



The reconciliation event was well-attended

## Reconciliation event held at theatre

**Gosford Council held a well-attended Reconciliation Week event, incorporating a short film program and a keynote speaker, on Wednesday, May 28, at the Peninsula Theatre.**

The film, *Reconciliation: Sources of Healing*, addressed various reconciliation issues, including the ways in which individuals, groups, and young people can get involved and make a contribution.

Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council member Mr Phil Bligh was keynote speaker at the event.

"Reconciliation is essentially about forgiveness and should not be a meaningless debate about the meaning of key terms," he said.

"Although reconciliation doesn't address all questions of blame and fairness, it should be addressing indigenous disadvantages in, for example, education, health, and over-representation in jails and aiming to heal past wounds.

"It should also involve the entire Australian community in recognising indigenous communities as the original custodians of the land.

"We're outward looking and consider ourselves part of the

rest of the Australian community."

Mr Bligh said that the reconciliation process must receive attention from grass roots as well as government levels.

"More and more school children are getting involved in reconciliation events and activities," he said.

Ms Beryl Collier, a member of the Central Coast Reconciliation Group, said: "Events like this one are attracting more and more people.

"Reconciliation is about friendship and respect - not looking down at people."

Con Orfanos, May 28

## Decision expected on service station appeal

**Gosford Council will determine tonight (Tuesday) how to proceed with an appeal against a refusal of an application for a service station at Empire Bay.**

The company that applied for the Development Application (DA), Optima Developments Pty Ltd, has lodged an appeal in the Land and Environment Court

against the council decision to refuse its application.

Council last week resolved to defend the refusal.

Council staff have prepared a report on the development addressing various issues including connection of the site to the sewerage system.

The council is still attempting to settle the matter out of court as there is still approximately two

months before the matter will come before the court.

Mayor Cr Robert Bell asked for reports about how the site would cope with having a service station built on it.

"After the torrential rain we've had out there, the water table is up to the surface and the ground is super-saturated," Cr Bell said.

Jonathan Reichard, council agenda FS.073, May 27

## Fast ferry terminal put on hold

**Gosford Council has resolved not to accept any tenders for the construction of the Ettalong fast ferry terminal.**

As a result, construction of a terminal and wharf for a fast ferry from Sydney to Ettalong has been put on hold indefinitely.

Council officers had recommended that a tender from Austral Construction Pty Ltd should be accepted.

But councillors said they would not accept a tender because there was no proof from Fast Ships Ltd that the ferry service would ever be a viable reality.

The council also resolved to write to the State Government making: "Urgent representation to the Minister seeking assurances that the special grant of \$4.3M will be available should Fast Ships be able to demonstrate financial viability in the future."

Cr Lynne Bockholt was not in favour of involving the council in further dealing with the State Government and said council should simply refuse to accept a tender, taking no further action.

She said: "I want to avoid a sword hanging over council while Fast Ships tries to raise the money for five or six years.

"Let's say yes or no and get it over with."

Mayor Cr Robert Bell and Cr Geoff Preece agreed with her.

Cr Bell said: "The ferry is a transport solution for the State Government and we need to be careful about council being involved."

Deputy mayor Cr Craig Doyle, along with Crs Chris Holstein, Judith Penton, Daniel Cook, and Malcolm Brooks voted in favour of involving the State Government.

"Council has to stay a player and I don't want to let the State Government off the hook," said Cr Doyle.

"I want to do everything in our power to get a ferry."

Council, at its meeting on October 22, agreed to call formal tenders from the companies

which had registered their interest.

The council agenda paper gave detail of the tender process.

"Austral Construction Pty Ltd is the lowest tenderer.

"Austral constructed the Terrigal seawall for Gosford City Council (\$3.6 million) and the standard of work was well executed and completed within the scheduled program.

"Austral have extensive experience with marine construction and recently completed two projects valued at \$7.5 million involving a wharf and break wall at Cairns.

"Austral advise they will endeavour to use local suppliers and sub-contractors to maximise local purchasing.

"Based on this assessment, Austral was the preferred contractor.

"The estimated total project cost including terminal and wharf tender, roadworks tender, utility adjustments/signage, foreshore reserve improvements, design/consultants/project management and a contingency of 7.5% amounts to \$4.3 million.

"The State Government has approved a special grant of \$4.3 million to Gosford City Council to build the ferry wharf, terminal and associated infrastructure.

"The contingency allowance is lower than the preferred 10% normally allowed on a project of this nature.

"Agreement has been reached with Fast Ships Ltd to pay up to \$100,000 of any project cost over-run.

"It is anticipated that a similar agreement will be reached with the State Government.

"This will increase the contingency to approximately 10% and reduce the likelihood of Council incurring expenditure on this project.

"However, if significant contractual problems are encountered, Council would be responsible to meet the cost."

Jonathan Reichard, council agenda FS.079, May 27

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**News**

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**Welcome to edition 68 of Peninsula News**

In this issue and the last, we have published letters without giving the name of the author - contrary to our established policy.

The reason for our policy is that we believe that anyone wanting to have their views published should be willing to stand by them and be identified.

Holding the author accountable helps reduce the likelihood that inflammatory or fraudulent material is submitted.

Our decision not to follow this practice in the two recent instances was based on the desirability of protecting the privacy of the author or a third party.

In one case, anonymity was requested, in the other, it was not.

We were satisfied in both cases that the authors had genuine, constructive comments to make, which would be of potential benefit to the community.

Mark Snell, Editor

**Contributors:** Glen Purse, Con Orfanos, Alison Branley, Carl Krucler, Allan Wilson, Belinda Campbell, Shirley Hotchkiss, Tanya Watson, Norman Harris,

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Legal responsibility for editing, printing and publishing, and election comment in Peninsula News is taken by Mark Snell of Woy Woy, for Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Inc.

**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.

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**Centre opens for Environment Day**

**The Woy Woy Environment Centre will be open on World Environment Day, June 5, between 10am and 4pm.**

Gosford Council and the management committee of the centre have arranged a number of activities for the day.

Gosford Council will have 160 mixed native trees and shrubs to

give away.

Visitors will have the opportunity to complete an ecological footprint survey.

The Ocean Watch trailer will be at the centre between 1 and 4pm, after visiting local schools.

Two education officers will be on hand to provide information about commercial and recreational fishing industries,

and environmental management issues.

There will also be a continuously running slide show with images of the wetlands of the Brisbane Water estuary.

The Woy Woy Environment Centre is situated on the corner of Blackwall Rd and Billabong St, Woy Woy.

Norman Harris, May 27

**Grant for pre-school improvements**

**The State Government has approved a \$5500 upgrade for Woy Woy Peninsula Pre-school.**

"This money will be used to upgrade facilities such as children's toilets, security fencing, shade, playground equipment, washing facilities, and hot water services," according to Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews.

The Central Coast has benefited from grants of \$108,000 in total with nine pre-schools receiving improvements,

she said.

Ms Andrews said that the funding was part of the Carr Government's commitment to providing the quality childcare relied upon by so many families.

"It means the government is significantly improving the quality of early childhood care available right across the state.

"The funding has been prioritised to ensure that pre-schools that have limited access to other revenue are able to deliver higher quality services."

Press release, May 19

**Scouts hold garage sale**

**Umina Scouts will have a Monster Garage Sale on Saturday, June 7, from 8am.**

The sale will be at the Umina Scout Hall, in Carawa St, next to

the Umina Bowling Club.

There will be a sausage sizzle, tea and coffee, as well as tickets to buy for a "Wheelbarrow Raffle".

Tanya Watson, May 23

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# Two-year LEP for caravan parks

**Gosford Council has introduced a Local Environment Plan (LEP) which will preserve existing caravan parks and mobile home villages for a two-year period.**

The decision was seen as one which would allow residents of the parks to stay in their homes without threat of eviction due to redevelopment plans.

The two-year period that the plan is to be in force will be used to "allow council time to prepare an affordable housing study/strategy".

The Peninsula parks effected are Ettalong Beach Village, East's Ocean Beach Caravan Park at Umina, Samaldo at Bensville and Patonga Caravan Park.

Cr Daniel Cook, who brought the motion before council, said: "Residents have said that they need more security on their homes in terms of value.

"For many of these people, their home is their only asset.

"The community is well versed in this issue.

"I've heard from people who don't live in the parks supporting the residents.

"It is an important and valid form of housing.

Deputy mayor Cr Craig Doyle referred to a member of the public who addressed councillors opposing the LEP.

"One of the speakers spoke of there being a higher use for the parks, but there is no higher use for land than someone's home.

"The owners of the parks should not prey on the residents in order to make money," Cr Doyle said.

Cr Lynne Bockholt said: "These

people are not disposable.

"Some clever people have seen an opportunity to throw other people out of their homes.

"I think it's disgraceful and un-Australian," Cr Bockholt said.

The council agenda gave background into the issue, stating: "On 22 September, council resolved to commence the preparation of a draft LEP to rezone all existing caravan parks and mobile home villages/residential parks to Special Use (Caravan Park).

"In response to council's resolution, PlanningNSW advised that a Planning Study was required to allow better understanding of the role caravan parks play in providing affordable housing in Gosford.

"Given the current pressures facing some existing parks, an alternative approach was sought whereby a draft LEP could be introduced with a two-year sunset clause in order to allow council to engage an Affordable Housing Officer and prepare an Affordable Housing Strategy for the City.

