

Meetings held about fires

Several public meetings have been held in the Peninsula area, following the New Year's Day fires.

They were part of a process of keeping residents informed of bush fire control.

Residents were able to ask questions of a number of agencies and to seek advice on future prevention.

One such meeting was held at Woy Woy South Progress Hall on Tuesday, January 10.

It was attended by representatives from the NSW Rural Fire Service, the NSW Fire Brigades, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Department of Community Services (DoCS).

Residents received a "fire update" and learned that at that stage, fires burning in the Patonga area were the only remaining areas of concern.

Residents were advised not to climb onto their roofs to hose them as there were more injuries suffered by people falling off their roofs during bushfire emergencies than there were from any other cause.

"Roofs dry very quickly and it is more effective for residents to remain on the ground but vigilant with a water hose or bucket ready to put out embers and spot fires," said NSW Rural Fire Service spokesman Mr Bob McGrath.

Discussion also took place on areas of responsibility on land controlled by many agencies.

The meeting was informed that each case needed to be looked at individually and that in many cases a multi-agency agreement would need to be reached.

The DoCS officers present were part of the disaster recovery team and advised that they had been visiting occupants of fire affected residences offering counselling services and other assistance.

They also stated that they were likely to remain working in the area for some time.

Much of the meeting concentrated on future bush fire prevention and in particular, two initiatives from the NSW Fire Brigades that generated a great deal of interest.

The first was an attempt by the

NSW Fire Brigades to identify properties with static water supplies in bushfire risk areas.

Mr Warren Page from the NSW Fire Brigades Region North said that often when fighting bush fires, there was a lack of water pressure because of the high usage by residents and this hampered fire fighting.

By having a small sign, supplied by the brigade, in a visible location with the letters SWS on it, fire fighters will know immediately that there is a static water supply available, such as a swimming pool and that they can use their pumps to draw the water for fire fighting purposes.

"The swimming pool provides an ideal emergency water supply for fire fighters using small portable pumps and hose lines to protect your home and possessions", Mr Page said.

Any pool water used for this purpose is replaced at no charge and residents were encouraged to contact the fire brigades to obtain a SWS sign.

The second initiative is the establishment of Community Fire Units (CFUs).

A CFU is a volunteer team of local residents trained to safeguard their homes during a bush fire until the Fire Brigades get there.

They are provided with basic fire fighting equipment to the value of \$15,500 including pumps, hoses and protective clothing to hose down areas surrounding their properties to prevent a bush fire from gaining hold.

A team is made up of six to 12 members and the focus is on bushfire education, prevention and preparation.

Training is provided and team members need to remain informed of the latest techniques.

CFUs are not expected to fight raging fires.

There are already three CFUs established on the Central Coast.

Residents wishing to find out more information should contact their local fire station.

Bush Fire Wise advice cards with a magnet on the back were also given to residents to help with advice if needed in an emergency.

Cec Bucello, January 12



The burnt out shell of a volunteer firefighters car, crushed beneath a tree.

Photo: Daniel Stone

Fire remnant is downgraded

The fire that affected parts of the Peninsula on New Year's Day was downgraded to a class 1 fire by January 10.

The fire destroyed three homes, and seven vehicles belonging to volunteer fire fighters.

Fires, assisted by a southerly and 44 degree heat, burnt Umina, Pearl Beach, Patonga, Phegans Bay, Horsfield Bay, Woy Woy Bay, Little Wobby, Mullet Creek, Hawkesbury River, Kariong, Tascott and Koolewong.

Two of the properties were lost at Phegans Bay and one at Horsfield Bay.

Recent NSW Rural Fire Service reports stated that the main fire, believed to have begun at the Bulls Hill Quarry, had burnt between 2100 and 2600 hectares in the Brisbane Water National Park.

A report from January 3 stated that at the time 45 crews and 10

helicopters, including "Rocky" the skycrane, were operating on the Woy Woy, Spencer and Mt White fires.

Rain had helped minimise fire activity during last week, but had also hampered fire crews' ability to complete planned back burning operations, according to the report.

The Rural Fire Service had reported that there was potential for hot spots to continue smouldering within the area, and that the fire was not considered out until the hot spots no longer presented a concern to the incident management team.

At the time of writing, crews were still patrolling the area, continuing to monitor fire-affected areas.

Aircraft were also being used to monitor fire-affected areas using infrared heat detection.

Community Liaison Officers

from the NSW Rural Fire Service had been in the area, visiting residents.

They met with more than 750 residents, providing current fire information as well as information of fire preparedness and prevention.

The Australian Red Cross also door knocked residents within the affected areas offering counselling services and other assistance.

Meetings to discuss fire preparedness issues were also held on January 9 at the reserve on the corner of Phegans Bay Rd and Central Rd and the Bays Community Centre, as well as at the Woy Woy Progress Association Hall on January 10.

The Rural Fire Service has encouraged residents to continue their property preparedness during the bushfire danger period.

Press release, January 9
The NSW Rural Fire Service
Lyle Stone, January 13

Call for photo replacements

A resident who lost her home in the New Year's Day bushfires has asked for photos to replace those lost in the fire.

Suzanne Rochester has asked for assistance from people who could donate photos of her and daughter Georgia's performances

with Woy Woy Little Theatre.

Amongst the possessions destroyed in the blaze were all her photographs.

"It is possible some Woy Woy Little Theatre members who were involved in shows with Suzanne and her daughter Georgia may have photos of the pair," said


theatre member Ms Brenda Logan.

"If you have any photographs of Suzanne or Georgia, please consider donating them to Suzanne."

For more information contact Brenda Logan on 4343 1027.

Lyle Stone, January 12


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Information for members and their guests



The new fish and chips shop at Hardys Bay

Fish and chips at Hardys Bay

A fish and chips business has opened on Araleun Dr, Hardys Bay.

The Hardys Bay Fish & Chips Company has been established by Sydney chef Simon Grose and local resident Peter Dorrian.

Mr Grose has worked all over Australia, with a variety of cafes and restaurants, most recently at Sydney's McLeay St Bistro.

Mr Dorrian, a former part owner of Otto Ristorante on Sydney's Woolloomooloo Wharf, is a Killcare local.

"I have always loved the NSW Central Coast," Mr Dorrian said.

"It's so close to Sydney and offers the most spectacular sights and activities.

"I fell in love with this spot, the minute I saw it.

"The views from the shop are unbeatable and a fish and chips shop is just what the visitors need in this area," Mr Dorrian said.

"We love the local seafood and have created a menu that is distinct in its offering.

"It's not a regular fish and chips shop.

"We offer an eclectic mix of Australian cuisine, offering take-away dishes like salt and pepper squid, steamed black mussels, Wagyu beef steak sandwich and our special, Peter's pineapple fritters," Mr Grose said.

"The regular dishes like fish cakes, fish fillet burger, prawn cocktails and others have also received a make over and I am sure will appeal to families who come to spend time at the bay."

The Hardy's Bay Fish & Chips Company overlooks a grassy reserve which has been recently landscaped by Gosford Council.

The shop has a deck in the front, allowing the visitors to enjoy the views while waiting for their order to be prepared.

"There is also a bottle shop next door, making it convenient to grab a bottle of cold beer on those warm summer days," said Mr Grose.

The shop also offers a special delivery service to boats.

Press release, January 9
Simrita Virk, Shed Enterprises

Drainage questions answered

Questions about funding for Peninsula and Pretty Beach Drainage works have been answered in a report to Gosford Council.

Cr Vicki Scott had asked the Council's director of city services Mr Stephen Glen when funds, including \$1 million earmarked for Peninsula drainage works and \$100,000 for Pretty Beach drainage works, would be made available for the "badly needed drainage works in these areas".

The funds had previously been redirected to trunk drainage at Terrigal.

Mr Glen stated in a report that the money earmarked for the Peninsula drainage works was for works in the vicinity of Rawson Rd.

"Work has been delayed until completion of an investigation into the use of water sensitive urban design (WSUD) principles in the catchment," Mr Glen said.

"This investigation is proposed under a flood study and a floodplain risk management plan for the area, collectively referred to as the management plan.

"WSUD involves managing flooding and drainage issues with more natural techniques, like stormwater infiltration, and is expected to result in significant savings in drainage infrastructure costs."

Mr Glen said a grant had recently been obtained from the State Government to prepare a

management plan covering this part of the Woy Woy Peninsula.

Mr Glen said the plan was expected to be completed by the middle of next year by the environment and planning directorate which was responsible for developing the floodplain management plans within the Gosford local government area.

Mr Glen also stated that the ongoing floodplain management study and plan for the Pretty Beach area was expected to be completed soon.

Preparation of the study and plan was funded jointly by the State Government and council.

"The plan will determine the exact nature of the options and measures required to manage flooding and drainage in the area," Mr Glen said.

"All physical mitigation measures provided in the plan will require detailed design and construction with the assistance of government grants."

A recent funding offer from the State Government of \$200,000 had been accepted for the construction works.

Mr Glen said council funds of \$100,000 would be required to match the grant offer prior to work commencing, and a recommendation on a suitable source of funding would be made to council.

Mr Glen said construction work was expected to commence later this year.

Council agenda Q.128,
January 10

Peninsula News

Community Access

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.

Association President and Editor: Mark Snell

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Declaration of interests

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Next Edition: Peninsula News 134

Deadline: January 25 Publication date: January 30

Contributions

Letters to the editor and other contributions are welcomed and should be addressed to: Peninsula News PO Box 532, Woy Woy 2256. Contributions should be in Word format sent via email to: mail@PeninsulaNews.asn.au, on disks or by handwritten letter if these facilities are not available to you. Include the date, your name, address and phone numbers. Name and Suburb will be published. Anonymous contributions will not be included. Submissions may be published in edited form. All accepted contributions also appear on our website.

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

Ducks Crossing Publications, a subsidiary of Mail Order Mall, is the commercial operator of Peninsula News

Printed by MPD, Maddox St, Alexandria

Winners

Winners of double passes in the Peninsula News Lennon Bros Circus Competition have been announced.

They are Helen McConaghy, Crystal Kiddle, Zach Taylor, Patricia Taylor, M. Causer, Kerry Ryan, Debbie Dick, Mrs D. Palmer, Guy Ehsman, Klaas Woldring, David Woods, L. Foreman, Muriel Cadman, Bernadette Dwyer, Bill & Katie Matthews, Mrs M. Callingham, Bev Yahl, P. Williams, Katie Hayne and Sharron O'Keefe.

Winners of family passes in the Peninsula News Australian Reptile Park Competition were D. Marin, Jarryd Hayne, E. Taylor, Georgina Boni, Mrs O'Keefe and family.

