will be selected each week.

Garry Crane, January 29

Last minute cricket victory for Woy Woy

Woy Woy has scored a last wicket victory with 9/355 on the second last ball of the last over in its match against Toukley in round 8 of Central Coast cricket.

The stage was set in round 7 of the Gosford Wyong District Cricket Association, which saw Woy Woy play Wyong at Rogers Park, Woy Woy, on January 4 to 11.

Wyong were grand finalists last season.

Woy Woy won the toss and batted and scored 199, with Jason Moore, 81, and Matt Sowter, 31.

They felt the score was competitive as the outfield was very slow and not many boundaries were scored.

Woy Woy bowled Wyong out for 127, only failing to enforce the follow-on by three runs, with Pete Graham, 5/34, and John Jewiss, 4/25.

The team displayed great fielding and catching.

Woy Woy had recorded four wins from seven matches.

In round 8, Woy Woy travelled to Toukley and the first Saturday, January 18, was 45 degree heat.

Unfortunately, captain Pete Graham lost the toss and Woy Woy fielded in horrendous conditions.

The bowlers, Mick Hall, 3/72, Dave Eddy, 1/91, Dave Ridley, 0/15, and Pete Graham 3/108, bowled very well in the extreme heat, taking two early wickets.

A regulation caught behind was given not out, and Toukley hung in and after 90 overs scored 354.

Woy Woy approached the second week focussing on batting well and batting the 90 overs.

They were 3/30 when Jason Moore and Quentin Donald, 32, had a very important partnership.

Pete Graham, 43, then had a 103-run partnership with Jason.

Dave Eddy came to the crease to provide another great partnership, and hope.

Then followed one of the greatest victories in Woy Woy Central Coast cricket history.

Woy Woy won on the second last ball of the 90 overs, scoring 9/355, with Dave Ridley, sharing a 42-run partnership with Jason for the last wicket.

Dave hit a memorable four off the first ball of the last over when five runs were needed for victory.

There were scenes of pandemonium, with players and officials running onto the pitch.

Jason Moore had played a brilliant innings, one of the greatest, 192 not out, batting for 88.2 overs.

The second grade team and other players and supporters listened to a running commentary on a mobile phone and shared in the celebrations at Rogers Park.

Woy Woy now have five wins from eight matches with three to go.

Janelle Graham, January 28

Men's bowls draw is now posted

Everglades Men's Bowls Club draw for the major singles and the club fours are now on the board.

Teams are drawn in the twos, threes, fives and sevens.

The tournament committee has put together the calendar for the year, commencing with the Easter Carnival.

With prizes totalling \$2400, the program consists of four individual days, April 18 to 21.

Open Mufti Pairs will be played on April 18 with one game of 21 ends, and snacks after games.

Men's Medley Fours will be played April 19 with two games of 15 ends of three bowls pairs

before lunch and one game of 15 ends of fours after lunch.

Ladies and Men's Triples (Ladies v Ladies, Men v Men) will be played on April 20 in two games of 18 ends.

Ladies and Men's Pairs (Ladies v Ladies, Men v Men) will be played on April 21 with one game of 21 ends and snacks after the game.

Entry cost is \$6 per player.

It is anticipated that the entries will be received from all over the Coast.

Contact Gwen Hewson on 4344 6474, Ray Benton on 4341 4204, or Clare Gerrard to enter a team.

Barry O'Connor, January 29

Young people call motorbike meeting

A public meeting will be held at the Peninsula Community Centre at 6pm on March 5 for people interested in establishing local facilities for motorbike riding.

The meeting has been convened by a group of young people who attend the Web Youth Service at the centre.

"Facilities for motor bike riders on the Central Coast have been closed down," said 15-year-old group spokesman Daniel Jeffrey.

"It's a great family sport that many children, young adults and adults have been enjoying for years.

"With no place to ride, the hopes of many have been

destroyed."

Harry's Track at Wyee had closed, as had Somerset Park at Somersby.

"We are a group of riders who are responsible people who will not resort to riding in places that are illegal or environmentally-sensitive," said Daniel.

"But where can we ride?"

"We believe that there are two places that can be made into a facility that would be appropriate.

"The first place is Bull's Hill Quarry.

"It is out of the way of populated areas and therefore no noise would disturb the public.

"The second place is the Woy Woy Tip."

Daniel said the Central Coast prided itself in its sports facilities.