"A list of the properties included in the draft LEP is attached to this report.

"On 4 March, council resolved to exhibit the draft LEP including the two-year sunset provision.

"On 6 March, council further resolved, unanimously, to write to the Premier and Minister Assisting the Minister for Infrastructure and Planning, requesting that no savings provision be inserted in the LEP.

"Council has made provision for part-time funding for the Affordable Housing Officer position, and we are currently awaiting a response from



Ettalong Beach Village

PlanningNSW in relation to further funding for a full time position.

"The potential for some existing caravan parks (including mobile homes) in the city to be redeveloped in the near future is a matter of real concern to council and park residents.

"Council is aware of the important role that caravan parks and mobile home villages play in providing affordable housing in the city, as outlined in the Residential Strategy adopted in 1996.

"Council's adopted position in the Residential Strategy is to support the continued operation of these parks.

"The 2001 Census indicated that there were 2042 people living in caravans, mobile homes or houseboats in the Gosford local government area.

"Limited scientific research has been undertaken regarding the socio-economic profile of this group of people."

Anecdotal evidence from community housing, health and other service providers, indicates that those who are living permanently in caravan parks and mobile home villages tend to have one or more of a number of common characteristics.

These included having a low

income (often a pension or benefit), being aged over 55 years, having a disability (often related to mental health) and being part of the most marginalised groups within any community.

"In Gosford and across the Central Coast, caravan and mobile home parks provide the dominant form of affordable housing outside public housing provision," according to the report.

"The current eight to 10-year waiting lists for public housing on the Central Coast often means that people who move into caravan park accommodation with the idea that it is temporary, end up staying long term due to the scarcity of affordable housing on the coast.

"The draft LEP aims to preserve the existing caravan

parks and mobile home villages for a period of two years.

"This will allow Council to conduct investigations, research and stakeholder consultation to formulate a strategic approach to address affordable housing issues in the Gosford LGA.

"This information is to be developed into an Affordable Housing Strategy that will provide a long term strategic solution for the City and its residents.

Council will now forward the draft local environmental plan with amendments to the Secretary of the Department of Urban and Transport Planning, requesting the Minister to make the plan pursuant to Section 70 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.

Jonathan Reichard, council agenda EP.018, May 27

## Bushcare workshop

**An "Introduction to Bushcare" workshop may be held on the Peninsula this month.**

Gosford Council's bushcare officers are "hoping to run" the workshop on Sunday, June 29, from 10am to 1pm, at South Woy Woy Progress Hall, in Woy Woy Rd.

Bushcare officer Robyn

Urquhart said she wanted to know if the date was suitable for people who had not been able to attend previous workshops.

To confirm interest or for further information, contact Robyn on 4325 8195, or fellow bushcare officer Geoff Bakewell at Gosford Council on 4325 8169, or email robyn.urquhart@gosford.nsw.gov.au.

Email, May 30

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## Forum

### 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 [mail@pennews.zzn.com](mailto:mail@pennews.zzn.com) 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. Submissions may be published in an edited form.

## Hospital is under-resourced

### Recently my wife had to undergo surgery at Gosford Hospital.

Although the staff at Gosford Hospital are excellent and committed, the hospital itself is atrociously under-resourced.

Due to a lack of rooms, my wife was forced to sit in a waiting room in a surgical gown for two hours with a dozen other patients, while awaiting to go into general anaesthetic.

She had to keep her handbag with her, as there was nowhere to put it.

We are in a private health fund at top cover, but this was the best that was available.

We have been on the Coast full time for two years, previously living in Sydney.

It is interesting that when my wife underwent similar surgery at Prince of Wales, the level of

resources was completely different.

A room until surgery was not a problem.

The fact that medical care on the Coast is at such an appalling level compared with Sydney, is something that the Local Members should be ashamed of.

How can the State Government possibly be suggesting a doubling of the population, when we cannot cope with the existing population.

Whether you live in Narara or Woollahra, the level of available health care should be comparable.

Sadly, that is not the case.

Surely it's about time the Coast started saying to our politicians, this is simply not good enough.

Fix it, or we will show you the door.

Name withheld, Wagstaffe

## Councillors catch up

### After years of protest about the pace of development and the sheer ugliness of most of it, our councillors have finally caught up with the community and resolved to do something about it.

At the council meeting on Tuesday, May 27, Cr Brooks put forward a Notice of Motion to place a "Population Cap" of 169,000 people for the Gosford City local government area.

Save Our Suburbs representatives at the meeting were surprised when there was no opposition from any councillor and the motion was adopted without debate.

Planning NSW expects that this level of population will arrive around 2011 but at present rates of growth it could be much sooner than that.

Part of Cr Brooks' motion refers to a resolution of Council from November 2002 that states "Within the current zoning boundaries of the City Council, work out the density of each precinct to determine the City's future population carrying capacity and what infrastructure is necessary to sustain such a population".

This resolution has not been acted upon by council staff and there is no guarantee that they will perform any more promptly on this new resolution.

State Government Ministers

that have seen the Central Coast as a convenient dumping ground for the overflow from Sydney in the past can be expected to ignore our council.

As in the past, they can be expected to force their failed Planning Department to continue the "growth for growth's sake" system that has served them and their developer mates so well in the past.

Save Our Suburbs will be continuing to lobby the State Government and is holding a special meeting next Saturday, June 7, that all residents are invited to attend at Woy Woy South Community Hall at 1pm.

We will have a petition for people to sign if they can't stay for a meeting and information sheets for those wanting to write letters to their favourite Minister.

Copies of our petition will be hand delivered to the Woy Woy Bay house of Special Minister for the Central Coast John Della Bosca the following day.

Bryan Ellis, Umina

## Radio licence process defective

### The Australian Broadcasting Authority advertised last year for applications for three community radio permanent licenses covering the Central Coast of NSW.

The closing date for submissions was 28 June last year and the ABA received submissions from five applicants. They were Radio 50+, Yesteryear, Hits & Country, Rhema Newcastle and PCR-FM.

As you may be aware the excellent long established and respected local community radio station 2CCC has been broadcasting to a target audience of people over 45 years old on a full license for several years.

The ABA granted licenses to Hits & Country and Radio 50+.

Radio 50+'s new licensed frequency is 93.3Mhz which was requested because it only necessitated the organisation to change one digit on its advertising board. Frequency 93.3Mhz had been used by Radio PCR-FM for many years.

The Broadcasting Act suggests that its aim is to supply broadcasting diversity to the whole of the local community.

It is therefore very hard to understand how the ABA justifies the granting of permanent licenses to the two broadcasters.

Radio 50+ has a target audience of people already catered for by the existing broadcaster 2CCC.

The other to be granted a license, Radio Hits & Country, is unabashedly a commercial station primarily playing American country and western music hits to its mainstream audience of middle aged listeners through what appears to be an automated computer system.

Radio Yesteryear has a target audience of people who enjoy 1930's to 1960's music played without or with little announcement and minimal sponsorship breaks.

Yesteryear listeners have no expectation of new material ever being broadcast and fall mainly in the over 50-year-old age group. However, they do claim to have gained 20,000 signatures on a petition presented to the ABA in support of their application.

Radio Rhema Newcastle in its test broadcasts on the Central Coast proved that its broadcasting was of non-local programs.

It merely relayed Newcastle transmissions and retransmitted them on the Central Coast.

Rhema claims to play 100 per cent Christian music and present a Christian viewpoint.

The broadcast viewpoint is not agreed with by many Christians let alone citizens of other faiths.

Radio PCR-FM is a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and youth broadcaster that claims to give voice to the unrepresented and minorities of the Central Coast.

At the closing date for applications for the permanent license, it was the only applicant that owned its own transmission equipment, studio equipment and transmitter tower.

In addition, according to its license application, it had the funds to continue operation for at least 12 months.

The ABA however seems to have been unable to take this information into account.

The ABA spawned a series of facetious or derogatory questions, particularly its inference that PCR-FM would not be able to raise funds the same as other stations or that no one would want to listen to Australian

traditional music.

PCR-FM was the only community radio broadcasting to citizens other than the over 45 year old locals listening to the licensed community radio stations.

PCR-FM gave voice to a range of local, state and federal government and community organisations.

According to news reports PCR-FM has had to take costly legal action against the ABA in the Federal Court because its chairman, Mr David Flint allowed a new entity, Gosford Christian Broadcasters Ltd, make an application for the unallocated permanent license five months after the closing date.

Justice Wilcox of the Federal Court found against the ABA in his January 31 judgement.

The ABA, through its acceptance of the decision, has obviously accepted that it used a defective process to issue a license to Gosford Christian Broadcasters Ltd.

This, however, is the same process that was used to allocate the licenses to Radios 50+ and Hits & Country.

Logic suggests that the licenses issued to Radios 50+ and Hits & Country are equally invalid and should be immediately cancelled.

The status quo should be returned to the situation before 28 June last year, excepting the presence of the non-local radio station (Rhema) and the internet broadcaster (Yesteryear).

Richard Newby, Woy Woy

## Salvos say thanks

### On behalf of The Salvation Army, I would like to thank you and your readers for the support given to our Red Shield Appeal National Doorknock.

In particular, we thank all our collectors for their wonderful work and commitment.