Bernadette McNamara,
January 11

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Australia Day plans for Woy Woy

Dance displays, performances, youth concerts and fireworks will all be among the events to be held on Australia Day, January 26, at Anderson Park, Woy Woy.

The Peninsula Dance and Theatre School will hold a dance display at 3pm on the main stage along with children's activities outside the CWA Hall and a painting competition inside the CWA Hall.

Children's activities in the hall will finish at 6pm.

At 4pm the tall ship STS Wutuku will start cruises around Riley's Island with live entertainment by singer and guitarist Bill Bekric.

Singer and guitarist Jennifer Herrick will entertain on the main stage at 3.30pm followed by Konfusion at 3.45pm.

Singer and guitarist Mr Warren Targett will perform on the main stage at 4.05pm with Konfusion entertaining the crowd in surrounding areas from 4.30pm and Linda Campbell on the main stage at 4.35pm.

A youth concert has been planned for 5pm at the CWA Hall.

The youth concert will finish at 6pm.

A Taiko drum display by Rendra Freestone and the Rhythm Hunters will take place on the main stage at 5.10pm followed by the official welcome at 6pm.

The official welcome will involve

an Aboriginal smoking ceremony, Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews, Gosford mayor Cr Laurie Maher, ambassador and citizen of the year.

At 6.10pm a special presentation will be made to the New Years Day emergency services personnel.

The national anthem will be led by soloist Anna Lawley at 6.30pm, followed by the raising of the flag and the citizens affirmation pledge.

This will be followed by a chorus of "I am Australian" and "Waltzing Matilda".

Birthday cake will then be distributed on the main stage.

Bill Bekric will then perform on the main stage at 6.45pm with entertainment by The Usual Suspects aboard the STS Wutuku at 7pm.

A bush dance with the band Ryebuck will start at 7.15pm on the main stage.

A Troubadour concert will also commence at 8pm in the CWA Hall.

A flame will be symbolically transferred from the wharf to the fireworks barge by Fritz Baumung at 9.25pm, with fireworks starting at 9.30pm.

Dance will continue until 11pm when the event closes.

Children's rides featuring giant slide and cowboy capers will also feature at the event.

Cec Bucello, January 12



An artist's impression of the proposed development on the corner of Blackwall Rd and Bowden Rd

Councillors back Margin development

Gosford councillors have voted nine to one in favour of a development on the corner of Bowden Rd and Blackwall Rd at their meeting of December 13.

The proposal was for a residential flat building containing 50 units.

Applicant Mr Kim Margin, a former Gosford councillor, said that, following a recommendation for refusal by council, he and his family were grateful to the councillors for taking the time to evaluate the project.

"The councillors voted nine to one in favour of our project with no alterations," Mr Margin said.

"Our position here is close to Woy Woy, close to the shops, churches, pubs, medical centres and railway station.

"This location is recommended as three-storey garden apartments in the PUDS study."

Mr Margin said the development

would have a single driveway onto Bowden Rd instead of multiple driveways onto Blackwall Rd.

"We expect 90 per cent of our customers to be existing locals," Mr Margin said.

"A good position, no house maintenance, lifts, high energy efficiency and the latest technology will make this project attractive to them.

"People wanting to downsize their housing needs and pocket the extra cash will benefit from settling themselves up to maintain their independence in the future.

"People get sick of having to get into their car every time they do something.

"From here it's only a walk to the railway station to visit Sydney for entertainment, a medical specialist or visit family."

Mr Margin said gardens and a high level of finish on the units would see the development set a

new higher standard.

"The development pays \$384,000 in new contributions for drainage and the water and sewage and for the new leisure centre," Mr Margin said.

"We have had artists Don and Fiona Neil design our art work, sculptures from some of our old soft drink machines.

"We have gone to a lot of trouble to tie the history of the site into the new development to give the new project a bit of soul."

"We intend on building the project ourselves and have engaged Frank Van Aalderen, vice-president of the Master Builder Association, to be our construction supervisor."

Mr Margin said he intended to build the development over a few years and would start the project this year.

Press release, Council agenda ENV.77, December 13
Kim Margin

Cycleway bridge

Tenders have been called for a cycleway bridge at Koolewong, according to Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews.

Ms Andrews said tenders closed on December 7 and were currently being evaluated.

She said it was envisaged that the successful tender would

be announced by the end of February.

The project is a joint one between Gosford Council and the RTA.

Press release, January 13

Marie Andrews, Member for Peats

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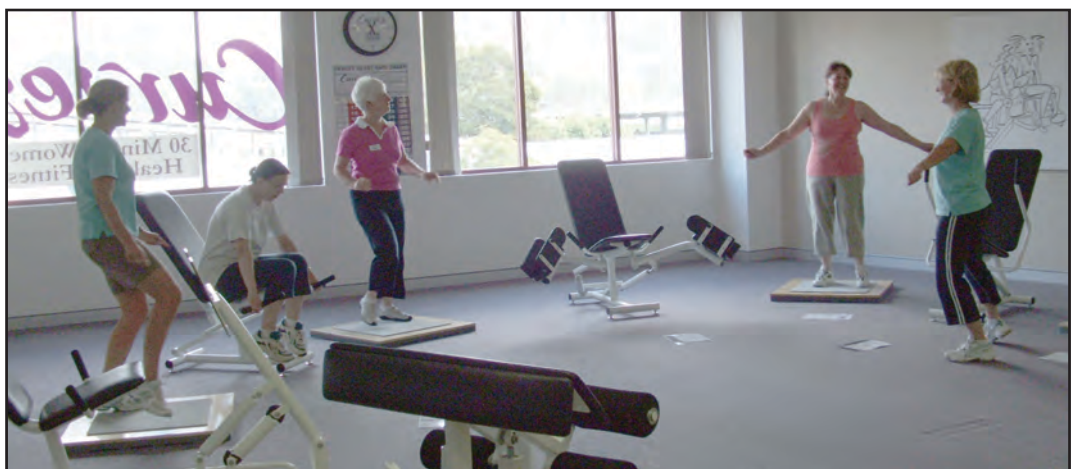
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Wrong impression on foreshore works

I refer to the article "Andrews supports foreshore works", which appears on the front page of the December 12 issue of the Peninsula News.

The heading of my original release was "Government Provides \$60,000 for Ettalong Beach Foreshore Redevelopment".

I am concerned that the altered heading printed in your newspaper could very easily give readers the wrong impression of my feelings about redeveloping the foreshores.

Forum

My support only extends to improving the foreshores so that they are more visually pleasing and more accessible to the community.

I am adamantly opposed to the commercialisation of the foreshores, which I strongly believe belongs to the people for recreational purposes and environmental protection.

Marie Andrews
Member for Peats

Real action needed on climate change

In Australia we have just survived the hottest year on record.

However the Liberal government still can't bring itself to take real action to address climate change.

This week in Sydney, the Government is hosting a sham summit on climate change with five of the world's biggest polluting countries.

The meeting in Sydney this week is for the "Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate", a US-led initiative that

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is supposed to "complement" the Kyoto Protocol.

This partnership places no real obligations on the partners and is simply a way of evading the serious efforts already underway in the international community to address climate change.

It is the public policy equivalent of cowering in an air-conditioned room on a hot day waiting for the sun to go down.

We cannot let the Australian

and US Governments shirk their responsibility for tackling climate change.

The Australian government should re-engage with the international community's efforts to tackle climate change, rather than host meaningless talkfests.

A commitment to real targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions must be implemented with an unprecedented investment in clean energy technology.

Mike Hudson, Umina Beach

Courageous and heroic efforts

I would like to place on record my appreciation and thanks to all who put their lives at risk to save our homes and lives on Sunday, January 1, a day I will not forget easily.

It was the day when a horrendous bushfire swept over Phegans Bay, Horsfield Bay and Woy Woy Bay.

Two of my neighbours in Wattle Crescent lost their homes and for many hours we feared that another three houses would be lost.

However, through the courageous and heroic efforts of the rural and volunteer bush fire brigade, no more homes and no lives were lost.

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Unfortunately, volunteers of the local volunteer bush fire brigade lost six cars.

My special thanks go to my next door neighbour at No. 2 Wattle Crescent, who stayed behind to protect his home and mine and my heart goes out to the residents at No 1 and No 5 Wattle Crescent who lost their homes.

This event brought us closer together as a community and we can look forward in hope to better days in 2006.

Fritz Baumung, Phegans Bay

I'm not sure what research Kevin Duncan (Peninsula News Edition 107) conducted to conclude that smoking is not a major cause of cancer but it could not have been done here on Earth.

Tobacco smoke and its health effects is the single most researched health topic in the world.

Try entering "tobacco smoke health effects" into any search

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engine on the internet and read the first few thousand results.

Virtually every major health organisation in the world will list tobacco use as a major cause of cancer plus the cause of many other diseases.

Even the tobacco companies now admit their product kills people.

Mr. Duncan should research the work done by Sir Richard Doll in England in the 1950s. Sir Richard Doll was looking into the cause of the dramatic rise in lung cancer rates in England.

He suspected that air pollution from burning coal was the culprit.

He was surprised to find cigarette smoke was the cause.

Don Cook, Avoca Beach

Education needed with emergency plan

Natural disasters require inadequate forethought and emergency plans.

We do not need think-tanks, professorial scholarships, lobbyists, cronyism or overpaid consultants to advise us.

What is needed is the immediate empowerment and activation of a simple plan of citizen education and warning.

The plan should include:

- the use of a klaxon with annual compulsory training, as occurs in some 'backward' countries caring for its citizens.
- immediate commandeering of one local community radio station and one commercial radio station to broadcast at least 10 second updates of the situation 24 hours a day. Longer than 10 seconds is inadequate - a fire front travelling at 60kph will traverse 100 metres four seconds faster than an Olympic sprinter.
- commandeer all local buses and trains to move residents to points of safety. A 10,000 person suburb requires about 200 buses to move its residents. The 30,000 Woy Woy

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See Page 2 for
contribution conditions

Peninsula residents will have a problem escaping on Woy Woy Rd from a tsunami even if given one hour's notice. In five minutes the road will be impassable from private vehicle smashes and gawking disaster chasers.

educate everyone where their designated assembly point is. All points under the control of civil authorities, whether police, council

or special Civil Guardia, are located. All points store emergency food and water with adequate sewage removal for the duration.

- council employees cease normal day-to-day routine to take-up pre-designated emergency roles such as radio station manning, emergency service support, evacuation centre control and management, field hospital manning, hostel and elderly evacuations.

The above points are not conclusive or foolproof.

They do represent more disaster forethought than state and federal government's have passed on, educated or prepared the ordinary citizen with to date.

Perhaps governments believe the myth that lightning does not strike in the same place twice.

Richard J. Newby, Woy Woy

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Australia Day at Wagstaffe

Several Australia Day events have been planned for Wagstaffe, on and around Australia Day.