"We need a place to be as well."

Daniel said the group was seeking community support.

It had recently written to Gosford Council seeking its support.

The group requested that a motocross track should be included in the Peninsula Open Space contributions plan and seeking the council's support.

The request, signed by eight young people, was published in the Council's business paper last week as a petition.

For further information, group members may be contacted at the Web youth service on 4342 3684 or Daniel may be contacted on 0409 369 859.

Media release, February 7

League changes welcomed

The president of Woy Woy Swans Junior AFL club has welcomed changes to the Central Coast Junior Australian Football League.

President Robyn Brown said: "Woy Woy Peninsula Swans Junior Australian Rules Football Club do have a greater input in the decision-making and played a part in changing the constitution.

"Peninsula and other clubs on the Coast have wanted this change for many years and now

have a constitution that is in line with present times.

"Peninsula is one of the oldest Aussie Rules clubs on the Coast and has won many premierships junior and senior levels.

"One local boy from Woy Woy who started in juniors at Rogers Park is Ray Hall, who now plays for Richmond.

"The Peninsula has a lot of talented players who represent the Coast and Newcastle and State level," Ms Brown said.

Robin Brown, January 30

Senior Swans' training starts

Training for the Peninsula Swans seniors started last week at Umina Beach with the team getting ready for start of the season on April 5.

Game days for both seniors and juniors will be on Saturdays at Rogers Park.

Exact days will be advertised later and will be displayed at the grounds.

Late last year, the junior Swans hosted an Auskick camp

with over 170 children attending.

The club hopes that any interested children will go to the

registration days, advertised in Peninsula News classifieds.

E-mail, February 6

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EXCELLING IN 2003

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Established on the Peninsula for 18 years, this school has gone from strength to strength, excelling in so many areas it is impossible to list all of its student's successes. One thing is for sure though, the high standard and quality that the school is widely known for is no coincidence. Principal Angela Denman says, "All our teachers are experienced and qualified, and providing outstanding quality is a top priority. What you see on stage speaks for itself and even our students that only attend one class a week, purely for fun, will achieve a high standard."

And the secret to their success? Quite simply... Dancing is fun!!! Not only that but a great way to exercise, meet new friends and perfect for improving co-ordination skills,



especially in younger students. All classes are great confidence builders, especially the drama classes which specialise in speech and communication skills. What also sets this school aside are the performance opportunities the students receive. All students get to strut their stuff in the end of year annual pantomime which is a fully produced show at the Laycock Street Theatre. The school bi-annually tours QLD, performing at all the major theme parks, and this year – by request – will see the students returning for their fourth season. On top of that, the school also boasts it's own production company "Dance City Theatricals" which provides advanced level students the experience of working professionally. The company



was so well received in 2002, it now has its own mailing list and many of the drama students are now in demand for promotional and corporate work. There are classes available for all age groups with boys and beginners catered for. There are many classes you can choose from – RAD Ballet, Jazz (all styles), Tap (a funky modern style), Drama and Modern. The school is also now offering brand new MUSICAL THEATRE and SINGING classes, open to all ages, with plans to produce a mini-musical at the end of each term. So come along and join in the fun. You'll be surprised at how easy we make it for you. All classes are reasonably priced, with large discounts for families.

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Peninsula COMMUNITY ACCESS News

Postage Paid Australia

No 60 The newspaper that cares about the Peninsula community 11 February 2003

Dorothy wins Order of Australia

Mrs Dorothy Chamberlain of Umina has been awarded the Order of Australia Medal in the recent Australia Day Honours.

The award was for service to the community, particularly through the Central Coast Family History Society Inc.

Mrs Chamberlain has been involved in local and family history on the Central Coast for over 20 years.

She has contributed to the Central Coast Family History Society Inc, as a member of the founding committee in 1981, as a life member, as treasurer, as research officer and as editor of the society's journal "The Muster".

She has participated in Brisbane Water Historical Society, as a volunteer and occasional secretary and research officer, as well as various duties at the Henry Kendall Cottage Museum.

She has worked at Gosford City Library, as a family history volunteer, for 15 years and as a member of the Local History Study Group.

She has also researched, written and published two history books entitled Button Up Australia, and Sidney Herbert's Needle Women.

She is also treasurer and secretary of Etalong Indoor Bowls Club. Australian Honours List, January 28



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