Funds raised will help us in the year ahead in continuing our wide range of services assisting those less fortunate in our community.

The Red Shield Appeal continues until June 30 and anybody who was missed at the door can still donate by ringing 13 32 30 or by visiting our website [www.salvos.org.au](http://www.salvos.org.au).

Again thank you for helping The Salvation Army "shield those in need".

Mark Campbell, The Salvation Army

## Pledge seems empty

### Regarding council agenda item FS.061 on May 6, this solemn promise/pledge seems empty to me.

Fast Ships Pty Ltd as a limited entity can't give a promise to provide that which it may not have, can it? Isn't that precisely why it's a limited company?

I understand if it has no money, that's it.

A director's guarantee is different as it shows a real commitment when directors put up personal wealth, but it would need to be far more than what's offered.

There is a definite lack of confidence when promoters won't back their judgement, and any way - \$100,000 here, a

\$100,000 there - we regularly see cost overruns that are far more than that.

Surely these quotes factored in contingencies like weather and such when they were made.

"The construction costs are being met by the government," say council.

That is a fixed amount. The government has no obligation, and should not go overboard writing open cheques with taxpayers' money.

Will the lease that Fast Ships Pty Ltd already has give them an unrestricted right to sublet to operators for activity other than a ferry service?

What are our councillors letting us in for?

Edward James, Umina

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# Wildlife corridor created for arboretum

**Gosford Mayor Cr Robert Bell has announced that another hectare of land has been added to the Crommelin Native Arboretum at Pearl Beach to create a wildlife corridor.**

The announcement was made during a rain-drenched barbecue lunch to an excited group of about 100 members of the arboretum association, Pearl Beach residents and visitors who had been working towards realisation of the corridor for five years.

Initial discussions were held in 1998 between the council, the arboretum, and the owner of the leasehold on the five-acre parcel of land adjacent to the arboretum.

Gosford Council subsequently resolved to prepare a draft Local Environment Plan covering this parcel of land to provide for a two-lot subdivision immediately adjoining Crystal Ave.

It was subject to the dedication of the rear half of the lot to be zoned Open Space - Special Uses-Wildlife Corridor and that

the Council would then add the land to the arboretum.

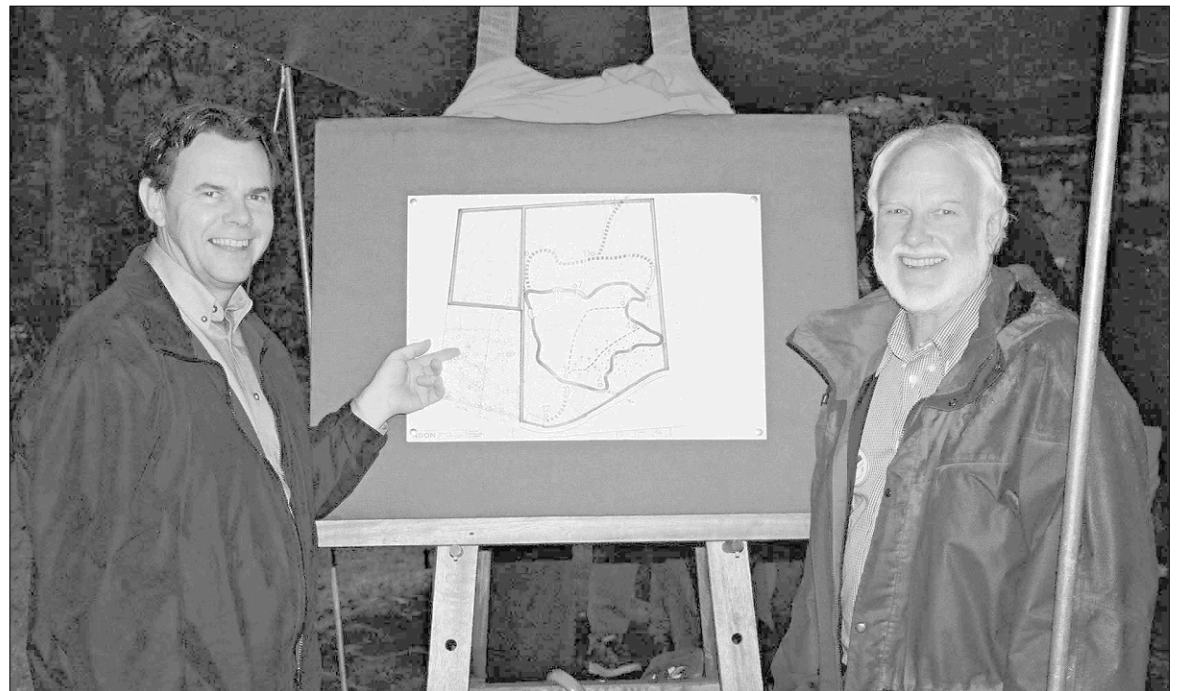
The extra land will increase the size of the Arboretum by 20 per cent to a total area of 5.56ha.

It will link the arboretum to the undeveloped part of Sydney University's Research Station land and then on to Brisbane Water National Park.

The land was originally cleared for a citrus orchard in the 1940s and was planted later with pine trees which were burnt out in the 1990 fires.

Cr Bell congratulated the arboretum's members on their achievements in creating, maintaining and managing this popular natural bushland area since its establishment in 1976 and said that the additional land would consolidate the importance of the Crommelin Native Arboretum as one of Gosford City's natural assets.

The president of the Arboretum Management Committee, Mr Phil Westlake, thanked the mayor for his efforts in helping to bring about this substantial addition to the arboretum and said that the



Mayor Robert Bell with president of the Arboretum Management Committee, Mr Phil Westlake

committee and the Pearl Beach community would ensure that the wildlife corridor project became a reality.

"Careful planning, a botanical assessment, revegetation planting and lots of hard work will be needed to make sure the

project is carried out with integrity as part of the arboretum and as a wildlife corridor," he said.

Press release, May 26

# Ettalong foreshore plan approved

**Gosford council has adopted a modified foreshore reserve plan of management for Ettalong Beach.**

The modifications include removing plans to purchase property adjoining the Lemon Grove netball courts.

The Esplanade Foreshore carpark will now remain as is until plans for alternate carparking are approved by Council.

The coral trees on the foreshore will also remain until advanced shade trees are planted.

The council decided that palms will not to be used in the redevelopment.

Memorial Ave and The Esplanade will remain open until a full traffic investigation is undertaken.

The council will conduct an information day on planning and traffic issues at Ettalong.

It has sought further information about providing additional car parking and extending the stormwater drain into Brisbane Water

The council decided to provide resources to undertake the works regardless of whether or not the Fast Ferry goes ahead.

The council agenda giving background on the plan of management stated: "At its meeting of August 27, Council resolved to undertake further consultation before considering adopting the Ettalong Beach Reserve Plan of Management and Masterplan.

"A public meeting was held at the Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre on October 19, those attending the meeting were given a further few weeks to provide comment.

"Two petitions have been received supporting the content of the plan.

"Comments made during the

public exhibition period have been included in the Plan of Management or will be considered in the developing of detailed landscaping plans.

"Adoption of the Plan of Management by Council will allow it to be considered for adoption by the Minister for Land and Water Conservation (Crown Lands Act Sections 112-4).

"After adoption, operations or improvements can be carried out on the reserve in line with the recommendations of the Plan of Management.

"Council's Transport Operations staff recommend the construction of a concrete path/bike path through the Lance Webb Reserve to complete connection with the two ferry

jetties.

"The images on page 20 of the plan show the development of an informal path through the reserve reinforcing the need for such a pathway.

"The pathway is across a grassed area and there is no impact on native species.

Council agenda SF.022, May 27

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## Bay Optical Feature

# Optometrist opens in Ettalong

Ettalong's first optometrist opened for business in Ocean View Rd in mid-March.

Trading as Bay Optical, the business is a first attempt for proprietors Bill Ashton and Simon Della Vedova.

Bill is a licensed optical dispenser with 40 years' experience while Simon is a university qualified optometrist and contact lens practitioner with knowledge of all the latest technology.

Both men had worked together in a large franchise outlet but felt that together in their own business they could provide a better service to clients.

Bill's role has in the past included the making of lenses and frames as well as taking



precise measurements and arranging fittings.

"We are pleased to have trained, experienced and qualified people dealing with the

public from the moment they walk into the shop," Bill said.

Ettalong was selected because there was no optometrist in the area.

Bill does not live on the Peninsula but lived in Umina for 15 years earlier in his career while Simon is looking to move into the area but at present commutes daily from Sydney.

Fashion trends in the industry have moved to small lenses with rimless or half rimless frames.

Frames, nearly all of which are imported, are made of titanium or combination alloys that makes them expensive to manufacture.

With the success of improved technology in the manufacture of resin lenses, glass lenses now only form approximately 10% of all lenses made.

Resin lenses are now no thicker than their glass predecessors but are much lighter.

They can be graduated to replace bifocal lenses, "tinted" to allow for darkness outdoors and Teflon coated to reduce reflection.

Contact lenses are only approximately 10% of the total business.

"This is a very friendly town," said Simon.