The celebrations include a jazz picnic for all the family, a flag raising ceremony, raffle and community breakfast.

The jazz picnic will include an outdoor jazz concert in a picnic setting by the waters of Wagstaffe.

Peter Kinch and Friends will entertain concert goers with swing and blues music.

Participants are asked to bring their own food, drink, chairs or rugs.

The event is sponsored by Gosford Council.

The jazz concert will be held on Saturday January 21, from 6pm to 9pm outside Wagstaffe Hall near the ferry wharf.

The flag raising ceremony will be held at 8am on Thursday, January 26, at the Wagstaffe Hall.

The ceremony will be followed by the community breakfast.

The community is invited to the event which is sponsored by the Pretty Beach Wagstaffe and District Progress Association and Gosford Council.

A raffle has also been organised by the association which will be drawn on Australia Day.

Tickets for the raffle are on sale at Killcare stores.

There are 10 or more prizes to be won including dinner, lunch or breakfast on offer at several venues including The Bells, Lizottes, The Heath, Yum Yum Eatery, Old Killcare Store, Killcare Beach Kiosk and Wagstaffe Store.

In addition, McGregors by the Bay is offering one dozen bottles of fine wine.

There are also prizes of a Sony CD Walkman and an ABC Shop voucher.

Proceeds from the raffle will go towards public liability insurance at the Wagstaffe Hall and Tennis Court.

Press release, January 2
Veronica Crowe



The ketch, STS Wutuku, will be running both short and long cruises from Gosford and Woy Woy on Australia Day.

Ketch sails on Australia Day

STS Wutuku, a 65 foot ketch and flagship of the Tall Ship Sailing School, will be running cruises from both Gosford and Woy Woy on Australia Day.

As the Wutuku will also be taking part in the First Fleet landing re-enactment at Gosford on January 26, those booking cruises are encouraged to wear period

costume.

The morning cruise departs Woy Woy for Gosford at 8.30am, with an afternoon sailing from Gosford to Woy Woy at 3pm.

Tickets are \$50 each, with an Aussie breakfast or afternoon tea provided.

Four short cruises on the Wutuku are also available on Australia Day for \$10 per person.

These will depart Gosford at noon

and 1.30pm and Woy Woy at 4pm and 5.30pm. Local folk musicians will provide entertainment on the afternoon cruises from Woy Woy.

Tickets can be booked in advance through the Tall Ship Sailing School on 4324 9625 or on Australia Day at the school's information booth which will be situated near Iguana Joe's on the waterfront.

Press release, January 13
Marion Newell

Australia Day activities

The Mother Nature's Parent Club Inc will provide activities at the Australia Day festival at Woy Woy, according to club president and coordinator Ms Carmen Daniels-Perrin.

"This year we plan to provide traditional children's games such as hoopla and story telling time as well as the creation of a community mural," said Ms Daniels-Perrin.

"To create this mural we will hang 20 metres of calico from the fence at the CWA Hall Woy Woy.

"The community members will then place a print of their hands on the calico."

The finished piece will be hung at the community hall at Umina."

Press release, January 9
Carmen Daniels-Perrin, Mother Nature's Parent Club Inc

Carpark expands

A total of 743 car spaces are now available at Deepwater Plaza, with an additional 101 car spaces recently added.

The redevelopment of the carpark started in late September and involved the expansion of the second level deck parking area.

This has resulted in the increase of over 101 car parking spaces as well as the creation of more than 101 undercover parking spaces.

Centre Manager Ms Julie Marr said she was ecstatic about the development.

"Not only was the carpark completed before scheduled handover, it has also created extra convenience for our customers."

"We can now provide Deepwater Plaza customers with over 734 car parking spaces with just over one third of these undercover."

Press release, December 13
Julie Marr, Deepwater Plaza

Stories of fire experience

Residents from across the Peninsula have told Peninsula News how they were affected by the fires on January 1.

Several residents, told to evacuate the area, decided to stay instead and protect their homes and surrounding areas.

Phegans Bay residents Richard and Robyn Graylin were two of those people.

"We were told to evacuate but refused as we didn't see a compelling need to evacuate," Mr Graylin said.

"The fire got within 50 metres of the house but was burning slowly down hill.

"We had the car packed with photos, documents and whatever else we could grab in a hurry."

One Woy Woy resident praised

the work of the local fire fighters but also thanked several local clubs who sheltered evacuees.

"People came down to Everglades and it said it was prepared to provide them with their services," the resident said.

"The first information we had was that they would be housed at the club in Gosford, but on the night they were housed in Ettalong Beach Club, Woy Woy Leagues Club and the Ettalong Memorial Bowling Club."

Ettalong Club media officer Mr Scott MacKillop said that the club accommodated about 70 people.

"In addition, we accommodated their dogs, cats, birds and fish," Mr MacKillop said.

"They were also provided with meals and were accommodated in our function rooms overnight."

Umina resident Mr Bill Lough, of Castle Circuit, was at home when the bushfire came around the water tower.

"The fire virtually followed one side of the road," Mr Lough said.

Mr Lough said fire fighters had a pump set up beside his swimming pool, with hoses either side of, and through, his house.

"When the southerly blew it accelerated the approach of the fire towards the house," Mr Lough said.

"When it reached the fire break, which we had constructed by clearing the area for a few years, the firemen managed it so that it wouldn't come any closer and it followed the path of the fire trail."

Lyle Stone, January 12

Outrigger Ettalong Beach Resort & Ettalong Beach Club Te Ika Nui Outrigger Canoe Regatta

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This Sunday 22 January, on the Ettalong Beach Club foreshore

Racing starts at 9:30am so be there to cheer on the Central Coast's Te Ika Nui Outrigger Club as they compete against clubs from across the state.

All the action is on the water right in front of the Club.






Photo: Lee Forman

Andrews praises residents' spirit

Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews has praised local residents for their strong sense of community following the devastating bushfires that spread through the Woy Woy Bays area on New Year's Day.

"The community spirit was simply terrific," Ms Andrews said.

"Neighbours could not do enough to support those who had lost all their possessions or who had sustained property damage.

"This is the great positive

about the Woy Woy Peninsula community.

"When someone is in urgent need, local residents will rally around and go out of their way to improve the lot of those who have gone through a really traumatic experience."

The Premier Mr Morris Iemma, who accompanied Ms Andrews on an inspection of affected areas on the second day after the disaster, also highly commended the community's spirit.

"Morris Iemma was clearly very impressed with the sheer courage

and tenacity of those who had lost everything," Ms Andrews said.

"He was also moved to see how neighbours and the community at large had rallied around to support the victims of the New Year's Day bushfires."

Following on from the Premier's visit, the Central Coast was officially declared a Natural Disaster area.

This declaration ensured that the Central Coast was eligible for additional assistance under the Natural Disaster Relief arrangements.

For more information on what their entitlements might be, persons affected by the bushfires are advised to phone the hotline through the Department of Community Services (DOCS) on 1800 018 444.

"The fact that property damage and loss were kept to a minimum under extremely hazardous conditions is undoubtedly due to the courageous efforts of the local volunteers and other firefighters," Ms Andrews said.

"There were also personnel from a number of other State Government agencies, local government and non-government organisations involved in the New Year's Day crisis and in providing ongoing support.

"On behalf of the local community, I wish to thank them for a job well done," Ms Andrews said.

Press release, January 10
Member for Peats Ms
Marie Andrews



Photo: Dianne Madrigal



Photo: Lee Forman

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Banks offer assistance

Two banks have offered assistance to customers on the Peninsula affected by the New Years Day bushfires, with one bank offering \$10,000 to a family who lost their home.

Westpac and ANZ have both offered their assistance following the fires.

Both banks offered to suspend repayments on loans, to waive fees associated with restructuring loans and early withdrawal of term deposits, and to temporarily adjust lending limits.

ANZ offered cash assistance and a range of other measures to support customers whose homes had been destroyed by bushfires as part of the ANZ Bushfire Assistance Package, which was available to all customers who had been impacted by bushfires during summer.

The package included a \$10,000 cash grant for mortgage customers whose home, stock and machinery had been totally destroyed or a \$5000 grant to mortgage customers whose homes or farms had been partially destroyed

through structural damage to their home or amenities.

ANZ media relations manager Ms Kim Gilliland said ANZ did provide a grant to a customer who lost his family home in the fire.

Westpac also offered a special disaster relief program to assist customers seriously affected by bushfires on the Central Coast.

Affected customers with Westpac home loans may apply for a reduced interest rate for 12 months.

Credit card customers may ask to defer their next credit card payment.

Customers with Westpac personal loans can apply to refinance their loan at a discounted fixed interest rate.

"We understand how situations like this can affect our customers' financial circumstances and at this time they do not need the additional burden of worries over financial commitments," said Westpac's Head of Branch Sales and Services Rob Ewin.

Press releases, January 3
Paul Edwards, ANZ; Julia Quinn, Westpac



A few of the seven volunteer fire fighter cars gutted by the January 1 fires

Photo: Lee Forman

Governor attends volunteer's funeral

NSW Governor Professor Marie Bashir attended the funeral of St John volunteer Mr Mike Rozier.

She showed her respects to a dedicated St John volunteer and family; as did many representatives from St John across NSW and state and local dignitaries.

"Mike Rozier was a valued and caring member, who dedicated his time to first aid services in the community, and also to youth," said Major General Warren Glenny, commissioner of St John (NSW).

"His compassion was evident by his efforts at the horrific bushfires on the Central Coast.

"I am very pleased that the NSW State Government have recognised his efforts and have offered to fund the funeral," said Mr Glenny.

St John volunteers, in their familiar black and white uniform, formed a guard in honour of Mike to celebrate his volunteerism and commitment to helping the community.

Mike Rozier collapsed at Woy Woy Hospital with a heart attack while waiting to collect equipment required for the Ettalong evacuation

centre at approximately 9 o'clock on January 1.

Mr Rozier was treated by hospital and NSW Ambulance staff but unable to be revived.

Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews also paid tribute to Mr Rozier, a member of the Peninsula Division of the St John Ambulance Service.

Premier Mr Morris Iemma also acknowledged his outstanding contribution to the community as a volunteer in the St John Ambulance Service when he visited the disaster areas two days after the crisis.

The Premier then announced that the State Government would meet the funeral expenses of the late Mike Rozier in appreciation of Mike's selfless work as a volunteer.

Not only was Mr Rozier a member of the St John Ambulance, he was also responsible for the establishment of the organisation's Brisbane Water Cadets, according to Ms Andrews.

"Mike will be sadly missed but long remembered for his deep concern for others," Ms Andrews said.

Member for Robertson Mr Jim Lloyd also paid tribute to the service and dedication of Mr Rozier.

"My sincere condolences, on behalf of all Central Coast residences, go to his family and friends at this very difficult time," Mr Lloyd said.

"I will be attending Mr Rozier's funeral to honour a man who had dedicated his life to assisting others, particularly through his service with the St John Ambulance."

Mr Rozier's funeral was held on January 11 at the Gosford Anglican Church.

Press releases, January 9 and 10
St John Ambulance NSW
Jim Lloyd, Member for Robertson
Marie Andrews, Member for Peats

Tipping fees waived

Gosford Council and the State Government have assisted those affected by the recent New Years Day fires by waiving the State Waste Levy and tipping fees.

A report from council stated that the affected areas had been declared a natural disaster and in relation to the clean-up of fire damaged dwellings and outbuildings, the State Government

had agreed to waive the State Waste Levy and council was waiving the tipping fees.

The tip fee exemption applies to fire damaged building materials and fire damaged household contents.

Council has written to the property owners affected by the fires, to inform them of this assistance.

Press release, January 6
Vicki Brown, Gosford Council

Help for fire victims

The NSW Department of Community Services is able to provide assistance to residents that have either lost their homes or have had their homes damaged in the recent bushfires.

DOCS can be contacted on 1800 018 444 and are able to provide counselling services to residents upon request.

Residents requiring assistance can contact The Australian Red

Cross on 4324 3411.

Residents who have had rubbish or recycling bins damaged should contact SITA Environmental Solutions on 13 13 35

Any trees that are on private property and may pose a danger should be reported to Gosford Council's acting public tree inspector Mr Ben Dougan on 0417 275 206.

Website, NSW Rural Fire Service

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✓ Tennis ball cans

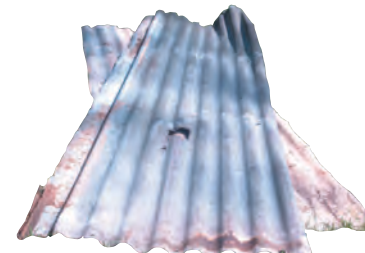
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Tours from Daleys Point and Patonga

The National Parks and Wildlife Discovery Tours have organised a bushwalk and paddle on the Peninsula during January.

The tours include a walk from Daleys Point to Hardys Bay and a paddle on Patonga Creek.

The walk will take place on Saturday, January 21, and the paddle on Sunday, January 22.

The Daleys Point Walk, called "Summer Walk", involves a circular walk along Daleys Point, Rileys Bay and Hardys Bay.

The walk offers extensive views over Brisbane Water, walking mainly on fire trails and well-defined tracks.

Participants are asked to bring sturdy track shoes, water, snacks and weather and sun protection.

Participants are asked to meet at the picnic area opposite the intersection of Killcare Rd and Araluen Dr, Hardys Bay, at 7.30am for an 11am finish.

Cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children.

The "Patonga Creek paddle"

involves a canoe paddle exploring Patonga Creek.

Participants will have the opportunity to view Brisbane National Park from the waters of the tidal creek.

Canoes, paddles, buoyancy vests and paddle instructions are included in the tour.

Participants are asked to bring along afternoon tea, water, suitable footwear that can get wet (suggest old sandals/enclosed reef walkers), sun protection and clothing that may get water splash, along with spares to be left in the car.

Those attending the paddle are asked to meet at 1pm, at a location decided upon booking, for a 4pm finish.

The event is suitable for those over the age of 16 and costs \$25.

Bookings can be made by contacting 4320 4205 and should be made by midday the day before the Summer Walk and by midday the Friday before the Patonga Creek paddle.

Newsletter, January 9
NSW National Parks and Wildlife

Information about Relay for Life

An information night will be held on February 14 about the Peninsula Relay for Life.

The Cancer Council NSW will be holding the relay on Saturday and Sunday, March 18 and 19 at Woy Woy number one oval in Oval Ave.

The Peninsula Relay For Life encourages residents to form teams of 10 to 15 people to take it in turns to run or walk around the oval over a 24-hour period.

Participants are invited to stay for the whole event, camp overnight, or just visit.

The event involves food, entertainment, and music, and raises money for the Cancer Council and awareness of the disease.

Relay for Life events are coordinated by a local volunteer organising committee on behalf of The Cancer Council NSW.

Two special ceremonies are conducted at every Relay for Life: the Survivors Walk and the Candlelight Ceremony of Hope.

In the Survivors Walk, patients and carers complete the first lap of the event alone, wearing coloured sashes to indicate that they are a survivor or a carer.

For the Candlelight Ceremony

of Hope, the track is lined with candles at dusk.

Family and friends come together to remember and support loved ones who have been touched by cancer.

This year's target for the Peninsula Relay for Life is \$750,000.

All funds raised through Relay For Life events go directly towards cancer research, education and support programs for cancer patients and their families.

The 24-hour event will run from 10am on March 18 to 10am on March 19.

Registration for the event is an early bird fee of \$11 per person by March 3, or \$15 otherwise.

Information nights for the event will be held at 7pm at the Woy Woy Leagues Club on February 14 and March 7.

The Woy Woy Leagues Club is located on Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

For more information contact The Cancer Council on 4325 5444 to receive a brochure or register a team or sign up online at www.relayforlife.com.au/nsw.

Press release, January 9
The Cancer Council NSW

Women's exercise franchise opens

A women's exercise franchise has opened up on the Peninsula.

Curves opened on December 3 in the Clocktower building, adjacent Woy Woy station.

The exercise regime at Curves involves a 30-minute workout, where women complete a circuit that provides a total body strengthening and cardiovascular workout.

Owner of Curves Woy Woy, Ms Gael Connop, said that on average women were losing two to four kilograms a month without dieting.

"It's not magic," said Ms Connop.

"It's simply a brilliant training circuit that is scientifically designed to meets the needs of the female

body, and just as importantly, recognises the way women like to work out."

The Curves circuit is made up of low-injury hydraulic resistance machines for upper and lower body that don't put strain on the joints and work two sets of muscle groups each.

Between each machine, women jog or walk on 'cardio recovery' spring platforms to maintain their optimal heart-rate for burning fat.

The half-hour ends with a series of stretching exercises.

Every 30 seconds, participants change stations.

"You don't have time to give up, get discouraged, or get bored," said Ms Connop.

"Curves is like a girl's club where

everyone knows your name.

"It's friendly, supportive and heaps of fun where we're all motivated to help each other achieve their fitness goals.

"Teenagers, women in their 70s, women of all shapes and sizes, love having a place where they can work out without feeling shy or embarrassed about their bodies.

"It doesn't matter what you wear or how you look, there's no judgment on our circuit."

Curves currently has more than 9000 Clubs and four million members worldwide. According to Ms Connop, a new club opens somewhere in the world every four hours.

Press release, November 15
Gael Connop, Curves

Writing competition held

The International 16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women and Children was held from November 25 to December 10.

The Central Coast Domestic Violence Committee held a range of different activities during this time including stalls, handing out White Ribbons and displaying road side signs.

A writing competition was also held.

The theme was 'break the silence- stop the violence', which attracted several entries from the Peninsula.

Organisers said they were overwhelmed by the level of interest in this competition, highlighting a level of interest in joining the campaign to prevent violence against women and children on the Central Coast.

One example of the entries received, written by a Peninsula resident, follows this article.

The writing competition was supported by Wyong Council, Central Coast Health and the NSW Strategy to reduce Violence Against Women.

Press release, December 12
Tamara Lee, Violence, Abuse & Neglect (VAN) Prevention Service
Central Coast Health

Walk to Freedom

"Marry me? I promise it will be different", he begged like a child hankering after a new toy. So I believed him as I agreed and he kissed me tenderly holding me in his arms. It had all the romance of a Barbara Cartland novel.

So I walked down the aisle, my smile belying the despondency I felt inside. "I might as well marry him, what else am I going to do?" I asked myself. I was already caught up in the addictive cycle of exhilarating highs and debilitating lows. My mother was there with her froglike frown revealing that she recognised far too many traits in my new husband that belonged to her own spouse. She had the crushed washed out demeanour all too familiar to the battered wife.

And so the honeymoon in Spain full of love, frolics and further promises of a new life. Returning home with excitement but all too soon the honeymoon was over. It only took my using tomato sauce instead of puree in his spaghetti Bolognese, a heinous crime, for me to have to practice my ducking skills as the plate hit the wall. How dare I question his judgment or complain about his behaviour! I would have gone to work the next day my face sporting all the vibrant natural hues of a Dulux colour chart had I not been expert in disguising my bruises and black eyes with the makeup palette.

I began to realise as matters

accelerated that he had kept his promise and things were different because we were married. Now he owned me, I was his chattel, he could dish out any treatment as I had agreed to this abuse by putting his ring on my finger. He no longer kept it a secret and our friends were made to view the spectacle of him punching me in the face, strangling me and dragging me around the room by the hair. After such an episode we had one of our heart to hearts and I begged him to stop. His retort was that I should stop saying things to annoy him and then he would stop. This only compounding the guilt I carried about his beatings.

One day it happened so bad that I could no longer bear the humiliation. I went to lie down in the spare room to nurse my bruises and calm down. He came at me again saying that if I were to sleep in his house it would be in his bed. He beat me until I went into the marital bedroom where he took his conjugal right with the same look on his face as when he beat me. Like a junkie who had found the miracle cure to take me of the drug which had ruled me life for 9 years, something snapped. I packed my bag, hailed a taxi and left him with his disbelief. I neither looked back nor went back after I took my walk to freedom.

26 October 2005

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What's On in and around the Peninsula

Listings in this section are free to not-for-profit community groups although a subscription to help support Peninsula News would be appreciated. Many events listed take place at the following locations:

BFC, Beachside Family Centre, Umina Public School

CU, Club Umina, Umina Beach Bowling Club, Melbourne Ave, Umina Beach 4341 2618

CWAHWW, CWA Hall, Anderson Park, Brick Wharf Rd, Woy Woy

EBACC, Ettalong Beach Arts & Crafts Centre, Kitchener Park, Cnr Maitland Bay Dve & Picnic Pde, Ettalong 4341 3599

EBWMC, Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club, 211 Memorial Ave., Ettalong 4341 1166

ECC, Everglades Country Club, Dunbar Rd, Woy Woy 4341 1866

EMBC, Ettalong Memorial Bowling Club, 103 Springwood St Ettalong 4341 0087

EPH, Ettalong Progress Hall, Memorial Ave, Ettalong

ESCC, Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre, Cnr. Karingi St & Broken Bay Rd Ettalong 4341 3222

MOW, Meals on Wheels Hall, Cnr Ocean Beach Rd and McMasters Rd.