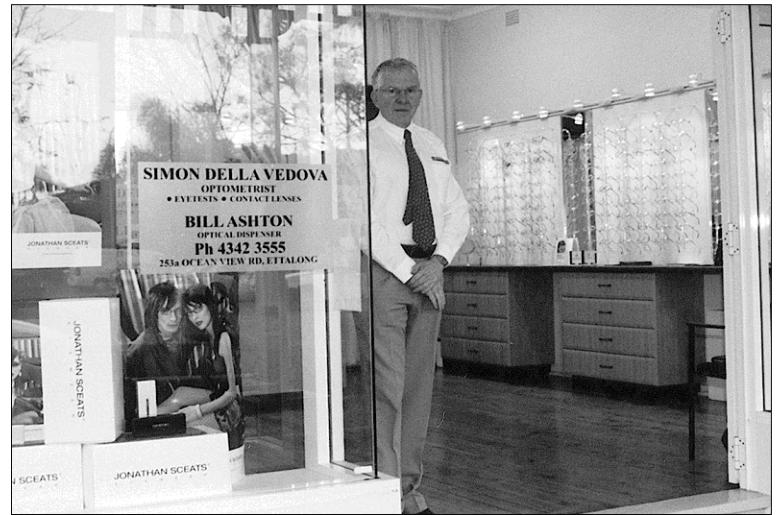
"People stick their heads in and say hello, something that wouldn't happen in Sydney.

"We've been very well received and are looking forward to getting to know more of the locals", he said.

Cec Bucello, May 26



Simon Della Vedova



Bill Ashton

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# Medicare changes don't sway doctors

**The Federal Government's plans to fix Medicare will have little effect on the billing practices of medical centres on the Peninsula**

Local surgeries are not supporting the scheme, claiming it is not cost effective.

Practice manager at the Clocktower Medical Centre, Ms Angela Mason, described the Government's recent budget announcements as a "joke" saying she hopes it is blocked in the Senate.

"We won't be taking up the scheme. It will be of no benefit to us whatsoever," she said.

Ms Mason said that the Woy Woy General Practice had not bulk-billed patients since it opened.

"It's just not financially viable," she said.

Practice manager from Peninsula Medical Centre in

Umina, Ms Jill James, agreed saying that the centre had no plans to introduce bulk billing.

"The current rebate does not keep up with costs," she said.

Under the Federal Government's new plans for Medicare, those medical centres that choose to opt into the package will be required to bulk bill all services to concession card holders with incentive payments going to practices, rather than the individual general practitioners.

General practitioners in the city will only receive an extra \$1 per consultation for bulk billing their concession card holding patients.

They will not be subsidised for any patients they bulk bill who do not hold concession cards, locking out the "working poor" from the scheme.

Ms Daphne Kneale, practice manager at Umina Surgery, described the Federal Government's plans as a step backwards.

"I really could not see it being of any benefit to our practice," she said.

Ms Kneale said that the costs of running a practice could not sustain bulk billing.

"We couldn't keep doors open."

She said that, while Umina Surgery had bulk-billed patients in the past, it had been scaled back over the last three years due to rising costs not corresponding with the Medicare rebate.

"A relative value study done by the Federal Government two years ago found that a fair fee for GP's was \$42 yet the rebate is still only \$25," she said.

She said the medical centre would not be opting into the Government's package as an extra \$1 per bulk-billed patient was not enough.

The Department of Health and Aging has stated that "a fairer Medicare" would make a range of medical services more affordable, particularly those delivered through general practice.

"For people without a Commonwealth concession card, and where the GP chooses to charge a 'gap', there will be a significant reduction in the up-front costs of seeing a GP at a participating practice," it stated.

A survey done by Peninsula News found that of three doctors' surgeries in Woy Woy not one openly bulk-billed.

The situation with the six surgeries in Umina and Ettalong was the same.

All of the surgeries gave discounts to pensioners, Health Care Card holders and veterans, however some medical centres did not provide discounts until after one to three visits.

The most expensive general consultation was \$65. The cheapest was \$40.

The highest rate for concession card holders was \$55, the lowest was \$7 after an initial visit.

Only one surgery bulk -billed concession card holders and then only after charging for the first visit.

The Woy Woy After Hours Medical Service was the only advertised bulk-billing service, stating in its flier that "pensioner and health care card holders are usually bulk billed".

Ms Mason said that some doctors did provide bulk billing for the disadvantaged.

"It's up to the doctor's discretion," she said.

Ms Kneale said doctors there also provided bulk billing in some circumstances.

"We are a private billing

practice, but if there is some hardship, we will bulk bill.

"I wouldn't like to comment for other practices though."

Practice manager for Ettalong Family Medical Centre, Ms Libby Kerr, said a similar situation occurred at the Ettalong practice.

Alison Branley, May 23

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**News**



The footpath in Park Rd, Woy Woy

## Petition for footpath

**Gosford Council has received a petition with four signatures from residents requesting the construction of a footpath outside their properties at 15 and 17 Park Rd, Woy Woy.**

The petitioners stated that their two properties are now the only two remaining properties without

a footpath on the northern side of Park Rd.

The new footpath outside the recently constructed development next door at 19-21 Park Rd was quite high above their grass level and they stated that it could pose a hazard if left as it was.

Council agenda P.040, May 27

## Walk looks at bushfire effects

**The Association for Environmental Education has planned an excursion to Warrah Trig on Sunday, June 15, as a bushfire community education walk.**

A group will meet at 9:30am at the Woy Woy Environment Centre or at 10am at Warrah Trig Lookout Carpark.

To go to the Trig lookout from Woy Woy, follow Ocean Beach Rd to Umina.

Turn right at the roundabout and follow the signs to Patonga past the Mt Ettalong headland.

At the top of the hill head, continue past the Pearl Beach turnoff still heading towards Patonga.

The Warrah Trig turnoff is 2.2km past the Pearl Beach turnoff, on the left.

It is a dirt road but fine for all cars.

The car park is at the end of the road.

The leader will be Christine O'Brien, an environmental educator with 10 years experience with NPWS and 18 years experience as a consultant in environmental communications.

Wear walking shoes, cut lunch and water. The day will involve light walking only.

Please book by ringing Peter on 4328 1810.

Newsletter, May 28

## Objection to 'high rise'

**Gosford Council has received a petition from 22 Ettalong residents objecting to a proposed development at, 237-245 Ocean View Rd, Ettalong.**

The petitioners wrote that buildings of the proposed height and size were not consistent with the predominantly single and two storey residences of the area.

The privacy of the residents in the adjacent and nearby

properties would be compromised, they said.

The proposed height of the development would cast unacceptable shadows over nearby residential properties and the development would generate more traffic in the area.

If the project went ahead, it would be the start of high rise in residential areas of Ettalong, they stated.

Council agenda P.042, May 27

## Ocean seminar at Woy Woy

**Local marine conservation group Ocean and Coastal Care Initiatives (OCCI) will highlight the Woy Woy Peninsula with a free seminar and coach tour and rock pool walk on World Oceans Day, Sunday, June 8.**

The seminar at Woy Woy Leagues Club will be officially opened by Gosford mayor Cr Robert Bell at 10.30am.

This will be followed by a series of guest speakers and presentations.

Topics include the Port Jackson Shark Project being conducted in local waters by Newcastle University, a slide show of the unique sealife of the Central Coast, and introducing the Brisbane Water Process Study being undertaken by Gosford Council.

A double-decker bus will tour around Woy Woy, Umina Beach and Ettalong at 2pm.

Interesting sites include an eco-tour of the Woy Woy waterfront, a demonstration by the Community Seagrass Monitoring Project and a visit to Nature's Harlequins Shell Museum.

There will also be an evening Rock Pool Spotlight Walk at Pearl Beach, weather permitting.

Project coordinator Jeannie Lawson said: "This is a day to celebrate our magnificent waterways, coasts and ocean and the results being achieved by local people and local projects to help protect them."

Bookings are essential for all aspects of the event.

It is free to anyone booking for the seminar and tour. However the coach tour with no seminar costs \$10 per adult.

The evening rock pool walk is by donation.

To book, contact Jeannie Lawson on 4341 4291.

Press release, May 20

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## Grant for Burrawang project

The Burrawang Bushland Reserve Committee has been successful in its application for an Area Assistance Scheme grant of \$5000 for a "neighbourhood project".

The aim of the Burrawang Bushland Neighbourhood project is to use Burrawang Reserve in Hillview St, Woy Woy, as a focus for community participation and development.

Gosford City Council will administer the funds for the project.

This recognition of the reserve as a key community asset comes months after part of the reserve was classified as an Endangered Ecological Community.

The project aims to build community relationships, as well as promote the safe and creative use of the reserve for social, recreational and educational purposes.

The project also aims to identify and use the skills of residents to implement additional

activities that promote a safer community.

Although the activities undertaken will be determined by community participation, possible activities include holding an exhibition of artwork and photography about the reserve. Exhibition entries could then be used as promotional purposes such as web design, posters, media campaigns and eco-tourism.

For example, some older Peninsula residents remember when the Reserve was a farm, and may want to submit stories, poems or photographs about this early period.

Local schools and young people will be invited to share their ideas on other safe neighbourhood activities. Adults may be able to assist young people to organise additional sporting activities after school.

Contact the Burrawang Bushland Reserve Committee on 4341 9301 for more information.