PBPH, Pearl Beach Progress Hall, Diamond Rd, Pearl Beach

PCC, Peninsula Community Centre, 93 McMasters Rd, Woy Woy 4341 9333

PCYC, Osborne Ave., Umina Beach 4344 7851

TWYS, The Web Youth Service, 93 McMasters Rd, Woy Woy 4342 3684

UMBSC, Umina Beach Surf Club

UCH, Umina Community Hall, 6 Sydney Ave., Umina Beach 4343 1664

WH, Wagstaffe Hall, Cnr Wagstaffe Hall & Mulhall St Wagstaffe

WWBC, Woy Woy Bowling Club

WWLC, Woy Woy Leagues Club, 82 Blackwall Rd Woy Woy: 4342 3366

DAILY EVENTS
Woy Woy Pelican Feeding, 3pm Pelican Park, Fishermans Wharf.

Playtime Mon-Fri 9-10am, Little Gym PCYC

TUESDAY
First Tuesday of every month

Buffalo Primo Lodge No 9, UCH 7pm.

Second Tuesday of every month
Playgroup for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island families. BFC

Senior's Idol, 1 - 4pm EBWMC

Toastmasters, 7pm, enq: 4341 6842; Seniors Day 12 noon EBWMC

Get Together afternoon tea, ESCC, enq: 4341 3222.

Pearl Beach Craft group, PBPH, 1.30pm, enq: 4342 1459.

Stroke recovery group, MOW, 11.30am.

Diabetes Support Group 10am, ECC

Third Tuesday of every month
Buffalo Lodge Knights Chp9, UCH 7pm.

Woy Woy Peninsula Arthritis Branch, MOW 10am, enq: 4342 1790.

Fourth Tuesday of every month
Playgroup for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island families. BFC

Toastmasters, EBWMC, 7pm enq: 4341 6842.

Combined Pensioners association afternoon tea, ESCC, enq: 4341 3222.

Every Tuesday
The Web, TWYS, Drop in centre 12-18yrs 12pm - 5pm

Empire Bay Scrabble Club 9.15am-12.45pm Shirley 4369 2034

Judo from 5.30pm, **Playgroup** 9 - 11am, **Peninsula Dance and Theatre School** 3.45pm, **Innovative Kids** 3.15 - 4.15pm, **Dragon Kung Fu** 6.30pm - 8pm, \$6, **Gambling Counselling** by appointment PCC enq: 4341 9333.

Circuit Boxing (Women) 9am, **Boxing/fitness training**, 4pm (Junior) , 5pm (Senior), **Breakdancing**, 5pm PCYC

Early Bird Bingo, 11am; Come in Spinner, 12 noon; Club **Bingo**, 2pm; **Mystery members**, 5pm.WWLC.

Ladies Golf, 18 hole 8am; Ladies outdoor **bowls**, 9.30am; **ECC**

ESCC - Ladies **Indoor Bowls**-9am; **Handicraft**-9am; **Cards**-12.30pm;

School for Learning - over 55's from

10am PCC.

Alcoholics Anonymous 6pm John the Baptist Church Hall, enq: Julie 4379 1132

Tai-Chi classes WH 9.30am (ex sch hols), enq 4360 2705

Rotary Club of Woy Woy 6pm ECC

Folk Art 9.30am, **Oils and Acrylics** 12 noon, **Silk Painting** 1pm EBACC

Children's story time, Umina library, 10.30 am (Except Jan).

Adult tap dancing EPH 6pm, enq: 4342 3925.

Gym Sessions 8am-12noon PCYC.

Gym Circuit 9:15am-10:15am PCYC.

School Sport 1pm-2:45pm PCYC.

Junior Boxing 4pm-5pm PCYC.

Senior Boxing 6pm-8pm PCYC.

Gym Circuit 6pm-7pm PCYC. **Sports bar raffle** EBWMC

Sahaja yoga meditation CWAHWW, 10:30am enq: 4328 1409.

Computers, 9am, **ESCC**

Playgroup 10, 12pm Kids 0-5yrs, Woy Woy Progress Hall, 76 Woy Woy Rd, Ph: Juhel 4342 4362

WEDNESDAY
First Wednesday of every month

Older women's network, WWLC, 10.15am, enq:4343 1079

Seniors Shopping day, Deepwater Plaza, Woy Woy, enq: 43412 4206

CWA social day, CWAHWW. 10am, handicrafts, 1pm, enq: 4344 5192

Ettalong Ratepayers & Citizens Progress Association, EPH, 7.30pm.

Second Wednesday of every Month

Woy Woy VEIW Club, friendship day, MOW, 11am, enq: 4342 0805

Red Cross, Umina branch meeting, Umina Uniting Church Hall, 1:30pm.

Woy Woy Community Aged Care **Auxiliary**, 10am enq: 4344 2599.

Umina Beach **Probus Club** ECC 9.30am, visitors welcome.

Third Wednesday of every month
Woy Woy VIEW CLUB - luncheon & guest speaker, 10.30am, Everglades Country Club, 4342 0805

Every Wednesday
St John's Ambulance; Woy Woy Aged Care, 7pm, Enq:4341 3341.

Killcare - Wagstaffe Rural Fire Brigade 7.30pm Stanley St Killcare enq: 4360 2161.

Mystery Members 5 - 6pm, **Pick A Prize** 6 - 7pm, WWBC

The Web, 12pm - 6pm, **Computers**, 1.30pm, **ESCC** **Young Women's Group** 12-18 yrs, TWYS

Counselling by appointment, PCC

Rock'n'Roll Dance Class EBMC 7pm

Brisbane Water Bridge Club, 9.30am - 1pm and 7.30pm - 10.30pm, enq: 4341 6763,

Oil Painting, 9am **Multi-craft needlework** 10am, **BJP School of Physical Culture**, 3.30pm, 4-13yrs enq: 4344 4924

Playgroup 10am - noon, **Weight Watchers** 5.30 - 7.30pm, **Tai Chi** 2 - 3pm, **School for Learning** 9am,

Gambling and general counselling by appointment, **Peninsula Dance and Theatre School** from 3.45pm PCC.

Peninsula Choir rehearsal 7.30pm St Andrews Hall Umina.

Brisbane Waters Scrabble Club, MOW 6pm, enq: 4341 9929.

Men's 18 hole **golf**; Men's triples **bowls**, 1pm. ECC

Seniors fitness EPH 9am, enq: 4385 2080.

Indoor Bowls - 9am; **Fitness** - 1pm

Leatherwork-9am; **Table Tennis**-9am. **Scrabble** 1pm **ESCC**.

Social Darts, 7.15pm **EMBC**, **Gym Sessions** 8am-12noon **PMC**.

(Includes **Self Defence for Young Women** 1pm-2pm) **PCYC**.

Gym Circuit 6pm-7pm **PCYC**. **Circuit Boxing** (Women) 9am, **Boxing/fitness training**, 4-5pm (Junior) , 5-6pm (Senior), **PCYC**

Killcare Wagstaffe Playgroup WH (ex sch hols). 10.00 - 12pm, enq: 4360 1145.

Drawing 9am, **Pastels** 11.30am, **Oils and Acrylics** 2pm EBACC

Children's story time, Woy Woy library, 10.30- 11.30am (Except Jan).

Alcoholics Anonymous 12.15 -

2.30pm, 6.30 - 8.30pm St John the Baptist Hall, Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

Handicraft CWAHWW, 9am, enq: 4341 1073.

THURSDAY
Second Thursday of every month

Council education Officer, Woy Woy Environment Centre, 1-4pm,

Outsiders club, **EBWMC**, 9am.

Australian Bus Trips PCC

Fourth Thursday of every month
9am - 12 midday. **Free immunization** clinic for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island children 0 - 5 years, **BFC**

Council education Officer, Woy Woy Environment Centre, 1-4pm,

Umina Probus, **ECC**, 10am.

Every Thursday
Creative Writing group meet every Thursday from 11am to 1pm in the CWA building in Woy Woy. Enq 4369 1187 for more details.

Gambling and general counselling by appointment, **Yoga** 10am, **Belly Dancing** 7.30pm, **Brisbane Water Bridge Club** 12.30pm, enq. 4341 6763,

Tai Chi 2pm - 3pm **PCC**

Free entertainment 6.30 pm

Senior Snooker 8.30am **Ballroom Dancing**, 10am, **Trivia**, 7pm, **Indoor Bowls**, **Fishing Club Raffle** 5.15pm, **Members Badge Draw**, **EMBC**.

Drumming, Bouddi Women's Drumming, 2-3pm, 73 Highview Rd Pretty Beach, enq: 0425 229 651.

Scrabble, Progress Hall, Woy Woy Rd, 12.30pm. **Bingo**, 9.30 - 11.30, **EBWMC**

Treasure Chest, 11.30am - 12.30pm, **Club Bingo**, 2 - 4pm, **Mystery Members** 5 - 6pm, **WWBC**

The Web, 12pm - 6pm **Young Men's Groups** 12-18 yrs, **TWYS**

Ladies 18 hole **golf** **ECC**

Tai Chi-11.35am; **Dancing** 9am; **Indoor Bowls**-9am; **Table Tennis**-1.45pm; **Cards** 12 noon, **ESCC**

Judo all ages, 5.30pm:Enq: 43424121. **PCC**

Line Dancing 9.30am, **Social Darts** CU, 7.30pm,

Stitchery Circle 9.30am, **EBACC**

St John's Ambulance; Brisbane Water Cadets, 7pm, Enq:4341 3341.

Children's story time, 3 - 5 yrs Umina library, 10.30-11.30am (Except Jan).

Gym Sessions 8am-12noon **PCYC**.

Gym Circuit 9am-10am, 6pm-7pm, **School Sport** 1pm-2:45pm **PCYC**.

Osborne Ave., Umina Beach 4344 7851

Social Tennis 9am-12pm, Pearl Beach Courts, enq: 4369 3195.

Adult tap dancing, EPH 10am; enq: 4342 3925

Bingo 9.45am, **Karaoke** 6pm **EBWMC**

Circuit Boxing (Women) 9am, **Boxing/fitness training**, 4pm (Junior) , 5pm (Senior) **PCYC**

Al-anon/Alateen family support group "The Cottage" Vidler Ave Woy Woy, 12:30pm, 7pm.

FRIDAY
Second Friday of every month

2pm **Peninsula Twins Club** Free. **BFC** RSL Sub branch **EBWMC**, 2.30pm.

Third Friday of every month
Legacy Ladies, **EBWMC**, 10am, enq: 4343 3492.

Fourth Friday of every month
South Bouddi Peninsula Community Assoc, **WH**, 1.30pm, enq: 4360 1002.

Civilian widows, **ESCC**, 1pm.

Every Friday
Kids entertainment Yrs 7 -12, 7.30pm

PLAYGROUP, 10am for Mums & pre-schoolers, Umina Uniting Church.

Bingo 11.30am, food prizes, raffles, tea & coffee **UCH** Enq:4343 1664

Lollipop Music Playgroup **BFC** 9.15am. Enq: 43 431929.

The Web, 2pm-9.30pm **Doctor & Nurse** for 12-18 yrs old, **TWYS** 2-9:30pm

Old Wags **Bridge Club**, **WH** (except 4th Fri) 1:30pm, enq: 4360 1820.

Free entertainment, Players Lounge 5.30pm **WWLC**.

Men's 18 hole **Golf**, **ECC**

Aqua-fitness, Woy Woy Hospital Hydro Pool, 1:30 & 2.30pm, enq: 4325 1869

Active Over 50's Exercise Class EPH

9.15am, enq: 4342 9252

Painting - 9am **ESSC**

Gym Sessions 8am-12noon, **Gym Circuit** 9am-10am **PCYC**.

Peninsula Pastimes Ettalong Baptist Church, Barrenjoey Rd. 9.30am, (Ex sch hols), **Primary Kids Club** 4.30pm, **Youth Group** 7pm, enq: 4343 1237

Alcoholics Anonymous 6pm, St John the Baptist Hall, Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy, enq: 4342 7303.

Club Bingo, **Cash Housie** 11.30am - 2.30pm, **Mystery Members** 5 - 6pm, **Free Entertainment Players Lounge** 7.30 - 11.30pm, **Players Niteclub** - 10pm - 3am, **WWBC**

Hardys Bay Community Church, **indoor bowls**, **canasta**, **scrabble**, **morning tea** 10am, enq 4363 1968.

Circuit Boxing (Women) 9am, **Boxing/fitness training**, 4pm (Junior) , 5pm (Senior) **PCYC**

Kids Club (Primary) .4-6pm, **Brisbane Water Bridge Club**, 12.30pm, enq. 4341 6763, **Weight Watchers** 10am, **Gambling Counselling** by appointment, **Peninsula Dance and Theatre School** from 3.45pm **PCC**

Computers, 1pm, **Scrabble** 1pm **ESCC**

Kindygy 0 - 3yrs 9.30 - 10.15, 3 - 5yrs 10.30 - 11.15am **PCC**

SATURDAY
First Saturday of every month
The National Malaya & Borneo **Veterans** Assoc Aust meet, **EBWMC**, 2.30pm Enq: 4340 4160

Second Saturday of every month
Melaleuca Wetland **Regeneration** Group, Boronia Ave, Woy Woy, 8am. Pretty Beach **Bushcare** group, Pretty Beach end Araluen Track, 8am.

Save our Suburbs, Woy Woy South Progress Hall, 1pm, ph: 4342 2251

Ex-Navalmen's Assoc, Central Coast Sub-Section, **WWLC** 10am.

Third Saturday of every month
Umina P & C **Bushcare** 9am, Umina Campus of **BWSC**, Veron Rd Umina. enq: 4341 9301

Market Day, 9am Sydney 2000 Park, Umina **UCH**

Last Saturday every month
Wagstaffe **Bushcare** group, Half Tide Rocks sign, 8am.

Melaleuca Wetland **Regeneration** Group, Boronia Ave, Woy Woy, 8am

Every Saturday
The Web, **Activities** for 12-18yrs old, 4.30-9.30pm **TWYS**

Cash Housie St Mary's Hall, Ocean View Rd Ettalong 7.30pm Enq: 4369 0626.

Cabaret dance & floor show, 8pm free, Men's 18 hole **golf**; Men's triples **bowls** 1pm; **ECC**

Old Time & New Vogue Dancing; 1pm, Enq: 4341 2156 **Snooker** 8.30am **EBWMC**

Gym Sessions 9am-12noon, **Drama & Discovery** 9am-11am **PCYC**.

Brisbane Water Bridge Club, 12.30pm, Enq: 4341 0721, **WWLC**

Al-anon/Alateen family support group Community Health building, Woy Woy Hospital 2pm Enq: 4344 6939.

Weight Watchers 8 - 10am, **PCC**

Woy Woy Environment Centre 10am-12noon. 267 Blackwall Road. Enq 4342 6589

SUNDAY
First Sunday of every month
Blackwall Mountain **Bushcare**, meets 9am cnr Blackwall Rd & Memorial Ave Enq: 4342 6995

Second Sunday of every month
Umina P & C **Bushcare** 9am

Opera at the arboretum

Patrons will be able to experience opera from Puccini, Verdi, Mozart and Giordano in a tranquil environment when the Rotary Club of Woy Woy presents Opera in the Arboretum at Pearl Beach on Saturday, March 4.

Excerpts from well known works of these composers will be performed by Lucia Naviglio (soprano), Manuel Jimenez-Navarro (tenor), Vanessa West (soprano) and Evgeny Sorkin (violinist).

Lucia's repertoire covers over 20 roles which include Leonora, Santuzza, Margherita, Charlotte, Maddalena and Tosca and has been involved in television and radio shows and has also recorded the operas Infigenia in Tauridei by Nicoloi Piccinni and Guglielmo Rattcliffi by P. Mascagni.

Vanessa has won the Acclaim Award's Maggio Fiorentino Formazione scholarship and has

performed in various concerts in Italy including the Australian Opera Gala Night Concert at the 51st Puccini Festival, Torre del Lago.

Evgeny was the associate concertmaster with Ensemble XXI in 2004 as well as last year and has participated in festivals throughout Europe.

Evgeny has also played with the Hermitage Chamber Orchestra.

The four will be supported by Michaele Archer (soprano), Larisa Oberfeld (pianist), Mirabai Peart (violinist) and Xavier Vilarino (baritone).

Organisers have suggest that those attending the afternoon of opera at the Crommelin Arboretum, Crystal Ave, Pearl Beach, pack a picnic and bring along a rug or chair.

Proceeds will assist the Pearl Beach Bushfire Brigade and Rotary charities.

Press release, January 4
John Greenway, Opera in the Arboretum

Juggling show for pre-schoolers

A juggling show for pre-schoolers will be held at the Peninsula Theatre at the end of this month.

Juggler Llynda will present two shows, Street Sense and You Can Do it To, which incorporate her juggling routines with lessons on safety and confidence building.

The first show is suited to pre-schoolers and primary school children, according to Laycock St Theatre marketing manager Ms Lisa Kelly.

Punctuated throughout with circus-style routines, it introduces concepts of road safety, pedestrian safety, safety on wheels, driveway safety, and playing in a safe environment.

"As well as being informative about important safety issues, Street Sense is highly entertaining," Ms Kelly said.

"There is lots of audience participation, involving the wearing of seat belts, choosing the right helmet for head protection, and student demonstrations of safe pedestrian practice.

"There is time for fun in the park where children are once again asked to participate, this time with some ball games.

"Finally, Llynda performs a traditional circus juggling act which will amaze adults and children alike."

Street Sense will show on January 23, 25 and 28.

The show commences at 10am and is followed by a juggling workshop.

In "You Can Do It Too", Llynda plays Madeleine, a closet juggler, who discovers through her juggling that mistakes are okay, as that is



how we learn.

"Madeleine is having one of those days where nothing is going right, even her son Sam is having difficulties at school," Ms Kelly said.

"When Madeleine feels at her lowest, she is presented with the opportunity to join the circus.

"Llynda's juggling routines include juggling plates, golf sticks, tennis racquets, feather dusters, video tapes, cups and saucers which are balanced on her head,

fruit, a broom and eggs."

This show is on January 24 and 27 and commences at 10am with a juggling workshop at the end.

Tickets are \$10 each and one adult per group of children (or individual child) gets in for free.

Bookings are recommended on 4323 3233.

The Peninsula Theatre is located on the corner of McMasters and Ocean Beach Rd's, Woy Woy.

Press release, January 11
Lisa Kelly, Laycock Street Theatre

WHAT'S ON

PENINSULA THEATRE, CNR OCEAN BEACH & MCMASTERS RDS, WOY WOY

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"STREET SENSE"
Fun for the under 5's and pre-schoolers, learning about safety.

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and select 'news'.
Closing Date : 10th March 2006

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Jan 06 Holiday ATTRACTIONS

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KEEPING MUM	RUMOUR has it...
NARNIA THE CHRONICLES OF THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE	chicken little
the Family Stone	WILLIAM

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Come along and be part of the fun.
With plenty of games, activities, stalls, displays, colouring competition, children's rides, dancing in the street, free folk club concert, a full program of on stage entertainment, a youth concert and a spectacular FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Dont miss your chance at 6pm, to thank the emergency services for their outstanding work during the recent bush fire emergency on the Peninsula

Woy Woy Waterfront
3pm to 11pm
Thursday 26 January
All Children's rides only \$2
Entertainment commences 3pm

LET'S CELEBRATE BEING AUSTRALIAN

Classifieds

Incorporating a trades directory and public notice advertisements
Peninsula News Classifieds aims to help community groups and businesses reach the Peninsula community at the lowest possible price.

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Public Notices

Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club CAR BOOT SALE
 Sunday, 29 January 8am to 1pm
 Great variety of stalls ~ BBQ, Tea & Coffee. Vendors Welcome ~ \$10 per car
 Cnr. Ocean Beach Road and Erina St. Woy Woy
 Always Last Sunday (Except December)
More Details...
Elmo 4341 4151 - Hope 4369 8707

Calling all Dancers

Enjoy a Dinkum Bush dance and be entertained by **Fair Dinkum** on our 8th anniversary dance 8.00pm - Midnight
February 11 at East Gosford Progress Hall
 No experience necessary, just a desire to have fun.
 \$15 inc Supper
 Phone: 4344 6484

Public Notices

The Troubadour Acoustic Music Club

brings musicians, singers, poets and story tellers to the Central Coast to perform with and entertain local residents.

The club next meets on **Thursday January 26** at the **CWA Hall** (opposite Fishermans Wharf) Woy Woy

and its free as part of the **Australia Day celebrations**
 All are welcome.
 Starts 8pm
 Entry free
 Enquiries: 4342 9099

Beginner Violin lessons

starting in February
 Contact **Peninsula Music**
 38 George St
 Woy Woy (Rear Deepwater Plaza)
 Ph: 4342 9099

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Carols hailed a success

Local musician Mr Norm Holloway has hailed the recent "Carols across the Bay" a great success.

A group of musicians entertained residents at Hardys Bay, Pretty Beach, Wagstaff, Booker Bay and Dalys Point village wharf.

En route, the captain of the Lady Kendall II stopped his vessel for the passengers to enjoy the carols, Mr Holloway said.

Mr Holloway organised the annual event for a number of years.

Mr Holloway recruited musicians from the Gosford

City Brass Band and the Brisbane Waters Brass Band to entertain residents and visitors on the Peninsula to "enhance the Christmas spirit".