Press release, May 30

## Endangered trees may be cut

Safety risk evaluations are being carried out by experts on selected trees at Brisbane Water Secondary College, Umina Campus, according to campus principal Mr Frank Gasper.

In December, vegetation at the school was officially recognised as an endangered ecological community, known as Umina Coastal Sand Plain Woodland.

The identification and assessment of trees, and proposals for their removal or maintenance, related solely to safety concerns - not beautification, Mr Gasper said.

"An appropriate balance has to be struck between ecological protection and the safety of our students," he said.

According to Mr Gasper, final decisions on tree removal or substantive maintenance, in the context of protected ecological communities, were with Gosford Council.

If council ruled against the removal or maintenance

proposals, then other measures would have to be taken to ensure the safety of students, he said.

It is understood one quote suggested the removal of 130 trees at the school.

An independent assessor identified just one tree needing removal.

One source indicated that the regional office of the Department of Education and Training had been inundated with requests to fund tree lopping costing up to \$25,000 a school, following "aggressive marketing by cowboy arborists".

There was concern that school principals had been unnecessarily scared into requesting the work by tree cutting companies seeking work, citing a recent case where a student was injured by a falling branch.

One proposal to address the problem was for the department to appoint its own full-time arborist.

Con Orfanos, May 26

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## Indigenous nominees sought

Nominations are being called for the Central Coast NAIDOC Week Community Awards 2003.

Organisers are hoping that, as in past years, significant numbers of indigenous people from the Peninsula will be nominated.

The purpose of the awards is to acknowledge the work and talents of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Gosford and Wyong Councils jointly sponsor these awards.

People can be nominated in one of several categories: Sport, work, art and culture, and community services/humanities.

In each category, a female, male and youth award will be presented.

There is also a category for a community service or organisation.

NAIDOC stands for National Aboriginal Indigenous Day of Observance Committee, and is celebrated each year in the second week of July.

The theme for this year's NAIDOC Week is "Our children, our future".

People who know someone who deserves to be recognised for their contribution are encouraged to nominate them.

Nomination forms are available from Sharon Moore at Gosford Council on 4325 8904 or from Peninsula News.

Entries close Wednesday, June 18, and should be sent to Sharon Moore at Gosford Council.

Entries will be assessed by a panel, with winners announced during NAIDOC Week.

The awards will be presented as part of the Community Gathering and Health Expo at Mount Penang Parklands on July 8.

Shirley Hotchkiss, May 26

## Concern about fire hazard

Gosford Council has received a petition, with 48 signatures, from the residents of Horsfield Rd, Horsfield Bay, concerned about the potential fire hazard from the bush surrounding their properties.

The petitioners requested that urgent action be taken to ensure that hazard reduction is carried out on the 30m wide council-owned land which lies between the bottom of residents' blocks and the water line.

The petitioners also requested that a decision be made on the resident's previous offer to pay the Rural Fire Service authorities a nominal fee to burn off their blocks.

Council agenda P.047, May 27

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## Arts and Entertainment

# Funding brings performance here

Performance group iOTA will appear on August 29 at the Ettalong Hotel, thanks to a grant from Playing Australia, according to Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Lloyd.

Mr Lloyd said Playing Australia was the Commonwealth Government's national

performing arts touring program. "The funding is an important contributor to the cultural life of our community.

"Playing Australia funding to Thomas K Pty Ltd for a tour of iOTA reflects their professionalism in developing tours which will reach regional communities across Australia."

Press release, May 21

## Computers to train seniors

Council is supplying additional computer equipment at Ettalong Senior Citizen's Centre for training purposes.

Computer training has been provided since October.

Training is being provided three days per week to an average of eight students per day with a total of 45 students.

The training is provided by

Council's Centre Aide Officer in addition to her other duties, and the present equipment is provided through the Senior Citizens Centre program.

It is carried out in the computer training room at Ettalong Senior Citizen's Centre.

The new equipment will be three new PCs, three monitors and a scanner, costing a total of \$7100.

Council agenda CS.039, May 27

## Green criticises internet speed

Former Greens candidate for Peats, Ms Vicki Brooke, has criticised Telstra for failing to fix slow internet connections at Woy Woy Bay.

"My understanding is that although Telstra has the capacity to invest in infrastructure in and for Woy Woy Bay, it has chosen not to.

"Broadband provision and the

upgrading of lines and connections back to the exchange for Woy Woy Bay is not on Telstra's priority list," she said.

Internet connections at Woy Woy Bay are only between 12.0 and 14.4kbps, in contrast with speeds greater than 30kbps in Umina and 40kbps in Ettalong.

Con Orfanos, press release, May 28



A dance scene from one of the earlier folk festivals at Patonga

# Umina folk festival planned for October

A folk festival is being planned for Umina from October 17 to 19 by the Central Coast Dance and Music Association and its Woy Woy-based Troubadour Folk Club.

The festival will commence on the Friday evening and run through to Sunday afternoon.

It will be hosted at Club Umina, the adjoining Umina Public School and the Umina Scout Hall.

There will be several concerts in large auditoriums, a large dance, music work shops, a children's festival, dance workshops, poets' breakfasts and late-night undercover sessions.

In total there will be 36 hours of concerts, four hours of poets' breakfasts, 13 hours of dance workshops, 12 hours of music workshops, a four-hour dance and a children's festival.

Performers are booked from many parts of New South Wales as well as some from interstate.

A smaller folk festival has been held at Patonga for the past two years.

The association decided to hold festival in Umina this year because of the need for larger venues for all events and to have them situated closer together.

Umina also offered ample accommodation nearby.

Concerts will include a wide variety of music including contemporary, blues, traditional, Celtic and world music.

Music workshops will take the form of a presenter teaching their skill in a variety of musical areas.

Dance workshops also feature expert presenters teaching their style of dance, including Colonial, Scottish country, Irish set dancing and American contra.

Dancers can then practice their new found skills at the festival dance where a professional dance band will have assembled for their entertainment with all dances taught and called.

Poets' breakfasts are morning gatherings where bush poets recite funny or moving poems to an assembled audience over breakfast at the club from 8.30am each day.

The children's festival activities include making musical instruments, painting stage back drops and listening to children's music programs.

Children under 16 at the festival are free if accompanied by a paying adult.

Additional information is also available on the Internet on: <http://www.geocities.com/troubadourfolkclub/umina> which is updated as information

becomes available.

The festival is presented by the Central Coast Bush Dance and Music Association Inc and its Troubadour Folk Club.

Anyone wishing to perform, become involved or requiring additional information should contact [frussell@fastlink.com.au](mailto:frussell@fastlink.com.au) or call 4341 4060.

Cec Bucello, May 26

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Friday	13th	8.30 pm	Leisure Noise
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Sunday	15th	5pm	Kristy Lee

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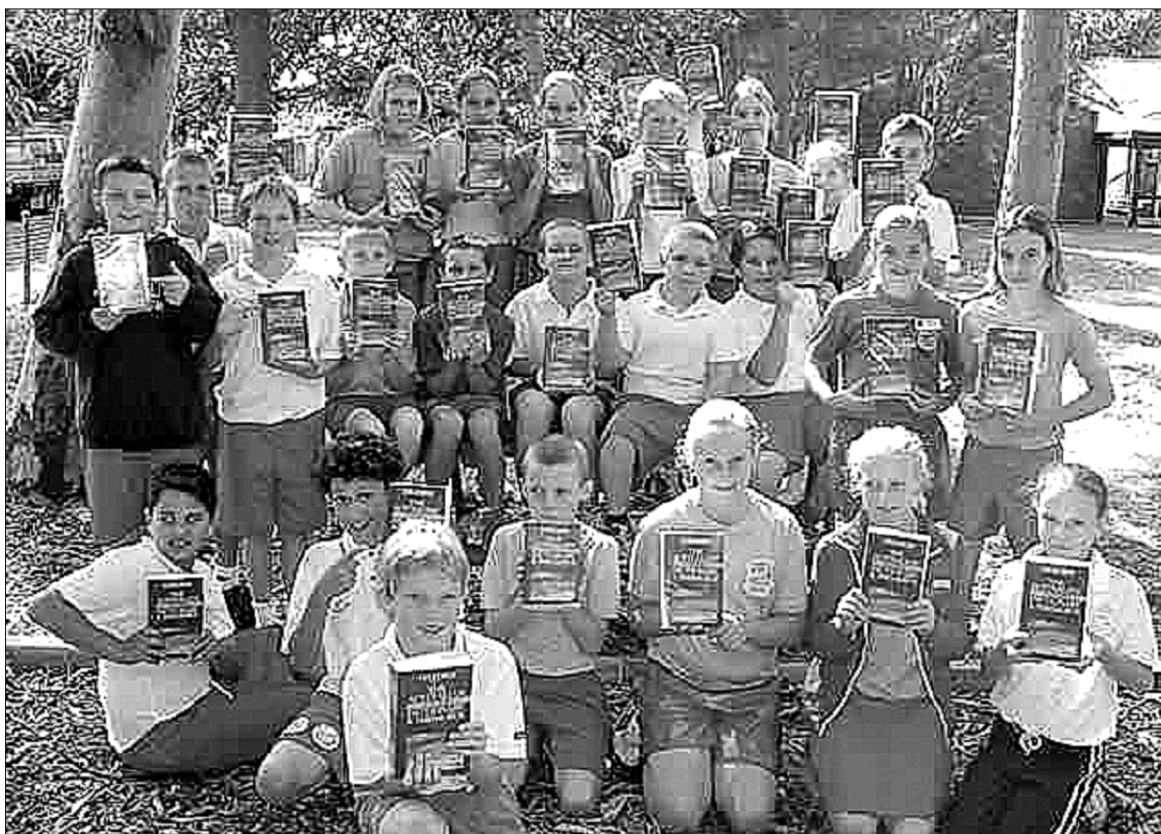
12 - 14 June - "YIPA" Youth in Performing Arts - the cream of the Coast's young talent.

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## Education



# Board games for recreation

**Brisbane Water Secondary College, Umina Campus, has introduced a new recreational initiative for Year 7 students.**

Since May 12, Year 7 students have had the opportunity to play board games during recess and lunch breaks on selected days of the week.

All games are provided by the College.

The initiative is run by peer support leaders and supervised

by either house patrons or head teachers.

The college has acknowledged these student leaders for giving up their lunch times to run and supervise the board game activities.

It is hoped that the initiative will be the first of many programs providing entertainment or recreational opportunities for students during recess and lunch periods.

School Newsletter, May 21

# Schools join for art project

**Local Year 6 and Year 7 students are undertaking a joint art project, which includes a visit to Patonga and an exhibition at Gosford Regional Gallery.**

Entitled "Beyond the Frame", the project is designed to create links between Brisbane Water Secondary College, Umina Campus, and its feeder primary schools - Umina Primary, Woy Woy South Primary and Kariong Primary.

It involves a joint excursion between Years 6 and 7 to a Patonga site to collect visual information and record impressions of the landscape informed by guides experienced in the environment, indigenous culture and visual art.

Gosford Regional Gallery's

education officer Ms Jodi Paulden said that the visual art guide told students about the role of the artist and how to view the landscape.

The indigenous culture guide informed students of the significance of the landscape for indigenous culture.

While on site, students will take notes and make sketches in their project diaries.

Back at school, the students will create their artworks with reference to their diaries and with assistance from their teacher and a local visual artist.

The curator of the Gosford Regional Gallery will select from these works for the Beyond the Frame exhibition that will feature at the Gallery from July 29 to August 12.

Con Orfanos, May 26

# New dictionaries for Woy Woy South

**Woy Woy South Public School recently took delivery of 225 new dictionaries and thesauri after receiving funding from the school P&C and the Telstra Kids Foundation.**

Deputy principal Ms Jo Booth explained that, as part of her role as literacy co-ordinator, she had discovered the senior years

(Years 5 and 6) had been using outdated and inadequate dictionaries that were many years old and there was a clear need for updating stocks.

After approaching the P&C, it was determined there was an avenue to obtain co-funding from the Telstra Kids Foundation.

An application was formulated and submitted which resulted in a grant late last year and, along

with funds from the school P&C, contributed towards the \$4000 required to ensure sufficient books were acquired to meet the needs of all classes in the senior years.

There are plans to next upgrade the Year 4 dictionaries and hopefully Year 2 sets at a later date.

Carl Krucler, May 20



Ettalong students with Michael Young, local Aboriginal Artist, and assisting teachers and mothers.

# Students paint for aboriginal exhibition

**Gosford Regional Art Gallery will hold an exhibition called Darkinjung Community: Standing Strong by the Central Coast Indigenous community from June 20 to August 3.**

The exhibition will include artistic responses from local Aboriginal artists, local school students, and the general community and a published history of the Darkinjung Community.

Kindergarten and years 3, 5, and 6 children "of ATSC identification" at Ettalong Public

School have been preparing for the exhibition.

These children are involved in producing a mural in collaboration with, and with assistance from, local Aboriginal painter, Michael Young, and a few interested mothers.

The mural will be partly traditional Aboriginal scene and partly contemporary landscape scene.

Years 7-9 students at Brisbane Water Secondary College, Umina Campus, have also been preparing for the exhibition.

These students are also involved in producing a mural in

collaboration with, and with assistance from, local Aboriginal painter, Madeline Anderson.

The murals will become the schools' property at the exhibition's conclusion.

The exhibition is seen as a chance to communicate issues, history and identity to the wider local community for a better understanding of the indigenous culture.

For more information on the exhibition, contact Bev White on 4325 0056.

Con Orfanos, press release, May 20

# Anzac Day essay winners

**Year 9 history students, Cameron Black and Julia Persico, of Brisbane Water Secondary College, Umina Campus, won the Anzac Day Essay Competition run by Gosford Masonic Club RSL members.**

The students were honoured by the members at a luncheon

on April 10 where they gave a public reading of their winning essays, received the winners prize, and laid a wreath on behalf of all Central Coast students.

RSL members said they were impressed with the thought and scholarship exhibited by the winning essays.

School newsletter, May 21

# Umina students at citizenship ceremony

**Harmony Day was celebrated with an Australian citizenship ceremony in the Mayoral Chambers at Gosford Council on March 21.**

The Mayor, Cr Robert Bell, thanked Year 9 representatives of Brisbane Water Secondary

College, Umina Campus, Melissa Alderson and Jessica Birrell, and teacher Mr Ralph Murray, for witnessing the ceremony.

Cr Bell welcomed 30 new Australian citizens who took oaths of citizenship at the ceremony.

School newsletter, May 21



## Numeracy test held

Year 7 and 8 students at Brisbane Water Secondary College, Umina Campus, participated in the Secondary Numeracy Assessment Program on May 13.

The program is a comprehensive test of the numeracy skills needed in the subject areas studied by Year 7 and 8 students and is produced by the Student Assessment and Recording Unit, NSW Department of Education and

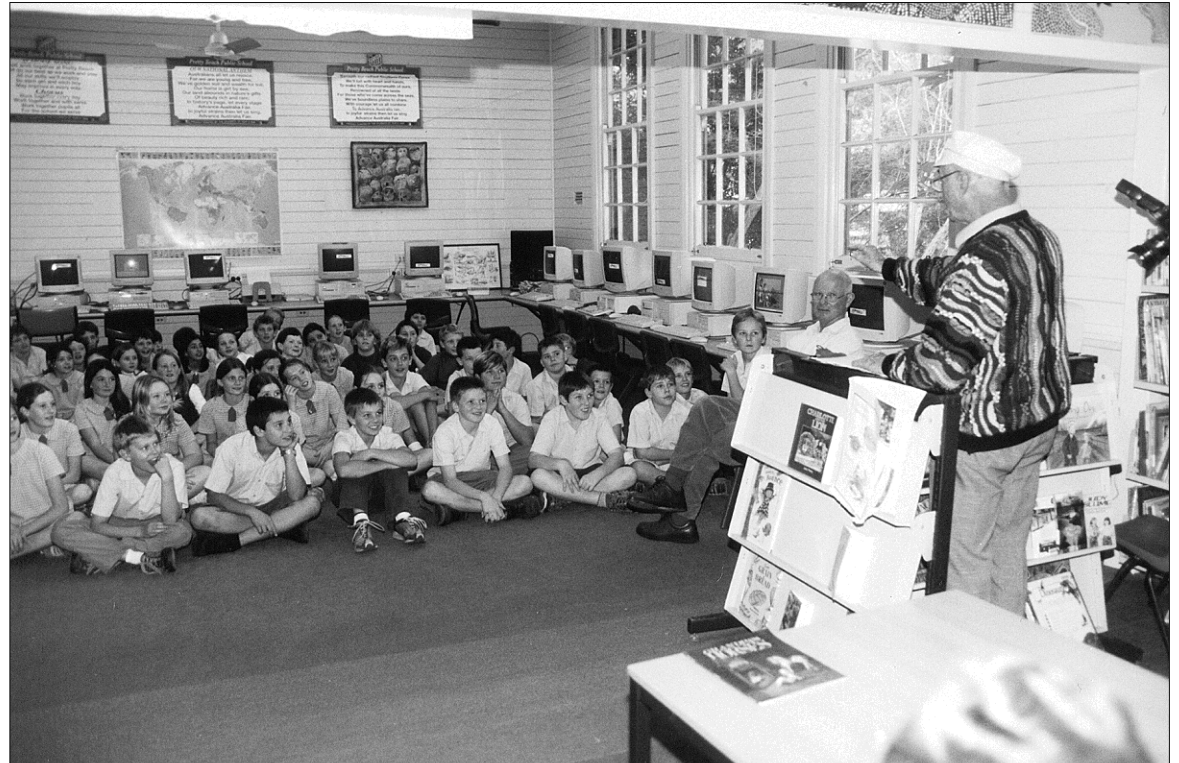
Training.

The results of the test will indicate students' numeracy skills and areas where students may need help.

Reports of the results will be sent to the campus in July and will be used to support teaching and learning programs aimed at improving students' numeracy skills.

Parents or carers will receive a report of their child's performance in the test.

School Newsletter, May 21



Mr Des Milligan speaks to a combined class at Pretty Beach Public School about his famous brother, Spike

## Students in Maths Challenge

Brisbane Water Secondary College has again entered students in the Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians.

The Challenge is an annual nationwide competition organised by the University of Canberra for gifted and talented mathematics students.

The Challenge constitutes a series of challenging maths problems and the students,

working both individually and in small groups, have a three-week period to submit their entries.