"The sound is breathtaking across the Brisbane Waters.

"With the mountains as a backdrop, it's like playing in a cathedral," Mr Holloway said.

"All the musicians and boat skipper enjoyed volunteering their time and are looking forward to doing this all over again on the lead up to Christmas 2006."

Press release, December 27 Norm Holloway

Flood works may proceed

Flood mitigation works for catchments in Killcare, Pretty Beach and Wagstaffe costing \$2.5 million may proceed if accepted by Gosford Council.

The NSW Government had offered a \$1.441 million grant for the current financial year, on the condition that council contributes an additional \$720,000.

Gosford Council's flooding and drainage planning team leader Mr Vic Tysoe said that the three projects, along

with two others, required its strategies and plans to be approved by council's flood management committee and adopted by council before the grant offer could be used.

The committee has since adopted the plans and strategies and is now waiting on council's adoption of the strategies.

Costs for each of the three projects is expected to be \$1.1 million for Killcare, \$570,000 for Pretty Beach and \$780,000 for Wagstaffe.

Council agenda FM.017, January 10

New name resolved

Gosford Council has resolved to give the name Stockman Lane to an unnamed laneway in Woy Woy, between Squirrel St and Billabong St.

The name will be placed on exhibition for 30 days and accepted if no objections are received from the public.

Council had resolved on August 2 to advertise the

name Coolabah Lane, but a response suggested the name was already in use in Woy Woy.

A council report stated that "in light of the submission received and not wanting to duplicate street names, it is proposed to name the unnamed laneway Stockman Lane".

Council agenda ENV.88, December 6

School gets eco-grant

Pretty Beach Public School has received a grant of \$2500 from an Environmental Trust towards its project "Saving Makes Cents".

The project will focus on ways to save energy throughout the school, according to school principal

Ms Vicki Redrup.

"The Eco Schools program provides grants to schools to give them the opportunity to involve students and community in environmental management projects," Ms Redrup said.

Newsletter, December 15 Vicki Redrup, Pretty Beach Public School

need help for **problem gambling?**



For help and information, call the Salvos Care Line on 1300 36 36 22 or visit www.salvos.org.au/gambling

Art works exhibited

Award winning artist and Peninsula resident Ms Jocelyn Maughan will be displaying some of her work, entitled "From Patonga", at the Gosford Regional Gallery from February 3 to March 26.

In the works, Ms Maughan said she tried to capture "the everyday, all day".

The works in the exhibition form a snapshot of her work and her

mastery over a range of mediums.

The exhibition "From Patonga" is a collection of drawings, paintings and prints that explore the unique qualities of the fishing village and tourist destination.

The exhibition will be on display in Gallery 2.

The Gosford Regional Gallery is located at 36 Webb St, East Gosford.

Newsletter, January 9
Gosford Regional Gallery

Group performs 40 concerts

Peninsula entertainment group "The Bells" performing 40 concerts last year in nursing homes, hostels and retirement villages from Ettalong to Bateau Bay, according to publicity officer Ms Joy Warwick.

"We perform free, although with public liability insurance and rent to pay we are always grateful if we are given a donation," Ms Warwick said.

"We provide our own transport and pay for all our costumes."

The Bells are a group of 10, eight women and two men.

"We practise every Tuesday morning from 9am in the Umina CWA Hall, and do our concerts mainly on Wednesdays," Ms Warwick said.

"We would love to have a little help and, if you can spare two half days a week to join us, you would not only be welcomed but be assured you would find it very rewarding."

For more information, contact 4369 1899.

Press release, January 10
Joy Warwick, The Bells



Marie's Creative Concepts at Ettalong

Craft shop opens

Craft makers on the Peninsula have a new source of materials with the recent opening of Marie's Creative Concepts on Ocean View Rd, Ettalong Beach.

Proprietor Ms Marie Holland said she had realised a long-held dream by opening her own craft shop.

"It's something that I've always wanted to do," Ms Holland said.

The outlet carries sewing, embroidery and patchwork

supplies.

It also has locally-made items such as mosaics, cards, embroidery, jewellery, custom made bags, velvet flowers and decorated eggs.

Tuition in sewing, embroidery, knitting, patchwork and crochet will start in January and bookings are being taken now.

Marie's Creative Concepts trades from Tuesday to Sunday each week.

Cec Bucello, December 9

Life begins at 80 with electronic book

A free electronic book "Life Begins at 80...on the Internet" has been written in Ettalong by retired Sydney journalist Mr Eric Shackle.

It contains more than 400 stories for readers aged 50 and over and can now be translated into eight languages, according to Mr Shackle.

"Thanks to an automated translator called BabelFish, the stories can be converted to any one of eight languages in a few seconds," said Mr Shackle, who has lived in Ettalong for more than 20 years.

"I can't vouch for BabelFish's accuracy, as it makes a literal translation, one word at a time, and struggles to make sense of some of our Aussie words and phrases."

Mr Shackle said: "When I retired I had little interest left in life until, at the age of 79, I discovered the internet.

"I bought my first computer and was intrigued by the way that you can talk to people and receive messages and read articles posted on the internet from all over the world.

"All for free and just at the press of a button.

"I thought there must be millions of people who don't know about the world wide web.

"I know that many people of my age are frightened to explore it because they're not familiar with it.

"I want to persuade them to ride with me on the internet's magic carpet."

Seattle wordsmith Anu Garg, mastermind of the newsletter A

Word A Day, which goes to 600,000 subscribers in 200 countries, and of which Eric is copy editor, said of the e-book: "It's an ever-expanding collection of stories that make us think, laugh, and learn."

Mr Shackle said thousands of "seniors" around the world read the book, which presented four or five new stories on a wide range of topics every month.

The January edition features articles headlined ABC's wartime trickery, Quixote winery's golden dome, World's oldest weather stone, Guess where The Royal Gazette is published and Pubs' ages, like people's, are relative.

It can be found at www.bdb.co.za/shackle/

Press release, December 21
Eric Shackle

Curiosity shop opens

A new curiosity shop has opened for business in Umina last week.

Situated on the eastern end of West St, Umina, Old is Gold trades in collectables of all varieties.

The range includes toys, figurines, crockery, books, jewellery, collections, furniture and miniatures.

Proprietors Brett Mackay and Angie Vassallo started collecting

two years ago and realised how you can quickly become obsessed and also how much money can be made from what looks like old worthless objects.

"We have one smurf in our collection that is valued at over \$300," Mr Mackay said.

"We made \$277 from a brass bed that we picked up on the side of the road," Ms Vassallo said.

The couple sell through their

shop and also auction items on e-bay on behalf of their clients.

Mr Mackay is also developing his own website for Peninsula-based businesses.

Ms Vassallo is a professional singer who some residents will have seen in a Tina Turner impersonation show that took place at Everglades Country Club earlier this year.

Cec Bucello, December 9

First Term classes begin soon
Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre

- Patchwork • Quilting • Folk Art
- Stitchery Circle • Oils & Acrylics
- Children's Pottery • Silk Painting
- Pottery • Drawing & Pastels • Silvercraft
- Children's Art • Watercolours

Limited spaces available

Enquiries: Penny Riley 4360 1673

KITCHENER PARK, ETTALONG

Corner Picnic Parade and
Maitland Bay Drive

"Jazz times two at Pearl Beach"

TICKETS SELLING FAST

Two days instead of one will be the order of the day at the Pearl Beach 2006 Jazz in January over the weekend of 21 and 22 January.

The festival is held in the glorious Native Arboretum starting at 3pm daily, come early and bring a picnic.

On Saturday 21st the **John Morrison All Stars** will back a cast of Australia's foremost jazz performers starting with **Grace Knight**. The line up also includes, **Dale Barlow**, the smooth trumpet of **Bob Henderson**, and the soulful jazzy blues voice of **Evelyn Duprai** followed by **Neilsen Gough**.

The Sunday line up is equally star studded, again **John Morrison's All Stars** backing such top names as the bebop of the fabulous **Blaine Whittaker**, the trad jazz of **Bob Hamilton**, blues singer, **Delilah** and the great **Frank Bennett**, concluding with **Elizabeth Carthew**, a talented trumpet and flugelhorn player with a beautiful voice.

Bookings are essential -
4343 1455 or 4341 5053

One day ticket cost \$30, Children 8-12 \$10 under 8 - free. Two day ticket costs \$50, Children 8-12 \$17.50, under 8 free

News

Fritz receives volunteer award

A Peninsula resident has been honoured recently at the presentation of the Community Relations Commission's Volunteering Awards for 2005.

Fritz Baumung of Phegians Bay received an award for a "lifetime of achievement in community service" from Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister Assisting the Premier on Citizenship, Mr Milton Orkopoulos, at a ceremony at Parliament House in Sydney.

CRC chair Mr Stepan Kerkyasharian congratulated Mr Baumung, who he said had begun a lifetime of service in his native Germany, for 15 years caring for the aged, visiting jails and helping victims of drug and alcohol addiction.

"After arriving in Australia he got involved in grief counselling and communication and helped establish the Ethnic Life-Line," Mr Orkopoulos said.

"Moving to Coffs Harbour, he worked with Meals on Wheels, visited the sick, aged and lonely and supported people during bereavement and crisis situations.

"On the Central Coast, Fritz continued all his voluntary service, giving special attention to the ageing German-speaking population and establishing a school to teach the German language to children.

"He established a German parents and children's group, promoted German culture, arranged cultural performances and events and encouraged the study of German history among both German and non-German background people," Mr Orkopoulos said.

According to his nominator, "Fritz has worked tirelessly to establish a network of German volunteers in the Central Coast and has stimulated their compassion to



Mr Fritz Baumung receives his award from Mr Orkopoulos

help others.

"His wonderful work has set a fine example and established himself as a role model for others.

"This has apparently prompted the whole German community in the region to care more about each other.

"For some time, Fritz also worked voluntarily to support the German language newspaper, Die Woche in Australia."

"He has also tried to take the German community to the broader population, founding the Central Coast Australian German Friendship and Welfare Society, and worked in cross-cultural roles to help the whole community.

"He has been a member of the Multicultural Advisory Committee, the Central Coast Multicultural Interagency and the Regional

Advisory Council of the Community Relations Commission."

Mr Baumung's supporters said his really important asset was his outstanding personality, his selfless, modest and affectionate nature which had helped him to empathise with people in need, whoever they were.

The CRC Awards acknowledge the efforts of individual volunteers within Australia's diverse range of cultures and promotes volunteering among people from all sectors of our culturally diverse society.

Mr Baumung also received a congratulatory message from member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, on behalf of the NSW parliament.

Press release, January 11
Warren Duncan, Community Relations Commission

Flood study needed for drainage works

Major trunk drainage works on the Woy Woy Peninsula will not proceed without a study of flooding at Woy Woy, Ettalong and Umina, according to a report to Gosford Council.