Year 10 students Matt Clements, John Crocker, Daniel Jackson, Ting Li, Scott Meulman, Clinton Scott, Amanda Shannon, Brydon Simpson, Justin Steward and Korie Wood and year 9 student Emily Francis will be representing the college at this year's Challenge.

School newsletter, May 16

## Conference on learning

Brisbane Water Secondary College held a conference on May 29 and 30, aimed at "improving student learning outcomes".

The conference continued the review process that began at last year's conference.

Deputy principal Mr Nick Dent said: "We are very much aware that just changing the structure of our schools will not automatically improve student learning outcomes.

"We must also examine all of our practices and ensure that what is happening in our

classrooms is best practice and appropriate to the stage of development of students at each campus."

The focus of this year's conference was two workshop sessions: Improving Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment and Reporting.

The workshops were conducted by specialists in these teaching areas.

The conference was once again held at the Ettalong Beach Memorial Club.

School Newsletter, May 21

## Eco-Villages and Co-Housing

A workshop at Ourimbah Campus Sunday, June 29, 9.30am - 4pm

Discuss projects which draw together people to form communities with a low impact way of life through shared land ownership. Themes will include:

- Environmental sustainability
- Intentional community
- Affordable housing
- Quality of life
- Urban and rural design
- Economic activity

For further information and bookings, phone 4342 5333  
Email: Mark@Openwindows.com

## Milligan competition launched

Desmond Milligan visited Pretty Beach Public School on May 29 to launch a competition recognising the life and work of his late comedian brother Spike Milligan.

Students were encouraged to use the works of the late comedian as inspiration for some "comic and crazy verse" of their own.

The best of the best will be performed at a special event organised by the Bouddi Society,

in association with the Spike Milligan Committee.

"Comic and Crazy Verse – a Competition and a Cavalcade" will see the Wagstaffe Hall come alive in October, a stage for budding comedians and poets to strut their stuff.

There'll be dramatised presentations of various kinds of comic and crazy verse, featuring the winning entries as well as poems by well-know comic authors such as Lewis Carroll, Edward Lear and, of course,

Spike Milligan.

The competition is open to schools in the Peninsula area.

Students can enter long or short verse with or without illustrations, performance verse or a song.

Teachers are being encouraged to use the writings of Spike Milligan as stimulus material, perhaps starting with the special Spike Milligan collection at Woy Woy Library.

Entries close August 29.

Press release, May 28

## Ettalong's 75 years

Ettalong Public School is celebrating its 75th Birthday on Saturday, June 7.

There will be many activities, including stalls, memorabilia, Devonshire teas, a sausage sizzle, buskers, art show and reunions in class rooms.

The event will be held at the school in Karingi St, Ettalong, between 10am and 2pm and officially opened by principal Mr Bruce Donaldson at 11am.

A reunion cocktail party will be held in the evening.

Letter, May 6

## Mufti day at Umina

Umina Public School held a mufti day on Friday, May 23.

The day was held to assist the Violet Foundation in its campaign to raise community awareness of the meningococcal disease.

Fridge magnets listing meningococcal symptoms were provided to all students' families prior to the mufti day.

School newsletter, May 21

## Library seminar held

Woy Woy Library held a free seminar on Friday, May 30, for parents and carers about how to use the library effectively.

The seminar also covered helping your child develop library and information skills, as part of Gosford City Library's PALS (Parents and Libraries) campaign.

The seminar was for parents and carers with children in years K-6 and included skills and information in searching the catalogue, searching the Internet, evaluating information resources, writing a basic bibliography and preparing for a library visit.

Morning tea was provided to seminar participants.

School newsletter, May 15

## Peninsula News On line

### More news

Peninsula News On-line includes the news items that don't fit in the printed edition

### Longer items

Peninsula News On-line includes the full item where items have been cut to fit the printed page

### More pictures

Peninsula News On-line includes pictures that don't fit in the printed edition

[www.peninsulanews.asn.au](http://www.peninsulanews.asn.au)

# Classifieds

## PENINSULA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

Incorporating a trades directory and public notice advertisements *Peninsula News Classifieds* aims to help local residents and businesses achieve their aims at the lowest possible price.

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### Public Notices

**Bhuddist Meditation**  
 Bhuddist monk is leading a w/end workshop for health and spiritual purposes. Beginners welcome. 21/22 June \$60  
 Bookings: 4324 8266

**CCBDMA next Bush Dance**  
**June 28**  
 With **Sydney Coves**  
 East Gosford Progress Hall 8pm  
 All dances taught, walked through and called. Entry \$15 includes supper.  
*No experience necessary, just a willingness to learn and have fun.*  
**Phone: 4323 3356**

### Public Notices

**Woy Woy Swans AFC Family Fun Day**  
 Past V's Present Players  
**GAME DAY**  
**Sunday June 8 from 10.30 am**  
 Rogers Park, Ocean Beach Road, Woy Woy

Interested in living more environmentally?  
 Interested in exploring opportunities?  
 Then why not attend a workshop on:  
**Eco-Villages and Co-Housing on the Central Coast**  
 to be held at Ourimbah Campus on Sunday, June 29.  
**Discuss projects which draw together people to form communities with a low impact way of life through shared land ownership.**  
 Themes include:

- Environmental sustainability
  - Affordable housing
  - Urban and rural planning design
  - Intentional community
  - Quality of life
  - Economic activity
- For further information contact Mark Snell,  
**Phone 4342 5333**  
**Email: Mark.Snell@Openwindows.com**

**The Troubadour Folk and Acoustic Music Club**  
 brings musicians, singers, poets and story tellers to the Central Coast to perform with and entertain local residents and visitors.  
**The club next meets on Friday, June 13 at the CWA Hall (opposite Fishermans' Wharf) Woy Woy**  
 All are welcome.  
 Our special guests this month are our own club members extending their popular floor spots to sets due to popular demand.  
**Enquiries: 4341 4060**

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## Bore water to be used on sports grounds

**Gosford Council has decided to use bore water on Peninsula sports grounds to overcome problems and costs encountered during water restrictions.**

Bore points are already in place at Woy Woy oval and testing is underway at other Peninsula sports grounds.

The council agenda reported: "The revised water restrictions were adequate to support the turf on most sportsgrounds except those constructed on a sand base.

"These sportsgrounds are mostly located on the Peninsula and include Woy Woy Oval, Umina Oval, McEvoy Oval, James Browne Oval, Ettalong Oval and Rogers Park.

"The sand base does not hold sufficient water to support the turf during the drought and the turf quickly deteriorates.

"The recent rain has allowed these grounds to recover for the winter season but had the rains not occurred, the turf could not have withstood the high winter usage resulting in huge turfing costs during next spring."

The council's Recreation Operations section investigated the use of bore water to overcome the water restrictions and completed the first trial at

Woy Woy Oval.

"The trial cost \$6000 and it is estimated that this outlay will be repaid by water savings in approximately 23 weeks (based on three, 30-minute periods per station per week).

"This equates to a saving of 388 Kilolitres (KI) or \$260 per week."

The use of bore water "ensures a regular water supply to the sportsground thus minimising the costs or replacement turf each spring".

It was "ecologically sustainable and reduces the demand on town water supply".

The use of bore water at selected ovals was recommended to save on town water consumption and as a mechanism to protect the turfed playing surfaces during periods of drought.

The council's Water and Sewer Directorate funded the cost of installing the bore at Woy Woy Oval in partnership with Woy Woy Rugby League Club.

The installation of bore points at priority grounds would be funded "as a customer service obligation/demand management strategy."

A report on the progress of the project will come back to council in October.

Council agenda CS.037, May 27

## Reunion honours Ray Mason

**A simple old-world eulogy in honour of Ray Mason was delivered by a playing partner of the 1950s at a recent South Sydney rugby league reunion.**

"The type of person all young footballers should model themselves on."

It reflected the warm regard in which he was held by the countless numbers of people who had passed his way and admired his deeds on the playing fields and his selfless contribution to the game.

Now a Umina resident, Ray Mason looked back on those heady times of half a century ago with fondness and quiet satisfaction.

He mixed with the elite of the game and was an essential member of a rugby league team which dominated with legendary names such as Clive Churchill, Johnny Graves, Jack Rayner, Len Cowie, Bernie Purcell and Harry Wells providing such a sturdy platform.

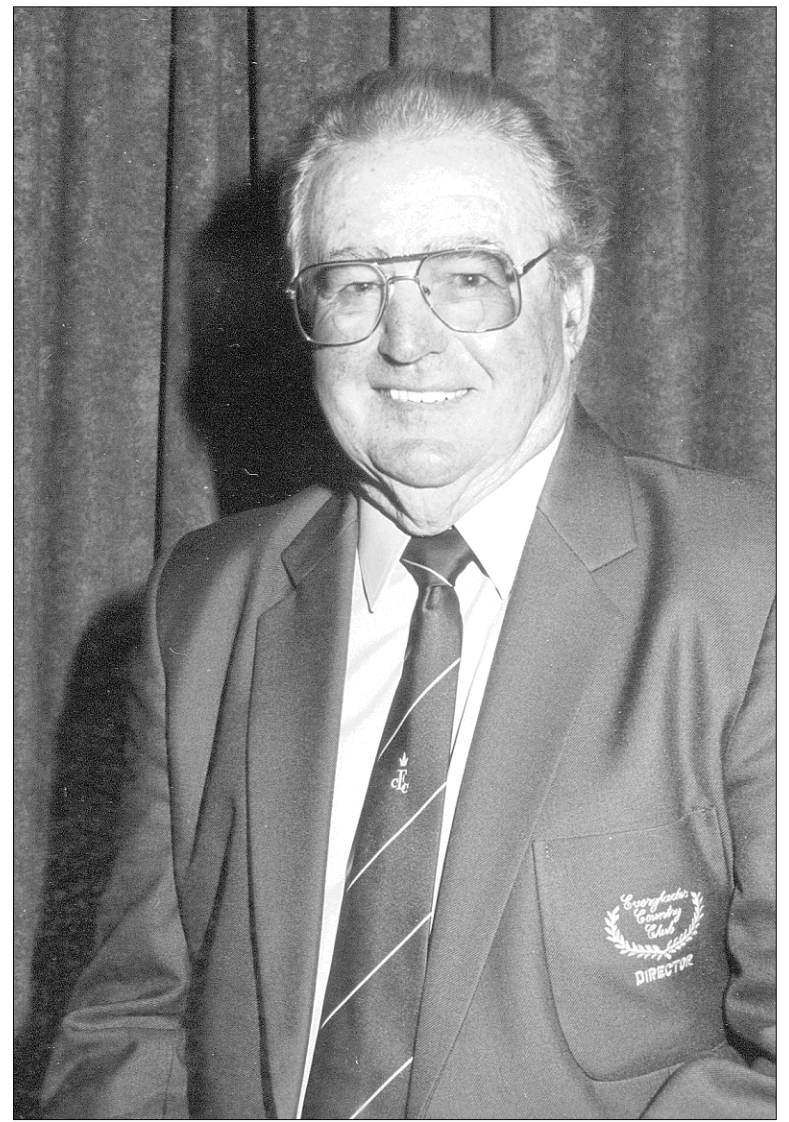
As the Rabbitohs' half-back, he was the scheming scrumbase architect of numerous South Sydney triumphs and many admirers claimed that his surprising omissions from representative teams was largely due to his preferred playing role as a team link rather than in an individual capacity.

He was a member of three victorious first grade premierships sides in 1951, 1953, and 1954 and coached the third grade team from 1958 to 1965, achieving premierships honours in 1963.

He was elected a life member of the football club in 1965, served on its committee for 20 years and was a director of the Leagues Club for seven years.

In 1986, Ray followed the example set by his son and daughter and moved to the Central Coast.

"We used to drive up from Sydney and visit the children and grandchildren so often, and enjoyed the area so much, that we felt we might as well settle here, too," he explained.



As a golfer, he had been a member at the St Michael's and Botany clubs in Sydney and it was a natural progression, to him, to join the Everglades Country Club with its rich offerings of golf, bowls and social amenities.

It wasn't long before he fell under the lawn bowls spell and diverted his sporting energies to that field.

In the lawn bowls arena, where long accurate passes and bone-crunching tackles are not the accepted requirements for participants, he adapted most successfully to a game in which touch and finesse are vital ingredients.

At Everglades, among other successes, he has won the

Triples and Fours Championships, each on four occasions, the Minor Singles, and the Mixed Pairs and Fours.

He has been a board member for 14 years, bowls secretary for 12 years and is currently a vice-president.

Three years ago, he was awarded the Australian Sports Medal for his contribution to sport and, in particular, bowls.

His philosophy, which focuses on winning or losing with grace, a sense of responsibility to his team mates and sheer enjoyment of the game, whether it is rugby league or bowls, is about as close as you can get to pinpointing the essence of sport at its finest.

Allan Wilson, May 26

## Ladies Cup played at Everglades

**The 2003 Ladies Cup was played at Everglades Country Club on May 1.**

About 105 women participated in the Everglades competition, sponsored by L'Oréal.

The competition has grown this year to include nearly 500 golf clubs across Australia, all of which host their own version of the cup.

Competitors were focused on winning products from the

L'Oréal Paris skincare range.

Viola Weatherstone of Woy Woy was awarded the skincare prize pack by Judd's Pharmacy of Woy Woy.

Viola won the day with a score of 38 points with Bev Crowther of Woy Woy coming a close second with a score of 37 points.

The following four winners were also recipients of a prize pack.

Press Release, May 23.

## Swans field reserves side

**The Woy Woy Peninsula Swans AFL Club seniors are playing with a reserve grade side only this year.**

In the last two weeks, they have picked up three new players.

Next year, the Swans hope to be able to field an under-18s side also.

The team has celebrated two victories and some very

disappointing losses, including one by two points after the siren and one by one point.

The Swans have a home game coming up on Saturday, June 7.

The club is also planning a big Family Fun Day on Sunday, June 8.

The day features a game between past and current players, junior games and novelty games.

Belinda Campbell, May 29

## Students reach surfing finals

**Four students from Brisbane Water Secondary College, Umina Campus, travelled to Soldier's Beach on March 26, to compete against students from 14 state and private schools in the All Schools Regional Surfing Competition.**

Anthony Whitehall, Joshua Foley and Carl Bennett of the Campus' junior team bounced backed from a first round loss with advancement to the semi-finals of the competition proper.

Chelsea Johnson, also of the Campus' junior team, progressed

to the final of the junior girls in her first competition.

Mr Katen, a teacher at the Campus, said: "I was impressed with the students' performance,

attitude and behaviour on the day and I hope they continue with their enthusiastic approach to surfing."

School newsletter, May 21

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# New child care places

**Member for Robertson Mr Jim Lloyd has announced that four additional child care places have been provided for Peninsula and District Family Day Care.**

"This latest allocation demonstrates the Coalition Government's commitment to providing child care places to areas with the highest need, which in turn helps to ensure a strong and viable child care sector," Mr Lloyd said.

"Family day care and In-home child care are great options for many families who rely on these services to help them balance the demands of work and family.

"We are determined to provide quality, affordable child care so that people can participate economically and socially in the community."

Family day care is provided in an experienced carer's own home and is primarily for children who have not yet started school, although they may also provide care for school children up to 12 years old.

In-home care is provided in the home of the child and is designed to improve access for families who would otherwise not be able to use a child



Member for Robertson Jim Lloyd visits Peninsula and District Family Day Care

care service, such as families living in rural areas, parents working shiftwork or unusual hours and families with a sick child.

Mr Lloyd said families using child care services that are approved by the Commonwealth may be able to claim

Child Care Benefit to assist with the cost of care

For more information about child care, families can call the Federal Government's national Child Care Hotline on 1800 670 305

Press release, May 22

## Youth comedy Workshop funded

**A comedy-writing workshop for young people has received \$4114 in Federal Government funding as part of the proposed Spike Milligan Comedy Festival, due to be held on October 4 and 5.**

Professional writers will work with children and young people in four half-day workshops to develop skills of humorous writing inspired by the life of Spike Milligan, based at the Spike Milligan Room at the Woy Woy Library, which is developing its Spike Milligan collection.

The workshop will be held in the

week leading up to the actual festival.

A professional performer will present a program of readings based on the participants work in the environs of the library at intervals during the two days of the Festival.

Federal Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Lloyd, making the funding announcement, said that "if successful, it is proposed that the comedy festival will become an annual event".

He said the event could attract visitors from all over Australia and internationally "helping to support local businesses and most importantly create ongoing local employment".

Press release, May 26

## Residents oppose subdivision

**A petition has been received by Gosford Council from residents of Starboard Ave, Bensville, objecting to the proposed subdivision of land at lot 161.**

The 44 petitioners stated that the proposed development did not conform with the standards and building rules and was detrimental to the overall aesthetic appeal of the estate.

It restricted the common access to the last tree-shaded area that was regularly frequented by estate residents, they said.

The petitioners claimed that the proposed dwelling was in breach of Council's building regulations and would also breach a tree preservation order.

Council agenda P.039, May 27

# Barbecue morning tea raises money for cancer research

**A barbecue was held on May 22 to help raise money for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea, in aid of cancer research.**

Staff from Campbell's Home Hardware on Blackwall Rd came up with the idea after seeing an ad on TV and decided to give back to their customers and the community by holding a barbecue for the morning tea.

Tea and coffee was supplied along with sausage or bacon and egg sandwiches.

They also ran a raffle with fruit trays and other great prizes to help raise extra funds for the charity.

Proprietor Mark Campbell donated a prize of a paid day off work to a staff member with tickets being sold to all 22 staff members at \$10 each, raising an extra \$220.

"A lot of our customers have been affected by cancer one way or another which makes us realise just how important it is to raise money for this particular organisation," said Kevin Downy from Campbell's.

The major sponsors of the morning tea were Pine Solutions and Campbell's Home Hardware.

Other local businesses helped sponsor the morning tea including,



Russell Downy, Kevin Dawes, Dick Campbell from Campbell's Home Hardware and Graham Taylor and Matt Thomas from Pine Solutions.

Ettalong Family Butchery who supplied the sausages for the barbecue and Dave Keenan Fruit & Veg who supplied three fruit trays for the raffle.

Other sponsors included Col Chant Builders, Watyl Paint, Dulux Paints, Brett Martin (Milko for Dairy Farmers),

Glen Purse, May 22.

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