The report stated that Cr Chris Holstein stressed the need to initiate and then complete the flooding and drainage works using Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principals in Woy Woy, Umina, Ettalong areas to the "satisfaction of community representatives".

Flooding and drainage planning engineer Mr Moazzam Shah said a technical brief for the Woy Woy, Ettalong, Umina flood study was being prepared but progressing slowly due to limited resources and other high priority projects of council's flooding and drainage planning unit.

The council was also told that completion of the Brisbane Water Flood Study was a pre-requisite for commencement of the study.

The Brisbane Water technical brief was recently completed and the technical sub-committee was arranging to invite suitable consulting firms to submit their quotes, according to Mr Shah.

The estimated time for completion of this study was 36 weeks after engagement of the consultant, according to the report.

Council agenda FM.017, FM.004, FM.007, January 10

Advice on path

Gosford Cr Chris Holstein has asked for information regarding the reopening of the path linking both ends of Monastir Rd, Phegians Bay.

At council's meeting of December 6, Cr Holstein asked the director of environment and planning Ms Colleen Worthy-Jennings if he could be advised of the reopening of the path linking both ends of Monastir Rd at Phegians Bay.

He asked what steps had been taken to address the retention of land from the cut and fill at the property at the wall end of the path.

Ms Worthy-Jennings said she would investigate and advise the councillor.

Council agenda Q.161, December 6

Safety House positions vacant

Peninsula Safety House representatives for this year have been elected, though some school positions still need to be filled, according to Safety House president Ms Brooke White.

Committee members are president Ms Brooke White, secretary Ms Debbie Barnes, treasurer Ms Michelle TePuia, business convenor Ms Maureen Thorne and publicity officer Ms Michelle TePuia.

School representatives include Woy Woy South representative Ms Brooke White, Ettalong representative Ms Estelle Evans, St John the Baptist representative Ms Anne Maree Tonkin and Umina representative Ms Di Gaston.

Positions that still need to be filled include representatives for Woy Woy and Empire Bay and a school liaison officer.

Anyone interested in getting involved or who would like to fill the vacant positions at the schools can contact 4342 3266.

Press release, January 11
Brooke White, Safety House

Counsellor retires

Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina Campus counsellor Ms Christine Anderson has retired from the college.

"Christine has been a great support to children at this school in a whole range of issues," college

principal Mr Frank Gasper said.

"She has dealt with all situations with compassion, understanding and a great sense of professionalism."

Newsletter, December 13
Brisbane Water Secondary College



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Tennis

Three 5-day tennis camps will be held at Umina Tennis Courts during January from 9am to 3pm daily. Open to all ages, beginners to advanced. Racquets are provided. Cost \$70 for the week (Family discounts apply) or \$20 daily.

Camps will be held as follows:
January 16 to 20
January 23 to 27
Bookings essential
Ph: Neil on 4341 0970

Outrigger race in front of resort

Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club and Outrigger Ettalong Beach Resort will host the Te Ika Nui Outrigger Regatta on Sunday, January 22.

Clubs from across the state will converge upon Ettalong to compete against local team, the Te Ika Nui Club.

The event has been specially planned for spectators to take advantage of the views to Lion Island, with all starts, finishes and sprints occurring in the water directly in front of the club and resort, according to Ettalong

Beach Club publicity officer Mr Scott MacKillop.

"The outrigger canoe is the vessel of the ancient seafarers of the Pacific Island region," Mr MacKillop said.

"Designed for ultimate lightness in the water, it has been used as a war canoe, but was ideally suited for extended travel, often for weeks.

"Though traditionally built from a single tree trunk, racing canoes are fibreglass or kevlar replicas, designed for race conditions and regattas consist of varied events

across all age groups, both sprint and endurance."

Races start at about 9.30am and final presentations will take place at Ettalong Beach Club at 3.30pm.

The Te Ika Nui Club will have a sausage sizzle, cold drinks and coffee available on the foreshore.

The Tallow Beach Terrace at Ettalong Beach Club will provide the perfect viewing platform, with cold beer on tap and jazz from 11am, according to Mr MacKillop.

**Press release, January 11
Scott MacKillop, Brilliant Logic**

The Central Coast Mariners adopted a beach theme for their Round 17 A-League fixture against the New Zealand Knights on January 8, with a group of Mariners players taking to the surf at Umina Beach.

Sharp shooter John Hutchinson, who has netted six goals in his past six games, was joined by new signing Jamie McMaster, German import and Umina Beach local

Andre Gumprecht and goal scoring fullback Dean Heffernan.

Each of the four took part in a surfing lesson with seven times Australian Champion and 2003 World Masters Champion Sandra English.

The lessons took place on January 4 at Umina Beach Surf Club.

**Press release, January 3
Benjamin Coonan, Central Coast Mariners**

Gearing up for hottest rugby

Woy Woy Rugby Union Club is gearing itself up for a torrid time at the "hottest sevens tournament in the world", which will be held in Darwin later this month.

"It is the third time that the club has taken a side to the tournament and the club is trying to repeat its excellent performances at the last two tournaments," said assistant media officer Sam Mokeme.

Manager Katherine Bob said: "The tournament has attracted two Aussie Spirit sides, which is the Australian sevens team which plays on the IRB sevens tournaments across the globe."

"They are getting ready for the

Commonwealth Games so are looking at this tournament as a selection trial to finalise their squad.

"Six Fijian sides and the Auckland sevens team will add to that international feel again."

Mr Mokeme said the official luncheon would feature champion All Black player Stu Wilson.

"The tournament prize money will reach \$25,000 this year and the Lions are hoping for a slice of that," Mr Mokeme said.

He said that sponsors had made the trip affordable for the Lions players.

"We still do have spots available for players or spectators so if

anyone wishes to come on this trip please call Ross Hopkins on 0417 828 346.

"Training will commence early February for the winter season and the club is already confident of repeating its steady rise at first grade level."

"The club has six players trialling with the Central Coast Waves side which will play in the Shute Shield competition in Sydney, so the exposure for some of the players and the club will be getting is fantastic."

**Press release, January 9
Sam Mokeme, Woy Woy Rugby Union Club**

Swans will start in April

The season for the Woy Woy Peninsula Swans Australian rules football club will begin in April, according to club secretary Ms Jenni Brown.

"The club hopes the Sydney Swans 2005 premiership win will create an interest in Aussie Rules and have a positive effect on numbers," Ms Brown said.

Danny Brown was re-elected club president, Daniel Simpson as treasurer and John Spillard as vice

president at the general meeting held in early December.

Jenni Brown has been voted in as the new secretary.

Ms Brown said the club would also like to welcome aboard its new assistant coach for first division, Mr Darren Edmondson.

"Mr Edmondson, a former player who has played more than 100 games for the club, will be a much valued member," Ms Brown said.

Beach training will start on

January 17 for the Seniors at Umina Beach on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6pm.

The Swans' home ground is Rogers Park, Ocean Beach Rd, Woy Woy.

The Senior Swans are fielding two teams in the Black Diamond League this year.

The Juniors will be fielding teams from Auskick to under-16s.

**Press release, January 8
Jenni Brown, Woy Woy Peninsula Swans**

Praise for rugby teams

Woy Woy Rugby Union first grade coach Mr Ross Hopkins has praised the efforts of the club's senior teams.

"Our senior club is going through a resurgence at present with the first grade making the finals this year for the second consecutive season after an eight-year hiatus prior to that," Mr Hopkins said.

"The second graders were runners-up in their competition in 2005 and the third grade were runners-up in their competition in

2004.

"The club also achieved a boost with it being the runner-up in the Central Coast Club Championship in 2005.

"With seven of our players involved in the squad for the Central Coast Senior Representative Squad who will compete in the Cadwell Cup (NSW Country Championship) and also play in the Shute Shield in the First Grade Sydney competition in the early part of 2006, the club results over

the last two years has meant the players are getting the exposure that they richly deserve.

"The build-up for 2006 has commenced with our pre-season underway as of this week, and with the likelihood of some new quality players joining our club next year and the rapid growth of our junior ranks, the future looks promising for rugby union on the Peninsula."

**Press release, November 23
Ross Hopkins, Woy Woy Rugby Union Club**

Beach theme for Mariners

Mariners trial Umina local

The Central Coast Mariners have gained the services of Umina local and former Leeds United player Jamie McMaster on short term deal.

Jamie McMaster, who turned 23 last month, has represented England at youth level although Australian-born.

He has returned to his hometown to start a career that has seen him arrive at Central Coast Stadium via AGF Aarhus in Denmark.

Prior to his stint in Scandanavia, Jamie experienced a decorated career in England's lower leagues, including stays at Coventry City, Chesterfield, Swindon Town and Peterborough, most of which were on loan from former UEFA Champions League semi finalists Leeds United.

While at Elland Rd, McMaster was one of seven Australians

wearing the white, blue and yellow, a group that also included Socceroo pair Harry Kewell and Mark Viduka.

Jamie McMaster's main attention on the world stage came in 1999, when he debuted for England at the Under-16 European Championship qualifiers in Paphos, Cyprus.

He then netted the winner for the English in their 2 to 1 win over Armenia.

"Jamie's been trialling with us for a little while now and he's looking sharper each time he takes to the training pitch," said Mariners football manager Lawrie McKinna.

"There's no doubting that the boy has got talent and adding him to our squad gives him the chance to show his home town just how capable he is."

**Press release, December 29
Benjamin Coonan, Central Coast Mariners**

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Community Access

Edition 133

16 January 2006



Photo: Dianne Madrigal

Fire fighters acknowledged

Woy Woy Australia Day celebrations offer the opportunity to acknowledge emergency service personnel involved in the major bushfires on New Year's Day, according to Gosford Council media officer Ms Vicki Brown.

Gosford mayor Cr Laurie Maher will present certificates and acknowledge some of the hundreds of representatives of all the agencies who helped save lives and properties, Ms Brown said.

The official presentation will be held

at Anderson Park, Woy Woy, at 6pm on Thursday, January 26.

Cr Maher praised all emergency service volunteers and personnel involved in helping fight the recent bushfires.

"I acknowledge their professionalism, commitment and bravery as they were helping save lives and property under extreme conditions," said Cr Maher.

"Hundreds of volunteers and personnel played such a huge role and the community owes a great deal to

these people.

"I am sure those affected by the fires and those whose homes were saved would like to come to the presentation to show their appreciation."

Gosford Council will present certificates to the relevant agencies and offer a free sausage sizzle and refreshments for those turning up in uniform at the event.

Woy Woy Australia Day celebrations will be held at Anderson Park from 3pm to 11pm on Thursday, January 26.

Press release, January 11
Vicki Brown, Gosford Council

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